Pill Maker 1771

Chapter 1771 - 1771 Instigation

1771 Instigation

Huo Qing raised his hand to point at the living room and gestured for Huo Wanying to take a seat inside.

"In reality, I don't know much about your Second Uncle's condition either."

Huo Qing shook his head and smiled sadly.

Huo Wanying frowned quizzically. "You don't know either?"

"Uh huh." Huo Qing poured Huo Wanying a glass of water. After handing it to her, he said, "You probably don't know yet but your Second Uncle's niece is here."

Huo Wanying was stunned. "Second Uncle's niece?"

"Hmm." Huo Qing nodded. "She was swapped at birth and grew up in the countryside."

"She can come if she wants to. What does it have to do with Second Uncle's condition?" Huo Wanying looked at Huo Qing and felt increasingly puzzled.

"Wanying, his niece is no ordinary character." Huo Qing sighed. "After she returned, she did not pay her respects to her elders. When Master Jinfeng got hospitalized, she forcibly stopped anyone and everyone from visiting. We have been unable to take even a single look at him."

"Why would she do that?" Huo Wanying was very concerned by now.

Huo Qing choked on hearing the question. After some time, he said in concern, "I know you don't care about status, but can you say the same for her? She intimidated us as a show of strength the moment she got here. Considering her actions, don't you know what she wants?"

Huo Wanying went quiet briefly. "How did Uncle Changfeng react?"

"He naturally defended her. Even though he watched you grow up, he..."

Huo Qing did not go further and stopped mid-sentence.

He knew Huo Wanying was a prideful woman. Now that someone without the slightest contribution to the family wanted to step all over her, she naturally would not take it lying down.

Huo Wanying frowned. She put down the cup and stood up. "I'm going to the hospital."

"It's too late. Also, I'm sure you're exhausted from all that travel. You should rest first and visit the hospital tomorrow," suggested Huo Qing.

Huo Wanying pondered and nodded. "Okay then."

"Since you're back, we don't have to rush into anything. I'll always be on your side." Huo Qing patted Huo Wanying's shoulder and spoke profoundly.

Huo Wanying's eyes glinted. But she simply nodded and replied. "I'm going back to my room first."

She went upstairs the moment she finished her sentence.

Huo Qing looked at the staircase and smiled slightly.

Before long, he entered the villa.

**

The next day.

Huo Yao woke up early in the morning. She took the watering can and went to the rear garden and watered the herbs.

During the past few days, she had been watering the garden for Huo Jinfeng.

Huo Yulin stood on the second floor quietly watching her for a few minutes before he went downstairs.

"One night has passed. Have you figured out how to explain things to me?"

Huo Yao was still bent over watering the garden. The moment she heard Huo Yulin, her hand trembled until she nearly emptied all the water in the watering can.

Huo Yao turned back looking annoyed. "Brother Yulin, you've changed."

Huo Yulin went speechless.

"The reason I went to the count's residence is simple enough." Huo Yao sighed. "But I have a feeling you won't like listening to it, Brother Yulin."

"Uh huh. Just try me." Huo Yulin quietly looked at his little sister. "Even if you are just trying to patronize me, I still want to know how you do it."

"Min Yu went there last night, right? I simply promised to attend the banquet with him." Huo Yao shrugged. "I was afraid you wouldn't like it, so I didn't dare to tell you."

Huo Yulin was quiet.

He genuinely did not like the answer.

Chapter 1772 - 1772 Show Such Disrespect To The Rest Of The Family

1772 Show Such Disrespect To The Rest Of The Family

Huo Yulin went back inside with Huo Yao, looking frustrated.

The old butler had already prepared breakfast in the dining room.

Huo Yulin pulled out a chair and sat down. After taking a couple of bites of a bun, his phone rang.

It was a call from Xie, currently stationed at the hospital.

"Young Master Yulin, someone wants to see Master Jinfeng," said Xie over the phone softly.

Huo Yulin narrowed his eyes, glanced at his little sister sitting across from him, and asked. "Who?"

"It's Miss Wanying."

Xie did not call Huo Yao about it since she had never seen Huo Wanying previously. Also, Huo Wanying and Huo Qing were different in status from the elders.

Master Jinfeng had watched Huo Wanying grow up. Also, she was the only person permitted to reside in the Huo estate.

If she wanted to see Master Jinfeng, people would sway more or less on account of this.

Despite Xie's hesitance, he did not let her see Master Jinfeng right away. Instead, he decided to give Huo Yulin a call.

"Tell her that Master Jinfeng needs proper rest and is in no condition to receive guests." Huo Yulin looked calm.

He was not particularly close to Huo Wanying, but their relationship was not entirely bad either. Before Huo Jinfeng regained consciousness, he could not make an exception for anyone.

Xie promptly did as he was told.

Huo Yulin hung up the phone and frowned.

Considering Huo Wanying's personality, if she was not permitted to see Huo Jinfeng, she would probably refuse to leave from there today.

Huo Yao raised her head and looked at Huo Yulin. "What's wrong?"

Huo Yulin gathered his thoughts. He stopped talking about Huo Wanying and simply smiled. "Nothing."

"I'm going to the hospital after eating. What about you, Brother Yulin?" Huo Yao took a piece of tissue to wipe her mouth. It was about time Shangguan Yun left the hospital. Every day he spent there was a waste of money.

Huo Yulin wanted to go to the union, but he changed his mind upon hearing this from his little sister. "I'll come along then."

Huo Yao nodded. "Okay."

**

Meanwhile, at the hospital.

Xie hung up the phone and turned to walk up in front of Huo Wanying. "Sorry, Miss Wanying. Master Jinfeng needs proper rest, so he can't see anyone."

Huo Wanying was dressed in black again and her face looked cool. She knew Xie had gone to make a call. "Did Second Uncle say it himself? Has he regained consciousness? If he's awake, why can't I see him?"

Xie looked into Huo Wanying's stern eyes. He was in a spot, but he could not tell her the truth. "I am just following orders."

Wasn't she working in the South? Why did she suddenly return?

Huo Wanying narrowed her eyes and said coldly, "In that case, please tell Second Uncle. If I don't get to see him, I'm not leaving this place today."

Xie was at a loss, but he continued convincing her. "Do you have to do this? Master Jinfeng won't like it..."

"Are you really worried that he won't like it? Or are you afraid someone else won't like it?" Huo Wanying changed the subject. "Such as the eldest daughter of the clan? She has only just returned, how can she have the right to decide this? How could she show such disrespect to the rest of the family?"

When Huo Wanying brought up Miss Huo, Xie's face turned stern. "Please watch what you say. You don't want to cause any unnecessary misunderstanding."

Huo Wanying looked at Xie frostily. She always possessed a headstrong personality and had contributed to the family greatly over the past years. The moment she heard his words, she became a little angry.

However, it was still within control.

Huo Wanying stopped talking and simply kept resisting Xie in the hospital corridor.

30 minutes later, Huo Yao and Huo Yulin arrived at the hospital.

Chapter 1773 - 1773 Huo Wanying Leaves

1773 Huo Wanying Leaves

Xie automatically looked over when the lift door opened.

The moment he saw Miss Huo and Young Master Yulin, he heaved a sigh of relief.

He certainly did not know how to continue to stop Huo Wanying any longer.

Xie quickly went over. He nodded reverently to them. "Hi, Miss Huo, Young Master Yulin."

Huo Wanying turned her head. She did not look at Huo Yulin. Instead, her eyes landed on the young woman beside him.

Huo Yao had a gorgeous face. She looked like a snow lotus on a snowy mountain without any worldly cares. She was cool, proud, and ethereal.

Huo Wanying went into a daze.

Huo Yao was not what she had imagined.

Huo Yulin had already walked up in front of Huo Wanying. "Are you going to take sides with the Third Councilor and the elders?"

Huo Wanying frowned and said, "They are just worried about Second Uncle's condition."

"They are using it as an excuse to instigate trouble. Huo Wanying, I thought you were above all this," said Huo Yulin mildly.

Huo Wanying always had a headstrong personality. She did not take part in family feuds, so the main clan always liked her.

"Second Uncle always treated me well. Shouldn't I come to visit him?"

Huo Wanying felt there was something different about Huo Yulin.

She was just concerned about Second Uncle's condition, so she drove all the way up from the South without taking any breaks in between. But Huo Yulin was stopping her from seeing Second Uncle and accusing her of taking sides.

Wasn't he overreacting?

"In that case, all the more reason that you shouldn't show up here." Huo Yulin looked up and reminded her. "Master Jinfeng's condition is top secret. Don't you get it?"

Huo Wanying's expression finally changed. She naturally understood what Huo Yulin was driving at. She inhaled deeply. "I understand."

She nodded slightly and did not insist on entering the hospital ward to see Master Jinfeng.

She walked up to the lift and entered before long.

Xie watched as the lift doors closed and finally could relax. "Young Master Yulin, I'm so glad you're here. If you didn't show up, I don't know if I could continue holding Miss Wanying back."

Huo Yulin glanced at Xie and said, "Huo Wanying was always a smart woman."

"She probably suddenly came back at Third Councilor's cue," replied Xie with his lips pursed.

Huo Yulin nodded and turned to look at his little sister. "Huo Wanying's father is our father's eldest cousin. He got into an accident while out on a mission and died over a decade ago leaving behind only a five-year-old daughter. Eldest Uncle decided to take care of her personally."

Huo Yao raised her brow and remarked honestly. "She looks good and has a powerful aura."

Huo Yulin raised his hand to rub her head. "My little sister still looks better."

He insisted dotingly.

"I think so too." Huo Yao smiled with her eyes upturned without the slightest modesty.

Huo Yulin glanced at her and did not want to respond to her.

Xie interrupted. "Oh yes. Young Master Yulin, something went wrong with the hospital surveillance footage between 2:00 to 5:00 am. Our technicians were unable to recover it. Since you are good with the computer, do you want to give it a shot?"

Huo Yulin promptly frowned. "Is Eldest Uncle okay then?"

"He's okay. I asked the hospital president to examine Master Jinfeng and he's fine." Xie shook his head.

At Miss Huo's instruction, they had called off the guards on the floor. Mainly, they wanted to draw out the mastermind behind Master Jinfeng's attack.

Chapter 1774 - 1774 Expose Him All The Time

1774 Expose Him All The Time

The true mastermind had remained quiet. The moment they detected the missing hospital surveillance footage from last night, they became wary.

As Xie and Huo Yulin chatted, no one noticed the expression on Huo Yao's face.

Huo Yao lowered her eyes thinking as she tapped her fingers in her pocket.

Aunt Tong was not as good as her with the computer, but she probably had no trouble deleting a section of the surveillance footage.

"Show me," said Huo Yulin to Xie. He was always more cautious regarding matters about his eldest uncle.

Even though nothing happened to his eldest uncle, something went wrong with the surveillance footage, so he needed to double-check it.

"Okay. The surveillance control room is on the ground floor..." As Xie spoke, he ran to get the lift.

"Uh huh." Huo Yulin suddenly remembered his little sister's computer skills. "Yao, are you coming to the surveillance control room?"

Huo Yao waved her hand. "I'm going to Eldest Uncle's hospital ward to see him first."

"Sure thing." Huo Yulin nodded.

Before long, he took the lift and went downstairs with Xie.

Huo Yao went straight to her eldest uncle's hospital ward. After examining his pulse, she pulled out a chair, sat down by the side, and took out her phone.

She changed it to computer mode and tapped swiftly on the virtual keyboard.

Huo Yao put away her phone 30 seconds later. She turned her head looking at her eldest uncle lying on the hospital bed and left the room.

She went to Shangguan Yun's hospital ward.

"In a minute, I will get you discharged from the hospital." Huo Yao spoke casually as she glanced at the young man pretending to read casually.

Shangguan Yun did not look happy at all. Instead, he lay in bed acting weak and frail. "Sigh. I lost so much blood that I'm still giddy. I think I might have to rest in the hospital for a few more days before I recover completely."

If he continued staying in the hospital, he could avoid working on those three boxes full of revision material. The moment he got discharged, only a bleak and sad future awaited him.

"Oh really?" Huo Yao took out her silver needles unhurriedly. "Don't worry. With me around, I can make it go away in no time." Shangguan Yun went speechless.

Life was hard as it is. Did she have to expose him all the time?

Shangguan Yun quickly climbed out of bed. "I suddenly feel fine again. Come on. I can get discharged from the hospital immediately."

Huo Yao raised her brow. "I'm always impressed by how flexible you can be."

Shangguan Yun went quiet.

After stepping out of the hospital ward, Huo Yao's phone rang.

It was a call from Huo Yulin.

He asked her to go to the surveillance control room downstairs.

Huo Yao already saw this coming. She acknowledged him and put away her phone.

"Who was that? Do you have to go somewhere? I can always settle the discharge paperwork myself," said Shangguan Yun thoughtfully.

"I'm good. It's just going to take a couple of minutes."

Huo Yao went to the lift and pressed the button.

The young man slumped his shoulders as he followed behind her.

**

Meanwhile, in the surveillance control room on the ground floor.

When Huo Yao and Shangguan Yun entered the room, Huo Yulin had already tried to recover the files using his code for the fifth time, but to no avail.

"Can you try to restore it?" Huo Yulin got up from the seat.

Huo Yao glanced at the screen. "I might not be able to do it."

Shangguan Yun rolled his eyes immediately.

She was so pretentious.

Huo Yulin shook his head. "It's okay. Don't force yourself if you can't recover it."

"Don't worry, Brother Yulin. I'm sure she ... "

Before Shangguan Yun could get to 'can', he received death stares from Huo Yao. He automatically changed the subject. "...will do her best. Uh huh. She'll do her best to recover the tape."

Shangguan Yun smiled sheepishly. He was certain if he said the wrong thing earlier, Huo Yao would have slaughtered him already.

Chapter 1775 - 1775 Who Was Miss Huo?

1775 Who Was Miss Huo?

"Uh huh." Huo Yulin nodded. He was focused on the computer monitor, so he failed to notice Shangguan Yun's expression.

Huo Yao was already checking the program.

Each time she typed code, the contents of the black command box jumped even faster. Even the computer technicians present were unable to see her work clearly.

This made her look like a real professional more and more in their eyes.

Xie could not help feeling amazed. He even asked Huo Yulin quietly. "Don't tell me Miss Huo is a hacker?"

He had never seen such typing speed in his life.

Huo Yulin pretended not to hear Xie's question.

Huo Yulin was her biological brother. If people found out that he did not entirely know his little sister's abilities, wouldn't it be embarrassing?

When Huo Yao entered the code, she had taken only half a minute in writing the recovery code.

She tapped enter with her slender finger.

The technicians instinctively squeezed their fingers.

Before long, a red exclamation mark popped up on the monitor.

Recovery failure.

Huo Yao leaned into the chair and shook her head. She said, "It can't be recovered."

Huo Yulin could only give up. "Fine then. Just forget it."

Huo Yao returned to the desktop. She stood up and patted Huo Yulin's shoulder. "I checked the situation on the 15th floor and everything seemed normal. Perhaps the person that deleted the files was not after Eldest Uncle."

"I certainly hope so." Huo Yulin narrowed his eyes. He knew that his eldest uncle was in no condition to be moved to another hospital, so he simply told Xie, "During this time, make arrangements to have more people guarding the place in secret."

Xie nodded. "Yes, Young Master Yulin."

Huo Yao had no objection to this, so she simply said, "In that case, I'll get Huo Yun's discharge paperwork settled."

Huo Yulin replied. "Sure thing."

Before long, the two of them walked out of the surveillance control room.

After they had gone some distance, Shangguan Yun finally tilted his head looking at Huo Yao. "Why did you lie?"

He did not believe Huo Yao could not recover the surveillance footage.

Huo Yao stuck her hand in her pocket casually as she looked at him mysteriously. "I have a feeling you won't like the answer."

Shangguan Yun was at a loss. "What does this have to do with me?"

Huo Yao smiled ambiguously, glancing at him. After a moment, she spoke in an airy tone while she walked.

"Aunt Tong is here."

Shangguan Yun was startled.

**

After leaving the hospital, Huo Wanying did not go back to the Huo estate. Instead, she told the chauffeur to take her to the union.

She was a councilor in the union. When she entered the union building, everyone in the lobby welcomed her reverently.

"Miss Wanying, welcome!"

Huo Wanying's face was expressionless as usual, but she looked even colder than normal. She raised her hand and walked straight to the lift.

After taking a couple of steps, she suddenly paused and turned back her eyes looking stern.

The receptionist hurriedly walked up beside her and asked softly. "Miss Wanying, how can I help?"

Huo Wanying watched as the receptionist greeted her reverently. She said, "During this time... has the eldest daughter of the family ever visited the union?"

The receptionist was stunned. "Huh? The eldest daughter of the family? What do you mean?"

Huo Wanying narrowed her eyes. The receptionist did not even know about the eldest daughter of the family, so she probably never came over previously.

"Nothing."

She acknowledged her mildly and walked off.

The receptionist was at a loss.

Who was Miss Wanying talking about?

Chapter 1776 - 1776 Drive A Wedge Between Them

1776 Drive A Wedge Between Them

Huo Wanying took the lift to the top floor.

The top floor was the core of the union. It was built with glass walls. Also, it contained countless concealed surveillance cameras and top-of-the-line defense mechanisms.

Only the leader of each family had the right to enter this place.

After walking out of the lift, the scanners overhead quickly scanned Huo Wanying and permitted entry.

Before she got to the office, her phone rang in her pocket.

She took out her phone and answered it. "Okay. I'm already here. Be right over."

Huo Wanying narrowed her eyes and put away her phone. She walked through the door on her left and headed to the small conference room.

When she got there, seven to eight people could be seen seated at the conference table already.

They were the family's branch leaders and elders.

Huo Qing pointed at the seat gesturing for Huo Wanying to sit down as he asked. "Wanying, have you been to the hospital?"

Huo Wanying nodded. "I did, but I couldn't see Master Jinfeng."

"Huh? Did they stop you as well?" Second Elder clearly did not expect this. After all, Huo Wanying was not like the elders.

"Uh huh," acknowledged Huo Wanying without the slightest change in expression. She simply said, "The only thing that matters is Master Jinfeng's health."

The Eldest Elder sitting on the right shook his head. "I doubt it."

Huo Wanying looked at the Eldest Elder.

he sighed. "I asked the hospital president in private. He told me that Master Jinfeng is no different from a vegetable now. Also, there's a very low chance he'll ever regain consciousness."

"How can that be?" Huo Wanying thought about Huo Yulin and Xie's reactions today. They did not seem very worried about Huo Jinfeng.

"If all he needed was recuperation, he would not have given the order to stop visitors from visiting him." Huo Qing tapped the table gently. After some time, he eventually said, "The clan can't go on even a day without a leader."

Huo Wanying's expression promptly changed on hearing this. "Third Uncle, be careful about what you say!"

"Third Councilor is right. The family can't go a day without a leader. The union also needs a leader," said Eldest Elder unhurriedly. It sounded as though they were simply talking about replacing a shirt.

Huo Wanying hastily stood up and leaned against the table hard with both hands. She looked at them coldly and said, "Are you nuts? My Second Uncle is still alive."

"Miss Wanying, we know that you've been very close to Master Jinfeng ever since you were a child. Considering his condition, he's no longer in the position to continue as clan leader. Before other clans find out about his condition, we have to prepare ourselves."

"That's right. We can't put the family at risk."

Huo Jinfeng was a very good leader. Thanks to him, the clan became the most influential family in the country. However, they could not sit back and watch their status and power slip from their hands because of Huo Jinfeng.

They were accustomed to power, so they naturally did not want others to climb over them.

Moreover, Huo Jinfeng did not have any children which was a big problem in powerful families.

Even though they have been grooming Young Master Yulin, he was Master Jinyan's son after all.

Master Jinyan had already cut ties with the main family, so he no longer had a say in family matters. Also, Young Master Yulin did not want to become the clan leader, either. Hence, they had already started looking for a suitable heir internally from the younger generation.

Huo Wanying was one of the potential candidates.

"Wanying, you have proven yourself over a period of time and have a bright future," said Huo Qing profoundly.

He did not take it to heart when Huo Wanying defended Master Jinfeng. After all, he knew her personality well.

She was not the sort to play second fiddle to others.

Chapter 1777 - 1777 An Heir Who Doesn't Even Care About The Big Picture

1777 An Heir Who Doesn't Even Care About The Big Picture

Huo Qing smiled and said quickly, "Last night, Young Master Yulin offended Count Kerr because of Miss Huo. The family doesn't need an heir who doesn't even care about the big picture."

Huo Wanying narrowed her eyes and did not answer right away.

"I heard that Master Jinfeng is very good to his niece." Huo Qing paused briefly. "Just think about it. What matters more? Power or some useless so-called attention from him?"

Huo Wanying instinctively squeezed her hands. After some time, she said coldly, "I will pretend I didn't hear you saying this. From now on, don't bring it up again."

Huo Wanying strode out of the meeting room the moment she finished her sentence.

After she was gone, the elders glanced at each other.

"Huo Wanying is a proud woman. We might have trouble controlling her," After some time, the Eldest Elder frowned and spoke.

"You're wrong." Huo Qing glanced at the Eldest Elder and leaned into the seat casually. "People like her make the best weapons."

Huo Wanying was proud and competitive. She would never allow someone to threaten her status.

As for Master Jinfeng's niece, the show had only just begun.

A light glinted in Huo Qing's eyes. He raised his head and suggested. "Perhaps it's time to prepare a test for the potential heirs. What do you think?"

•••

Huo Wanying walked out of the union building.

Her subordinate had already driven the car over. When he opened the car door for her, he noticed the annoyance on her face. He could not help asking. "Miss Wanying, did something happen?"

Huo Wanying shook her head without speaking. She bent over and got into the car.

The subordinate closed the door, quickly got into the car as well, and started the engine.

"Miss Wanying, are we going to the estate or somewhere else?" asked the subordinate as he drove into the street.

Huo Wanying veered her eyes from the car window and took out her phone. She swiped down to a phone number and sent a text message.

After a few minutes, she finally received a reply.

She raised her head and gave an address to the subordinate.

**

Meanwhile, at the count's residence.

Morey had just regained consciousness. Last night, he nearly died from the gunshot in his chest due to delayed treatment.

Fan Shun told his men to send Morey medication to keep him alive until he could complete the surgery. Morey was no longer in critical condition.

He lay in bed listening to his secretary's reports. After hearing what he said, Morey was so angry that he swept the bedside lamp to the ground. In the process, he inadvertently pulled his wound. His face instantly turned pale from the pain.

"Why did we fail? How could you let this happen?"

The secretary stood still without daring to move. He smiled sadly, shaking his head. "We didn't expect Huo Yulin from the Huo family to disregard basic courtesy and surround the count's residence."

Morey closed his eyes. After the pain in his chest finally passed, he said, "This is insane. He's insane through and through!"

"More importantly, the chairman of the Weapons Bureau probably thinks that we were behind the incident last night at the count's residence. If we don't handle it well... this could end up really bad for us." The secretary spoke in a worried tone.

They had such a good plan but it unexpectedly failed!

They wanted to make Min Yu owe them a favor using this opportunity.

"Oh yes. One more thing. Mr. Fan's secret guards died in the same room as Prince Rocco. If we are not mistaken, the girl from the Huo family was also hiding in the room," added the secretary.

Rocco was the official heir to the throne. Owing to his special status, no one dared to disturb him or ask him about this incident.

Morey promptly narrowed his eyes on hearing this. "Does Rocco know the girl?"

Chapter 1778 - 1778 Permanently Blacklisted

1778 Permanently Blacklisted

The secretary shook his head. "I don't know, either. Even though His Highness helped to mediate on behalf of Countess Kerr, he genuinely defended the Huo family as well."

Morey's face turned dark. Was Rocco planning to get the Huo family on his side?

Had he forgotten? The Huo family already had close connections to other members of the royalty. It was simply hilarious for him to attempt to enlist them.

Even though the plan failed last night, Rocco's reaction was a reminder that it was time for him to stand behind Count Kerr.

Morey pondered briefly and said, "Prepare two big gifts. Send one to Mr. Fan and one to the Second Prince."

The secretary felt puzzled on hearing this.

He could understand if he wanted to send a gift to Mr. Fan, but why send one to the Second Prince as well?

The secretary paused and then, his eyes suddenly lit up. He said, "The Second Prince is genuinely a better candidate than Rocco. Also, a couple of years ago, he extended an olive branch to you. I will prepare the gifts immediately."

If Count Kerr kept supporting Rocco, it was only a matter of time before it went downhill.

The count should have done this ages ago.

Before long, the secretary left the count's mansion.

Shortly after he was gone, another subordinate hurriedly came over to report something.

"Count Kerr, word just came from the state governor. The Weapons Bureau is no longer working with us. Also, you have been permanently blacklisted by them."

His subordinate trembled with his head lowered as he reported this.

Morey instantly looked startled. "What did you just say? Say that again!"

Permanently blacklisted?

It was no different from breaking both his hands.

His subordinate looked at Morey cautiously and continued. "Other than the Weapons Bureau, the Huo family has already suppressed and bought over your private property in the neighboring towns."

Morey's mind instantly went blank. He nearly passed out altogether. "How dare they? Do they think they can do anything just because of their power?"

His subordinate lowered his head even more. He was terrified that the count might throw a fit at him.

Morey squeezed his hands so tightly that they turned blue. A cold sinister look swept across his eyes.

After he had successfully backed the Second Prince, he would come back for the Huo family.

**

Meanwhile, at the hospital.

As Huo Yao settled Shangguan Yun's hospital discharge paperwork, she received a call on her phone.

She told Zhuo Yun to take Shangguan Yun to Min Yu's private villa while she went to a café near the hospital.

The café was not crowded at this hour and Huo Yao went straight to the second floor.

After glancing around, her eyes landed on an empty seat, right in the corner in front of the French windows.

A woman was seated with her back facing Huo Yao. When Huo Yao approached the woman, she turned her head.

Shangguan Tong looked at the unknown young woman giving off a very familiar feeling and sighed. "Yu?"

Huo Yao nodded and sat down across from Shangguan Tong. "Long time no see, Aunt Tong."

Shangguan Tong's eyes instantly misted up, hearing her voice. "I'm relieved to see you're fine."

When Huo Yao saw the pallor on Aunt Tong's face, she frowned. "Didn't I tell Uncle Wei to send you some medicine last year? Why didn't you take them?"

Shangguan Tong simply shook her head and smiled. "I know my condition the best. There's no use trying anything anymore."

Huo Yao went quiet for a few seconds and responded candidly. "I have to say that my eldest uncle and you have a lot in common."

Chapter 1779 - 1779 Shangguan Yun's Background

1779 Shangguan Yun's Background

Shangguan Tong did not seem surprised at all. From the moment she saw the pictures on Huo Yao's social media, she faintly knew that Huo Yao deliberately wanted her to see them.

Shangguan Tong smiled sadly. She took the cup of coffee from the table but did not drink it right away. "When did you find out?"

"Around last year. I found out that Brother Yulin was investigating you." Huo Yao spoke candidly.

"Yulin?"

"Uh huh." Huo Yao nodded and continued. "You went to the hospital last night, right?"

"I can't hide anything from you." Shangguan Tong sighed. "I'm glad you were around to help."

Otherwise, she probably won't be able to see him in her lifetime.

Huo Yao raised her brow. "Are you really my eldest aunt then?"

Shangguan Tong's face turned dark. She did not answer Huo Yao directly and simply said, "I hope you can keep my appearance a secret and not tell your uncle."

To him, she had already died over a decade ago.

Since she was already dead, she should not show up here and just make everyone upset.

Huo Yao could tell there was more to this and could not help asking. "Why?"

"You're a good doctor, so you should know my time is up." Even though Shangguan Tong was smiling, she looked sad. "The people who are still alive are always the saddest."

Huo Yao went quiet briefly and eventually nodded. "I can stay quiet about this."

"Thanks."

Shangguan Tong knew that Huo Yao was a woman of her word, so she chose to see Huo Yao.

"Aunt Tong, you're welcome." Huo Yao tapped her fingers gently on the table. She paused and asked. "Is Yun the son you had with Eldest Uncle?"

The moment Shangguan Tong heard what she said, she nearly spilled the coffee in her hand. "No, he isn't. Why would you think so anyway?"

"Only his blood works with the blood fusion serum. Why can it do that?" asked Huo Yao unhurriedly.

When she made the blood fusion serum, she tried using various other blood types, but only the kid's blood worked.

From a genetic perspective, blood from direct relatives had a higher chance of matching.

"It's a long story." Shangguan Tong put down the cup and her eyes drifted away. "The first time I saw the boy, he was in a laboratory at Mirage Base."

"Mirage Base?" Huo Yao was caught by surprise. She did not expect the boy to have something to do with the base.

"Uh huh." When Shangguan Tong brought up Mirage Base, her eyes looked particularly cold. "As you know, those people working in the lab are simply sick. Every year, countless people are selected to become experimental subjects. Yun was one of them."

She could still remember the first time she encountered the child. His body was filled with needles and tubes and connected to several pieces of laboratory equipment.

He was clearly just a few months old and still an infant. However, people kept injecting him with drugs every day. It was simply cruel.

Huo Yao looked at Aunt Tong. She recalled seeing an unknown element in Shangguan Yun's blood when she tested it, so she asked. "His blood is special, so he was selected, right?"

"That's right. The boy has very special blood." Shangguan Tong looked serious. She paused before sharing the secret buried in her heart for over ten years. "Among all the DNA-modified babies, he was the most successful."

Huo Yao was stunned.

Chapter 1780 - 1780 Settle Things

1780 Settle Things

Mirage Base had always been researching DNA modification, but there were no successful cases.

Even on Cloud Realm, no such news could be found.

Now, Aunt Tong confirmed that the boy was a successful case of DNA modification.

No wonder!

Shangguan Yun was always in tip-top health ever since he was a kid. Also, he was immune to poison and had a high recovery rate.

After drawing his blood for Huo Jinfeng, he only needed a day before he recovered completely and went back to his normal energetic self.

Huo Yao contemplated for some time before she finally asked. "Is this the reason you refused to let him out of the clan all these years?"

"You can say so." Shangguan Tong nodded.

"Why didn't news about this get out all this while?" asked Huo Yao quizzically.

If this experiment had succeeded, considering Mirage Base's usual style, they would have already announced it to the world. Why would they still remain in the research stage?

"When I took the boy back in the day, I managed to destroy all their files." Shangguan Tong spoke in a cold tone. "To this day, they don't know that they succeeded."

Huo Yao looked at Aunt Tong and paused briefly. "Over a decade ago, a major incident happened at Mirage Base. Was that you?"

"Probably," acknowledged Shangguan Tong softly. She did not mention how she nearly died at the base.

Even though Mirage Base's defense system meant nothing to her, she was also a human, so it was impossible for her to completely escape those lethal weapons.

Fortunately, she managed to survive and take Shangguan Yun out of the base.

Shangguan Tong's mind stopped drifting. She said in a firm tone, "Yu, please help me take good care of him. I owe him that much."

Huo Yao asked quizzically. "Owe?"

Shangguan Tong smiled sadly, shaking her head. "Everyone has selfish motives."

If she had no special reason, why would she help save an infant?

Just for this alone, she had done injustice to the kid.

Huo Yao contemplated briefly. She had an inkling about the reason Shangguan Tong saved Shangguan Yun, so she did not continue asking. "Uh huh. I will."

"Thank you."

Huo Yao smiled and simply said, "He's my little brother."

It was only natural for her to protect him.

Shangguan Tong looked at the young woman in front of her. She was not as incisive as before. It seemed as though she had tempered herself into smooth jade. Now, she was warm and gentle.

From the looks of it, she was doing well now.

"Aunt Tong, when do you plan on going back?" Huo Yao changed the subject.

Shangguan Tong gathered her thoughts. "I'll go back after settling a few things."

She came out to say goodbye to Huo Jinfeng and to settle a few things.

Huo Yao could faintly sense that Aunt Tong was ready to die. She went quiet briefly and said, "If you need my help, just tell me."

"I'm good. Just some personal matters." Shangguan Tong turned down the offer.

Huo Yao simply nodded. "Okay then. You can call me anytime."

"Okay."

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The two of them sat in the café for over an hour before Shangguan Tong left.

Huo Yao stood at the door. She could sense her heart feeling a little heavy watching the cab drive off.

A black car stopped by the roadside and pulled up in front of her.

A man got out of the car and walked toward her.

"Did I get here late?" Min Yu stood in front of Huo Yao. When he detected something amiss with her mood, he promptly held her hand and asked. "What's wrong?"

Huo Yao lowered her eyes. She looked at Min Yu shaking her head. "Nothing. My elder has already left."

She paused and continued. "Oh yes. I might need you to help me with something."