Returning from the Dead His Secret Lover Chapter 1516

Chapter 1516 Just A Deal

Yet, to Gabriella's surprise, Edmund responded, "Is there a problem? You're all relying on the Zander family's money, so what's wrong with her being the head of the household? It's already good that she's letting you enjoy your stay here."

When the woman who was sitting numbly by the window heard that, her dull eyes lit up, and she straightened her back.

He's not holding me accountable for that? In fact, he agrees that they're the leech?

Meanwhile, Gabriella was livid after hearing Edmund's response.

"We're the one living off the Zander family's money? Are you not working? Edmund, are you even a man? You're one of the Coopers, so how can you shamelessly say such things?"

"Why should I be ashamed? I married her because of the Coopers, didn't I?" he nonchalantly stated.

Immediately, Gabriella's face turned red, utterly furious. At the same time, Tillie stiffened when she heard that.

She had mixed feelings as she stared at the man downstairs.

It's not like he's doing any better. For the Cooper family, he has come to the Zander family to propose to me even though he doesn't like me; even though he has someone he loves, he still has to marry someone he doesn't at all. That's tough, isn't it? That's why there's nothing wrong with what he says now.

Eventually, Gabriella slinked away, but Tillie continued to quietly stand there and watch the man walk up the stairs.

It seemed like he did not expect her to stand there as he froze when their eyes met. This is the first time he properly looked at me, Tillie thought to herself.

Nevertheless, their locked gaze only lasted a few seconds. The surprise in his eyes died away, and he turned to head toward his bedroom.

Unable to hold herself back anymore, Tillie cried out, "Edmund, wait! I have something to tell you."

Then, for the first time, she mustered enough courage to run toward him.

Edmund stopped and turned to look at her coldly.

He hated her. Not only because of her face but also because she reminded him of how much of a failure he was.

He never thought that he would end up living like that.

He never thought that he would need marriage to complete certain things.

"Edmund, I just want to explain that I'm not thinking of being the head of the Cooper family. Mom and Violet asked the housemaid to buy something, but the housemaid didn't. I think it's because the housemaid only wanted my approval since I'm the one who hired her," she explained.

However, the man seemed unfazed by it.

"You don't need to explain it to me. You can do whatever you like in this house."

Only when the man was about to enter his room did Tillie finally come back to her senses. She then rushed after him.

"If I settle everything at home well and return the Cooper family back to its glorious state, will you let me stay in the family forever? Will you not drive me away?" she blurted out as she followed the man.

Right as those words left her mouth, the man skidded to a stop.

Then, silence filled the place.

How much courage did I have to muster to say that?

Tillie did not know the answer to that.

She only knew that she was trembling terribly after saying that, but instead of panicking, she felt as if a weight had lifted from her shoulders.

For once, she felt like she was no longer working from the shadows. She did not need to be afraid that she would accidentally slip and fall into the dark, dark abyss anymore.

She liked that feeling.

She liked it even if he was going to curse at her again.

To her surprise, the man slowly turned to look at her with surprise, confusion, and impatience in his eyes.

"Aren't you sick of this? Aren't you sick of being with those unbelievable people?"

"No," Tillie tentatively answered as she tightened her shaking fists.

"As long as you give me a chance, I'll change the family for the better, and I'll make them change for the better too."

For a few seconds, Edmund did not know what he should say.

He was not Devin, who was simple-minded when it came to love. He was not Sebastian, who only loved one despite having tons of scandals. He, Edmund, was a renowned playboy.

He could read the minds of women as long as he interacted with them.

"Tillie, you know that our marriage is just a deal. You must have overheard me when I went to the Zander family to ask for your hand in marriage, right?"

Tillie paled.

Edmund continued, "I was clear when I said that I'd be working with the Zander family to launder some of the assets that my father has. I promised the Zander family that they would get one-third of those assets. Since you've heard me, you should know that our marriage is but a front. Why are you still trying so hard to preserve it?"

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Chapter 1517 But I Love You

Edmund's candid words caused all the colors on Tillie's face to drain away.

Standing behind him, Tillie felt as though she was hit by a bucket of cold water. It doused all the courage and hopes that she had held on. While staring at him, her face had turned pale all over again.

"Even so, can't we live out our days in peace?" she pleaded, unwilling to give up.

However, Edmund's smirk widened.

"Are you dreaming? Has all the luxury goods gotten into your head?"

"No, I sincerely meant what I said. Edmund, I know you don't like me, and I'm not worthy of you, but don't you need a family too? If you want to establish yourself in Jadeborough and expand the influence of the Cooper family, don't you need to marry someone sooner or later? Does it make a difference who you marry?"

Tillie suddenly realized that she had calmed down.

Having lost all hope and no longer caring about the consequences, she gained the courage to go all out. Her mental state allowed her to be more shrewd than ever.

Edmund was stunned.

I-I have never thought about that before. She's right. If I want to restore the glory of the Coopers, don't I need a complete family? As for my feelings, there's no way I can satisfy them in this lifetime.

"Edmund, don't worry. Even though I'm staying by your side, you can treat me as your partner. I no longer want to go through the hassle of remarriage again. I'm also sure that you're unwilling to spend time marrying another girl, am I right?

She paused for a while and continued, "Therefore, we can come to an agreement. We will pose as a married couple in public, but in private, we are nothing more than partners or friends. We won't bother nor interfere with each other's lives. Isn't that better for you?"

This time, she had seized the initiative and was emboldened by it. Every word that came out of her mouth seemed to strike a chord with Edmund.

Evidently, Tillie wasn't a fool in at all.

Edmund was indeed tempted by her idea.

After that, he didn't say another word until he returned to his room and closed the door.

Meanwhile, Tillie heaved a sigh of relief when she saw how he reacted. Feeling her body go limp, she almost collapsed in the corridor.

Edmund's response was indicative of his tacit agreement, causing Tillie to break into a smile.

When she returned to her room for the night, she enjoyed the best sleep she had gotten for the first time in months

The next day, Edmund left the Cooper residence early in the morning.

After accepting the Zander family's business, Edmund was busy every day, laundering the Cooper family's assets.

Cognizant of the fact, Tillie reacted calmly the moment she realized Edmund was gone before she woke up.

However, when she arrived downstairs, she was greeted by the sight of the three ladies waiting for their food. At the same time, the maid she had hired a few days ago was busy cooking in the kitchen.

Thus, she proceeded to stand in front of the ladies.

"Tillie, why are you blocking my view? Can't you see that I'm watching television? Instead of making breakfast, why are you being annoying so early in the morning?" Violet berated her.

Meanwhile, Alice was silently playing on her phone while Gabriella looked equally upset.

Nevertheless, Tillie stared at them coldly.

"Violet, I'm afraid I'm here to annoy you today. Last night, I had a discussion with your brother. From today onward, I will be in charge."

"What did you say?"

Everyone in the living room had their mind blown.

"You? In charge? Who gave you the right? My mom is still around, you know."

"Exactly, Tillie. Have you forgotten your place? You have just been married into the family, and yet, you want to seize control? Aren't you getting ahead of yourself?" Alice rebuked Tillie with a disdainful expression.

As for Gabriella, she was so infuriated that she felt the urge to tear Tillie apart.

Nonetheless, Tillie was a sea of calm. Unlike in the past, she no longer listened to them. Instead, she continued to stare at them with an indifferent expression.

"Because I have not forgotten my place as a daughter-in-law of the Coopers that I am stamping my foot down. You are not going to establish yourself in Jadeborough by whiling your time away. Just look at the both of you. You are no longer young, but has any family worth their salt come and sought your hand in marriage?"

"You-"

Tillie's words struck a nerve with both the Cooper sisters, causing them to rage.

However, she didn't stop there.

That morning, she had hardened her resolve to instill some discipline into the sloppy family.

"From now on, I make the rules. Alice, Violet, both of you can no longer stay at home and do nothing. You should go out and do whatever needs to be done. The Cooper family will no longer accept freeloaders."

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Chapter 1518 Everyone Loves Glory

"Tillie, who are you accusing of being freeloaders? This is the Cooper residence, not the Zander home!" Violet hissed.

Tillie sneered, "You're right. This is the Cooper residence. It's fine if you don't like to see me here. I'll just get a place outside and move out with Edmund. And then, you can have this place all to yourselves."

The three women were speechless upon hearing that.

Tillie then continued, "But, we will no longer pay for your expenses. Even though I'm younger than the lot of you, I make my living with my own two hands. But what about you? Do you plan on depending on Edmund for the rest of your lives? I'm sorry, but Edmund and I plan to have kids. Also, I need to take care of my parents too. Considering our heavy commitments, there's no way we can bear the expenses of two young and able-bodied persons."

Glaring at the two sisters, she informed them of her final decision.

In truth, she had been respectful by not calling them scum.

Just as expected, the sisters were outraged at Tillie's words. Staring daggers at her, they looked as if they were about to kill her.

Luckily for Tillie, they didn't dare do so because she had made her stance clear to them.

If they didn't start finding work, they would end up going hungry.

Half an hour later, Alice left home without even having breakfast. She was planning to find something to do.

However, Violet was still refusing to leave, and that made Tillie warn her again.

"Violet, you, of all people, shouldn't even be in the Cooper residence. After what you have done, Dad would've disowned you and kicked you out of the house if he was still around. I really don't understand how you can still stay here with such a defiant attitude."

Within a split second, Violet felt as if she was about to burst a vessel.

"Tillie, I'm going to kill you!"

With a sharp gaze and a smirk on her face, Tillie sniggered at Violet. "Go ahead, but you had better remember that neither my parents nor Edmund will let you go. Therefore, once you kill me, you will no longer have a home to return to!"

Finally, Violet's face turned pale after hearing Tillie's threat.

In truth, she was no match for Tillie from the very beginning.

After all, despite her ordinary looks, Tillie wasn't the kind that freeloaded on her family. Instead, her mediocre looks motivated her to work harder than any other daughter of prominent families.

In the event her looks came up short, she hoped to achieve success through her talent and capabilities.

Consequently, the Cooper sisters were forced by Tillie to go out and find a job. As for Gabriella, she dared not utter a single word of protest.

When word of the incident reached the hospital, Sabrina was extremely shocked.

"Is Tillie really that capable?"

When Sigrith saw that Sabrina was unconvinced, she poured her a bowl of soup and explained with a smile, "She is. Remember Mabel, who often keeps in contact with her? Tillie called her today and personally told her about it. In fact, she barely made any sense on the call. Considering how frightened she was after the fact, she had evidently gathered tremendous courage to do it."

Sabrina couldn't help but laugh when the image of the usually meek Tillie admonishing the two sisters was conjured up in her mind.

Indeed, it must have been tough on her.

"Nevertheless, this will actually do the Coopers some good."

"Of course. Everyone in Jadeborough knows how lazy and bad-tempered those two sisters are. Haven't you noticed that no one has ever asked them for their hand in marriage after so many years?" Sigrith scoffed.

Just when both of them were chatting in the ward, Tillie suddenly arrived with some health supplements.

"Ms. Sabrina, good morning."

"Good morning!"

Sabrina's eyes lit up when she saw Tillie.

"What a pleasant surprise! You shouldn't have brought me anything."

"Well, I just came from my Grandma's. On the way here, I bought some health supplements that hopefully can help your condition a little," Tillie explained shyly after placing the supplements on the table.

Although Sabrina didn't know much about supplements, she could recognize that Tillie had carefully curated them instead of buying a random gift pack.

Therefore, it was obvious to her that Tillie had thoughtfully selected the supplements herself.

"Thank you, Mrs. Cooper. I appreciate the thought."

"Not at all." Tillie blushed at the praise. Even Sigrith's heart was warmed at that sight.

After chatting for a while, they assumed Tillie would leave.

Unexpectedly, she continued to stay in the ward even after Sigrith had returned from refilling water outside.

"Mrs. Cooper, are you busy with anything? If not, I would like to return to Red Pavilion for a while, as I still have something cooking on the stove."

"Of course, Sigrith. Go on ahead. I'll stay here with Ms. Sabrina."

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Chapter 1519 Exposed

Contrary to their expectations, Tillie readily agreed.

Given how close they were, Sigrith went off without giving it much thought.

With that, only Tillie and Sabrina were left in the ward. Being her usual outspoken self, Sabrina did whatever she wanted. As for Tillie, she quickly peeled fruits for Sabrina instead.

"Ms. Sabrina, I'll peel an apple for you. I heard they're good for the baby."

"Well, don't listen to that nonsense."

Considering it was her second baby, Sabrina didn't care much about hearsay.

In spite of that, Tillie lowered her head and began to peel the apple earnestly.

"If it's good for the child, you should have more of it. Ms. Sabrina, can I spend more time with you next time? I can prepare whatever you like to eat for you. If there's any fruit that you're craving for, I'll buy it for you too."

"Huh?"

Caught by surprise, Sabrina turned to looked at Tillie.

Spend more time with me? Prepare food for me? Isn't she being over-friendly?

Sabrina no longer had any intention to consume the fruit.

"Mrs. Cooper, what are you..."

"Huh?" Finally, Tillie regained her senses.

"Oh, I'm sorry, Ms. Sabrina. I-I have just disciplined the Cooper sisters, causing them to be upset with me. Hence, I don't feel like going home during the day and only want to hide..."

After mumbling through her explanation, her nervous face blushed again.

Sabrina was stunned.

So that's the reason. It does make sense as the Cooper sisters are not to be trifled with.

Realizing the situation, Sabrina readily agreed.

"All right then. You are welcome to come every day, but there's no need to prepare any food. Just stay and chat with me."

"Oh... I-I can't do that. I have to eat too. I-I'll prepare some food and bring it over so that both of us can eat together, all right? By the way, I heard Mabel mention that you used to run Hayes Corporation. Considering what a large corporation it is, you must be really capable of doing so. Thus, I hope you can teach me a thing or two about managing the Cooper family."

After rejecting Sabrina's suggestion with a reddened face, she revealed her other intention in a fumbling manner.

Flattered by Tillie's words, Sabrina naturally agreed to her request.

From that day onward, Tillie would visit Sabrina at the hospital every day. Just as she promised, she would bring along a scrumptious meal every time.

It usually consisted of soup, delicious dishes, and fresh fruits.

Initially, Grayson had instructed Sabrina to be monitored in the hospital for half a month. However, in less than ten days, not only were there no problems with her examinations, but she also put on quite a bit of weight.

When the news reached Moranta, Devin was delighted.

"It seems Edmund's new wife really knows how to care for someone. All the credit for Sabrina's speedy recovery goes to her."

"That's impressive! Does she have knowledge in this field?" Sasha casually asked while packing her luggage.

Devin replied, "She does. Every day, she would boil soup with added herbs. Sabrina mentioned that she knows TCM."

Sasha questioned, "What did you say?"

When she looked up abruptly, Devin was taken aback.

Luckily, Sebastian was just beside them. He walked right over when he noticed her strange reaction.

"Devin, please let Mr. Milken know that we will be going back first."

"Sure."

After he sent Devin away, Sebastian came up to Sasha.

"What's wrong? What did you think of just now?"

"Hmm, I suddenly recalled the day Sabrina got into trouble. Didn't the maid mention that Tillie came over to Red Pavilion on the same day? Coincidentally, there was something wrong with the soup when she was there," Sasha remarked with a frown.

Indeed, the maid did raise the matter to her on that fateful day.

Moreover, Sasha also remembered something else. She had given Sabrina only ten grams of almonds for Jaena's cough.

Even if Jaena didn't finish it, could that ten grams have caused a pregnant lady so much harm?

The more she thought about it, the gloomier her expression became. In fact, she felt the urge to make a call right away.

Sensing what she was about to do, Sebastian quickly stopped her.

"Wait, now that Sabrina is fine, it means that she is safe. Why don't we go back at once and see for ourselves if something fishy is really going on."

"You're right."

In the end, Sasha took Sebastian's advice.

That day, all of them returned to the country after being away for more than half a month.

Sabrina was delighted when she heard it. When she received Devin's call in the ward, she asked him to visit, to which he readily agreed.

Still, Tillie, who was sitting by Sabrina's side, was so unnerved by the news of Devin and his family's arrival that her expression changed drastically.

"Ms. Sabrina, s-since Mr. Jadeson is back, I'll take my leave."

"Why are you leaving? I am planning to sing your praises in front of my husband. This time, it's all thanks to you. Why don't you stay and join us for dinner?"

"But..."

Tillie wanted to decline, but Sabrina was a lot more persistent than she was.

Not only did she have Tillie stay, but she also forced Tillie to call Edmund and invite him to dinner together.

Tillie was rendered speechless.

But in the end, she braced herself and gave him a call still.

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Chapter 1520 Can I Speak To You

"Hello? I-It's me, Tillie."

"What is it?" Edmund responded in an indifferent tone.

Nonetheless, there was an improvement from before. At the very least, he wasn't exasperated by what he usually saw at home. In fact, he even bothered to answer her call.

"I-I am visiting Ms. Sabrina. Since Mr. Jadeson and the others are back, she wants to invite us t-to have dinner together. Can you make it?"

She was extremely nervous, as she hadn't even told him about her daily visits to the hospital.

Just as she expected, she could sense the tension over the phone the moment she mentioned Sabrina. Consequently, she didn't even dare make a sound.

"How dare you-"

Unable to tolerate what was going on, Sabrina snatched the phone over. "Dare what? Edmund, let me warn you. You're not allowed to scold Tillie. I was the one who got her to call you, so you had better come guickly. By the time Devin calls you, it will be too late."

From the time Edmund was infuriated by Tillie spraining her ankle at the bar, Sabrina understood the marital problems they were going through.

Ever since then, Tillie never came over.

Reading between the lines, she was certain that Edmund was upset with his newly-wedded wife.

Moreover, she had seen all the gorgeous women he had been with. It served to cement her impression that it was difficult for him to be attracted to someone as ordinary-looking as Tillie.

Only after the scolding did Edmund succumb and agree to join them.

By the time it was nightfall, Sasha and the others had arrived in Jadeborough. At the same time, Sabrina was already dressed and waiting for them in the hospital.

As for Tillie, she was filled with anxiety.

When Edmund arrived at the hospital, he didn't blame Tillie after being reprimanded by Sabrina.

When Sasha and the rest arrived, he drove her to dinner.

Considering how unsettled Tillie was, she struggled with herself in the back of the car before finally deciding to explain herself.

"Edmund, I-I didn't hide it from you on purpose. I was just worried that you would be angry when you found out. As Ms. Sabrina has business ties with my family, it was natural for me to visit her at the hospital."

Although Edmund didn't say a word, it was obvious from his facial expression that he was feeling upset.

The thing he hated the most was someone disturbing Sabrina because she was his threshold. As long as one stayed away from her, anything could be negotiable.

Nevertheless, after hearing Tillie's words, he suddenly felt as if he had been overly suspicious over the matter.

Finally, he calmed himself down and snapped, "The next time you want to pull a stunt like that, tell me first."

Tillie was delighted by his response.

Obviously, she would definitely do so.

After all, him not blaming her was the greatest mercy he had ever shown her.

Considering she was one big step closer to success, Tillie's mind was finally put at ease.

That evening, everyone gathered merrily at a hotel, as they had not seen each other in a while. As for Tillie, she managed to socialize with the others in a more natural manner after having the burden lifted off her chest.

"Mrs. Cooper, I heard that you have done a wonderful job of taking over the responsibilities of the Cooper family."

"Not at all. It's all because... Edmund was willing to give me an opportunity to try."

When Tillie saw Sasha approach her on her own accord, she could feel her heart in her throat. In fact, she even stammered when she spoke.

With regards to the few women, Tillie admired Sabrina for how outspoken she was.

However, Sasha, as the lady of the Jadeson family, was the one who truly struck fear into her.

Back when the nation was in chaos a few years ago, she had worked together with her husband to save it. Consequently, no one dared to trifle with someone like that.

Even the ladies of Jadeborough high society feared and respected Sasha, let alone someone like Tillie.

With her hands drenched in sweat, Tillie pulled herself together to face Sasha.

Sasha remarked, "It was your capabilities that earned his trust in the first place. To be honest, Edmund is in need of a capable wife to assist him. The only thing we could help him with was to make your marriage a success. With regards to truly restoring the Cooper family to its past glory, the tasks still lie on both your shoulders."

Speaking with a faint smile, Sasha's tone was extremely calm.

In contrast to that, Tillie's eye widened in shock as she stared blankly at Sasha.

"A-Are you saying that it was your idea that Edmund came to my house to ask for my hand?"

"That's right." Sasha plainly nodded.

"Technically speaking, it was my husband's idea. Mrs. Cooper, Edmund saved his life before and is also Devin's good friend. Therefore, we treat him as family and naturally want to see him live an increasingly good life."

Sasha's last sentence had clearly conveyed her intentions.