

Pill Maker 271

Chapter 271: The Cultural Relic Exhibition

[How is your leg?]

Huo Yao put down her phone when she did not receive a reply immediately.

She put on her sportswear and adjusted her wristwatch before unzipping her bag and rummaging through things. Then she left the room.

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Min Yu had just finished giving out orders to his subordinates. He was leaning against the couch and rubbing his forehead. He was a little tired.

Zhuo Yun could not help asking softly. "Yu, do you feel unwell?"

Min Yu rested his eyes for a long time before he opened them. "I'm fine."

Zhuo Yun rubbed his nose as his eyes landed on Min Yu's calf. He wanted to raise the topic but was afraid Min Yu might get annoyed and might exile him to the frontier.

Min Yu picked up his phone from the coffee table and turned it on as he asked casually. "How is the exhibit doing?"

Zhuo Yun straightened his back and automatically put on a solemn face. "Everything is normal. Yang Yi has just gone over. Nothing can go wrong with him around."

Min Yu nodded. He had already logged into his WeChat and quickly replied to Huo Yao: [It's fine. Is the contest over?]

Huo Yao was already in a cab on her way to the cultural relic exhibition when he texted back.

She held her phone and typed: [Yup. I'm just waiting for the results.]

Min Yu: [Tell me when the results come out.]

Medicine Pill: [Okay.]

Min Yu: [When are you flying back?]

Medicine Pill: [Tonight at 7:00.]

Min Yu's fingers paused before he wrote: [Have a safe trip.]

After their conversation, Min Yu looked up. His striking features were pale at this moment if scrutinised closely. He looked at Zhuo Yun and said, "Bring the car over."

Zhuo Yun scratched his head. "Yu, do you want to go to the exhibition?"

"Uh huh," replied Min Yu lazily. The moment he stood up from the couch, he felt a sharp pain in his calf. However, it disappeared quickly.

It almost felt like an illusion.

Min Yu frowned slightly.

Zhuo Yun detected something amiss on Min Yu's face and could not help asking him. "What's wrong?"

"Nothing." Min Yu shook his head and walked out.

Zhuo Yun said nothing and followed closely behind instead.

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The hotel was a little far from the cultural relic exhibition, so it took Huo Yao approximately 40 minutes to reach there.

After paying the cab driver, Huo Yao got off. She raised her head and gazed at the ancient-looking building. Her lips curved into a slight smile and her eyes were shaded under her cap. She slung her bag coolly over her shoulder before she headed over unhurriedly.

Visitors of the cultural relic exhibition did not have unrestricted access and could only enter with the organizer's pass. Naturally, the people who could get their hands on these passes were influential folks.

A 360 degree infrared surveillance system was installed at the main entrance. Also, four security guards guarded the main entrance expressionlessly.

Meanwhile, in the CCTV control room.

"Yi, everything is normal."

After patrolling the exhibition hall, Yang Yi returned to the CCTV control room. He removed his leather gloves and randomly threw them on the table before taking a chair nearby and sitting down.

His eyes landed on the huge monitors before him with dozens of security footage continuously pouring in. He scrutinized the footage before he nodded and told his subordinate beside him. "Pass me the laptop."

His subordinate hurriedly took a black laptop from the table behind and handed it to Yang Yi respectfully.

Chapter 272: The World's Top Seventh Hacker

Yang Yi quickly typed on the laptop. The content of the command box kept loading nonstop for a minute before he frowned.

"Was there anything wrong at 6:30 am this morning?" he asked in a deep voice.

His subordinate shook his head quickly. "Nope. We just finished patrolling the exhibition hall around that time, and nothing was wrong." Then he paused and asked him. "Yi, did you find any problems?"

Yang Yi's eyes landed on the computer screen. Moments later, he said, "Someone hacked into the CCTV."

His men were stunned. "Didn't you create a security program? We didn't receive any alerts in the morning..."

Yang Yi was ranked seventh in the list of top hackers in the world. Other than the six hackers who were better than him, no one could get past his programs and firewall.

The CCTV control room door opened.

Yang Yi raised his head and looked over to see his boss. He stood up and bowed respectfully. "Boss."

Min Yu walked over as he looked at the CCTV footage and asked calmly. "Is everything okay?"

"Nothing seems to be wrong with the exhibition hall. However, someone hacked into the security system early in the morning," replied Yang Yi softly.

Min Yu narrowed his eyes. "Do you know who it is yet?"

"I only just discovered it. I'll get on it now," said Yang Yi before he sat down in front of the computer again.

He quickly typed on the keyboard and attempted to locate the hacker's IP address. A few minutes later, he shook his head disappointedly. "I only know that the hacker is in the capital, but I can't retrieve any further information."

"If even an expert like you can't figure out who the hacker is, he is probably more skilled than you," said Zhuo Yun deeply.

Yang Yi leaned back into his chair and looked at the computer screen with his deep set eyes. "Yup. He's very good. He managed to avoid my firewall and wiped all traces of evidence. If I hadn't looked at the data closely, I probably wouldn't have discovered the hack."

He paused and added. "Rather, I think he deliberately left these traces for us."

Or else, a master hacker who could infiltrate the system without detection, would never leave such a cookie trail behind.

"It is an outright challenge," muttered Zhuo Yun.

Yang Yi glanced at him and pressed his lips without saying a word.

So what if he could infiltrate the security system? The moment he entered the exhibition hall and attempted to steal anything, an impenetrable net would get unleashed.

Zhuo Yun pulled over a chair and placed it behind his boss quietly without disturbing him.

Min Yu stood with his hands behind his back as he looked at the CCTV footage. An exceptionally murderous aura emanated from his cold face.

Yang Yi turned to gesture to his subordinates, who quickly left the room.

Yang Yi closed the laptop and gazed at the huge monitors.

Every corner of the exhibition hall and its visitors could be seen clearly. Nothing seemed to be amiss. However, this sense of normalcy felt strange.

Since someone had hacked into their security system, the hacker would have started to take action secretly.

Yang Yi's lips curved into a cold smile. Hostility radiated from his rugged features as he stood up. "I will personally go to the hall."

He got up and turned to leave the CCTV control room.

Chapter 273: An Unexpected Encounter

Huo Yao looked around casually after entering the cultural relic exhibition. All the relics were placed in special cabinets and completely sealed under glass covers, so visitors could only view them from one meter away.

The exhibition consisted of two floors. Priceless antiques ranging from the Qin Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty were placed on the ground floor.

Huo Yao looked around on the ground floor but failed to locate what she was seeking, so she went upstairs.

The relics on the second floor were more precious and were deemed to be world-class antiques. Considering how rare these antiques were, the second floor's security was far tighter than that on the ground floor.

Huo Yao stood at the steps and re-adjusted her cap in easy movements. Then she moved two steps closer to the wall on the left before retrieving a pair of ordinary-looking glasses and put them on.

In an instant, the maze of infrared beams around the cultural relic exhibition objects came into her sight. The moment she touched them, the alarm would get activated, and she might even die in the process.

So only the passage which was one meter away from the antiques was safe for walking.

Huo Yao pursed her lips as she moved her cap slightly sideways. She looked up a little and studied the entire second floor layout for a minute before she removed her glasses and put them away.

All the best pieces were placed in the display case at the center of the hall. A dragon and phoenix engraved jade lay quietly in the transparent cabinet while the lights over it brought its beauty to life.

The white jade was translucent and almost flawless. The lifelike engraving showed how talented the Western Zhou artisans were. Huo Yao's eyes lit up and she exclaimed in astonishment.

It was beautiful and certainly lived up to its name as Western Zhou jade.

Other than Huo Yao, there was another group of visitors looking at the jade. Among them, there were two foreigners who stood there chatting with their arms crossed.

They were conversing only in English.

Yang Yi had come out of the CCTV control room and entered the ground floor through an internal passageway. He scanned the visitors with his sharp eyes and slowly left for the second floor when he did not detect anything amiss there.

He walked up the steps, dressed in a black suit and bright leather shoes without making any sound. A murderous aura oozed from him as he moved swiftly. He came to a stop the moment he reached the last step.

Yang Yi's subordinates updated him through his headset, informing him that all was clear. His eyes landed on the Western Zhou jade placed at the center of the hall before he turned to scrutinize the visitors around it.

Huo Yao raised her hand to check her watch for the time before she headed to the bathroom.

She could keenly sense a sharp gaze sweeping over the room while the employees' voices from downstairs could be heard, asking the visitors to produce their passes.

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes and continued walking nonchalantly. A pair of eyes glanced at her briefly before veering elsewhere. She pursed her lips.

Before Huo Yao made it to the passage leading to the bathroom, the bright lights in the exhibition hall went out, leaving nothing but total darkness.

Someone in the exhibition screamed anxiously, and everything turned to chaos in an instant.

Huo Yao pursed her lips in the darkness and stood stock-still. She took out her night vision glasses, and the darkness dissipated to reveal the Western Zhou jade cabinet at the center of the hall.

The two foreigners standing before the jade previously were now nowhere to be seen.

Chapter 274: Complete Chaos

Min Yu was sitting in the CCTV control room, leaning into his chair nonchalantly, with his eyes on the monitors.

Despite the darkness in the hall, the footage on the monitor was still visible.

Zhuo Yun stood beside Min Yu with his eyes glued to the footage.

The ground floor seemed to be in complete chaos. But there were far more visitors on the second floor, and everyone was running amok from the sudden darkness, so it was easy for the alarm system to get tripped.

However, the moment the infrared beams were ruptured, security mechanisms would get activated, and many people would get injured in the process.

Also, everyone in the exhibition were influential tycoons. If anything happened to them here, they would have trouble answering for their safety.

Zhuo Yun's face turned dark. "Boss, we probably have to turn off the security measures."

Damn it. These assholes deliberately forced their hands to turn off the security system by putting everyone's lives at risk.

Min Yu sat with his hand on the armrest as he tapped his finger every now and then nonchalantly. A few seconds later, he said, "Mhm."

Zhuo Yun sent the order to their men through the handset.

In an instant, all the infrared beams and lethal defense mechanisms in the cultural relic exhibition were shut down.

"Seal all exits," said Min Yu indifferently.

Zhuo Yun did as he ordered.

"Close all passages on the first and second floor."

"Activate the infrared enabled alarms."

"Activate the signal jammer."

"Activate..."

Min Yu gave out each order unhurriedly. He was completely calm and did not seem the least bit anxious about the chaos.

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Huo Yao joined the crowd as well. From the moment she entered the exhibition to the point when things went into chaos, she did not raise her head even once to look up.

She knew about the countless surveillance cameras installed overhead. Despite the complete darkness around them, she was certain that the footage in the control room would show the images as clear as day.

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes when she noticed the infrared beams around the hall getting deactivated. It meant that anyone could approach the antiques without getting hit by the lethal security mechanisms.

She pursed her lips. Although now someone would be able to pick up the antiques easily, they might not be able to walk out alive with the loot.

Suddenly, the two foreigners, who had disappeared earlier, turned up. They seemed to be waiting for this moment and were clearly aiming to take off with the Western Zhou jade.

Huo Yao blended into the crowd as she watched them quietly. She suddenly shook her head, wondering if the mastermind who hired these thieves was an epic fool.

Despite their audacity to force the organizer to shut down security for the sake of the visitors' safety, they failed to detect the impenetrable net that the hall was placed under.

Did they think the Western Zhou jade would be an easy target?

Just as the foreigners were making a hole in the glass cover using precision cutting tools, Yang Yi, who was like a ferocious animal, had already instructed his men to approach them.

Huo Yao glanced at Yang Yi. The scar at the back of his head was still fresh in her memory. She touched her nose and her eyes landed on the unsuspecting foreigners. She could not bear watching it any longer.

She touched her watch softly.

Chapter 275: Find Out Who This Is

The security cameras seemed to get jammed as she pressed the button on her watch. The surveillance footage came to a standstill and froze with the image of Yang Yi approaching the foreigners.

Huo Yao finally moved from her position.

Inside the CCTV control room.

“Erm. The second floor’s surveillance footage is frozen.” Zhuo Yun, who was monitoring everything in the CCTV room, quickly realized this problem.

“The signal has been jammed,” said Min Yu looking coldly at this familiar scene.

He got up from his chair and scrutinized the second floor’s frozen footage before his eyes locked in on someone wearing a cap in the crowd. He pointed at the image and said, “Find out who that is.”

The person in the cap had not looked up even once since the moment he entered the exhibition. Despite his normal appearance, Min Yu instinctively felt suspicious.

The moment Min Yu finished his sentence, he walked out with a murderous look on his face.

Zhuo Yun glanced in the direction his boss had left. Then he ordered his men to take action before he followed behind him and left the CCTV control room.

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Huo Yao was quietly counting down in her heart. The moment the foreigners cut through the glass cover, she came close and extended her hand in. In a blink of an eye, she effortlessly retrieved the jade.

She was so swift that the foreigners failed to detect her.

After Huo Yao got her hands on the jade, she glanced at it and could not help feeling astonished by its beauty. However, she suddenly frowned when her hands reached its bottom.

Did she spend \$50 in coming here to see a fake?

Huo Yao’s face instantly went dark. She quickly shoved the jade back in its original place.

Anyone who wanted it was welcome to have it.

A look of shock instantly emerged on the foreigners’ faces when they snapped out of their daze and saw the jade reappear inside the cabinet.

Huo Yao suddenly detected another murderous aura in the atmosphere. She looked around but could not locate the man. Instead, she took two steps back to evade Yang Yi before darting towards the passage leading to the bathroom.

She could see a dense maze of infrared beams in the passage. No matter where she went, she would trip it. Also, two men were standing guard in that corridor.

Huo Yao turned back to glance at the staircase connecting the two floors. It had been sealed as well.

It would probably take them a minute to crack through her signal jammer, so she had about ten seconds left before the surveillance went back to normal. Hence, she had to leave before that.

Huo Yao quickly considered all the passages in the entire building. Before long, she looked at the nearby alarm system. She walked over and smashed it before the security could notice her.

In an instant, the shrill alarm went off through the entire building. The fear in the already worried and anxious visitors instantly amplified when they heard the sound.

In the darkness, the lightboxes hanging over the doors at the end of the passages became their beacons.

In an instant, everyone went into survival mode. People automatically swarmed towards the exit signs without any forethought.

Regardless of technology, nothing could rival the human instinct for survival. Hence, the organizer had no choice but to deactivate the security system in the passages.

Chapter 276: Leaving Successfully

Huo Yao pressed her cap further down. She swiftly struck the two guards standing in the passage with her hand. The guards passed out a second before her signal jammer failed. She didn't delay any further and blended into the crowd. A few minutes later, she left the exhibition hall successfully without anyone stopping her.

She could sense a murderous air hovering on the top of her head but she did not turn back to see the person.

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The exhibition hall lights quickly went back to normal after a brief power outage, and even the alarms were turned off in a minute or so.

The hall was no longer in chaos with the security guards' help, and order was restored. Other than the people attempting to leave via the exits at the end of the passages and the glaring hole in the jade's glass cover, it felt as though nothing had happened in the hall.

All the visitors who had yet to leave were invited to the VIP room. Zhuo Yun saw the angry look on his boss's face when he came to update him, so he kept his report brief.

Min Yu stood in front of the glass cover quietly as he looked at the jade inside. A few seconds later, he tilted his head a little and said, "Let everyone go."

Zhuo Yun was stunned. "But we aren't done investigating..."

"No need. He's long gone," replied Min Yu indifferently.

Yang Yi came over after he was done interrogating the two foreigners. "Boss, they confessed. They aren't in cahoots with the person who picked up the jade initially and put it back into the display case."

Yang Yi had not been wearing the night vision goggles when the exhibition hall plunged into darkness. However, he could sense the people nearby. The infiltrator had been surprisingly swift and nimble. It didn't take more than 20 seconds for the series of events starting from the moment the jade was picked to being replaced in the glass cover, and finally the alarms going off.

Zhuo Yun recalled the person wearing a cap whom his boss had told him to investigate in the CCTV control room earlier. He asked his subordinate about it through the handset.

A few seconds later, Zhuo Yun told Min Yu. "Yu, we could not find any information regarding the person you asked about. It felt as though that person appeared out of thin air."

"Who?" Yang Yi turned his head and looked at Zhuo Yun.

Zhuo Yun took out his phone and pulled out the pictures he took from the surveillance system and handed it to Yang Yi. "Here's the guy."

Although the picture was unclear, the person wore a cap the entire time and never once looked up. Hence, they could only see the top of the person's head. There was not even a single frame where the person's face could have been captured. There was no way to figure out the person's gender or any other detail about him.

No employees had been assigned to work in the exhibition due to the high-level surveillance equipment being used. Zhuo Yun grilled the guards at the entrance and also those who had passed out, but no one noticed that person.

The person was certainly a veteran and an expert at avoiding detection.

Yang Yi blew up the image to see an ordinary cap. He had noticed the cap when he looked at the surveillance footage previously, but did not take a close look at that time.

"Is this the same person who stole Flying Heaven two years ago?" asked Yang Yi deeply.

Zhuo Yun raised his head in shock. "How can that be? Wouldn't the culprit have walked out with the jade if it were that guy?"

It was unlike the person's style to cause such a huge commotion.

"I don't know either." Yang Yi paused before he continued with a frown. "Regardless of whether it was the same person, I don't understand why the jade was placed back after it was taken out."

"Did the person realize the jade was a fake?" Zhuo Yun touched his chin. This was the only possibility.

Yang Yi glanced at Zhuo Yun and said, "Impossible. Even antique experts are incapable of detecting forgery so quickly, so it is not likely that it could be done under such circumstances."

Chapter 277: The Principal Looking For Her Urgently

"That makes things even stranger," muttered Zhuo Yun before he turned to look at his boss. "Yu, what do you think?"

The only person who came in contact with that thief had been Min Yu. Although the culprit escaped today, Zhuo Yun trusted Min Yu's judgment.

Min Yu pondered calmly for a while before he finally said, "I'm not sure."

Zhuo Yun and Yang Yi went quiet the moment he finished speaking.

Even their master was uncertain. It appears that the person who escaped today was at least at the same level as the one who stole Flying Heaven.

"I will keep investigating this matter," said Yang Yi deeply.

Min Yu's gaze drifted into the distance without saying a word.

Huo Yao did not go straight to the hotel after leaving the exhibition hall. Instead, she got the cab driver to drive around before finally heading back.

Her phone was off the entire time, and she only turned it back on after reaching the hotel room.

Shortly after switching it on, countless text notifications and several missed calls popped up on her screen.

The missed calls were from the Principal roughly 30 minutes ago. Huo Yao did not bother with the text messages for now and called the Principal right away.

It was already past 3:00 pm, and the National Quiz Contest finals' results had been released.

It seemed as though the Principal was waiting for her call and answered on the first ring.

"Huo Yao, you finally turned on your phone. I've been looking for you all day." The Principal sounded anxious.

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes slightly before she made an excuse. "I was out exploring when my battery died."

The Principal was standing beside a flower bed on the ground floor of Tsing University's multipurpose building. He deeply inhaled before he said, "Have you checked your results?"

"Not yet," said Huo Yao slowly as she raised her hand to check the time.

She could tell that there was something about the Principal's voice, so she could not help asking. "Erm... Did I do..."

The Principal's voice interrupted her before she could finish her question.

The Director of Tsing University called for the Principal from his office, and the Principal nodded courteously at him.

The principal said to Huo Yao in a distracted voice, “No, you did well. I can’t talk now. The Tsing University Director wants me to go over and fill in some details for your guaranteed placement. I will send you an entry pass later. Come over to the Tsing University general block asap.”

Then the Principal hung up without waiting for Huo Yao’s response.

The Principal sent a screenshot to Huo Yao.

She opened the message and quickly changed back into the same outfit she had worn for the contest in the morning. After that, she left her room quickly.

Huo Yao arrived at Tsing University’s entrance a few minutes later and showed the security guard the entry pass which the Principal had sent on her phone.

The guard remembered Huo Yao since she was the prettiest student who had participated in the National Quiz Contest this year. He treated her politely and let her into the campus without asking much.

There were perks for looking good. The security guard even gave her directions to reach the general block.

Huo Yao thanked him courteously before heading in the direction of the general block.

The Principal told her to come to the third floor of the building. She glanced at the lift on the side and contemplated for two seconds. She decided to take the stairs to go up.

Chapter 278: Huo Yao Wasn’t A No.1 Middle School Student Last Year

Huo Yao looked around the third floor and only saw a few offices, so she took out her phone and sent a text message to the Principal.

The Principal quickly came out of an office located at the end of the corridor. He waved to Huo Yao when he saw her.

Huo Yao walked over unhurriedly and nodded. “Hi.”

The Principal did not have his typical stern aura at this moment. Instead, he was glowing and looked ecstatic. “That was fast, Huo Yao.”

The Principal headed into the office with Huo Yao following behind.

Three teachers were present in the office. One of them had served as an invigilator for the finals, the second teacher was the Physics professor who had ran into Hua Yao when she had been visiting the university with Yi Feiyu. The third person was a new face.

Huo Yao nodded politely to the three teachers.

The new face was the Director who was in charge of the archives department. He was holding a stack of documents when he glanced at Huo Yao and said teasingly, “Yu He, are all your top students so pretty?”

The Principal raised his brow. “That goes without saying. Our school has a reputation for having both bright and good-looking students.”

The Director shook his head. He turned to Huo Yao and handed her the stack of documents and a pen. “Please fill this form up. You can take a seat over there and do it.”

He pointed at the seat next to the window.

Huo Yao took the form and thanked him. She walked over and sat down. Then she lowered her head and started completing the form meticulously.

The form was like an admissions application form. However, this one was more detailed and required her to answer questions like her professional aspirations after graduation.

The Physics professor who was drinking tea suddenly walked over to the Principal and asked him. “He, I was wondering why you didn’t send her for the Physics Olympiad last year since her Physics is so good.”

The Physics professor did not pay much attention to the results during the heats. It was only after the results for the finals were released that he retrieved her scripts for a look. At that time, he found out that someone managed to solve the last Physics question he had set.

The moment he saw her solution, he was startled by her astounding ability in the field of Physics.

The last Physics question had been based on the International Quiz Contest standards. Even university freshmen would have not managed to complete it in a short span of time, let alone a middle school student. But Huo Yao solved it using the method provided in the model answers.

The Principal glanced at the Physics professor. “She wasn’t a No.1 Middle School student last year.”

The Physics professor said sadly, “If she had signed up for last year’s Olympiad, she might have attained a rank.”

The Principal went quiet for two seconds before he suddenly sighed. “I think so too. The Physics question that only one contestant managed to solve last year was a piece of cake for Huo Yao. She might have been the champion had she participated.”

The Physics professor was stunned. After he composed himself, he asked the Principal. “Wait a sec! Did she manage to solve that Physics question?”

The Principal straightened his back with a smug look on his face. “Why not? It was nothing to her.”

He should have taken a picture of Huo Yao’s solution since everyone kept asking whether he was serious.

Chapter 279: Two Influential Professors Scrambling For Her

Huo Yao walked up to the Tsing University Director after she was done with the form and handed it to him.

Just as the Director reached out to take it, the Physics professor stepped forward and snatched it from his hand before looking at Huo Yao in contemplation.

The Physics professor glanced at the form's contents briefly and focused mainly on the preferred faculty column. He could sense his blood pressure drastically rise when he saw that Huo Yao wanted to join the Biology department.

He raised his head and looked at Huo Yao with an agitated expression. "You did so well in Physics. Why haven't you chosen the Physics department?"

"I'm more interested in Bio," replied Huo Yao after thinking briefly.

"What's so good about Biology? I think you have a natural flair for Physics. You should change this and not put your talent to waste," the Physics professor persuaded her, pointing at her choice written on the form.

Huo Yao touched her nose. Was he going to force her to change her chosen faculty?

Since Yi Feiyu mentioned that he was a highly esteemed Physics professor, she wondered whether things would turn hostile if she refused to accept his suggestion.

Huo Yao glanced at the Principal.

The Principal coughed drily before taking the form from the Physics professor and handing it to the Tsing University Director. "In the end, it all boils down to the student's interest. Moreover, Lian also wants to take Huo Yao as his student, so there's no point forcing her."

Something suddenly crossed the Physics professor's mind. "I was wondering why that stupid Zhao Lian yanked me off so anxiously this afternoon. So this was what he was up to!"

Zhao Lian must have purposely withheld telling them about the young lady's talent so that he could convince her to join the Biology department.

That sneaky bastard!

The Principal looked at him perplexedly. "What do you mean?"

The Physics professor sneered without explaining further. Instead, he lamented and cursed out loud. "He's shameless and leading her down the wrong path!"

Then he inhaled deeply and looked at Huo Yao again. He said earnestly, "You don't have to decide on your faculty now. The college entrance exam will take place in six months, so you can still mull over your choice. You certainly can't put your talent to waste by going down the wrong road."

Huo Yao went quiet.

"..."

She felt that this kind looking professor was starkly different from the person Yi Feiyu had described.

The Physics professor thought for a second before he took out his phone and said, “You have WeChat, right? Add me to your account. Reach out to me anytime if you have any questions regarding Physics.”

Huo Yao graciously accepted his words and added the professor to her phonebook.

She now had a list of teachers offering to teach her cooking, Chinese medicine, and Physics.

The disgruntled professor left from there shortly after. Before going, he reminded Huo Yao to not hesitate and ping him if she had any questions.

Huo Yao did not know whether to cry or laugh. She had no choice but to nod at him with a smile.

The Director of Tsing University put Huo Yao’s form away before he picked up the trophy and a certificate of honor and handed them to her.

“Congratulations!”

After Huo Yao took the trophy and certificate, she thanked him politely. Her eyes landed on the certificate which read: National Champion – 200 marks.

Full marks again.

It seemed that there were easier ways to answer questions

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Huo Yao and the Principal left Tsing University before long.

On their way back.

“Next comes the International Quiz Contest,” said the Principal as they walked out.

His voice was filled with immense longing for a glorious future.

Chapter 280: Papa Will Teach You How To Be An Upright Person One Day

Huo Yao listened to the Principal quietly.

“There are a lot of brilliant participants at the international level. The questions in the national finals are considered to be pretty basic in comparison. In the past, the top ranked students that we sent, did not make it into even the top ten.”

The Principal smiled sadly and shook his head. He turned to glance at Huo Yao and continued. “Huo Yao, you are the first student who has maintained the first position and attained full marks all through the competition. I think you stand a good chance at making it into the top ten.”

In the past, he would have been happy to see her return with any rank in the International Quiz Contest. It did not matter even if she was placed in the 20s or 30s. However, he changed his mindset when the results for the finals were released today. He felt that this young lady was far more capable than he had imagined.

He did not dare dream of Huo Yao getting the first place internationally. However, he felt that she had a chance at finding a place for herself in the top ten. He was praying hard for a miracle to happen.

Huo Yao stood at the sidewalk, while the red light was still on. She suddenly tilted her head when only three seconds were left on the signal's clock. She looked at the Principal and said solemnly, "I think you can set higher targets."

The Principal went into a daze. He did not understand what she was driving at.

Huo Yao stepped onto the zebra crossing and said softly, "Like bringing back the champion's trophy!"

The Principal blinked. Her indifferent words left him in shock for a few seconds. He stepped on the zebra crossing when he finally composed himself.

It was an awfully challenging target to set for oneself.

The Principal looked at Huo Yao walking unhurriedly in front of him. She had an innate sense of pride oozing from her slim, straight back.

His heart suddenly felt lit with an exhilarating sensation.

Perhaps... he could dare to hope.

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Huo Yao rested for a while after getting back to the hotel and then started to pack. The flight to City S was scheduled for 7:00 pm, and it was almost 5:00 pm already.

They would be gathering downstairs soon to head to the airport.

Huo Yao found time to buy some gifts while they waited at the airport.

Those big babies and her parents were such big spenders.

Huo Yao still had some time after buying the presents, so she placed her stuff by her feet before pulling out her earphones. She put them on and swiped through her music application. She tapped on her favorites. They were all Phenom's songs and she played them on a loop.

Suddenly, a text message popped up on her screen.

It was sent anonymously using an encrypted number.

[Were you the one who caused such a huge commotion at the cultural relic exhibition?]

Huo Yao paused and then replied: [I'm a student. How could I have found the time?]

Unknown Person: [...]

Unknown Person: [I didn't think it was you, either. It isn't your style.]

Huo Yao raised her brow. The unknown person had her attention now.

She replied: [Oh, then what's my style?]

Unknown Person: [You are always in control. Things never go out of your hand.]

Huo Yao: [Who taught you Chinese?]

Unknown Person: [?]

Huo Yao: [You should study harder.]

Unknown Person: [You're so childish.]

Huo Yao: [Your papa will teach you how to be an upright person one day.]

Unknown Person: [Sheesh.]

Huo Yao twitched her lips and switched off her phone. She placed it in her pocket before she pulled her hood up and rested her eyes.

**

At 9:00 pm, the flight to City S landed punctually at the airport. Huo Yao turned on her phone as she walked out with her luggage.

She had a few notifications showing some missed calls and text messages.