

## Pill Maker 521

### Chapter 521: Just A Powerless Girl

Zhuo Yun coughed and quickly broke the silence in the living room. "If Old Master Min really wants to stay, it's fine. I can always arrange for more people to follow him in secret."

Yang Yi asked in confusion. "What happened?"

Zhuo Yun told Yang Yi about how they got tailed on their way back to the estate and explained the current political climate to him.

Yang Yi went quiet for a few seconds before he said, "I agree that it's better to send Old Master Min home for now."

Since there was a major power vacuum and everyone was trying to get a piece of the pie, it would be dangerous for Old Master Min to stay here.

"But Old Master Min has such a bad temper..." sighed Zhuo Yun.

The moment they had a disagreement, he refused to eat dinner altogether.

"It's fine. Even though he has a bad temper, he forgets about it quickly," said Yang Yi. He paused for a few seconds and continued. "Let me find out who tailed you tonight."

"Sure. We do need to figure out who was behind it, but it's not for us. I'm more worried that they might end up setting their eyes on Miss Huo." Zhuo Yun's voice sounded somewhat serious.

She was a highly skilled apothecary. More importantly, their boss cared a lot about her, so she was precious to them.

Moreover, they no longer had to worry about Min Yu's illness with Miss Huo's treatment.

Yang Yi glanced at Zhuo Yun. "Got it."

He took the red wine back to the wine cellar.

Zhuo Yun looked at Min Yu and said, "Yu, shall we send some men to protect Miss Huo?"

Min Yu's face looked calm. A thought crossed his mind, and he shook his head. "It's fine."

A distinct look of shock rose on Zhuo Yun's face. He did not expect his boss to say that.

Zhuo Yun remained stunned for two seconds before he asked him quizzically. "Miss Huo is just a powerless girl. Are you sure?"

Min Yu picked up his chopsticks and ate dinner gracefully. After some time, his voice sounded in the room. "It's fine."

"Okay then." Zhuo Yun touched his nose and stopped probing. Although he did not understand the reason for this decision, he was certain that his boss knew what he was doing.

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Meanwhile at the Huo residence. Huo Jinyan looked puzzled when his daughter came home. He had already received news that their men had lost his daughter today.

Huo Changfeng's men first followed his daughter to the library, then she went into a private vehicle.

It was no big deal for her to use a private car, but the driver shockingly managed to throw them off, and that was quite a feat.

Ordinary folks would be incapable of losing their tail even if they had discovered them since those bodyguards were well-trained. However, the private car managed to shake the tail off and was highly skilled at counter-surveillance.

Who did his daughter get a ride from?

Huo Jinyan concealed his curiosity and asked her casually. "Did you come back by cab?"

Huo Yao placed her bag on the cabinet and replied without noticing her father's expression. "I got a ride."

"I see. Was it a friend?" asked Huo Jinyan.

"Uh huh," acknowledged Huo Yao softly as she walked to the side and poured herself a glass of warm water and took a few sips. She detected her father looking at her strangely, so she could not help narrowing her eyes. "Dad?"

## **Chapter 522: Huo Jinyan Blows His Cover**

Huo Jinyan's daughter was only interested in school. If she learned that there were bodyguards following her, she might get startled, so he decided not to probe her further.

Huo Jinyan cleared his throat and changed the subject. "Did the ad shooting go well?"

"It was okay. It will be finished after they take a few more pictures." Huo Yao held the glass with her long slender fingers. They were beautiful and appeared like a piece of art.

Since she did not look at social media, she was unaware that videos of her and her fourth older brother shooting the advertisement had gone viral and become a huge hit.

Huo Yao glanced around the living room and asked her. "Isn't Brother Xiang home yet?"

"Nope," said Huo Jinyan in clear disdain the moment she brought him up. He would rather that his son never come home.

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes. Her phone rang in her pocket. She set the glass down on the table and pulled it out to check.

It was a notification from the bank.

Huo Yao raised her brow slightly. She did not think that Old Mr. Pei's patient would send the consultation fees so quickly. She had reckoned that they would do it in a couple of days.

Huo Yao put her phone away in a good mood. "Dad, what are we having for dinner? Oh yes, where's Mom?"

"Your mother has gone out with her friends. Tell me what you want for dinner. I will tell the restaurant... I will order take out." Huo Jinyan swallowed the words 'restaurant manager'.

Huo Yao raised her brow and looked at her father. "Why don't we get something from our restaurant? The food tastes pretty good."

"Uh huh." Huo Jinyan instinctively asked her. "Which one of our restaurants do you like?"

Which one of their restaurants?

It seemed their family owned more than one dining establishment.

Huo Yao smiled ambiguously.

Huo Jinyan's heart leapt when he made eye contact with his daughter. He instantly realized that he had blown his cover. He turned his head awkwardly before turning to ask her. "How did you know we own restaurants?"

He recalled having concealed this well and had never brought up their family restaurants!

What went wrong?

"After Brother Tingrui went for his matchmaking session, we went to a members-only high-end restaurant." Huo Yao rattled out her older brother without hesitation.

A murderous aura rose from Huo Jinyan the moment he heard about this.

Huo Jinyan smirked in his heart. He had been wondering why his stupid son had not come home in such a long time. Huo Tingrui must have been staying at his own place because he was guilty of spilling out the secret.

Meanwhile, Huo Tingrui was having a meeting with his client when he suddenly sneezed.

He rubbed his itchy nose. Why did he have a feeling that someone was scolding him behind his back?

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Two days later at the Pei residence.

Pei Rong went over to the guest room first thing in the morning. He took Fang Chen's pulse and examined him.

"Young Master Pei, how is he?" asked Lin Shuwen hurriedly when Pei Rong removed his hand from Fang Chen's wrist.

Pei Rong had been feeling worried for the past two days. He did not expect that a common mild tonic would be capable of treating Fang Chen.

After he had checked the patient's pulse, he found that it was stable. Also, Fang Chen had stopped losing weight after taking the medication for two days. That meant Fang Chen's illness was now under control.

Pei Rong stood up from the chair. He pursed his lips and said unhurriedly, "His condition has stabilized."

Lin Shuwen looked excited. "Does that mean he will recover soon if we keep taking your meds?"

Pei Rong looked down slightly when he heard what Lin Shuwen said.

### **Chapter 523: Pei Rong Steals the Glory**

After some time, Pei Rong looked at Lin Shuwen calmly. "Uh huh. If everything goes smoothly, he should recover soon."

Lin Shuwen was so delighted that he almost wanted to grab Pei Rong's hands. "Thank you so much, Young Master Pei. Otherwise, he would not have recovered."

However, Fang Chen frowned as he glanced at Lin Shuwen.

Instead, Pei Rong shook his head and smiled. "I am undeserving of your gratitude. I merely made minor adjustments to Miss Huo's prescription and didn't do much."

Fang Chen's condition improved vastly after taking a decoction of Huo Yao's prescription on the first day, so Pei Rong got him to take the pills he refined based on the prescription the next day.

He was certain that pills would be more effective than a decoction.

Sure enough, Fang Chen's pulse proved his point.

Lin Shuwen thought Pei Rong was being modest, so he said, "Miss Huo might be a good physician, but the pills you made are clearly very effective."

Pei Rong straightened his back before he said, "I will refine pills using the second prescription today and send them over."

"Thank you so much for your help, Young Master Pei." Lin Shuwen sounded increasingly polite.

"You're welcome."

Before long, Pei Rong stopped talking and left the guest room.

After he left, Lin Shuwen veered his eyes and looked at Fang Chen. Just as he was about to speak, he heard Fang Chen's voice coming from the bed.

"You are starting to pander to the rich more and more." Fang Chen glanced at Lin Shuwen calmly. His skinny face was serious as usual.

Lin Shuwen clearly knew that the young lady had come up with the prescription, but he deliberately gave Pei Rong the credit.

Lin Shuwen went quiet for two seconds and said nothing as he walked to the side. He retrieved his briefcase, and took out a set of documents from it. He walked over and handed it to Fang Chen.

“Miss Huo is from a normal family. On the other hand, Pei Rong is about to become an advanced apothecary. I just felt that between the two of them, we should try and be friends with Pei Rong more.”

If Pei Rong had no intention of making strong ties with Fang Chen, he would not have made an excuse for Fang Chen to continue staying at the Pei residence. He also deliberately refined pills to help make the prescription more effective.

Pei Rong wanted to befriend Fang Chen and Fang Chen needed Pei Rong’s connections. Why should Lin Shuwen turn away from the opportunity?

Lin Shuwen was keenly aware of what Pei Rong was doing.

He knew they had the young lady to thank for Fang Chen’s recovery. But so what?

They had already paid the consultation fees to Huo Yao. If they ever crossed paths in the future, they would be strangers at best.

Fang Chen scanned through the report. It was not a very detailed report and only contained brief descriptions of Huo Yao’s complicated family tree including her foster parents, biological parents, brothers, and their occupations.

He quickly put down the report and raised his head to look at Lin Shuwen. “In a minute, go tell Old Mr. Pei that we are leaving.”

Fang Chen paused before he added. “Arrange for gifts to be sent to the Huo family.”

Lin Shuwen did not retort and agreed right away. After all, Fang Chen owed Huo Yao his life, so it was only right to send them gifts.

Lin Shuwen took the report from Fang Chen. Just as he was about to place it back in his briefcase, his eyes landed on the name of the patriarch of the Lu family, and he went into a daze. The name seemed somewhat familiar.

After going through his description, Lin Shuwen instantly recalled that Lu Corporation was one of the bidders for a city project.

### **Chapter 524: Can You Stop It?**

Lin Shuwen was recently working on the bidding of a city project, so he remembered the list of bidders well. He walked up to Fang Chen and said, “Lu Corporation is one of the bidders.”

“Really?” Fang Chen glanced at Lin Shuwen. He veered his eyes and said calmly, “Then pay close attention to their bid.”

Lin Shuwen nodded. “Got it.”

Fang Chen removed the blanket and got off the bed slowly to stand up. His homewear was very loose on his body since he was very skinny. He added instructions as he changed clothes. "There's no need to help raise their chances. Just keep them if they meet the conditions."

"Got it," acknowledged Lin Shuwen.

Fang Chen managed to rise to this position at a young age because of his fairness and impartiality.

He surprisingly told Lin Shuwen to focus on the Lu Corporation's bid and gave them a chance only on account of Miss Huo. However, it was up to the Lu Corporation to win the bid.

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Huo Yao received a text from an unknown number without a name that said: [Thanks.]

Huo Yao leaned her forehead against her hand. She did not ask who the sender was and deleted it right away after reading it.

Meng Ying was going bonkers from all the Math revision that she had been doing off late. She raised her head tiredly to see someone playing with her phone leisurely.

It was such a blinding contrast that Meng Ying angrily slammed her pen on the table in a huff. "Can you please cut it out?"

How could Huo Yao have such utter disregard for her feelings? Meng Ying felt like an exploited and abused laboratory rat.

"Huh?" Huo Yao raised her brow slightly. She looked sideways at Meng Ying and finally put her phone down. "Are you done with the test?"

Meng Ying's hands cringed in pain the moment she heard her mention the test papers. She went speechless.

Huo Yao straightened herself before she took the test paper on Meng Ying's desk. A few minutes later, she nodded. "Not bad. You have improved. It appears that all the test papers you practiced, paid off."

Meng Ying looked miserable. She had actually done a lot of test papers. Of course, it worked.

Huo Yao disregarded Meng Ying's pain and continued. "Judging from your recent performance, you have no problems dealing with the first section of the Math League questions. However, the second section consists of number theory and combinatorics and those are your weaknesses..."

Sigh! Huo Yao lived up to her name as a straight-A student. She could not stop talking the moment she talked about tests.

Huo Yao kept bombarding Meng Ying with information about the Math League, only to have Meng Ying interrupt her in a sad voice. "Can I bail on the competition?"

Huo Yao paused. She smiled at Meng Ying ambiguously.

Five seconds later, Meng Ying felt her scalp go numb from the way Huo Yao looked at her. She picked up her pen and pulled out a new set of test papers from her desk. "I will continue revising. It's an absolute joy to do test papers. I love doing them."

Meng Ying lay prone on the desk and did two more questions before she suddenly raised her head to look at Huo Yao. "Do you know how famous you have become again?"

Huo Yao did not know what she was talking about.

"Didn't you just shoot a sportswear ad? All the online video and entertainment platforms are pushing the ad the moment they load. The outfit you wore is completely sold out. You can't buy it even if you had the money."

Meng Ying bit her pen and looked completely serious. "Since you brought up No.1 Middle School in the live stream program, everyone in school is talking about it and trying to figure out your identity."

## **Chapter 525: Math League**

Huo Yao suddenly recalled the strange text that Yi Lianfan had sent a few days ago.

[Friend, your cover is about to blow.]

She had not understood what he was trying to say at that time. Was he referring to this?

Huo Yao pressed her forehead and suddenly sensed a headache coming on.

"I think there is a high chance that your cover will get blown," said Meng Ying, gloating a little.

If all the girls in Meng Ying's chat group realized that Lucky's little sister whom they adored was the top student at No.1 Middle School, they would probably lose it.

Huo Yao looked at Meng Ying expressionlessly and did not feel like talking.

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The Math League was taking place this weekend.

Huo Yao and Huo Xiang were supposed to go for the filming of 'Countryside Life With My Family' this weekend, but she had to take a leave from it.

Huo Yao arrived at school first thing in the morning on Saturday.

All the Math League participants in the country came to their school for the competition. The entire competition consisted of two parts.

Since Flying Eagle Middle School and the Education Association were in charge of the Math League this year, they came up with the questions.

Over 200 seniors from No.1 Middle School signed up for the Math League and were split into eight exam halls.

Huo Yao's candidate number was in the hundreds and was assigned to the fifth exam hall. Meng Ying was assigned to the second exam hall.

After entering the hall, the invigilator walked in with a sealed bag containing the test papers to open them in front of everyone and gave them out.

For the sake of fairness, the Education Association only sent the test papers this morning. They came completely sealed so that there would be no risk of leaking the questions.

80 minutes were provided for the first part of the competition. Huo Yao glanced at all the questions when she received them before she picked up her pen to do them.

In the field of Mathematics, the Math League was the most recognized and challenging competition. Since Flying Eagle Middle School had a hand in composing the questions, it was even harder than usual.

The Head of Math had just gotten his hands on the test paper inside the teachers' room. "The questions this year are a little tricky. The three main questions are obviously out of scope. Flying Eagle Middle School is clearly making things difficult for the students this year."

"I think so too. This is just the first part. Wouldn't the second part be even harder?" said a Math teacher solemnly.

"I reckon that barely any students can finish the contest in 80 minutes." The Head of Math placed the test paper on the table.

The Principal had said that No.1 Middle School had to surpass Flying Eagle Middle School in the Math League this year. Hence, the Math Department did some homework prior to the competition and came up with a lot of practice questions for the participants.

After seeing the questions, he realized that other than spotting three questions in the fill in the blanks section, the students had to rely on themselves for the rest of the paper.

Since these types of questions were rare and more time was needed to solve them, the Head of Math was somewhat worried.

"Now it's up to the students. Who would have expected the questions to be so tough this year? They are clearly doing this on purpose," said a Math teacher sadly.

After all, it was not just a competition. It was also a fight to win the rights to host the Math League next year, so it was a matter of ability and glory for the schools.

No.1 Middle School had lost the chance to host the Math League for three years in a row. They were hoping that they would not lose so badly this time.

### **Chapter 526: Spotted Half The Questions**

The 80 minute long first part of the competition went by quickly.

After a 20 minute break, they would proceed with the second half of the competition.



Huo Yao bumped into Meng Ying when she went to the bathroom.

The other students looked dejected, but Meng Ying looked relaxed in comparison. The moment she saw Huo Yao, she became excited. "You are incredible. You managed to spot half the questions in section A."

Huo Yao raised her brow and glanced at her before she turned on the tap unhurriedly and washed her hands. After washing her hands, she saw Meng Ying still standing there. "Are you going to the toilet?"

Meng Ying thought that she did well in the first part of the contest. She snapped out of her daze and entered the toilet. Two steps later, she stopped and turned to look at Huo Yao and said, "I'll be done right away. Give me a minute and we can go out together."

Huo Yao went out into the corridor. She could vaguely hear students talking about how hard the questions were as they walked past her.

Since the Math League was a competition, it was far tougher than an average Math test. Also, some of the questions were not within the scope of middle school and university-level Math.

Meng Ying came out quickly and said, "Let's go."

Huo Yao glanced at her. "I hope that you will still be in a good mood after you finish the second part of the competition."

Meng Ying raised her head to look calmly outside at the track. "What do I have to fear after all the help you gave me?"

If Huo Yao was able to spot so many questions in part A, she could probably do the same in part B. Meng Ying felt as though she was possessed by a straight-A student and was absolutely confident.

Huo Yao shook her head in silence.

The two of them walked side by side without turning back, so they failed to see Lu Xia as she came out from the bathroom behind them.

In reality, she was already there before Huo Yao entered the toilet, so she automatically closed the door without coming out when she realized Huo Yao's presence

Lu Xia did not want to see Huo Yao. She was afraid that the sight of Huo Yao would trigger her bitterness after all the time she spent suppressing it.

After Meng Ying came in, she overheard what she said about Huo Yao being spot on for half the questions in part A and was stunned.

All this time, she felt suspicious about Huo Yao after she came back from the countryside. However, every time she tested Huo Yao, she felt confused.

The moment she heard their conversation, suspicions rose in her heart once more.

Lu Xia watched with a worried look in her eyes from behind as Huo Yao left.

Before long, the second part of the competition started.

The second half of the test was set at the same level as international Math competitions, so its scope was even wider and out-of-scope questions were included. It consisted of 180 marks and the exam duration was 150 minutes.

Huo Yao picked up the test paper and went through it before a rare look of seriousness appeared on her face. Sure enough, Math League was the most challenging competition amongst all subjects.

Judging from the four open-ended questions, it was clearly harder than even the International Quiz Contest.

Even though it was just the Math League, the test paper's difficulty was set at the international level. Was the organizer not making it too obvious?

Huo Yao recalled what the Principal said about the importance of the competition as she did the test paper.

The Math League was not solely a competition. It was a matter of glory now.

One and a half hours later, Huo Yao finished the last question in the paper.

### **Chapter 527: Second Part Of the Competition Was A Blow To Their Pride**

Shortly after Huo Yao put her pen down, she heard the invigilator coughing from overhead. She raised her head to look at him.

The invigilator coughed again before he walked over with his hands behind him slowly and reminded Huo Yao solemnly. "There's still an hour left for the competition. Those of you who aren't done have to watch the time. Those who are done should check your work carefully."

The invigilator was the supervisor of the Math Department.

He knew that Huo Yao was the champion of the International Contest, so he wanted to find out how good she was in Math.

Would she perform unexpectedly like she did the last time?

Ever since the second half of the competition started, he would walk down from the podium every now and then to go over to Huo Yao. He was stunned after seeing the shocking speed at which she completed her work. However, he was worried that she was careless, so he reminded everyone to check their answers.

However, his reminder made most of the contestants feel anxious. After all, they were only halfway through when someone had finished the test paper.

That was simply shocking!

Although Huo Yao was confident of her answers, she did not cause a mass panic by submitting her script early. Instead, she lay prone on the desk until the time was up before she walked out of the exam hall.

After the second half of the contest ended, the contestants' look of disappointment after attempting part A only intensified. 80% of the contestants had failed to finish it.

Huo Yao waited for Meng Ying at the banyan tree next to the track.

Her black jumper and torn jeans were paired with a long khaki jacket that accentuated her height. She placed her hands casually in her pockets and stood with her head lowered. She kept tapping her toes gently in a languid manner.

Yi Lianfan walked over to Huo Yao and did not notice anything different with her expression as he asked. "Waiting for someone?"

"Uh huh." Huo Yao raised her head when she heard his voice. She took the initiative to ask him. "How did you fare?"

"Part A was okay, but I have never seen questions like those in Part B, so I might not do as well as I hoped," said Yi Lianfan.

Although he did not expect to do as well, he was not disappointed. His performance probably would not be terrible.

Huo Yao nodded. "The paper was out of scope, so most people can't expect to do well."

Yi Lianfan glanced at her quietly. He did not think she was trying to console him.

"What about you? What do you think about the questions?"

Huo Yao shrugged as she said airily, "I don't want to hurt your pride."

Yi Lianfan was speechless. "..."

Thanks a lot there. She had already hurt his pride plenty.

"Bye." Yi Lianfan felt somewhat stifled.

Huo Yao pulled her hand from her pocket and waved to him.

Meng Ying came walking over shortly after Yi Lianfan had left. She looked miserable and it was clear that she did not do well.

Huo Yao could not help laughing as she prodded her chubby cheeks. "Was the test a blow to your confidence?"

Meng Ying turned her head to dodge someone's treacherous hands. "No one could've possibly done those questions in Part B. There were only four questions, but I didn't do two of them. I just wrote two answers blindly."

Huo Yao's lips twitched. "I feel so bad for you."

Meng Ying let out a long sigh.

She looked at Huo Yao and wanted to ask how she did. Considering what a prodigy Huo Yao was, she decided to keep her mouth shut.

If she asked, it would only hurt her own feelings.

### **Chapter 528: I Just Need To Show My Face**

Huo Yao patted Meng Ying's shoulder and said without any inhibition, "Come on. I am feeling generous today, so I will buy you lunch."

It was already 12:00 pm when they finished the second part of the competition.

Meng Ying quietly followed behind Huo Yao. They walked out of the school campus, and hailed a cab. Huo Yao gave the address to the driver.

After they got off the car and Meng Ying saw the restaurant name, her legs froze. She automatically grabbed Huo Yao's arm.

Huo Yao turned her head and raised her brows slightly. "Yes?"

Meng Ying smiled uneasily. "This restaurant is strictly members-only and needs reservations. D-did you make a reservation?"

"Nope." Huo Yao pulled some stray hair behind her ear. Meng Ying's face cracked.

Huo Yao pursed her lips and smiled mesmerizingly. "I just need to show my face."

Meng Ying went speechless. "..."

She was so shameless.

The moment Huo Yao entered through the door, the restaurant manager noticed his boss's daughter coming in. In an instant, the seriousness on his face was replaced with a warm, harmless smile and he walked over to Huo Yao unhurriedly.

"Young Mistress... how do you do?" said the restaurant manager as he bowed.

Huo Yao nodded.

Just as she was about to ask if they had seats, the restaurant manager said, "I have already saved you a booth and a private room. Would you like to dine on the first floor or second floor?"

Huo Yao glanced at the restaurant manager quizzically. From the sound of it, he seemed to be expecting her for lunch.

She narrowed her eyes before she turned to ask Meng Ying. "Where do you want to sit?"

Meng Ying was a little surprised. She stammered while replying. "Erm... E-either one works. I-I don't have a preference."

Huo Yao pondered before she said, "We will take the second floor."

"Okay. Allow me to show you the way." The restaurant manager asked them to follow him in a polite manner.

After entering the private room, he served them tea and took their orders before he left the room.

Huo Yao picked up the teapot unhurriedly and poured tea for Meng Ying. Meng Ying finally composed herself.

“This restaurant is...”

Huo Yao picked up her teacup and took a sip before she interrupted. “Don’t ask. What can I say? I just have a really useful face.”

Meng Ying went quiet.

Never mind. She ought to just shut up and quietly freeload off Huo Yao.

Since she was Young Mistress Huo, the kitchen prepared the food very quickly and all the dishes were served in about 20 minutes.

Meng Ying used her phone to take a picture of the spread on the table and sent it to her social media account.

Initially, she wanted to secretly take a photo of Huo Yao. However, Huo Yao detected her movement before she even framed a shot. She ended up only managing to take a picture of Huo Yao’s hand on the table.

Shortly after she posted it online, a lot of people liked her photo. Most of the people were not talking about the fine spread. Instead, they were talking about Huo Yao’s hand.

Huo Yao had beautiful slender hands that looked like a piece of art.

Meng Ying held her phone and sighed as she ate. She certainly lived up to her name as Sister Big Shot. People were more interested in her hand than the food.

Huo Yao was not in the habit of using her phone while she ate. She raised her head and glanced at Meng Ying before she shook her head without saying a word.

After Meng Ying finished replying to the last comment, she closed her social media. A second later, a red dot appeared on her social media application. Her fingertips paused before she tapped on it to see that a cousin had liked her photo as well.

He also sent a comment: [The hand looks beautiful.]

## **Chapter 529: Meng Ying Felt As Though She Was Walking On Air**

Even though most of her friends said the same thing about the photo, Meng Ying was surprised.

Her cousin had never praised anyone before.

Meng Ying touched her nose. She recalled wanting to introduce Huo Yao to him, so she tapped on her chat group with her cousin and sent him a text.

[My classmate looks even better in person.]

After Meng Ying sent the message, she saw her cousin composing a message, so she did not turn off the screen and waited for him to reply.

Two minutes later, she could see that her cousin had stopped composing a text, but she had yet to receive a message from him.

After feeling puzzled for a few seconds, she typed: [Hello?]

Meng Ying ended up seeing a red exclamation mark and a system notification that said the message was sent but rejected by the recipient.

Meng Ying was clueless. “???”

What was going on? How could her cousin have blacklisted her?

Everything was normal when she texted him earlier!

Meng Ying was at a loss and had no idea what was going on.

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Before long, the two of them finished lunch.

The restaurant manager even asked for Meng Ying’s phone number to register a VIP account for her. He beamed brightly the entire time and was extremely respectful.

It was all a blur when Meng Ying became a restaurant VIP which was a grade higher than being a normal member. She felt as though she was walking on air.

She had read online about this restaurant. People could only get membership if they hit an annual spending limit. However, she was given a VIP card...

After Huo Yao received a call from her father standing by the roadside, she turned to look at Meng Ying. “Are you okay going back on your own?”

Meng Ying looked at Huo Yao and hurriedly shook her head. “It’s fine. Go ahead. I can hail a cab from here.”

Huo Yao placed her phone back in her pocket. “Okay.”

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30 minutes later at the Huo residence.

Huo Yao spotted a pair of shoes at the door when she entered. She paused for two seconds before she changed into her slippers unhurriedly.

After entering the living room, she caught sight of Lin Shuwen. Huo Yao narrowed her eyes.

Her flawless face became a little cold before she composed herself. “Mom, Dad, I’m back.”

Song Ning and Huo Jinyan raised their heads and greeted their daughter in unison before Huo Jinyan said, “Mr. Lin is here to see you.”

Lin Shuwen stood up and looked at Huo Yao with a gentle smile on his face. "Miss Huo, hello."

Huo Yao's eyes landed on Lin Shuwen calmly. Her voice clearly made it sound like he was unwelcome. "Yes?"

Lin Shuwen noticed that Huo Yao seemed unhappy and slight anger was emanating from her.

Lin Shuwen felt a little surprised in his heart and did not expect a normal middle school student to have such a powerful aura.

Lin Shuwen composed himself. He adjusted his glasses and coughed as he pointed at a pile of beautifully packaged gifts on the coffee table and said, "Mr. Fang sent these gifts to thank you for..."

Before Lin Shuwen finished his words, Huo Yao frowned and interrupted him. "It's fine. You have already paid the consultation fee, so you didn't have to come by personally to thank me."

She was unsurprised that he would visit. After all, Old Mr. Pei mentioned that the patient had a high status. All it took was a simple investigation to find out where she lived.

However, she did not appreciate the unannounced visit.

### **Chapter 530: Who Was He?**

Lin Shuwen went stiff for a moment and even his eyes were dazed. Fortunately, he was a resilient man. Since Huo Yao did not like his presence here, he swallowed the perfunctory words he was about to say and said, "Sorry for coming over unannounced."

Lin Shuwen did not sound displeased at all. Instead, he sounded sincerely apologetic.

If anyone else spoke to him this way, he would have told the guy to get lost, but Huo Yao was different and he could not afford to offend her.

A look of shock rose in Song Ning and Huo Jinyan's eyes.

From the moment Lin Shuwen entered the door, the two of them could detect that he was no ordinary man. The powerful aura of a government official radiated from him. Even though he did his best to suppress his persona and sounded courteous, they could detect it.

Hence, it was very strange that a man like him would apologize to their daughter.

Song Ning wanted to say something, but Huo Jinyan patted her hand and glanced at her. He shook his head slightly and gestured to her to stay quiet.

Song Ning leaned back into the couch.

Huo Yao did not notice her parents' expression. She continued looking at Lin Shuwen as she said, "If you need me, you can just call me."

Lin Shuwen instantly knew what Huo Yao was driving at.

Huo Yao was probably unhappy that he had disturbed her parents.

Lin Shuwen sighed in his heart. Fortunately, he did not tell her parents much when he came. He hadn't mentioned that she treated a patient. Considering Fang Chen's special identity, it would be safer to keep his condition a secret.

"I should have called before I came. I'm so sorry, Miss Huo," apologized Lin Shuwen again politely.

"Uh huh," acknowledged Huo Yao softly. Since they were at home and her parents were looking at her, she suppressed her coldness.

She had to keep up her sweet and obedient image at home.

Lin Shuwen's tense face relaxed a little when he detected a change in Huo Yao's attitude.

He might be patronizing towards Pei Rong, but he knew he had to treat the young lady politely since she was helping in treating Fang Chen.

Huo Yao raised her hand to check the time before she asked him. "Anything else, Mr. Lin?"

She was clearly telling him to leave.

"That's all. I only came to send you the gifts," replied Lin Shuwen. He paused for two seconds before he looked at Huo Yao. "Can you find the time to come by and check on him in a couple of days?"

Huo Yao seemed receptive to his request. "Sure."

Lin Shuwen heaved a sigh of relief and said, "We can fix a time over the phone. In that case, I shall take my leave."

He turned to nod to Huo Jinyan and Song Ning slightly before he quickly left.

Out of courtesy, Huo Jinyan stood up and saw Lin Shuwen out the door.

After he left, Song Ning waved at her daughter and patted on the seat beside her, gesturing to Huo Yao to sit down.

Huo Yao pressed her forehead before she walked over and sat down.

"Exactly who was that? Why did he come over specially to thank you?" asked Song Ning.

The man merely said he was here to thank Huo Yao but did not divulge any details.

She overheard her daughter talking about consultation fees but did not know what the fee was for.