

Pill Maker 1511

Chapter 1511: Not Legally Binding

Liu Qian could sense his head throbbing as he spoke. His eyes were red before he knew it.

After Qi Hui was done typing the last word, he finally raised his head and looked at Liu Qian annoyingly. "Aren't you overreacting? Do you really think they are bigshots just because they created the system?"

Qi Hui scoffed and stood up. He leaned forward against the table with both hands and looked at Liu Qian. "Don't you know who you're dealing with? The institute handles confidential projects. You should be glad they were willing to give you authorization of any kind. What's your problem?"

Liu Qian was stunned by what he heard. After some time, he finally composed himself.

He said angrily, "You know that's not how it works. Our students created the system, so they naturally have the right to ownership. Even if their projects are top secret, it doesn't give them the right to steal someone else's work, right?"

It was no different from robbing the students.

Moreover, Prof Liu had approved this authorization agreement. Liu Qian simply could not wrap his mind around it.

"What do you mean by stealing someone's work? Use your brains, okay? The project belonged to the institute from the start." Qi Hui shook his head and tried to argue his point with Liu Qian. "Don't you know how the world works? Sometimes, you can't get everything you want."

Liu Qian clenched his fists as he looked at the nonchalant look on Qi Hui's face. He nearly wanted to rip the so-called authorization letter to shreds.

It was clear that Qi Hui did not care about the ownership of the students' work. Perhaps he had even helped to make this happen. After all, he had a history of being an underhanded man.

Liu Qian inhaled deeply. After suppressing the fury in his heart, he said calmly, "I understand the unwritten rules in the trade, Mr. Qi. I hate to tell you this, but this authorization is non-binding."

Qi Hui frowned on hearing this. "What do you mean?"

Liu Qian looked at the authorization letter mockingly and slammed it on the table. He finally replied. "Their work is protected by a patent. Even if you sign the authorization letter, it makes no difference."

Liu Qian felt relieved that Huo Yao had thought ahead and reminded him about obtaining a patent ahead of time. Otherwise, there was no recourse for them.

Qi Hui narrowed his eyes. He naturally knew what Liu Qian meant. "Have you applied for a patent?"

"That's right. The application has been approved and the official certification will be ready in a few months." Liu Qian spoke solemnly.

Fortunately, software-related patents provided protection immediately from the time of application. The other patents were only legally binding after they received the certificate officially.

Qi Hui could tell Liu Qian was not joking. He instantly looked worried. "Why didn't you tell me about the patent?"

"If I told you before applying for it, I'm sure you would have warned the institute and tried to stop me, right?" Liu Qian lost his temper and answered in a mocking tone.

Qi Hui felt annoyed. After all, he was the department head. "I told you already that I was not in a position to do as I please. Since you have applied for a patent, you could have at least told me about it. I could have avoided offending the institute."

Chapter 1512: People Attempting To Steal It

Liu Qian wanted to laugh the moment he heard what Qi Hui said. "Mr. Qi, I really don't get it. The students have done the department proud, both at the university level and at the academic level. Why did you try to give it away to the institute?"

The National Research Institute of Science worked for the government, but Tsing University was the top university in the country. This meant they were linked to the government as well.

Qi Hui argued they were not in a position to go against a government body. Since both establishments belonged to the government, this argument did not hold water at all.

Any problems Qi Hui faced only existed at a personal level.

Qi Hui leaned against the table looking at Liu Qian. He no longer seemed as powerful. It looked as though the roles had reversed and Liu Qian had the upper hand.

Qi Hui remained quiet for some time.

The silence in the office was finally broken by a phone call.

It was Qi Hui's phone which rang.

Liu Qian suddenly composed himself and glanced at his phone on the table. He said calmly, "Mr. Qi, I'm sure you're very busy, so I'll make myself scarce."

Liu Qian proceeded to leave the office. When Liu Qian got to the door, he suddenly turned around and said, "Oh yes. I think you'll need to reach out to the institute about signing the authorization letter again."

Qi Hui looked even angrier.

Liu Qian calmly veered his eyes and stepped out of the office.

The moment he walked out through the door, the confidence on his face disappeared and he looked worried.

Even though Liu Qian had already settled the patent application, he could tell that the National Research Institute of Science was not going to give up once Qi Hui told them about this.

He was not worried about the research project but was afraid of the people attempting to steal it.

Qi Hui was right. Sometimes, it was impossible to get what he wanted.

Since Prof Liu was willing to do the institute a favor and give away the project, they were unlikely to stop just because of a patent. In their eyes, it was probably a minor hindrance.

After all, they could revoke the patent application anytime before they received the official paperwork.

Liu Qian walked back to the office worriedly. The students had spent most of their time researching the project diligently during the last term. He could not help clenching his fists as he thought about them.

No matter what, he could not let others steal the patent from his students!

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After hanging up the phone, Qi Hui looked deeply at the authorization letter from the institute on the table. Liu Qian did not take it with him when he left the room.

He did not see this coming. Liu Qian had applied for the patent without warning and he had undoubtedly gotten smarter.

Qi Hui closed his eyes thinking. Wei Yong had often called to ask for some details surrounding the project last year. Qi Hui had an inkling that Wei Yong wanted to apply for a patent, but Liu Qian had sadly beaten Wei Yong to it.

Qi Hui contemplated deeply before he opened his eyes. He picked up his phone and swiped down to Wei Yong's phone number. He paused before pressing the dial button.

Someone answered the phone after a couple of rings, but it was not Wei Yong. Instead, it was Wei Yong's assistant.

"Hi, Mr. Qi. Are you looking for Mr. Wei?" asked the assistant courteously.

Qi Hui felt worried as he asked. "When will Mr. Wei be free?"

The assistant could tell Qi Hui needed to speak to Wei Yong urgently. He raised his hand and checked the time on his watch. "Mr. Wei has just gone into the lab. He'll probably only be out after three to four hours at least."

He paused and added. "If it's something serious, you can let me know and I'll pass on the message to Mr. Wei."

Qi Hui hesitated briefly. "Well, it's just a minor problem."

Chapter 1513: Revoke The Application

Wei Yong's assistant said, "If it's not urgent, I'll get Mr. Wei to give you a call when he's free."

"Okay. Thanks a lot," replied Qi Hui politely without hanging up the phone. He probed. "Oh yes. How's the patent application for the project going?"

The assistant was unsurprised by this question. After all, Qi Hui had provided most of the data they needed for the patent application previously and Qi Hui probably knew what they were trying to do.

He replied easily. "I've already submitted the application a couple of days ago. I think it'll get approved in half a month."

Liu Qian had already submitted the patent application much earlier and Wei Yong had only just submitted it. It was no surprise Liu Qian had beaten them to it.

When Qi Hui did not react, the assistant asked. "Hello, Mr. Qi?"

Qi Hui snapped out of his thoughts. He pondered before deciding it was best to tell them about the patent problem.

The moment the assistant heard what he said, he promptly frowned. "Has it already gone through preliminary approvals? How could you do this to us? Don't you know this is a confidential project?"

Qi Hui could not help feeling annoyed by the assistant's self-righteous and indignant tone of voice. After all, the institute was shamelessly trying to steal the students' research. Since the institute was very powerful in the academic world, he smiled and said apologetically, "I only just found out about the patent myself. The teacher in charge of the project applied for it without informing me in advance."

Wei Yong's assistant touched his brow as he contemplated. The patent meant a lot to Wei Yong, so he was bound to throw a fit when he learned of this.

The assistant said nothing and promptly hung up the phone.

Chapter 1514: Only Disciple

The assistant followed behind Wei Yong and they quickly left the laboratory.

Wei Yong raised his head and looked at the lift door as they waited for the lift. He asked calmly. "Did you receive updates about the patent?"

The assistant looked at Wei Yong cautiously before he finally replied hesitantly. "Yeah. You can say so."

Wei Yong narrowed his eyes the moment he saw the assistant's reaction. "I suppose we didn't get the preliminary approval then?"

"Not really" The assistant parted his lips and was about to get to his point, but the lift was here, so he stopped mid-sentence.

Wei Yong said nothing. When the lift door opened, he stepped into the lift and saw people standing inside.

"Hi, President Xue." Wei Yong hurriedly nodded and greeted reverently when he saw the institute president inside the lift.

Someone with an imposing aura stood beside President Xue. Wei Yong glanced at the man in surprise before veering his eyes.

"Hi, Wei." President Xue nodded before he raised his hand to press close. "Are you going upstairs or downstairs?"

Wei Yong told President Xue he was going upstairs before walking into the lift without standing in front of the young man. Instead, he did his best to keep to the lift wall.

Before long, the lift door closed behind them.

Wei Yong raised his hand and pressed for his office floor.

President Xue stopped talking to the young man. Instead, he turned to look at Wei Yong and said, "Well done with your recent project."

Wei Yong did not expect President Xue to know about his recent work. Researchers at Wei Yong's rank hardly interacted with the president directly. He hurriedly replied. "Thank you. It was a team effort."

President Xue stood with his hands behind him and gave off a serious aura. He nodded and asked. "Your boss told me you're already applying for a patent. How did it go? Did it get approved?"

Since Wei Yong had yet to receive any updates from his assistant, he glanced at the assistant and replied. "We just submitted the application and we're waiting to hear back from the patent office."

"I see," acknowledged President Xue. The lift had gotten to President Xue's floor, so he simply added. "Patents are very important. We need to protect the research."

Wei Yong nodded promptly. "I understand."

President Xue stopped talking to him. The president and the young man walked out of the lift one after another before the lift door closed.

After the president was gone, the assistant could finally relax. He asked quizzically. "Mr. Wei, who was that young man with President Xue? I don't recall seeing him before. Is he one of our researchers?"

Wei Yong narrowed his eyes. After some time, he said, "He's President Xue's only disciple."

The assistant was caught by surprise. He raised his head and looked at Wei Yong in shock. "Was that him? Didn't President Xue's disciple create the memory alloy driver?"

"Uh huh," acknowledged Wei Yong as he nodded.

Wei Yong had the chance to see the man a few years ago. He had surprisingly encountered the man again today. He paused and added. "He comes from an influential background. If you ever encounter him, you should be nice and polite to him."

The assistant acknowledged his boss promptly. Even if Wei Yong did not warn him about this, the assistant could tell that the young man was very powerful.

Before long, the lift stopped at Wei Yong's office floor and the two of them walked out of the lift.

When they got to the office, Wei Yong took off his coat and hung it on the clothes rack. "Tell me. What's wrong?"

Chapter 1515: Where There's A Will There's A Way

The assistant glanced at Wei Yong cautiously before he told him about his conversation with Qi Hui.

Wei Yong promptly frowned, but his voice sounded calm as he spoke. "Have they already applied for the patent and heard back from them?"

The assistant lowered his head deeply. "That's right. They are just waiting for the official paperwork. Since software is patent protected from the day of application, the authorization agreement we've made Mr. Qi sign is not legally binding."

Wei Yong looked annoyed. President Xue had just brought up the subject of the patent earlier in the lift. If they did not have the patent for the project, it would be an absolute embarrassment for his department.

The assistant said cautiously, "I have asked Secretary Wang. Unless the students choose to give up the application, there is no way for us to get the patent."

"What's Mr. Qi's take on this?" asked Wei Yong.

"He didn't say much. I think he might already know about this, but didn't tell us until now," said the assistant candidly.

Wei Yong turned on his laptop and remarked mildly. "If he already knew about it, why would he help us with the filing so enthusiastically?"

"What now?" The assistant looked at Wei Yong powerlessly. "Unless the students revoke their application, there's no way we'll get it."

Wei Yong entered his password into the computer, logged into his mailbox, and checked his mail. After reading one of the emails, the sternness on his face dissipated and he looked happy.

As he went through the email, he asked the assistant without even raising his head. "Where there's a will there's a way. Make arrangements with Mr. Qi. I want to speak to him."

Chapter 1516: Senior Brother

Zhuo Yun was waiting downstairs. When he saw the plans in his boss's hand, he knew that President Xue must have asked Min Yu to help with some other project again.

Zhuo Yun cleared his throat and did not dare to make any comments. Instead, he quickly opened the rear car door.

After getting into the car, they left the National Research Institute of Science. Zhuo Yun asked his boss. "Where are we going now?"

Min Yu had already tossed the plan to the side of the rear seat. He sat rapping his fingers softly on his knee without answering Zhuo Yun immediately. Instead, he took out his phone and called Huo Yao first.

After ringing a few times, someone finally answered the phone.

Min Yu could hear rock music through the phone and she was clearly in a noisy environment. He could not help asking. "Are you out somewhere?"

"Uh huh. It's a little noisy here. Shall I call you later?" Huo Yao tilted her body sideways and lowered her voice as she spoke.

"Okay then," acknowledged Min Yu. Before he hung up the phone, he asked. "Are you alone?"

"Nope." Huo Yao glanced at the man beside her. "I'm with my senior."

Was she with her senior?

Min Yun narrowed his eyes and replied. "Fine. Come back soon."

Huo Yao acknowledged him and quickly hung up the phone.

Min Yu felt annoyed.

Zhuo Yun could suddenly sense the air in the car grow cold and trembled involuntarily. He could sense a murderous aura in the car, so he raised his head to check the rearview mirror.

Even though the boss looked completely normal, Zhuo Yun knew his boss well enough and something was amiss.

He did not dare to probe. He certainly could not bear the consequences of pissing off his boss ever again.

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After hanging up the phone, Huo Yao turned to look at the actors performing on the stage.

"Are you busy?" asked Li Chenhui as he turned his head. "If you have somewhere to go, we can leave anytime."

Huo Yao veered her eyes and smiled as she shook her head at Li Chenhui. "Nope. I'm good."

Li Chenhui nodded. Since Huo Yao seemed disinterested in theater, he got up graciously. "This play isn't that great. Why don't I buy you dinner?"

Huo Yao raised her brow. "Sure."

Before long, they walked out of the theater. There was a restaurant nearby and roughly a few minutes' drive away from their current location.

Huo Yao glanced at the restaurant signboard before entering the premises.

It was quite the coincidence.

"This is a good restaurant. It's as good as a Michelin restaurant." Li Chenhui had already booked a table in advance. He spoke as he showed her into the restaurant.

Huo Yao nodded obediently.

After they sat down at a booth near the window, they placed their orders. Li Chenhui raised his head and looked at Huo Yao and said, "I could not help noticing something. Why haven't I ever encountered you in the Physics department before?"

His little junior sister was a stunning beauty. Since the Physics department consisted mostly of guys, she would probably be famous for her good looks among the freshmen.

Huo Yao held the cup of tea as she contemplated. Since he had sent her a red packet for the Chinese New Year, she decided to be nice and spoke candidly. "I don't major in Physics."

A look of surprise emerged on Li Chenhui's face. "Aren't you a Physics major?"

Huo Yao nodded. "I am majoring in Biology."

Li Chenhui felt even more stunned by the news.

He had asked Prof Rong about Huo Yao previously, but the professor refused to tell him anything.

From the looks of it, this must be why Prof Rong refused to tell him more about her.

Chapter 1517: Prof Rong Treated Her Quite Differently

Li Chenhui's face instantly cracked up.

He naturally knew that his teacher was a very astute man and trusted his instincts. If his teacher had picked a student from a different faculty to be his disciple, she must be brilliant.

Huo Yao did not know what Li Chenhui was thinking. When he went into a daze, she could not help clearing her throat and asking. "Hello?"

Li Chenhui snapped out of his thoughts and enquired politely. "Are you doing a double major?"

"Uh huh." Huo Yao did not plan on telling the entire truth so as not to embarrass Prof Rong. She did not want to do a double major initially, but Prof Rong insisted.

Complicated emotions flooded Li Chenhui's heart. "Does this mean you don't attend classes in the Physics department?"

Otherwise, it was impossible for her to go unnoticed.

Huo Yao nodded helplessly. "Well, I don't have time to do it."

After all, she felt more motivated by projects with monetary rewards.

Li Chenhui went quiet for a couple of seconds and asked again. "Is our teacher okay with it?"

His little junior sister inhaled deeply. "Sigh! So far so good."

Huo Yao shrugged powerlessly. Sometimes, she wished Prof Rong would kick her out of the department for her lousy attendance, but nothing of the sort had happened till date.

She looked powerless and really wished that Prof Rong had a problem with her. Li Chenhui's lips twitched when he caught her reaction and did not know what to say.

For a moment there, he had doubts if they were still talking about the same professor.

Prof Rong was a strict perfectionist, so he did not give his students much freedom.

Huo Yao cleared her throat before she lowered her head and drank her tea obediently.

Li Chenhui glanced at her. He doubted Prof Rong would have the heart to be strict with a sweet girl like her.

He could not help wondering how smart she was.

Before long, the waiter finished serving all the food.

The two of them chatted as they ate.

Li Chenhui looked sophisticated. After some interaction, she could tell he was genuinely a refined young man.

Huo Yao had a good impression of him.

After they were nearly done with dinner, Huo Yao went to the bathroom. When she was done, she went over to the cashier and produced a card.

The moment the employee saw the card, he promptly stood up and asked excitedly. "Are you..."

Before he could finish his sentence, Huo Yao raised her hand and stopped him. The employee swallowed his words abruptly.

When Huo Yao got back to the booth, Li Chenhui was still busy texting his little junior brothers. He was bragging about his dinner appointment with his little junior sister enthusiastically.

He was stunned by the double standards Prof Rong had for Huo Yao. After getting an envious reaction from his little junior brothers, he finally felt a little better.

Sure enough, it was a good idea to share the news with someone and it certainly made him feel a lot happier.

Li Chenhui got up to settle the bill. Huo Yao wanted to stop him. Since he had already left, she stopped trying.

Her phone happened to ring, so she took it out and checked it.

It was an anonymous phone number.

She tapped on the phone screen before answering it.

After hearing what the caller said, Huo Yao's eyes turned cool even though she remained calm.

She changed her phone to computer mode and tapped in the air quickly. A flashing red dot promptly appeared on her screen.

When Li Chenhui got to the cashier, he realized that someone had already settled the cheque, so he turned back. He recalled his teacher mentioning that Huo Yao did not come from a rich family. "I wanted to buy you dinner..."

He stopped mid-sentence when he caught a virtual image popping up above Huo Yao's phone. He opened his eyes in surprise and promptly forgot what he was saying.

Chapter 1518: Can't Be Bothered Talking To You

Li Chenhui rubbed his eyes quizzically. It felt as though he was imagining things. Huo Yao's phone seemed to be very high tech.

Huo Yao failed to detect the look on Li Chenhui's face. After confirming the GPS location, she exited computer mode on her phone.

After putting away her phone, the coldness in her eyes dissipated. She raised her head and looked at Li Chenhui. "Did you say something?"

"Nope." Li Chenhui prodded his forehead as he kept thinking about what he had just seen. "What's up with your phone?"

It looked very high tech earlier.

Huo Yao knew Li Chenhui wanted to ask, so she replied calmly. "I was using a projector app."

Was she sure about it?

Li Chenhui promptly thought about what he had just seen earlier and concluded that it did not seem like a projector app at all.

Huo Yao was in no mood to continue hanging out, so she stood up and said, "Thanks for taking me to the play, but I have something to attend to, so I really have to go. Talk again soon."

Li Chenhui could tell that Huo Yao genuinely needed to get somewhere, so he nodded. "No worries. Just go ahead."

He paused and added. "If you are going somewhere, maybe I can give you a ride. I'm sure it will help you save some time."

Huo Yao thanked him and said, "I'm good. I can get a cab."

Li Chenhui did not insist. "Sure."

Huo Yao nodded politely before she strode off. As she walked, her coat fluttered slightly and she gave off a cool aura.

Li Chenhui looked from behind as she left and could not help feeling impressed by her.

Even though Huo Yao came from a poor family, her aura was no different from someone from a rich family.

She was candid and unpretentious, so he had a great first impression of her.

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After walking out of the restaurant, Huo Yao promptly hailed a cab.

She looked out of the car window calmly after getting into the car. It was impossible to detect how she was feeling now.

When her phone rang again, she finally veered her eyes. She glanced at her caller ID. It was a call from the previous unknown number.

She hung up the phone immediately without answering at all.

The caller did not expect her to hang up the phone. This caught the caller by surprise and a ferocious look appeared on his face.

When his subordinate detected the look on his face, he asked cautiously. "Why didn't the call get through?"

A young man was sitting in the corner nearby drawing circles on the ground with his finger. The moment he heard what they said, he raised his head and looked at them.

"It got through, but she rejected the call," said the man as he frowned.

The subordinate narrowed his eyes. "Didn't you mention that she had agreed to come over?"

His boss tightened his grip on the phone with a vicious look on his face. He was about to speak when the young man interrupted him.

"Don't worry. I'm sure she'll come. My big sister didn't answer your phone since she can't be bothered talking to you."

The young man was roughly 15 years old and he was very good-looking. His eyes looked especially innocent and harmless.

The menacing-looking man turned and stared at the young man.

The young man shrugged as he crossed his legs and leaned against the wall. He said unhurriedly, "Maybe she's already here."

The scary-looking man narrowed his eyes. For some reason, he did not trust the young man. "What about the rest of your family?"

"I don't know," replied the young man.

The vicious-looking man did not know what to say.

Chapter 1519: A Lousy Attitude

The man frowned as he scrutinized the young man and pondered. He proceeded to turn on his phone to call his subordinate. He had told his subordinate to stand by at the agreed location. "Keep your eye out. She might be here any moment now."

The moment he finished his sentence, the young man beside him sighed and said, "I said she's almost here. No one said anything about her reaching the agreed location."

The menacing-looking man raised his head and looked over. He was still holding his phone without hanging up. "What do you mean?"

The young man flashed an innocent smile. "I forgot to mention that she's a computer expert, so I'm sure she had no trouble locating my GPS and coming over."

The leader went speechless. The young man was quite a show-off.

The fierce man rubbed his brow. He nearly wanted to throw a fit, but controlled himself and calmed down quickly. He called his subordinate to look out for the woman.

After hanging up the phone, he turned around and told his subordinate, "Take a few men with you and wait at the building entrance."

His subordinate acknowledged his boss before quickly leaving the room.

The man looked toward the door. He was very young and looked naive, but he was completely unafraid. Instead, he clearly seemed excited about seeing his older sister.

The vicious-looking man went quiet.

He did not know what to say about the young man's calmness. The guy was naive and oblivious to the deep trouble he was in.

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Huo Yao paid the cab fare and got out of the car. She walked past the shops in the street until she got to the end of the path where a European-style building was located.

A guard post was located outside the building, so she had to produce identification to enter the compound. A few men dressed in black suits were standing outside the guard house entrance.

They clearly did not resemble normal security guards.

Huo Yao glanced at them mildly before she walked over.

The men at the entrance looked at her cautiously the moment she approached the building. When they noticed it was just a young woman in her twenties, they automatically let down their guard. They were waiting for someone, but they assumed it was not her. "You shouldn't be here. Make yourself scarce."

One of the men looked at her and spoke coldly.

Huo Yao stuck her hands into her coat pocket and looked at them nonchalantly. "Aren't you waiting for me?"

The man opened his eyes wide in surprise and looked at her in disbelief. "Are you..."

Huo Yao wasted no time and promptly interrupted him. "Where is he? Take me to him now."

The man swallowed his words. It was the first time anyone had taken this attitude at him. Also, she was just a young woman!

The men glanced at each other before they quickly led Huo Yao through the door.

After entering the building, they took the lift to the third floor.

Huo Yao had a powerful aura, so the men instinctively did not attempt to make things difficult for her.

The man in the lead knocked on the door when they got to the lounge. He opened the door when someone told him to enter.

The young man sat in the corner of the room drawing circles on the ground with his finger. The moment he heard the door open, he raised his head and looked at the door intently.

His fists were clenched and he was a little nervous. After all, he had yet to see how the woman looked now.

Huo Yao had already walked over and stopped the young man in the corner. She caught him looking at her intently and promptly muttered under her breath.

Even though she did not say it out loud, Shangguan Yun accurately read her lips and knew that she had just called him an idiot.

Shangguan Yun's cheeks twitched before he grinned.

Chapter 1520: How Long Are You Going To Continue Acting?

Huo Yao might look quite different, but Shangguan Yun could tell from her actions that she was the same woman.

Shangguan Yun instinctively wanted to get up, but he paused briefly before sitting back down. He looked helpless and vulnerable as he sat in the corner.

Huo Yao did not know what to say.

Shangguan Yun was starting to wear the culprit's patience thin. The moment Huo Yao came upstairs with his subordinate, he felt surprised by her aura.

The young man was right. They had made plans to meet somewhere else, but she did not show up at the agreed meeting point. Instead, she came straight over. It was clear she was no ordinary woman.

The man in the lead composed himself before looking at Huo Yao with a fierce look on his face. "Are you his older sister?"

Huo Yao stopped looking at Shangguan Yun. Instead, she glanced at the man in charge and spoke with composure. "What has he done? Why are you detaining him?"

The moment she brought up the subject, the man instantly felt angry.

He gnashed his teeth as he replied. "He wrecked my casino for no reason. I lost nearly 50 mil in an hour thanks to him. He is lucky that I was in a generous mood when I did not maim him immediately!"

When Huo Yao heard the number, her temples throbbed angrily. She should have seen this coming. Shangguan Yun always made her life hard.

"What do you want then?" asked Huo Yao.

The man glanced at Shangguan Yun in the corner and replied. "Simple enough. If you pay me for the loss I've made today, you can take him away anytime."

Huo Yao went quiet briefly and asked. "How much?"

"50 mil," replied the man.

Huo Yao went speechless.

Damn him. That was going to cost her the entire cash prize for doing the research project. She wondered if it was worth her trouble.

Huo Yao inhaled deeply before she looked at the man and said calmly, "Sorry. I've changed my mind."

The man did not quite get her drift.

Huo Yao pursed her lips and responded expressionlessly. "Feel free to beat him up instead."

Shangguan Yun was such a troublemaker. It felt unfair for him to get away with this kind of bullshit.

Shangguan Yun was at a loss.

The man in charge and his subordinates felt equally lost.

The man said angrily, "Does this mean you aren't paying us? Are you messing with us?"

"You're mistaken. I don't have money," replied Huo Yao in all honesty.

"What do you mean no money?" The man in the lead laughed coldly. He had seen people from all walks of life, so he could tell Huo Yao was rich. "Anyway, your little brother already said you have the money."

Huo Yao promptly turned to look at the young man in the corner.

Shangguan Yun quickly lowered his head uneasily.

Even though Huo Yao looked completely different physically, some things never changed and she was still a miser.

Huo Yao rubbed her brow. She looked at the man and laughed coldly. "You opened an underground casino to make money. The moment you lose money, you try to make someone else foot the tab. Why should I pay?"

She knew Shangguan Yun well, so she had an inkling of the reason he had done this.

“Does this mean you’re not paying up?” The man in the lead narrowed his eyes threateningly and signaled for his subordinates at the door.

Some men promptly walked over and surrounded Huo Yao.

Huo Yao stood where she was and looked up nonchalantly. “How long are you going to continue acting?”