

Regaining 441

Chapter 441: Dad, Please Help

"Lou Fan, you go to Medical University right now. Fetch Xu Nian'an over with the greatest speed," Pei Yicheng ordered calmly, "Yining, you go with Lou Fan. Remember, you must be quick."

"Okay."

Pei Yining had no time for lengthy discussions as she dragged Lou Fan out, saying as they ran, "Xu Erge is Nianhua's biological brother. Their blood types are likely the same. If Xu Erge comes, Nianhua could be saved."

"Lou Fan, drive faster, even faster."

Pei Yining kept urging Lou Fan as the jeep sped along the wide streets, wishing it could sprout wings and fly directly to Xu Nian'an.

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At the hospital, Pei Yicheng was also busy. He stood next to the telephone at the nurse's station, took a deep breath, and pressed a number that had once been very familiar to him.

"Mr. Pei, you have a call," the assistant whispered to Pei Guozhong, who was in a meeting.

Pei Guozhong frowned and looked displeasedly at the assistant. He was in the middle of a meeting, planning to build the biggest hotel in Ningbei. He was busy discussing the matter, yet his assistant—no rookie to the job—was disturbing him thoughtlessly.

"However, the call is from Pei Yicheng," the assistant replied in a low voice, with his head bowed.

He didn't want to interrupt Mr. Pei during a meeting, but after serving Pei Guozhong for five years, he had the opportunity to accompany Pei Guozhong to the west of the city last summer. He knew all too well that this rarely seen son held a significant place in Pei Guozhong's heart.

Over the phone, Pei Yicheng's words were very serious, as if something urgent had happened, which naturally left the assistant no choice but to interrupt the meeting.

Not believing his ears at first, and after receiving a confirmatory reply from his assistant, Pei Guozhong immediately stood up, declared a recess for the meeting, and strode towards his office.

"Yicheng?"

As Pei Guozhong answered the phone, a trace of excitement seeped through his voice at the mention of Pei Yicheng's name.

"It's me." Pei Yicheng, hearing the familiar yet distant voice on the other end, took a deep breath, aware of the preciousness of time. He didn't have time for anything else, but lowered his stance very much and said, "Yining's friend, who is also the granddaughter of your disciple, had a car accident. She now requires a blood transfusion, but she has the rare 'Panda Blood.' The blood supply here at the hospital is insufficient. You have many contacts; I would like to ask for your help to see if any other hospital has a stock."

Pei Yicheng summarized the situation succinctly.

On the other end of the phone, Pei Guozhong fell silent for a moment.

"Dad, please help," Pei Yicheng, lowering his gaze, uttered a word he hadn't called in fifteen years.

The nurse had made it very clear just a moment ago: without the blood, Xu Nianhua would undoubtedly die.

"Okay."

Pei Guozhong hung up the phone, feeling stirred by the task his son had entrusted to him. Without hesitation, he started making calls to his acquaintances, urgently searching for Panda Blood.

At Medical University, Xu Nian'an had just distributed the food his younger sister brought, gearing up for next week's exams, when Pei Yining burst into the male dormitory. Xu Nian'an almost thought his eyes were playing tricks on him.

"Xu Erge, follow me quickly."

Pei Yining, without further explanation, grabbed Xu Nian'an and rushed outside.

"Hey, Yining, what exactly is going on?"

Xu Nian'an was dragged outside by Pei Yining even before he could put on his shoes. Fortunately, he slept on the lower bunk; otherwise, she might have dragged him off the bed to the floor.

Chapter 442: Draw as Many as You Want

"Shoes, I'm not wearing shoes." Xu Nian'an, with one foot in a shoe and the other just in a sock, was being dragged along by Pei Yining. He was completely bewildered, not knowing what was happening.

He didn't even know where Pei Yining was getting such strength from; her pulling made his hand hurt.

"Nianhua is at the hospital waiting for you to save her, it'll be too late if we delay any longer," said Pei Yining.

At Pei Yining's words, Xu Nian'an suddenly forgot about his shoes. He didn't have time to ask what was going on as he turned around and started pulling Pei Yining downstairs, running much faster than when she was pulling him.

Downstairs, Lou Fan was explaining the situation to the dorm supervisor. He had wanted to go upstairs to search for Xu Nian'an but didn't know which dorm he was in, which would waste time, so he had to let Pei Yining go up.

"Ma'am, this is a matter of life and death, please be kind," Lou Fan urgently explained, understanding that time was of the essence.

"Then you better bring your car around, so as not to delay things," the supervisor, upon hearing about the emergency, didn't obstruct him and even suggested to Lou Fan.

Pei Yining followed Xu Nian'an downstairs, and seeing him run outside, she quickly said, "Get in the car, hurry up."

Xu Nian'an glanced at the jeep beside him and immediately jumped into the vehicle.

Lou Fan didn't waste a moment, speeding towards the hospital like a whirlwind.

"Yining, explain clearly—what happened to Nianhua? Weren't you guys back at school? How did this happen?" Xu Nian'an's heart was pounding as he nervously jittered his leg.

"It's all my fault," Pei Yining, choked up, explained what had happened, blaming herself continuously, "If it wasn't for saving me, Nianhua wouldn't be in this situation. The nurse said Nianhua has Panda Blood, and there's not enough in the blood bank, that's why I came to find you."

"Panda Blood? How can the little sister have Panda Blood?" Xu Nian'an was shocked not only by the car accident but also by Xu Nianhua's blood type. Being medical students, he was clear about blood types, never having heard his family mention Panda Blood.

As Nianhua's brother, he was sure he could save her.

With that thought, Xu Nian'an rushed to the hospital.

The only relief was that the hospital was not far from the school. Upon arrival at the hospital, Xu Nian'an went for a blood test, praying in his heart that it would be a match.

The nurse frowned, shaking her head, "You're not Panda Blood."

"How can I not be? I'm her biological brother," said Xu Nian'an, grabbing the nurse excitedly. "Take my blood, if it can save my sister, take as much as you need."

"Calm down a bit. If the blood types don't match, even taking your blood won't help," the nurse comforted him, having seen the young girl in the emergency room. It would be truly regrettable if it were too late for a transfusion.

"What do we do?" Xu Nian'an panicked, unable to bear the thought of potentially losing Nianhua.

"Nian'an, I've already asked my dad to try and find any available blood from nearby storage. I'm sure we'll hear something soon," Pei Yicheng comforted him, initially thinking that with Xu Nian'an present, Xu Nianhua would be safe. Yet, the rarity of Panda Blood was proving a massive hurdle.

Pei Yicheng turned and walked outside, standing in the hospital lobby on a chair, he looked over the bustling crowd and called out, "Excuse me, sorry to interrupt everyone. Does anyone here have Panda Blood?"

Pei Yicheng's action also stirred a glimmer of hope in Xu Nian'an. Perhaps, just maybe, they might find someone with Panda Blood.

Chapter 443: What Do I Want Your Life For

Unfortunately, Pei Yicheng promised a huge reward, and there were many willing to get tested for their blood type, but none had Panda Blood.

There was news from Pei Guozhong that a hospital had stored Panda Blood, but the amount was limited and, furthermore, it was quite a distance from the hospital they were in.

"Yicheng? Are you looking for Panda Blood?" Su Yan had discharged his mother that morning, and he still had to pick up some medicine when he saw Pei Yicheng searching for Panda Blood.

"Yes, my friend was in a car accident, and now it's crucial to get Panda Blood to save him," Pei Yicheng explained, so desperate for the Panda Blood that he felt like asking everyone he met.

"Then let's hurry."

Su Yan turned around and headed for the blood transfusion room. Seeing Pei Yicheng still in shock, Su Yan turned back, puzzled, and asked, "Didn't you say it's urgent to get a blood transfusion to save a life? What are you standing around for?"

"You, you have Panda Blood?"

Overjoyed, Pei Yicheng watched as Su Yan sat in the blood transfusion room, having his blood collected for testing, and once confirmed as a match, Su Yan started donating blood.

"Su Yan, thank you." Pei Yicheng watched the blood being drawn, as if he was seeing hope.

Nianhua was saved.

"It's just a bit of blood, no big deal. I'm really curious, though— who got hurt that you care so much?" Su Yan inquired with curiosity, eyeing Pei Yicheng, whom he knew to be exceptionally aloof.

He never expected Pei Yicheng to cast aside his pride and stand in the hospital lobby asking who had Panda Blood, all for someone else.

"A very, very important person," Pei Yicheng said slowly and solemnly. "Su Yan, I owe you my life."

"Pfft."

Su Yan grinned, his sunny, handsome face looking like it could melt ice and snow when he smiled, and said, "What would I need your life for?"

"Who saved Nianhua?" Xu Nian'an was outside asking who had Panda Blood. Hearing from Pei Yining that someone was giving Xu Nianhua a blood transfusion, he rushed over excitedly and, seeing Su Yan

pressing on the transfused arm, he bowed deeply towards Su Yan in gratitude, saying, "Thank you, thank you for saving my sister, a life-saving grace, I..."

"If there's ever anything I can help with in the future, I definitely will..." Xu Nian'an paused for a moment, then said earnestly, "climb up a mountain of knives or go down to the Sea of Fire without hesitation."

These words, although a bit over the top, expressed exactly what Xu Nian'an was feeling and thinking at the moment.

If saving his younger sister meant giving his life, he wouldn't hesitate to say a word.

"Your sister?" Su Yan's meaningful glance turned towards Pei Yicheng, and if there were just suspicions before, now they were confirmed.

Unexpectedly, the aloof Pei Yicheng could also have someone dear to him?

What might the person he cares about be like?

Su Yan was rather curious. He said, "No need to thank me, Yicheng and I are classmates and friends, and it was merely a small effort."

"Yicheng, I'm going abroad tomorrow. I wanted to have a meal with you before I left, but it seems better to wait until I return next year," Su Yan knew that if the person in the operating room didn't come out safe, Pei Yicheng wouldn't have the heart to eat.

"Have a safe trip," Pei Yicheng patted his shoulder and said, "When you come back, I'll treat you to a big meal."

Su Yan lifted the corners of his lips and said, "It's a promise."

"It's a promise."

Su Yan left, and Pei Yicheng and Xu Nian'an along with two others stayed outside the operating room. It was getting dark outside, and even the faint smell of food held no attraction for them at this moment; their eyes were all fixed on the operating room doors.

In a corner, a man huddled up, and at this moment, all his inebriation had sobered up.

Chapter 444: Aren't Your Feet Cold?

"How's my little sister doing?" Xu Nian'an asked anxiously as soon as he saw the doctor emerge.

"The head surgery went well. Monitor her closely tonight, and if she wakes up tomorrow, she should be fine," the doctor replied, explaining further with many medical terms that Xu Nianhua's left leg was injured and would need a month to recover before she could walk normally again.

"Doctor, after my little sister can walk normally again, will there be any impact on her leg?" Xu Nian'an asked anxiously, his sister being so outstanding, if this incident made it impossible for her to walk, then...

"Don't worry, once her leg has recovered, it will be just as spry as before."

Seeing how concerned Xu Nian'an was, the doctor couldn't help but remind him, "However, your sister has Panda Blood, so you must be careful. If a situation arises again where she needs a blood transfusion and it isn't available on time, the situation could be very dangerous."

Today, Xu Nianhua had barely escaped with her life, fortunate that there was a kind-hearted person in the hospital with the same Panda Blood. Otherwise, waiting for blood to arrive from another hospital could have been a matter of life and death.

"Thank you for the reminder, Doctor."

Xu Nian'an was also scared now. Although Nianhua had always been frail as a child, she had never been in such a critical situation requiring a blood transfusion. Unexpectedly, his little sister turned out to have the extremely rare Panda Blood.

But, he hadn't heard of anyone in their family having Panda Blood?

Xu Nian'an was puzzled as he watched his sister being moved to the intensive care unit, observing her pale face and bandaged head through the glass, his heart that had been hanging finally eased somewhat. If something had really happened to his sister, he wouldn't have known how to face their parents.

"Little sister, you're definitely going to be alright," Xu Nian'an muttered.

"She'll definitely be safe and sound," Pei Yining, standing by his side, said, unable to stop thinking back to that horrifying moment. If Xu Nianhua hadn't pushed her away in time, she might have been the one lying in the hospital bed.

Pei Yicheng, standing with them, blamed himself for not going to Medical University earlier. If he had been there sooner, maybe this tragedy wouldn't have happened.

"Xu Nianhua has a will of heaven, she will definitely be safe. Are you guys hungry, want to eat something?" Lou Fan was already starving; earlier, concerned only about Xu Nianhua's life-and-death situation, he hadn't thought about anything else, but now that the surgery was over, his stomach began to protest.

"I can't eat," Xu Nian'an said, wanting nothing but to stay right there.

Pei Yicheng said, "Lou Fan, just buy anything, thanks for the trouble."

"Brother Cheng, what are you talking about? We're all family here, not strangers," Lou Fan waved him off and turned to go buy dinner.

"Yining, your hand is injured too," Pei Yicheng just then noticed that Pei Yining's hand was injured.

Xu Nian'an remembered instantly when Pei Yining had grabbed him; there had been blood all over one hand. He lifted his hand and indeed, it was covered in blood.

"It's a minor injury, no big deal," Pei Yining shook her head, her eyes on Xu Nian'an, she said, "But Second Brother Xu, aren't your feet cold? You're not even wearing shoes."

"Huh?"

Xu Nian'an looked down and realized, belatedly, that he was shoeless, standing in just his socks. Walking back and forth so much, he felt his foot and said, "I think it's so cold I've lost feeling."

Chapter 445: Second Brother is Here

Beining University, Dorm 302.

"Pistachio, have you seen Nianhua?" After dinner, Fei Jiayi, unable to restrain herself, asked as she looked at the still-empty bed opposite her.

Ding Guo thought for a moment, shook her head, and said, "No, Chang Hui, have you seen her?"

"No." Chang Hui also shook her head.

Eventually, everyone in the dorm had been asked and all said they hadn't seen her.

Fei Jiayi, frowning with concern, said, "Nianhua has never spent the night outside before; could something have happened?"

"She didn't say she wouldn't come back today," Chang Hui said, puzzled.

Zhou Wanwan also put down the book she was holding and said, "Nianhua has never stayed out overnight like this."

"But we can't get in touch with her either," Fei Jiayi said, unable to enjoy even her favorite lollipop.

Ding Guo thought for a moment and said, "She left today with Pei Yining. Could she be staying at Pei Yining's house?"

"It's been several months since school started; have you ever seen her stay at Pei Yining's house?" Fei Jiayi countered.

Fei Jiayi and the others waited until lights out, but Xu Nianhua never showed up.

Hospital.

Four people who had stayed up all night were still waiting for Xu Nianhua to wake up.

Xu Nian'an told Pei Yining, Pei Yicheng, and Lou Fan to go back and rest, but none of them were willing to leave. Eventually, all four stayed in the hospital. Pei Yicheng had Ling Dong bring several blankets, and each of them wrapped themselves in one, staying through the night.

At six-thirty in the morning, the doctor said Xu Nianhua had awakened but was very weak and only one person could visit the ward. Without a second thought, Xu Nian'an stood up, followed the doctor, dressed in an antibacterial suit, and entered the ward.

Pei Yicheng's hand rested on the cold glass, wishing he could take Xu Nian'an's place, but...

Pei Yicheng's gaze intently fell on Xu Nianhua lying on the hospital bed, her trembling eyelashes, her slightly open eyes, allowed his heart that had hung in suspense all night to finally settle down.

"Little sister." Xu Nian'an, seeing her up close, immediately felt his eyes water. Just yesterday, she was happily eating with him, and today, she lay on a hospital bed, motionless. Her pitiful appearance made Xu Nian'an feel extremely heartbroken.

"Second brother."

Xu Nianhua's lips moved slightly, but she hardly made a sound.

"Hey, second brother is here." Xu Nian'an moved closer, now near her, and softly said, "Little sister, don't be afraid, second brother is here. Once you're better, I'll take you out for some tasty food."

His voice was very low, as if he feared a louder voice might disturb her rest.

"Yining."

As soon as Xu Nianhua spoke, Xu Nian'an responded, "Yining is fine, just a scraped hand. It was bandaged last night and it's no big deal."

"Don't, don't tell mom and dad." Xu Nianhua's gentle voice sounded.

Almost in tears, Xu Nian'an replied, deeply moved by his sister always thinking of others despite her own pain, "Okay, I won't tell mom and dad."

"Exams." Speaking was very difficult for Xu Nianhua.

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian'an knew exactly what she meant and said, "Don't worry about the exams. Rest up. The exams are on Thursday and Friday, and today is only Monday. Let's not think about that."

"Time is up," the nurse said, beginning to usher people out.

Reluctantly standing up, Xu Nian'an said, "Little sister, focus on getting better, and don't worry about anything else, understand? If you need anything, just tell the nurse. Second brother is right outside."

Xu Nian'an pointed outside as he spoke.

Xu Nianhua couldn't move her head and was too tired to speak, so she just blinked to show she understood.

Chapter 446: Keep it Hidden

"Xu Second Brother, how is Nianhua?" Pei Yining approached with concern, asking about Xu Nianhua's condition.

"He doesn't have much strength to speak, but, once he's awake, he should be fine." Even though Xu Nian'an hadn't seen what happened yesterday, the clothes Xu Nianhua had changed out of were all bloodied, which was enough to frighten him.

"Xu Second Brother, I'm sorry, Nianhua got so hurt because of me—it's all my fault," Pei Yining said with self-reproach.

Xu Nian'an sighed, consoling her, "Yining, it's not your fault. If you were in Nianhua's place, you would have pushed him out of the way too, right?"

Pei Yining thought for a moment and nodded affirmatively.

"It's all that culprit's fault!" Xu Nian'an said through clenched teeth. After Xu Nianhua's surgery was completed yesterday, they had reported the incident to the police, and investigators had already come to look into yesterday's events. Since Xu Nianhua was still unconscious, the man was directly taken away by the police.

He reeked of alcohol; even if you weren't trying to notice, it was hard to miss that he had been drinking!

"Driving drunk, if he wants to court death, he shouldn't harm others."

At the bottom of his heart, Xu Nian'an was seething. His little sister had suffered an undeserved calamity—she was following the rules, walking on the sidewalk by the road on the steps, and yet she was hit by a car; it was too wrongful.

"Exactly, we were on the sidewalk, not even standing on the road," Pei Yining said through clenched teeth. If they had been daydreaming in the middle of the road and got hit, they wouldn't have blamed

anyone else. They weren't even on the edge of the road; they were on the sidewalk atop the steps, the driver was simply driving blindly.

Fortunately, Nianhua's injuries will heal with some time, but the situation yesterday was so dangerous. If Su Yan hadn't provided a timely blood transfusion, the consequences would have been unimaginable.

"Don't worry, he was driving under the influence, caused serious injury to others and damaged public property—he won't escape the law's judgment," Pei Yicheng spoke, offering comfort. "Nian'an, you should go back to school and ask for leave to come over, and Yining, you should go back to school as well."

"No." Pei Yining turned and sat down on a chair in the corridor nearby, refusing, "I'm not leaving, I'm staying to take care of Nianhua."

"Yining."

Pei Yicheng patted her shoulder, "Nianhua is awake now. You should go back to school for classes, then rest a bit, and come back in the evening."

"If you don't rest now, who will take care of things tonight?" Pei Yicheng reminded her, then looked at Xu Nian'an, "Nian'an, you don't have to come tonight, it's fine if Yining and I are here."

"No." Xu Nian'an directly refused, "I'm going back to school now to ask for leave. Yicheng, I'll trouble you to look after things here for a bit, I'll be back soon."

Saying this, Xu Nian'an stood in front of the glass window, looking again at Xu Nianhua, who had fallen into a deep sleep, then turned and left.

He had to return to school, he had to take out all the money he had.

Asking for leave was easy because his younger sister had been in a car accident and was hospitalized; the teachers were very understanding of his situation but also repeatedly reminded him of the exam on Thursday.

"Teacher, I'm sorry," Xu Nian'an said apologetically to the teacher. Right now, he couldn't think about any exams; he just wanted to take good care of his little sister and make sure she was safe.

"Ah."

The teacher sighed deeply.

Xu Nian'an quickly packed up his things, and as he passed by the phone booth, he stopped, picked up the phone, and dialed the familiar number.

Ji Ying was not at the factory, she walked toward the hospital while waiting, and after probably reaching the hospital, she made another call home.

"Nian'an? Has something happened?" As soon as Ji Ying heard that Xu Nian'an had called her, she immediately ran to the factory to wait for Xu Nian'an's call.

Chapter 447: One Thousand Yuan

Xu Nian'an lowered his eyes, blinking away the shimmer at the bottom of his eyes. He tipped his head back slightly and said, "It's nothing, I'm fine. Nothing happened. My little sister came to see me yesterday, brought a lot of tasty things."

Xu Nian'an tried to make his voice sound normal, even joyful, for fear that Ji Ying would notice something amiss.

"Is that so? That's good. As long as you and your sister are fine, I'm relieved," Ji Ying breathed a sigh of relief. She asked, "Nian'an, shouldn't you be in class at this time? How come you have time to call me?"

"Mom, I don't have classes now, I have classes in the afternoon."

Xu Nian'an explained, stammering, at a loss for what to say.

Ji Ying asked, "Is it because you're short on money? I'll go to the post office and send you some later."

"Mom, I accidentally broke the school's equipment, it'll cost a thousand yuan." Xu Nian'an's guilty voice came through the phone.

Ji Ying asked with concern, "Are you alright?"

"I'm fine." Xu Nian'an felt deeply moved listening to her, feeling even guiltier. He had kept the situation with his younger sister a secret from the family. Would they beat him when they found out?

But having his parents come all the way would only add to the worries.

Rather than having his parents go to the trouble of coming, he would rather go home to get beaten or scolded. He said cautiously, "Mom, I'm sorry, you can scold me."

Xu Nian'an resigned himself to being punished.

Ji Ying said very understandingly, "Nian'an, it's not your fault. Paying the money will get peace of mind, it's good that you're not hurt."

"Just wait, I'll go to the post office right away to get the money for you to compensate the school." Ji Ying said and then hung up the phone, immediately discussing the matter with Zhou He. Zhou He said, "Mom, is a thousand enough? Should we add another hundred?"

Zhou He spoke and went back to her room to get the money but was stopped by Ji Ying, who said, "Xiaohe, I just wanted to tell you about this. Your father and I have the money; we'll pay for it."

"Mom, if Nianji were at home, he'd agree as well." Zhou He returned to her room and handed over the two hundred yuan in cash the family had left for expenses. "We only have a little over two hundred yuan for household expenses, let this two hundred be Nianji's gesture as the eldest brother."

Zhou He had always remembered how Xu Nian'an and Xu Nianhua's earnings from selling Mung Bean Jelly were used for their wedding.

"Good, good child," Ji Ying said, clutching the two hundred yuan, very pleased to have such a daughter-in-law.

That evening, Ji Ying specifically mentioned the incident to Xu Qinghe and Xu Nianji.

Xu Qinghe said, "Nian'an has always been careful about things since he was young. He must have had no other choice but to ask us for money."

"We are a family. If Nian'an has a problem, how can I, as the eldest brother, not take care of it? Xiaohe did the right thing." Xu Nianji gently held Zhou He's hand, grateful for her understanding.

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Hospital, the timeline goes back to the morning.

After Xu Nian'an left, Pei Yining was also persuaded to leave. After learning that Xu Nianhua was out of danger, Lou Fan planned to take the contract back to the factory.

"Leave the contract here." Pei Yicheng suddenly spoke up.

Lou Fan paused, glanced at the file bag in his hand, and said, "Nianhua is hurt like this. I can't possibly still ask her to translate the contract for me, can I?"

"I'll do it," Pei Yicheng said, pursing his lips, his dark eyes glancing at him as if to say: Who are you going to have translate the contract if you take it back?

"You will? You know how?"

Lou Fan's eyebrows almost shot up to the ceiling. Would he have to endure Pangxin's nonsense again?

He had even complained about it to Pei Yicheng before.

"No good?" Pei Yicheng raised an eyebrow.

Lou Fan: "..."

Fine, why not? To help his beloved, he really is... going to great lengths!

Chapter 448: What Are You After With Her?

In front of the guardian room, outside the glass window, a tall and slender silhouette stood quietly there, his gaze resting intently on the frail figure lying on the hospital bed.

"I bet he must be that girl's boyfriend; he's really handsome," one observer commented.

"Right, he was in the lobby yesterday asking who had Panda Blood. The way he spoke was so cool," another chimed in.

The nurse had witnessed that scene yesterday and saw how noble and aloof Pei Yicheng usually was. Yet, for the sake of the girl in the hospital room, he had cast aside his pride, stood on chairs, begged earnestly, and eventually seemed almost desperate to inquire about everyone's blood type.

The nurse hadn't seen what happened afterward, but from what she heard from others, that scene was very touching.

"I think she's really lucky to have found a man willing to put aside his pride for her," the nurse said with a sigh, stealing another glance back at the tall figure whose loving gaze was truly enviable.

"Absolutely, and she's pretty, too," another nurse whispered to her. "When she was brought in for surgery yesterday, her face was covered in a lot of blood. It looked scary to others, but she just seemed so pitiable lying there."

"Right, I heard she's also a student at Beining University; she's very talented as well."

The two nurses gradually walked away.

Because of a meeting that lasted until the early hours, Pei Guozhong hadn't visited the hospital yesterday, but he went straight there first thing in the morning.

"I heard she saved Yining?" Pei Guozhong stood beside Pei Yicheng, looking at the girl in the hospital room, her head and feet bandaged, and learned that Xu Nianhua was hit by a car because she had pushed Yining out of harm's way.

"Yes," Pei Yicheng replied, recalling the phone call from yesterday, he fell into a contemplative silence. Even though the blood Pei Guozhong had arranged arrived a bit late, coupled with Su Yan's blood and the blood he had managed to source, it was just enough to save Xu Nianhua's life.

Pei Yicheng took a deep breath, turned, and saw Pei Guozhong, who was just slightly shorter than himself. He said earnestly and sincerely, "Thank you."

"Yicheng," Pei Guozhong paused before he spoke. "I am grateful to her for saving Yining, and I'm glad that she is safe. However, we must separate issues."

Pei Guozhong's tone shifted as he looked at his increasingly accomplished son, feeling truly proud from the bottom of his heart.

There had been misunderstandings between father and son because of Du Ya. Some things he might say could potentially worsen their relationship, but he felt he still needed to say them. He glanced at Xu Nianhua in the hospital bed and said, "I know you hate me, thinking I caused your mother's death, but no matter what, you are my son, my proudest son. Some words might sound unpleasant, but I still need to say them."

"If it's unpleasant, then don't say it," Pei Yicheng turned away, seemingly anticipating what would come next.

"No, I am your father. Others may not care to speak, but as your father, I must." Pei Guozhong, with a stern face and an imposing tone, said, "She's not good enough for you. With your capabilities, after you graduate, you will certainly reach heights that others can only dream of. When it comes to choosing a partner, you should be even more..." Careful.

Before he could finish, Pei Yicheng interrupted him. He chuckled softly, retorting, "Then what were you after when you married Wan Hongxing?"

Pei Guozhong's expression changed, and he was taken aback by Pei Yicheng's attitude. He countered, "How can you compare the two?"

When he married Wan Hongxing, he was already successful in his career, not needing to gild the lily. What he appreciated about Wan Hongxing was her gentle and compassionate nature, her understanding heart.

Chapter 449: Don't Dare to Listen Anymore?

"How can they not be treated the same?" Pei Yicheng sneered, "I can't marry the person I like, but you can? Pei Guozhong, do you still remember what my mother looked like when you were holding Wan Hongxing? Do you even remember how my mother died?"

Pei Yicheng took a step forward with his tall frame, his dark eyes intensely watching him as he pressed forcefully, "You were always too busy to be at home, and when my mom went to bring you food, a big truck..."

"Stop talking!"

Pei Guozhong shouted loudly, his face twisting and turning, Pei Yicheng's gaze seemed to solidify into knives stabbing straight into his heart.

The death of Du Ya was his deepest guilt and also the matter he least wanted... to mention.

"What, can't bear to listen any more?" Pei Yicheng's lips curled into a mocking smile as he suddenly stepped back, creating distance between them. He looked at Guozhong's face and said again, "Thank you for saving Nianhua yesterday, but, that can't be the reason you stop me from being with her."

As his words ended, Pei Yicheng turned around, no longer looking at him.

"Pei Yicheng, I...you..." Pei Guozhong pointed at Pei Yicheng, his voice rising. Many people whispered and pointed, seeing Pei Yicheng's resolute profile, he left with a flick of his sleeve.

...

Xu Nian'an excused himself from his teachers and called Ji Ying, confirming that he would send the money in the afternoon; he hastily returned to the hospital.

"Brother Cheng, how is it, Nianhua is okay, right?"

Xu Nian'an handed over the hot pork buns and soy milk he bought, saying, "Hot meat buns, I didn't know what you liked."

"It's fine." Pei Yicheng had just had a fight with Pei Guozhong, mentioning his biological mother Du Ya, and the rage in his heart hadn't completely settled yet. The buns and soy milk brought by Xu Nian'an distracted him. They sat in the corridor and he said, "Su Yan said something to me when he left yesterday."

"That was the person who donated blood to Nianhua yesterday, right? What did he say? Does he need my help with anything?" Xu Nian'an bit into the bun earnestly, willing to go through fire and water.

Pei Yicheng reassured him, "Don't worry, the help he needs isn't for now."

"It's...?" Xu Nian'an looked puzzled.

"He and his mom both have Panda Blood. He's leaving the country today for a year. He's worried something might happen to his mom, so he hopes that if his mom needs help, Nianhua can lend a hand," Pei Yicheng elaborated carefully.

Xu Nian'an nodded repeatedly, "Of course, that's possible, but in the future, we should buy more blood-nourishing foods for Nianhua to eat, and, ideally, find someone with the same blood type. Just in case there's an emergency, we won't be like trying to find a needle in a haystack."

The incident yesterday genuinely scared Xu Nian'an. He thought, after returning, he must get his parents and older brother all tested; if any of them had Panda Blood, they definitely needed to be mindful of this issue.

"Right." Pei Yicheng shared this thought. This type of blood, though rare and precious, is not non-existent; it's just that people hadn't discovered it yet.

If they could gather everyone with Panda Blood, then in an emergency, they wouldn't be caught off guard.

Years later, they made great strides in this area, investing countless human, material, and financial resources, and even established the largest blood type database, which helped many people in need of blood transfusions.

Chapter 450: Showdown

"What is this for?"

Pei Yicheng furrowed his brows as he looked at the money Xu Nian'an handed him.

"It's for Nianhua's medical bills," Xu Nian'an explained. "I know the person who injured Nianhua should be the one paying, but we haven't agreed on how much he'll pay yet. I can't let you cover it initially."

"Did you tell your family?" Pei Yicheng asked while looking at the envelope, which contained at least nine hundred yuan.

"No." Xu Nian'an shook his head hastily, somewhat ashamed to admit that he had lied to get the thousand yuan from his family. "Brother Cheng, you've helped us a lot, and we appreciate it, but we need to keep things separate."

"Nian'an, why make it so formal? It's just an advance," Pei Yicheng said as he handed the envelope back.

"Brother Cheng, Nianhua is my sister. I know you're close to her, but I should be the one covering this initially," Xu Nian'an replied, looking down, unable to meet Pei Yicheng's gaze.

No matter what might happen between Nianhua and Pei Yicheng in the future, Xu Nian'an wanted his younger sister to have the autonomy to choose, not to be bound by a series of debts.

"Honestly, Nianhua saved Yining, and it was our fault to begin with," Pei Yicheng started to say, but Xu Nian'an interrupted, "Brother Cheng, I would have pushed Yining out of the way too. If it were Yining, she definitely would have saved my sister. The moment she woke up, she asked if Yining was alright. If she knew she was repaying a debt by doing so, she would definitely scold me."

"Brother Cheng, please take it." Xu Nian'an was ready to go to the hospital to pay, but the hospital had already received a thousand yuan and didn't need any more for now.

"I won't take the money, Nian'an. You're being too distant," Pei Yicheng said, looking at him intently. "Do you also think I'm not good enough for Nianhua, not suitable to be with her?"

Pei Yicheng's voice was resolute as he scrutinized Xu Nian'an, not missing even the slightest expression on his face.

"Brother Cheng."

Xu Nian'an hadn't expected Pei Yicheng to express his thoughts so directly.

"I know, you've seen it," Pei Yicheng said firmly. Though he said no more, his expression and his eyes conveyed to Xu Nian'an that he was not going to give up.

No one could stop his determination to be with Nianhua, unless she did not like him or want to be with him.

If that was the case, he would quietly watch over her from afar.

"Brother Cheng." Xu Nian'an was startled by Pei Yicheng's forthrightness. He also hesitated because, though Pei Yicheng was outstanding, love wasn't about being outstanding.

After a while, Xu Nian'an took a deep breath and said, "Brother Cheng, no matter who my sister chooses to be with or who she likes, my bottom line is that she should not be hurt. Otherwise, no matter who it is, I, Xu Nian'an, will not let it go easily."

"Nian'an, take the money back. We'll have news from the police this afternoon. Those funds will surely not come from us."

Pei Yicheng's lips curved into a slight smile, content as long as Xu Nian'an was not strongly opposed.

In the afternoon, the police arrived with the family of the person responsible for the accident. They handed over two thousand yuan directly to Xu Nian'an, repeatedly pleading with him to spare their son from prosecution.

"If your son hadn't drunk and driven, my sister wouldn't have suffered this ordeal. I'll take the money, but it's for my sister's medical expenses. How much it amounts to and what happens to your son are not up to us to decide." Xu Nian'an was extremely firm on this point; he didn't really want the money, just his sister's safety.