

## **Pill Maker 341**

### **Chapter 341: His Little Sister's Incense Worked**

Huo Yulin walked out and headed to the storage cabinet placed near the entrance. He entered its password, which was his phone number, and the door opened automatically.

Sure enough, there was a package inside.

He took it out and closed the cabinet door before he went back inside the villa.

He removed a small knife from the drawer and opened the package before removing a wooden box from it.

The box was filled with incense sticks. He could smell sandalwood and some Chinese herbs when he opened it.

It smelled good and was not overpowering. The moment Huo Yulin caught a whiff of it, it made him feel relaxed from head to toe.

The incense was certainly different from the ones he was used to.

Huo Yulin picked up his phone, took a picture, and sent it to Huo Yao: [I received it. Thanks, Yao.]

[Remember to use it at night. It will help with your insomnia.]

Huo Yulin replied: [Okay.]

Huo Yulin put down the phone and retrieved a stick of incense, giving it a sniff. It certainly smelled different. Then he headed to the sideboard and took out his incense holder.

He went up to his room with the incense and the holder. He lit up a stick before placing it in the holder.

Smoke instantly curled upwards with the scent of sandalwood and herbs wafting through the air.

Huo Yulin inhaled deeply and lay down on the bed. Even though it might not work, he wanted to give it a shot since his little sister sent it over especially for him.

Although Huo Yulin did not harbor any hope that he could sleep, his eyelids gradually felt heavy. Before he knew it, he fell asleep with the incense slowly spreading in his room. The usual darkness that plagued his mind was nowhere to be found.

By the time Huo Yulin woke up, it was the next evening. He sat up on his bed in the dark room and rubbed his forehead before turning on the wall lamp.

He looked at the decoration in the room. Then his eyes landed on the incense holder to see that the incense had finished burning. His blurry eyes finally sharpened.

Was he sleeping just now?

Huo Yulin took out his phone from under the pillow in disbelief and looked at the time. He was stunned when he saw it.

He had already slept through a night and a whole day.

Huo Yulin lifted the blanket and walked up to the French windows. He opened the curtains to see that it was already dark outside. After a long time, he finally gathered his thoughts.

He had not suffered from any nightmares nor did he suddenly wake up startled, mid-way. He slept the whole time soundly.

He had not slept like this in years. His little sister's incense was really effective.

Huo Yulin went back to the room and held the box as he looked at the incense. Then he quickly texted Huo Yao.

[Thanks for the incense, Yao.]

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Huo Yao was still in class when he sent her the text. She only noticed her brother's message after class.

He had clearly tried the incense.

After contemplating briefly, she replied: [You have to address your mental issues here. Brother Yulin, you are a doctor too, so you ought to know better. No matter how effective my incense is, it can't save you forever.]

Huo Yao received a reply after a long time.

Lin: [I know.]

Lin: [Your incense contains special herbs. Do you know Chinese medicine?]

Huo Yao leaned into the seat and replied modestly: [A little. I read some books about Chinese meds before.]

Lin: [Are you planning on studying medicine in the future?]

Huo Yao raised her brow. It was impossible for her to study medicine. The bell rang, so she quickly wrote to her brother that she was not interested before putting her phone away.

## **Chapter 342: Don't Judge A Book By Its Cover**

Huo Jinyan was waiting to pick Huo Yao from school.

Huo Yao had gone to see the homeroom teacher after school, so she was slightly late and had yet to come out.

Huo Jinyan was driving the new car. It was particularly flashy, and many students kept looking over.

Since he felt bored sitting in the car, he got off and walked up and down the sidewalk with his eyes on the No.1 Middle School's entrance.

Lu Xia had to go for training, so she left the campus slightly earlier and walked out of the school gate. The company car had yet to arrive. Hence, she put on her sunglasses and headed to stand at the side of the road.

A few steps away, she noticed Huo Jinyan and instantly halted.

Ever since Huo Yao came back, she had stopped visiting her foster parents. Her parents had treated her coldly when she picked Huo Yao from the airport, and she had yet to get over it.

Initially, she had assumed that her foster parents would call her occasionally. But, they never did. It seemed as though she had not been a part of their life ever.

Lu Xia inhaled deeply and suppressed her annoyance. She adjusted her sunglasses and pretended not to see Huo Jinyan.

She did nothing to avoid him. Instead, she walked straight towards him. Perhaps she harbored some hope that her foster father would come over and talk when he saw her.

She continued hoping for a long time, but her foster father did not even look at her even after the company car had pulled up in front of her.

"Xiaxia, get in." Her assistant got off the car and opened the door for her.

Lu Xia pursed her lips and clutched her branded purse tightly. She glanced at her assistant before she looked again at Huo Jinyan standing nearby. When she saw him pacing up and down the sidewalk and completely oblivious of her presence, she could not help feeling angry.

"Wait a second. I am waiting for someone," said Lu Xia to her assistant.

Due to her fury, she sounded a little impatient and seemed different from the usual image she projected.

The assistant looked at her in disbelief. Sure enough, one should never judge a book by its cover.

Her assistant said nothing and merely stood by the side.

Lu Xia kept standing where she was and waited for a few more minutes until she saw Huo Yao walking out of the campus. Huo Yao seemed to have noticed Lu Xia's presence.

Lu Xia's lips pursed her lips sternly. Even the country bumpkin had seen her, so she simply did not believe her foster father failed to do so.

Sure enough, her foster parents were cold-blooded. They were even more disgusting than her self-serving biological parents.

Huo Yao had already walked up to Huo Jinyan and greeted him.

"You are late," said Huo Jinyan as he opened the front passenger car door for his daughter.

"The teacher wanted to talk to me, so I got held up," explained Huo Yao before she got into the car.

Huo Jinyan walked around the front of the car to the driver's seat and opened it to get in.

Shortly after starting the engine, Huo Jinyan looked up and finally noticed the car nearby with Lu Xia standing by the roadside.

He was stunned, but he quickly averted his eyes and started the engine.

Lu Xia watched as Huo Jinyan's car drove away. Her face could no longer stay calm when she spotted the logo on the car.

### **Chapter 343: Huo Yao Was The One Who Made The Incense**

Lu Xia could not believe her eyes. They had bought a Rolls Royce!

Lu Xia recalled how her foster parents kept driving that beat up Santana all these years while she was in the Huo family. No matter where they went, they used that car. Even though they were loaded, they acted as though they were poor.

Hehe. Now that their biological daughter came back, they could not wait to change the crappy car to a Rolls Royce. They certainly had double standards.

Lu Xia felt an unprecedented sense of sadness. Before they found out about the accidental swap at birth, she did not get to enjoy life as a rich family's daughter. How could things change so abruptly after their biological daughter came home?

Was she not their daughter?

Lu Xia bit her lip hard. She did her utmost to suppress her indignation. However, she could not help recalling how her foster father looked driving the luxury vehicle. The more she thought about it, the more resentful she felt. In the end, she could not hold back the tears.

The moment her assistant saw Lu Xia suddenly crying, she became anxious. She hurriedly retrieved a pack of tissue from her purse and handed it to Lu Xia. "Xi Xia, what's wrong? Why are you crying?"

Lu Xia pushed her assistant's hand away in a fit of anger. "Get lost. Don't bother me."

The assistant did not see this coming and was slightly shocked. She instinctively wanted to console Lu Xia when she saw her crying sadly. However, she stopped when she recalled how Lu Xia had shouted at her.

Although the assistant was clueless about why Lu Xia suddenly lost control, Lu Xia did not seem to be any different from the other hypocritical celebrities in the industry.

The assistant lowered her eyes. She had seen her fair share of such people.

A few minutes later, Lu Xia stood up and put on her sunglasses without letting the assistant see her eyes. She inhaled deeply before apologizing softly to her assistant. "Sorry for losing control."

The assistant pursed her lips and just shook her head. "It's fine. Get in. There are people outside, so it's not good for the other students to see you like this."

Lu Xia wiped her cheeks before getting into the car without another word.

Very quickly, the assistant got into the car as well. She glanced at Lu Xia and said, "Xi Xia, do you want to go home and rest instead?"

Lu Xia leaned into the seat and replied a long while later. "No. I'm fine now."

In the end, the assistant didn't try to convince her otherwise.

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Meanwhile, in the car.

Huo Yao was playing with her phone when she suddenly received a text from Old Mr. Pei.

Huo Yao pressed her forehead. She had a bad feeling about this. After sometime, she tapped the message and read it.

Old Mr. Pei: [You know how to make incense, right?]

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes. The last time she made medicine, Old Mr. Pei kept wanting to assist her. Now he was asking if she knew how to make incense. What on earth was he up to?

Very quickly, she replied: [No, I don't.]

Old Mr. Pei: [I'm sure you do. You were the one who made Young Master Min's incense.]

Huo Yao's lips twitched.

She typed expressionlessly: [You are wrong. I bought it online.]

Old Mr. Pei: [Impossible. You even bought the ingredients from my shop.]

Huo Yao: "..."

Sigh. Were all old men so hard to shake off these days?

She looked out of the window and wanted to blacklist him at this moment.

Her phone pinged again, and she lowered her head to look at it.

Old Mr. Pei: [I know everything.]

Huo Yao felt helpless. She stared at her screen for a second before she slowly typed: [If you know too much, you might end up getting killed, old man!]

#### **Chapter 344: Did They Live In The Same Estate?**

Old Mr. Pei: [Hehehe. If you teach me how to make the incense, I won't tell on you.]

Huo Yao sneered. She wanted to tell the old man to wash up and sleep. Just as she was about to hit send, she received another text.

Old Mr. Pei: [From now on, I will give you a 30% discount when you buy meds from my store.]

Huo Yao's fingers instantly deleted the text she composed and retyped it: [Sure thing. I'm a great teacher.]

Old Mr. Pei was still trying to come up with his kill shot in case his last text failed: [...]

Did she agree so easily?

It was not what he had imagined.

?□?||

\*

Huo Yao put her phone away and looked out of the window. She recalled that her grandmother was probably out of medicine by now. It was about time she made more and mailed them to her.

She would come up with a list when she got back.

The car reached their estate before long.

Huo Yao's phone rang after she entered the villa.

It was Zhuo Yun calling her.

She hit answer as she changed into her indoor slippers.

"Miss Huo, are you home now?" asked Zhuo Yun courteously.

He was downstairs at the old Huo residence with Yang Yi sitting in the front passenger seat.

"Yeah, I am. What's up?" Huo Yao walked into the living room and poured herself a drink.

Zhuo Yun was holding a box. "I have something to show you. Mind coming downstairs?"

"Now?" Huo Yao raised her brow.

"Uh huh? I'm right downstairs." Zhuo Yun looked outside the car window.

"I moved. I don't stay there anymore." Huo Yao placed the glass on the table.

Huo Jinyan thought she was talking to someone he knew, so he asked her. "Yao, who are you talking to?"

Huo Yao turned to reply to him. "Some friend you haven't met before."

Zhuo Yun heard a voice coming from the background. Although it sounded a little familiar, he was unable to recall where he had heard it before. Instead, he paused and asked her. "So, where do you live now? Can you send me your address?"

Huo Yao went quiet before responding. "I'll send you the GPS location."

"Sure. I'll see you there in a bit," said Zhuo Yun.

After hanging up, Huo Yao sent Zhuo Yun a text with her GPS location.

Two seconds later, she received a question mark from him.

Huo Yao pursed her lips but did not reply.

\*

Zhuo Yun looked at her location and was extremely surprised. Was this not his boss's estate?

"Why are you in a daze?" Zhuo Yun looked stunned after seeing the GPS location, so Yang Yi could not help asking him.

Zhuo Yun raised his head and placed the phone before Yang Yi's eyes. "Look at this."

Yang Yi's eyes landed on the screen. Two seconds later, his expression became odd too.

"Miss Huo lives in the same estate as our boss!" Zhuo Yun put his phone away and started the engine.

Two seconds later, he sighed and said, "I didn't manage to buy the villa next door."

Yang Yi glanced at him. He was the one who had failed to convince the owners to sell it.

The car arrived back at the estate 30 minutes later. Zhuo Yun texted Huo Yao asking her for the exact address.

Before long, Zhuo Yun received a reply.

Zhuo Yun was stunned once again when he saw the location. It was one hell of a coincidence!

The villa next door that he had been trying to purchase was astonishingly Huo Yao's new place.

So, the owner whom he approached previously was Huo Yao's biological father.

Zhuo Yun turned to look at Yang Yi with a complicated expression on his face.

## **Chapter 345: Don't Be Fooled By Our Next Door Neighbor**

Yang Yi looked at Zhuo Yun quizzically. "Why are you looking at me like this? What's the address?"

Zhuo Yun shoved his box into Yang Yi's hands before replying uneasily. "I forgot I had something to deal with. You can look Miss Huo up on your own."

Yang Yi felt lost. "?"

Zhuo Yun coughed. "I feel a little embarrassed."

Yang Yi's lips twitched. "Can you get to the point?"

Zhuo Yun handed him his phone.

It turned out that he had been trying to buy Huo Yao's new place from her folks, in order to give it to her. The irony of the situation made him feel awkward.

Fortunately, the owner did not agree to sell his place.

Yang Yi rested his forehead against his palm. It was certainly one hell of a coincidence.

Yang Yi drove the car while Zhuo Yun sat in the backseat. He was going to hide in the car later and play it by the ear.

Everything would work out fine as long as he did not encounter Huo Yao's father.

Two minutes later, Yang Yi pulled up outside the Huo family's villa. He told Zhuo Yun to text Huo Yao.

Before long, Huo Yao walked out, with her curious father in tow.

Zhuo Yun spotted Huo Yao's father from a distance, so he shrank into the back seat. He was too embarrassed to get off the car.

Yang Yi glanced at Zhuo Yun and shook his head speechlessly. He took the wooden box and opened the car door.

"Hello, Miss Huo," said Yang Yi courteously and bowed to Huo Yao.

Huo Yao nodded. "Where is Zhuo Yun?"

Yang Yi coughed. "He suddenly had something urgent to attend to."

"I see." Huo Yao did not take it to heart. Instead, she looked at him and said, "What did you want me to look at?"

"It is this." Yang Yi handed the wooden box to Huo Yao politely.

Huo Yao glanced at the wooden box. She took it from Yang Yi and opened it. When she saw the porcelain bottle inside, she was stunned for a moment before she quickly asked Yang Yi. "What is this?"

Yang Yi glanced at Huo Jinyan who was standing behind her. He paused momentarily. Before he could go on, his phone beeped in his pocket.

Yang Yi took it out for a look before he said, "Why don't you come over next door and have a seat."

Huo Yao pondered over his words. She handed the wooden box back to Yang Yi and turned to look at her old man. She said, "Dad, I'm going next door. Can you go back first?"

"Sure sure. Go on," said Huo Jinyan as he touched his nose and nodded amicably.

Yang Yi nodded at Huo Jinyan courteously before he looked at Huo Yao. "You can go over first. I'm going to park the car."

"Okay." Huo Yao nodded and turned to walk towards the villa next door. "

Huo Jinyan kept looking at Yang Yi as he got into the car and drove away. He only veered his eyes after a long time.

This man's aura resembled the bodyguards in his company.

Huo Jinyan touched his chin. Then he quickly realized that something was wrong. They had barely moved in two days ago. How did his daughter already know their neighbor?

Also, he recalled the man intent on buying their villa was this very neighbor.



Huo Jinyan's eyes suddenly opened wide at the discovery. Were they attempting to convince his daughter after failing to get him to sell the house?

No wonder he treated Huo Yao so respectfully. They had an ulterior motive.

Huo Jinyan hurriedly took out his phone and texted Huo Yao.

[Don't be fooled by them. We aren't selling our place no matter how much they offer!]

## **Chapter 346: We Became Neighbors Again**

Huo Yao walked into the living room.

Min Yu was talking on the phone when he saw Huo Yao coming in. The cold look on his face had already disappeared as he told the person on the phone indifferently. "Uh huh. That's all."

Min Yu put his phone away and looked at Huo Yao. An air of sophistication radiated from his striking face. "Hi."

Huo Yao nodded and walked up to stand in front of him. She scrutinised him and nodded as she said, "Good. You are recovering well."

Min Yu looked into her eyes and raised his brow slightly. "Do you treat every patient like this?"

"Huh?" Huo Yao looked puzzled.

Min Yu narrowed his eyes with a sad feeling in his heart. Then he shook his head and smiled. "Nothing."

Min Yu gestured for her to take a seat on the couch. He went over to the refrigerator, retrieved a drink, and opened its cap before handing it to Huo Yao.

Huo Yao did not take his gesture to heart as she accepted the drink from him.

Zhuo Yun and Yang Yi saw their boss's action when they came in. The two of them halted in unison and looked at each other.

They could sense that something was amiss.

"I didn't think we would end up being neighbors again." Min Yu sat down on the couch next to Huo Yao and sounded a bit surprised.

Huo Yao took a sip before placing the bottle on the table. She looked up and replied lazily. "It's some twisted destiny."

Min Yu's lips twitched.

Zhuo Yun and Yang Yi came upto them.

Huo Yao looked at Zhuo Yun.

"I thought you had something urgent to attend to?" asked Huo Yao quizzically.

Min Yu's eyes landed on Zhuo Yun as well.

Zhuo Yun could not help coughing uneasily under their stares. He replied in a neutral tone. "I'm done now."

There was no way Zhuo Yun was going to come clean with Huo Yao and admit that he was afraid to run into her father.

It was simply too embarrassing.

"That was fast," replied Huo Yao thoughtfully as she leaned into the couch.

Zhuo Yun took the wooden box and passed it to Huo Yao. "Can you take a look at the medicine inside?"

Huo Yao looked at the box, and her temples started throbbing. She opened it and took out the porcelain bottle. She spotted the logo beneath it right away.

She opened the cap and put it back on after taking a whiff.

Zhuo Yun hurriedly asked, "Is this medicine good for Yu? Will it help cure his ailment?"

Huo Yao's face relaxed and replaced the bottle inside the wooden box. "No, it's useless."

The shred of hope lingering on Zhuo Yun's face instantly dissipated.

Huo Yao looked at him and asked him. "Where did you get this from?"

"We bought it through special channels. It is supposed to be good for curing all kinds of rare illnesses," explained Yang Yi slowly.

Huo Yao looked a little disappointed. This medicine was genuinely excellent for many rare conditions. However, it could not cure Min Yu's long-time ailment. She contemplated for two seconds before responding. "It's good stuff for sure. But the effectiveness depends on the patients' conditions."

Huo Yao looked at Min Yu. "It can only serve as a supplement for you at best."

Yang Yi was stunned to hear the outcome.

It was rumored that this medicine hailed from the Shangguan clan. Legend had it that their family possessed extraordinary medical prowess and could cure any illness on earth. However, no one knew where they resided. Hence, all the medicine made by their family was in high demand on the market.

The medicine has passed through a few hands before they finally got their hands on it.

However, Huo Yao said it was useless for curing Min Yu.

## **Chapter 347: I Heard You Wanted To Buy Our Place**

Yang Yi looked at Huo Yao. He parted his lips and wanted to ask more. But, Min Yu's voice beat him to it.

"Nevertheless, you're still going to help, aren't you?" Min Yu looked sideways at Huo Yao. Not a shred of disappointment existed on his face when his eyes landed on her. He even looked at her a bit teasingly.

Zhuo Yun and Yang Yi's low spirits suddenly lifted a little.

Min Yu was right. Huo Yao was a topnotch apothecary, so she might be able to figure out how to treat Min Yu's illness.

Despite everyone's interest in the Shangguan clan, it was all hearsay. No one knew with certainty if they really existed.

Huo Yao looked at Min Yu expressionlessly. "Why do I feel as though you're trying to rip me off?"

She had already given him plenty of medicine for free. Now, he even wanted to keep making her do it, alongwith researching for a solution for his illness.

What was up with all these people whom she encountered recently? Why did they keep sponging off her?

Did she look like an easy target to them?

Min Yu raised his brow and gently laughed before he teased her. "Why don't you rip me off instead?"

"Yeah. Be our guest," Zhuo Yun chimed in hurriedly.

Zhuo Yun thought to himself that she was welcome to take Min Yu's assets and even body.

Yang Yi's lip twitched. He really could not bear looking at how stupid Zhuo Yun was.

"Thanks, but I'm an honest person," said Huo Yao with a fake smile as she pursed her lips.

She lowered her eyes, took out her phone to see a text message, and tapped it open. It was what her father had sent a few minutes ago.

[Don't be fooled by them. We aren't selling our place no matter how much they offer!]

Huo Yao did not quite understand what her father was driving at, so she sent him a question mark.

Before long, she received his reply.

[Our next-door neighbors are the ones who kept trying to buy our place.]

Huo Yao's lips twitched. She raised her head and looked at Min Yu, with an ambiguous smile. "I heard you wanted to buy my place."

Min Yu, Zhuo Yun, and Yang Yi went speechless.

Moments later, both Min Yu and Yang Yi looked at Zhuo Yun. Zhuo Yun covered his face after getting a cue from them. He said in a sad voice, "Erm... Miss Huo, in reality..."

A few minutes later, Huo Yao finished hearing about the events that had transpired. She went quiet for a few seconds before she said, "I don't like flashy things. If you really want to give me something, just transfer the money to me."

She paused before she added. "I will send you my bank account later. Since we are such good friends, don't be stingy."

Zhuo Yun was speechless.

She certainly did not hold back, did she!

\*

Before long, Huo Yao left Min Yu's place and went home. Huo Jinyan had been waiting for her in the living room. When she returned, he quickly asked her. "What did they want to see you for?"

Huo Yao's mind was preoccupied. She raised her head to glance at her father and replied casually. "Nothing much. I told them to stop trying to buy our place."

Huo Jinyan could not help responding quizzically. "That's all?"

He had thought about what transpired sometime ago. His daughter clearly seemed to be acquainted with them, and they certainly were not reaching out to her regarding the house.

Huo Yao was in a fix. She could not tell her father that their next-door neighbor was the tuition teacher, whom he kept insisting upon meeting. Hence, she simply ignored his sceptical gaze.

Song Ning was calling them over for dinner, so Huo Yao quickly proceeded to the dining table.

Her father looked at her from behind and felt that she was holding something back from him!

## **Chapter 348: Learn From Huo Yao**

The next day, Huo Yao came up with a list of Chinese herbs and took a picture before sending it to Old Mr. Pei.

Since everyone kept fleecing her, it did not make sense for her to refuse Old Mr. Pei's offer.

Old Mr. Pei nearly passed out when he saw the list which Huo Yao had sent him.

If it were ordinary medicine, he did not mind giving them to her for free. However, the list had all kinds of 100 year old rare medicine in there. Also, she needed them in large amounts. She was ruthless and brutal!

Despite Old Mr. Pei's anger, he told his disciple to prepare the Chinese herbs.

Since he was the one who had made the offer, he had to do it even if it cost him a limb.

After school, Huo Yao wanted to go over to Old Mr. Pei's place to make medicine and teach him how to make incense.

But the moment she left the school gate, she saw Min Yu's black car waiting outside.

Huo Yao took out her phone. Sure enough, there was a text notification from Min Yu on her phone. She walked over to the car without reading it.

The back seat's window opened to reveal Min Yu's gorgeous face. "Old Mr. Pei told me to pick you up and take you there."

Huo Yao raised her brow and glanced at him before opening the door. She slid in without saying anything though.

The engine started before long, and they were off to Old Mr. Pei's place.

Min Yu rested his arm on his knee and looked at Huo Yao lazily. "The live stream program that you were on last week, was pretty interesting."

It did not dawn on Huo Yao that he would have actually watched it. Although she was the one who recommended it to him, he honestly did not seem like the sort who would watch such a program. Hence, she could not help gazing at him thoughtfully.

Zhuo Yun looked in the rearview mirror as he drove. He chimed in. "I watched it too. I even sent you a gift."

Considering how desperate for attention Zhuo Yun was, he had to tell her this.

Min Yu glanced at him calmly.

"Miss Huo, are you going to appear on the show only once?" asked Zhuo Yun.

Huo Yao flicked her stray hair and replied softly. "I'm going to participate in it for a few episodes, but it's only because of my brother."

Zhuo Yun twitched his lips. He recalled how she appeared on the last episode and wanted to tell her she didn't look like someone who was simply there for a 'guest appearance' on the show. The airtime dedicated to her had been substantial.

"Are you planning on entering the entertainment industry?" asked Min Yu nonchalantly.

Huo Yao shook her head. "If I wanted to join it, I wouldn't have worn a mask on the show."

Min Yu laughed and said nothing.

The car arrived at the Pei residence before long.

Old Mr. Pei was waiting for them. After they entered the house, he said, "Let's eat first. We can make the medicine after that."

Old Mr. Pei's wife had passed away, and left him behind with two sons. His firstborn was working at the Apothecaries' Association in the capital. Since, his second son had a flair for medicine, he had inherited the family business.

His younger son found it inexplicable that his father was treating such a young girl with so much courtesy and enthusiasm. He had initially thought that it was because she was related to Min Yu.

Hence, he did not pay much attention to Huo Yao.

Old Mr. Pei did not explain anything to his son. Despite Huo Yao's age, she could already create S+ grade medicine. Hence, it would do her more harm than good for people to find out how talented she was.

After eating, Old Mr. Pei took Huo Yao to his pharmaceutical laboratory. He wanted to stay inside to watch her work. However, he could not leave a VIP like Min Yu waiting alone outside, so he pulled his youngest son to the side.

“You should pick up a thing or two from Huo Yao. It really depends on your talent as to how much learning you can walk away with, today,” said Old Mr. Pei to his son with a serious look on his face.

Pei Feng could not help looking at his father perplexedly. “Dad, it’s one thing for you to let an outsider in here, but you are even asking me to learn from her. Have you gone daft?”

### **Chapter 349: How Could She Surpass An Intermediate Apothecary?**

Old Mr. Pei slapped Pei Feng on his head. “It’s okay to say such things to me, but don’t do it in front of Huo Yao. She is an apothecary, and she is far more skillful than your brother, so you better take this seriously.”

Pei Feng dodged his father’s slap and said with skepticism, “She is just a teenager. How could she be better than my brother? That’s unbelievable.”

His older brother was an intermediate apothecary. If she had surpassed her brother’s skills, wouldn’t that make her an advanced apothecary?

“Anything is possible. We shouldn’t be blindly judgmental. After you have witnessed her in action, you will realise what I mean,” sneered Old Mr. Pei before he continued. “If Young Master Min wasn’t around, would I even let you assist her?”

He was absolutely naive!

Pei Feng looked at Old Mr. Pei and felt his father must be going senile for uttering such nonsense.

“Enough. Hurry up and go in. Pay attention. It’s your only chance.” Old Mr. Pei did not say anything further. After all, his son had to see it to believe it.

Pei Feng scratched his head before walking into the pharmaceutical laboratory.

Old Mr. Pei looked at him before heading to the living room.

\*

Pei Feng was initially contemptuous towards Huo Yao after entering the lab. After all, she was simply too young. However, his opinion quickly changed when he saw her preparing the medicine.

“This prescription....” Pei Feng looked at Huo Yao but failed to finish his sentence even after a long time.

Since making medicine demanded a lot of attention, Huo Yao neither looked at him nor spoke. She only lowered her head and concentrated on her task.

The medicine was for her grandmother, so it was not as complicated as Min Yu’s medicine. Also, it was much quicker to produce. Hence, she roughly took an hour to complete it.

Huo Yao exhaled deeply after placing the medicine inside a porcelain bottle.

Pei Feng was neither an apothecary nor as knowledgeable as Old Mr. Pei. His shock permeated from the fact as to how accurate Huo Yao was with the dosage. He did not scrutinize the quality of her final product. However, judging from the way she produced over 20 pills at a shot, it was probably average.

He had heard his brother saying that a novice apothecary could only make two to three pills at a go. Only advanced apothecaries could make up to five or six.

Hence, he did not buy his father's claim about how talented the young woman was.

His older brother was an intermediate apothecary at the Apothecaries' Association and enjoyed a high status.

How could a little girl compare to his older brother?

After Huo Yao put the medicine away, she picked up the ingredients that she wanted to use for teaching Old Mr. Pei how to make incense. She turned to look at Pei Feng. "Do you know how to make incense?"

Pei Feng was stunned. He shook his head. "Nope."

Huo Yao inhaled deeply. On account of the 30% discount Old Mr. Pei was giving her, she picked up the tools and said, "It's okay. I'll teach you."

Pei Feng frowned and rejected her offer instantly. "I'll pass."

He was not interested in learning this process.

Huo Yao could detect his disinterest, so she did not force him. After all, she had promised to teach Old Mr. Pei and wasn't obligated towards anyone else. Hence, she put down the things and walked out of the pharmaceutical laboratory.

Old Mr. Pei kept looking outside the living room while drinking tea with Min Yu. He seemed lost and preoccupied.

But he hurriedly walked over when he saw Huo Yao coming out. "Huo Yao, are you done already?"

Since Huo Yao had expended a lot of energy working, her face was a little pale. She nodded to Old Mr. Pei.

### **Chapter 350: An Ancient Prescription**

Pei Feng trailed behind her. He could not help pursing his lips in disdain when he caught sight of his father's eagerness. Instead, he walked straight to Min Yu, who was sitting on the main seat. He refilled Min Yu's tea cup, courteously.

Old Mr. Pei failed to notice his son's behavior. He only looked at Huo Yao and asked her. "What did you make today? Mind if I see it?"

"It's a medicine for the heart." Huo Yao handed the bottle over to Old Mr. Pei without any hesitation.

Min Yu raised his brow thoughtfully when he heard what she said.

Old Madam Yang had heart problems.

Hence, she had probably made the medicine for her grandmother.

Old Mr. Pei opened the bottle. He retrieved a pill and smelled it carefully. His eyes instantly lit up. "Sure enough, it's an ancient prescription."

Pei Feng was stunned.

An ancient prescription?

Was she concocting an ancient prescription?

Even though Pei Feng was not as keen a researcher as Old Mr. Pei, he had some medical talent, so he had worked on their family's half-written ancient prescription. However, he lost interest after he failed to figure it out.

Old Mr. Pei placed the pill back inside its bottle and returned it to Huo Yao. He suddenly felt emotional. In the past, he had never encountered any medicine made from ancient prescriptions. However, he had struck gold recently. It was a rather surreal feeling.

Could the other ancient prescription medicine he saw recently be the work of Huo Yao as well?

Old Mr. Pei looked at Huo Yao quizzically.

Huo Yao noticed the strange looks Old Mr. Pei was casting towards her. She raised her brow perplexedly. "Yes, Old Mr. Pei?"

"Have you made neurological medicine before?" asked Old Mr. Pei.

Huo Yao replied with a straight face. "Nope. I only know these ordinary ones."

Old Mr. Pei instantly felt his blood pressure shooting off the charts just by listening to her words. How could she say that?

Was this just some ordinary medicine?

If anyone in the Apothecaries' Association could produce a single S+ grade medicine, they would attain incredibly high status in the association. However, this little monster felt that her ancient prescription medicine was a regular thing.

It genuinely hurt his pride.

"Oh yes. Old Mr. Pei, I'm kind of tired today. I will write the incense formula for you. You can make it using that. I think the final product made by you would be equally effective," said Huo Yao slowly.

Old Mr. Pei was stunned. He looked at Pei Feng who was sitting next to Min Yu and trying to cosy up to him. He realized what had happened straight away.

He had managed to finally convince Huo Yao to teach him. However, he was getting old, so he wanted to give the opportunity to his younger son to learn in the hope that the Pei clan could have a brighter future.



Old Mr. Pei suddenly shook his head. This son of his certainly was a mediocre ne'er-do-well.

"Forget it. It seems that I don't have the good fortune." Old Mr. Pei smiled sadly as he shook his head.

Now that the opportunity was wasted, there were no second chances. How could he ask Huo Yao to do it again?

Huo Yao smiled without speaking.

Pei Feng frowned when he heard them. However, he quickly placed all his attention on Min Yu again.

After taking a short break, Huo Yao, Min Yu, and Zhuo Yun left the Pei residence.

Old Mr. Pei slowly walked back into the house with Pei Feng by his side.

Pei Feng said, "Dad, although I am very impressed by the young woman's accuracy in terms of dosage...", he paused before he said again, "...but I don't agree that she is superior to my brother."

Old Mr. Pei halted in his steps.