

Pill Maker 91

Chapter 91: I Feel Optimistic About You!

Huo Yanxi's lips curved into a mocking smile. He found his misconception of his little sister hilarious now. He was also taken aback about the way she had said nothing all this while, even though she was a straight A-student.

If Huo Yao had told him even a little about herself, he would never have misunderstood, and the two of them would not have fallen out like this.

Perhaps due to the embarrassment that Huo Yanxi brought upon himself, he found the food unpalatable. Maybe he did not know how to face Huo Yao, so the moment his phone rang in his pocket, he made some excuse and left for the office in a hurry without finishing his food.

Song Ning glanced at the main entrance and muttered softly. "Isn't it the weekend?"

Huo Jinyan raised his brow and said in a vague manner, "He's just embarrassed."

Song Ning looked quizzically at her husband.

Huo Jinyan only smiled without speaking any further.

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After Huo Yanxi went downstairs, he did not start the car right away. Instead, he pulled out his phone and ran a search for the National Quiz Contest on the web browser.

He entered the official web page very quickly and found the rank listing before long. After entering the page, he effortlessly found that Huo Yao had come in first with a score of 150.

Huo Yanxi's eyes hovered on the screen for a long time before he started to move his fingers. He caught sight of Lu Xia's name after he scrolled further down.

If Huo Yanxi had not brought up the topic of the quiz and his parents did not tell him about his little sister's score, he might have gone on presuming that she had lousy grades. He might even have kept feeling proud of his foster sister instead...

When Huo Yanxi recalled his recent attitude, he pulled his hair in frustration before throwing his phone aside and driving off.

It was just a preliminary test, so it was no big deal.

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On Monday

Huo Yao was called to the Principal's office as soon as she got to the school.

"Huo Yao, long time no see," said the Principal as he beamed at Huo Yao the moment he saw her. He seemed particularly warm and courteous.

Huo Yao bowed and politely greeted him. "Hello, what did you need me for?"

"I've been caught up with work since the school term started and then went on a business trip. I didn't expect that rumors of you using connections to enter the school would spread like this."

The Principal's face sank and he continued apologetically. "It's all my fault that this misunderstanding arose. I didn't put my point across to the teachers clearly enough. Don't worry, Huo Yao. I'll clear your name."

Huo Yao looked at the Principal in surprise.

She composed herself and shook her head as she replied in a calm manner. "It's okay. Since the rumors are unfounded, they will stop in time. The more I defend myself, the more suspicion I arouse."

The Principal was stunned. He did not expect such nonchalance from her. Then again, geniuses like Huo Yao usually did not really care what others thought about them. He was the one... who seemed narrow-minded now.

Huo Yao continued speaking with an ambiguous smile. "Wouldn't it be a bigger slap on their faces if I used my ability to prove myself?"

The Principal smiled as he shook his head. He walked over to the water dispenser and got her some water. He said, "I feel optimistic about your results for the National Quiz Contest."

Huo Yao took the glass of water and mulled over something before she spoke next. "I hadn't signed up for the quiz."

The Principal coughed uneasily and gestured to her to take a seat. He said sheepishly, "I was the one who signed up on your behalf."

Chapter 92: If You Get Headhunted By The Major Associations In The Capital

"I believed that this quiz would be easy for you," sighed the Principal.

The Principal had chanced upon Huo Yao, online purely by coincidence when she successfully solved all the toughest test questions from the most renowned schools in the capital.

Many students spent ages trying to solve them but failed. Yet the moment she laid her hands on them, she answered them effortlessly as though they were elementary school questions. She was capable of applying what she learned, exceptionally well.

She had almost caused the collapse of many college education systems, but no one knew her real identity.

If not for the No.1 Middle School's online admission test, she would have probably never gotten exposed as the 17 year old girl who gave those colleges such a headache.

It was also a stroke of luck that he managed to invite her to join the No.1 Middle School. Since she was planning to study in City S, and it was the best middle school in town, she had taken an interest in this school.

Of course, the Principal had no idea that she would actually pick the No.1 Middle School in the end.

The Principal's inexplicable trust in her made Huo Yao helplessly say, "I only want to study hard."

The Principal twitched his lips and replied. "There's no conflict between the schoolwork and the quiz."

"But why did you want me to take part in the quiz?" asked Huo Yao bluntly.

The Principal adjusted his spectacles and told her. "Although we have managed to maintain the school's enrolment rate in recent years, it's clearly declining..."

He paused for a moment before he said somewhat bitterly, "I want to improve the No.1 Middle School's reputation."

Huo Yao flashed an okay sign and said, "I get it."

The Principal did not have to beat around the bush since he was talking to an intelligent person. He looked at Huo Yao and pondered for a few seconds before speaking further. "The significance of this quiz isn't as simple as it seems. If you do well, the capital's major associations might try to headhunt you. It will do wonders for your career in the future."

Huo Yao raised her brow and was somewhat surprised.

The Principal smiled and said, "Staying at the No.1 Middle School is beneath you, given your talent. There isn't much I can help you with either."

Huo Yao waved and said lazily, "You don't have to do more. You're doing enough."

Then she stood up. "It's almost time for class. I'm going back."

"Sure," replied the Principal without speaking further.

But when Huo Yao stepped out through the door, he suddenly said, "I didn't tell anyone about what happened online."

Huo Yao halted. She gave him a sideways smile and left.

There was a profound look in the Principal's eyes. The warm expression on his face suddenly turned downcast after Huo Yao was completely out of sight. He walked over to his office desk and picked up the landline to make a call.

Although the young lady did not care about clearing her name, it did not mean he would condone it when people stirred trouble in his absence.

In the blink of an eye, it was time for the National Quiz Contest's official heats.

The city level heats were all conducted at the city's Education Center instead of the participating middle schools.

Huo Yao did not need to attend school this morning and headed straight to the exam hall.

Song Ning and Huo Jinyan had woken up early in the morning when they learned that their daughter was to appear for the quiz today. They even prepared a more sumptuous breakfast than usual.

All of them headed downstairs after breakfast and they kept asking Huo Yao endlessly about whether she had everything she needed while they were in the lift.

Her parents looked so nervous that it seemed as though they were preparing for war. Huo Yao did not know whether she should cry or laugh.

She consoled them and said, "Mom and Dad. It's just a little quiz. No need to get dramatic."

Chapter 93: Huo Yao, Is Pretty Good Now

The moment Song Ning heard her daughter calling it a trivial quiz, her lips twitched. She could not help recalling the same nonchalant attitude Huo Yao had given her when she asked about the quiz a few days ago. Huo Yao had called it a dumb quiz, that did not even offer a cash prize.

How could this be trivial if Huo Yao stood to win a commendation to the country's best college?

There was a complicated expression on Song Ning's face. What should she do about her daughter? Huo Yao really deserved a spanking.

Huo Jinyan, along with his wife and daughter, drove their old Volkswagen Santana to the Education Center.

The people standing at the building entrance were mostly students' parents. Apart from them, a television station was also present there to film the event.

"Hmmm? Will the quiz be aired on TV?" asked Huo Jinyan in surprise.

Huo Yao frowned when she caught sight of the camera at the entrance. Then she shook her head and replied to him. "I don't know."

"It doesn't matter. Just perform like you usually do," said Song Ning.

Huo Yao said indifferently, "Mhm." She seemed very calm and not the slightest bit anxious.

At the same time, the Lu family chauffeur brought Lu Xia and He Xiaoman to the venue.

When Lu Xia and He Xiaoman got out of the car, the cameraman at the entrance swiftly turned to film her, and the host went over to interview her.

Huo Jinyan and Song Ning were unsurprised to see Lu Xia. They were well aware that she had signed up for the quiz.

Since the camera crew surrounded Lu Xia, they did not go up to say hi. Moreover, He Xiaoman was standing right next to her, and they did not like her at all.

Song Ning especially detested He Xiaoman for her attitude in the past. Just the thought of it made her seethe. Moreover, He Xiaoman had dumped Huo Yao in a small county all her life because she held a contemptible patriarchal view.

Song Ning averted her eyes and turned sideways to block Huo Yao from He Xiaoman's view. She hurriedly said to Huo Yao, "Why don't you move to the exam hall? You can go in and locate your seat first."

Huo Yao detected that something was amiss with Song Ning but did not probe her and replied with a nod. "Okay, I'm going in."

Song Ning patted Huo Yao's shoulder and encouraged her. "Good luck! Mom and Dad will be waiting for you at the entrance."

Huo Yao hung her student pass around her neck and headed towards the entrance, where the staff scanned her pass before letting her in.

After the television station was done interviewing Lu Xia, they moved towards other students' parents.

Even without the camera on her, He Xiaoman kept up a gracious smile. But she frowned when her eyes landed on Song Ning and Huo Jinyan, who were standing nearby.

She asked her daughter softly. "Why are your foster parents here?"

Lu Xia was well aware of He Xiaoman's despise for the Huo family, so she could not greet them in her mother's presence. She merely lowered her eyes and replied gently. "Huo Yao signed up for the quiz too."

He Xiaoman scoffed when she heard that. "How dare she take part in this quiz with those atrocious grades of hers? Does she think that this is a joke?"

Lu Xia's expression turned dark when she thought about the score that Huo Yao had achieved in the preliminary test.

She said, "Mom, she is not the same Huo Yao as earlier. She's gotten quite... good these days."

"Good? Ok, but can she beat my daughter?" replied He Xiaoman without taking Lu Xia's words seriously.

She did not even want to find out more about Huo Yao's situation. Instead, she checked the time on her watch and became impatient.

She said, "Enough. Hurry up and go in. Do well, and don't disgrace the Lu family."

Lu Xia's lips twitched as she replied in a confident manner. "Okay."

Chapter 94: It's Almost Like Watching The Birth Of A Genius

The official National Quiz Contest was unlike the preliminary exam, where there was only one test. In this one, other than a written paper, they would also get tested on theory and logic, so it was far more challenging.

The time limit for the written test was an hour. The students were supposed to head to the examination hall next door after finishing the written test to take the next test, which was also time bound.

Huo Yao read through the entire paper after she received it and shook her head in disinterest. Although it was more challenging than the preliminary test... it was still as easy as pie for her.

She picked up her pen disappointingly and answered each question slowly.

Sigh! She finished the preliminary test too quickly, so her teacher had assumed that she did not treat it seriously enough. This time, she had to look the part.

Although Huo Yao was confident that she had taken enough time, she still gloriously finished first. Even the invigilator was surprised by her speed.

After accepting the answer script, the invigilator especially took note of her name.

Huo Yao? Was she not the kid who scored full marks in the preliminary test?

The invigilator was in a daze as he held her answer script.

Huo Yao went straight to the examination hall next door. In there, three invigilators would draw questions for the participant to answer within a ten minute time frame.

Was this not like an interview?

Huo Yao tutted and griped. The exam was prepared by the Education Association and certainly lived up to her expectation of being absolutely boring.

Very quickly, three questions were drawn. One was related to history, while the other two were science questions. This mainly served to determine the candidates' level of logical competence in varied fields.

Huo Yao was not the least bit anxious after she read the questions. After all, her copious amount of reading was bound to come in handy, someday.

Huo Yao finished answering all her questions within two minutes. It was literally a child's play for her.

Instead, the invigilators were the ones who were shocked. After Huo Yao left the exam hall, they could not help lamenting amongst themselves. "This participant is probably the best student I have met in my life."

"All she took was two minutes. She had ended up receiving three of the hardest questions from the entire lot. When I watched her harness that insane logic of hers, it was as though I was watching the birth of a genius."

"I have suddenly realised that our country might be about to make its mark in the International Quiz Contest this year."

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The camera crew from the television station was there to shoot the entire event. The host thought that the first person to finish would be the campus celebrity, Lu Xia. Hence, everyone was ready and poised to interview her.

After all, given her status as a popular celebrity, it would help sell the show more.

But it was Huo Yao who unexpectedly came out first. The host was caught by surprise, but she quickly composed herself and went over with the microphone to ask Huo Yao about the quiz.

Although it was not Lu Xia, the girl who came out first was an extraordinary beauty who gave off a cool aura and possessed photogenic features.

Huo Yao slapped her forehead helplessly as she glanced at the camera. If she knew that the camera crew would hound her, she would not have come out early.

“Hi, how do you feel about the quiz? Are you confident about making it into the provincial level competition?” asked the host as she smiled.

Huo Yao looked at her expressionlessly and replied in a calm manner. “It was quite easy.”

When the host heard this patronizing and arrogant response, she almost choked. This was the first time that she had gone speechless with her microphone in hand.

Chapter 95: Hate Being Compared To Huo Yao!

Wouldn't people humbly answer the host's questions if a television station wanted to interview them?

Why was this student giving them an attitude and looking impatient?

More importantly, despite her attitude, the host did not get angry or irritated with her.

Sure enough, people with good looks got away with everything.

The host composed herself and said sheepishly, “Haha, you must be exceptionally confident. I wish you all the best.”

“Thanks.”

The host watched as Huo Yao left. She clicked her tongue and said, “I wonder which school this girl goes to? She's gorgeous. If she entered the entertainment industry, countless fans would go crazy for her.”

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The moment Huo Yao came out, Song Ning and Huo Jinyan quickly spotted her.

“Are you done already? So soon?” asked Song Ning. She purposely glanced at the entrance and saw no other students there.

“Mhm,” replied Huo Yao softly. If she did not deliberately prolong the process to look serious and sincere, she could have come out even sooner.

"How did you fare?" asked Song Ning. Despite her confidence in her daughter, she could not help feeling curious about her performance.

Huo Yao raised her brow and said, "It was easy."

Huo Jinyan asked her. "When will the results be released?"

"Tomorrow morning at 10:00 am."

Huo Jinyan nodded and said, "Let's go. Mom and Dad are taking out to eat and celebrate."

Huo Yao's parents had discussed this while they were waiting for her at the entrance.

Huo Yao looked at them and asked. "Won't the results only be out tomorrow?"

"Heehee. My girl is a straight-A student. I don't have to see it to know that you would have done well," said Song Ning proudly.

Huo Jinyan shook his head in laughter and said, "Come on. You can talk in the car."

Very quickly, the three of them drove off.

He Xiaoman was sitting in her car nearby as she waited for Lu Xia. She had been watching the Huos since the moment Huo Yao came out until they left.

When she caught sight of the battered Volkswagen Santana which Huo Jinyan was driving, her look of disdain became even more intense.

Sure enough, penniless families bred beggarly daughters.

He Xiaoman raised her hand to check her watch. Despite her exquisite makeup, her face looked twisted and filled with impatience.

She said to the chauffeur, "Go and find out what's keeping Lu Xia."

"Yes, Madam."

Lu Xia finally came out ten minutes later. Shortly after she got into the car, He Xiaoman angrily asked her. "What took you so long?"

Lu Xia was startled. Since she detected He Xiaoman's impatience, she said gently, "The quiz was tough, so I had to spend more time on it. Also, the television station wanted to interview me, so I was held up."

The fury on He Xiaoman's face swiftly dissipated when she heard Lu Xia. Then she smiled maliciously.

That's true. He Xiaoman's foster daughter must have turned in her answer script early because it was too hard for her.

"How do you think you fared?" asked He Xiaoman.

"It was okay. I should be able to make it into the next round," said Lu Xia. Although she sounded nonchalant, it was clear that she was confident.

“Mhm. Good. The Lu family’s daughter has to be a cut above the rest, especially Huo Yao!” sneered He Xiaoman softly.

Lu Xia stared out of the car’s window with a cold look in her eyes, but He Xiaoman did not catch it.

Lu Xia hated it when her mother compared her to Huo Yao. It made her feel like she was always being pitted against Huo Yao’s level.

Chapter 96: No Intention Of Telling Their Daughter The Truth About Their Family

Huo Jinyan brought his wife and daughter to a famous seafood restaurant in the city.

After getting off the car, Huo Yao stared at the restaurant’s magnificent décor. Every inch of the restaurant looked so posh that she went into a daze.

Huo Jinyan dropped the ladies off before going to park the car. Song Ning turned to look at her daughter in confusion when she noticed that her daughter had not followed her. She turned around and asked her. “Yaoyao, why have you stopped?”

Huo Yao blinked and said solemnly, “I’m wondering how much it would cost to dine here. After all, we aren’t rich.”

Her daughter’s words tickled Song Ning. With a composed face, she said, “Don’t worry. We can dine here every day if you like. We can afford it.”

After all, this restaurant was their family’s business.

Their daughter had mistakenly thought that they were poor. Since both Song Ning and Huo Jinyan found it entertaining, they had decided not to tell their daughter about their family’s true financial situation.

Huo Yao teasingly replied when she heard Song Ning. “I have a feeling that you are hiding a lot of things from me.”

Their family, which was known to be poor, had started to appear less and less impoverished to Huo Yao.

Song Ning coughed and said, “No, we aren’t hiding anything.”

Huo Yao simply said, “Ohhhhh.” She dragged her last note for long and clearly did not believe Song Ning.

The restaurant manager had already gotten a call from their boss, so he stood at the door waiting for them. When he caught sight of Song Ning, he quickly walked out to welcome them and said respectfully, “Madam, you’re here.”

Huo Yao raised her brow when she heard the greeting. Her eyes landed ambiguously on her mother as if saying, “Is this your so-called ‘no, we aren’t hiding anything’?”

Song Ning rubbed the space between her brows.

Oops! Busted!

Song Ning cleared her throat and told herself not to panic. Then she nodded to the restaurant manager indifferently before telling Huo Yao with a straight face. "What do you think? Doesn't this restaurant have great service?"

The restaurant manager went, "..."

Did the lady boss just praise him?

Huo Yao's lips twitched. She glanced at the man, who was still bowing at them. It definitely seemed as though she was going further and further away from poverty.

After some time, Huo Yao nodded and said, "Yes, it's pretty good."

"Carry on. We will go to the private room on our own," said Song Ning as she eyed the restaurant manager and signaled for him to leave.

Although the restaurant manager had no idea what the lady boss was up to, he naturally understood what she wanted. He was an employee who was sharp and observant.

Very quickly, the restaurant manager left and told the staff not to disturb the Huo family while they were enjoying their meal.

Song Ning was happy with the restaurant manager's reaction. She pulled her daughter along and went upstairs to the Huos private room on the second floor.

The private room was huge, and its décor was extravagant and opulent.

"Yao, what would you like to have?" asked Song Ning as she placed the menu in front of Huo Yao and told her to order whatever she liked.

Huo Yao picked up the menu and flipped to the first page. When she caught sight of the price, she went quiet again.

Huo Yao felt as though she was following the wrong plot.

After parking the car, Huo Jinyan reached the restaurant. He rolled up his sleeves and said, "Tingrui called to say he's coming over to eat with us."

Song Ning was caught by surprise. "Is he back?"

"Mhm. He came back yesterday," said Huo Jinyan as he nodded and looked sideways at his daughter.

"Yaoyao, you'll get to see your second older brother in a few moments."

Huo Yao asked as she handed the menu back to him. "What does my second older brother do for a living?"

Chapter 97: Second Older Brother Now Online!

It was a rare occasion that Huo Yao had asked about any of her brothers, so Song Ning replied with a smile. "He's a lawyer."

When Huo Yao learned about this, it toppled the myth that her older brothers were good for nothing and lived off their parents.

"Your second older brother was out on a business trip all this while, but you'll get to see him now," explained Huo Jinyan.

He was worried that Huo Yao might think that his son had purposely not come home.

Huo Yao nodded absently and looked adorable as usual.

20 minutes after the waiters served the seafood, Huo Tingrui arrived there.

At first glance, Huo Tingrui looked a little reserved. He had deep eyes and wore a pair of rimless glasses on his high nose bridge. He seemed refined and sharp and had the aura of an elite lawyer.

The moment he entered the private room, he greeted Song Ning and Huo Jinyan before turning his eyes to look at Huo Yao. He was clearly shocked when he caught sight of her.

The girl had inherited their parents' best DNA. Huo Yao was sitting there quietly and was really pretty. She did not appear to have been raised in the countryside and was completely different from the photo she had sent via WeChat.

This was unexpected.

Huo Tingrui pondered for a few seconds before he turned to walk over to Huo Yao. He pulled out the chair and sat next to her. He introduced himself rather officially to her. "Yaoyao, I'm Huo Tingrui, your second older brother."

Huo Yao looked at Huo Tingrui with her bright, unsullied eyes. She said unhurriedly, "Hi, Brother Tingrui."

When Huo Tingrui heard her greeting, an inexplicable emotion flooded his heart. Perhaps due to their blood bond, he felt closer to her than Lu Xia when he heard Huo Yao call him 'Brother Tingrui'.

With that thought in his mind, Huo Tingrui said, "Say that again."

Huo Yao, "???"

Huo Tingrui coughed. He awkwardly adjusted his glasses and changed the subject. "I didn't bring you any presents today. Shall we go present hunting after we eat?"

Huo Yao hurriedly shook her head and said, "I'll pass. I have classes at school in the afternoon."

Did this entire family have some quirk about giving gifts?

It belatedly dawned on Huo Tingrui that his baby sister was still a student, so he did not force her.

After contemplating for a moment, he pulled out his phone from his pocket and turned it on as he said, "I will send you a little red packet. You can pick out a present when you're free."

When Huo Yao saw Huo Tingrui take out his phone, her temples suddenly started to throb. Before she could refuse him, her phone lit up with a notification.

Huo Yao glanced at the amount of money he had just transferred and her lips twitched. Did her second older brother have some misconceptions about the definition of the word 'small'?

Two hundred thousand! Was that a small red packet? Was it small? Was it small at all?

Huo Yao pressed her eyebrows. Sure enough, this awful habit of giving her money ran through the family.

Huo Tingrui detected Huo Yao's complicated expression. He touched his chin. Two hundred thousand was definitely too little, so he pulled out his wallet from his pocket and handed her a card.

"Take this card as well. Buy anything you like with it. The password is..." said Huo Tingrui.

Then he placed the bank card on the table.

Huo Yao, "..."

The feeling that she had unexpectedly turned into a girl from a rich family, was becoming more intense!

"You must remember to use my card also!" Huo Jinyan chimed in immediately.

After seeing his son hand Huo Yao a bank card, he reminded Huo Yao to use his as well. He didn't want to be left behind.

Huo Yao, "..."

Chapter 98: An Incredible Baby Sister!

Huo Tingrui kept putting food in Huo Yao's bowl during lunch. He even shelled the seafood and seemed very gentlemanly.

"Oh yes, which school do you attend, Yaoyao?" asked Huo Tingrui calmly as he placed another de-shelled prawn in Huo Yao's bowl.

Huo Yao raised her head to look at him and replied unhurriedly. "The No.1 Middle School."

Huo Tingrui was surprised to hear that. He said, "That's great! I couldn't get in as I was two marks short. Till this day, it remains a matter of regret to me."

He sighed.

"You played video games all through the night before you were to take your senior high entrance exams. You couldn't get in because you asked for it. You don't deserve any pity," said Song Ning as she disclosed his shortcomings ruthlessly.

Huo Tingrui coughed to disguise his embarrassment and muttered. "People make mistakes when they are young."

“Heh, you have so many excuses. Look at how diligent your baby sister is. She just took part in the National Quiz Contest and scored full marks. She’s way better than any of you boys.”

The moment she mentioned their daughter’s scores, Song Ning could not help beaming brightly.

“Are you for real?” said Huo Tingrui. He could not suppress his shock.

“Of course. I won’t lie about it. Yaoyao just went for the city level test today. Her scores will be out tomorrow. Remember to go online and check it out,” sneered Song Ning.

Huo Tingrui turned to look at Huo Yao and looked wounded. He said, “I heard about the contest when I was in school. It’s held once every two years, and all the straight-A students in the country take part in it. Did Yao score full marks for the prelim...”

That was incredible!!!

Huo Yao made eye contact with Huo Tingrui, who had a complicated look in his eyes. She pursed her lips into an adorable smile and said casually, “It’s nothing.”

Huo Tingrui, “!!!”

AHHHH. It felt as though Huo Yao had ousted him as the brightest kid in the family.

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Huo Yao got ready to return to school after lunch. Huo Jinyan was supposed to send her but Huo Tingrui took over instead.

Huo Tingrui kept looking at his little sister from time to time as she sat in the front passenger seat. He could not help lamenting in his heart. Why were they so different even though they were born to the same set of parents?

Huo Yao sensed his stare. Her head was slanted, making her hair fall on her shoulder. She had a playful look about her. She looked at him somewhat quizzically and said, “Brother Tingrui?”

Huo Tingrui cleared his throat and said, “I was just wondering who groomed my little sister into such a fine young woman. I should find the time to visit her soon.”

Since he was roughly aware of her biological sister’s situation, he knew that Huo Yao did not grow up in the Lu residence but was raised by her grandmother in the countryside. He was suddenly a little curious about the old lady.

Huo Yao had not seen this coming. She pondered briefly and replied with a nod. “I’ll ask Grandma about it.”

“Mhm,” said Huo Tingrui softly without saying anything further.

Before long, the car reached the school.

“Brother Tingrui, I’m off,” said Huo Yao to Huo Tingrui as she undid her seatbelt.

Huo Tingrui rubbed his forehead as he replied, “Sure.”

Huo Yao had noticed that he kept subconsciously rubbing his head during the entire journey, so she could not help but ask. "Are you unwell?"

Huo Tingrui raised his eyes in surprise. But then he shook his head and replied with a smile. "It's an occupational hazard. Happens when I use my brain too much."

Huo Yao acknowledged him thoughtfully before she opened the car door. After she got out of the car, she turned to ask him. "When are you coming home?"

Chapter 99: Huo Yao Must Have Said Something!

Huo Tingrui looked at her quizzically and asked. "Hmm?"

"I have a medicine for nourishing Qi and blood. It's pretty effective. Tell me when you're coming home, so I can prepare it for you," said Huo Yao as she briefly explained.

After all, Huo Yao just received a 'small' red packet from Huo Tingrui, so she ought to give him something in return. To be fair though, her medication was worth far more than those red packets.

Huo Tingrui composed his thoughts and smiled when he realized that Huo Yao was trying to do a kind gesture. Just as he was about to speak up, her voice spoke again, "Or you can send me your address, and I'll get it couriered to you."

When Huo Tingrui saw how serious his little sister was about the matter, he swallowed his words of rejection. He replied with a smile. "That's fine. I'll be coming to stay at home for a period of time."

Huo Yao snapped her fingers at him and said, "Okay then. I'll give it to you tonight."

Then she jumped off the car coolly.

Huo Tingrui placed his hands on the steering wheel as he watched his little sister disappear into the distance. He smiled as he shook his head.

This little sister of his was cute. No, correction, she was rather cool.

As Huo Tingrui started the engine, his car passed by the Lu family's car which was just entering into the school compound.

Lu Xia inadvertently looked up and happened to see Huo Tingrui's face.

"Stop the car," said Lu Xia to the chauffeur hurriedly.

The chauffeur stepped on the brake quickly and pulled up on the side.

Lu Xia opened the car door, but Huo Tingrui's car was long gone and had almost completely disappeared by the time she looked behind.

Lu Xia bit her lip angrily. Then she took out her phone from her bag and called Huo Tingrui.

After a few rings, Huo Tingrui picked up the phone and asked. "Xiaxia? Do you need anything?"

Lu Xia continued gazing in the direction that Huo Tingrui's car had gone as she said warmly, "Nothing. Just wondering whether you are back from your business trip."

Huo Tingrui paused while he was driving the car. Then he said composedly, "Not yet. The case is a little complicated, and I won't be able to come back so soon."

Lu Xia subconsciously tightened her grip on the phone when she heard this and looked upset. After a few seconds, she finally found her voice and said, "Ah, I see. Then tell me when you're coming back. I can come pick you up at the airport."

Huo Tingrui acknowledged her in a perfunctory tone. "Mhm. I have a client with me. Talk again when I'm free."

"Okay. Carry on then, Brother Tingrui."

Lu Xia stood motionlessly after hanging up the phone for some time, and her eyes suddenly misted.

Although both cars brushed past each other quickly, Lu Xia was certain that it was Huo Tingrui's face and his license plate number.

Why did Huo Tingrui lie to Lu Xia about being on a business trip?

Was he so cold to Lu Xia because Huo Yao had returned?

Oh yes. He was driving from the school earlier on. Without a doubt, Huo Yao must have said something to him!

Lu Xia clenched her fists. Her sharp nails seemed to cut through her skin.

**

After Huo Yao reached the class, Meng Ying, who had been lying listlessly on the table, instantly regained her spirits and said, "Sister Big Shot, you're back. How did your test go?"

Huo Yao swept the hair on her cheeks and tucked them behind her ears. She replied in her usual nonchalant manner. "It was okay."

Meng Ying clicked her tongue. Tsk tsk, Huo Yao sounded indifferent.

"You don't look very energetic. Did you have a hard time sleeping last night?" asked Huo Yao as she glanced at her.

Meng Ying shook her head. Then she placed her chin on the table and acted pitiful. She said, "The class advisor announced something hateful this morning."

Chapter 100: These Meds Are Amazing!

Huo Yao raised her brow and waited for her to finish the story.

"It's time for the monthly death test!" said Meng Ying as she exhaled deeply.

“Don’t you know why Chen Yu is called the Female Devil? After each test, those with lower average marks than before will suffer an insane corporal punishment!”

Huo Yao looked at her lazily and asked. “Corporal punishment?”

“Yes! We have to run ten rounds every day after school for ten days in a row. Don’t you think it’s crazy?” asked Meng Ying as she shivered.

Huo Yao’s lips twitched and she asked. “Is it that bad?”

When Meng Ying heard Huo Yao, she immediately exploded. “Isn’t it? It’s ten whole rounds! Sister Big Shot, do you not know how big our track is? I get so exhausted after running just one round during physical education!”

Running ten rounds around the track was as good as killing Meng Ying!

Oh yes, she had forgotten that Sister Big Shot was like a professional athlete during physical education classes. It was as though Huo Yao was in a completely different physical education class or a rather different level.

Huo Yao touched her chin and studied Meng Ying. She clicked her tongue as she shook her head and said, “You have dark eye rings and edema from staying up late. Also, you don’t exercise enough. My dear, you shouldn’t kill yourself at such a young age.”

“PFFFT PFFFT... You make me feel as though you are a professional Chinese physician, who goes around deceiving others,” said Meng Ying as she dug in her desk for her makeup mirror.

“Are my eye bags that bad?”

Huo Yao, “...”

“They do look kind of serious,” said Meng Ying woefully before putting down the mirror. Then she turned to look at Huo Yao’s face.

Huo Yao’s complexion was bright and translucent without any impurities. Sigh... her complexion emphasized Meng Ying’s flaws.

Meng Ying covered her face and said, “I’m so hurt. Don’t bother trying to console me.”

Huo Yao’s lips twitched. She only said airily, “Remember to study hard for the monthly death test.

Meng Ying let Huo Yao go and said huffily, “Sister Big Shot, how can you give me double whammies like that!”

Huo Yao smiled at her gently.

Meng Ying, “!!!”

Huo Yao was no longer the same Sister Big Shot whom she once knew!

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Huo Yao went upstairs after dinner and took out her box of jars and bottles. She removed a light grey bottle and went back downstairs.

“Brother Tingrui, this is for you. One pill a day. I can give you more once you’re done,” said Huo Yao as she handed over a bottle to Huo Tingrui.

Huo Tingrui raised his brow and accepted the bottle before saying, “Are these the meds for nourishing Qi and blood that you were mentioning in the afternoon?”

Then he opened the bottle.

“Mhm,” replied Huo Yao. “Trust me, they are super effective.”

Huo Tingrui smiled. A light Chinese herbal scent wafted in his nostrils when he placed it next to his nose and took a whiff. It smelled good and helped ease his mind. Even his brain felt clearer in a second!

“These meds....” said Huo Tingrui in shock as he raised his head and looked at Huo Yao.

He continued after a pause. “I feel better just by smelling it!”

Huo Yao’s lips curved into a smile. Of course, this medication was priceless.

“Let me try one now,” said Huo Tingrui as he eagerly took a green bean sized pill out.

He took some water from beside him and swallowed the pill.

Although it was a Chinese medical pill, it did not choke him like the other medicines.

Huo Tingrui was already biased towards the medicine after feeling great from merely smelling it. The moment he took it, it relieved even the weightiness he had felt all these years.

This medication was amazing!