

Pill Maker 1561

Chapter 1561 Settle A Score

Wei Yong was stunned. If he did not try to explain himself now, he might have trouble clearing the air. “President Xue, this is just a misunderstanding. It all happened...”

President Xue raised his hand and interrupted Wei Yong. “Just tell me, do we have the patent?”

Wei Yong tightened his fists instinctively. He could not figure out the reason for the question. He paused for a couple of seconds and replied., “We could not get the patent.”

President Xue narrowed his eyes before looking at Wei Yong. “Were you unable to get it? Or does someone else already own the patent?”

Even though the president’s voice sounded completely normal, Wei Yong could detect the severity in his tone. Wei Yong knew it was impossible to lie about it, so he replied candidly., “I didn’t expect the students to apply for the patent as well.”

President Xue looked at Wei Yong and said calmly, “You’ve worked here for almost 20 years, right? Shouldn’t you know how things work in the academic world?”

The DO Corporation representative had come to offer an explanation and apology on the surface, but they were demanding an explanation in reality.

Even though Jie Xi made it sound like an honest mistake, he knew what he was saying and was clearly pointing the blame at the institute.

Wei Yong felt deeply embarrassed. He parted his lips and wanted to explain. “President Xue, I...”

President Xue did not want to hear an explanation. He interrupted and said, “This involves the theft of someone else’s work. I’m sure you know the severity of the matter. You have to take care of this. I hope you won’t make any mistakes about it henceforth.”

He turned to leave the room without looking at Wei Yong the moment he finished his sentence.

Wei Yong slumped back onto the couch powerlessly with his face pale.

Even though President Xue did not mention punishing him, he would probably blacklist him from now on.

There was an empty spot in the institute for the vice president position. Wei Yong was hoping to get the job after winning this partnership with DO Corporation. Now, it was all over.

Wei Yong felt terrible inside.

Qi Hui was to blame for this. If Qi Hui did not deliberately mention DO Corporation’s interest in the research project, this would not have happened.

A solemn look emerged in Wei Yong’s eyes. This was not finished. He had to settle the score with Qi Hui!

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President Xue went back to his office angrily. Even though he did his best to compose himself, he was clearly annoyed.

“What happened?” asked Min Yu as he sat there. It was quite unusual for him to show concern.

President Xue exhaled deeply and sat down in front of the coffee table. “Someone caused problems for me. I don’t want to talk about it. It’s so embarrassing for us.”

Min Yu raised his brow. Since President Xue did not want to talk about it, he did not continue asking.

President Xue picked up the plans on the coffee table and started talking about them with Min Yu.

30 minutes later, Min Yu checked his watch and ended the conversation with President Xue.

President Xue was not done discussing the plans with Min Yu. He looked at the young man annoyingly. “Do you have to leave already? I thought you mentioned being free this afternoon, right?”

Min Yu stood up, nodded, and explained in a leisurely tone. “It’s time for me to pick up my girlfriend.”

President Xue went speechless.

It certainly felt like Min Yu was trying to brag about his girlfriend.

“When did you find yourself a girlfriend?” asked President Xue with a look of shock after snapping out of his thoughts.

Chapter 1562 Collective Apology

President Xue was in complete shock. Min Yu replied nonchalantly. “Is it not normal for me to have a girlfriend?”

“Maybe for others,” blurted President Xue. It was clearly abnormal for Min Yu to have a girl!

He used to wonder if Min Yu would ever find himself a girl.

Min Yu felt puzzled.

President Xue cleared his throat and asked. “Which family is she from? Do I know her?”

“She’s still in university and I doubt you know her.” Min Yu paused. “Now that you mention it, she was involved in one of your marine engineering projects.”

President Xue looked at him with intrigue. “Is she from Tsing University?”

The institute was only involved in a handful of marine engineering projects. Among all the universities, only one was involved. He naturally knew she was from Tsing University.

“Uh huh.” Min Yu nodded and raised his brow as he said, “What’s wrong?”

“Nothing.” President Xue veered his eyes sheepishly.

This was quite the coincidence.

Fortunately, he did not mention Wei Yong's actions earlier. If Min Yu found out that someone from the institute had tried to steal the project from his girlfriend, President Xue might have trouble asking him for help in the future.

"Enough. You may leave. I don't want to hold you up." President Xue waved his hand and gestured for him to make himself scarce.

Min Yu glanced at him perplexedly.

President Xue pretended not to notice his student looking at him. Instead, he lowered his head, picked up the plans, and continued staring at them.

He had already made up his mind that he could not let Wei Yong off the hook easily this time.

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Meanwhile, at Tsing University.

Liu Qian was stunned to receive a call from Wei Yong to apologize.

In the morning, the representative from DO Corporation came over to apologize. Now, Wei Yong from the institute had called to do the same. It was strange for them to collectively apologize on the same day no less.

Wei Yong was different from Qi Hui. He could argue with Qi Hui, but he certainly did not dare to do the same to Wei Yong.

He simply said tactfully, "Since the problem has been rectified, you don't have to feel bad about it. Moreover, DO Corporation has already signed the contract with us this morning, so the project can commence as planned."

It was the first time Wei Yong was hearing this. The moment he heard about the contract signing, he instantly felt annoyed.

He had tried to call Qi Hui earlier in the afternoon, but Qi Hui did not answer the phone. No wonder. Qi Hui was clearly deliberately avoiding the call out of guilt.

Wei Yong's hatred toward Qi Hui went a level higher. After ending the call with Liu Qian, he paused before calling up Prof Liu.

Liu Qian sent Huo Yao a few text messages telling her about Wei Yong's apology the moment he ended the call with Wei Yong.

Huo Yao had just gotten into the car. The moment she read Liu Qian's text messages, she was caught by surprise. She certainly did not expect an apology from the National Research Institute of Science and Technology.

She promptly thought about Meng Jue. They probably had him to thank for the apology.

Her phone happened to ring at the same time.

Her eldest senior brother, Li Chenhui, was calling her.

Huo Yao sat up straight and answered the phone. "Hi, Senior Brother."

"Junior Sister, are you still in school? I want to buy you dinner and discuss something with you." Li Chenhui was just done working. He had left the laboratory and was on his way to the parking lot.

"Huh? I've already left campus," replied Huo Yao.

"I was busy working, so I forgot about sending you a text message ahead of time to make plans." Li Chenhui scratched his head annoyingly.

"It's fine. I'm not doing anything tonight anyway. Let me know where and I'll come over now." Huo Yao looked up at the man in the driver's seat and added. "Mind if I bring a friend along?"

"Be my guest," replied Li Chenhui promptly.

Li Chenhui was still single and certainly did not mind the company. He assumed Huo Yao's friend was probably a woman.

Chapter 1563 Making Money Was Her Greatest Interest

Huo Yao looked at Min Yu after hanging up the phone. "My senior brother wants to buy dinner. Do you want to join us?"

The moment Min Yu heard the words 'senior brother', his eyes turned dark. He nodded and took her up on the suggestion. He asked her quizzically. "Why haven't I heard about you having a senior brother?"

Huo Yao sighed softly. She said in a happy and equally miserable tone, "To be honest, I not only have a new senior brother, but I also have a new master."

Min Yu's lips twitched. "Isn't that good news? Isn't it good that you have someone to teach you?"

"Sigh. You don't get it. I wanted to relax, so this means I won't have any time for myself." Huo Yao leaned her arm against the car window languidly like a cunning little fox.

"I thought your greatest interest was to make money, right?" Min Yu certainly knew her personality well.

"Money is just a material object. I think it's more important to relax and enjoy life." Huo Yao defended herself with a straight face. "Naturally, it's important to have money if I want to survive, right?"

Min Yu raised his brow and did not react. Although Huo Yao acted poor, she was not short of money.

Before long, the two of them arrived at the agreed restaurant.

A few minutes later, Li Chenhui also got there.

Li Chenhui was expecting to see a young woman sitting beside Huo Yao. When he saw a good-looking man there, Li Chenhui could not help feeling a little disappointed.

"Senior Brother, this is my friend, Min Yu." Huo Yao made the necessary introductions.

The moment Li Chenhui heard the name, he found it a little familiar but he could not put his finger on it. He simply asked Min Yu. "Big Bro, are you from our school?"

What did he mean by big brother?

Min Yu's face instantly looked annoyed. He clearly looked a lot younger than this guy here.

Huo Yao laughed out loud.

Min Yu glanced at Huo Yao expressionlessly, making her instantly stop laughing. However, her lips continued to curve upwards slightly.

Min Yu did not know what to say.

"Nope," replied Min Yu mildly.

Li Chenhui did not detect the change in Min Yu's mood.

Instead, he spoke candidly like he already knew Min Yu well, "When I heard your name, I found it very familiar, so I thought we went to the same school."

Min Yu simply picked up the teacup and took a sip.

Huo Yao cleared her throat and asked., "Senior Brother, you mentioned wanting to speak to me about something. What is it?"

"An academic conference is happening very soon and we still have spots for people to attend it. Since it's a rare opportunity, would you like to join us?" Li Chenhui looked at Huo Yao and stopped thinking about Min Yu's name.

The academic conference sounded dry and boring, so Huo Yao turned down the offer without hesitation. "Thank you, Senior Brother. I don't think I have enough experience to attend an academic conference. I would rather not take up the spot."

Li Chenhui was very confident about convincing Huo Yao to attend the conference. He felt Huo Yao seemed very easygoing and would be open to the proposal. The moment she turned him down, he could not help feeling surprised.

He quickly snapped out of his thoughts and continued. "The people are invited in teams, so you won't be taking up anyone's spot. Remember what you did to help us with our work the other day? That's the main subject of discussion at the conference, so you more than qualify to attend it."

Huo Yao promptly recalled Prof Rong telling her to join him in the laboratory the other day. From the looks of it, he had planned to make her attend the conference at the get-go.

"Senior Brother, I really can't go. I have lots of work waiting for me at the Biology department, so I really don't have time. If you don't believe me, just check with my teacher."

Huo Yao rejected Li Chenhui again.

Li Chenhui could tell she was genuinely not interested in the conference, so his face promptly collapsed.

He had already confidently told Prof Rong that he could convince Huo Yao to attend the conference. Now that he had failed, Prof Rong would probably look down on him!

Chapter 1564 Xue Quan's Disciple

“Junior Sister, the best people in the academic world are going to be there. It’d be a real pity to miss the event.” Li Chenhui refused to give up. He felt it would be a matter of time before he convinced her to attend the conference.

“I really don’t want to embarrass you.” Huo Yao nodded leisurely and chimed in.

Li Chenhui promptly choked and did not know what to say anymore.

Huo Yao smiled. She took the teapot from the side and poured more tea into Li Chenhui’s cup before changing the subject.

Li Chenhui had already tried and failed, so he did not continue persuading her for now.

After dinner, Huo Yao and Min Yu left together.

Li Chenhui sat in the car without starting the engine to drive off. Instead, he took out his phone and sent a text message to a group chat.

[Junior Sister surprisingly turned down the chance to attend the academic conference!]

Rong Jun had created the chat group and added his disciples to it. He had yet to get Huo Yao to join the chat group. He was mainly worried about destroying their sense of self-esteem.

Rong Jun was completely unsurprised when he saw Li Chenhui’s text message. After all, it was not easy for him to convince Huo Yao to take a second major.

Wen Ping: [Perhaps she’s scared. Maybe she’s a little intimidated about attending the conference.]

Rong Jun could not help rolling his eyes.

Was she the sort to get scared? If anything, she was probably just too lazy.

Li Chenhui: [I don’t think so, but I can tell she genuinely doesn’t want to go.]

Wen Ping: [We don’t have to submit our names yet, so we still have time. Just keep trying.]

Li Chenhui: [I can only attempt it some other time.]

Wen Ping: [Uh huh. Let’s not forget that you already assured Prof Rong you could get it done. Good luck.]

Li Chenhui: [...]

They shared the same teacher, but they were friends no more.

Li Chenhui scratched his head and composed another text message: [Oh yes. She brought a friend along today. I have to say his name sounded awfully familiar. I think he was called Min Yu or something. I have a feeling that I have heard it somewhere before.]

Wen Ping: [I find the name familiar as well.]

Sadly, Wen Ping could not put his finger on the name.

Li Chenhui: [I think he’s trying to hit on her!]

Rong Jun was looking at the chat group and about to put down the phone. The moment Li Chenhui mentioned Min Yu's name, Rong Jun's hand froze before he sent a text message: [Was he good-looking? Did he have an imposing aura?]

Since Rong Jun had remained quiet throughout the entire conversation, Li Chenhui and Wen Ping could not help feeling surprised by his sudden reaction.

Li Chenhui touched his nose and promptly replied: [Uh huh. He had a cool vibe. Do you know him?]

Prof Rong: [No, I don't.]

Rong Jun replied nearly instantly.

Li Chenhui did not believe Rong Jun at all. Judging from Rong Jun's reaction, he clearly knew something. He naturally sent another text message probing Rong Jun, but the latter did not answer him.

It felt as though Rong Jun was never there.

Li Chenhui went speechless.

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Huo Yao suddenly received a text message from Prof Rong as she sat in the car.

[Do you know Xue Quan's disciple?]

After reading the text message, Huo Yao sent a question mark before sending a second text message: [Who's Xue Quan?]

Prof Rong: [He's the institute president. His disciple's surname is Min.]

Huo Yao blinked and looked up at the man driving the car. She asked him. "Is the institute president your teacher?"

"Huh?" Min Yu felt puzzled about her question. He nodded and replied. "Yes, he is. What's wrong?"

"Nothing. Just asking." Huo Yao veered her eyes and turned to send Prof Rong another text message: [Yes, I know him.]

Rong Jun sneered coolly before he texted: [You're still young and you have a lot of options. Don't be fooled by him just because he's handsome.]

Chapter 1565 Qi Hui's Demotion

Xue Quan was such an annoying old man and always bragged about his brilliant disciple.

After Rong Jun had finally accepted a genius as his disciple, Xue Quan's student wanted to seduce her. If the guy succeeded in doing so, Rong Jun would not be able to take it lying down!

Even though Xue Quan's disciple was equally intelligent, Prof Rong did not like the idea of them dating at all.

He sent Huo Yao a few more text messages.

Huo Yao raised her brow. She could sense Rong Jun's hostility toward Min Yu.

"Why are you looking at me strangely?" Min Yu turned his head to look at Huo Yao as she scrutinized him.

Huo Yao put away her phone and leaned her elbow on the car window. She leaned against her chin lazily and sighed with a straight face. "Well, you're a good-looking guy. Is it not natural for people to stare?"

"Are you sure you're praising me?" Min Yu raised his brow.

"Why not? Of course, I mean it!" Huo Yao promptly reiterated her stance.

Min Yu smiled without exposing her.

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The next day at school.

Qi Hui remained tense all night owing to the DO Corporation situation. Fortunately, Wei Yong did not try to call him again. Just as he was about to heave a sigh of relief, Prof Liu asked to see him.

When he got to the office, he could tell clearly that Prof Liu was annoyed.

Qi Hui said nervously, "Hi, Prof Liu. Did you want to see me?"

Prof Liu grabbed a pen sitting on the table and threw it at Qi Hui. When he received a call from Wei Yong last night, he nearly had a heart attack. "I don't know what came over you. How could you do this to the institute?"

The moment Prof Liu brought up the institute, Qi Hui figured out why Prof Liu was annoyed. Qi Hui bent over and picked up the pen on the ground.

Qi Hui paused and said, "Sorry. I didn't expect Huo Yao to know people from DO Corporation and I ended up causing a misunderstanding inadvertently."

After going home, Qi Hui spent all night thinking about the incident. Huo Yao was acquainted with someone from DO Corporation. That was quite the coincidence.

When they were at the National Research Institute of Science and Technology, they acted as though they were unacquainted. The moment they got back to school, they suddenly disclosed their friendship. Something clearly smelled fishy.

Qi Hui suspected that Liu Qian was behind this. Liu Qian must have told Huo Yao to deliberately put up an act at the institute and mislead Wei Yong to make a fool out of him.

Now, Prof Liu was angry with him.

Liu Qian was undoubtedly a cunning man.

Qi Hui promptly shared his suspicions about this.

He was not going to take the fall for this.

Prof Liu laughed coldly upon hearing this. "Are you saying that someone pulled a ruse on you as well? As I recall, DO Corporation called the school directly about the project. Mind explaining why they contacted the institute halfway?"

Qi Hui's face went stiff from anxiety.

"I'm waiting. Don't you have any answers?" Prof Liu knew Qi Hui's personality well, so he immediately knew what Qi Hui was trying to achieve.

Qi Hui probably wanted to take the opportunity to ingratiate himself with Wei Yong. More importantly, he was jealous of Liu Qian and wanted to make Liu Qian's life hard.

Unexpectedly, Qi Hui's plot had backfired on him.

Prof Liu shook his head speechlessly. He was not interested in hearing Qi Hui's excuses and simply said, "Enough. You may leave. Go and hand over your work. I think you're more well suited for working in the General Department."

Qi Hui's face promptly turned ashen.

The General Department was in charge of doing menial tasks and running errands, so it was hard work.

Qi Hui had been the department head for years, and made life hard for staff and students alike. People were bound to mock him if he was transferred to the General Department. From now on, he would have his work cut out for him.

Chapter 1566 Lots Of Potential

Qi Hui could sense his feet growing cold. He looked at Prof Liu and said imploringly, "Prof Liu, please give me another chance. I will apologize to Mr. Wei."

"It's too late." Prof Liu spoke without the slightest warmth in his voice.

Qi Hui parted his lips and continued. "You knew about this, but..."

Before he could finish his sentence, Prof Liu interrupted him. "Enough, Qi Hui. When the plagiarism scandal happened in your department, I already gave you a second chance. This only happened because you didn't learn your lesson. You asked for it."

What did Qi Hui think he was doing? He was trying to bite back and drag him down for this.

Prof Liu veered his eyes without so much as looking at Qi Hui.

Qi Hui noticed Prof Liu's expressionless face and knew there was no convincing him to change his mind and take back his words.

Prof Liu intended to demote Qi Hui as punishment. More importantly, after forsaking Qi Hui, Prof Liu could clean his hands of the matter and save his ties with the National Research Institute of Science and Technology.

Qi Hui walked out of the office dejectedly.

When he got to the lift, the lift door happened to open. He raised his head and saw Liu Qian standing inside.

Qi Hui paused briefly and a thought crossed his mind. Before Liu Qian was able to exit the lift, he suddenly asked. "Did Prof Liu ask you over?"

Liu Qian straightened his back. Huo Yao had made him proud yesterday, so his moment had finally come. "Yes, he did. Do you have a problem?"

Qi Hui tightened his fists as they hung from the sides of his body and a wave of emotions flooded his heart.

Prof Liu had given up on him. Instead, he was going to promote Liu Qian.

The lift door was about to close. Qi Hui suppressed his emotions, raised his hand, and pushed the open button. He simply replied calmly. "Nothing."

The moment he finished his sentence, he entered the lift quickly.

Liu Qian turned to look at Qi Hui quizzically. Qi Hui surprisingly did not try to make trouble for him today.

In the past, Qi Hui was always a proud man, thanks to his position as department head.

Liu Qian pursed his lips without thinking further. He shrugged and walked into Prof Liu's office.

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Time passed quickly. On Friday afternoon, Huo Yao went to school to pick up Shangguan Yun.

Even though he was living on campus, he could come home every weekend.

"How was school?" As Huo Yao put his bags into the car, she asked perfunctorily.

"A little boring." Shangguan Yun frowned as he stood by the car and looked at Huo Yao from behind. He continued. "Why don't I just drop out of school?"

There were far more rules to abide by here than he did back home!

Huo Yao turned back after loading the bags. She simply patted his shoulder. "You should use more pillows tonight."

The moment she finished her sentence, she opened the car door and got into the driver's seat.

Shangguan Yun did not know what to say.

He got into the car powerlessly.

On their way home, Huo Yao received a call from Huo Xiang's talent agent, Tong Yu.

Tong Yu was in the capital for work. He had some things for her and wanted to see her for dinner.

Huo Yao did not refuse him and they made plans to meet.

When they got to the restaurant, Tong Yu was already there. "Hi, you're here."

Huo Yao nodded. "Long time no see."

Tong Yu smiled. The moment he caught sight of the handsome youth following behind Huo Yao, he kept looking at him. "Who's he?"

Huo Yao could see the look on Tong Yu's face. He was a talent agent and his eyes were gleaming brightly as though he had encountered someone with a lot of potential to enter the trade. She could sense her temples throbbing.

She simply said powerlessly, "He's my cousin and he's tone-deaf."

She was hinting at him to perish the emerging thought immediately.

Chapter 1567 His Face Is More Important

Tong Yu looked at Shangguan Yun's features and could not help tutting inside. With those features, he was born for the entertainment industry.

Tong Yu waved his hand at Huo Yao and replied. "It doesn't matter. His face is more important."

Huo Yao did not know what to say.

"Kid, are you interested in joining the entertainment industry to become a star?"

As Tong Yu spoke, he retrieved his name card from his pocket and handed it to Shangguan Yun. He said enthusiastically, "If you join the entertainment industry, I guarantee I can make you a top star in three years!"

Shangguan Yun looked at the name card in a daze when Tong Yu handed it to him. As he hesitated about taking it, Huo Yao reached her hand out and took the name card.

"He's not interested," said Huo Yao to Tong Yu. She could feel a headache coming on.

Huo Yao was supposed to help take care of Shangguan Yun. If the clan leader found out Shangguan Yun joined the entertainment industry, she might punch her in the face.

"Are you really not interested?" Tong Yu felt that Shangguan Yun was perfect for working in the industry.

Shangguan Yun had clean, gorgeous features. He looked easy going and had a healthy and positive aura. People like him were bound to gain a lot of fans.

"I..." Just as Shangguan Yun was about to speak, Huo Yao glanced at him coolly and he shut his gap instantly.

Huo Yao pulled out the chair, sat down and explained succinctly. "He's going to be a senior, so he doesn't have time to do this."

Tong Yu sighed powerlessly and stopped insisting. "Fine. If he joins the entertainment industry, it might affect his studies."

If he was a smart boy like Huo Yao, he might end up ruining the kid's academic life.

Shangguan Yun's eyes lit up the moment he heard what Tong Yu said.

It so happened that he had no interest in studying.

He secretly glanced at the name card Huo Yao had placed on the table.

Tong Yu continued talking to Huo Yao before he paused and asked in a curious tone. "Hang on. I didn't know Huo Xiang had any other male cousins in his family."

He looked at Huo Yao and Shangguan Yun and scrutinized them. He had to say the two of them had a similar aura.

"He's a distant relative." Huo Yao brought out her usual excuse.

Tong Yu nodded and was completely unsuspecting. He turned to retrieve a paper bag from the chair beside him and passed it to Huo Yao. "This is your brother's latest album. He wanted me to pass it to you."

Huo Yao thanked him and asked. "Is he very busy?"

Tong Yu took a sip of tea and nodded as he said, "Uh huh. His career has really picked up in the past couple of years, so he keeps traveling."

"He's still young, so he should make more money while he can," remarked Huo Yao.

Tong Yu sighed. As he thought about Huo Xiang, he could not help griping. "If your fourth older brother felt the same way, he could probably make lots more money."

The moment Huo Yao heard what Tong Yu said, she no longer felt like drinking tea.

Tong Yu failed to detect her expression. Instead, he looked at Shangguan Yun and could not help remarking. "With my experience, I'm sure your cousin will do pretty well in the entertainment industry with a little luck."

Huo Yao's cheek twitched the moment Tong Yu brought up luck. She suddenly turned and looked at Shangguan Yun. She said solemnly, "Shall we do the paperwork to take you out of school tomorrow?"

Shangguan Yun was at a complete loss.

Chapter 1568 Love Could Disappear One Day

Huo Yao cleared her throat. "I was just joking. You still have to attend school."

Shangguan Yun answered dejectedly. "Got it."

Sure enough, Huo Yao loved money more than she loved him.

Tong Yu knew Huo Yao's personality and simply glanced at her quietly. For a moment there, he could sense that she was not joking.

After dinner, Huo Yao sent Shangguan Yun home.

She had found him a place of his own not too far from school.

Meanwhile, in the car.

Shangguan Yun took out his phone. He paused briefly before he turned on WeChat. He tapped on the option to add a friend and entered a string of numbers.

He looked at the search results and requested to be added to a new account.

Before long, the account holder approved his request.

Shangguan Yun's eyes lit up. He lowered his head and started composing text messages on his phone.

Huo Yao sat in the driver's seat with the car window open. One hand was on the steering wheel while her other arm leaned against the car window. She could sense the cool spring night breeze inside the car.

Before long, she pulled her hand back and wanted to close the car window. When she glanced into the rearview mirror, she paused slightly before she unhurriedly pressed the button to close the window.

Shangguan Yun raised his head halfway and looked out of the car window. Since he had a perfect memory, he could tell this was not the way back to the estate.

"Where are we going?" Shangguan Yun blinked and looked at Huo Yao as she sat in the driver's seat. She had clearly said they were going home.

Huo Yao looked completely normal. After overtaking the car in front, she said, "You have to flag a cab and go home on your own later."

Shangguan Yun was at a loss. "Didn't you say you're sending me home?"

"I have something to do." Huo Yao did not explain in detail.

She glanced into the rearview mirror and quickly pulled up by the roadside. "Get out of the car."

Shangguan Yun glanced at her huffily. Sure enough, she was a heartless woman!

He opened the car door indignantly and got off. The moment he closed the car door, Huo Yao started the engine.

Shangguan Yun watched perplexedly as Huo Yao drove off without so much as lingering.

Her love for him was no more.

He was a good-looking kid, but she was completely unworried that he might get abducted and trafficked.

Shangguan Yun sighed. He stood by the roadside looking like a miserable abandoned puppy.

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After driving off, Huo Yao went up the expressway. She finally slowed down when she arrived at an area with lots of construction near the river.

This area was underdeveloped, so there was hardly anyone around. Even the streetlights were few and far in between.

It looked empty and quiet.

Huo Yao pulled up at a dead end. She quietly sat for a few seconds before she undid the seatbelt and got out of the car.

After Huo Yao got off the car, a van drove over. As the vehicle approached her, its headlights beamed onto her car, lighting it up.

The van pulled up and six to seven brawny men came out of the car. They were clearly dangerous men.

Huo Yao leaned against the car door casually with her head slightly lowered. When all the men got off the van, she tilted her head sideways. Her face looked particularly calm in the dim light.

The man in the lead narrowed his eyes. He raised his hand and gestured for his men to be careful before they slowly surrounded Huo Yao.

“You must have known that we were following you, right?” said the man in a matter-of-fact tone.

He was no fool. After all, Huo Yao had chosen to voluntarily pull up and wait for them to come over at such a remote and deserted location.

Huo Yao straightened her body and glanced at the men and shrugged. “It was pretty obvious.”

Chapter 1569 Someone Investigating Huo Yao

The man in the lead had to say that his target this time was pretty unusual, but he was only slightly cautious. Since she was just a young woman, he was confident about catching her easily.

The man wasted no time and said, “Are you leaving with me voluntarily? Or do we have to invite you to come with us? If you don’t come on your own, I can’t make any promises about not hurting you.”

“Who hired you?” asked Huo Yao nonchalantly as she rolled up her sleeves.

The man laughed softly. “In this trade, we don’t ask for the clients’ names.”

Huo Yao waved her hand sadly. “Since you can’t give me a name, you’re out of luck.”

The man frowned and did not quite understand what Huo Yao meant.

Before he could figure out what she was implying, something moved. The girl was standing some distance from him, but she had come up to him at an unusually high speed.

The man was stunned. He could hear the young woman speaking airily. “Let me teach you a lesson. Since you can’t give me a name, you’re a dead man.”

Huo Yao had come armed with her silver needles. She plunged a silver needle into the critical acupuncture point on his back and the man promptly fell to the ground.

When his men saw this, their faces turned dark. They quickly attacked Huo Yao with everything they had.

Five minutes later, Huo Yao unfolded her sleeves. They were completely maimed. She glanced at the men lying on the ground in disdain.

These people had zero combat power. It was unfathomable why they had the audacity to join the trade.

Huo Yao tutted softly as she got back into the car. She took her phone from the box and checked the time. She had a missed call.

Huo Yulin had just called a few minutes ago.

Huo Yao was surprised by the call. She called her third older brother back as she started the engine.

The call got through before long.

"Brother Yulin, did you call?" asked Huo Yao obediently.

Huo Yulin nodded. "Are you with Min Yu?"

"Nope. I just had dinner with Brother Xiang's talent agent. I was on my way back," said Huo Yao candidly.

Huo Yulin was a little surprised. "Why did he want to see you?"

"Brother Xiang had something for me. Are you done over there? When do you plan on coming back?"

"I just got back home."

Huo Yulin was sitting on the couch. He rubbed his brow gently with one hand and clearly looked exhausted.

"I'll be home soon," replied Huo Yao promptly before hanging up the phone.

Huo Yulin put down the phone. He closed his eyes and leaned into the couch. He paused briefly before opening his eyes. He retrieved an envelope from the side as he pondered deeply.

Why were they investigating his little sister?

Huo Yulin could not wrap his mind around this news. Moments later, he stood up and went into the garden. He retrieved a lighter from his pocket and burned the document in the envelope.

After taking care of the ashes, he went back into the living room.

Before long, Huo Yao got home.

Huo Yulin was still waiting for her. "The maid said you've taken in a boy as a younger brother when you went back home."

"Uh huh. He's here to study," replied Huo Yao naturally.

Huo Yulin glanced at her. He did not continue probing and simply said gently, "We should have dinner together then."

"Sure thing." Huo Yao nodded. She asked. "Oh yes. How's our eldest uncle? Is he well?"

Chapter 1570 Only Fit To Remain In Her Blacklist

“His health is a lot better now. Your meds really did the job.” Huo Yulin thought about some things in the past. He paused and said, “You haven’t met him in person yet, but I have a feeling he likes you already.”

Otherwise, he would not have accepted Huo Yao’s medicine.

Huo Yulin sighed inwardly. Ever since Aunt Tong left, their eldest uncle lost all hope and stopped caring about his health. If not for the responsibility on his shoulders and the vendetta, he probably would not have lasted this long.

Now that he was finally willing to take care of himself, it was a good start.

Huo Yulin could not help looking at his little sister emotionally.

Even though Huo Yao was very mysterious, ever since she reunited with them, a lot of things in the family were quietly changing. None of the boys in the family had been able to make such changes happen.

Huo Yao did not know what was on Huo Yulin’s mind. She simply touched her face and responded confidently. “What can I say? Good-looking people can’t help being more popular, right?”

Huo Yulin’s lips twitched. Huo Yao had such thick skin. Sometimes, he really wondered who she got it from. He shook his head and instead brought something else up. “I’ll get Chen Ming to send some men to protect you.”

“Huh?” Huo Yao looked at Huo Yulin.

Did he catch wind of the incident today already?

“Something happened last year. I just don’t want history to repeat itself.” Huo Yulin was referring to the abduction which she encountered at the airport.

Huo Yao calmly turned down the offer. “No thanks. Brother Yulin, it won’t happen again.”

Huo Yulin parted his lips wanting to speak, but he eventually stopped harping on the subject. He simply said, “Fine then. Just be more careful.”

“Uh huh. Got it, Brother Yulin.” Huo Yao lowered her eyes slightly. It was impossible to read her mind.

What had to come, had to come. She was prepared.

After chatting briefly, they went back to their respective rooms.

Huo Yao came out of the bathroom after taking a shower. As she wiped her damp hair with a towel, she thought of Shangguan Yun.

She picked up her phone and gave him a call.

Before long, someone answered the phone. Huo Yao opened the French windows and walked onto the balcony. “Are you home already?”

Shangguan Yun did not answer right away. Instead, he checked the time on his phone.

Huo Yao had kicked him off the car halfway 2 hours and 10 minutes ago, but she was only calling now. If something had happened to him, it would be too late.

Sure enough, she no longer loved him.

Shangguan Yun muttered and said, "Should I be moved that you still remember me?"

Huo Yao raised her brow. She leaned against the balcony railing as she looked at the river in the distance. "Did you bring a lot of medicine?"

"Why are you asking this?" Shangguan Yun promptly asked cautiously. "I don't have any!"

Huo Yao went speechless.

"I'm not asking for anything. Do you have to be so defensive?" said Huo Yao with an annoyed face.

Shangguan Yun still remained cautious. "You're stingy and keep asking for things. Don't you know?"

Huo Yao went speechless.

Sometimes, people were only fit to remain in her blacklist.

"Enough. Have an early night. I'm hanging up." Huo Yao did not want to talk to this stupid boy and promptly hung up the phone.

She forgot that the boy had the best fortune all his life. If anyone tried to touch him, they would be out of luck.

It would be probably more productive worrying about something else rather than his safety.