Pill Maker 1461

## Chapter 1461: Pay The Price

Mi Wei knew that someone must be standing guard outside the door. Since he was in no condition to fight, he would only be a burden to Shangguan Yu

He did not care about himself, but Shangguan Yu was still young.

"Go," repeated Mi Wei as he struggled to raise his hand and push Huo Yao away.

"Don't even think about leaving." Shangguan Hou laughed coldly. His men were guarding outside. Even if Shangguan Yu had drugged him, he did not have to worry about them leaving.

No matter what they tried, there was no escape for them.

Huo Yao glanced at Shangguan Hou and felt annoyed.

She raised her foot and kicked Shangguan Huo aside. She went over to help support Mi Wei again. She sighed softly and said, "You're still the same."

Mi Wei's eyes felt even tearier the moment he heard what she said.

Huo Yao helped Mi Wei over to sit down on a chair. "Since I've come all the way here, I have no intention of leaving empty-handed."

Mi Wei looked at her. She was very calm, so his anxiety inexplicably dissipated as well.

He was unable to think straight the moment Shangguan Yu showed up. Considering her personality, she probably knew what she was doing.

Shangguan Hou sat on the ground as he clutched his chest. He looked at Huo Yao from behind while she stood sideways from him. He reached his hand under his coat for the gun and held it.

Huo Yao seemed to read his mind and turned around. Before he was able to pull out his gun, she came over and kicked him right on his wrist. The gun promptly flew from his hand and landed squarely on the ground.

Shangguan Hou looked intently as Huo Yao picked up the gun on the ground. He was unable to move at all. His phone fell out of his pocket, but he disregarded it completely. He glared at Huo Yao and said, "If you dare touch me, you'll have to pay with your life."

Mi Wei felt worried, so he promptly said to Huo Yao, "Yu."

Huo Yao simply smiled and walked up in front of Shangguan Hou. She squatted down slowly. She raised his chin with the gun muzzle and looked down at the fresh human skin mask he was wearing. "Threats don't work on me."

Shangguan Hou did not have the slightest fear in his eyes. He looked at her with a crazed expression in his eyes. "Are you so sure? Are you ready to put everyone at the airport at risk to get what you want?"

He was threatening her with the well-being of the people at the airport.

Huo Yao pursed her lips. "You overestimate yourself."

He picked up the phone that had slid from Shangguan Hou's pocket. It was her phone.

The phone was off, but she promptly gave it a long press and turned it on. After turning on the phone, she received a lot of notifications for missed calls.

Min Yu, Zhuo Yun, and Chen Ming had called her repeatedly.

Huo Yao swiped down the call history and checked it. She had already gone missing for four hours, so most of the calls had come over four hours ago.

It was normal for Chen Ming to call, but she was unsure about Min Yu's calls.

Huo Yao pondered as she called Chen Ming back and told her she was fine.

"Miss Huo, where are you?" asked Chen Ming hurriedly. A wave of relief swept over him.

Huo Yao replied. "I'll send you my GPS coordinates."

"Yes, Miss Huo."

Before long, Chen Ming received Huo Yao's GPS coordinates. The moment he received them, he said anxiously, "Wait there. I will call the person in charge of the territory to pick you up. Give me five minutes."

The Huo family happened to have influence over aviation there.

Huo Yao hung up the phone. She pulled up a chair nearby unhurriedly as she moved the gun every now and then.

Shangguan Hou lost all hope as he looked at her. Just as he was about to speak, he glanced at her neckline and noticed the necklace which had slipped out from her collar.

He narrowed his eyes the moment he saw it.

#### Chapter 1462: A Secret

Huo Yao was wearing a unique jade pendant on the necklace and Shangguan Hou recognized it instantly.

The jade pendant was a clan secret and it contained an eight trigram on it.

It consisted of two pieces of black and white jade. According to family legends, once both pieces were combined and placed under a particular kind of magnetic field, a corridor for time travel could be activated and the user could access the past and future alike.

Both pieces of jade had gone missing many years ago, but one of them was now with Shangguan Yu. No wonder she was still alive.

Shangguan Hou lowered his eyes. He gathered his thoughts and stopped talking. He seemed to have given up retaliating.

Huo Yao paid no attention to Shangguan Hou. As she waited for her men to arrive, she tried to call Min Yu. Before she was able to press the dial button, she could see Zhuo Yun's caller ID appearing on her phone screen.

Her hands paused briefly before she quickly answered the phone.

After answering the phone, Zhuo Yun said hurriedly, "Miss Huo, I finally got you on the phone. Did you just disembark from the plane?"

Huo Yao noticed the anxious tone in Zhuo Yun's voice, so she asked worriedly. "Did something happen to your boss?"

"No, he's fine." Zhuo Yun looked inside the airport as he stood at the arrival hall. His throat felt dry as he spoke.

He did not know how she would react when she heard about her grandmother's passing, but he had to give her the bad news.

Zhuo Yun inhaled deeply and said, "Old Madam Yang has passed away."

Huo Yao's hand trembled and her mind went blank. Moments later, she calmed down and asked. "What do you mean?"

Zhuo Yun went quiet for a couple of seconds and said, "I'm sorry for your loss."

Huo Yao tightened her grip on her phone so hard that the veins at the back of her hands could be seen throbbing. "When did this happen? Why is she dead?"

"Roughly an hour ago. She died of illness," replied Zhuo Yun.

Huo Yao's face turned ghastly pale the moment she heard what he said.

Her grandmother had passed away an hour ago. If she did not go off with Shangguan Hou and boarded the flight as planned, she might have gotten to see Old Madam Yang one last time before she died.

Perhaps she could have saved Old Madam Yang.

Huo Yao could not help blaming herself or her grandmother's death. Zhuo Yun was still talking to her, but Huo Yao was at a loss and could not think straight. She remained in this state for some time.

When Mi Wei noticed her reaction, he instantly felt worried. He asked softly. "Did something happen?"

She acted the same way when her master passed away.

Huo Yao composed herself as she raised her head. She simply said everything was fine before she stood up, walked to the door, and opened it.

Shangguan Hou's men were still waiting outside. When they realized Huo Yao had opened the door, everyone automatically reached for their weapons at their waists.

Before they were able to move further, all of them slumped to the ground powerlessly just like Shangguan Hou earlier.

The man in charge of the Huo family's interests in town rushed over with a few men. The moment they saw the men on the ground, he felt stunned.

He quickly walked over to Huo Yao as she stood at the door. He bowed reverently and said, "Miss Huo, are you okay."

Huo Yao raised her hand. Her face and voice seemed completely normal now. She said to her subordinate, "Please send my friend to the hospital. Also, can you prepare a chopper for me?"

# Chapter 1463: Huo Yao Goes To The Countryside

The man did not know why Huo Yao wanted to go to Province Y, but he simply nodded and replied. "Yes, Miss Huo. I will notify the airport aviation crew to make arrangements."

Huo Yao nodded and thanked the man.

Huo Yao went back inside the private airport lounge and said to Mi Wei without even looking at Shangguan Hou, "I have to go somewhere. I've made arrangements to send you to the hospital. I'll come to see you when I'm done."

Mi Wei felt a lot better now thanks to Huo Yao. He scrutinized Huo Yao. Even though she looked completely normal on the surface, he could tell that she was sad. He reached his hand out and patted her on the arm and did not continue probing. "Sure. See you around."

"Uh huh," acknowledged Huo Yao before she walked out of the private airport lounge.

Before long, Shangguan Hou and his men were taken away and Mi Wei was sent to the hospital.

\*

The Huo family's local man moved quickly and the chopper was ready in roughly ten minutes.

After boarding the flight, Huo Yao sat down motionlessly and looked out of the window in a daze. Her nails were digging into her palms until they bled slightly, but she took no notice of it.

Time passed swiftly, but it felt like forever to her. An hour later, the flight finally landed at the Province Y airport.

Huo Yao felt tired. She closed her eyes slightly before she stood up and got off. She looked inexplicably sad. Her subordinate said nothing and simply followed beside her quietly.

When she left the airport, Zhuo Yun could be found waiting for her at the entrance. Huo Yao had already texted him before she boarded the flight. The moment he saw her, he went over and greeted her. "Hi, Miss Huo."

Huo Yao nodded and asked hoarsely. "Where is she?"

Zhuo Yun led her to the parking lot as he said softly, "Her body was sent back home. I reckon it is already there by now."

The moment Huo Yao heard what he said, she tightened her fists as they hung from the sides of her body. She acknowledged softly and turned to tell her subordinate not to follow her anymore.

Before long, Zhuo Yun drove Huo Yao back to her grandmother's place.

On the way there, he drove as fast as he could. Typically, it would take roughly two hours to get there, but they made it back in just an hour.

The car pulled up in the alley. Min Yu was standing there waiting for her dressed in a black coat.

When Huo Yao saw Min Yu standing there, the expression on her face finally softened up slightly. She opened the car door and went up to stand in front of him. Since the wind was cold, she trembled slightly. Her face looked pale and it was impossible to hide it now.

Min Yu had never seen Huo Yao looking so vulnerable, and he felt bad for her. He reached his hand out to hold her cold palm. After some time, he finally said, "My deepest condolences."

Huo Yao squeezed his hand slightly. Even though his hand felt warm, all she sensed was piercing cold radiating from inside her. She asked him. "What happened to my grandmother?"

Min Yu smoothed her hand as he said, "Let's go see her."

"Okay." Huo Yao nodded as he led her into the alley.

She walked mechanically following behind Min Yu. She was usually unfazed and it was hard watching her as she dealt with her loss.

Zhuo Yun sighed deeply looking at her.

\*

When Huo Yao and Min Yu got to the entrance, the door was open. A black banner hung over the door. She stood at the entrance and looked inside the compound.

The yard was usually empty, but it was filled with neighbors now. A tent was set up in the empty space and a coffin was resting below.

Lu Xia was dressed in dark clothing, wearing a black armband on her arm and talking to the people inside. She detected someone's presence, so she turned to look at the door.

# Chapter 1464: Unwelcome

Lu Xia was unsurprised to see Huo Yao. She paused for a couple of seconds before walking toward the entrance.

"You're not welcome here." Lu Xia spoke expressionlessly. Perhaps due to the decline of her family, she looked a lot more mature now and did not seem as proud as her old self.

Only one thing remained the same. She detested Huo Yao to the core.

Huo Yao looked at the black bandage on Lu Xia's arm before looking at Lu Xia's face calmly. "I will leave after seeing Grandma."

"Grandmother?" Lu Xia laughed gently and spoke in a sarcastic tone. "Where were you when she kept calling for you? You weren't even there for her at her deathbed. What gives you the right to see her now?"

Huo Yao clenched her fists with some stray hair flowing down from her forehead to her eyes. She continued looking at Lu Xia as she said, "I will leave after I see her."

"It's impossible. Dream on." Lu Xia sounded firm and determined. "If you genuinely care about her, you should leave her in peace and stop disturbing her. After all, you are not her blood, so it makes no difference for you to see her."

"I will leave once I get to see her." Huo Yao did not get upset when Lu Xia tried to stop her from seeing Old Madam Yang. She even sounded imploring when she spoke.

Min Yu felt terrible. He stepped forward and looked at Lu Xia coldly. "She's here to pay her respects to Old Madam Yang. Do you really have to make things difficult for her?"

The moment Lu Xia made eye contact with Min Yu, she instinctively veered her eyes without daring to look at him.

She knew Min Yu. He was from one of the most powerful families in the country, so she could not be rude to him.

If she refused to let Huo Yao see Old Madam Yang, the Huo family might not do anything to her. On the other hand, offending the Min family was as good as ruining her future.

Lu Xia bit her lip as she contemplated. After weighing the pros and cons, she decided to step aside and give way to them.

Min Yu turned to look at Huo Yao. "Let's go in."

Huo Yao acknowledged softly before she stepped into the compound.

He Xiaoman walked out of the house after Huo Yao and Min Yu entered the compound. She looked at Huo Yao annoyingly. "How dare you come here?"

Even though Lu Xia was unhappy about letting Huo Yao enter the compound, she quickly walked over toward He Xiaoman with composure. She reached her hand out and held her mother by the arm, whispering something to her.

He Xiaoman eventually suppressed her anger and left huffily without saying a word.

Huo Yao glanced at Lu Xia before she headed to Old Madam Yang's bedroom.

Old Madam Yang was already dressed in a shroud as she lay peacefully on the bed. It seemed as though she was just sleeping.

Huo Yao walked over stiffly. After looking at Old Madam Yang for some time, she finally sat down by the bed.

This old lady was the closest thing she had to family for over ten years. She did not understand why Old Madam Yang would suddenly pass away. They were just talking about bringing her to the Huo family and spending some quality time together.

Huo Yao reached her hands out and gently straightened her clothes even though they were completely tidy. Her grandmother's face looked very pale and serene.

She said nothing and simply kept looking at Old Madam Yang intently.

Min Yu sighed gently as he watched from the side. He knew no amount of consolation would help Huo Yao at a time like this, so he turned to leave the room to give her some privacy.

After stepping out of the room, he closed the door behind him.

Lu Xia was standing in the corridor. The moment she saw Min Yu step out of the room, she lowered her eyes and walked over.

# Chapter 1465: Sow The Seeds

"Hi, Young Master Min," greeted Lu Xia automatically.

Min Yu glanced at Lu Xia mildly with a cool look in his eyes without answering her.

He was from a powerful family, so Lu Xia was unsurprised by his coldness. She tightened her fists slightly as they hung from the sides of her body. She glanced at the door and cut to the chase. "May I have a word with you?"

Min Yu stood motionlessly. "Why would I want to talk to you?"

Lu Xia nodded. She paused and added. "It's about Huo Yao."

Lu Xia finally got Min Yu's attention.

Since Old Madam Yang's place was old and had bad soundproofing, Lu Xia brought Min Yu upstairs. They simply stood in the corridor without entering the room.

Lu Xia turned back. Even though the man was very handsome, she did not dare dream of striking a relationship with him. However, it did not stop her from feeling jealous of Huo Yao. She found it incredible that the girl was close to Min Yu.

Lu Xia composed herself and turned to look at the staircase. After some time, she finally said, "Young Master Min, do you think Huo Yao seems completely different?"

Min Yu narrowed his eyes. "What are you trying to say?"

Lu Xia simply smiled as she veered her eyes. "Nothing really. I was just trying to warn you. Some people aren't what they seem on the surface. Who knows when they might change?"

Even though Lu Xia's words sounded profound, it was easy enough to grasp the meaning. Min Yu responded mildly. "What are you trying to say?"

Lu Xia continued smiling as she said, "Nothing really. I was just concerned that you might get fooled by her. After all, peculiar things happen all the time."

"You might be right, but I happen to feel deeply intrigued by mysterious things," said Min Yu completely unperturbed as he stood in front of the railing.

Lu Xia was unsurprised when Min Yu did not react whatsoever.

She did not need to go into detail about what she was driving at. She simply had to sow the seeds and wait for them to sprout and grow.

...

Min Yu went back downstairs. When he got to the bedroom door, Huo Yao happened to open the door. He looked at her and asked. "All done?"

"Let's go." Huo Yao nodded and replied. She looked calm as usual and there was hardly any expression on her face.

The two of them walked out of the house one after another.

He Xiaoman was still standing outside in the yard. When she saw Huo Yao walk out of the house, she suppressed her fury and swallowed her words even though she was angry. She was quite afraid of Min Yu.

When Huo Yao walked past He Xiaoman, she halted and looked at her foster mother. "She had been religiously taking my meds. Why would she suddenly get a relapse?"

He Xiaoman did not expect Huo Yao to question her, so she said angrily, "What are you implying? Would I try to kill my own mother?"

"If she continued taking my meds, she could have easily lived until she was 80 years old," said Huo Yao.

"Do you really think you can stop someone from dying? Do you think you're a god?" He Xiaoman found Huo Yao's words hilarious. "Perhaps she died because of your meds."

"If I find out that you did something to her, I won't let you off," said Huo Yao before leaving.

He Xiaoman's face turned livid in fury. Just as she was about to turn and scold Huo Yao, she caught Min Yu looking at her coldly, so she automatically swallowed her words. After Min Yu and Huo Yao were finally out of sight, she cursed infuriatingly. "What the hell does she think she's doing?"

Lu Xia walked out and saw the angry look on her mother's face, so she automatically asked. "What's wrong?"

## Chapter 1466: More To It

"What else? Huo Yao suspects me of causing my mother's death. She threatened not to let me off if she learned I had anything to do with her death." The more He Xiaoman thought about it, the angrier she felt. "I know she's from a rich and powerful family and is acquainted with the Min family, so she can lord it over me. She's such an ingrate."

Lu Xia frowned before she comforted her mother. "Don't take it to heart. It's not worth it."

He Xiaoman shook her head. "She's my biological mother, okay? No matter what, I would never try to kill her!"

Lu Xia's eyes glinted briefly before she responded. "Just forget about her. We did nothing of the sort, so it doesn't matter."

Lu Xia kept comforting He Xiaoman until she felt better.

"You're such a dear. After the funeral, you should leave the country as soon as possible. You are the backbone of the family now." He Xiaoman held Lu Xia's hand and patted it gently.

Lu Xia narrowed her eyes slightly as a mocking look swept across her eyes but she simply nodded and said lightly, "Uh huh. Got it."

\*\*

Meanwhile, on the other end.

After getting into the car, Huo Yao leaned into the seat backrest in a daze. Her face was ghastly pale. She did not react even when her phone rang.

She acted as though she did not hear it at all.

Min Yu sighed inside as he sat and watched her. He turned sideways, reached his hands out, and took her phone from her pocket.

When he saw the caller ID on the phone screen, he answered the phone for her.

Huo Yulin had called. Chen Ming had just told him about the incident in the afternoon, so he called to check on his little sister.

Min Yu glanced at Huo Yao as he told Huo Yulin about Old Madam Yang's passing.

The moment Huo Yulin heard what he said, he went quiet.

When he went to the countryside with Huo Yao last year to visit Old Madam Yang, he could tell that the old lady meant a lot to Huo Yao. Now that she had passed away, he was sure Huo Yao would be deeply affected.

Huo Yulin inhaled deeply. For the first time in his life, he spoke in a sincere tone to Min Yu. "Please take good care of her."

"Uh huh," acknowledged Min Yu before they ended the conversation and hung up the phone.

Huo Yao snapped out of her daze. She turned to look at Min Yu and finally spoke. "Was that my third older brother?"

"Uh huh," acknowledged Min Yu. He put down the phone and held her hand tightly as he said in a deep voice, "I know you're upset. Just let it all out."

Huo Yao squeezed a smile and said, "Can you help me with something?"

"You want your grandmother's medical records, right?" When Min Yu overheard Huo Yao's conversation with He Xiaoman, he figured Huo Yao might need it.

"Uh huh." A wave of anger swept across Huo Yao's eyes. "I don't think she would have died for no reason."

Everyone knew people eventually died, but it was still hard to handle the grief when it actually happened.

Min Yu nodded. "Sure thing."

"Thank you," said Huo Yao before she closed her eyes.

Min Yu took off his coat and placed it on Huo Yao.

Even though the heater was on full blast in the car, her hands felt icy cold, so he could not help feeling worried.

Before long, the car pulled up at the hotel entrance.

Min Yu said a few things to Zhuo Yun before getting off the car. He walked to the other side of the car and opened the car door. After opening the door, he bent over to carry Huo Yao out of the car.

After taking the lift to the room on the top floor, Min Yu swiped the key card on the door. Just as he was about to slot the key card into the card slot to turn on the light, Huo Yao held his hand.

There was no light in the room, so it was completely dark.

Huo Yao spoke with her voice trembling. "I've been a terrible granddaughter. Just a couple of days ago, I already detected that something was wrong with her when I tred to reach her by phone, but I didn't take it seriously."

# Chapter 1467: Good Reason

"If I had acted sooner, perhaps my grandmother would still be alive. She would not pass away without even seeing me one last time."

Huo Yao buried her face in Min Yu's neck as she spoke. Her voice was unfeigned and sounded miserable.

Min Yu tightened his arms and placed his chin on Huo Yao's head. He said calmly, "This isn't your fault. Everyone has to face death one day. It was a peaceful death for Old Madam Yang, right?"

"No, you don't get it. I could have made it back in time. If I got back sooner, I could have seen her one last time. It is all my fault," whispered Huo Yao.

Min Yu's throat felt dry as he said, "Just let it all out. I'm sure it'll help make you feel better."

Huo Yao embraced him and leaned against his chest without saying a word.

Min Yu quietly held Huo Yao as they stood at the door. He did not feel tired.

After some time, Huo Yao suddenly raised her head and placed the key card into the card slot. In an instant, the lights lit up driving the darkness out of the room.

"I'm a little tired." Huo Yao looked at Min Yu listlessly. She was so pale that she looked particularly fragile.

Min Yu sensed an unease in his heart. He acknowledged her before carrying her into the room.

After placing her on the bed, Min Yu pulled up the blanket and tucked in Huo Yao. Just when he was about to leave, he could sense someone pulling him back.

Min Yu turned back and saw her gazing at him with a powerless look in her eyes. He felt heartbroken looking at her.

He sat back down by the bed and smoothed the hair by the side of her face. "Just sleep. I'll stay here with you."

Huo Yao finally let go of him. Before long, she closed her eyes.

When Min Yu was certain Huo Yao was asleep, he tucked her in, got up, and walked out of the room.

His phone rang in his pocket as someone called him.

Min Yu walked out into the living room before he checked his phone. It was a call from Zhuo Yun. He narrowed his eyes as he pressed redial.

The call got through before long.

"That was fast. Are you done investigating already?" asked Min Yu mildly.

"Not yet. I just sent someone to collect Old Madam Yang's medical records from the hospital." Zhuo Yun shook his head and continued. "I was calling to update you about Miss Huo. I found out why she didn't board the plane today."

Min Yu walked up in front of the window and looked out at the city with the dark night sky as the backdrop. "What happened?"

"Before Miss Huo could board the plane, she was abducted, so she was held up by the incident," said Zhuo Yun promptly. Min Yu narrowed his eyes. "What do you mean? Who did it?"

He just knew it. Huo Yao must have had a good reason not to contact him.

"I don't know either." In reality, Zhuo Yun had gotten the intel from Chen Ming, but Chen Ming was unable to furnish all the details either.

"Find out what happened," said Min Yu deeply.

"I'm already on it," replied Zhuo Yun hurriedly. He paused and asked worriedly. "Boss, how's Miss Huo doing?"

"Not good. Keep an eye on Old Madam Yang's funeral," reminded Min Yu.

Zhuo Yun nodded. "Okay."

Before long, Min Yu hung up the phone and went back to the bedroom.

The lights in the bedroom were still on, and he glanced at Huo Yao. He retrieved the laptop from the bedside table and pulled a chair over to sit down by the bed.

He kept Huo Yao company as he worked.

\*

In the blink of an eye, three days had passed and it was time for Old Madam Yang's burial.

#### **Chapter 1468: The Funeral**

Old Madam Yang was sent to the cemetery first thing in the morning.

People from the He family along with Old Madam Yang's close neighbors all came over to send her off.

Lu Xia and Lu Ziming came dressed in black, wearing a white flower pinned on their chest as they walked right in front of the funeral procession.

Huo Yao stood nearby as she quietly watched the procession without any expression on her face.

She was dressed in black as well. Her face was ghastly pale and she looked particularly vulnerable.

Min Yu glanced sideways at her and said, "If you're not up for it, you don't have to..."

Before he could finish his sentence, Huo Yao already read his mind and interrupted. "I think it's enough to do it from a distance."

She was too late to see her grandmother one last time before she passed away. Now that Old Madam Yang was about to get buried, she just wanted to quietly see her off.

If she showed up with He Xiaoman around, they would probably get into a fight.

She was in no mood to argue with her.

"Sure," acknowledged Min Yu.

•••

Old Madam Yang's funeral was very simple and it lasted no more than 30 minutes. After everyone paid their final respects to Old Madam Yang, they left.

Lu Xia removed the white flower pinned on her chest and placed it in front of her deceased grandmother's headstone. She glanced at the photo on the headstone briefly before veering her eyes quickly.

He Xiaoman failed to notice Lu Xia's actions. She also removed the white flower she was wearing and raised her hand to check the time. She said to Lu Xia, "Let's go. Otherwise, you might miss your flight."

Lu Xia nodded. She paused briefly, raised her head, and looked around.

"What are you looking at?" asked He Xiaoman quizzically.

"Nothing." Lu Xia veered her eyes and replied. "I was just wondering why Huo Yao didn't come for the burial."

The moment she brought up Huo Yao, He Xiaoman felt infuriated. "She's just an ingrate. Isn't it better that she isn't here?"

If Huo Yao showed up here, she might have trouble suppressing her anger and end up scolding her publicly.

Lu Xia pursed her lips without saying a word. She turned to leave the cemetery.

Lu Ziming had been quietly following behind He Xiaoman and Lu Xia. Since lots of things had happened in the family, he had lost all his proud air and seemed a lot more mature.

After following them for a couple of steps, he halted and said to He Xiaoman, "Mom, why don't you go back first? I'd like to spend more time with Granny."

He Xiaoman turned to glance at him. "This place is surrounded by dead people. Are you sure you want to hang around?"

Lu Ziming paused briefly before he nodded.

Lu Xia halted in her steps and looked at Lu Ziming. Her little brother had grown up a lot in the past year. He had even stopped arguing with her. Sadly, she did not feel close to him.

Lu Xia raised her hand to check the watch before she said mildly, "Mom, I have to go."

He Xiaoman disregarded her son when Lu Xia reminded her that she had to leave. She told him to hail a cab and get home on his own before following behind Lu Xia.

Before long, only Lu Ziming remained in the cemetery.

He felt a little scared, so he crossed his arms nervously before he turned back into the cemetery. After entering the cemetery, he found a place to hide.

\*

Before long, Huo Yao showed up in front of Old Madam Yang's headstone. She went into a daze looking at the picture of an amicable old lady on the headstone.

Even though three days had passed, she had trouble accepting her grandmother's death.

Huo Yao raised her head. After standing for some time, she finally put down the flowers in her hand, stood up, and said mildly, "Show yourself."

### Chapter 1469: Last Words

Huo Yao looked straight ahead at the headstone as she spoke up.

After hearing what she said, Lu Ziming finally came out from behind another headstone roughly three minutes later.

He slowly walked toward Huo Yao.

"How are you doing?" said Lu Ziming hesitantly as he looked at Huo Yao's frail-looking face.

The Lu family had gone bankrupt and his parents were divorced thanks to her. In theory, he should hate her for this.

Huo Yao raised her head and glanced at Lu Ziming. "Are you waiting for me?"

When she got there, she could sense someone looking at her furtively, but she did not expect Lu Ziming to be the one.

Lu Ziming wanted to deny it, but he swallowed his words. He glanced at Min Yu furtively before he said softly, "I want to talk to you."

"I'll wait for you outside," said Min Yu softly as he looked at Huo Yao.

"Uh huh," acknowledged Huo Yao. After he had gone some distance, she turned around and said, "What did you want to say to me?"

Lu Ziming twisted his fingers nervously for some time before he finally said, "I have a message from Grandma."

Huo Yao's eyelashes fluttered slightly. The cold wind left some stray hair on the side of her face fluttering in the wind. As Lu Ziming spoke, her face became increasingly pale.

"...She told you not to be sad when she passed away. She wants you to let go of the past. You are her granddaughter no matter what and she loves you." Lu Ziming thought about his grandmother before she lost consciousness. When she said these words to him, he could tell she was very adamant about it.

In reality, he did not quite understand why his grandmother wanted him to emphasize her last sentences.

In hindsight, Old Madam Yang probably wanted Huo Yao to know that she would always be family to her right before she died.

Huo Yao snapped out of her daze. Something struck her when Lu Ziming said Old Madam Yang mentioned she was her granddaughter no matter what. She composed herself before looking at Lu Ziming. "Thank you."

Lu Ziming veered his eyes uneasily before he hurriedly explained. "Don't misunderstand. I might be passing a message, but it doesn't mean I have stopped hating you. I just wanted to keep my word since I promised Granny to pass the message."

Huo Yao turned to look at the photo on the headstone with a soft look in her eyes. "I know."

She knew what Old Madam Yang was trying to say to her.

Lu Ziming gritted his teeth and replied in a stifled tone. "I'm glad you understand."

The moment he finished his sentence, he ran out of the cemetery.

Huo Yao continued standing where she was and looked at Lu Ziming for a moment after he was gone.

After some time, she parted her lips and whispered. "Granny, see you in the next life."

Her words disappeared into the air before long.

She turned to walk out of the cemetery.

Min Yu's car was parked outside. When Huo Yao walked out of the cemetery, he was standing by the car door answering the phone. He promptly raised his head and said a few words before hanging up the phone.

Min Yu held her hand when Huo Yao got to the car. He said, "Your third older brother just called."

Huo Yao was caught by surprise.

"Your parents are taking the 9:00 pm flight. They will probably arrive at the airport in an hour." Min Yu took off his coat and placed it on her. "They want to pay their respects to Old Madam Yang."

Huo Yao acknowledged softly and said, "I'll go pick them up."

She was clearly in worse shape than when she first heard about her grandmother's death. He paused for a couple of seconds and said, "Why don't I pick them up? You hardly got any rest ever since you found out about her death. I can take care of it."

Huo Yao smiled as she shook her head and insisted. "I'm good."

Since Min Yu was unable to convince her otherwise, he did not persist.

Huo Yao pulled her coat together as she looked sideways behind her. She said to Zhuo Yun, "Can you send the boy back?"

She was referring to Lu Ziming behind her.

# Chapter 1470: An Encounter At The Airport

Zhuo Yun promptly noticed Lu Ziming in the distance. He hurriedly nodded. "Sure thing. I will send him back."

Huo Yao nodded and thanked him before getting into Min Yu's car.

Before long, the car left the cemetery.

•••

Lu Ziming walked out of the cemetery hesitantly. On the way home, he felt annoyed with himself for coming out without his phone or money. He had no idea how to get home.

When he saw Zhuo Yun standing by the roadside, Zhuo Yun's powerful aura left Lu Ziming halting in his steps without daring to come close to him.

Zhuo Yun detected his fear, so he walked toward Lu Ziming voluntarily and said, "Miss Huo wants me to send you home."

Lu Ziming squeezed his hand in surprise. He clearly did not expect any kindness from Huo Yao, so he automatically blurted. "Is she trying to mess with me?"

Zhuo Yun looked up and down at Lu Ziming before he smiled and said, "Do you think you have anything she might want?"

Lu Ziming went quiet.

Even though Zhuo Yun spoke calmly with a smile on his face, his words were quite insulting.

"Come on boy," said Zhuo Yun as he raised his hand at Lu Ziming. Zhuo Yun had called a cab and it was here.

Lu Ziming went quiet.

Lu Ziming hesitated briefly. Since he did not have a dime on himself, he eventually got in the cab with Zhuo Yun.

He simply assumed his evil foster sister had probably grown a conscience these days.

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The airport at City Y was rather small. When Huo Yao and Min Yu got to the arrival entrance, there were hardly any people waiting outside.

The entire place seemed very empty.

Her parents' flight had yet to land.

"Why don't you rest in the car? I will bring them over once they get here." Min Yu glanced at Huo Yao before he spoke. He was concerned that she was pushing herself too much.

"I'm good." Huo Yao looked ahead as she spoke. "Don't worry. I'm perfectly fine."

Min Yu sighed inwardly. He knew she was a stubborn woman, so he did not insist again. They walked straight to the lounge area where he forced her to sit down.

After he was done, he walked back to the arrival gate and stood there waiting for her parents.

They waited for roughly 20 minutes before Huo Jinyan and Song Ning arrived at the arrival hall. Min Yu waved at them when they got there.

Huo Jinyan and Song Jin were caught by surprise to see Min Yu at the arrival hall. When they got closer, Huo Jinyan asked. "What are you doing here?"

The two of them had planned on calling their daughter after arriving at the airport.

Min Yu nodded politely to them and said, "Yulin told me you were coming, so we came over to pick you up."

Huo Jinyan acknowledged softly and thanked him.

Min Yu smiled. "Don't mention it. It was the least I could do."

"How's my girl?" asked Song Ning worriedly.

The moment she finished her sentence, Huo Yao's voice could be heard from behind. "Hi, Mom."

Song Ning hurriedly turned. When Song Ning saw Huo Yao's ghastly pale face and all the weight she had lost, Song Ning's eyes instantly felt teary. "Yao, are you..."

Huo Yao squeezed a smile. "Mom, I'm good."

The moment Song Ning saw the smile on her daughter's face, she sensed a twinge in her heart. She wiped a tear from her eyes, walked over, and embraced her precious daughter. "Don't be sad. Everyone dies eventually. I'm sure your grandmother wouldn't want to see you like this."

"I know. Don't worry, Mom." Huo Yao patted Song Ning on the back. Ever since she left the cemetery, she had already composed herself.

Huo Jinyan also walked over. He raised his hand and touched her head gently. He embraced them both in an attempt to console them.

Lu Xia was standing nearby, so she saw everything.