

Pill Maker 561

Chapter 561: A Little Something From The Lu Family

Lin Shuwen's face instantly looked annoyed when he saw what they were doing so blatantly.

Liang Jun kept studying Lin Shuwen's reaction. The moment he saw the anger on Lin Shuwen's face, his heart skipped a beat. He promptly caught on that He Xiaoman was trying to give Lin Shuwen a bank card.

Liang Jun almost passed out in fear. He did not expect Lu Hongwen to attempt to bribe Lin Shuwen.

Everyone in the municipal administration was aware of Fang Chen and Lin Shuwen's huge distaste for bribery, so the Lu family was as good as ruining their company by doing so.

Initially, he felt the Lu family must be connected to Lin Shuwen. Otherwise, Lin Shuwen would not have told them to pay extra attention to their bid. Hence, Liang Jun decided to do Lu Hongwen the favor when Lu Hongwen approached him.

Earlier on when Lu Hongwen was asking if Lin Shuwen would stand them up, Liang Jun thought Lu Hongwen was trying to make Liang Jun look good by pretending to be unacquainted with Lin Shuwen.

It turned out that Lu Hongwen and Lin Shuwen were not acquainted at all.

No wonder Lin Shuwen mistook him for Lu Hongwen.

Liang Jun felt that Lu Hongwen was trying to kill him. He quickly looked at Lu Hongwen and his wife and tried to stop them, but they failed to notice his cue.

Lu Hongwen had already taken the card and handed it to Lin Shuwen. "Secretary Lin, here is a little something from us."

Liang Jun turned and did not dare look at Lin Shuwen. In his heart, he felt that they were done for!

The moment Lu Hongwen took out the bank card, he had not only ruined Lu Corporation's hopes for winning the bid but also wrecked his career since he had arranged this meeting.

Even if Liang Jun did not accept their bribe, Lin Shuwen was bound to think that he was corrupt.

Lin Shuwen looked at Lu Hongwen expressionlessly. He was no longer able to continue being polite. He scoffed and said, "Mr. Lu, did you think that I agreed to meet for the sake of the card?"

Lu Hongwen had an ominous feeling when Lin Shuwen suddenly looked so angry.

Lu Hongwen nearly dropped the card as he hurriedly explained. "Secretary Lin, that was not what I meant..."

Lin Shuwen raised his hand in mid-air to interrupt him. "I don't care what you are trying to do. This meeting ends now. I hope you won't try to pull such stunts again."

The moment Lin Shuwen finished his sentence, he turned to leave the private room. He halted briefly as he walked past Liang Jun and glanced at him sideways. Just a single look left Liang Jun breaking out in cold sweat.

Lin Shuwen was the mayor's right-hand man, so Liang Jun was done for.

However, Lu Hongwen remained confused. "Deputy Director Liang, please help me explain things to Secretary Lin..."

Liang Jun smiled in contempt when he watched Lin Shuwen walk to the door and quickly disappear.

He turned his head to look at Lu Hongwen and scoffed. "Explain? What is there to explain? Should I try to explain that you weren't attempting to bribe him?"

Liang Jun glanced at the bank card in Lu Hongwen's hand. "Did you think that money could solve all your problems? Before you offered him money, didn't you find out what he was like?"

Lu Hongwen's face instantly paled when he heard what Liang Jun said.

He was not well connected enough to learn about Lin Shuwen's habits. He simply thought that he ought to take the opportunity to bribe Lin Shuwen if he wanted to win the bid. Otherwise, why else would Lin Shuwen even agree to meet him?

Liang Jun inhaled deeply. "You will be the death of me. Lu Corporation can forget about winning the bid."

Chapter 562: This Meeting Was Ruined

Lu Hongwen staggered on his feet when he heard what Liang Jun said. He had harbored hopes that Lu Corporation could rise through the ranks to end up as one of the top ten businesses in the city emerging as a dark horse.

Why did his hopes end up getting dashed?

Why did things end up this way?

Lu Hongwen did not get it. He grabbed Liang Jun's arm and asked him. "Didn't you say that your superiors wanted to pay extra attention to Lu Corporation? Didn't you say we had a high chance of winning the bid? How did things turn this way?"

Lu Hongwen had grabbed Liang Jun so hard that it hurt him. Liang Jun frowned as he pulled his arm back. "How would I know?"

A thought crossed Liang Jun's mind, so he looked at Lu Hongwen and asked him. "Do you really have no connections to Secretary Lin?"

The moment Lu Hongwen heard this, he was caught by surprise. He instinctively said, "Would I need your help if I were connected to him?"

Liang Jun had told Lu Hongwen that his superiors wanted extra attention to be paid to Lu Corporation's bid. He said that Lu Corporation had a high chance of winning it. Otherwise, Lu Hongwen would not have gotten so hopeful.

Liang Jun frowned even harder. "Why would he tell us to pay attention to your bid if you were unrelated to him?"

He had inadvertently heard that the secretary had given orders to pay extra attention to Lu Corporation, so he decided to get close to Lu Hongwen.

Although Lu Hongwen acted like he was unacquainted with Lin Shuwen, he merely thought Lu Hongwen did not want to reveal his connections, so he did not probe him. He simply went about quietly making arrangements for the meeting.

He had remained unpromoted for years and needed an opportunity, so he acted dumb when Lu Hongwen insisted that he was unacquainted with the secretary.

From the looks of it, he was really a fool to do this!

"I have no idea. I really don't know Secretary Lin. None of my relatives and board members have spoken to him before either." Lu Hongwen felt puzzled by Liang Jun's questions when he kept asking if he knew the secretary.

Liang Jun saw the expression on Lu Hongwen's face and realized that he was not joking. Had this happened out of sheer misunderstanding?

At that moment, Liang Jun was incapable of figuring out what went wrong. Even if he could, it was impossible to save his career.

If Lu Hongwen had not offered a bribe, he could wriggle out of it regardless of the matter.

However... Liang Jun's shoulders slumped. He was filled with regret and said nothing as he turned to walk out of the private room. He looked utterly depressed from behind.

Lu Hongwen watched as Liang Jun left. It finally occurred to him that this meeting was ruined.

He let go of the bank card and it fell on the carpet.

He Xiaoman was shocked by the events that had transpired. She stood by the side incapable of maintaining her poise. She cautiously walked up to her husband and bent over to pick up the card before she said, "Honey..."

Lu Hongwen instantly looked furious when he heard He Xiaoman's voice and recalled that it was her wise idea to bribe the secretary.

Lu Hongwen turned to look at He Xiaoman with his eyes bereft of warmth.

He flung the proposal in his hand on her face. "Look what you have done! Are you happy now?"

Chapter 563: Was There Some Mistake In The Investigation?

He Xiaoman's face was cut by the corners of the pages of the proposal. Despite the pain, she did not dare to make a peep and swallowed her pain.

The private room door was open and the service staff was standing at the door, ready to send the food in when they witnessed the scene. They promptly halted in their steps and were hesitant about entering.

Things looked extremely awkward.

He Xiaoman was a proud woman. The moment the wait staff saw what happened, it felt as though she was caught naked.

She might have to tolerate her husband's temper, but she certainly did not have to do the same towards outsiders. "Who said you could come in? Don't you know how to knock before entering?"

She had forgotten about pressing the service bell a few minutes ago and asking for food to be sent in.

The wait staff was well-trained, and had seen a fair share of patrons like her. They calmly walked out of the room without saying a word.

**

After Lin Shuwen left Lu Hongwen's private room, he headed to the bathroom before going back to Old Mr. Pei's private room.

He barely spent ten minutes with Lu Hongwen, so no one took notice when he went back to the private room.

However, he had a strange look on his face. After he sat down next to Fang Chen, Fang Chen looked at him sideways and asked him softly. "What happened?"

Lin Shuwen was still thinking about the disgusting encounter he had with Huo Yao's foster parents. Despite his effort to compose himself, he could not stay quiet, so he replied to Fang Chen. "I have just seen Miss Huo's foster parents."

He had deliberately kept his voice down so that the conversation was only audible to Fang Chen.

Fang Chen looked surprised. He did not know about the meeting. "Did something happen?"

Lin Shuwen sighed deeply and said, "I don't know what to say! Miss Huo certainly doesn't resemble her foster parents."

Judging by her poise, she did not seem like she was brought up by the Lu family.

Was there some mistake in the investigation?

Lin Shuwen furtively raised his head to glance at Huo Yao sitting across from him as he contemplated over the matter. He recalled her warning and promptly suppressed his urge to enquire.

Fang Chen glanced at Lin Shuwen. It must be really bad if even his secretary was reacting this way.

Fang Chen cleared his throat and did not probe. Instead, he said calmly, "Fine. Have your lunch. We can talk later."

Lin Shuwen acknowledged him before he veered his eyes.

Huo Yao raised her eyes and glanced in Lin Shuwen's direction before she quickly looked away and continued to eat.

The service staff came in with some exquisitely arranged fruit platters when they were almost done eating. These happened to be rare high-end fruit.

After removing the empty dishes on the lazy susan, two waiters placed the fruit on the table. They casually rotated the fruit in front of Huo Yao before they left.

Before they left, they even glanced at Huo Yao.

Huo Yao raised her head to look at them when she detected their looks, but she merely caught a glance of them turning to leave.

From the moment they started serving the food, it felt like *déjà vu*, but she was unable to recall when she had encountered a similar situation previously.

Min Yu noticed her wrapped in thought as he gave her some fruit. So, he asked her casually. "What's on your mind?"

Huo Yao snapped out of her thoughts and shook her head. "Nothing."

Min Yu did not go on probing and went on to pour himself a cup of tea.

Fang Chen stood up and walked over in Min Yu's direction.

Min Yu glanced at him with his cool eyes as he considered whether to make conversation with Fang Chen or not.

Chapter 564: Mark His Territory

Fang Chen briefly paused as his eyes swept over Min Yu and nodded politely before he pulled out the empty seat next to Huo Yao and sat down. "Miss Huo."

Min Yu stayed quiet and his expression froze for a second.

After Huo Yao was done eating the fruit, she turned sideways to look at Fang Chen. She wiped her hand with a napkin, and said, "Let me take your pulse."

"Take your time." Fang Chen smiled. All the usual severity on his face disappeared and he looked placid.

He rolled up his sleeves slightly to reveal his skinny wrist with all its veins clearly visible as he placed it on the table with his palm facing upwards.

Huo Yao placed her fingers on his wrist. She examined his pulse cautiously for a few seconds with the air of a doctor before she pulled her hand back and said unhurriedly, "You are recovering well. Take my prescription for one more week before you stop."

Fang Chen nodded. "Got it. Thanks!"

During this time, he clearly felt a lot better. He was unsure whether his mind was playing tricks on him, but he did not feel as agitated as he did when he took Pei Rong's pills.

"You're welcome." Huo Yao waved her hand graciously. Min Yu suddenly gave her a tissue.

Huo Yao turned to look at Min Yu quizzically.

Min Yu kept a straight face as he looked at Huo Yao somewhat nonchalantly and said calmly, "Wipe your hands."

Huo Yao was clueless regarding his sudden behavior.

Min Yu stuffed the tissue into the hand which she took Fang Chen's pulse with.

His cool fingertips brushed across the palm of Huo Yao's hand. Even though it happened only for a brief moment, her hand could not help trembling.

She coughed and lowered her head to wipe her hands with the tissue without refusing him.

Min Yu's lips curved upwards slightly. He leaned into the backrest lazily and extended his arm to place it against Huo Yao's backrest in a casual move.

Even though he did not look at Fang Chen, it was clear that he was laying claim to Huo Yao.

It finally dawned on Fang Chen what Min Yu was trying to do as he watched them the entire time. Fang Chen's expression froze.

All she did was take his pulse. Did Min Yu have to react so strongly?

Pei Feng had been listening to Huo Yao and Fang Chen's conversation. Before Huo Yao arrived at the clubhouse, he had already taken Fang Chen's pulse.

He was incapable of detecting anything amiss with Fang Chen's pulse, from the day Fang Chen approached his family for treatment up till now.

If he had not witnessed the change in Fang Chen's health firsthand, he would not have realized that Fang Chen was plagued with illness.

Even though he hated to admit that a young woman like Huo Yao was capable of having such high medical skills, Fang Chen had her to thank for saving him.

Pei Feng glanced at Huo Yao. He wondered how she detected Fang Chen's illness by simply examining his pulse.

Despite his curiosity, he did not dare probe. After all, he was incapable of respecting her like an elder as his father did. He could not bring himself to mess up the hierarchy of seniority by calling her a master.

Pei Feng snapped out of his thoughts. He recalled a matter, so he got out of his chair, and went up to Fang Chen. He pulled out a bottle from his pocket and proceeded to deliberately hand Fang Chen the bottle right in front of Huo Yao.

Fang Chen was caught by surprise when he saw the bottle.

Chapter 565: Pei Rong's Pills

Fang Chen did not extend his hand to take the bottle.

Pei Feng placed the bottle on the table and said, "Before my older brother left, he refined some pills for you."

Pei Feng did not intend on giving Fang Chen the medicine in front of Huo Yao. However, Fang Chen's attitude towards Huo Yao left a sour taste in his mouth.

Fang Chen sought treatment from the Pei family and even took the pills that Pei Rong had painstakingly refined. Even though Huo Yao came up with the diagnosis and prescription, those were the only two things she did after taking his pulse.

Moreover, she had collected consultation fees from Fang Chen without following up, so there was no reason why she was the only person he felt indebted to. Who did he think the Pei family was?

She could not steal the entire credit for curing him. After all, his older brother was about to become an advanced apothecary, so the value of his pills naturally rose with the tide. It was no exaggeration to call them priceless.

Fang Chen frowned slightly. Huo Yao had treated him, but Pei Feng had suddenly offered him medicine. Any way Fang Chen looked at it, Pei Feng was up to no good.

Fang Chen glanced at Old Mr. Pei. Wasn't Old Mr. Pei very close to Huo Yao?

Was Pei Feng trying to make his father look bad?

Fang Chen turned him down tactfully. "I have no use for it now that Miss Huo is treating me."

A look of disbelief emerged on Pei Feng's face. It was completely unanticipated that Fang Chen would turn down Pei Rong's medicine.

Pei Feng was stunned for two seconds before he composed himself and reminded him. "Mr. Fang, my brother specially made this medicine for you..."

Before Pei Feng finished his sentence, Old Mr. Pei stood up from his seat nearby. He scolded Pei Feng furiously. "Enough. What are you trying to do?"

Old Mr. Pei was so mad that he trembled with disappointment in his eyes.

He had arranged lunch today with the Pei family's future progress in mind. More importantly, he wanted to make peace with Huo Yao.

Pei Feng's disdain for Huo Yao time and time again certainly did not escape Old Mr. Pei's eyes. Now that Huo Yao had managed to treat Fang Chen, he thought it would finally dawn on his son how narrow-minded he was.

Instead, Pei Feng failed to detect the problem and convinced Pei Rong to take his side and make things difficult for Huo Yao as well.

Fang Chen was cured by Huo Yao, but Old Mr. Pei's son suddenly wanted to give him medicine. Old Mr. Pei glanced at Huo Yao. They had a rather pleasant lunch today, but just when things were winding down on a good note, Pei Feng ruined everything.

Old Mr. Pei already had high blood pressure to begin with, and now his head was buzzing badly.

He inhaled deeply and suppressed his surging blood. He said in a stern voice, "Put the meds away this instant. Stop embarrassing yourself."

Pei Feng looked at his father sheepishly. Since his father looked genuinely angry and upset, he quickly closed his mouth even though he wanted to retort.

He reached his hand out to retrieve the medicine, but Huo Yao beat him to it.

Pei Feng frowned.

Huo Yao took the pill bottle, opened the cap, and took a whiff. Before long, she quickly put the cap back on. Despite her expressionless face, her eyes felt very cold.

Sure enough, it was concocted using the second prescription that she wrote for Fang Chen.

Chapter 566: Stealing Prescription

Huo Yao placed the pill bottle back on the table. She looked sideways at Pei Feng and smiled. "Did you make these pills using my prescription?"

Pei Feng felt so uneasy when Huo Yao made eye contact with him, so he forgot about reaching for the pills.

He knew that his older brother had made these pills using Huo Yao's prescription.

So what? It did not matter as long as it could treat the patient.

The moment Old Mr. Pei heard this, his eyes hastily landed on Huo Yao's face. Two seconds later, he looked at the bottle of medicine on the table.

He swiftly hurried over and did not even stop when he walked into a chair. Lin Shuwen was so anxious that he swiftly stood up to help him out of concern. He was worried that the old man might fall.

Old Mr. Pei failed to notice Lin Shuwen's actions. Instead, he walked over to the pills, picked up the medicine, and opened the cap to smell its contents.

Although he was not an apothecary, he was well versed in medical knowledge, so he almost instantly recognized its ingredients.

Old Mr. Pei thought about how Pei Rong kept staying in the pharmaceutical laboratory working nonstop. He merely said he was doing some research when Old Mr. Pei had asked him and did not give much detail. Old Mr. Pei had stopped probing him after a point.

It turned out he was concocting medicine using Huo Yao's prescription.

Old Mr. Pei leaned against the edge of the table and did not know what to say for the first time in his life. If it was just simple research, it did not matter. Now it was clearly more than research. He ended up stealing Huo Yao's prescription and claimed it as his own.

Old Mr. Pei swayed and failed to keep his grip on the bottle, so it fell onto the ground with a clang and its contents spilled everywhere.

Pei Feng hurriedly stood up and walked over to Old Mr. Pei. Before he uttered a word, Old Mr. Pei slapped him. "You are a disgrace! An absolute disgrace!"

Old Mr. Pei shook his head with his voice somewhat hoarse and his face bleak and disappointed.

Why did the Pei family end up with such despicable people?

Pei Feng did not dare to speak. Initially, he wanted to just give Fang Chen the medicine in front of Huo Yao. He did not foresee Fang Chen turning down his offer or Huo Yao checking the pills.

The situation became really awkward.

Huo Yao sighed. She picked up the pill bottle and placed it on the table.

It was no big deal to use the prescription for pills. However, the pill refinement skills were really indescribably bad.

Min Yu glanced at Huo Yao. Even though she looked completely normal, he could sense that she was losing her patience.

Min Yu glanced at Pei Feng with his eyes cold. Old Mr. Pei was the only person in the Pei family who actually had some talent.

Min Yu slowly stood up and casually placed his hand on Huo Yao's shoulder. Huo Yao turned her head sideways to look at him.

"Didn't you want to go to the library?" said Min Yu calmly.

Huo Yao blinked before she nodded. "Okay. Let's go."

Min Yu acknowledged before he turned to look at the old man. "Old Mr. Pei, see you around."

None of them brought up the origin of the pills on account of Old Mr. Pei.

Old Mr. Pei looked at Huo Yao with both hands leaning on the table as he struggled to steady himself. He no longer had the cheek to keep her, so he said with great difficulty, "... Okay."

Min Yu took Huo Yao's jacket from the clothes rack and handed it to her. Before long, they walked out of the private room together.

Although they had said nothing, Old Mr. Pei was acutely aware there was no way his boys could mend ties with Huo Yao after this.

Chapter 567: You Might Not Know This, But She's An Apothecary

Only Fang Chen and Lin Shuwen remained in the private room and the atmosphere was getting a little awkward.

Fang Chen had no intention of lingering on any further, so he stood up and nodded politely to Old Mr. Pei and Pei Feng. He bade farewell to them before gesturing to Lin Shuwen to leave with him.

Before long, Fang Chen and Lin Shuwen left the dining room as well.

Old Mr. Pei could no longer keep standing up straight after everyone had left and stumbled into his seat with his face ghastly pale.

Pei Feng wanted to support his father, but Old Mr. Pei pushed him aside. "Dad..."

Old Mr. Pei sat for a long time until he suddenly laughed gently. "Pei Feng, oh Pei Feng. You really shouldn't have done that today."

Pei Feng clenched his fingers slightly.

Before Pei Feng responded, his father spoke once more. "You might not know this, but Little Master Huo is an S class apothecary."

Despite Old Mr. Pei's gentle voice, his words sent a crushing weight on Pei Feng's heart. He stared at his father in disbelief. "H-how can that be? How could she reach such great heights at such a young age?"

Old Mr. Pei's eyes landed on the carpet and said, "Anything is possible. Just because you haven't seen it with your own eyes, doesn't mean such talent doesn't exist."

Pei Feng got impatient every time he brought up Huo Yao's apothecary skills owing to his bias towards her tender age, so he had stopped mentioning it altogether.

There was no point in saying it now.

Old Mr. Pei placed his hands on his knees and slowly stood up. He did not even look at Pei Feng. Instead, he walked out of the private room with his back slightly stooped with a hint of sadness.

Pei Feng watched from behind as his father left the private room. He could sense his throat going dry suddenly. Was she an S class apothecary? Even the Apothecaries' Association's chairman only achieved such an accomplishment in the last two years, right?

It seemed completely inconceivable for an 18 year old girl to be an S class apothecary.

Pei Feng clenched his fists. It was impossible to describe how he felt at this moment. After all, it made no sense for his father to lie to him about this. Pei Feng suddenly regretted being judgmental about Huo Yao, thinking about this.

**

Huo Yao and Min Yu walked out of the private room together.

Huo Yao wanted to use the bathroom, so she looked at Min Yu and said, "I need to use the ladies. Why don't you wait for me downstairs?"

"Sure." Min Yu glanced at her and nodded.

Huo Yao glanced around before she quickly found the sign pointing to the toilet and made her way to it.

Min Yu veered his eyes and headed downstairs unhurriedly.

Min Yu headed to the lounge area after he arrived at the main hall. He pulled out his phone from his coat pocket and texted Zhuo Yun.

Since he was gorgeous and had a powerful aura, he garnered a lot of attention just by standing there.

He Xiaoman was not any different and naturally took notice of Min Yu since she was waiting at the lounge, as well.

The moment she saw him, she found him to be familiar. After some thought, she quickly recalled where she had seen him before.

Over half a year ago, she vaguely remembered seeing him living next door to her mother in her hometown. She occasionally had to go home since her foster daughter was living there, so she happened to see him a couple of times.

Also, he had stunning good looks, so he left quite an impression on her.

It did not dawn on He Xiaoman that she would bump into someone from her hometown at this high-end clubhouse. She scrutinized him carefully. His every movement looked elegant and dignified. His aura was far more powerful than an average rich man's son.

From the looks of it, he did not resemble a country bumpkin even in the slightest.

He Xiaoman pursed her lips and quickly veered her eyes away. Regardless of his aura and poise, he hailed from a small town, so she was not overly impressed.

Chapter 568: Ask For Leniency

He Xiaoman took out her phone and called the chauffeur to ask where he was.

After hanging up the phone, she pulled out her compact from her purse and checked the mirror. She could not help feeling annoyed when she saw the bad swelling on her forehead.

Lu Hongwen dumped her at the restaurant and had driven off by himself after scolding her. She had no choice but to call the chauffeur to drive over in another car from home to pick her up. She had been waiting for almost 20 minutes and he was yet to show up.

He Xiaoman placed her compact back into her purse and raised her head to look around. Her eyes suddenly halted when they landed on the spiral staircase.

Lin Shuwen and Fang Chen were walking down the stairs one after another.

He Xiaoman instantly recognized Lin Shuwen. Although Fang Chen looked familiar, she did not bother to think too deeply about him.

She only had her eyes on Lin Shuwen.

He Xiaoman felt indignant thinking about the bidding. They had so much confidence about winning the bid previously. It was unfathomable why things were ruined after they attempted to bribe him with a bank card.

This project was crucial to the company's advancement. If they did not have so much hope in the beginning, she might have felt a little better.

However, the municipal administration gave them hope but ended up crushing it. Anyone would be furious with the outcome.

He Xiaoman contemplated for a few seconds. She wanted to stand up and beg Lin Shuwen for leniency. What if she could convince him to change his mind?

Lin Shuwen did not notice He Xiaoman. Instead, he spotted Min Yu near the door. He turned sideways and asked Fang Chen softly. "Shall we go over and say hello to Young Master Min?"

Old Mr. Pei had vaguely told Lin Shuwen about Min Yu's status previously. Although Old Mr. Pei did not say it out loud, it was an easy guess considering he was an important man from the capital and went by the surname Min.

Fang Chen glanced sideways at Lin Shuwen. "Nope."

Lin Shuwen promptly adjusted his spectacles and said impatiently, "I asked you to get close to Pei Rong, but you refused to do it. So, I stopped bugging you about it. Young Master Min has far higher status than Pei Rong. Also, he seems like quite a gentleman and is easy to get along with, yet you refuse to make friends with him. Are you out to ruin your career?"

Although Lin Shuwen was his secretary, he was more like a strategist most of the time, especially when it came to human relations and career advancement. He was remarkable at his job.

Fang Chen went quiet for a moment. He suppressed this urge to correct Lin Shuwen about Min Yu's gentlemanly appearance and laid-back air and headed over to Min Yu.

Lin Shuwen felt relieved. He could not help sighing. It sure was tough to be his secretary.

Min Yu placed his phone in his pocket when he saw Fang Chen walking over.

Min Yu's black coat gave him a professional aura. His well-chiseled features felt cool and distant.

Since Fang Chen did not take Pei Feng's medicine, Min Yu contained his cold aura slightly.

"Hi, Young Master Min..."

Initially, Fang Chen assumed that Min Yu would treat him coldly like he did in the private room earlier along with slight hostility. To his surprise, Min Yu was unanticipatedly patient and polite when he came over to chat with him.

Even though Fang Chen felt deeply flattered all of a sudden, it scared him, and he felt that something was amiss. If Min Yu had kept up his cold airs, Fang Chen might have felt a little better.

"I'm sure you will do well after you get transferred to the capital," said Min Yu courteously once more.

Fang Chen felt dumbstruck by the nice things Min Yu said.

Chapter 569: You Can't Afford To Offend The Huo Family

Lin Shuwen watched as Fang Chen remained quiet without even responding to Min Yu. He was behaving like a student listening to his teacher. He could not help pressing his forehead and felt anxious.

Lin Shuwen wanted to kick him.

Min Yu had already offered to make small talk with Fang Chen. Why was he not taking the opportunity to say more? Why was he behaving awkwardly?

Lin Shuwen pretended not to notice the look in Fang Chen's eyes. Since he could not count on Fang Chen to make small talk with Min Yu, he had to help ease the awkwardness and chatted with Min Yu a little.

He Xiaoman wanted to talk to Lin Shuwen and was walking over when she suddenly halted in her steps.

She had suddenly caught sight of Lin Shuwen going up to the man from the countryside. The three of them seemed acquainted and Lin Shuwen's attitude towards him looked a little strange.

He seemed to treat him with reverence.

He Xiaoman was puzzled. Why would Lin Shuwen be acquainted with a guy from the countryside? Also, Lin Shuwen was not from her hometown, right?

In her daze, another familiar silhouette suddenly appeared before her eyes unexpectedly.

Her foster daughter was surprisingly here too.

He Xiaoman opened her eyes wide as her foster daughter headed straight towards Lin Shuwen.

It seemed as though all of them were well-acquainted.

Something even more inconceivable took place as He Xiaoman stared at them.

Lin Shuwen, surprisingly, nodded to her foster daughter respectfully. His attitude towards Huo Yao seemed no different from the reverent attitude he had shown for the man from her hometown.

This was incredible!

He Xiaoman clutched her purse tightly as she looked at her foster daughter. Huo Yao had the cool elegant aura of a plum blossom and looked incredibly dignified and proud. She seemed lofty when she stood before Lin Shuwen.

Had her foster daughter experienced a complete change after returning to the Huo family?

In her recollection, Huo Yao was always an introvert and seemed a little slow, so she often disgraced the Lu family.

This was the reason she disliked Huo Yao and had sent her to the countryside, asking her mother to raise her.

Although her foster daughter had changed so much that it left her feeling unfamiliar, she simply felt it was due to losing her status as a rich girl. However, now she was...

He Xiaoman could not help thinking about the Huo family. That family did not seem to be impoverished like she imagined.

She had asked a friend who was an investigator to check on the Huo family, but all he did was to warn her that she could not afford to offend the Huo family.

He Xiaoman was perplexed as to why her friend would say this. No matter how she probed, he refused to speak on the subject and even ended up blacklisting her.

Ever since then, she had an inkling that there was something unusual about the Huo family.

She kept making excuses to pick up her biological daughter at school so that she could observe her foster daughter and the Huo family.

She watched as Huo Yao chatted happily with Lin Shuwen and the others. Why would she know the secretary if her family was not well-connected?

After all, not everyone was capable of running in the same circles as Lin Shuwen.

The more He Xiaoman thought about it, the more she found it unfathomable. She attempted to convince herself in her heart that this was a pure coincidence. She wanted to cling onto the belief the Huos were an ordinary family and did not possess any powerful connections.

Lin Shuwen detected He Xiaoman's presence since she was looking towards them so blatantly.

Chapter 570: Her Foster Mother? She Did Not Know Her At All

Lin Shuwen was briefly caught by surprise when he spotted He Xiaoman. He had not anticipated seeing her here. After he composed his thoughts, he frowned.

Had she deliberately waited for him here?

Lin Shuwen turned sideways and did his utmost to cover Fang Chen's face.

If she started to harass Fang Chen for the bid, it would be really frustrating.

Fang Chen noticed Lin Shuwen's actions and glanced at him quizzically. He quickly followed his gaze and his eyes landed on He Xiaoman.

Since Fang Chen had never seen He Xiaoman before, he merely looked for two seconds before veering his eyes.

"I think it's your foster mother," said Min Yu nonchalantly with his hands in his coat pocket.

"Huh?" Huo Yao paused for two seconds before she raised her head. The moment she caught sight of He Xiaoman, she lamented that it was such a small world.

She had previously bumped into He Xiaoman at a restaurant in the city center. Now she encountered her again. Tsk.

Huo Yao pursed her lips. Her exquisite face seemed languid as she replied. "All I can say is that adversaries are fated to cross paths."

Lin Shuwen suddenly turned his head when he heard what Huo Yao said. He asked her in shock. "Adversaries?"

He clearly did not understand why she had said this.

Lin Shuwen had only conducted a brief investigation into Huo Yao's background and did not go into detail about the nature of her relationships. At that time, it was considered unnecessary.

Huo Yao raised her brow and said, "Oh, my bad. I don't know her at all."

Lin Shuwen was shocked to hear this. Just as he was about to ask Huo Yao in greater detail, she shifted her eyes and said to Min Yu, "Let's go."

Min Yu glanced at her and nodded. "Okay."

Huo Yao turned to look at Lin Shuwen and Fang Chen. "Mr. Lin, Mr. Fang, see you around."

Then she nodded and headed to the clubhouse entrance without waiting for them to respond to her farewell.

Huo Yao walked unhurriedly. She was tall and slender and her coat was slightly open. She gave off a cool, decisive aura. She looked as sophisticated as the dignified man walking beside her. They came off looking like the perfect couple.

"They sure look like a good match," commented Lin Shuwen from the bottom of his heart as he watched them from behind.

Fang Chen took a glance but made no comment.

Lin Shuwen covered his mouth and cleared his throat before he glanced at He Xiaoman standing nearby. Since Huo Yao said she was unacquainted with He Xiaoman, it made no sense for him to play nice with her.

He turned to Fang Chen and said, "Why don't we head back too?"

Fang Chen nodded and headed out of the door.

Now that they were about to leave, He Xiaoman hurriedly ran over to them in her high heels. "Hi, Secretary Lin..."

Fang Chen's bodyguard had already driven the car up to the clubhouse entrance. Lin Shuwen frowned when he heard He Xiaoman's voice. He got Fang Chen to get into the car first. After closing the car door, he turned around unhurriedly with a distant look on his face.

He Xiaoman instinctively glanced at the black car next to Lin Shuwen when she came running over. Since the car door was shut and it had with black tinted windows, it was impossible for her to see Fang Chen sitting inside the vehicle.

He Xiaoman clenched her fists slightly as her eyes landed on Lin Shuwen.

She inhaled deeply before she started. “Secretary Lin, about what occurred in the private room earlier... I really hope you don’t take it to heart and just pretend that nothing happened. Lu Corporation worked hard on the bid for over six months, so we are very well prepared...”