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Chapter 546 She Is My Sister

Shen Qianan had gone missing. On the second day of her disappearance, Yu cried his eyes out because Shen Qianan was nowhere in sight. Even Pei Huan and Ning Xin had no luck comforting the distressed child at home. Left without a choice, they disclosed this issue to Fu Chengyan.

It was initially a good idea for Yu to meet Shi Nuan since she resembled strikingly to Shen Qianan. However, Fu Chengyan refused to allow the two to meet up. They had never seen Fu Chengyan with such a hardened resolve before.

Ning Xin and Song Zhenyan did not know the hidden reason behind this, but Pei Huan knew about it. There had been no news from Li Heng as of recent, and Pei Huan could not help but feel worried. She feared the worst had already happened to Li Heng.

That day, Pei Huan had taken He Yun to the hospital. Fu Chengyan's recent work was also basically moved to that hospital for future developments. Regardless of the nature of their work, Zhou Zheng was assigned to handle them.

Naturally, Fu Chengyan did not tell Shi Nuan about these things. Shi Nuan merely assumed her condition had not been under control. She was also aware of her infection by the virus, hence her cooperation for the past few days.

Shi Nuan did not know that Fu Chengyan was in the ward next to her. She, however, felt things were amiss each time she cooperated for her health examination. It was not until that day when Shi Nuan hardly saw any people in the corridors of such a big hospital. Only then did she realize that things were not as simple as she thought.

She did indeed see Pei Huan bringing Bao and Yu together to the hospital. That alone was enough to make Shi Nuan notice that some things were not as they seemed.

Only after asking did Shi Nuan realize that Yu had not seen Shen Qianan for days. For the past few days, Yu had stayed at the Fu residence. Ever since Shen Qianan left the hospital on that particular day, she never came back.

Initially, Fu Chengyan had told everyone to keep this a secret from Shi Nuan, but now she had already found out.

Shi Nuan kept requesting to look for Shen Qianan. Fu Chengyan had no choice but to ask someone to bring the children away. In the end, he took a glance at Pei Huan, his eyes filled with an unfamiliar emotion.

Pei Huan also knew that Fu Chengyan might be troubled with self-blame. Despite that, she was a mother herself and had similar experiences, so she empathized with how difficult it was for the children not to get to see their mother.

Fu Chengyan then asked Pei Huan to bring Bao and Yu out to play. Only Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan were left in the spacious hospital ward.

Shi Nuan frowned, looking at Fu Chengyan with rage-filled eyes. "Where has my sister gone to?" In fact, she was not questioning him even though she was staring at Fu Chengyan with a serious look in her gaze. "Fu Chengyan!" That was the first time Shi Nuan called him by his full name.

Fu Chengyan frowned in response. As he was about to speak, Shi Nuan continued, "You must know where my sister has gone, right? Fu Chengyan, this is my sister we're talking about."

"May!" Fu Chengyan cried out as he walked over to Shi Nuan. As he reached out to hold her hand, Shi Nuan rejected his advances. "What have you been working on recently? Is there perhaps something wrong with my body? Fu Chengyan, I have the right to know these things! Also, where did my sister go? What did Su Shaoqing inject my sister with that day?"

Shi Nuan was not a fool. Judging by Pei Huan's appearance that day and Fu Chengyan's current actions, Shi Nuan more or less knew what was going on.

"Yu's biological father was the person who kidnapped me that day, am I right?" Shi Nuan stared intently at Fu Chengyan before continuing, "My sister was kidnapped by them before, and yet, you have the audacity to let her be the bait?"

Shi Nuan stared straight at Fu Chengyan intensely as she spoke. The unfamiliar look in her eyes made Fu Chengyan feel uneasy and suffocated. "Fu Chengyan, she is my sister!"

"I know this. May, I had no other choice but to do this. He injected a virus into you. Do you know what that means?" Fu Chengyan's icy stare expressed a hint of tenderness as he spoke. "You know I can't just sit by idly and do nothing. I can't bear to see you suffer!"

"My sister was innocent!" Shi Nuan protested, taking a deep breath. "I'm saying what if that man has no interest in my sister? Then you'll just be sending her into a death trap." Shi Nuan dreaded thinking about Shen Qianan's well-being in her current state.

After all, the man she had a prior encounter with had been a cold and ruthless person. After exchanging words briefly, she did not get the chance to know him better. However, she could tell that that man was indeed a cruel person.

To think that he could even inject the virus into a woman and a child like Pei Huan and Bao, Shi Nuan dared not imagine what he would do to Shen Qianan.

"May, please believe me!"

Shi Nuan shook her head. "It's not that I don't believe you. You can't reassure me that he's not going to harm my sister. Isn't it?"

A wave of exhaustion suddenly came over Shi Nuan as she said, "Yan, I know someone injected the virus into me. You're worried, but so am I. But you can't just put my sister at risk because of me. Have you ever thought about what's going to happen to Yu?"

Fu Chengyan rubbed his temple. "All right, May. Give me some time. I'll see what I can do to resolve this. Okay?"

Holding Shi Nuan's hand, he assured, "I've already made the necessary arrangements. I assure you, Shen Qianan will be fine!"

Shi Nuan wanted to say something, but Fu Chengyan never gave her another chance to speak. "Li Heng has gone to Frosa. He went to look for the whereabouts of a Ghost Doctor in Willowbank. May, all you need to do is wait patiently. Li Heng will be back before you know it!"

Meanwhile, Li Heng drove to Willowbank in Frosa on his own. The fires of war had clearly ravaged the place as corpses lay scattered everywhere. It was hard to imagine he and Pei Huan had spent time here together three months ago. At that time, Pei Huan had suggested staying for a longer period of time. In fact, the two even made plans to ditch Bao just so they could make a trip here again without the latter.

Li Heng got out of his car and scanned the surroundings. As he looked around, Li Heng spotted many volunteers nearby but did not see any signs of the rumored Ghost Doctor.

Not far away, a child crawled out from a pile of corpses. It was unclear what that child was searching for by venturing into the corpse piles. After rummaging for a long time, Li

Heng looked up and saw no fear in the child's face, as if accustomed to seeing such grisly scenes.

Scarred by the war in a ruined environment, this place had lost the vibrancy it once had three months ago. A child no older than ten years old picked up a syringe and extracted some substance from the corpses with a cold expression before putting it calmly inside their bag. The child crossed over corpses and seemed to be hiding from someone before disappearing in front of Li Heng.

Li Heng narrowed his eyes. Throughout his years of doing business, Li Heng interacted with people from all walks of life. In addition, he often saw such scenes when he spent time abroad. Scenes of someone licking blood from the edge of a knife were nothing new to Li Heng. That child from before caused Li Heng to experience a heightened sense of intuition.

Li Heng pursed his lips, focusing his line of sight on that spot where the child was earlier.

He walked over and saw the corpses that the child had previously crawled on. At first glance, these corpses were ordinary, just like the others. However, upon closer inspection, these corpses were not casualties of war. A possibility still stood that they could have died from being shot at by bullets or bombed by artillery. Some corpses, however, had spots on their bodies and discolored lips, proving their deaths were different compared to those who died from the war.

Li Heng took out his handkerchief and covered his mouth. Crouching down, Li Cheng took his army knife habitually before inspecting the corpse. He then saw several markings on the corpse, possibly a type of identification.

Narrowing his eyes, Li Heng checked the other corpses and found similar markings on their bodies.

There was a cold look in his eyes as he spotted the markings. Li Heng soon stood up to clean his army knife before getting into his car right after. He then drove toward the direction where the child had left.

Corpses scattered everywhere, with the occasional survivors wandering around. The rest were people who had been left in a state of shock, followed by volunteers.

With eyes as keen as a hawk, Li Heng saw a group of people and spotted the child immediately. He had a lingering feeling that there was something strange about this child. Li Heng then quickly got out of his car and followed the child.

This child was clearly not an ordinary person. After walking for a few hundred meters, he instinctively knew someone was following them. In response, the child began shuttling between the small corpse-filled town.

Seeing this, the corners of Li Heng's mouth widened as he grew increasingly curious about the prey he was chasing.

After running around for a while, the child thought he had escaped from Li Heng's pursuit. The child turned around, only to find Li Heng standing right in front of him.

Startled, the child took a few steps back. As he tried to run, Li Heng successfully blocked his path.

"Who are you?" The child asked in Granatanolan despite not being fluent in the language. He looked at Li Heng with wariness in his eyes.

With raised eyebrows, Li Heng maintained his smile and replied to the child in fluent Granatanolan. The child, of course, could not understand a word spoken by Li Heng. Li Heng then took two steps forward, but the child took several steps back with his hands reaching into the bag. In an instant, he attacked the moment Li Heng stepped forward.

The smile on Li Heng's face became more prominent as he disarmed the child with ease, causing him to fall to the ground. Angered, the child cursed at Li Heng in fluent Sylvonish.

Li Heng was a little surprised as he exclaimed, "What an interesting child you are!" There was a smile on Li Heng's face, though it was an intimidating one when facing his prey.

The child looked at Li Heng with a horrified expression. He never expected Li Heng to understand his words.

"Who the hell are you? Why are you following me?" The child soon stood up, holding a scalpel in his hand. As he readied to stab Li Heng, the child found he could not even get closer to the latter.

Instinctively, he knew Li Heng was a formidable person.

Li Heng arched an brow and said, "Take me to him."

"I don't know what you're talking about!" the child calmly replied. At a glance, one could tell the child had also undergone a strict training regimen.

The child had no time to react as Li Heng moved up to him in an extremely swift manner. Unbeknownst to him, the scalpel he held earlier had ended up in Li Heng's hands.

Li Heng looked down, the gaze of his keen eyes soon focused on the fine-looking scalpel. The scalpel also had an engraving on the handle with the word "Huo" on it. This is the unique symbol of the Huo family, which precisely belongs to Huo Shenxing.

"Take me to him," Li Heng replied clearly in fluent Sylvonish this time.

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Chapter 547 Little Brat

The kid shuddered at the look of Li Heng's eyes. "I don't know where he is!" "You're lying!" Li Heng was whirling around a scalpel. His smile did not have a hint of warmth. "Well, if you don't want to bring me to him, you can try to outrun my throw. Let's see if your speed beats my accuracy."

Li Heng pretended to hurl the scalpel at the kid. The kid began to shiver in fear. "I... I'll bring you there!" Li Heng twitched his brow and kept the scalpel. "Move!"

That kid had not the slightest idea about Li Heng. But he was not going to take his chances after seeing what Li Heng was capable of. He said, "Mr. Huo doesn't just simply meet with anyone." Which Li Heng replied, "Is that so?"

"Yes! By the way, where are you from, mister?" The kid was still speaking Sylvonish as he asked Li Heng. "Z Nation," Li Heng answered. His gaze fell on the kid. "Aren't you going to take off your mask after disguising for so long?"

Just as the kid was stunned, Li Heng swiftly tore off the mask, revealing an innocent face.

The face was carefully assembled. She was a little girl that was no more than fifteen, or sixteen years of age. She appeared younger with her disguise, probably around twelve to thirteen years old. Her thin figure was easily mistaken for being malnourished.

The girl glared at Li Heng for tearing off her mask. "How do you know?" she asked defiantly.

This time, she spoke in fluent Z Nation language, sounding rather bitter for being exposed. She continued, "No one has ever figured out my disguise!"

"Well. I can only assume that those people are blind as bats, Ms. Huo," Li Heng exclaimed.

The girl's eyes widened as she looked toward Li Heng in disbelief. "How do you know that my family name is Huo?"

Li Heng smirked. "Rumor has it, Huo Shenxing has a precious little sister. So, what brings you to this kind of place?"

"None of your business!" Huo Ling's eyes bulged. "Who are you really?" A sudden realization hit her. "How did you know that I'm Huo Shenxing's sister?"

So far, no one could tell her real identity underneath the disguise, except for her brother, Huo Shenxing. She had kept it hidden from so many people. On top of that, practically no one knew that Huo Shenxing had a little sister.

Huo Ling set her cautious eyes on Li Heng. "Are you planning to bring mischief to the Huo family?"

Li Heng was amazed by Huo Ling's imagination. "What were you collecting from the corpses earlier? Was it samples of virus?"

Huo Ling panicked and looked toward Li Heng. This guy is really something! How does he know that I'm collecting viruses at the site?

For the past ten days, she had been in Willowbank. The place was plagued not only with war, but also diseases. That was the reason why she was there. Huo Shenxing was here for that exact reason. Huo Ling had actually sneaked in after her brother because she was bored at home.

It took less than a few days before Huo Ling was found out by her brother and asked to leave by herself. Huo Ling turned back halfway after she was sent off.

Within the Huo family, other than Huo Shenxing who had remarkable medical skills, Huo Ling was also exceptional at it. But there was an unwritten rule in the Huo family's teaching. The women in the family would be married off eventually. Once married, they would no longer have use for the medical training that they had received in the Huo family. For that reason, the medical skills were never passed down to any woman in the family.

Huo Ling had amassed her medical knowledge through mimicry. Later, when it was found out by the Huo family, Huo Ling was banned from getting near it. Huo Ling was quick-witted despite her young age. She had disguised herself as a boy and escaped the watchful eyes of the Huo family many times before. Naturally, this time, Huo Ling was able to escape without any hassle.

Huo Ling was keen on comparing herself with Huo Shenxing. She knew Huo Shenxing was investigating the disease and she wanted to follow suit. However, she was shut down before she could even begin. The group finally appeared after much waiting but was annihilated nonetheless. Huo Ling was left with no other choice. She had to scavenge from the lump of corpses.

Huo Ling did not think that she would be targeted during her short expedition.

I think I did a pretty good job at disguising myself. How come this man could still tell in an instant? Huo Ling was frustrated. "Mister, out of so many others, why did you have to go after me?"

Huo Ling started scratching her head as if she was going to have a breakdown. "I can't let my brother know I'm here, otherwise I'm dead!"

There was no way she was going to lead Li Heng to Huo Shenxing. Huo Shenxing would skin her if he found out.

It took Li Heng a huge amount of effort to finally come across someone who was associated with Huo Shenxing. Thus, he had not the slightest intention to let her go. "Are you a medical practitioner?"

Huo Ling was high strung as he observed Li Heng, not knowing what his next move would be. Li Heng was amused by the little brat's expression. "You're not going to spill it, aren't you? Well actually, I can locate Huo Shenxing by myself. Can you imagine if..."

"Who are you really?" Huo Ling sighed at her ill-fortune. "I'll call you handsome if that's what it takes. Can you please, just let me go? I'm not a fugitive and I've never crossed you. Why do you have to get in my way?"

Huo Ling was ready to kneel before him. She thought about running. But the thought was put off after she had examined her feeble limbs. Huo Ling knew that she stood no chance against Li Heng. Her natural instincts told her to not piss off the man in front if she had her best interest in mind.

Huo Ling was truly desperate. "You shouldn't bark up the wrong tree. If it was Huo Shenxing or the Huo family that have wronged you, you should look for them instead and not me. I have cut ties with them long ago."

Li Heng twitched his brow. "You little brat. You're quite funny, aren't you?"

"No, not at all!" Huo Ling was quick to deny it as she shook her head violently.

"Handsome, do you think you can let me go, please?"

As she was speaking, Huo Ling tried to attack Li Heng's weak spot. With a twist of his arm, Li Heng slammed her directly onto the ground.

A loud thud was heard. Based on the sound of impact, Huo Ling thought her organs must be damaged. She was literally biting the dust.

Pfft! Pfft! Huo Ling spat out two mouthfuls of dust and scrambled to her feet. "D*mn! Mister, don't you know how to be gentle with women?" Despite her underdeveloped body, she was still a lady. Her oval-shaped face had turned many heads before.

But Li Heng could not care less. He took her down straight without blinking an eye. Huo Ling felt like her sanity was on the verge of collapsing.

"You mean, you?" Li Heng inspected her. He had absolutely no regard for Huo Ling.

"Bring me to Huo Shenxing!"

"No way!" Huo Ling would not budge an inch. "You can go by yourself. Since you're capable of hitting a woman, it should be a piece of cake for you to find a certain someone." Huo Ling never planned on going to Huo Shenxing. So, her only option was to escape. But she would never be able to wrestle her way out of Li Heng. If she wished to escape, she had to have a plan in mind.

Huo Ling's eyes darted around as her gears began to spin. Li Heng had his arms crossed and watched over Huo Ling nonchalantly. He was waiting to see what the little brat was up to.

He had already found Huo Ling, so he was not worried about finding Huo Shenxing.

"Well. If you're not taking me to Huo Shenxing, then you will have to follow me instead." Soon as he finished, Li Heng swung his hand in her direction and firmly clasped onto Huo Ling. He then proceeded to throw her into the car.

Huo Ling was on the verge of tears. Even so, Li Heng did not show any sign of letting up. He took another glance at Huo Ling and noticed her canvas bag. Without any warning, he snatched over her bag and tossed it to the ground.

"Hey, hey... that's my life's work. You..." Huo Ling had more to say, but her mouth was quickly stuffed by Li Heng.

"Ms. Huo, since you're unwilling to cooperate and bring me to Mr. Huo, then I have no choice but to trouble you with a trip together." Li Heng filled her in.

With her mouth stuffed, Li Hen only managed to let out muffled sounds. Trip? To where?

Once Huo Ling was properly tied up, Li Heng held up a cigarette between his fingers and looked at her interestingly. "Imagine the Huo family suddenly missing a daughter. What do you think they would do in light of that?"

Huo Ling's eyes widened with astonishment. She never thought that the man was capable of something so despicable.

Li Heng caught the look of surprise on Huo Ling's face. He knocked on the window with his slender fingers. "Seems like Ms. Huo is also well versed in medical practices, which means I don't necessarily need Huo Shenxing. Am I right?"

After finishing his words, Li Heng tossed his cigarette bud to the ground, where the canvas bag was lying. He stepped on the pedal and blasted off from the godforsaken place.

Huo Ling could not believe that she had just been kidnapped by Li Heng. She could not even speak properly as her mouth was stuffed. But she resisted strongly, hoping that Li Heng would let her go.

Li Heng said with a smirk, "Ms. Huo, I'm guessing you've never been to Z Nation! Let me be your humble host and show you around Z Nation!"

How shameless! How despicable! Huo Ling was shaking furiously.

She was completely helpless with her hands bounded. What kind of tying method did this old man use? The harder I struggle, the tighter it gets.

Li Heng did not bring Huo Ling back to his country right away. They made a detour at the capital of Frosa. It had only been less than three days since Li Heng left. Having returned

so quickly, with Huo Ling on his back, Song Zhe was very puzzled. Song Zhe asked, "Mr. Li, who is this?"

Li Heng took a glimpse at Song Zhe and instructed, "Arrange a room for her and have someone stand guard. Don't let her run away!"

"Hey, Mister! Who are you really?" Huo Ling asked without a care in the world.

Seeing that Li Heng had remarkable skills and the people surrounding him were also strong-looking, Huo Ling could not help her curiosity.

Huo Ling was also quick to accept things. She had long given up on escaping, after counting her odds. Even with that said, she still harbored some hatred toward Li Heng. After all, this old man threw away my hard-earned virus samples.

The thought of that brought her to fumes. Huo Ling glared at Li Heng. "I'm still a member of the Huo family. I don't think it reflects kindly on you if I continue to be treated as such!" She signaled at the ropes that were still wrapped around her arms and body. Can you imagine being hog-tied as a lady? Where should I put my face after this?

"Oh! I've totally forgotten about it." Li Heng was suddenly reminded. He simply looked toward Song Zhe and said, "Keep her tied up just like that!"

Huo Ling was devastated as she stared at Li Heng. "Mister, you will forever be shunned by others. I curse you to live the rest of your life in solitude!" She was grinding her teeth in anger.

"Oh! My apologies. I already have children and a wife," Li Heng mocked.

"Pfft!" Song Zhe could not hold his laughter.

Huo Ling scowled at Song Zhe. "What are you laughing at? You won't be able to find a girlfriend as well! Wait... No, not even a boyfriend!"

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Chapter 548 You Have No Chance

Song Zhe's smile suddenly disappeared. Blood pulsated through his veins as he looked at Huo Ling. "I did not expect such crude words from a young lady like you!"

"You can cover your ears if you like. No one forced you to listen!" Huo Ling could not stop herself from rolling her eyes. She continued, "What do you want from me? I'm worthless. If you want to get my brother, then go ahead! There's no need to involve me!"

Despite Huo Ling's yells at Li Heng, he ignored her. He then shot Song Zhe a meaningful glance before returning to his room.

Huo Ling stared at Li Heng with wide eyes, unable to believe he just left without a word. She continued to roar at him until she finally broke into tears, but Li Heng remained in his room.

Song Zhe pinched his brow. He noticed Li Heng addressed Huo Ling as "Ms. Huo" and guess that she was a member of the Huo family. He also heard Huo Ling mention she had a brother. Hence, there was nothing he could do to her at the moment. He swept his gaze across Huo Ling helplessly. "Mr. Li is not going to entertain you, young lady."

"Huh? Who does he think he is? Open the door for me!" Huo Ling thundered as rage nearly consumed her. She did not care about anything else anymore.

"I'm sorry, Ms. Huo," Song Zhe apologized, although he did not actually feel apologetic. He shot a glance at his subordinate. The subordinate passed him a key card at once. "Mr. Song, this is the key to the young lady's room. Her room is right next to yours."

Song Zhe's lips twitched a little. Is this a joke? I'll have to keep watch over this little demon?

Song Zhe brought Huo Ling to her room and tossed her on the couch. "Young lady, you better not plan to do anything silly. No matter what you try to do, you can never escape from Mr. Li!"

"I don't care!" Huo Ling had no fear for Li Heng. She was known as a troublemaker at a young age. Other than Huo Shenxing, she was not afraid of anyone else. "Let go of me! I want to challenge him in a one-on-one battle! Is he obsessed with me or something? That must be the reason he won't let me go!" Huo Ling yelled.

Song Zhe's lips twitched. "Nonsense! Mr. Li has a wife, and she is a pretty woman." He then scanned Huo Ling from head to toe and said, "Or at the very least, she is a real woman!"

"Wait, what? What did you just say?" Huo Ling fumed.

Song Zhe chuckled. "Young lady, you better stay put. Mr. Li is a prominent figure you don't want to mess with!"

"Haha!" Huo Ling rolled her eyes. "He's someone I don't want to mess with? So, what's his name, then?" Although she did feel that Li Heng was indeed someone capable, Huo Ling did not want to admit it.

Song Zhe thought Huo Ling was rather interesting, as she seemed to be fearless. "I bet you've heard of the Third Master Li, haven't you? His name is Li Heng, whom we address as Mr. Li!"

"Hold on! What did you say his name was again?" Huo Ling jumped up from the couch.

Initially, she had an arrogant expression. Upon hearing Li Heng's name, she suddenly sat up, her eyes bright. "What did you say his name was, mister?"

Song Zhe looked at Huo Ling in puzzlement. He noticed the sudden change in her expression, too. She merely repeated her question, "Hey, what is his name?"

"His name is Li Heng, and he's also known as Third Master Li!" Song Zhe thought Huo Ling was about to pull some tricks. However, the moment Huo Ling heard Li Heng's name, her eyes started gleaming, and she chuckled like a fool. "How about you untie me, mister? I promise I will not run away. Please just untie me now!"

Her dark eyes glinted brightly as she gazed at Song Zhe smilingly.

Song Zhe suddenly felt a chill running down his spine. His instinct told him that Huo Ling had something planned. "That's impossible. Mr. Li specifically ordered not to untie you!"

"I'm still a minor. In fact, I'm just a kid! You tied me up so tightly that it hurts. Look at my reddened wrists!" Huo Ling blinked as she looked at Song Zhe pitifully. However, Song Zhe pretended to be blind and responded, "No way! You stay the way you are before Mr. Li gives a new order!"

"Hey, don't leave me alone!" As Huo Ling noticed Song Zhe was about to leave, she swiftly rushed up to him. However, her wrists were tied up, and she could not grab him. Upon seeing her approaching, Song Zhe subconsciously avoided Huo Ling. The next moment, she stumbled to the ground harshly. Huo Ling shot daggers at him. "Ouch, my chest! I think that just put a dent in my flat chest! Why did you push me away?"

Song Zhe felt that Huo Ling was nothing but a troublemaker, and he had goosebumps just looking at her. He uttered, "Well, at least you know that you have a flat chest! That's

good. It's good to have some self-awareness. So stop trying to convince me to let you go because you're a kid and all that. It doesn't work!"

Song Zhe ignored Huo Ling. He dusted his hands and left the place, leaving her on the ground.

"Hey!" Huo Ling shouted for help ceaselessly, but no one cared about her.

Sighing, she struggled to get up from the ground. However, no matter how hard she tried, she still could not untie herself. "F*ck! I just want to meet my idol. There's no way I'd run away!"

Meanwhile, Song Zhe proceeded to Li Heng's room directly after he had done settling Huo Ling in her room. "Mr. Li, about Ms. Huo, is she..." Song Zhe stopped before he finished his question. In fact, he was going to ask if Huo Ling had a mental problem. Besides, he thought they were there to look for Huo Shenxing instead of a young lady like Huo Ling.

Despite wanting to know more, Song Zhe gulped and remained silent after noticing Li Heng's expression.

Li Heng eyeballed him, asking, "What's wrong?"

"I've settled Ms. Huo down, Mr. Li. Do we still need to look for Huo Shenxing?" Song Zhe asked.

"There's no need for that. Make sure to treat Ms. Huo well," Li Heng uttered calmly.

Song Zhe nodded. "All right, sure. However, Ms. Huo mentioned that she-"

Li Heng interrupted, "She's Huo Shenxing's sister!"

Song Zhe raised his head abruptly in realization. He smiled subtly as he remarked, "No wonder they share the same last name. Of course, she's Huo Shenxing's sister. You're a wise man, Mr. Li. You managed to seize the girl as soon as you came and-"

Upon meeting Li Heng's glare, Song Zhe stopped speaking and inquired instead, "So, what do we do now, Mr. Li?"

"Let's return to Z Nation," said Li Heng calmly.

"I thought we're still looking for Huo Shenxing?" What Song Zhe meant was that Huo Shenxing had to be in Frosa since his, Huo Ling, was here, too. However, upon noticing Li Heng's confident countenance, he stopped making further comments.

Li Heng threw the cigarette in his hand away a moment later, and he said, "Reserve the flight tickets back to Z Nation for tomorrow night. We'll bring Huo Ling along with us!"

"Roger that. I will book the tickets now!" Song Zhe replied.

Li Heng was indeed smart. Huo Shenxing was a man with a temper, and it was hard to tell if he would follow them back to their country if they went to him directly, let alone treat Shi Nuan and Pei Huan.

However, Huo Shenxing would surely show up as long as they had Huo Ling.

Li Heng had Huo Ling as his hostage. Thus, he was sure that Huo Shenxing would approach him. Even if Huo Shenxing did not approach him personally, the people from the Huo family would eventually do so.

Huo Ling was favored, as she was the only female grandchild in the Huo family. Rumor had it that she was spoiled. Otherwise, she would not have the courage to travel on her own to Frosa, a war-torn place.

Li Heng was a ruthless man. He still restrained Huo Ling despite the fact that she was a lady. The next day, Song Zhe visited Huo Ling at her room.

Huo Ling's hands were still tied behind her back. She was sleeping soundly on the bed and did not even realize it when Song Zhe entered her room.

Ever since her visit to Frosa, she had been on guard and always remained in a tense state. She never allowed herself to relax. Although she was a member of the Huo family, nobody cared about that in a war-torn country. Huo Ling still cherished her life very much. Thus, she was cautious every time she tried looking for those men who were carrying viruses.

Now that she was held hostage by Li Heng, she ironically had a chance to relax and let her guard down. Hence, she slept well.

Nonetheless, as a member of the Huo family, Huo Ling still maintained a basic sense of vigilance. She opened her eyes suddenly and noticed Song Zhe's presence. Immediately, she put on an innocent expression. "Hey there, mister."

The corners of Song Zhe's mouth started to twitch. "My name is Song Zhe."

"Oh hey, Mr. Song." She smiled sweetly. "I bet you know my identity now. I promise I won't escape. Come and untie me!"

Song Zhe pinched his brow upon seeing her, but he still untied her, chuckling as he said, "Mr. Li wishes to meet you."

"That's great! I want to meet Heng too!" Huo Ling stretched her hands and moved around a little after Song Zhe untied her. She beamed at Song Zhe and continued, "Heng wants to meet me? Is it because-"

"Stop right there." Song Zhe noticed the sudden change in Huo Ling's attitude, and he was slightly terrified. He went on, "Please address him as Mr. Li. You shouldn't call him by his name. Mr. Li and Mrs. Li will be mad if they hear that."

Huo Ling raised her brows. "Is Heng really married?"

"They even have kids now. You don't stand a single chance, young lady." Song Zhe glanced at Huo Ling.

"Hey, eyes up here!" Huo Ling immediately covered her chest. She added, "Flat chest aside, I am still a woman!"

"You are just a girl!" Song Zhe didn't want to argue with her anymore. "Let's go now."

Huo Ling followed Song Zhe's footsteps out of the room, muttering something incoherently. As they entered Li Heng's room, Song Zhe greeted, "Mr. Li, I have brought her here."

Upon meeting Li Heng, Huo Ling pushed Song Zhe away, dashing toward Li Heng. Smiling, she greeted, "Heng! I heard you were looking for me!"

Li Heng's brows furrowed when he heard Huo Ling's voice. When she almost approached him, Li Heng pushed her away from him with the back of his hand.

"Oh my goodness! You're so cool!" Huo Ling exclaimed.

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Chapter 549 Bringing Huo Ling Back

Huo Ling's eyes sparkled as she looked at Li Heng in admiration. "You're awesome, Heng! You're even better than my brother!" Li Heng frowned and looked at Huo Ling coldly.

Is this girl stupid? Song Zhe slapped his forehead. He initially wanted to remind Li Heng how strange of a girl Huo Ling was. Now that she had revealed her strange behavior, Song Zhe could only hold back his laughter in silence. To be precise, she started behaving strangely after discovering Li Heng's identity yesterday.

"Ms. Huo, please return to Z Nation with me!" Li Heng demanded. "Sure, Heng!" Huo Ling exclaimed as she got up from the ground. "I would go anywhere you want me to go, Heng! You don't have to worry because I'll follow you wherever you go."

After a short pause, Li Heng ridiculed, "You must be dumb!" Li Heng was a harsh person with a sharp tongue.

Pei Huan knew about Li Heng's sharp tongue from the moment they first got to know each other. The two seemed to have first met through a dramatic misunderstanding and were hurling insults at each other during their first meeting. Thus, when everyone thought Li Heng was an untouchable man who was cold and arrogant, Pei Huan, on the other hand, only regarded Li Heng as a man with a sharp tongue. People around Li Heng would either be intimidated by his strong aura or be pissed off by his words.

However, Li Heng rarely exhibited his sharp tongue in front of outsiders. Thus, both Huo Ling and Song Zhe were shocked when he hurled his insult at Huo Ling.

Song Zhe blinked a few times, as he could not believe his ears. However, after hearing Li Heng's next insult, Song Zhe was finally convinced he was not hallucinating.

"It's unfortunate for the Huo family to have an idiot like you!" Li Heng mocked. "Yes, yes. Everything you said is correct, Heng!" Huo Ling nodded profusely.

The corners of Song Zhe's mouth twitched vigorously while Li Heng looked at Huo Ling as though he was looking at an idiot. "Get ready, Song Zhe. We're leaving tomorrow!" Li Heng exclaimed.

Li Heng was not concerned about Huo Ling's intentions, as he was only responsible for bringing Huo Ling back. Then, Huo Shenxing would eventually appear. Huo Shenxing might be a demanding person with an odd temper, but he treated Huo Ling very well. In fact, he was very protective of her.

Meanwhile, Huo Ling was looking at Li Heng as though he was the most perfect being in the world. "Do you really not remember me, Heng?"

Li Heng glanced at Huo Ling and uttered, "Of course, I remember. What about it?"

"You really remember me?" Huo Ling asked as she pointed at herself. "Do you really remember me?"

"Aren't you Huo Ling from the Huo family?"

Huo Ling was disappointed when she heard that. "Heng, I—"

"Call me Li Heng, or you can call me Mr. Li just like Song Zhe."

"No!" Huo Ling bit her lip when she heard that. "Li... You're my idol! Do you really not remember me? It's me! Nine years ago... In Lostaria!" Afraid that Li Heng couldn't remember her, Huo Ling pointed at her face frantically before lifting her sleeve to reveal a scar on the back of her hand. "Do you remember this, Heng?"

Li Heng squinted and sized Huo Ling up. A while later, he furrowed his brows and asked, "Are you that little beggar?"

"You're right. It's me! You've saved me before, Heng!" Huo Ling said excitedly. "You saved my life, but I didn't have the chance to repay you. Back then, you only told me your name. Then, I tried looking for you, but they said you left. Where did you go?"

"Don't mention it." Li Heng rubbed his temples.

He did not expect Huo Ling to be the little beggar he had saved back then. He would not have remembered her if she did not mention it.

"Since fate has brought us together again, I will help you with everything, Heng. Why are you looking for my brother?"

"To save someone!"

"To save someone? I can do it too. I have pretty good medical skills. In fact, I'm much better than my brother!" Huo Ling said as she put her hand over her chest to pledge assurance. "You can count on me!"

"You?" Song Zhe clearly did not believe Huo Ling. She looks like a regular teenager who's about fifteen or sixteen. How could she have medical skills?

Nonetheless, Li Heng began to scrutinize Huo Ling seriously. "You said you have medical skills?"

"Yes, I do. Don't you remember what I did yesterday? I was extracting viruses from those people. Stop assuming that my brother is the only person with great medical skills in the Huo family, all right?"

"Well, then. In that case, come back to Z Nation with me, Ms. Huo," Li Heng replied.

He was not suspicious of Huo Ling's ability because the Huo family was indeed a prestigious family of medical practitioners. Thus, it would not surprise him if Huo Ling had medical skills. Since they could not find Huo Shenxing, bringing Huo Ling back to his home country would be beneficial too. At least Huo Ling must have better medical skills than Su Shaoqing.

On the following day, Huo Ling, who was exceptionally thrilled, returned with Li Heng. However, when she tried talking to Li Heng, he paid no attention to her. She was disappointed by this, but it did not diminish her excitement in the slightest. She then started chatting with Song Zhe.

From the conversation, she learned about the major factions in Z Nation. She also learned that Li Heng was the former leader of Li Group and was still the head of the Li family at that moment.

While Huo Ling was a casual person, she was not interested in gossip that was not related to medicine. Thus, she did not know how much impact Li Heng had on Jiang City. She was dumbfounded when Song Zhe told her about Li Heng and the others to her and blurted out, "I thought my brother was the most powerful person in the world. Who would've thought that there's someone even more powerful out there!"

"That's right!" Song Zhe remarked with a sneer. Has she been living under a rock her whole life? Perhaps the Huo family had her locked up in the Huo residence. That might explain why she doesn't know the evilness of the outside world.

The journey took more than ten hours. After getting off the plane, the group walked behind Li Heng. Huo Ling chattered along the way like a lively bird that could not stop chirping. However, as she dared not pester Li Heng, she continued pestering Song Zhe and even asked him about Li Heng's wife.

Pei Huan was already waiting outside the airport with Bao and Liang Lin.

As it had been rather unpeaceful recently, Liang Lin paid extra attention to their surroundings. When he learned that the plane just landed on time, Liang Li immediately reported to Pei Huan. "Madam, Bao, Mr. Li has gotten off the plane."

"Is Daddy back?" Bao, who was eating ice cream initially, looked around with his big and round eyes as he tried to locate his father. "Mr. Liang, let's go find my Daddy!"

As he said that, Bao shoved his ice cream into Liang Lin's hand. "Quick! Help me put this away!"

Liang Lin did not know whether to cry or laugh as he looked helplessly at Pei Huan. Amused, Pei Huan reached out her hand to ruffle Bao's hair softly. "Don't worry. Since I got you the ice cream, your Daddy wouldn't dare say anything about it!"

"No, I still mustn't! I'm a good kid!" Bao explained as he looked righteously at Pei Huan. "How could you teach me to lie to Daddy?"

Pei Huan was speechless.

"What lie?" Li Heng's crisp voice sounded from nearby. As he glanced at Liang Lin's hand, the latter instantly hid the ice cream away as he greeted Li Heng, "Mr. Li, you're back!"

Li Heng snorted loudly, then turned to face Pei Huan and Bao with a gentle countenance. "Huan!"

"Welcome back!" Pei Huan answered with a faint smile. "I thought your flight would take longer to arrive!"

"Uh-huh!" Li Heng nodded in response. Then he reached out to pick up Bao before entering the car. "You've gotten heavier!"

Bao wiggled his little buttocks and pouted. "No, I didn't get heavier! I missed you so much that I couldn't eat, Daddy! I'm no longer adorable now because I've gotten skinny. Touch my face and feel the difference, Daddy!"

Li Heng let out a laugh and reached out his hand to pinch Bao's face. "You've gotten fatter!"

"Daddy! If you keep saying that, I'm going to get mad!" Bao huffed and crossed his arm.

"All right, your daddy is tired because he just got off the plane! Come here. Let me give you a hug!" Pei Huan coaxed Bao resignedly before reaching out her arms. However, Li Heng shook his head at her as he stated, "It's okay. I'll hold him."

Although Bao said he would get mad, he was still filled with joy when Li Heng held him. "Daddy, since you were away from home for so many days, did you miss Mommy and me?"

"Of course, I did!" Li Heng answered.

"Oh, my god!" Outside the car, Huo Ling, who was being held back by Song Zhe by her shirt collar, stared into the car in disbelief. She looked as though she was seeing the most beautiful image in the world. "How could you be so gentle, Heng?"

"Is that your baby, Heng? He's so adorable. I'm being overloaded with cuteness!" Huo Ling exclaimed, her eyes sparkling with delight as she stared at Li Heng and Bao.

When she tried to lunge toward Li Heng, Song Zhe yanked her back by her collar, preventing her from getting close to them. "Oh, my idol! Let go of me, Mr. Song! I want to see my idol and his handsome child!"

Li Heng shot a cold glance at Huo Ling, but Huo Ling was not intimidated at all. "Heng, your baby is so cute!"

Pei Huan looked at the young girl outside of the car, who seemed like a regular teenager.

Pei Huan was momentarily stunned. "Weren't you looking for the Ghost Doctor? Why did you bring a young girl back instead?"

"Is she your wife, Heng? She's so pretty. Hello, Mrs. Li. I'm Huo Ling," Huo Ling greeted as she waved at Pei Huan, who responded with a polite nod before turning to Li Heng in puzzlement.

"This is Huo Ling, Huo Shenxing's sister!" Li Heng gave a short introduction of Huo Ling, and then he shot a look at Song Zhe and said, "Ms. Huo will be sitting in your car!"

"Yes, Mr. Li!" Song Zhe sighed. "Follow me, Ms. Huo!"

After seeing Song Zhe take Huo Ling away, Li Heng lowered his head and continued playing with Bao. "Huo Shenxing did not appear. I was worried that something would happen here, so I brought Huo Ling back first!"

"Okay." Pei Huan nodded. "With Huo Ling here, Huo Shenxing will surely appear. But are you sure he won't be angry at us for bringing Huo Ling over like this?" Pei Huan asked, concerned that Huo Shenxing would get angry and refuse to help.

"It won't happen. Huo Ling is too important to Huo Shenxing," Li Heng replied with confidence. "Huo Ling has medical skills too. Let's have her diagnose you and Shi Nuan later today!"

Pei Huan nodded, followed by a sigh. "I guess that's the only thing we can do now. By the way, Shen Qianan has been taken away by Fu Sijue."

Li Heng's eyes glinted slightly. "I know. Chengyan told me."

"Nuan even had a quarrel with my brother. After all, Shen Qianan is Nuan's elder sister, but Chengyan used Shen Qianan as bait," Pei Huan commented in a worried tone.

Li Heng held Pei Huan's hand and squeezed it dearly. "Don't worry, everything will be fine. You know Chengyan wouldn't do anything if he isn't confident, right?"

"By the way, why did Huo Ling say you saved her?" Pei Huan was rather interested in Huo Ling.

I Want a Lifetime with You Chapter 550

Chapter 550 Sharp Tongue

"It happened years ago. Back when I was handling some matters in Lostaria, I just happened to save a beggar!" At that time, Li Heng didn't think much about the beggar, who turned out to be Huo Ling. If she had not brought it up, Li Heng would have forgotten about it already.

Pei Huan nodded and laughed. "I see. Huo Ling still seems to idolize you!"

His stern gaze met Pei Huan's eyes, and amusement filled his eyes. Especially when he heard her saying those words, he reached out to pat Pei Huan's head. "What's the matter? Are you jealous?"

"Jealous? What are you talking about?" Pei Huan scoffed. "You couldn't possibly have thought that I'm jealous of a young girl!" She couldn't help but slap Li Heng's hand away

and glare at him fiercely. "That girl is only fifteen or sixteen years old, okay? She's still underage!"

Li Heng glanced at the hand that she had slapped away. A glint of playfulness flashed in his eyes as he sighed helplessly. "Ah... So it seems I've lost my charm! When my wife sees me with another woman, she isn't jealous!"

"At least find a better-looking woman who poses a greater threat! Do you expect me to be jealous of an underage girl?" Pei Huan couldn't help but roll her eyes. "Well, since you've brought her here, where is she supposed to stay?"

"Doesn't the Li clan have a villa?"

"Oh, she'll stay at the Li residence? All right, then!" Pei Huan was stunned. She didn't have anything against the arrangement, but she questioned, "Huo Ling wouldn't mind, right?"

"Why would she?" Li Heng didn't seem to care for Huo Ling's feelings. "Everything was okay in that period that I was gone. Am I right?"

"Yeah, everything was fine. It's just that my sister-in-law is in a bad mood these days, and my brother is worried about her condition. Moreover, Shaoqing hasn't gotten it checked out, and my brother doesn't dare to let her take any tests. After all, she's pregnant with two children!"

After she said those words, she started feeling uncomfortable and continued, "When did you say Huo Shenxing will come?" She wasn't in a rush, but she was afraid that she couldn't keep Shi Nuan and the rest waiting.

"There's no need to hurry." Li Heng knew what she was worried about. "We can get Huo Ling to settle down first. Then, we can go to the hospital to visit Chengyan!"

The car stopped outside the Li residence's gate. Aunt Zhang had seen Li Heng's car approaching from afar and quickly opened the door to welcome them. "Heng and Huan, welcome back! Oh, you've brought Bao too!"

"Aunt Zhang!" Pei Huan greeted Aunt Zhang with a smile on her face. "Thank you for your hard work!"

"It's not hard work at all!" Aunt Zhang smiled and looked toward Li Heng. "Heng, you're finally back."

"Grandma!" Bao greeted sweetly. He broke away from Li Heng's arms, stomped his little legs, and flung his arms open. "Grandma, carry me!"

"Ah... Okay, I'll carry you!"

When Aunt Zhang saw Bao, her face lit up brightly, and she hurriedly reached out to bring him into her arms.

"Be careful!" Li Heng was worried that Bao would be too heavy for Aunt Zhang to hold. As such, he held onto Bao with one hand. "Aunt Zhang, let me carry him!"

"Heng, are you saying that I have no strength? Remember, when you were young, I was the one who carried you around! Don't worry. I'll be careful. I won't drop him!" Aunt Zhang grew fonder of the little boy the longer she looked at him. "Bao looks just like you when you were younger, Heng! He's like your carbon copy!"

Li Heng grinned from ear to ear. "Aunt Zhang, I'm just worried that he's too heavy. You might hurt yourself."

Although he said that, Aunt Zhang insisted on carrying Bao. Therefore, Li Heng could only give in.

As Aunt Zhang carried Bao inside, Bao could tell that she was getting tired. "Grandma, I can walk by myself!"

"You're such a good child!" she said as she put him down. "Heng and Huan, would you two like to rest for a while first? I'm in the middle of cooking. The food will be ready in a little while."

"Wow. It's huge!" Just then, a clear voice sounded throughout the Li residence. The voice seemed to carry a hint of childishness in it. "Mr. Song, please bring my luggage in!"

The luggage in question was actually a small bag that Huo Ling decided to buy impromptu before boarding the plane.

Huo Ling walked in as if she owned the place. Wandering around, she looked at the space with a scrutinizing gaze before nodding. "Hmm. Not bad. This is not bad at all. It's much better than my house!"

"Heng, this is?" Aunt Zhang was curious about the girl who had just entered. When she saw how comfortably she behaved, she couldn't help but look toward Pei Huan.

Pei Huan smiled. "Aunt Zhang, please prepare a room for Ms. Huo later!"

Since Pei Huan instructed so, Aunt Zhang would naturally do it. "All right. I'll prepare the room later. About Ms. Huo's luggage..."

"Hey, hey! Heng, your house is huge, and it looks amazing!" Huo Ling exclaimed, rubbing her hands together. Her gaze then fell on Bao, and her eyes lit up. "Oh, what a cute little munchkin!"

Bao was rendered speechless.

Huo Ling approached to squeeze Bao's cheeks, but he managed to slap her hands away. "Weirdo!"

Huo Ling was stunned.

She was starry-eyed. Although it hurt to be hit by Bao, on the account that he was cute and Li Heng's child, she could tolerate it. "Heng, your baby is so cute! What do you say? Can I become his godmother?"

The corner of Pei Huan's lips twitched. "That... Ms. Huo, you yourself are still a child!" Pei Huan thought that the girl's imagination was quite absurd, but she could tell that she had no malicious intentions. Therefore, Pei Huan wasn't worried about her.

"Goddess!" Huo Ling instantly rushed forward and grabbed Pei Huan's hand. "Goddess, you must have had a myriad of achievements in your past life to have been able to meet such an excellent man like Heng!"

Pei Huan grew uncomfortable by Huo Ling's sudden closeness and threw Li Heng a glance. He cleared his throat and signaled to Song Zhe. "Song Zhe, please bring Ms. Huo upstairs." He paused for a while and continued, "Aunt Zhang, prepare the room on the north side for her!"

"Oh, okay!"

Although Li Heng didn't say anything, Aunt Zhang could tell that Huo Ling must be quite impressive. If not, Li Heng wouldn't have brought her to this house. "Ms. Huo, why don't you go upstairs with Aunt Zhang?"

"Okay, okay!" Huo Ling nodded as she followed Aunt Zhang and Song Zhe. Suddenly, she stopped in front of the staircase. "Heng, you're not allowed to leave, okay?"

Li Heng felt helpless. After Huo Ling left, he looked toward Pei Huan.

Pei Huan had been holding back her laughter. The situation was simply too hilarious. "People from the Huo family aren't as difficult to interact with as the way people say so!"

The only thing Li Heng could do was sneer. Although Huo Ling was a bit stubborn, it didn't mean that Huo Shenxing was as well. As a significant member of the Huo family and their most accomplished heir in the medical field, Huo Shenxing was truly more than what the rumors described.

During the time when Huo Ling followed Aunt Zhang upstairs, Li Heng went into the kitchen to cook. Aunt Zhang was almost done preparing the food, so he only cleaned up a little and made two more dishes. Meanwhile, Pei Huan was with Bao in the living room playing chess.

Bao might have been young, but he had high intelligence, a trait that he inherited from Li Heng. From a young age, he had shown to be much smarter than his peers. However, he didn't like showing off, so at school, he mostly hid his skills.

By the time Pei Huan finished playing a few rounds with Bao, Li Heng came out of the kitchen. Untying his apron, he smiled faintly as he walked over to the two of them. He was surprised that they were evenly matched. "Bao's chess skills have improved quite a bit." At that, his gaze fell onto Bao's chess pieces. He was stunned. "Who taught you this?"

"Mr. Pei!" Pei Huan lifted her gaze. She smiled a little helplessly. "Two days ago, we went to my brother's office, and Mr. Pei was there recently. He played chess with Bao over the two days. Initially, Bao was not as skillful as I was, but now..." Even Pei Huan couldn't help but sigh. "How high did you say Mr. Pei's IQ was?"

"It's not as high as you think!" Li Heng reached out to pat Bao's head. "You're pretty good at chess, but you can't crush your opponent by using these extreme moves, okay?"

Bao raised his head and looked at Li Heng with a serious expression. "Daddy, Mr. Pei told me that playing chess was like doing business. You cannot give way to your opponent. Otherwise, you'll bring about a disaster to yourself!"

Li Heng's eyes darkened for a moment. He snorted and patted Bao's head. "It's not good to be playing so intensely when you're still so young. Moreover, you're playing against your mom. Shouldn't you go easy on her?"

"Oh!" Bao pouted. "Okay."

"Well, Bao is still a child!" When Pei Huan saw Bao drooping his head, her heart softened. She reached out and gently stroked his head. "It's all right. It's a game of chess. You can do your best! Don't pay attention to me, okay?"

"But Daddy said I should go easy on you!" Bao thought seriously for a moment. "I'll always go easy on you, Mommy. But if I'm playing with anyone else, I won't hold back! Daddy, is that okay?" The little boy looked up. His soft, cute appearance was simply adorable.

"Yep!" Li Heng gently touched Bao's forehead. "Remember, in the Li clan, no matter what, Mommy is the most important, okay?"

"Okay!"

"Li Heng, what are you teaching him?" Pei Huan couldn't do anything when she saw her husband telling their child those words. Li Heng shot a bitter glance at her. "What's wrong with teaching him to give way to my wife and his mother?"

"Great Mr. Li, the room is so comfortable!" Just then, Huo Ling skipped down the stairs. "Wow! It smells amazing, Great Mr. Li!"

Li Heng looked toward Huo Ling as she descended the stairs. Before, she had called him "Heng." Now, she was calling him "Great Mr. Li." "Call me Li Heng!" Li Heng chided.

"But Heng, you're my savior!" Huo Ling seemed vexed. "How can these names reflect your valor and heroism?"

"What an idiot!" Bao had a sharp tongue. He must have inherited it from Li Heng.