

Pill Maker 851

Chapter 851: Keeping A Low Profile

Huo Yao nodded before leaning into the seat backrest lazily. The light in the hall was dim, so it was impossible for anyone to see her face. Moments later, she said airily, “No matter what they take from us, they shouldn’t have touched our money.”

Yuan Xi felt a little puzzled when she heard what Huo Yao said. “Huh?”

Huo Yao glanced sideways at Yuan Xi. “You really need to study hard.”

Yuan Xi’s lips twitched. Would studying help in this case?

Meanwhile, the performance had commenced.

Yuan Xi glanced at Huo Yao and stopped probing. Instead, she turned to look at the stage.

The military training performance consisted of mainly singing military songs, cross-talk, or musicals so as to produce a positive atmosphere.

Huo Yao felt sleepy just watching the performance. She eventually covered her face with her military cap, leaned into the seat, and took a nap.

This was so boring.

The next day was the last day of military training. The students would be tested for shooting before they were scored for their performance throughout military training.

The testing commenced at 10:00 in the morning.

Other than the instructors, the chief military instructor, whom they had only seen on the first day, finally showed his face. He was tall and came dressed in camouflage gear. His face looked particularly cool and distant under the military cap.

Although a lot of students gossiped about the chief military instructor in their private time, they instinctively did not dare to do it now.

They felt intimidated by him from the bottom of their hearts.

“The chief military instructor looks so scary.” Yuan Xi had already mentioned this on the first day of the military training. Now that it was the last day of training, she felt the same way.

Huo Yao raised her head slightly and looked at Min Yu as he gave off a slightly menacing vibe. She nodded and said randomly, “It’s fine once you get used to it.”

Yuan Xi’s cheeks twitched. “Just look at how scary he is. It is going to take a real hero to get used to this!”

The hero was none other than Huo Yao. Huo Yao veered her eyes and glanced at Yuan Xi in disdain.

Min Yu looked in their direction. The moment he did, Yuan Xi instinctively straightened her back and stood with a perfect soldier’s posture.

“He just looked over. I can’t believe he is looking at us,” said Yuan Xi without moving her lips in a stifled tone.

Huo Yao’s lips twitched. Did she have to get so scared with just one look from him?

After Min Yu moved his eyes and stopped casting intimidating looks at them, Yuan Xi finally felt relieved and slumped her shoulders. “Did he hear me talking behind his back? Is that why he was looking over?”

Huo Yao stayed quiet for some time and did not answer Yuan Xi.

The instructor beside them told them to get ready before they started testing their shooting.

Since Yuan Xi had practiced all afternoon and Huo Yao was kind enough to help her, she was almost halfway there with the basics. Hence, she was able to shoot pretty well today.

She scored six points out of ten.

Then came Huo Yao’s turn. Just as she was about to fire, she thought about keeping a low profile and ensured she scored only seven points this time.

Yuan Xi thought Huo Yao was bound to score full marks, so she was very surprised when she saw the final result.

Even the other freshmen in their team were shocked by the result.

Huo Yao put down the gun, stepped back, and disregarded the strange looks on their faces.

“How could you only get seven points? Were you nervous?” asked Yuan Xi automatically as she looked at Huo Yao.

Huo Yao raised her brow and acknowledged Yuan Xi’s words.

Since Huo Yao was wearing her cap low, no one was able to see her face clearly.

Yuan Xi touched her earlobe and said disappointedly, “Sigh. That’s too bad. Considering your performance yesterday, I thought you would get full marks for sure.”

Chapter 852: A Fluke?

Huo Yao sighed before she lied through her teeth. “Maybe I got nervous because of the presence of chief military instructor.”

Yuan Xi became thoughtful after hearing this. She secretly glanced at Min Yu who was standing nearby. With a nod to herself, she decided that he seemed to be looking their way when Huo Yao fired.

Yuan Xi instantly raised her hand and patted Huo Yao’s shoulder. She comforted her in a low voice. “You were so unlucky. If he was looking at me, there was no way I could have even scored six points.”

Huo Yao cleared her throat without responding.

Meanwhile, on the other end.

The instructor standing beside Min Yu could not believe his eyes when he saw Huo Yao's scores. "That's strange. She should have done better than this."

Min Yu stood with his hands behind him. He turned sideways to look at the instructor after hearing this. "What do you mean?"

The instructor narrowed his eyes slightly. He frowned and said, "The girl kept getting the bullseye yesterday. Also, she had perfect posture while she was doing it. It's obvious that she is a talented marksman. However, her performance today was simply ordinary."

The moment Min Yu heard what the instructor said, he looked astonished.

The instructors sent to give Tsing University freshmen military training were elite soldiers, so they knew what they were doing. If the instructor could praise Huo Yao for being an excellent marksman, he meant what he said.

Min Yu recalled something and asked. "Was she the student you were talking about yesterday to Director Min?"

The instructor nodded disappointedly. "That's right. I am so surprised by her performance today."

Was he wrong about her?

Min Yu looked in Huo Yao's direction and contemplated before he said, "Maybe it was a fluke yesterday."

"Perhaps." Since the instructor could not wrap his mind around it, this could be the only reason.

He had planned on staying back to talk to the young woman later today. From the looks of it, it was unnecessary.

Never mind. It wasn't easy to find good marksmen to begin with.

The instructor disappointedly shook his head, veered his eyes, and went to check the other students.

The shooting test was over an hour later. Now that the military training was over, it was time to take a group photo.

The instructor knew Min Yu did not like taking pictures, so he said, "Young Master Min, since the military training is more or less done, you can go ahead."

The instructor was hinting that he would not hold up Min Yu's precious time by making him join the photo-taking session.

Min Yu glanced at the instructor. After a few seconds, he said, "It's fine."

The instructor felt puzzled, but he did not think otherwise and simply thought Min Yu was just treating it as a part of his role as the chief military instructor to see it through to the end. He proceeded to speak reverently. "Okay. In that case, please give me a minute. I will come right back after the photo-taking session."

The moment he finished his sentence, the instructor walked off without even asking if Min Yu would like to join in.

Min Yu was flabbergasted.

Min Yu sneered as he watched the instructor walk up beside the freshmen.

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After the military training ended, Huo Yao went back to the dormitory and packed her luggage.

It would be a school holiday for two days straight from tomorrow onwards. After the break, lessons would commence officially.

As Yuan Xi helped Huo Yao pack up the things on Huo Yao's bed, she complained. "Sigh. Why aren't you staying on campus? Isn't it much better to stay here?"

Huo Yao had already taken off her camouflage gear before she came back. She was dressed in a loose-fitting white T-shirt and jeans. It brought out her long slender legs and she looked elegantly casual.

Yuan Xi glanced at Huo Yao's perfect legs before checking out her own limbs. She was quickly overwhelmed by low self-esteem.

Chapter 853: An Aunt From The Song Family

Huo Yao looked at Yuan Xi sideways. She took her laptop from under her pillow and placed it inside her luggage before she asked. "Where is your hometown?"

"I am a local," replied Yuan Xi.

Huo Yao was a little surprised. She always thought that this young woman was from out of town. After all, Yuan Xi had a slightly different accent.

"Aren't you going home for the holiday?" asked Huo Yao.

Yuan Xi lowered her eyes slightly and seemed unenthusiastic about the topic. "I'll pass. I am sick of staying home. It is more fun staying on campus, so I prefer to live here."

Huo Yao noticed something amiss with Yuan Xi's expression, but simply acknowledged softly without probing.

After Huo Yao was more or less done packing her luggage, her phone rang in her pocket. She took it out and saw that it was Chen Ming calling, so she promptly answered it.

"Huh? Is Uncle Changfeng in town? In that case, I will be out in a minute."

After Huo Yao hung up the phone, she contemplated for a couple of seconds before she sent Min Yu a text message, telling him not to wait for her.

Huo Yao put her phone away before she looked at Yuan Xi. "I'm off."

"Uh huh." Yuan Xi waved goodbye to Huo Yao.

Huo Yao nodded and pulled her luggage, walking out of the dormitory.

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The women's dormitory was some distance from the campus entrance and no one was permitted to enter without a school or students' pass.

Huo Yao went downstairs, walked out the glass door, and headed towards the school entrance with her luggage. After barely taking a few steps, a middle-aged man stopped her.

Huo Yao stood with her hand on her suitcase handle as she looked at the middle-aged man and found him to be familiar.

Thanks to her perfect memory, she could remember where she had met him almost instantly.

Her parents had organized a party to celebrate when she ranked first in the college entrance exam. She had a brief encounter with the man at the party.

He stood by the roadside and watched as she walked over and only stopped her when she reached there.

He was clearly waiting for her.

Huo Yao looked at him calmly without taking the initiative to speak.

Zhu felt a little surprised in his heart as he looked at the young woman.

The last time when he had a brief encounter with her, he simply felt she was rude and had no class to speak of. However, there was something different about her today.

Why did she have a similar aura as Miss Ji Ya?

Zhu quickly recalled why he was here today and composed himself before he said, "Miss Huo, Mrs. Ji would like to see you. She is family."

Family?

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes and felt puzzled by what he said.

Zhu noticed the look in her eyes and explained. "Mrs. Ji's maiden name is Song Qi. She is your mother's biological younger sister."

No wonder he claimed that the woman was family.

Huo Yao remained cold. "What do you want from me?"

Zhu was unsure if Song Ning had told Huo Yao about the Song family. When he saw her react so distantly, he contemplated for a few seconds before he decided to keep Old Master Song's sickness from her for the time being.

Zhu smiled as he said genially, "Your youngest aunt found out you were studying in the capital, so she keeps talking about wanting to see you."

Huo Yao looked at him sternly before she said, "My mother didn't tell me about an aunt."

Song Ning had never mentioned anyone from the Song family. It felt as though they didn't exist.

If Song Ning did not mention them, it could only mean they were insignificant to her.

Moreover, if her so-called youngest aunt wanted to see her so desperately, she would have come personally instead of sending her subordinate.

Chapter 854: Who Did She Think She Was?

The smile on Zhu's face froze slightly. Although he expected Song Ning not to have mentioned the Song family to Huo Yao, he inexplicably felt annoyed.

Huo Yao sounded cold and distant and she looked really rude.

Would any normal person react this way when they heard about their extended family?

Zhu suppressed his anger and explained. "Your mother, Song Ning, ran away from home for years due to special reasons. Even though she did not come home all this time, it doesn't change the fact that she is a Song. Your aunt is very concerned about you and your mother."

He paused before he continued trying to convince Huo Yao. "Your aunt is worried you might have trouble acclimating to the capital. Since you were undergoing military training all this while, she asked me to bring you to the Song residence after you are done. She really wants to see you..."

Huo Yao pondered over his words. Did he think she was an idiot?

If they did not want something from her, would they suddenly reach out to her after all these years?

If this so-called aunt was really keen on seeing her, why would she send a man with disrespect plastered all over his face to send a message?

Huo Yao sneered. She did not want to waste her time listening to this bullshit, so she raised her hand to stop him from talking before she said impatiently, "Don't bother beating around the bush. Just get to the point."

Zhu choked when Huo Yao spoke so bluntly. He has seen all kinds of people in his life. Since Huo Yao was unmoved by what he said, he probably realized that normal methods were not going to work on her.

Huo Yao had the same kind of personality as Song Ning when she was young.

No wonder he found her unlikeable at the get-go.

Zhu inhaled deeply and looked a little angry. "I don't know the reason she is seeking you. You will know when you see your aunt."

"I understand. In that case, I am not interested. Also, I am not keen on seeing some unknown woman." The moment she finished her sentence, Huo Yao walked off with her luggage.

Zhu was stunned. He turned to look at Huo Yao from behind and wanted to run after her, but felt it was beneath him, so he changed his mind.

Who did she think she was?

He took out his phone and called Song Qi.

Song Qi was at the hospital. She had just gone to the hospital president's office to ask about Old Master Song's condition. "... Huh? Does she refuse to see us? Was her attitude very poor?"

Zhu stood where he was and replied. He told Song Qi about the girl's reaction without any embellishment whatsoever. He pondered before he added., "However, I don't think Miss Ning has told her daughter about the Song family."

Song Qi stood in the hospital corridor where it was quiet and laughed softly. "I am sure Ning didn't tell her about us. After all, she has already severed ties with us."

Song Qi pondered before she asked. "Did you tell Ning or her daughter about the family's situation?"

"No, I didn't," answered Zhu hurriedly.

He could understand Song Qi's concerns. She was worried that Huo Yao might throw herself at the Song family if she found out they were wealthy.

Zhu paused before he asked. "She refuses to see you and doesn't want to come with me. What should I do now?"

Song Qi thought about what the hospital president told her about her father's condition and rubbed her forehead. "My father can't afford to wait. No, this won't do. I will go to meet her personally."

Zhu instantly frowned when he heard this and disagreed. "You have high social status, so you shouldn't have to come personally."

He watched as Huo Yao walked off and contemplated before he said, "She hasn't gone far. Why don't I run after her and try again?"

Chapter 855: Could She Afford To Hire A Chauffeur?

Song Qi always liked flattery. She raised her head with a proud look on her face and replied. "Sure. Why don't you give it a shot again?"

"Okay. In that case, I'm hanging up," said Zhu respectfully.

Song Qi acknowledged softly. Just as she was about to hang up, a thought crossed her mind and she added. "If she persists and refuses to come, use force if you have to."

Zhu knew what she was driving at and promptly acknowledged her words.

Song Qi pursed her lips. She pulled her phone away from her ear and stood for some time before she turned to enter Old Master Song's hospital ward.

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After Zhu hung up the phone, he quickly ran after Huo Yao. In just a matter of minutes, she had already gone quite some distance.

By the time he reached the school gates, Huo Yao had already walked up to the roadside and was getting ready to board the car.

A man got off the car and took her luggage before placing it in the boot. Even though Zhu could not hear anything, it was clear that the man looked very respectful from a distance.

Zhu frowned quizzically.

His investigation had clearly indicated that Song Ning was just an average housewife. Her husband was a common employee at some ordinary company. Also, they were living in a very old estate.

She might be having a hard life because she had five children to raise.

His investigations had revealed that all her sons were doing well. The eldest was working at an investment firm, the second one was a lawyer, her third son was living abroad and her youngest boy was a singer.

Unfortunately, the investigator only gave a brief report about her sons since they were not within the scope of the investigation.

Zhu felt startled to see this. Could Song Ning afford to hire a chauffeur for Huo Yao in the capital?

Huo Yao was about to get into the car and leave, so he hurriedly ran towards the car without hesitation.

He was two steps away from Huo Yao when a familiar voice came from behind.

“Uncle Zhu, what brings you to Tsing University?” asked Ji Ya with two students belonging to the same faculty standing beside her.

When Zhu heard Ji Ya’s voice, he froze and turned to look at her. “Oh hi, Miss Ya. I happened to pass through.”

He recalled Song Qi telling him not to divulge the truth about Huo Yao being at Tsing University. Also, he could not tell Ji Ya that they planned on sending Huo Yao to get her bone marrow tested.

Ji Ya looked at him quizzically, holding a stack of books.

Zhu raised his head to glance at the roadside. Huo Yao was already nowhere to be seen and the black car had driven off.

In an instant, he said to Ji Ya without stopping to explain. “Miss Ya, I have to go now. I will explain further some other time.”

The moment he finished his sentence, Zhu hurriedly walked to the roadside where his car was parked without waiting for Ji Ya to reply.

He quickly got into the car.

He wasn’t sure whether he would be able to catch up with the car that Huo Yao had gotten into.

Ji Ya stood where she was and looked even more puzzled. Zhu was her mother's most trusted aide. It was impossible for him to come to Tsing University for no reason. Also, judging from his reaction, he was not looking for her.

Ji Ya touched her books with her hand before veering her eyes. She turned to apologize to her peers. "I think something might have happened at home, so I can't continue discussing work with you. Mind if I take a rain check on this discussion?"

Since she was well-liked at school, her peers naturally had no objection and left her to it.

Ji Ya nodded to them before walking to the roadside and hailing a cab.

Chapter 856: No One Would Believe That She Was Good At Everything

Meanwhile, Huo Yao got into the backseat of the car.

"How are things at school?" asked Huo Changfeng with concern as he glanced into the rearview mirror from the front passenger seat. Even though he usually had a stern aura, he became genial the moment Huo Yao got into the car.

Although they had only met a few times, they did not seem distant at all. Their conversation seemed like any normal chat between an elder and a junior.

Huo Yao looked relaxed and spoke confidently. In comparison, there was a huge gulf between her and her older brothers.

"Uh huh. I'm good." Huo Yao sat with good posture. Ever since attending military training for half a month, she had a soldier's aura.

Huo Changfeng felt comforted after hearing this. She was just like a Huo.

After contemplating briefly, Huo Changfeng said randomly, "Things in the capital can get complicated, so I was thinking of arranging some self-defense classes for you from a martial arts instructor. What do you think?"

Huo Yao tapped her fingers on her knee gently before she turned down his offer once more.

"Uncle Changfeng, it's fine. I think things are pretty safe for me."

Huo Changfeng cleared his throat. He could not tell her about the Huo family for the time being. How could he explain things weren't as simple as she thought?

"Well, there's no harm for a girl to learn self-defense," said Huo Changfeng moments later.

Huo Yao acknowledged softly but ended up turning down Huo Changfeng's offer.

No one would believe she was good at everything even if she said it.

Since Huo Yao was not interested, Huo Changfeng did not insist upon it. Never mind. Everything ought to be fine with Chen Ming secretly protecting her.

After chatting briefly, Huo Changfeng looked out of the car window and touched the wooden bead bracelet on his wrist.

A car could be seen following them through the rearview mirror. Huo Changfeng calmly veered his eyes after seeing it.

Chen Ming had already noticed someone tailing them. He raised his head and glanced at the chief steward. Huo Changfeng looked calm, but he was slightly more serious than before.

Since Huo Yao was in the car with them, Chen Ming did not say anything out loud. It was not his first time getting tailed and he knew exactly what to do to shake them off.

The Huo family ran a big operation, so they naturally had enemies.

Chen Ming stepped on the gas slightly and the car sped up a little.

Huo Yao detected the car speeding up. She raised her brows slightly and turned to look out of the car window while she pondered.

Traffic in the capital tended to be packed. Although there were a lot of other cars on the road, Chen Ming had excellent driving skills and quickly sped past the cars in front of them. After they arrived at an intersection, he swiftly turned and shook off the car tailing them.

Chen Ming felt puzzled. He was already very attentive and ready to fight the person tailing them to death.

He glanced into the rearview mirror. Was this all the man in the car capable of?

Chen Ming wondered who sent the idiot to tail them. He was simply hilarious.

Chen Ming shook his head before he subtly slowed the car down.

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Zhu hit the steering wheel after he lost the car. He watched the heavy traffic surround him and cursed furiously.

He did not expect to lose the car.

It was extremely strange. Wasn't the chauffeur just an ordinary driver? How could Zhu lose him?

Zhu could not wrap his mind around it. After getting stuck in traffic for nearly 30 minutes, he finally called Song Qi as he turned the car and headed towards the hospital.

Chapter 857: In Bad Shape

Ji Ya went straight to the hospital after leaving the university, but she did not visit her grandfather immediately. Instead, she went to the hospital director's office.

The hospital director was in charge of treating her grandfather.

"After your grandfather underwent chemotherapy twice, he suffered some complications. If we still can't get the right bone marrow in time, even if we manage to perform surgery on him, the chances of him getting a relapse is very high," explained the hospital director patiently.

Ji Ya frowned when she heard this. She knew what the hospital director was trying to say. If they did not treat her grandfather as soon as possible, the chances of relapse were high even if they gave her grandfather matching bone marrow.

Her grandfather was suffering from leukemia, and it was hard to say if he was strong enough to undergo another surgery when he suffered a relapse.

Things were genuinely looking bad for him.

"Is there anything else that we can do?" asked Ji Ya hoarsely. She refused to give up.

The hospital director looked at Ji Ya and felt moved by her love for her grandfather.

Even Old Master Song's paternal grandchildren did not ask the hospital director about his condition. Instead, this maternal granddaughter of his always checked on him. Her love for her grandfather was very moving.

The hospital director shook his head and said, "The only option is a bone marrow transplant."

"But we can't get a matching bone marrow..." said Ji Ya, laughing powerlessly.

The hospital director sighed. His assistant came in from outside and said a few words to him. The hospital director stood up and said, "Sorry. I have to go perform surgery now."

Ji Ya nodded to him politely. "Please go ahead."

"Uh huh." The hospital director nodded.

Before long, the hospital director swiftly left.

Ji Ya thought about what the director had said when she left his office. She was really worried.

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Meanwhile, at the hospital ward.

Other than Old Master Song and Song Qi, her older brother was around as well. His name was Song Zhi.

Old Master Song had just done chemotherapy and was still unconscious. The statistics showing up on the medical equipment did not bode well, but it was not a life and death situation yet.

Song Qi sighed. "If we don't find a suitable bone marrow for Dad, things are going to get worse."

Song Zhi was in his forties. He was dressed in a suit and was in a bad mood. "Nothing can happen to him."

Although Old Master Song had left most of the family business to the younger generation, he still held a lot of power in the clan.

They had a large complicated family tree. If anything happened to Old Master Song, the family would go into chaos. Also, the other elite families in the capital would hit them while they were down.

If anything happened to Old Master Song, the family would risk losing power in the capital.

Song Qi was keenly aware of this as well, so she was particularly concerned about Old Master Song's health.

She was a Song. Although her husband's family was even more powerful than them, life would be hard for her at the Ji family without the support of the Song family.

Elite families were all about power with no love to speak of.

The more Song Qi thought about this, the more worried she felt. Zhu had just called to report that he lost sight of Huo Yao's car, so she was not in a good mood.

She said coldly, "Ning is simply heartless. Our father is so sick, but she doesn't care at all."

The moment Song Zhi heard Song Qi suddenly talk about Song Ning, he looked at Song Qi and said in surprise, "Did you go see Ning?"

Song Ning was the eldest in the family.

Song Qi replied in contempt. "That's right. I visited her two months ago. She refused to see me and was even rude to Zhu. She warned us not to provoke her or the Huos."

Chapter 858: Without The Song Family, Song Ning Was Nothing

Song Qi felt tickled every time she thought about Zhu's conversation with Song Ning.

How could Song Ning warn them not to provoke her or the Huos? How could she behave so cockily?

Song Ning had eloped with a mere hooligan back in the day. How dare she act superior after all these years?

Song Qi had no idea how Song Ning could afford to be so proud.

Song Qi pursed her lips in disdain.

Song Zhi frowned the moment he heard this. "Did Ning really say that?"

"Uh huh. I personally went to City S and told her about our father nicely, but she said she was not related to us and blacklisted my phone number," said Song Qi sarcastically.

She paused for a moment before she continued. "We just need her to get her bone marrow tested, but she was unwilling to do even that. She was really too much... Sigh. I don't even dare to tell Dad about this. I don't want him to get upset."

Song Zhi looked even more annoyed. He knew Song Ning had a headstrong personality. She broke the rules of high society and eloped with a man.

Now that Song Ning's biological father was suffering from leukemia and it was a matter of life and death, how could she refuse to see them?

No matter how heartless she was, she ought to have some conscience since it was her father.

Song Zhi wiped his face disappointedly before he said, "Send me her number. I will call her when I can."

Song Qi nodded. She retrieved her phone from her purse and sent Song Zhi the number. "I don't know if she has changed her phone number. Why don't you give this a shot? I couldn't find her husband's phone number, otherwise, I would have called him myself."

She wanted to tell her husband what a heartless woman his wife was.

Song Zhi's phone beeped inside his pocket, but he did not take it out to dial the number right away. Instead, he looked at Song Qi and asked. "How is she now?"

"Probably average. I think she has four sons and a daughter. I heard she lives in an old lousy estate. Considering the number of children she has, she probably lives on a tight budget." Song Qi pursed her lips.

Without the Song family, Song Ning was nothing.

Song Zhi could totally imagine the lousy life Song Ning was leading. He shook his head and pursed his lips. "Well, she asked for it."

"That's right." Since they were on the subject, Song Qi could not resist adding further. "I think her daughter is doing much better. She is the top scholar for this year's college entrance exam."

Song Zhi was surprised to hear how well his niece was doing. "Is she that good?"

The moment Song Qi heard her older brother's question, she could not help feeling annoyed, but she did not show it on her face. "Uh huh. She is the top Arts scholar."

Song Zhi pondered deeply. Regardless of her stream, she was a top scholar. It was clear that his niece would have a bright future.

He did not expect his eldest sister to have such an extraordinary daughter. After all, Ji Ya did not rank first when she took the college entrance exam.

Song Qi saw the look in Song Zhi's eyes and had an inkling of what he was thinking about.

She recalled that Song Ning's daughter was assigned to an unpopular division, so she said, "Ning's daughter is studying at Tsing University, but she was assigned to the most unpopular division in the faculty. I heard the teachers don't think much of her."

Song Zhi gathered his thoughts and felt puzzled. "Isn't she the top Arts scholar? Why don't they think highly of her?"

Didn't all the universities vie for the top scholar?

Song Qi shrugged. "Beats me. Maybe the teachers have other concerns. Although the top scholar has good grades, she needs true talent to survive there."

Chapter 859: Song Family's Blood Running Through Her Veins

Song Zhi nodded the moment he heard this. "That's true. Not everyone is as talented as Ya. All her professors think so highly of her."

The moment he brought up his other niece Ji Ya, Song Zhi's expression softened a lot.

Although Ji Ya was a Ji, she was the pride of the Song family.

Song Qi finally looked less angry. She could not help raising her chin proudly. "That goes without saying. My daughter is simply outstanding."

Song Zhi smiled. "She has yet to graduate, but she is already Tsing University's future Math professor. The family must have done something good in its past life to deserve a genius like her."

Song Qi nodded before she quickly changed the subject. "I know Ning doesn't want to get herself tested, so I got Zhu to reach out to her daughter."

"How did it go?" asked Song Zhi.

Song Qi waved her hand powerlessly. "I just received two calls from Zhu earlier. He said Ning's daughter refuses to see us and says we are unrelated to her."

Song Zhi was just starting to think slightly more highly of Huo Yao since she was a top scholar. He had even considered accepting her into the family for grooming since she was talented, but now...

Had Huo Yao inherited her mother's heartless personality?

Song Qi raised her head and looked at her father lying on the hospital bed before she sighed. "How much more time do you think Dad has? All we need is for them to get tested, but Ning and her daughter were so... Sigh... Never mind. Let's try something else. There is no point forcing them."

Song Zhi frowned. He could not allow his father to die. The doctor already said the chances of getting a bone marrow match were much higher within the family, so almost everyone in the clan had gone for testing, but there was no match.

They had already run a search within the hospital's database for potential bone marrow donors but to no avail. If they wanted to find a match from a completely unrelated donor, it was near impossible.

If they wanted to save Old Master Song, they would have a better chance of finding a donor from someone within the family.

Song Zhi contemplated before he said, "I will ask Ning about it some other time. As for her daughter..." He narrowed his eyes and said coldly, "She can't say no to not meeting us. Whatever it is, she has the Song family's blood running through her veins."

Song Qi smiled the moment she heard this and said nothing.

Song Zhi did not notice Song Qi's expression. Instead, he continued two seconds later. "Oh yes. Ya..."

The moment Song Zhi brought up Ji Ya, Song Qi unhurriedly retrieved test results that she had already prepared in advance from her purse and interrupted him. "This is the results of Ya's test. It wasn't a match."

Song Zhi looked at the results in Song Qi's hand and was astonished. He composed himself and felt very proud of Ji Ya. "I never intended on getting Ya tested. I didn't expect her to secretly get it done... She is such a good kid."

Song Qi felt surprised and was at the same time relieved. She had been worried that her older brother would insist on getting Ji Ya tested.

Although the doctor said it would not do any harm to donate bone marrow, nothing was 100%, so she could not let her daughter take any risks.

"You know how much she loves her grandfather," said Song Qi.

"Uh huh." Song Zhi nodded.

Meanwhile, someone knocked on the hospital ward door and interrupted their conversation.

Song Qi put the test results back into her purse before she walked over to the door. She said, "I think Zhu is probably back. You can ask him directly about Ning's daughter if you want to know the details."

Chapter 860: Apothecaries' Association

Song Qi was waiting for Zhu, but the moment she opened the door, she saw her daughter standing there. She could not help feeling surprised. "Ya? What are you doing here?"

Song Qi paused before she composed herself and asked. "When did you get here? How long have you been here for?"

Since Ji Ya was preoccupied thinking about her grandfather's condition, she failed to detect anything amiss with Song Qi. She simply nodded and replied. "I just came over from the hospital director's office."

Song Qi instantly felt relieved to hear this. In that case, she must not have overheard her conversation with Song Zhi.

She promptly pulled her into the hospital ward and said gently, "Did you ask the hospital director about your grandfather's condition?"

"Uh huh," acknowledged Ji Ya before looking at Song Zhi and greeting him. "Hi, Uncle Zhi."

The coldness on Song Zhi's face dissipated when he saw his niece. He said genially, "Hi, Ya."

Ji Ya nodded. She walked up to the hospital bed only to see her grandfather still unconscious. She could not help feeling bad. "When is Grandpa going to regain consciousness?"

Song Qi walked up beside her and patted her on the shoulder. "Since he is getting on age, chemotherapy is taking its toll on him, so he won't wake up so quickly."

Ji Ya raised her head to glance at her mother. "The hospital director said Grandpa can't wait anymore. Mom, I..."

Song Qi knew what her daughter was going to say, so she anxiously interrupted. "I know you are worried about your grandfather, but there is nothing you can do about it since you are not a match. We must find some other way to get matching bone marrow."

Ji Ya was stunned. What did her mother mean by not being a match?

As far as Ji Ya knew, she had not gotten herself tested.

Song Qi was afraid that her daughter might blurt something. She leaned sideways slightly so that Song Zhi could not see her face before she glanced at Ji Ya and hinted at her to keep her mouth shut.

Ji Ya turned to look at her uncle. Since she was a smart girl, she reckoned her mother must have said something to her uncle. She rubbed her forehead and contemplated.

Song Zhi said, "We can take care of your grandfather. You should not hold up your schoolwork because of him."

Ji Ya parted her lips but did not expose her mother. She simply answered softly. "I know, Uncle Zhi."

"Uh huh." Song Zhi acknowledged without speaking further.

Ji Ya veered her eyes. A thought crossed her mind, so she quickly put down the books in her hands and took her phone out from her bag.

Song Qi noticed her daughter's strange reaction, so she asked quizzically. "Ya?"

Ji Ya took out her phone as she said, "I recall my teacher saying he knew someone from the Apothecaries' Association. Let me ask if he can help introduce me."

The moment Ji Ya finished her sentence, Song Qi and Song Zhi both raised their heads to look at her swiftly. Song Zhi asked her in amazement. "Someone from the Apothecaries' Association?"

"Does your teacher know someone from the Apothecaries' Association?" asked Song Qi in astonishment.

The Apothecaries' Association was highly prominent in the capital. The medication they created was worth their weight in gold and hard to come by.

Even if the hospital diagnosed a patient as terminal, the Apothecaries' Association might be able to cure him with just a pill.

They were simply capable of miracles.

Apothecaries had high status in every single clan and it was also a great honor to know one.

Ji Ya looked at her mother and uncle before she calmly acknowledged them.

She went quiet briefly before she explained. "I recall my teacher talking about this before, but I can't remember for sure. Let me ask him."

