My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 343 - 344

Chapter 343 Derek's Explanation

Derek put down the ice pack, leaned against the sofa, and took out a cigarette. However, he didn't light it right away. He stared at the cigarette for a long time and said, "I wagered Dere International on that bet, but I didn't do it for Becky. Had it been someone else, I still would've done the same. I did it because that video could ruin a person's life if it's exposed to the public. Besides, that was a bet that I was sure I would win." I believed his every word. He wouldn't just stand by and watch someone suffer, because he wasn't a heartless person. For instance, the very first time we met, he could've ignored me and carried on with his day. Instead, he helped me, because he was a warm and caring man. After lighting his cigarette, he continued, "I wanted to destroy that U disk as soon as I got it, but I hesitated, because I was afraid that you'd ask me about it one day. I wouldn't tell you about this unless you specifically asked for an explanation. And I knew you wouldn't be happy to hear the answer." Derek was right. Even though I understood the situation now, I was still dejected. "You told me that you dropped the U disk into the sink that night. Naturally, I didn't want you to blame yourself, so I told you that it didn't matter. Later on, I tried to get it back, because I didn't want another person to get it and eventually use it to destroy Becky's life. Sadly, I couldn't find it. I thought it had fallen to the drain, and so I thought that there was nothing to worry about anymore." He laid out a very detailed explanation, leaving no room for doubt. Gently, he drew circles on my palm with his fingers. "Do you believe me, Eveline?" I stared at him in silence for a long time. "It's not that I don't believe you, Derek. It's just that you don't have enough faith in me. You don't trust me enough to think that I can handle all of this." As he tilted his head, the soft light accentuated his chiseled facial features. "Honey, do you know why I feel unsettled, scared, or worried?" he asked as his eyes lit up like flames. "Because I care," he said, answering his own question. When I heard that, my heart raced all of a sudden. He got closer to me and pressed me on the sofa. Then, he began to kiss me. The kiss was so passionate that I felt like my lips went numb. After quite a while, he finally stopped to catch his breath and then he looked me in the eye. "If you want to be a hero again next time, make sure to take me with you. We're a couple, remember? We have to work things out together. Do you understand? You almost scared me to death!" I was moved by his sweet words. Happiness poured into my heart, despite everything I had been through.

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"I wanted to tell you about it, but it happened so fast that I didn't get a chance to do so," I whispered. Derek brushed his thumb across my lips. Not long after, his gaze fell on my lips. The smile on his face was indescribably tempting. It was a devilishly handsome grin that was more than enough to intoxicate me. "My wife has an extremely kind heart." When I heard what he said, tears welled up in my eyes. I suddenly realized what his smile meant. It was a smile that conveyed just how happy he was. Ever since the kidnapping, I hadn't heard any news about Becky. Every day, Derek went home on time, but he never mentioned her to me. I had no idea if he was meeting her in private or if he even tried to comfort her. It was clear to me that this tragic event must've reopened Becky's old wounds and was a big blow to her ego. It made sense that she needed some time to calm down. Coincidentally, I met her on the street a few days later. I heard from Charlene that Tina had found a job as a cleaner in a kindergarten. The principal pitied her and promised her that she could take her child to work as long as she could finish her duties on time. I was really happy to hear the news. Even though the job wasn't lucrative, it meant that at the very least, she was fighting against fate through her own efforts. Tina had no man to rely on, nor did she want to. She was all on her own now. No matter what kind of job it was, as long as she could integrate with society, she would slowly learn and mature. She was only eighteen years old. Even though she had to raise her child alone, she still had a lot of time to realize her full potential. Charlene and I visited her together one day. The kindergarten was already on holiday, but there were still some children in the custody class, so Tina didn't have much work to do. Tina's daughter, Lily, was only a few months old. It was good that she got a job this soon. The moment I saw her, I noticed that she looked a lot better than before. Perhaps it was because getting this job brought hope to her heart once again.

My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 344

Chapter 344 How Can You Be So Awful To Me

After we left the kindergarten, Charlene and I went on separate ways. I happened to notice a tall woman heading towards the post office nearby. She was carrying a lot of bags. Even though Becky was wearing a mask and keeping a low profile, I still recognized her. Then, I waited outside the post office for about ten minutes until she came out. She walked so hurriedly that she didn't even notice me. When she arrived at the street, she took out her

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phone and made a call. I decided to hide behind a billboard so that Becky wouldn't be able to notice me. We were very close, but she couldn't see me. Even though it was faint, I could hear her voice. She was talking to her family. She told them to take care of themselves, but she didn't mention anything about the bad things that happened to her lately. After hanging up her phone, she walked past me. Her eyes were bloodshot as if she had just cried. While looking down, she scuttled away, still unaware that I was nearby, During the evening, I asked Derek if Becky still had any family. Derek seemed surprised that I took the initiative to ask about Becky, but he still answered me. "Her father died a long time ago, and her mother has been paralyzed for many years. That's why Sybil had to drop out of college to work, so that Becky could continue her education." It turned out that nobody's life was easy. Everyone had stuff to deal with. Life was hard enough already, so why did people have to make things harder for each other? New Year's Day was coming in ten days. I was planning to give the house a thorough cleaning to welcome the New Year. Derek suggested to just hire some cleaning ladies to clean up the house, saying that it would be tiring to do it all by myself. But I had different plans. I had nothing better to do at home, so I could do the cleaning for a change of pace. Thus, I refused his suggestion. I woke up really early. I started cleaning right after Derek went to work. During the middle of the cleaning, I decided to sit on the sofa to get some rest. It was then that I received a call from Alvaro. I didn't want to answer his call, because all he ever brought me was trouble. But when I remembered that I was the reason his leg got injured, I decided to answer his phone. @ "How could you be so awful to me?" he said right after I answered his call. a "What are you talking about?" I asked. He tried to make himself sound as pitiful as possible. "I got hurt for you. Why haven't you visited me in so long?" @ I scoffed and said, "Your leg has already recovered, hasn't it? And don't tell me that you weren't that bear mascot that night." "My leg hasn't completely recovered and Derek shoved me, making my injury even worse. I can barely move all day long, and nobody cooks for me. Do you want me to starve?". I didn't respond to him then. Suddenly, I heard Alvaro's laughter over the phone. I sensed that something was amiss. And just as I had expected, he said, "I'll wait for you at home. Remember to bring me some food. If you refuse to come here, I'm going to send that video to Derek." @ I was so angry that I was having a hard time breathing. After hanging up the phone, I threw away the rag in my hand in an attempt to vent my anger. Then, I went upstairs, changed my clothes, and left the house. First, I went to the market to buy some ingredients. And then I took a cab to the address that Alvaro gave me. When I got out of the cab, I remembered that this villa was the same place Alvaro brought me to the last time he kidnapped me.

The front door had been left open. As I walked in, I saw him lying on the sofa with both of his legs on the armrest. Upon hearing my footsteps, he looked up and smiled at me. "Oh, you're here!" he said, feigning surprise.. He was acting like I had the right to refuse. How could I refuse after he blackmailed me with that video? I just shot him a cold glance and

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said nothing. Alvaro patted a spot on the sofa, beckoning me over as if he couldn't see that I was angry. "Come, sit with me," he said. To Me I went to his side like he told me to, but I didn't sit down. He glanced at the cooking ingredients I had in my hands and muttered, "Wow! They're all my favorites." He then flashed me a cheeky grin. I ignored him again and looked at his leg. "How's your leg?" I asked. Alvaro's expression dimmed at my question. "Why don't you take a look for yourself? Honestly, I couldn't care less." I wondered if his injury was really that serious. Once more, I examined his injured leg and felt so guilty. "Wait here. I'm going to cook," I said. "Great!" Alvaro put on an impish grin. He still hadn't gotten used to my friendly attitude.