

Secret Admiration Finding True Love After Prison

Chapter 101 – 110

Chapter 101 Express Her Affection

This was Meryl's opportunity to transform into a woman consumed by her infatuation with Chandler.

She had wrinkled his white shirt on his chest, and she stared at him for four or five seconds.

Suddenly, she pulled hard, wrapped her arms around his neck, and kissed him.

He froze in shock.

Everyone was dumbfounded, wondering what was going on.

Before they could react, Meryl fainted in Chandler's arms.

Later, she woke up, only to find herself lying on a bed in the infirmary.

With an IV needle in the back of her hand, she saw a pretty young nurse who was looking up and changing the medicine.

"You're awake!"

Freya put down her phone and moved closer to Meryl. "How do you feel? You have a high fever. It's almost 104 degrees Fahrenheit. You just passed out in Mr. Aniston's arms."

Galaxy Holdings Group had an infirmary where employees with

colds or fevers could receive IV drips, resembling a community hospital setting.

Meryl hesitated for a few seconds. "Was it Mr. Aniston who saved me?"

Freya nodded with excitement. "Yes! Do you remember what happened before you fell into a coma? You forcibly kissed Mr. Aniston! Oh my gosh! How did you do that? You are so amazing! He was stunned at that time. It must have been his first kiss!"

As soon as she finished speaking, Chandler came in.

Freya, who was thrilled, immediately shut up.

Meryl rubbed her head and turned her gaze dazedly to Chandler's face. "Chandler, now that I've kissed you, I promise to take responsibility for you."

He was speechless.

Recently, many employees had been suffering from colds and fevers, and the infirmary was also filled with colleagues from other departments.

What happened to Meryl? Was she out of her mind?

Why did she suddenly make such a domineering statement?

Chandler also felt that Meryl's reaction today was a little strange.

Chapter 101 Express Her Affection

3/4

Gazing into her eyes curiously, he tried to find out what she was thinking.

However, she seemed outwardly normal, with nothing visibly amiss.

The only peculiarity was that Meryl's eyes had been fixed on his face ever since he walked into the room.

She seemed to focus only on him, her eyes shining. She looked like someone in love.

Chandler approached Meryl, intending to touch her forehead, but halted abruptly upon noticing the inquiring stares of onlookers. He was about to put his hand in his pocket instead.

"Are you feeling okay? Should I call the doctor again?"

Meryl grabbed his hand and interrupted his action. As she lowered her head, a few strands of hair fell into his palm.

"Chandler, I want to be your woman."

All the colleagues widened their eyes in astonishment.

The news of Meryl forcibly kissing Chandler in the elevator lobby had already spread throughout the company.

She was so bold! She even declared in public that she wanted to be Chandler's woman!

It was truly unprecedented and unparalleled!

Chapter 101 Express Her Affection She was awesome!

Meryl beamed, her eyes bright.

4/4

A breeze blew in from the window, brushing across her cheeks and lifting a few strands of hair around her ears.

Due to her illness, her face had a slight flush. Regardless of others' gazes and comments, she only paid attention to Chandler.

It didn't seem like a joke.

"I'm not out of my mind, Chandler. I fell in love with you at first sight. I'm drawn to you."

Their eyes met. Chandler observed her, as if he sought to discern something from her expression.

Wasn't their marriage a secret one?

Why did she suddenly express her affection for him?

Chapter 102 Are You Crazy?

1/5

Unsure what Meryl was thinking, Chandler could only remain silent for the time being.

But her words made his heart skip a beat.

Everyone could only see his cold, solemn, and handsome back.

To them, Chandler appeared to be a man who was so furious at being pestered by a woman that he was speechless.

The infirmary suddenly fell into deathly silence, and no one dared to displease him.

They all believed that Meryl was doomed after flirting with Chandler.

After all, he had never been involved in any scandals at the company, and no woman dared to approach him closely.

There were rumors that he and Walter were actually a couple.

They loved each other so deeply that they were inseparable. Moreover, they nearly shared a room during business trips.

At that moment, the cell phone in Chandler's pocket rang. He cast a meaningful glance at Meryl before leaving with his phone.

The quiet infirmary immediately became noisy again.

Chapter 102 Are You Crazy?

Everyone burst into discussion.

2/5

Freya, on the side, was completely stunned and excited, gazing at Meryl in admiration.

"I treat you as a colleague, but you plan to be my boss' wife!

"When you marry Mr. Aniston, can you give me a promotion and a raise?"

Within a few minutes, a message circulated in the group chats of the company's various departments.

[Meryl is out of her mind. She took away Mr. Aniston's first kiss and publicly declared her affection for him, proclaiming she wanted to be his woman.]

Some suggested that she had overestimated her own abilities, daydreaming that she could become Chandler's wife by being ill and passing out in his arms.

Others remarked that she was so shameless as to seduce him and marry into a rich family.

Most of the comments were negative.

Meryl didn't care what their opinions were.

Because her fever had not subsided, she stayed in the infirmary for a whole day.

Chapter 102 Are You Crazy?

3/5

The news spread quickly. The Stone family lost composure and called Meryl four or five times in succession.

She didn't answer.

When it was time to get off work, Dalton, who was on a business trip, suddenly appeared in the ward.

Next to him were Lydia and Ethan, who had come to watch the fun.

“What are you doing? Ethan is gone, so you have eyes for Uncle Chandler, right?”

Dalton lost focus after checking the history in a company chat group at noon.

“Dalton, you’re talking nonsense! What do you mean? I am right here,” Ethan cursed and pulled a chair to sit down.

Dalton didn’t bother to argue with him and thus ignored him.

All he could think about was Meryl kissing Chandler and expressing her intention to marry him in public.

The photo of the scene was sent to the group, and he saw it clearly. It was Meryl who had taken the initiative.

She grabbed Chandler’s collar and forcibly kissed him.

It was incredible!

Chapter 102 Are You Crazy?

For a long time after Dalton and Lydia announced their marriage, Meryl made no move.

Everyone thought she was going to give up.

Surprisingly, less than a week before the wedding, Meryl unexpectedly declared her love for Chandler in front of

everyone.

4/5

Dalton was furious because everyone in the circle was laughing at him.

Seeing Meryl getting up from the bed, he walked over to pull her. “Are you crazy? This is clearly a matter between us. Why did you provoke Uncle Chandler?”

She cast an icy glance at him. “It’s none of your business. He saved me, and I fell in love with him at first sight. Do I have to report to you when I like someone?”

“In love with him at first sight? I understand you’re unhappy about Lydia and me getting married, but you caused such a scene, which embarrassed everyone.”

Meryl shook off Dalton’s hand. “You are the one who is embarrassed, not me. Our past is simply past. I don’t care who you marry, and who I chase after has nothing to do with you.”

“Do you have any idea what people say about you? They call you shameless and accuse you of marrying into wealth. Does that not bother you? You don’t have to go to such extremes just to piss me off. Why did you involve an innocent person like Uncle

Chapter 102 Are You Crazy?

Chandler?”

5/5

Lydia added, “Exactly, Meryl. Don’t you care about your reputation anymore? Mom and Dad just called. They find this shameful and want you to come home tonight.”

Meryl suddenly laughed.

“Shameful? I simply expressed my feelings to Chandler, and

all of you became so upset. I haven’t even made any advances toward him yet. Besides, you call me shameful. Isn’t it shameful for Lydia to steal her sister’s man?”

Write your comment

Chapter 103 The Car Accident

1/4

Lydia was embarrassed. Dalton caught the details. “Meryl, you really did it to piss me off, and you’re even planning on chasing after Uncle Chandler. Do you have any shame?”

Ethan, who had been silent, suddenly chuckled, “Dalton, you are wrong. How can a woman chasing a man be considered shameless?”

“This is bravery. Didn’t you hear what Meryl just said? You are through. It has nothing to do with you whom she chases after?”

Dalton squinted his eyes. “Ethan, at least you had a blind date with Meryl! She didn’t like you and instead pursued Uncle Chandler. You don’t mind losing face. Yet, you’re adding fuel to the fire.”

“Why do I lose face? You’re the one who cheated, not me.

Besides, not many people know about our blind date. Dalton, are you afraid that she will really get together with Chandler and become your elder in the future?” Ethan burst into laughter.

During the argument, they flew into a rage, ready for a fight.

Meryl, not surprised, exited the infirmary with her bag.

Lydia followed her. “You were the one playing the cello in the music room that day, **right?**”

Chapter 103 The Car Accident

Meryl didn’t respond and continued walking forward.

2/4

“I know it’s you. After that incident, didn’t you stop playing the cello? Meryl, you broke your promise!”

There were not many people outside the company at that moment.

Night fell.

Dalton was in a car accident at the age of eighteen.

His injury was so severe that he lay in a coma in the hospital bed for several days. Charlotte consulted experts from both domestic and international sources and ultimately rescued Dalton from the brink of death.

Few people know that he got into the car accident because of Meryl.

It was pouring rain at that moment, and she couldn’t hail a taxi after her cello practice, so he personally drove to pick her up.

She stood under the eaves, holding the cello, and watched as he crashed into an electric pole by the roadside while making a

turn.

While Dalton was unconscious, Meryl blamed herself and felt guilty, convinced that she had caused him harm.

At that time, he should have a crush on her.

Chapter 103 The Car Accident

3/4

To ease her sorrow, she sat alone beside the hospital flower bed and played the cello. The melody was soft and melancholic, enveloping her in a haze from which she couldn't seem to

escape.

Then, Charlotte rushed over and smashed her cello.

Meryl thought, "She is right.

Dalton almost lost his life for me, so what right do I have to play the cello?"

After that, she gave up the cello and never played it again.

"I didn't play the cello out of guilt for Dalton back then," Meryl pivoted around and smiled at Lydia.

"Now that he's already dead to me, why can't I play?"

Meryl relinquished her favorite cello for Dalton.

However, Chandler's desire to hear her performance motivated her to resume playing.

She had a simple dinner near the company and then came back to continue her IV drip.

Her fever had subsided, and the final medication in the drip was an anti-inflammatory. Dalton and the others had already left.

It was quiet.

Chapter 103 The Car Accident

Chandler returned to the infusion room after a social event,

4/4

only to see Meryl with a needle in the back of her delicate hand, her head slumped against the chair, looking pitiful as if she had drifted off to sleep.

A nearby light illuminated her, casting her entire body.

Frowning slightly, Chandler strode over, took off his coat, and gently draped it over her.

Meryl woke up from her sleep.

At the sight of Chandler sitting next to her, she was stunned. "Why are you here?"

Chapter 104 You Don't Have to Do This

1/4

A strand of hair had come loose near her temple, sticking to her flushed lips, giving her a touch of disheveled beauty.

Her eyes, still misty from the recent fever, looked innocent.

As Chandler's gaze traveled downward, he noticed her slender, pale legs beneath her skirt. Unbidden, a memory surfaced of how they had wrapped around him that night.

His Adam's apple bobbed as he quickly averted his

gaze.

"Didn't you publicly confess your love for me? Said you fell for me at first sight? So why do you seem unhappy now that I've come to see you?"

Meryl smiled at Chandler and said, "I'm happy, of course I'm happy. I just didn't expect you to come."

After all, Chandler hadn't spoken to her for days. Now, not only was he speaking to her, but he had also come to the infirmary to see her.

It seemed that her persistence had finally paid off.

Chandler pressed his lips together, his deep eyes locking onto hers for a moment before he looked away again.

Chapter 104 You Don't Have to Do This

2/4

"You caused such a scene today. Are you planning to bear the brunt of all the gossip alone?"

Meryl froze. She hadn't expected him to see through her so quickly.

Since Chandler had already guessed her intentions, she felt there was no need to hide it anymore.

“I did this so that even if we go public later, you wouldn’t be embarrassed about me having been with Dalton.

“Even if people gossip, they’d talk about how I chased after you, how you were forced to accept me. That way, no one would think it’s your fault.

“You can keep your reputation intact.”

Meryl thought Chandler was a good man.

She didn’t want him to be tarnished because of her.

It didn’t matter if her reputation was ruined; at worst, people would just call her shameless.

But Chandler was different. He was the president of Galaxy Holdings Group, constantly under the scrutiny of countless eyes.

Chandler’s deep gaze lingered on Meryl.

“You don’t have to do this. No one would dare question me, even

Chapter 104 You Don’t Have to Do This

3/4

if I married you. You don’t need to bear this alone just to protect my image.

“If I can’t even protect my own woman, and need you to shield me, what kind of man would that make me?”

Meryl shook her head lightly. “It’s okay. This is the simplest and best way for you. Please, just listen to me on this, alright?”

Chandler’s hand clenched slightly before he finally nodded.

Hearing this, Meryl let out a sigh of relief.

Chandler’s voice dropped as he seemed to contemplate something. “So, everything you did today was an act. You were just pretending to ‘like me’.”

Meryl froze.

Seeing her expression, Chandler understood. He sighed softly, a hint of sadness in his voice. "I knew it."

He thought, "Love at first sight? Fell for me?"

How could she act so convincingly?

Meryl had acted so convincingly that, for a brief moment, Chandler had believed it.

He had believed that she truly had feelings for him.

And Now, his heart felt a mix of resignation and

4/4

Chapter 104 You Don't Have to Do This disappointment. A self-mocking smile tugged at the corners of his lips, and his eyes, once so deep, grew a little colder.

Suddenly, Meryl realized what had happened. "Did I offend Chandler again?"

She quickly replayed the conversation in her mind, trying to figure out what went wrong.

"Don't go!"

In her panic, Meryl tried to stand up, but the clear IV tube immediately turned red. She fr owned at it before hurriedly sitting back down.

By then, Chandler had already left the infusion room.

Watching him walk away, Meryl sighed. Her last shout had been so loud that it woke the nurse on duty from her nap.

The nurse blinked awake, only to see Meryl staring longingly after Chandler, clearly wanting to chase after him, but Chandler was already walking away without looking back.

The nurse thought to herself, "Tsk, looks like her confession got rejected."

Chapter 105 His Past

By the time Meryl had removed the IV and reached the company entrance, Chandler had already disappeared.

A hint of loneliness flashed in her eyes, but just then, a rare vintage car pulled up in front of her.

Meryl's eyes brightened again.

Walter stepped out of the car, saying, "Mrs. Aniston, Mr. Aniston asked me to take you home."

Meryl instinctively glanced at the back seat, but Chandler wasn't there.

She thought, "He's clearly upset, yet he still sent Walter to drive me back?"

She bent down and stepped into the car.

On the way, Meryl noticed that the car wasn't heading to their home but to the apartment she had rented for the past few days.

It seemed Chandler had been secretly keeping an eye on her.

Deeply touched, Meryl couldn't help but wonder, "Chandler, what kind of man are you, really?"

She knew he was a man of integrity. with no **woman**

Chapter 105 His Past

the head of the Aniston family, wielding immense power.

2/4

But beyond that, her understanding of him was limited to that one time, ten years ago, when she had saved his life.

Back then, he had been covered in blood, with a gaping wound in his chest, lying in an inconspicuous haystack in the countryside.

If she hadn't happened to know acupuncture and managed to stop his bleeding, he likely wouldn't have survived.

"Mrs. Aniston, are you thinking about Mr. Aniston?" Walter glanced at the rearview mirror.

The streetlights outside cast dappled shadows on Meryl's face as she leaned quietly against the back seat, murmuring, "I think I've upset him."

"You flirted with Mr. Aniston in front of everyone like that. He believed it was real, but you were just acting. How could he not be upset?"

His words were like a wake-up call, and Meryl suddenly understood.

She thought, "So that's where the problem lies."

Walter continued, "Mr. Aniston is actually someone who's been starved of love."

"What do you mean?"

Chapter 105 His Past

Walter's tone turned somber.

3/4

"When he was three months old, he was sent to live with a farmer's family. Within a few years, the family had children of their own, and he was pushed out to the woodshed, eating cold leftovers, barely clothed in the dead of winter. For fifteen years, the Aniston family ignored him completely."

Meryl felt her heart clench as she listened.

She had never imagined Chandler had gone through something like that. She thought, "Isn't that abuse? But the Aniston family is such a powerful household. How could they not find room for a three-month-old child... and drive him out of the family?"

"And after he turned fifteen?"

"At fifteen, he caught a lucky break and was selected by the police academy. It wasn't until last year, when the Aniston family needed an heir, and none of the other branches were up to the task, that Galaxy Holdings Group suffered massive losses, and Sir Aniston called him back from retirement. He fought his way back to the Aniston family's ranks on his own merit."

Meryl thought, "They ignored him for over twenty years, only to remember him when they needed something? How ironic!"

Meryl suddenly recalled the scar on Chandler's chest. It must have been from one of his missions at the police academy.

So, all these years, he has been living on the edge, risking his life

Chapter 105 His Past every day.

Meryl furrowed her brows.

4/4

“Mrs. Aniston, people often say Mr. Aniston is ruthless and cold. But since he was little, no one has ever shown him kindness.”

“When other children had the love of their parents and the warmth of family, all he had was a cold woodshed and endless farm chores.”

“I understand.” Meryl nodded.

In his early years, Chandler endured psychological torment.

At the police academy, he faced relentless physical exhaustion from daily training and missions.

No wonder when she saved him back then, Chandler remembered it for a full decade.

Her act of saving him was probably one of the few moments of warmth and kindness Chandler had experienced in his **29** years of life.

Write your comment

Chapter 106 Rumors Everywhere

1/5

Meryl finally understood why Chandler had left in anger earlier.

When she confessed her feelings to him in public, Chandler had taken her display of affection seriously.

When he realized it had all been an act, she knew the disappointment and sense of betrayal must have not only angered him but also left him feeling dejected.

Meryl didn't expect to have a deeply loving relationship with Chandler. After all, their marriage hadn't been born out of love.

She had agreed to marry Chandler simply to find a place where she could settle down and escape her past, and Chandler had happened to be the right person at the right time.

She wanted to get along with him.

But now, Meryl needed to carefully consider her relationship with Chandler.

At the very least, she couldn't be someone who would hurt him the way the Aniston family had.

Over the next few days, rumors began to circulate again. This time, it was about Meryl's confession to Chandler and how he had rejected her.

Chapter 106 Rumors Everywhere

2/5

The most widespread version of the story went like this: On a dark, stormy night, Meryl, burning with a fever and looking pitiful, staged a chance encounter with Chandler. But Chandler didn't even give her a second glance and coldly brushed past her.

Afterward, she supposedly crouched on the ground, crying her eyes out, looking as pitiful as could be.

When Meryl overheard Medea and Lisha discussing these rumors in the break room, she was utterly baffled.

She thought, "When did I ever crouch on the ground and cry my eyes out?"

All I did was bend down to tie my shoelaces!

Ridiculous!

But then again, this might not be such a bad thing.

At least it helps solidify the image of me pursuing Chandler in everyone's mind."

"Chandler, what's going on between you and Meryl?"

As the end of the workday approached, Dante called him. "I heard she confessed to you in public and even declared she wanted to be your woman? Aren't you two already married? What's this all about?"

This story had spread like wildfire, becoming a hot topic within

Chapter 106 Rumors Everywhere

their social circle.

3/5

Everyone was waiting to see Meryl make a fool of herself, and some had even started placing bets.

They were betting on how long Meryl could keep up the act.

People believed that Meryl's confession to Chandler was just a show.

After all, with Dalton and Lydia's wedding approaching, she must have wanted to save face after being humiliated, and this was her way of doing it.

However, no one believed this strategy would work because the chances of Chandler accepting her confession were considered to be zero.

Chandler's deep eyes gazed out the window as he absentmindedly capped his fountain pen.

"Are you two still fighting? Haven't you made up yet? It's been, what, over a week now?" Dante counted on his fingers.

Chandler's tall frame leaned back in his chair as he replied coldly, "Has it been longer than your fight with Anne?"

Dante cursed under his breath.

Then, he said, "Fine, fine, I know you're in a bad mood. Isn't today your birthday? We're throwing you a party at Midnight Bar. Make sure you come!"

Chapter 106 Rumors Everywhere

After hanging up, Chandler left his office and happened to glance over at Meryl's desk.

It was empty.

4/5

Lately, Meryl had been making every effort to please him. Sometimes, she would bring breakfast for him, sometimes delivering him fruit, seizing every possible opportunity to get close to him.

The whole company knew she had a thing for him.

Not seeing Meryl around, Chandler wondered, "Does she not know it's my birthday today? An opportunity to put on a show, and she's not even taking it."

Chandler walked over to Meryl's desk and knocked twice. "Where is she?"

At his words, the entire staff in the executive office turned to look at him in shock.

Over the past few days, Chandler had completely ignored Meryl. He hadn't said a word to her and had acted as if he wanted to avoid her, showing no interest whatsoever.

But now, Chandler was actually asking about Meryl.

Everyone stared at him with wide eyes, utterly baffled.

Chapter 107 Don't Even Dream About It

1/4

Freya was the first to react. "Meryl had some family matters to attend to, so she took the afternoon off."

"Hmm," Chandler responded coolly. He casually flipped through a document on Meryl's desk, then took it with him as he left.

Seeing this, they finally understood.

They thought Chandler had come looking for Meryl simply for **work**-related reasons.

Once Chandler was out of earshot, Lisha placed her coffee cup on the table and said in a mocking tone, "Took the afternoon off? She's probably playing hard to get. Mr. Aniston obviously doesn't care about her, yet she shamelessly keeps trying to get close to him. Pathetic."

Freya frowned and retorted, "Ms. Walsh, that's really harsh. It's called courageously pursuing love."

"Courageously pursuing love?" Lisha sneered.

"She's making a complete fool of herself, and by extension, making us look bad too. People might **start** thinking that we're **all** just trying to seduce our boss to climb the ladder, thanks to

Chapter 107 Don't Even Dream About It her. She's selling a terrible example."

2/4

Josh interjected, "Even if people are talking, they're only talking about her. No one's saying a word about the rest of us in the executive office. Ms. Walsh, you're exaggerating."

Lisha's face darkened. "Oh, so Division Two is ganging up on me now, is that it?"

Josh and Freya exchanged helpless glances. Lisha had been with the executive office the longest, and she often relied on her seniority to assert herself. They usually tried to avoid clashing with her.

Medea stepped in to diffuse the situation. "Alright, alright, everyone calm down. Let's all say a little less and start wrapping things up. The workday's almost over.

Meryl had taken the afternoon off to return to the Stone Villa.

The fuss she had caused with her public confession to Chandler had blown up, and the whole social circle was buzzing with gossip.

There were only a few days left before Lydia's wedding, and Bianca had been busy making preparations.

But thanks to Meryl's sudden pursuit of Chandler, they had become the subject of ridicule.

Now, even when Bianca went out, she was met with whispers and judgmental stares.

Chapter 107 Don't Even Dream About It

Just as the scandal of Lydia stealing her sister's fiancé had begun to fade, Meryl's actions had brought it all back to the surface.

were no

People again saying that Lydia was shameless and that Meryl had gone mad from the shock.

"Why on earth did you have to go and provoke Chandler? Do you think you can afford to mess with him?"

3/4

Bianca stood in the living room, her face cold as she saw Meryl walk in. "Not only are you embarrassing yourself, but you're dragging our whole family down with you. Do you have

any idea what people are saying about you out there?"

idea

Meryl had barely stepped inside before being met with Bianca's scolding.

She walked over to the couch and sat down. "I'm hungry. Didn't you call me back to eat? Where's the food?"

“You still have an appetite?” Bianca almost jumped out of her skin, infuriated by Meryl’s nonchalant attitude, as if she hadn’t taken her words seriously at all.

“Why wouldn’t I have an appetite?”

Meryl replied calmly, looking at Bianca. “Look at you, getting all worked up. I confess **m**y feelings to Chandler, and you’re so scared you can’t eat? If I actually marry Chandler, would you be so terrified you’d be shaking in your boots?”

Chapter 107 Don’t Even Dream About It

4/4

The moment Meryl said this, Bianca’s expression changed.

“You want to marry Chandler? Don’t start dreaming just yet.”

Bianca thought to herself, “Meryl is getting more and more delusional. Chandler isn’t so meone you can just marry on a

whim.

A man of such immense power, who countless wealthy families will kill to form an alliance with. And Chandler, who remained untainted by scandal, exuded an air of restraint and possessed stunning good looks. He is the dream man of many women.

How could such good fortune possibly fall into Meryl’s lap?”

Lydia, who had been peeling an orange nearby, tilted her head slightly and looked at Meryl with an innocent expression.

“Meryl, even if you’re upset, you shouldn’t mess with Chandler. Just yesterday, I was telling Dalton that you’d be my bridesmaid the day after tomorrow. It’ll be like a dream come true, walking down the aisle with Dalton. Please stop causing scenes after that, to avoid further embarrassment.”

Meryl almost burst **out** laughing. “What did you say? You want me to be your bridesmaid? Lydia, you’ve got some nerve. Aren’t you afraid your wedding might turn into a funeral?”

Chapter 108 The Bet

1/4

Meryl thought to herself, “How absurd Lydia is, actually asking me to be her bridesmaid!

I'm already Chandler's wife!"

Malcolm, who had been silent, finally set down his newspaper.

He had practically begged Meryl to come home, and yet she still acted like she was more important than him!

Moreover, Celestial Ventures Group had just lost several major contracts, and the headaches were piling up for Malcolm. To make matters worse, the business about Meryl publicly confessed her feelings for Chandler.

The lost contracts were directly related to Galaxy Holdings Group.

Malcolm was convinced that Meryl's confession had offended Chandler and that Chandler was now retaliating against him. Behind the scenes.

He was furious. "This girl is nothing but trouble! She's utterly useless, only adding **to my** problems instead of helping in any way!"

Malcolm scolded her harshly, "Meryl, when are you going to stop causing trouble?"

Chapter 108 The Bet

2/4

Just then, the housekeeper brought out the food. Meryl leisurely made her way to the dining table and took a seat.

"I've already told you. I want to be Chandler's woman. I want to marry him. He's the one I love, and I won't marry anyone else."

Malcolm sneered and said, "Chandler? Marry you? Have you looked in a mirror? If he marries you, it'll be a joke! A woman his own nephew doesn't even want."

Meryl replied calmly, "Let's get this straight. I was the one who dumped Dalton. **I** was the one who called off the engagement. He didn't reject me, and I rejected him.

"Secondly, don't judge Chandler **with** your narrow perspective. You fail to see my worth, but Chandler has a discerning eye. He'll recognize my value."

Malcolm ignored her sarcastic tone and smirked. "There she goes, daydreaming again, still thinking Chandler would ever marry her."

Meryl raised an eyebrow and declared firmly, "What if he actually does?"

Malcolm snapped, "Then I'll cut off my head and let you use it as a football!"

"What would I want with your head? Besides, **you** think your head is some sort of treasure? Choose something else."

Chapter 108 The Bet

Meryl ladled some soup into her bowl and sipped it, unconcerned.

It tasted good, nourishing even.

Malcolm exchanged a look with Bianca. "Look at her, really putting on airs now."

"Are you afraid to bet with me?"

3/4

Meryl cast a cold glance around the room. "I want this house. If I marry Chandler, you all get out."

Stone Villa had been passed down through generations of the Stone family.

When Robert was on his deathbed, he split his estate, giving half of his shares to Meryl and the other half to her brother, John.

The villa itself was meant to be divided between the two of them, but before the transfer could be completed, Robert passed away.

Because Lydia didn't inherit a penny from Robert, Malcolm, fearing she would feel slighted, took it upon himself to transfer ownership of Stone Villa to Lydia.

She felt it was laughable. The ancestral home of the Stone family passed down through generations, was now in the hands of Lydia, who wasn't even related by blood.

The villa was worth eight hundred million dollars, nearly equivalent to Meryl's share of the family's assets.

Chapter 108 The Bet

4/4

Hearing Meryl's demand, Malcolm's face darkened. "You've got quite the appetite, don't you? You dare to covet the ancestral home and think you can kick us all out? You ungrateful daughter!"

“This house was meant for us, from our grandfather. You irrationally gave it to Lydia, making you the ungrateful one! Aren’t you afraid that Grandpa will come back from the grave to haunt you for giving our ancestral home **to an outsider?**”

Malcolm gritted his teeth. “But you only have a claim to half of it! Do you plan on taking your brother’s share too?”

Chapter 109 A Chance Encounter at the Bar

“I’ll return John’s share to him in due time,” Meryl replied.

In Stone Villa, John was the only one who had treated Meryl well, though he had left for studies abroad long ago and hadn’t returned home since high school.

Malcolm gritted his teeth and said, “Alright, I’ll take that bet. If you don’t marry Chandler, you’ll have to hand over the 8% stake in Celestial Ventures Group!”

He was clearly eyeing the inheritance that Robert had bestowed upon Meryl.

Meryl felt a pang of disappointment. That stake was Robert’s way of protecting her, the only thing he had left her to rely on.

She responded coolly, “Fine, it’s a deal.”

Seeing the confidence in Meryl’s expression made Malcolm uneasy.

It was as though he had walked right into a trap she had carefully set.

However, he brushed off the thought, convinced that Chandler would never marry her.

2/4

Chapter 109 A Chance Encounter at the Bar Midway through dinner, Meryl received a phone call and had to leave.

As she turned to go, Lydia watched her retreating figure, hesitating before speaking. “I’m about to get married, and Meryl won’t even stay to finish a meal at home. Mom, does she not like me?”

Before Bianca could respond, Meryl, who was changing her shoes at the entrance, chuckled, “You’ve got a pretty high opinion of yourself, don’t you? Do you think you’re Franklin or something? Why should I like you?”

With that, she ignored Lydia's flushed face and walked out the door.

Dalton's wedding was **in** two days, and his friends had arranged a bachelor party for him tonight at Midnight Bar.

The bar was filled with the sons of wealthy families, each accompanied by a few scantily clad bunny girls. As the mood intensified, they began kissing right there on the couches.

Coincidentally, it was also Chandler's birthday today, and Dante had organized a gathering for him at the same bar.

However, compared to Dalton's debauchery, Chandler's side was much more subdued. It was mostly a group of men, with a few bringing along their wives or girlfriends.

Anne, having learned of Dante's whereabouts, dragged Meryl to

Chapter 109 A Chance Encounter **at** the Bar Midnight Bar to confront him.

3/4

Anne had brought the divorce papers with her, planning to slam them down in front of Dante and his friends, forcing him to sign.

But as soon as they arrived at the bar, she started to have second thoughts.

"Why should men have all the fun outside?" she thought.

Anne found the most prominent seat and pulled Meryl down beside her.

"Hey, I heard this bar recently hired some top-tier club dancers. They are all over six feet tall, handsome, and well-built. Should we get a few to join us?" Anne suggested.

Before Meryl could say anything, Anne had already waved over the bar manager.

Sitting back like a wealthy woman out for some fun, Anne made her intentions clear.

The manager caught on instantly and left with a smile. He returned in less than half a minute, followed by two club dancers dressed in white shirts and black trousers.

They were both over six feet tall, with visible abs and faces that

could rival movie stars.

"Ladies, are these two to your liking?" the manager asked.

Chapter 109 A Chance Encounter at the Bar

Anne glanced over, then suddenly grabbed one dancer by the chin. The man blushed instantly, lowering his gaze shyly.

He was clearly the boyish, sweet type.

4/4

“He’ll do,” Anne said with a nod. The club dancer moved to sit beside her, closely pressed against her.

“And you?” The manager turned to Meryl.

Meryl coughed awkwardly. “I’ll pass.”

Anne and Dante were in the middle of a messy divorce, and with the bar being crowded, Anne couldn’t realistically go from table to table searching for him. Her actions were intended to provoke Dante into showing himself.

But Meryl’s situation was different. She had just confessed her feelings to Chandler, and she felt that being seen out with a club dancer now would be no different from committing adultery.

Chapter 110 I Won’t Allow It!

1/4

The other club dancer, who had a more dominant **aura**, frowned when Meryl turned him down.

But before the situation could get awkward, Anne quickly stepped in. “No worries, you stay here too. Let me feel those abs.”

Meryl couldn’t help but avert her eyes, finding the scene a bit too much.

Suddenly, Meryl felt someone’s gaze fixed intently on her from not too far away. She instinctively turned around but saw nothing.

The club dancer poured drinks for Anne and incidentally poured one for Meryl, too.

As he brought the glass to Anne’s lips, Meryl leaned in and whispered, “Anne, take it easy.”

She subtly gestured to Anne’s stomach, reminding her that she was still pregnant and shouldn’t push it too far.

Not far off, Dalton's brow was furrowed.

From the moment Meryl walked in, he noticed her. She had chosen the most conspicuous spot in the bar, sitting with her back straight as if daring him not to see her.

Chapter 110 I Won't Allow It!

Dalton's lips curled into a sneer.

Meryl's recent public confession to Chandler had caused quite a stir, and as her ex, Dalton had also felt the sting of

embarrassment.

Everyone seemed to think Meryl had done it out of spite, that she had been so bold as to hook up with Chandler just to

humiliate Dalton.

In Dalton's mind, it was all a case of love turning into hate.

2/4

He thought to himself, "Is Meryl here, in this obvious spot, because she knew I'd be having my bachelor party here tonight? Is she trying to get my attention on purpose?"

Can she not keep up the act anymore?"

Seeing Meryl engage with the club dancer, who eyed her suggestively and even seemed about to embrace her, Dalton narrowed his eyes.

"She wants my attention, but this is going too far," Dalton thought, feeling increasingly uneasy. He couldn't just sit there

anymore.

Billy, who had been busy kissing the bunny girl in his arms, noticed Dalton suddenly pick up his drink and walk off. He immediately pushed the girl aside.

"Dalton, where are you going?"

Chapter 110 I Won't Allow It!

3/4

Most of the notable figures in Kingsdom were at Midnight Bar tonight.

Several had already noticed Dalton standing in front of Meryl.

Perhaps it was the collective gaze of everyone or the growing murmurs around that caught Dante's attention.

He followed their line of sight, and then his eyes narrowed sharply.

"Damn it! What is she doing?"

Anne was sitting between two club dancers, feeling their abs!

Dante felt a surge of jealousy and anger.

However, the crowd's focus was on Meryl and Dalton. Their drama had been so public that everyone wanted to see what would happen next. Few noticed Anne's antics.

Dante instinctively glanced at Chandler's seat, but it was empty.

Then he remembered Chandler had gone to the restroom ten minutes ago and probably wasn't aware of the situation.

Dante quickly texted Chandler to come back immediately and then strode towards Anne with determination.

In the center of the bar, Dalton glared at Meryl, clearly displeased.

Chapter 110 I Won't Allow It!

4/4

Meryl subconsciously raised her eyes and met Dalton's gaze directly.

"Meryl! You're here with a club dancer?"

Meryl hadn't expected to run into Dalton here, but her expression remained composed. "What does it matter to you?"

The dancers were Anne's idea, but she didn't mind using them to her advantage.

Dalton's face darkened, feeling a mix of anger and frustration.

He grabbed Meryl, pulling her away from the dancer. "I won't allow it!"

Meryl stumbled and nearly fell into Dalton's arms.

Meryl stumbled but quickly steadied herself.

“Dalton, you’re overstepping. My business is none of your concern! Are you out of your mind?”

With that, she tried to shake off his grip.

But he held on too tightly. Enraged, Meryl raised her hand and slapped him across the face.

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