#### Pill Maker 1471

# **Chapter 1471: Harbor A Grudge**

Lu Xia had already entered the airport. After parting ways with He Xiaoman, she suddenly realized that she had forgotten to pass her something. She walked over toward the entrance as she called her mother.

When she walked over, she unexpectedly encountered Huo Yao and her foster parents and saw their sweet family reunion moment.

Lu Xia had already changed out of her black clothes. She stood where she was motionlessly and looked at the people from the Huo family. She unknowingly tightened her grip on her purse.

It was quite the irony that her foster parents had never treated her so well in her life.

If Lu Xia did not know better, she sometimes wondered if they already knew she was not their biological daughter right from the get-go.

Lu Xia pursed her lips coldly. Their love meant nothing to her anymore.

Before long, her phone rang in her purse.

He Xiaoman was calling her.

"Xiaxia, have you come out yet? I already made a U-turn, and I'm waiting at the entrance," said He Xiaoman as she looked out of the car window.

Lu Xia looked at the Huo family who had already walked toward the entrance. She replied calmly. "Give me a minute to get there."

Lu Xia was He Xiaoman's last hope, so she did everything Lu Xia asked. "Okay then. I'll wait for you."

"Uh huh." Lu Xia hung up the phone.

He Xiaoman put down her phone and flipped through a magazine as she waited. A few minutes later, someone knocked at her car window and she opened the car door.

"What did you have for me?" asked He Xiaoman.

Lu Xia veered her eyes from the airport and looked out at the parking lot. She acknowledged her mother and retrieved a card from her purse. "This is for you. The PIN is..."

He Xiaoman reached her hand out and asked hesitantly. "Is it from..."

Lu Xia replied calmly. "That's right."

He Xiaoman's face softened even more and she smiled. "When you get back, you have to work hard with the professor. Our family is counting on you."

Lu Xia had already grown accustomed to the change in her mother's attitude. She raised her hand to check the time before she ended the conversation. "Mom, I have to go."

"Sure thing. Have a safe trip. Text me before you take your connecting flight." He Xiaoman spoke in an indulgent motherly tone.

Lu Xia raised her hand and waved patronizingly before she turned and went back inside the airport.

\*\*

Meanwhile, Min Yu started the car and headed into the city.

It was starting to rain slightly. They had planned upon paying their respects to Old Madam Yang at the cemetery first, but the rain showed no signs of abating, so they decided to wait it out at the hotel.

Huo Jinyan and Song Ning knew that their daughter was deeply affected by Old Madam Yang's death, so they kept chatting with her. After talking to her, they felt relieved knowing she seemed okay.

Huo Yao's phone rang, so she swiped down to check her text message. She raised her head to look at her parents and said hoarsely, "I have to step out for a minute."

Song Ning automatically held her arm. "Where are you going?"

Huo Yao could tell that her mother was worried about her. She went quiet briefly and said, "Just next door. Min Yu wants to talk to me."

Song Ning let go of her hand. "Go on then. Come back soon."

Huo Yao nodded. She got up and walked out.

Huo Yao looked frail from behind. Song Ning sniffled and felt sad just looking at her.

She leaned against her husband's shoulder for support. "I wonder why her grandmother suddenly passed away. Our daughter was just making plans to bring her over to spend the Chinese New Year with us."

### **Chapter 1472: Discovered Some Problems**

Huo Jinyan sighed softly. "Everyone dies eventually and it really can't be helped."

"Sigh." Song Ning wiped the corner of her eye.

Huo Jinyan raised his hand and patted his wife on the shoulder. He paused and said, "Oh yes. I think I saw Xiaxia at the airport."

The moment her husband brought up Lu Xia, Song Ning was caught by surprise. She raised her head and asked him. "Are you sure?"

Huo Jinyan nodded. "I doubt I would've made a mistake. After all, we've lived together for years as a family."

"What's she doing at the airport? Did she realize we're in town?" Song Ning felt puzzled. Since Lu Xia was Old Madam Yang's eldest granddaughter, she probably had to continue mourning for her grandmother for seven days according to culture.

Huo Jinyan pondered briefly before he replied. "It didn't look like it."

Song Ning could not help feeling annoyed just thinking about Lu Xia's past deeds, so she did not like talking about her. "I don't care where she is. As long as she stops bothering us, I don't care what she's up to."

"Uh huh," Huo Jinyan nodded and dropped the subject.

\*\*

Shortly after Huo Yao got back to Min Yu's room, Zhuo Yun came back.

"Miss Huo, the kid was sent home safely," said Zhuo Yun hurriedly.

Huo Yao nodded and thanked Zhuo Yun. She looked at Min Yu. "Do you have her medical records?"

"Uh huh," acknowledged Min Yu as he handed her a document folder. "Here you go."

"I asked her doctor and he said Old Madam Yang passed away from heart problems and did not mention any other complications," said Zhuo Yun as Huo Yao checked out the patient's medical history.

A serious look emerged on Huo Yao's face as she read the file, but she said nothing. After reading the medical records swiftly, she retrieved the patient's test reports. The numbers shown on the test reports corroborated the diagnosis.

The only problem she spotted was with the blood test.

Huo Yao pulled up the blood test results.

"Is something wrong?" asked Min Yu when he saw Huo Yao studying the blood test report.

"Her blood viscosity levels don't look right. I suspect someone changed the meds I gave her," explained Huo Yao slowly.

When she went to Old Madam Yang's funeral, she checked out the box containing her grandmother's medication. She had been down to her last few pills. On the surface, it seemed completely normal, but she knew how many pills she had given her grandmother. It seemed strange for half the stash to disappear out of the blue.

Even without her medicine, Old Madam Yang could have easily lived for ten more years.

Since she was a physician and knew her grandmother's condition well, she could not help feeling that there was more to her death.

From the looks of it, she was right.

The moment Zhuo Yun heard what Huo Yao mentioned, he exclaimed in pure shock. "Who could have done that? How could they do that to a nice old lady?"

Min Yu went quiet briefly before he said, "Unfortunately, your grandmother wasn't quite there when I got to the hospital, so she wasn't able to tell me more."

Huo Yao suppressed the sadness inside. "If someone was determined to kill her, she wouldn't have known better even if she was completely conscious."

Even if she knew the truth, she probably would not say anything about it.

"Since the culprit was able to change the meds without detection, it was probably someone close to Old Madam Yang, right?" remarked Zhuo Yun.

If someone close to Old Madam Yang had done this to her, then Old Madam Yang had come to a pitiful end.

Zhuo Yun recalled something and added. "Oh yes. I heard that He Xiaoman had been helping to take care of Old Madam Yang. The neighbors often overheard them fighting."

## Chapter 1473: Her Whereabouts Were A Mystery

Huo Yao replied mildly the moment she heard what Zhuo Yun said. "He Xiaoman didn't touch her meds."

Even though He Xiaoman was a selfish woman, she was not capable of doing this. Huo Yao had already sounded her out the other day.

Huo Yao suddenly pulled her necklace out from under her collar. "Perhaps they were arguing about this piece of jade."

Min Yu narrowed his eyes as he looked at Huo Yao's jade pendant. He stepped forward and placed the jade pendant back under her collar. "This is the only thing Old Madam Yang left behind for you, so you have to be careful with it."

Huo Yao glanced at him. "Didn't you study it previously? Did you learn anything about it?"

"Nope. It's just a normal piece of jade." Min Yu's face looked completely normal as he answered her.

"I see." Huo Yao narrowed her eyes before she quickly raised her head and continued. "Perhaps we can find out more through Lu Xia."

Zhuo Yun asked quizzically. "What about her little brother?"

He thought about the boy he had helped Huo Yao send home. He recalled the young man muttering to himself that Miss Huo was a heartless woman. The guy certainly sounded like he had a vendetta against her.

"He would never have the guts to do it." Huo Yao shook her head and disagreed.

Lu Ziming was a privileged brat, but he was righteous at heart and was not an entirely lost cause.

She could tell from the way he specially waited for her at the cemetery so that he could pass on Old Madam Yang's last words to her.

"In that case, I will investigate Lu Xia," said Zhuo Yun hurriedly.

Before long, he left the room.

Only Huo Yao and Min Yu remained in the hotel room.

Huo Yao walked up to the French windows in a daze. The sky had unknowingly turned dark. It was raining outside and snowing slightly. The rain and snow drizzled down turning the world white.

#### Chapter 1474: Investigate Lu Xia

Zhuo Yun hurriedly spoke the moment Huo Yao started walking away. "Miss Huo, are you going to find Lu Xia? She already left Province Y yesterday by plane."

Huo Yao halted in her steps. She turned to ask him angrily. "Has she already left?"

Zhuo Yun nodded nervously. "Uh huh. She's gone."

Huo Yao frowned. "Do you know where she has gone?"

"She has probably flown back to City S. Her air ticket was bound for City S," replied Zhuo Yun promptly.

Huo Yao took out her phone and called Chen Ming. She instructed him to locate Lu Xia and apprehend her the moment he found her.

Huo Yao's face softened up the moment she thought about Mi Wei. Before hanging up the phone, she asked. "Uncle Ming, how's my friend?"

"Mr. Mi has already been discharged from the hospital. He kept asking about you, so I gave him your number. Didn't he call you?" asked Chen Ming quizzically.

Huo Yao went quiet briefly before she replied. "In that case, please send him to City S."

After she was done talking, she put away her phone.

Huo Yao stood where she was motionless. She had lost a lot of weight and her face was unusually pale. There was a profound look on her face marking the calm before a storm.

\*\*

Before long, Song Ning and Huo Jinyan came back from the cemetery after paying their respect to Old Madam Yang. After discussing it with their daughter, they decided to head back to City S.

Min Yu told Zhuo Yun to change his schedule and went back to City S with Huo Yao and her parents.

Their flight departed at 3:00 pm. By the time they got back to City S, it was not even 6:00 pm. Since it was wintertime, the sky had already turned completely dark.

Huo Tingrui and Huo Yanxi were already waiting for them at the arrival hall. When they saw their parents and little sister, they went toward them.

Huo Tingrui greeted his parents and looked at his little sister's face. She had clearly lost a lot of weight. He could not help feeling sorry for her loss and embraced her. "My condolences."

Huo Yao acknowledged him softly. She had lost a lot of weight, but she seemed calm. "I'm fine. Thanks."

Huo Tingrui pattered her on the shoulder and let her go. He finally noticed Min Yu's presence and nodded to him mildly.

Min Yu was accustomed to Huo Tingrui's lack of enthusiasm toward him.

A split second later, Huo Tingrui said, "Thanks for taking care of her."

Even though he did not like Min Yu, he had to thank him for looking out for his little sister during this time.

"Second Older Brother, it is my job," replied Min Yu as he nodded.

The moment Min Yu called him 'Second Older Brother', Huo Tingrui promptly felt uneasy.

He glanced at his little sister and parents. They had a great impression of Min Yu and he was on the losing end if he wanted to bicker in front of them, so he decided to swallow his words.

Huo Yanxi tightened his fists as they hung from the sides of his body. He glanced at Huo Yao, but he did not try to hug Huo Yao. Instead, he said deeply, "I'm sorry for your loss."

"Thanks, Big Brother," replied Huo Yao.

"Uh huh," acknowledged Huo Yanxi without daring to look at her. He hurriedly turned to help with his parents' luggage and headed to the parking lot. "Let's go home."

They left the airport before long. By the time they got back, an hour had already passed.

Min Yu had gotten a ride from Huo Yanxi. Even though they hardly exchanged a word, the atmosphere did not feel awkward.

After getting out of the car, Song Ning paused and walked up to Min Yu and said gently, "It's getting late. I reckon you need time to clean up your place. If you like, you can spend the night at our place."

#### Chapter 1475: Lu Xia Had Disappeared

Huo Tingrui was busy shutting the boot. The moment he heard what his mother said, he came over and interrupted her. "Mom, there are plenty of hotels, right? Do you have to?"

Whenever his little sister was around, his parents would show favoritism towards her. It was clear the despicable man wanted to date his little sister, but his parents supported Min Yu and even invited him to spend the night at their place.

Huo Tingrui felt very annoyed by their bias.

Song Ning glanced at Huo Tingrui angrily. "Shut your mouth." She turned to look at Min Yu warmly. "I mean it. Don't take what he says to heart."

Huo Tingrui was at a loss.

Did she have to put him down in front of an outsider?

Min Yu smiled and turned down Song Ning's kind offer. "Thanks, but I've already gotten someone to clean up the place, so I'm good."

Song Ning did not insist. She simply said, "Then, at least have dinner before leaving since our places are very nearby."

Min Yu did not say no to her suggestion this time.

\*\*

The maid had already prepared the food. Huo Yao did not have much appetite, so she simply sat in front of the dining table and quietly listened to them chat. Even though she was holding her chopsticks, she hardly ate anything.

The people at the dining table knew she was still grieving, so no one forced her to eat. They simply did their best to make conversation in an effort to distract her.

After dinner, Min Yu did not linger for long at the Huo residence. He chatted briefly with them before leaving.

Huo Yao went back to her room. When she went to the closet to retrieve her clothes, she noticed a huge box by the side.

She paused for a couple of seconds, hung her clothes back into the closet, and opened the box.

The cardboard box was filled with her thick ancient medical texts and her tightly wrapped trophies.

Huo Yao's hands froze briefly. She did not remove anything from the box and simply closed it slowly.

The shipping note was still attached to the package and it was sent nearly half a month ago.

Old Madam Yang had already packed Huo Yao's belongings stored in the countryside and mailed them over. This meant Old Madam Yang already expected something to befall her half a month ago.

Huo Yao raised her head and opened the box again. The box simply contained her things and nothing else.

Huo Yao closed the box dejectedly.

Her phone rang in her pocket and interrupted the silence in her room.

Chen Ming was calling her.

Huo Yao answered the phone and said, "Hi, Uncle Ming."

"Miss Huo, Lu Xia is not in City S. She already took a transit to Country M last night and our men missed her."

Chen Ming paused briefly before he said annoyingly, "One more thing. The other guy managed to escape."

Chen Ming had never messed up in his life, so he did not expect Shangguan Hou to be able to escape. It made completely no sense to him.

Unfortunately, he could not wrap his mind around how the guy managed to evade them.

A cool look emerged in Huo Yao's eyes and she seemed unsurprised by the outcome.

Shangguan Hou had managed to survive for a long time, so he was naturally smart and not an easy target.

Huo Yao focused mainly on Lu Xia's whereabouts. "Uncle Ming, do you know where she is exactly?"

"No, not yet. We were already too late. By the time we discovered she was in Country M, she had already disappeared without a trace." Chen Ming felt very embarrassed to say this.

Since Lu Xia had disappeared without a trace, this could only mean she was either dead or she had the help of a very influential man.

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes. It was clear that Lu Xia had a powerful backer.

### **Chapter 1476: Make The Same Choice**

Old Madam Yang suddenly passed away and Lu Xia left the country. These events must be connected in some way.

Initially, she simply assumed that Lu Xia had a flawed personality owing to her tragic life circumstances. From the looks of it now, it was completely in her nature to be this way.

She was heartless by choice.

Huo Yao responded coolly. "Continue investigating her."

"Sure, Miss Huo," replied Chen Ming. "What about the escapee?"

"It's fine." Huo Yao interrupted promptly.

Shangguan Hou had probably left the country by now. Even if he was still around, he had the ability to use human skin masks, so it was impossible to recognize him.

It no longer mattered to her to continue looking for him.

Even if she managed to find Shangguan Hou, more people wanting the same things would show up.

As long as the establishment was in existence, more people would disturb their peace.

It was simply unavoidable.

\*\*

Meanwhile, on the other end. Shangguan Hou was already on a flight bound for Country M. He had already changed his disguise and was wearing another human skin mask.

"Mr. Shangguan, please don't come out on your own again. You should be glad nothing bad happened this time around. If something did, I'm sure the professor would explode."

A foreigner stood beside Shangguan Hou with a worried look on his face.

Shangguan Hou leaned against the seat backrest gently as he swayed a glass of red wine in his hand. He looked sideways at the foreigner. "Don't worry. I'm not meant to die yet, so nothing will happen."

"I was very worried," said the man with fear lingering in his heart.

Shangguan Hou took a sip of wine without taking the man's words to heart. "I have to thank you for making it there in time."

Otherwise, he would probably be stuck in the country for a long time.

"I could only do it with Mr. Fan's help," said the foreigner hurriedly.

"Fan Shun?" Shangguan Hou narrowed his eyes for some time before he finally nodded. "I would like to see him. Please make the arrangements."

"Okay." The man nodded and glanced at Shangguan Hou. Ever since he picked up Shangguan Hou, the man seemed to be in a good mood. No one would have guessed that Shangguan Hou was nearly apprehended.

He pondered and asked him. "Why are you in such a good mood?"

"I found something." Shangguan Hou smiled blatantly.

A puzzled look swept across the man's eyes before he asked quizzically. "What did you find?"

Shangguan Hou did not bother to answer the man. After drinking all the wine in his glass, he sighed and said, "Sadly, it's hard to get my hands on it."

The foreigner did not quite understand what Shangguan Hou was referring to, but he could tell it meant a lot to Shangguan Hou.

Since Shangguan Hou refused to give him more details, he was in no position to ask anything further.

Shangguan Hou failed to detect the foreigner's reaction. He simply turned around and looked out of the window profoundly.

The Shangguan clan was his trump card, so he naturally could not divulge it to an outsider.

\*\*

The next afternoon, Huo Yao went to the hotel to see Mi Wei.

He had just arrived in City S with Chen Ming.

The two of them sat on the couch for some time until Mi Wei smiled sadly as he said, "I'm sorry. If not for me, this wouldn't have happened."

Huo Yao looked calm. She knew what Mi Wei was trying to say, so she interrupted him. "Even if we could travel back in time, I would've done the same."

#### Chapter 1477: Ups And Downs In Life

They could not turn back time, unfortunately.

Huo Yao lowered her eyes and paused for a second before she changed her subject. "When do you plan on going back home?"

Mi Wei held his tobacco pipe out of habit but did not light up. He simply replied. "In a couple of days."

Huo Yao nodded. "The sooner the better. It's not safe outside."

"What about you? Shangguan Hou already knows you're alive. I'm sure he won't let you off." Mi Wei spoke solemnly.

Huo Yao pursed her lips and replied mildly. "Since there's no avoiding him, I can only wait for him to come for me."

"But..." Mi Wei's lips parted wanting to speak, but Huo Yao interrupted him again.

"I used to think all I wanted was freedom and thought it wasn't half bad to sit around and do nothing." Huo Yao looked out the window with a profound look in her eyes.

She turned her head and continued. "However, I have changed my mind."

Mi Wei looked at Huo Yao and felt sorry for her. Her words clearly meant that the recent incident had affected her greatly.

"Yu, the family has gone through ups and downs, but it couldn't be helped. You've already escaped this vicious cycle. Why get yourself involved again?" Mi Wei sighed and spoke.

"I know what I'm doing." Huo Yao composed herself. She retrieved a bottle from her pocket and handed it to Mi Wei. "Pass this to Shangguan Yun."

Mi Wei took the bottle but did not open it. He paused and suddenly asked. "Does Yun know about your situation?"

Huo Yao stayed quiet. Mi Wei already got his answer through her silence. He placed the bottle into his pocket expressionlessly and did not continue probing.

Shangguan Yun was home, but she inexplicably sensed a chill running down her back.

Shangguan Yun always had very keen instincts.

Huo Yao and Mi Wei chatted about something else before she left two hours later.

After leaving the hotel, she realized that it was drizzling outside. She stood at the door dressed in her black coat. The coat accentuated her lean frame and made her look thin and vulnerable. For a moment, it felt as though she might get blown away by the wind.

A car pulled up at the hotel entrance.

Min Yu opened the car door, opened his umbrella, and got out of the car. He walked around the car towards Huo Yao.

"How did you know I was here?" Huo Yao walked toward the man looking puzzled.

"I was worried you might feel down," replied Min Yu gently. He reached his hand out and held Huo Yao's cold, nearly frozen palm.

Huo Yao did not know whether to cry or to laugh. She shook her head and said, "I don't get depressed easily."

"I know." Min Yu looked Huo Yao straight in the eye and spoke solemnly. "I was just worried."

Huo Yao made eye contact with him and suddenly felt moved by his gesture. She tightened her grip on his hand voluntarily. "I'm really fine."

"Where do you want to go? Do you want to head home?" asked Min Yu.

"I'm a little hungry." Huo Yao had suffered from a lousy appetite recently, so she hardly wanted to eat, but she felt hungry suddenly.

Min Yu pulled her toward the car, let her go, and opened the car door for her to get in. "Let's go have a bite. Shall we go to Old Mr. Yi's medicinal cuisine restaurant?"

Medicinal cuisine tasted light, so it was perfect for Huo Yao since she had not been eating much.

"Okay," acknowledged Huo Yao before bending over to get into the car.

...

They arrived outside the medicinal cuisine restaurant 30 minutes later.

### **Chapter 1478: Too Young**

Min Yu and Huo Yao did not call Old Mr. Yi ahead of time before they got there. Since the supervisor recognized them, he showed them to a private room reverently.

Yi Lianfan went back to City S on the second day when term break started for Tsing University. It was a family business, so he spent all his time refining his cooking at the restaurant.

When the supervisor mentioned Huo Yao was here, he promptly put down the ingredients and went over to the private room.

The moment he saw Huo Yao, Yi Lianfan was stunned. "Have you been dieting?"

She did not look good and her face was very skinny.

He had never seen her looking so fragile in his life.

Huo Yao glanced at Yi Lianfan before she gave him a fake smile. "Aren't you a chef? I didn't know chefs liked to gossip."

Yi Lianfan went speechless.

Sure enough, he could never out-talk her.

Yi Lianfan touched his nose and did not dare to probe her. He automatically glanced at Min Yu.

Even though Min Yu was quietly sitting in his chair, he gave off an imposing aura.

Yi Lianfan nervously veered his eyes. After asking Huo Yao for her order, he quickly left and went back to the kitchen.

It felt terribly awkward for him to hang around and play the third wheel.

As Yi Lianfan ran out of the private room, Huo Yao turned to look at Min Yu. "You scared him."

Min Yu kept holding onto Huo Yao's hand under the table. When her hand finally felt a little warmer, he remarked condescendingly. "Is it my fault that he is too young?"

Huo Yao quietly veered her eyes.

From the looks of it, he was never going to stop cracking jokes about age.

\*\*

After dinner, the two of them left the medicinal cuisine restaurant. On their way home, Min Yu's phone rang several times. He simply glanced at the phone without checking it.

They kept driving until they pulled up at the Huo residence. She opened the car door and got off. Before she left, she turned around and said to Min Yu, "If you are busy, just go back to the capital first. I'll be fine."

Min Yu looked at her for some time before he finally nodded. "Okay then."

He opened a box beside him, retrieved a small jewelry box, and handed it to Huo Yao.

Huo Yao looked at the jewelry box in his hands quizzically before she reached her hand out to take it.

When she opened the jewelry box, she could see a necklace with a jade pendant inside. In terms of quality, she could tell it was premium.

"I changed my mind. Do you mind letting me keep the necklace a little longer?" said Min Yu.

Huo Yao raised her head and looked at Min Yu.

Min Yu said, "I'm worried it might remind you of your grandmother."

Huo Yao shook her head and replied., "I'll be fine."

She lowered her eyes slightly and smiled. The shadow made it slightly harder to see the dark circles under her eyes.

Her grandmother had told her not to be upset and wanted her to move on.

Huo Yao ended up compromising. She removed the necklace, rubbed the jade pendant gently, and handed it to Min Yu.

Min Yu took the necklace from her and held it tightly. Since Huo Yao did not continue probing, he felt relieved.

Huo Yao glanced at him and said, "I'm going home then."

"Sure."

Min Yu watched from behind as Huo Yao disappeared through the main entrance before veering his eyes. He opened his hand and looked at the fish-shaped jade pendant with his eyes narrowed.

Moments later, he put the necklace away.

## **Chapter 1479: Song Ning's Concerns**

Song Ning happened to walk out of the greenhouse when Huo Yao got home. Huo Yao seemed a little better, so Song Ning felt less worried.

"Oh yes. Call Yu over for dinner later," said Song Ning as she placed some fresh flowers into a vase.

Huo Yao leaned against the table holding a cup of water. "We have already eaten outside."

Song Ning raised her head and glanced at her daughter. "Does this mean you went out in the afternoon to meet him?"

"Nope." Huo Yao took a sip of water and said calmly, "We just ran into each other, so we decided to have dinner together."

Song Ning paused for a couple of seconds before she put down her scissors. "Are the two of you dating?"

Huo Yao rubbed the bottom of her glass and after a moment, she acknowledged her mother.

Even though Song Ning could tell they were dating, she could not help feeling emotional when she heard it straight from the horse's mouth.

Huo Yao had only reunited with the family for roughly two years, but she was already starting to date someone. Song Ning sighed inwardly without saying anything out loud. She simply patted her daughter on the shoulder.

Huo Yao had assumed that her mother would try to convince her not to date Min Yu. From the looks of it, her mother surprisingly had nothing against it.

Perhaps her mother liked men with good-looking faces.

Huo Yao contemplated briefly before she asked. "Why aren't you objecting?"

"I know what I'm doing." Song Ning simply smiled as she shook her head without explaining further. "In any case, I think Yu is a good choice."

Huo Yao looked at her mother and asked. "Don't tell me Dad feels the same way?"

"Oh him? He just takes his cues from me," replied Song Ning nonchalantly before veering her eyes to continue trimming the flowers.

Huo Yao paused briefly and pondered. It was no wonder her father did not react negatively to Min Yu.

Her phone rang in her pocket.

It was a text message from Min Yu: [I'm going back to the capital tonight.]

Huo Yao tapped gently on the screen and replied: [Sure. Have a safe trip. Congrats. My parents approve of you.]

Min Yu was already on the way to the airport. When he saw Huo Yao's text message, he promptly smiled. He did not respond to her text message and simply reached out to turn on the music.

He played happy music in the car since he was in an excellent mood.

\* \*

Huo Yao sent Mi Wei to the airport two days later.

"After you go home, don't ever come out again." Huo Yao was dressed in black as usual. As she spoke, she retrieved a phone from her bag.

Mi Wei was astonished to see the device. After taking the phone, he promptly unlocked it. "Where did you find it? After Shangguan Hou took it from me, I never saw it again."

Huo Yao straightened her coat. "I found it at the hotel. I've already turned off the GPS."

"Sure thing. Thanks." Mi Wei nodded. "Add your number to my phone, so we can stay in touch."

"Okay." Huo Yao took out her phone and sent him her number.

Mi Wei happily placed his phone into his pocket. "One more thing I forgot to mention. I brought a shoot along with me when I left home, but someone took it from me."

Huo Yao glanced at him. "Why did you bring it out with you?"

"I heard that the soil condition in City Huai was conducive for cultivating it, so I brought it along with me. I didn't expect someone to want it," said Mi Wei huffily.

He only managed to successfully cultivate it twice after all these years. However, he did not take it to heart when it was taken from him. After all, it was a dangerous ingredient.

#### Chapter 1480: Problems At The Weapons Bureau

Huo Yao pressed her brow and said, "Can you stop cultivating dangerous plants?"

Mi Wei cleared his throat nervously. "You know me. I'm really into poison."

Huo Yao shook her head. She raised her wrist to check the time and said, "Enough already. Time for you to board your flight. Take care, okay?"

"Uh huh," acknowledged Mi Wei.

He pulled his luggage along and left. After taking a couple of steps, he turned to look at the young woman. He could not help feeling a little annoyed when she looked completely normal and did not seem sad that he was leaving.

He veered his eyes disappointedly with his shoulders slumped. From behind, he looked very miserable.

Huo Yao paused briefly. She sighed powerlessly and strode toward Mi Wei. After embracing him gently, she said, "Uncle Wei, take care. Each one of you has to take care."

She spoke softly and sounded unusually serious.

Mi Wei suddenly felt a tremor in his heart. He felt both sad and happy.

Mi Wei was pleased that the lass had finally developed some normal emotions. Then, he felt a little sad since he could sense melancholy coming from her.

Mi Wei patted Huo Yao's back comfortingly. "That goes without saying."

Even if everyone might come to no good end, they had to ensure that Shangguan Yu was fine.

Before long, Mi Wei went for his customs security check. Huo Yao stood outside until he was completely out of sight and turned to leave.

\*\*

Meanwhile, at the Weapons Bureau located in Country M.

Min Yu sat in the chair as he spun his pen every now and then. Dozens of department heads sat around the oval conference table.

They were having a meeting, but they spoke aggressively and kept glaring at each other.

After the meeting had gone on for nearly two hours, Min Yu finally stood up angrily and glanced at them coolly. "I didn't come here to listen to this bullshit. If you don't come up with a plan by tomorrow, don't ask me to come over."

The moment he finished his sentence, he hurled the pen on the table and walked out of the room.

Everyone looked at each other quizzically. They were annoyed, but no one dared to say anything until the man had disappeared through the door.

"The boss doesn't care about us anymore," blurted someone uncontrollably.

"Well, he's the boss, right? Can you make the kind of weapons he does?" scoffed someone else.

Despite the mocking tone, the man clearly sounded equally annoyed by Min Yu.

"I'm sure you know his personality well. Why don't you spend your time solving the problem rather than bitching about it?"

The moment he finished his sentence, everyone became quiet. There were dozens of people there and they were split into three factions. They had offered three proposals and no one wanted to compromise, so it was impossible to solve the problem.

Zhuo Yun was waiting outside the conference room. When Min Yu left the room, Zhuo Yun quickly followed behind him.

"Things in the bureau are very political. If this goes on, it's just a matter of time before it runs into big trouble." Zhuo Yun did not join the meeting, but he could easily guess the outcome without even stepping into the room.

Min Yu remained calm and did not take the matter to heart. "I don't care."

Zhuo Yun had already figured out what his boss would say. He sighed gently and said in a powerless tone, "If you don't do something about them, I'm sure things might implode one day."

Min Yu halted in his steps and turned his head sideways with a nonchalant look on his face. "We need a bait if we want to get what we want, right?"

He veered his eyes and continued walking. "Have you found Lu Xia yet?"