#### Pill Maker 791

# Chapter 791: Overly Calm

Huo Changfeng acknowledged it gently. He leaned into the seat backrest and was unable to calm down after his conversation with Huo Yao.

"I wonder who concealed her information. I checked about her medical knowledge several times, but couldn't find anything about it." Chen Ming held the steering wheel with a serious look on his face.

Even if he was unable to find any information about her medical knowledge, it did not mean it wasn't true. He was simply puzzled that he could not find anything about it.

Chen Ming pondered before a notion suddenly emerged in his mind. He promptly said, "Chief Steward, do you think Master Yulin might have covered up her history?"

Huo Changfeng looked out at the traffic profoundly. Moments later, he said calmly, "It doesn't matter."

Chen Ming glanced at Huo Changfeng sideways. Just as he was about to speak, Huo Changfeng's phone rang. Huo Changfeng raised his hand and gestured for silence before answering the phone.

"... Uh huh. Miss Huo is brilliant. She was easy to get along with and was very confident. She even scored full marks in her exam. Don't worry. I will take care of everything. Please take care."

Before long, the caller hung up.

"Was it Master Jinfeng?" asked Chen Ming softly.

Huo Changfeng held his phone before answering Chen Ming after some time. "Uh huh."

"Master Jinfeng probably called to ask about Miss Huo, right?" said Chen Ming as he smiled. "Although Master Jinfeng has never seen Miss Huo, he cares a lot about her."

Chen Ming could not help thinking about Lu Xia. "In the past, Master Jinfeng didn't inquire about Miss Lu Xia at all. From the looks of it, blood is genuinely thicker than water."

Huo Changfeng's face remained cold and simply said, "Just drive.'

The moment he finished his sentence, he closed his eyes, indicating clearly that he did not want to chat.

Chen Ming wisely did not continue talking.

\*\*

Huo Yao did not tell anyone that she had encountered Huo Changfeng after she got home.

After Song Ning learned about Huo Yao's exam scores, she sat on the couch with her husband and went into a daze for almost 30 minutes.

They already knew that Huo Yao was a straight A student, but were blown away by the news that she was the top Arts scholar.

They even went online to find out how much the top scholars from previous years had scored. It was common for the examinees to have full marks for the composition section, but no one ever obtained full marks for the entire paper.

Huo Yao went to the refrigerator to take out a can of drink. After taking a few sips, she headed to the living room and saw her parents staring dead straight at her. She could not help raising her brow. "Why are you looking at me like that?"

Song Ning cleared her throat and sounded hoarse as she spoke. "The results are out. Have you checked them online?"

Huo Yao took another sip of her drink slowly before she nodded and acknowledged her.

Song Ning watched as her daughter answered calmly and inexplicably wanted to strangle her. "You got full marks!"

Huo Yao sat on the couch and crossed her legs before she said lazily, "I know."

Song Ning was speechless.

How could her daughter respond so calmly like it did not matter?

Huo Jinyan suppressed his urge to pummel his daughter for acting so cool about getting full marks. He cleared his throat before pulling his wife's hand and said, "No one else has ever come first in the exam in our family. This is wonderful news, so we have to celebrate."

It did not cross Song Ning's mind to celebrate till her husband mentioned it.

Now that her husband brought it up, she promptly got distracted as she nodded and replied. "We have to hold a grand celebration for this. I am going to draw up a guest list now..."

# **Chapter 792: The Song Family**

Song Ning got right to it. Before long, she had already taken out a notebook and filled half a page with guest names.

She proceeded to spend the entire evening getting in touch with the guests.

Huo Yao wanted to tell her not to make it a grand affair. However, she decided against it when she saw how excited her parents were.

Fine! Rich people like them could do whatever they wanted.

Her parents remained in the living room discussing the guest list.

After dinner, Huo Yao contemplated before calling Old Madam Yang.

Old Madam Yang was watching television when her granddaughter called to tell her she had ranked first in the college entrance exam. She was so delighted that her eyes turned teary. "My granddaughter is the best."

Huo Yao saw how energetic Old Madam Yang looked on the screen. She raised her brow before she said, "My parents want to organize a celebration. We want to invite you over to stay with us for a period of time. Would you like to come?"

Old Madam Yang smiled before shaking her head. "No, thanks. I am getting on my age and it is very hard for me to travel. Please help me thank your parents."

Huo Yao tried to convince her grandmother otherwise. Since her grandmother persisted, she did not insist further. "Fine. I will come and visit you when I am free."

"Uh huh," acknowledged Old Madam Yang gently before she continued. "Oh yes. I asked Min Yu to pass the jade pendant to you. Are you wearing it just like I asked?"

"It's at home." Huo Yao leaned into the chair lazily. "What's so special about the jade?"

Old Madam Yang went quiet briefly before she answered. "Nothing. It is just a normal piece of jade which symbolizes good luck." She paused before she added. "I just want it to protect you and keep you safe."

"Uh huh. Got it," answered Huo Yao as she tapped her fingers on the table.

After chatting for slightly over ten minutes, they hung up. Huo Yao placed the phone on the table. She pondered briefly before opening the drawer beside her to retrieve the box containing the jade and opened it.

The jade gave off a cool, soft glow. It looked small and exquisite and there was an engraving of a fish on it. Nothing seemed unusual about it.

Huo Yao put the jade back in its box and stopped looking at it. She thought about her eldest uncle's condition and took out a pen and piece of paper before she wrote down a list of Chinese medicine.

Heart problems tended to be complicated, so Huo Yao had to be careful about the ingredients. After writing on the paper for some time, she came up with a treatment plan. Huo Yao checked her work before rewriting the Chinese medication on a fresh sheet of paper. She took a picture and sent it to Min Yu.

\*\*

Song Ning and Huo Jinyan were still talking about the party downstairs when Huo Jinyan suddenly recalled the call his wife received a couple of days ago. He raised his head and looked at her. "Is... isn't someone from the Song family coming? Shall we invite them?"

The joy on Song Ning's face instantly dissipated. "Did you hear me talking on the phone?"

Huo Jinyan nodded. "I happened to hear it since the door was open when you answered the phone the other day."

Song Ning went quiet for two minutes and sounded cool when she spoke again. "The Song family has already severed ties with me. Don't worry about them."

Huo Jinyan held Song Ning's hand and sighed. "Don't worry about me. If you want to see anyone from the Song family, just do it."

"It doesn't matter." Song Ning parted her lips as she turned her head and continued. "Enough. Stop talking about them. It doesn't matter."

The moment she finished her sentence, she dialled another friend about the celebration.

Huo Jinyan stopped talking and did not continue with the conversation.

# Chapter 793: It Was Him Again

Translator: Henyee Translations Editor: Henyee Translations

Huo Yao received a call from Principal Yu the next day after the final results of the exam were released. He asked her to come back to school for some filming. Also, the Education Bureau wanted to present her with an award, certificate, and banner for becoming the top scholar.

After all, only one person could come first each year. Now that the honor had fallen on City S, they had to reward Huo Yao for her astounding performance.

Song Ning and Huo Jinyan were invited to the school as well. Since they were the top scholar's parents, the Director of the Education Bureau chatted with them briefly and lauded them.

Yi Lianfan also came for the filming.

However, Yi Lianfan did not seem happy.

Huo Yao pinned her school name tag on her chest as she glanced at Yi Lianfan. "Are you in such low spirits because you aren't the top scholar?"

Yi Lianfan frowned. "I lost by one mark!"

If it were five marks, he could have consoled himself. Since it was just a one mark difference, it was hard for him to accept the defeat.

Just yesterday, he was thankful that Huo Yao was not in the Science faculty, but he ended up coming second still.

"Who was ranked first?" asked Huo Yao as she raised her brow.

"Cheng Jie," said Yi Lianfan listlessly.

Huo Yao nodded and said, "It's him again. He's good."

Yi Lianfan smiled sadly. "I know right. I am so depressed."

The Dean came over to tell them that the filming would commence right away, so they stopped the conversation.

The filming was mainly about saying something motivating and sharing her experience. Since they were going to use the video to promote the school on public television, all the lines were provided by the television station.

Huo Yao finished filming 30 minutes later. Principal Yu was waiting outside. He beamed and waved at her when she walked over.

The two of them walked out to the corridor and chatted.

"Congratulations, Top Scholar." Principal Yu sighed in his heart.

A year ago, Huo Yao wasn't a student at No.1 Middle School yet.

Now, she stood first with full marks. No one else had ever obtained full marks in years.

Huo Yao nodded slightly and thanked him.

Principal Yu turned his head sideways and glanced at Huo Yao before he said, "Now that your results are out, a lot of schools must be calling you offering placement. You are probably going to Tsing University, right?"

Although Tsing University was the number one college in the country, there were a few other universities that were equally good. After all, every college had different culture and faculties, so there were plenty of choices out there.

"Yes, I will probably be going to Tsing University," replied Huo Yao.

Principal Yu felt relieved. He had simply asked because Tsing University kept calling to ask about it. He pondered before he asked. "Oh yes. Have you decided on your faculty?"

"Biology," answered Huo Yao without hesitation.

She was not interested in the other subjects, but she always wanted to learn more about the human genome.

Principal Yu raised his brow. "Was it because Prof Zhao spoke to you about joining the faculty?"

The stupid old geezer even refused to answer Principal Yu's phone for a period of time. Principal Yu only found out later that Prof Zhao had blacklisted him.

It was simply ludicrous.

Huo Yao smiled. "I always wanted to do Biology."

Principal Yu nodded. He thought about the conversation he had with Zhao Lian about him taking in a disciple and said, "Prof Zhao has a very good impression of you. Do well when you get there. If you can learn from him, it will serve you well in the future."

Huo Yao acknowledged gently without taking it to heart.

# **Chapter 794: Competition For Recruitment**

Principal Yu noticed that Yi Lianfan was almost done filming, so he said, "I need to talk to Yi Lianfan. He stood second in the Science division and only lost by one mark. It is such a pity."

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes. "Yes, it was too bad."

Just one mark made all the difference.

Principal Yu sighed before he waved at her and walked off.

Huo Yao stood where she was briefly before going to the office next door. Her parents were already done chatting with the Education Bureau Director.

\*\*

Shortly after Huo Yao's results were released, a lot of top universities called Song Ning and Huo Jinyan and tried to recruit their daughter.

Since both of them knew she wanted to join Tsing University, they politely turned down all the offers.

Zhao Lian had kept an eye on Huo Yao's performance. Now that her results were out, he was rather surprised. Only a handful of students achieved full marks, once every five years at the most.

All students with such fantastic scores had bright futures.

Zhao Lian felt a lot better after asking her about what faculty she wanted to get into.

Although she was an Arts student, it was perfectly fine for her to join the Biology department. Unlike the other Science faculties, the Biology department did not restrict students based on their background.

He even told the department head about this.

Since Qi Hui was in charge of recruiting students for the Biology department, he had kept an eye on the college entrance exam results as well. He was in a dilemma. "Although she is the top scholar, she is an Arts student. Wouldn't it make more sense for her to join the humanities department?"

It was true that Huo Yao was the top scholar and was an incredible student, but she was not a Science student. It simply made no sense for her to join the Science department at Tsing University.

Qi Hui paused. He thought about the students he had his eyes on recently and added, "I think the student who stood second in the Science division from No.1 Middle School seems like a good pick for the department."

He only lost to the top scholar by one mark and had a Science background, so there was no way Huo Yao could compete with that. Even if he did not opt for the Biology department, Qi Hui could still try.

Zhao Lian frowned as he said, "Huo Yao probably has a strong foundation in Science."

She was capable of answering all the Science questions during the International Quiz Contest, so it was fairly obvious that she was talented.

Moreover, Huo Yao came with a high recommendation from Principal Yu and he trusted Principal Yu.

Qi Hui felt that Prof Zhao was not sure about Huo Yao's Science knowledge either. He went quiet briefly and did not go on discussing the matter further with Zhao Lian.

Instead, he nodded and said, "Okay. I will send the Biology department enrollment details to the Chancellor in a minute and get him to mail the acceptance letters."

Huo Yao would still have to take an exam before she was permitted to join the Biology department. If she did not have a strong foundation, she ought to join some other faculty and stop wasting her time.

He would never allow students who did not meet standards to join the department and steal the spot from someone else who was more deserving.

Zhao Lian did not know what Qi Hui was thinking. He simply acknowledged him before he stood up. "See you then."

"Sure." Qi Hui stood up and walked Zhao Lian out respectfully.

Zhao Lian happened to encounter Rong Jun when he left the office and headed downstairs.

Rong Jun was a professor from the Physics department. He got promoted to 'fellow' about two years ago and often asked Huo Yao Physics questions. Also, he kept making small talk with Huo Yao of late.

"Rong Jun, what brings you here?" Zhao Lian looked at Rong Jun in surprise.

#### Chapter 795: Make An Exception

Rong Jun raised his hand and was not in the mood to chat with Zhao Lian. He simply glared at Zhao Lian. "What did you do? How did you convince her to join the Biology department?"

He was talking to Huo Yao as usual ten minutes ago and had asked her to join the Physics department. She shockingly rejected him officially.

How could he accept this?

Rong Jun had his eyes on Huo Yao for over half a year. He kept an eye on her interests when it was time to decide on her future university. Also, he kept trying to build a relationship with her in the hope that she would join the Physics department the moment her college entrance exam results were released. Look what happened now?

Rong Jun was heartbroken just thinking about the text message he had received from Huo Yao.

Zhao Lian was stunned. "What do you mean me? I don't understand what you are implying."

Rong Jun inhaled deeply and said angrily, "I am talking about Huo Yao. Do you dare say you had no hand in making her join your faculty?"

"Oh, her?" Zhao Lian finally realized what Rong Jun was talking about.

Zhao Lian crossed his arms and said smugly, "She always wanted to join the Biology department. I didn't even have to ask."

"Nonsense. Her Physics is excellent. It would be a pure waste of her talent if she joins your department!" Rong Jun blew up uncontrollably.

"She is interested in Biology, so she must be equally strong in it. How could this be considered a waste of talent," said Zhao Lian unhurriedly.

"Humph. That's simply because you have never seen her Physics talent," sneered Rong Jun before a thought crossed his mind and continued. "I thought the Biology department doesn't accept Arts students? Stop wasting her time already."

Zhao Lian glanced at Rong Jun. "I think you got it in reverse. My department certainly isn't as demanding about student backgrounds as your department."

Rong Jun choked instantly.

"Moreover, our department has always made exceptions and accepted Arts students in the past. What about the Physics department?" asked Zhao Lian, hitting him right where it hurt.

Rong Jun went quiet.

Zhao Lian was simply too cocky.

Rong Jun inhaled deeply before he said, "If she doesn't go to the Biology department, I will make that exception for her!"

Zhao Lian dug his ears and said airily, "Sorry. That won't be happening."

Rong Jun went quiet.

"Fine. You win!" said Rong Jun before leaving in a huff.

Huo Yao had so much potential. It was impossible for him to give up without a fight!

Zhao Lian watched from behind as Rong Jun left. He pondered for a minute before taking the lift downstairs.

He had to remind Qi Hui and get the acceptance letter mailed right away.

\*\*

After Huo Yao turned down Rong Jun's offer to join the Physics department, she surprisingly received a message from Lei Xiao.

He had kept his eye on the college entrance exam as well. He could not help feeling impressed when he found out that Huo Yao was the top scholar for the Arts division. She was simply an all-rounded genius.

[When are you coming to the capital?]

Huo Yao raised her brow and replied: [When school starts, of course.]

Ever since Lei Xiao fixed the data with her help last year, he got promoted in the research institute.

He was talking to Huo Yao, sitting in his personal office at this very moment.

Lei Xiao replied: [Why didn't you pick Physics or Chemistry? Both these faculties are doing much better. Considering your smarts, either of these faculties would have worked well for you.]

Lei Xiao felt that typing was slow so he decided to send her an audio message and said: [... If you join the Physics department, you can win a lot of money if you manage to win at the annual academic conference. The government will give you an award directly.]

# Chapter 796: A Visit

Huo Yao held her phone and became upset when she heard what Lei Xiao said, so she interrupted him: [Stop it.]

She had just spent all the red packets she received for her birthday and did not want to talk about money.

Lei Xiao cleared his throat and thought that he was out of line and stopped talking immediately.

Although Huo Yao was very young, it was hard for him to treat her like an ordinary 18 year old young woman.

He felt that talking to Huo Yao about money was an insult.

[I will buy you dinner when you come over.] Lei Xiao promptly changed the subject.

Song Ning was rushing Huo Yao from outside the room. Huo Yao raised her head and looked at the door. She sadly acknowledged Lei Xiao's offer before she stopped talking to him and ended the conversation.

Since they were celebrating today, Huo Yao changed clothes before leaving the room.

The banquet was being held at the most famous five-star restaurant in the city. The moment Huo Yao entered the restaurant, she saw a banner hanging overhead, congratulating her for becoming the top scholar. They had also laid out the red carpet and the entire atmosphere looked particularly festive.

It was slightly past 10:00 am and some of the guests had already arrived. Song Ning and Huo Jinyan said hello to their guests before introducing their daughter to them.

Huo Yao chatted briefly before she saw Min Yu at the entrance. She paused before she headed over. "You are here."

"Uh huh." Min Yu nodded. He handed her a present right away.

Huo Yao raised her brow. "You didn't have to."

Min Yu smiled gently. He stood at the entrance and took a glance inside the restaurant before he said, "I have something urgent to handle, so I can't stay. Please apologize to your parents on my behalf."

A lot of guests were arriving at the restaurant entrance and the place was starting to get lively.

Huo Yao glanced at Min Yu. She handed the gift to the staff at the entrance and said, "It's fine. Shall we go out and talk?"

Min Yu nodded.

The two of them left the restaurant together.

It was July, so the sun was very strong and the temperature was at its hottest. Min Yu turned sideways slightly to help block the sun for Huo Yao.

A luxurious car pulled up nearby and the front passenger car window rolled down halfway.

"Is Ning holding her party at this restaurant?" asked a woman as she looked in the direction of the restaurant. The woman sat in the back seat wearing sunglasses, so it was impossible to see her face.

"That's right. I have already investigated it. Her daughter is the top scholar at the national college entrance exam, so she invited some friends to celebrate," answered the butler reverently from the driver seat.

The woman adjusted her sunglasses as she pursed her red lips and sounded surprised. "Top scholar?"

"That's right. She is just the top scholar for the arts division. I heard she was swapped at birth and grew up in the countryside. She was only reunited with the family last year," said the butler softly.

The woman's face turned cold. She looked out of the window and tapped her varnished nails before she said, "Tell Ning I am waiting for her outside."

"Yes." The butler nodded before undoing his seatbelt and getting off the car. He walked to the restaurant unhurriedly.

\*\*

On this end.

Min Yu chatted with Huo Yao briefly before he contemplated and explained. "I have to go to the capital. Zhuo Yun will buy the Chinese herbs you want. Look out for the deliveries."

Huo Yao raised her brow. "Sure."

#### Chapter 797: Won't Blame You For Your Ignorance

Min Yu raised his hand to check the time. "I have to go. Why don't you go back inside?"

Huo Yao nodded. She watched him go to the parking lot and drive off before she went back into the restaurant.

Meanwhile, the butler from the Song family had already reached the restaurant entrance.

Huo Yao was preoccupied and the restaurant had a revolving door, so she paid no attention to the people around her. When she entered the revolving door first, she almost bumped into the butler.

The butler frowned as he looked at the rude young woman. He was thoroughly annoyed.

Huo Yao raised her head and wanted to speak, but she calmly moved her eyes when she noticed his annoyance and headed into the hotel.

She was so rude!.

The butler suppressed his annoyance and flicked his sleeve as though there were germs on it before he proceeded to enter the restaurant with his back straight.

\*

Song Ning saw Huo Yao when she got back to the restaurant, so she waved her over. Huo Yao pressed her forehead before going to her.

"Why did you come in alone? Wasn't Yu with you?" asked Song Ning quizzically. She glanced around Huo Yao as she spoke.

"He has to go back to the capital today, so he left after giving me a present," explained Huo Yao.

"I see. Okay then." Song Ning looked disappointed. Then again, it was better for him to leave early since there were a lot of guests today.

Song Ning held her daughter's hand and said, "Come on. Let me introduce you to some of our friends..." However, she paused in surprise mid-sentence when she caught sight of the butler coming into the restaurant.

Huo Yao had her head lowered. She raised her head to look at her mother when she suddenly stopped talking mid-sentence.

By now Song Ning had already composed herself. She stood in front of her daughter and blocked the butler from her sight. "... I suddenly recalled that I forgot my purse. Can you ask your father where it is and help me get my phone?"

Huo Yao looked at Song Ning and found her acting a little strange. However, she nodded a moment later and turned to go towards Huo Jinyan without asking any questions.

Song Ning watched from behind as her daughter left before she heaved a sigh of relief.

She headed towards the butler with a cool and collected demeanor.

"Young Mistress Ning, long time no see," greeted the butler politely as he glanced behind Song Ning at Huo Yao.

Song Ning appeared cold and distant. "I am not your young mistress. I have nothing to do with the Song family."

She paused and pondered briefly. She knew why the butler was here, so she cut to the chase and said, "Please tell Song Qi that I won't ever go back to the Song family. Stop calling me or trying to look for me."

The butler did not expect Song Ning to react so strongly and bluntly about this. His face froze uneasily before he finally said, "But... Young Mistress Qi is waiting for you outside."

Song Ning sounded impatient. "I am not going to see her.'

"You are a Song after all. Do you have to be so heartless? Shouldn't you at least consider your husband and your children's future?" said the butler nonchalantly with his back straight.

Song Ning could tell what the butler was implying. She laughed gently before shaking her head. "I won't blame you since you are ignorant. I strongly suggest you refrain from saying anything further."

The butler frowned.

# Chapter 798: Start With Song Ning's Daughter

Song Ning went quiet. She contemplated for a moment before turning the butler away. "We are holding a party for my daughter. I don't want anyone to ruin the banquet, so please leave. Let's just pretend none of this ever happened."

The butler noticed how determined Song Ning was. Since they were in public, there was no sense in making things ugly, so he did not insist upon staying. He simply sighed before he turned to leave.

Song Ning gradually shifted her eyes as she watched him leave the restaurant. Her good mood was entirely ruined.

Huo Yao came back empty-handed. "Mom, there is no phone in your bag."

Song Ning composed herself before turning to look at her daughter. "It slipped my mind. I forgot that the phone was with me."

Huo Yao went quiet.

\*\*

The butler went back to the car and told Song Qi word by word what Song Ning had just said to him.

Song Qi removed her sunglasses. Even though she was in her forties, her complexion was in excellent condition, and she appeared to be in her thirties at best. She rubbed her forehead gently. "I just knew she would react this way. She is so stubborn."

The butler nodded. "Exactly. Young Mistress Ning is still the same. She doesn't care about anyone else's feelings. She is a member of the Song family after all. How could she bear a grudge against her family for over two decades?"

"That is the reason my parents don't like her. She was from the Song family, but she... Never mind. since she doesn't want to see me, let's just leave it at that," said Song Qi mildly.

"But Mr. Song is sick... Just what if she is a match?" asked the butler softly.

"The doctor already said he is in no danger for now, so we don't have to rush into things with her yet. We can do it slowly." Song Qi knew what her biological older sister's temper was like. The more they forced her, the more it would work against them.

"Okay then." The butler stopped talking.

Song Qi put her sunglasses back on before waving at him to start the car.

The butler acknowledged her and started the engine, but a thought crossed his mind and he said, "I think I bumped into Young Mistress Ning's daughter."

He shook his head as he recalled how rude she was. "Although she is the top scholar, she can't compare to your daughter."

Song Qi looked mild. "How could someone like her compare to Yaya? Just look at what kind of family she is from."

The butler glanced into the rearview mirror and smiled as he said, "That's right. She grew up in the countryside, so she really can't compare to her."

She was simply another pretty face.

However, he did not say this out loud.

Song Qi acknowledged softly before checking her phone.

"Oh yes. As long as people are blood-related, they might be able to help cure your father. If Song Ning refuses to help, we can always try to get her children to help." The butler suddenly remembered this.

Song Qi's fingers paused before she raised her head and looked at the butler. "Thanks for reminding me."

The butler smiled. "Since her daughter is definitely going to attend university at the capital, we can always start with her. It might work, right?"

Song Qi contemplated before she raised her brow. "In that case, the family will be indebted to you."

The butler cleared his throat and said humbly, "I could never. The Song family has treated me well. This is my job."

Song Qi did not go on talking. She turned her head and looked out of the car window. The moment Song Ning's daughter got to the capital, there would be no one to protect her. Huo Yao would have no choice, but to go to the Song residence with her.

# Chapter 799: I Would Think You Were Trying To Fool Me

Huo Yao received Tsing University's acceptance letter a few days after the party.

The term was starting on 1st September. However, she had to go two days in advance to report to the department so that they could register her.

Huo Yao continued going to the driving school and researched Chinese medicine when she was free.

She received a call from Zhuo Yun informing her that he was here with the Chinese herbs and was waiting for her outside.

Huo Yao opened the door and saw Yang Yi standing outside. She was surprised since it was Zhuo Yun who had called her.

Yang Yi handed the box of Chinese herbs to Huo Yao reverently before he explained. "The medicine was ready a couple of days ago, but we were afraid that it was too fragile to send it by mail. Since I happened to be in town for business, I decided to bring it over to you personally."

Was that so?

Huo Yao raised her brows slightly and thanked him before looking at the villa next door. "Where is your boss? Isn't he back yet?"

"He says he is waiting for you in the capital." Yang Yi retrieved a small box from his pocket and gave it to Huo Yao. "Yu wanted me to pass you this gift."

The box was covered with velvet and seemed like a jewelry box even though there were no logos on it.

Huo Yao raised her brow and paused before taking the box.

Yang Yi nodded. "I will be on my way now." His car was parked nearby.

However, Yang Yi halted after taking a couple of steps and clenched his fists slightly. He finally asked cautiously. "Miss Huo, can I have your number?"

Ever since he witnessed Huo Yao's computing skills first hand, he had wanted her number. He simply did not have the opportunity to ask her about it all this time.

He tried to ask Zhuo Yun, but Zhuo Yun kept changing the subject.

If he asked his boss about it, Min Yu would probably send him to Africa to do mining, the moment he did.

Yang Yi scratched his head and hesitated briefly before he added. "I just want your number so that I can ask you about hacking."

Huo Yao's lips twitched. Was that it? She proceeded to give Yang Yi her number. "I don't have my phone with me. I will add your number to my phonebook later."

"Great. Thanks so much." Yang Yi swiped down his phonebook and tapped on Huo Yao's number before sending her a text message. He turned off his phone and nodded. "See you around."

Huo Yao acknowledged him softly. She watched as Yang Yi left before turning back to enter the villa.

She placed the Chinese herbs in her medicine room before going upstairs. After closing the door, she took out the small box Min Yu had given her.

She opened it and saw an exquisite necklace lying inside. There was no pendant on it. It was simply a white gold necklace.

Huo Yao held it in her hand. Just as she was wondering why he had given her a necklace, her phone rang on the table. She turned her head sideways and glanced at it. After putting the necklace back in the box and placing it on the table, she picked up her phone and answered it.

"Have you received it?" A man's cool voice came from over the phone.

"Uh huh." Huo Yao raised her brow. "Why did you suddenly give me a necklace?"

Min Yu stood in front of the study windows, looking at the garden with a smile on his face as he said teasingly, "Why would a man give a woman gifts?"

Huo Yao held her phone as she leaned into the seat lazily. "I would think you were trying to fool me."

Min Yu's lips twitched.

# Chapter 800: Miss Huo Is A Talisman

Min Yu's lips twitched. Her logic certainly made sense. He closed the window before he turned and sat down at the desk and said, "I got you a necklace to go with the jade pendant which Old Madam Yang gave you."

Huo Yao had gotten the same idea. Before she could answer, Min Yu's voice came from over the phone.

"Old Madam Yang gave you the necklace as a talisman, so you should just accept it," said Min Yu softly. Old Madam Yang had called him recently to remind him about it.

Huo Yao pressed her forehead and said powerlessly, "It is wrong to promote superstition." Still she opened her drawer and took out the jade pendant as she spoke.

Min Yu could hear the sound of her drawer opening from over the phone. He pursed his lips and smiled as he added. "Remember to wear it at all times."

"Okay," answered Huo Yao eventually. She placed her phone on the table and put the jade pendant on the necklace.

The exquisite necklace went well with the small jade pendant and looked elegant. Huo Yao raised her brow and felt he had good taste.

After contemplating briefly, she put on the necklace and checked herself in the mirror. The jade was translucent and her complexion was fair, so it seemed to blend right into her body.

Huo Yao touched the jade pendant before putting it under her clothing. She thought about the Chinese medicine Yang Yi had just sent her and went over to her medicine room.

\*

Since Huo Yao had to go for driving lessons in a few days, she called Huo Changfeng in the morning before she left the house and made plans to meet him so that she could pass him the medication.

Huo Changfeng did not expect her to have his phone number, let alone contact him. He could not help feeling excited and offered to take her out for lunch after her driving lesson.

After hanging up the phone, Huo Changfeng remained happy and looked genial. There were roughly 20 subordinates in the meeting room watching him. All of them felt as though they had seen a ghost and their eyes nearly popped out of their sockets.

Was he the heartless Chief Steward they knew?

Why was he looking so kind? Something was definitely wrong about him today.

Huo Changfeng detected his men's strange looks. He promptly composed himself and reverted to his usual glacial self. "... Do you have anything else to report? Otherwise, the meeting is over."

Everyone went quiet.

Chen Ming cleared his throat and reminded him softly. "Chief Steward, the meeting hasn't started yet."

Huo Changfeng went speechless.

After a moment, Huo Changfeng acknowledged nonchalantly and said, "Then let's continue."

All the subordinates walked out of the meeting room an hour later and felt relieved.

Before the meeting, they were prepared to get reprimanded and punished. They simply did not expect Huo Changfeng to be so genial and did not say a single harsh word at them.

They could not help feeling curious about who Huo Changfeng spoke to before the meeting had started. They walked up to Chen Ming. He was organizing some documents, but got pulled aside and was interrogated by everyone.

Chen Ming raised his brow and straightened his back before he explained. "Of course he was talking to Miss Huo."

Everyone finally caught on to who the caller was.

"From the looks of it, Miss Huo just saved us," said someone.

"If we talk about Miss Huo, do you think Chief Steward will be nicer to us?"

"Considering his behavior today, I think it is absolutely possible."

Everyone chatted one after another as they thought about using Huo Yao like a talisman.

Chen Ming did not go on conversing with them any longer. Instead, he went over to Huo Changfeng's office.