

## Pill Maker 231

### Chapter 231: An Awkward Encounter

Huo Yao turned to look at Meng Ying and asked her. "Are you going to the hospital? Do you need a lift?"

Meng Ying composed herself and quickly waved her hand. "It's fine. I don't want to trouble you."

Huo Yao did not insist any further and got in the car.

Meng Ying stood distracted, watching the car drive off. She was still wondering about where she had seen Huo Yao's older brother before.

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Huo Yao sat in the front passenger seat in the car. She looked sideways at Huo Xiang as he drove.

"Brother Xiang, what did you want to write to me earlier in the day?"

Huo Xiang tightened his grip on the steering wheel subconsciously. Then he acted as though it was nothing important and shook his head. "It's no big deal."

What was going on? Each time he was with his little sister, he could not help feeling nervous. Why?

Huo Yao raised her brow and exposed him ruthlessly. "You look nervous. It doesn't look that simple to me."

Huo Xiang sat up straight. "Me... nervous? No way."

Huo Yao smiled without saying a word.

Huo Xiang cleared his throat, but his phone rang just as he was about to tell her about the variety show. He glanced at the caller ID and put on his bluetooth earphones.

"Hi, Brother Yanxi... Are you at my place? Okay. I'm heading over there now."

Huo Yao turned to look out the window while he was on the call. Her eyes were drifting hazily into the distance.

Before long, Huo Xiang hung up. He turned to glance at Huo Yao and said, "Brother Yanxi wants to see me. He's at my place now. Let's go over together since you haven't been there before."

Huo Xiang was unaware of the conflict between Huo Yanxi and Huo Yao.

Huo Yao tapped her fingers unhurriedly on her thighs with an indifferent expression. However, she did not say no and nodded gently.

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There was a slight traffic congestion on their way there, so it took Huo Xiang almost 50 minutes to reach his residence.

Huo Yanxi did not have keys to Huo Xiang's place, so he was waiting outside the villa. His hands paused at the car door when he saw Huo Xiang's car driving in with Huo Yao sitting in the front seat.

Ever since Huo Yanxi had accused his little sister of hiding Old Madam Yang, he had not gone back to the Huo residence. It meant that he had not sought her forgiveness all this time.

But he could not bring himself to apologize to her and did not know how to deal with it.

Complicated emotions surfaced in Huo Yanxi's heart when he saw his little sister with Huo Xiang. Nonetheless, he got out of the car after calming himself down.

Huo Xiang got off the car and swiped his keycard. The villa doors opened automatically, and he drove the car into the parking lot.

After Huo Yao got off the car, she stood in the courtyard gazing at the contemporary two-storey villa. She raised her brow in surprise. Was her fourth older brother really an unknown singer?

It certainly did not appear that way.

Huo Yanxi walked over. There was barely any change in Huo Yao's expression when she sensed someone standing behind her. She turned to look at Huo Yanxi and said distantly, "Brother Yanxi."

Huo Yanxi stood motionlessly when he heard her apathetic voice. After some time, he finally acknowledged her.

He felt so uncomfortable that he only glanced at Huo Yao briefly before looking elsewhere.

A slight sense of awkwardness floated in the air.

Huo Xiang walked over after parking the car. Despite detecting the strange atmosphere, he did not give it much thought.

He pursed his lips and nodded to Huo Yanxi. "There was a slight jam on the way here. You must have waited for a long time, Brother Yanxi."

## **Chapter 232: Did You Get Into A Fight?**

Huo Yanxi shook his head and replied. "It's fine."

"Let's go in and talk," said Huo Xiang as he walked up to the door and placed his finger on the lock. The door opened with a click.

Huo Yao followed behind him and entered the villa. Huo Yanxi paused before walking in as well.

Huo Xiang went to the refrigerator and took out two bottles of water. He saw his siblings sitting across each other when he came back to the living area.

One of them was staring at the coffee table distractedly while the other had crossed her legs nonchalantly and was playing with her phone with her head lowered.

There was something wrong with them. Despite being biological siblings, they seemed more like strangers.

Huo Xiang frowned quizzically. He placed the water on the coffee table in front of them before sitting down. Then he cleared his throat and broke the silence in the room. "Brother Yanxi, didn't you say you wanted to talk to me about something?"

Huo Yanxi raised his head. He glanced at Huo Yao before his eyes landed on Huo Xiang.

After a beat, he said, "It's really no big deal. Someone wanted to know if you recently took on a variety show."

Huo Xiang frowned when he heard this. Tong Yu had just brought the contract to him earlier this afternoon. How did his oldest brother know about it already?

Also, the person who sent Huo Yanxi to ask him...

"Did Lu Xia send you?" She was the first person that crossed Huo Xiang's mind.

Although he had no idea how Lu Xia came to know that he was invited to appear on the variety show, it was no surprise since Huo Yanxi doted on her the most.

Huo Yao continued to play with her phone expressionlessly, even when Lu Xia's name popped up.

Huo Yanxi nodded. "Yup."

"Did she get you to ask me to take her along for the variety show?" Huo Xiang pursed his lips while his face turned more and more ugly.

Huo Xiang continued speaking without giving Huo Yanxi a chance to reply. "Brother Yanxi, please tell her that there's no way I will take her along. I'm supposed to make an appearance on the show with a family member, and she is no sister of mine."

Huo Xiang sounded determined with no room for negotiation whatsoever.

Huo Yao's amorous eyes narrowed thoughtfully when she heard this.

A variety show?

Making an appearance with a family member?

Huo Yanxi looked at his fourth little brother and found his behaviour to be slightly over the top.

Huo Yanxi wanted to tell him that he did not need to react like this even if he did not like the suggestion. But he only said, "Okay."

Huo Xiang was slightly surprised that Huo Yanxi did not persist with the subject. In the past, he would probably have gone on to fight for much longer on Lu Xia's behalf.

Huo Xiang restrained himself and did not continue talking about the show either. Instead, he changed the subject and asked him. "Brother Yanxi, have you been busy lately?"

"Things are alright for me."

"Well, I have moved back home for the time being. Next time if you need me, just come there straight away. That way, you won't have to wait for so long like you did today," said Huo Xiang eventually.

Huo Yanxi clenched his hands without showing his true feelings and nodded.

Huo Xiang looked at his little sister. She had said nothing all this while. Something definitely seemed off between her and Huo Yanxi. Hence, he forcibly made small talk to help ease the atmosphere. "Yao, when are the nationals taking place?"

Huo Yao was playing an online game when she was suddenly cued to speak up. Her hand paused before she replied without looking at him. "Over the weekend."

The nationals?

Huo Yanxi was taken aback. He instinctively raised his head and looked at Huo Yao. Did his baby sister make it into the National Quiz Contest finals?

### **Chapter 233: His Little Sister Saw Through Him**

Huo Xiang turned to look at Huo Yanxi but failed to detect anything amiss on the latter's face.

He said proudly, "Brother Yanxi, you might not know this, but Yaoyao is taking part in the National Quiz Contest. She has stood first in every level of the contest till now and is bound to win that spot in Tsing University."

Huo Yanxi looked down but his younger brother's words kept echoing in his ear. After a long time, he finally gathered his thoughts and said, "Really? Congrats, Yao."

His voice clearly sounded distracted.

Huo Yao probably did not hear him since she did not answer. She had curled up lazily on the couch and was fully immersed in the online game on her phone.

The atmosphere instantly became very quiet.

Huo Yanxi was incapable of keeping this up. He stood up and said, "I suddenly remembered I have some work waiting for me."

Huo Yanxi looked at Huo Yao, who had not made eye contact with him all this time. His lips parted, but nothing came out in the end. Quietly, he headed for the door.

Huo Xiang was stunned to see his oldest brother fleeing the scene. He stood up hurriedly and followed behind Huo Yanxi. "Brother Yanxi, let me walk you out."

After they reached the main gate, Huo Xiang finally asked him in a confused voice. "Brother Yanxi, did you and Yao... get into a fight?"

Huo Yanxi halted and compressed his lips in a defiant line. His eyes suddenly turned a few degrees darker as he recalled the misunderstanding between him and Huo Yao. It was worse than a fight.

He shook his head. "I'm off."

Huo Xiang scratched his head but then he shut the main gate before heading back to the living room. He wanted to say something when he saw his little sister but became hesitant.

Huo Yao put down her phone and detected his conflicted gaze. She frowned and said, "There's no point asking since you won't get any answers."

Huo Xiang's lips twitched.

Huo Yao changed the topic and said in a solemn voice, "But we can talk about how you texted me in the afternoon to ask me to appear on the variety show with you."

Huo Xiang was stunned. After trying to talk to her about this all afternoon, he had failed to get the point across, but she shockingly saw through him.

A complicated expression emerged on his face.

A few seconds later, Huo Xiang coughed drily and sat down on the couch in a stiff manner. He said, "Then... will you come, Yao?"

With a serious expression on his face, his voice sounded humble and cautious.

If anyone from the entertainment industry could see Huo Xiang now, their eyes would definitely pop out due to shock.

Huo Yao picked up the bottle of mineral water from the coffee table and opened it. After taking a couple of sips, she enquired. "What show is it? Why are they insisting on bringing a family member along?"

Huo Xiang scratched his head. "I only know that the show is called 'Countryside Life With My Family'. Since the show is still in its early stages of production, I'm not sure about its details either."

Huo Yao's expression looked a little odd when she heard the program's name.

'Countryside Life With My Family'... Countryside life... Countryside...

She seemed to be the only person in the family who had ever lived in the countryside. So did her fourth older brother spend so long composing his text because he was trying to seek her help for this harmless request tactfully?

Ah, she got it now!

"Why don't I call Tong Yu and ask him. He has more information than I do," added Huo Xiang after giving it some thought.

Huo Yao waved her hand. "Forget it."

Huo Xiang was stunned. Did this mean his baby sister did not want to appear on the variety show with him?

## **Chapter 234: Tell Me When It's Time To Shoot**

The moment Huo Xiang recalled how he had confidently told his agent that he could convince his little sister to come along, his face burned with embarrassment.

As Huo Xiang's imagination ran wild, he looked at Huo Yao with hurt and indignance brimming from his eyes.

Huo Yao had already stood up. She pretended that she did not take notice of Huo Xiang's adorable reaction and asked him nonchalantly. "Brother Xiang, where's the bathroom?"

Huo Xiang pointed to the corridor on the right and said weakly, "Turn left at the end of the corridor."

Huo Yao's eyes turned into half crescents. She took two steps before she suddenly stopped and enquired. "When will the recording start?"

Huo Xiang hung his head. He was still thinking about how he should convince her when he heard her question. He raised his head to look at her. "Oh... not so soon."

"Okay. Just tell me when it's time to shoot," said Huo Yao before heading to the bathroom.

"Okay..." Huo Xiang nodded automatically. A while later, he suddenly gathered his thoughts. What did his little sister say?

Did she just agree to appear on the program with him?!

Yay! She agreed!

Huo Xiang's face surged with joy. He retrieved his phone and sent Tong Yu three text messages at a go.

[My little sister said okay.]

[Who said I couldn't handle this matter?]

[She's my little sister. So how could I fail?]

Tong Yu happened to be holding the phone when he saw his artist texting him. The first text was still okay, but the other two were baffling. Why all these questions if he had already convinced his little sister to appear on the show?

Tong Yu scratched his head and replied: [Okay, great.]

He paused and added: [Give me your sister's contact number. I have to tell her about some details ahead of time.]

Huo Xiang's eyes narrowed as replied: [No need for that. I can tell her all those things personally.]

Tong Yu: [You? What do you know? What can you tell her?]

Huo Xiang: [...]

Tong Yu: [It's good enough if you don't hold us back. Hurry up and send me her contact number.]

Huo Xiang: [...]

Here Tong Yu was demanding his little sister's phone number while expressing his loathing for him.

Hmph! Get lost, Tong Yu!

Huo Xiang compressed his lips and stopped chatting.

After Huo Yao came out of the bathroom, Huo Xiang told her in a grave manner. “Yao, if anyone asks for your WeChat ID or phone number, ignore them. You never know what they are thinking. You have to be careful lest you get conned.”

Huo Yao looked at him cluelessly. “?”

Huo Xiang cleared his throat awkwardly. Then he stood up and collected his jacket from the sofa. “Let’s go. I’ll take you out for dinner.”

Huo Yao looked at Huo Xiang thoughtfully.

Were people with a cool exterior always so adorable inside?

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Huo Xiang went to get the car from the parking lot, while Huo Yao slowly walked out of the villa. She looked at the surroundings and saw that even the landscaping was filled with contemporary design elements. Since it was not a townhouse, the villa offered a lot of privacy and felt serene.

Villas like these were a real jewel in the city and they did not come cheap.

Huo Yao was waiting by the roadside when she suddenly heard a faint click. She narrowed her eyes and looked up to her left. She saw a quick flash at the corner of the villa’s wall.

Huo Yao turned back to see that there was no sign of Huo Xiang. She walked over stealthily, barely making any sound.

A man was hiding in that corner of the villa wall, holding his camera. He was reviewing the photos he had just taken with a look of satisfaction on his face.

“What are you looking at?” said an icy voice from behind.

### **Chapter 235: Saw A Dog And Comforted It**

The man trembled when he heard the voice. When he made eye contact with Huo Yao’s deep eyes, his hand trembled so hard that he almost dropped the camera.

He quickly straightened his body and suppressed his panic before he covered the camera lens and firmly said, “Nothing.”

Huo Yao stared at him expressionlessly. “Were you secretly taking pictures of us?”

The man gazed at Huo Yao’s unbelievably stunning face. Despite her young age, he seemed to inexplicably fear her intensely. His lips parted, but his hand lost its grip before he could utter another word. In an instant, the cameral landed in Huo Yao’s hands.

Huo Yao swiped through its contents and frowned. “Your skills are terrible. Why did you even take the pictures?”

There were a few pictures of her and Huo Xiang in there. Since they were secretly taken from a distance, they were quite blurry. However... the angles were good and made the two of them look like lovers.

He was definitely part of the paparazzi gang.

Before he even had the time to consider how his camera ended up in Huo Yao's hands, he hurriedly said, "Give me back the camera."

In the next moment, he attempted to snatch it.

Huo Yao glanced at him coldly, and the man's outreached hand froze mid-air.

A minute later.

Huo Yao patted her hands and walked out from the corner happily.

Huo Xiang had already driven over with the car. He was about to dial his sister's number when he failed to see her at the entrance. Suddenly, her silhouette appeared in the rearview mirror, so he put his phone down.

Huo Yao opened the front passenger door and got in.

Huo Xiang looked sideways at his little sister and asked rather quizzically. "What were you doing there?"

Huo Yao put on her seat belt and replied calmly. "Oh. I spotted a dog, so I went over to comfort it."

Huo Xiang instinctively checked the rearview mirror. What dog?

But then he started the car without giving it much thought. He said casually with a shrug, "Maybe someone forgot to secure their dog, so it came running over."

Huo Yao leaned back into the seat lazily and gave a gentle nod.

The car pulled out of the estate smoothly. Huo Yao rolled down the window after they got onto the main road. She extended her hand casually outside the window and flicked her fingertips, almost imperceptibly. Something quietly fell out the window and got crushed under the wheels of the oncoming cars.

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The two of them went home after having dinner outside.

Shortly after they entered the apartment, Huo Tingrui's bitter voice came from the living room. "Why did you come back only now? Don't you know what time it is?"

Huo Xiang and Huo Yao looked at each other. Then they turned to check the time on the wall in unison. It was 8:00 pm and not 12: 00 am, right?

Huo Xiang scratched his head as he walked over and sat down on the couch across from Huo Tingrui. He could not help softly asking when he noticed Huo Tingrui's strange expression. "Brother Tingrui?"

Huo Tingrui veered his eyes away from him in a smug manner and looked at his little sister instead.

Huo Yao was clueless. "?"

After some time, she also asked. "Brother Tingrui?"



“Uh huh?” replied Huo Tingrui finally in a gentle tone.

Huo Xiang: “?”

What were these double standards?

Huo Tingrui only replied to their little sister and ignored Huo Xiang.

Huo Yao pretended that she did not notice the look in both their eyes. Instead, she glanced around and asked him. “Aren’t Mom and Dad home yet?”

“They went out for a walk.”

Huo Yao touched her nose. She was always caught off guard by her parents’ display of affection. No wonder Huo Tingrui acted as though they had forsaken him.

“Cough. Brother Tingrui, I’m going upstairs.” Huo Yao prepared to go back to her room.

Suddenly, Huo Tingrui pressed his shoulder and said in a loud voice, “I don’t know why, but my shoulder hurts so bad lately.”

Huo Yao halted instantly when she heard Huo Tingrui’s words.

### **Chapter 236: Huo Tingrui Feels Fine**

Huo Tingrui’s eyes glinted slyly when he spotted Huo Yao pause.

Then he rubbed his shoulder and whined in pain.

Huo Xiang immediately stood up and said considerately, “Shall I give your shoulders a rub?”

Huo Tingrui’s face instantly turned dark. He viciously glared sideways at Huo Xiang.

Huo Xiang: “...”

“Mom said Yao is very good at massaging,” said Huo Tingrui as he deliberately turned to look at her.

At this moment, he was looking at Huo Yao like a poor puppy.

Huo Yao’s lips twitched. She shook her head helplessly before she headed over to him.

“A shoulder ache?” asked Huo Yao.

Huo Tingrui nodded.

“Want me to massage it?” Huo Yao raised her brow.

Someone nodded madly again.

“Fine.” Huo Yao raised her hands and placed them on Huo Tingrui’s shoulders. She started to rub them.

In an instant, tears almost burst from Huo Tingrui’s eyes. “Ow... That hurts. Can you be more gentle?”

Huo Yao did not stop. Instead, she said gravely, "Stiffness in the shoulders is a sign of severe strain. Brother Tingrui, your shoulders need to be massaged properly since you're unwell."

But it was so painful that Huo Tingrui's shoulders trembled under her hands' ministrations. He hurriedly shook his head and said, "I feel fine, so there's no need for you to..."

"No, you're unwell," interrupted Huo Yao in a serious tone. Then she massaged him even harder without giving him the chance to escape.

Huo Tingrui's vision was turning dark. "!!!"

Why did he dig a grave for himself?

Why did he have a death wish?!

Huo Xiang instinctively inched away in fear when he saw Huo Tingrui's ghastly pale face and agonised look.

Ten minutes later, Huo Yao finally let Huo Tingrui off.

The moment Huo Tingrui escaped her clutches, he felt alive again. He turned to look at Huo Yao with fear lingering in his eyes.

Despite how petite she was, their little sister was very strong.

Huo Yao completely disregarded the look of fear on her second older brother's face. "How do you feel now? Are your shoulders still in pain?"

"I'm fine. It doesn't hurt anymore." Huo Tingrui waved his head like a marionette. He had no doubt that his sister would 'massage' him again if he said otherwise.

Huo Xiang covered his eyes when he saw Huo Tingrui behaving like a coward.

Huo Yao raised her brow and said airily, "Oh yes, Brother Tingrui. I can give you acupuncture treatment as well."

Huo Tingrui went into shock. "!!!"

He felt as though his life was severely endangered!

"Ahem. Erm... Didn't you say you had homework to finish? I shan't hold you up. Why don't you go upstairs?" said Huo Tingrui, waving his hand.

He looked completely different from a few moments ago when he had pulled this ruse to gain her attention.

"Okay. You can tell me when it hurts next time," said Huo Yao before she left.

There was no way Huo Tingrui's shoulders would ever ache again. Not in this lifetime!

(-?\_?)

After she was out of sight, Huo Tingrui finally heaved a sigh of relief and slumped onto the couch. His energy was completely sapped.

But soon after, he realised that his shoulders were feeling much lighter. He moved them a little to find that the usual stiffness and ache seemed to have disappeared.

Huo Tingrui exclaimed in surprise. He straightened his body and pressed his shoulder. There was no pain at all.

Although he had exaggerated the matter purposely, he did suffer from chronic shoulder aches.

Wow! His little sister's massage technique was amazing.

Huo Xiang noticed the change in Huo Tingrui's expression and could not help asking him. "Brother Tingrui, are you okay?"

Since Huo Tingrui was completely relaxed now, and felt fully energised. He glanced at Huo Xiang with a smug look. "Of course, I'm fine."

Huo Xiang: "..."

Judging from Huo Tingrui's earlier reaction, it was a complete lie.

### **Chapter 237: Don't Disappoint Our Sister**

Huo Xiang's expression suddenly became solemn. "Brother Tingrui, I have a question."

Huo Tingrui could not help becoming serious when he saw how grave was Huo Xiang's expression. "What?"

Huo Xiang hesitated for a few seconds before asking him. "Did Brother Yanxi and Yao get into a fight?"

Since he was in despair because of his injuries, he had not been in the mood to come home after his little sister shifted here from the small town. Hence, only Huo Tingrui would know if there was a problem between them.

"Why are you asking this? Did Brother Yanxi come by?" asked Huo Tingrui instead.

Huo Xiang nodded. Then he told Huo Tingrui what happened earlier in the evening.

Huo Tingrui frowned when he heard this. "Why is Brother Yanxi still in contact with Lu Xia?"

Huo Yanxi was so stubborn. Had he learned nothing yet?

"Brother Yanxi and Yaoyao had a misunderstanding, so try to avoid getting her involved when you have to see him. She has just reunited with the family, so let's not disappoint her," said Huo Tingrui with a profound look in his eyes. His voice drifted into the distance.

Huo Xiang looked at him. His lips suddenly curved up. "Okay, Brother Tingrui."

Huo Tingrui was the most sensitive and intelligent person in the family.

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The next day.

After Huo Yao woke up, she took out the suitcase which she had brought along when she moved over. She took out a medicine bottle and an old looking metal box from it.

She touched the mechanical lock on the box, and the lid clicked open automatically.

Huo Yao removed some silver needles wrapped in sheepskin and checked them thoroughly before wrapping them back again. Then she placed the silver needles and the medicine in her school bag.

Huo Jinyan was the one to send her to school after breakfast.

After Huo Yao tactfully told Huo Jinyan that his new car was too flashy, he had no choice but to get the old Santana towed back from the scrapyard.

His brand new car lost favor after he drove it only for a day. It was relegated to the parking lot to collect dust.

Each time Huo Yao went to school, she would glance at the car quietly. Several times, she wanted to tell her old man to take better care of the car. After all, it was brand new!

But Huo Jinyan seemed as though he did not even want to see the car, so she stayed quiet.

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Huo Yao told Meng Ying that she wanted to visit her father and the girls headed to the hospital straight after school.

Other than being unconscious, Mr. Meng's physical stats had become stable after receiving treatment, so he was technically out of danger.

Mrs. Meng was delighted to see her daughter bring her dear friend back with her to the hospital. She was particularly warm to her. She poured water for Huo Yao and offered some fruit as well.

Since her daughter was here to take over, Mrs. Meng left the hospital before long and went home.

Meng Ying had a little brother who was still in primary school and needed his mother's attention.

Only Huo Yao and Meng Ying were left in the room.

Huo Yao did not need to live on the campus. Since the Principal especially invited her to join the school and her grades were stable, she had put in a request to not attend the school's evening self-study sessions.

Meng Ying had applied for time off from those evening self-study sessions to take care of her father at the hospital. However, she was a senior, so time was of the essence. She had an endless amount of revision to accomplish.

Before long, she took out a test paper and started working on it.

Huo Yao sat there with her hand on the armrest, thinking about how to give Mr. Meng the acupuncture treatment without drawing Meng Ying's attention.

## Chapter 238: Huo Yao Makes A Move

Meng Ying's phone rang.

She put down her pen and took out her phone. It was her cousin calling, so she quickly answered. "... Okay then. I'll come down to fetch you."

After Meng Ying hung up, she turned to look at Huo Yao. "Sister Big Shot, I have to go downstairs and bring my cousin up. Be back in a minute."

Huo Yao's eyes moved slightly at the perfectly timed coincidence. She nodded and said, "Sure."

Meng Ying took her phone and walked out hurriedly. Huo Yao watched as Meng Ying's silhouette disappeared through the lift doors. She got up and shut the hospital room's door.

She walked up to the bed and took out the silver needles in her bag. First, she took out the longest needle and leaned forward. She applied it to a major acupuncture point at the top of Mr. Meng's head.

In a blink of an eye, she applied acupuncture to a few other points on his head. Any Chinese medicine physician, well-versed in acupuncture points, would get a shock if he saw the spots where Huo Yao had placed the needles.

Since each needle was placed in tricky acupuncture points on Mr. Meng's head, if she made the slightest mistake, his life would be at risk, and he might die on the spot.

Moreover, she looked as though she was applying the needles with very little care and resembled a rookie quack doctor.

Shortly after Huo Yao applied acupuncture to Mr. Meng's head, the apparatus beside him indicated an increase in his brain activity. Huo Yao glanced at it calmly but ignored it.

She quickly took out two short silver needles and applied them to two acupuncture points on both sides of his wrist.

Suddenly Mr. Meng's hand moved. Despite it being a miniscule movement, Huo Yao detected it.

Huo Yao kept an eye on the time and removed the needles two minutes later.

Meng Ying had already found her cousin and her folks and was on her way up with them. Before long, the lift arrived on the sixth floor.

Meng Ying led them to the hospital ward and reached out to open the door.

Huo Yao was sitting quietly in the chair when Meng Ying opened the door. Meng Ying introduced her to her relatives with a smile. "This is my classmate. She's here to visit dad too."

Her cousin's eyes gleamed when she saw Huo Yao. Three words promptly popped up in her head – a pretty girl.

Huo Yao stood up with a smile. She nodded and greeted them politely.

She was gorgeous and courteous.

Huo Yao picked up her sling bag and said to Meng Ying, "I'm off."

Meng Ying glanced at her relatives and did not attempt to hold Huo Yao back. She said, "Let me walk you out."

Huo Yao nodded and did not turn down her offer. After they walked out of the door, she took out a bottle of medicine from her bag and handed it to Meng Ying. "Get your father to take one of these pills when he wakes up. He can take one every other day."

Meng Ying was confused. Although she did not quite understand what Huo Yao was saying, she instinctively took the medicine bottle from her.

"Okay, I'm off. See you next week." Huo Yao waved before she turned to leave.

Meng Ying gazed in the direction Huo Yao had left before she finally gathered her thoughts. She looked down at the porcelain bottle in her hand briefly before removing its lid.

It smelled like Chinese medicine.

Her cousin suddenly walked out of the hospital ward with a look of joy. "Ying, Uncle woke up."

Meng Ying turned to look at her cousin with disbelief in her eyes. "Wh-what did you just say?"

"Your father regained consciousness!"

Meng Ying almost started crying. She hurriedly closed the medicine bottle and stuffed it into her pocket before she staggered back into the room.

### **Chapter 239: He Wanted To Let His Little Sister Listen To His Music**

Huo Yao hailed a cab and went home after leaving the hospital.

Apart from the maid, Huo Xiang was the only one home. He was starting to get used to the idea of sitting around doing nothing.

Huo Yao bought a slice of strawberry cake from the bakery downstairs every day after school, and it was no different today. After entering the apartment, she handed the cake to Huo Xiang.

Huo Xiang glanced at the cake in his hand before he gazed at his baby sister with conflict in his eyes. "Yao, my agent said that I have put on weight recently."

Huo Yao placed her sling bag on the cabinet. Then she looked at him and said, "You look cuter when you're chubbier."

Huo Xiang was at a loss: "?"

What was all this bullshit about looking cuter when fatter?

Despite realizing she had misspoken, Huo Yao did nothing to rectify her words and sat down on the couch. Her phone pinged shortly after, and she pulled it out to check the notification.

It was a text from Old Mr. Pei.

Old Mr. Pei: [Do you think there is anything wrong with the dosage for this prescription? (image).]

Huo Yao opened the image to take a look. It was a prescription for common cold. However, she noticed that someone had deliberately added a few more grams of a particular herb.

She pondered for two seconds and replied: [What are the meds for?]

Old Mr. Pei subconsciously stroked his white beard when he saw her reply. Considering what an expert the young lady was with Chinese medicine, it made no sense for her not to know what this was for.

He mulled over his answer before he slowly composed a reply.

Old Mr. Pei: [Meds for cold.]

Old Mr. Pei: [Take a close look at the dosage.]

Huo Xiang took his phone and walked over to sit next to Huo Yao. "Yao, do you like listening to music?"

Huo Yao raised her head to look at Huo Xiang. She composed her reply to Old Mr. Pei as she said with a distracted air, "Oh, occasionally."

Huo Xiang touched his chin. No wonder his little sister seemed clueless about his job.

He turned on his phone with that thought in mind. He clicked on his song and played it. "What do you think of this one? Like it?"

Huo Xiang seemed worried that she was not paying attention to it, so he turned the volume up to maximum.

Huo Yao's hand trembled when the music by her ear suddenly went up by many decibels. It surprised her so much that she almost sent out her half-composed text message.

She pressed her forehead and said helplessly, "Brother Xiang, my ears are fine."

Huo Xiang asked with a yearning in his voice. "Is the song good?"

Huo Yao nodded. "It's good. Very good."

She sounded extremely patronizing.

Huo Xiang turned off the music dejectedly when Huo Yao continued to be immersed in her phone. He leaned over and looked at her screen. "Yao, who are you chatting with? You look so serious."

Huo Yao replied candidly without even looking up. "An old Chinese physician."

Huo Xiang read a little of their conversation. Since he did not understand anything, he swiftly lost interest and veered his eyes away.

After Huo Yao sent the text, she put her phone down. She raised her head to look at Huo Xiang and asked him in confusion. "Why did you stop playing the music?"

Did she really not know why he stopped!?

Despite Huo Xiang's depressing thoughts, he did not dare say them out loud. He held his phone and contemplated playing the new song, which he just recorded, for his little sister.

Right then the maid announced loudly. "Dinner's ready."

Huo Xiang instantly turned off his phone.

Huo Yao had already stood up. "Brother Xiang, time to eat."

Her eyes landed on her fourth older brother's soft curly hair and she could not resist touching it.

It was fine and smooth and felt like soft wool. Huo Yao was delighted with his hair.

But Huo Xiang was at a loss. "?"

## **Chapter 240: A Medical Miracle**

Meanwhile, at the hospital.

After the doctor thoroughly examined Mr. Meng, he couldn't help but exclaim. "It's a medical miracle that your father woke up."

Various doctors had conducted all kinds of checks on the comatose patient and were certain that it was almost impossible for him to regain consciousness. Unexpectedly, he woke up and in such a short span of time, no less.

The doctor spoke with Meng Ying for a bit before leaving the ward.

Since it was nothing short of an incredible incident, it had a lot of research value. He hastened to report it to his superiors immediately.

After the doctor left, Meng Ying felt as though she had come alive again. She looked at her father, who had been taken off the ventilator. She sat down by the bed and held his hand gently.

"Dad, you're finally awake."

Mr. Meng was still very weak. His lips moved, and he wanted to speak but was too feeble. In the end, all he did was grip his daughter's hand.

Meng Ying wiped the tears from her face. After she calmed down, she suddenly recalled what Huo Yao said this afternoon and also a few days ago.

"Don't worry. Uncle Meng will wake up in a couple of days."

"Get your father to take one of these pills when he wakes up. Then he can take one every other day."

Every word of hers had indicated that Meng Ying's father would surely regain consciousness.

Meng Ying reached into her pocket and touched the medicine bottle. She thought carefully about the way Huo Yao looked when she left. Huo Yao seemed so certain that her father would wake up soon.



But... even the hospital's president believed that her father barely had any chance of getting better. Why had Huo Yao been so certain that he would wake up?

Meng Ying's mind was in a mess. She was unsure whether she should let her father take the medicine which Huo Yao had left behind or not.

After all, her father was in no condition to take any random medication.

For a long time, Meng Ying felt conflicted in her heart. Then she took out her phone and texted Huo Yao.

[Sister Big Shot, Dad woke up.]

Huo Yao was eating when she received Meng Ying's text.

She mused over it for two seconds before replying: [I got the meds from an experienced Chinese physician. Don't worry. They are safe for consumption.]

Meng Ying looked at her phone with a complex expression on her face. It seemed like Huo Yao had anticipated her question.

Her fingers paused on the screen for a long time before she wrote: [Sure. I will get Dad to take one now.]

Huo Yao glanced at Meng Ying's reply without texting further.

Meng Ying inhaled deeply as though making an important decision. She turned to pour a glass of water before going back to the bedside. She retrieved the medicine from her pocket and took out a pill. She said softly, "Dad, time for some meds."

She knew that she should not give her father any medication from unknown sources. However, she felt that Huo Yao knew better than to offer unlicensed medicine to her, so she was willing to give it a shot.

Mr. Meng went back to sleep after taking the medication. Since his breathing was stable and no other symptoms arose, Meng Ying gradually stopped worrying.

Meng Ying recalled she had yet to share the good news with her mother, so she walked over to the window to call her.

After finishing the call, Meng Ying turned around to see her cousin sitting in the room with her earphones on, listening to music. She walked over and removed one of her earphones and said, "It's getting late. You don't have to keep me company. Why don't you go home?"

Her cousin was listening to Phenom on her phone. She hurriedly pressed the pause button when she heard Meng Ying talking to her.

She looked at Meng Ying and said, "Oh. It's fine. It's the weekend tomorrow. I don't have school. Let me stay back and keep you company."

After a moment, she said, "Want to listen to some music? My hero's voice is very soothing." Meng Ying's cousin waved the phone's screen at her.