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My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 383 - 384

Chapter 383 Fugitive Couple

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In utter disbelief, I quickly took a taxi to Layne's house. I was apprehensive throughout the journey.

For some weird reason, there was a large government seal on the front door of the house. Did Layne do something illegal? Why did the government seal his house? What was going on? To get answers to all my questions, I went straight to Colin's company. The company was in full operation now.

However, Colin was not there. His new assistant informed me that he was currently sick and was placed on bed rest at home.

I had no idea where he currently lived since his former house had been sold off.

The assistant put a call through to Colin and was directed to take me to his new home.

Colin's previous house was luxurious and magnificent. I was shocked to see that he now lived in an old two-bedroom apartment.

The assistant had a key, so he opened the door without knocking and led me inside.

I heard a throaty cough from the bedroom as I stood in the living room.

Without further ado, I opened the bedroom door and saw Colin lying on the bed.

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The air in the room was murky as a result of the cigarette smoke. It almost choked me. I held my breath and walked in slowly.

On the bedside table, I saw an ashtray that was filled with cigarette butts. They were so many that one more addition would cause the others to fall on the table.

“Mr. Larson,” I called out worriedly.

“Eveline, you are here. Take a seat.” He feebly pointed at the chair beside the bed.

On New Year’s Eve, Colin’s mental health had improved after Layne helped him out of the crisis rocking his company. He was in high spirits at that time.

But now, he was a shadow of himself. His current look was worse than how he had been when the company was still suffering from financial problems.

My heart ached and I feared the worst.

“Mr. Larson, why did Lulu and Layne leave all of a sudden? Where have they gone?” I asked with a shaky voice.

Colin sighed deeply. He took out his phone from the pillow nearby and tapped on its screen for a while. Afterward, he handed it to me.

I stared at the phone screen for a while. When I absorbed what I was reading, I felt like I slipped into a cave of ice. My hand that held the phone shook non-stop.

I had some concerns when Layne mysteriously managed to raise a huge amount of money to clear Colin’s debts. However, it never occurred to me that he would be involved in something this dangerous and unlawful.

Colin showed me an online warrant. The police and the drug control agency had declared Layne wanted for drug trafficking. It turned out that he had gotten the money in this manner.

After a moment of silence, Colin said regretfully, “Indeed, love makes people do crazy things. Layne’s actions have made me realize that he loves Louise so much that he can go to any lengths just to please her. If I knew that he would get his hands dirty just to help me, I

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would have just waited for my creditors to send me into prison. After all, I am old and have nothing to lose." Layne's two cohorts were first caught.

As soon as he got wind of their arrest, he knew that the law enforcers would come for him. He quickly left Sousen with Louise.

His cohorts looked loyal and reliable, but there was no guarantee that they would keep their mouths shut under thorough interrogation.

Sure enough, the police issued a warrant for his arrest that night.

I stared into space after Colin narrated what happened. It was hard for me to accept what was happening.

Life hit us hard when we least expected it. Happiness was finally within reach for Louise and her father, but it was snatched away just when it got to their fingertips.

Louise was pregnant and wasn't supposed to go through stress. But now, Layne was on the run with her. I felt very sad as I thought of how my friend was suffering out there.

I left Colin's apartment with a heavy heart. When I got home, I plopped on the sofa in a daze.

I silently prayed that all these would turn out to be a dream. In my mind, I tried to imagine that none of these had happened and that Louise and Layne had just gone on a vacation. She would come back soon, give me a big hug and then fill me in on everything that she experienced during her trip.

However, I knew that this was just wishful thinking.

I had conflicting thoughts about this. A part of me wanted to see her again, but another part wanted her to stay far away.

Her absence would reduce the chances of the police arresting her.

Later in the evening, Derek returned home.

He sat beside me, stroked my hair, and asked worriedly, "Honey, what's wrong? Why are you sitting here motionless?"

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With a hint of tears in my eyes, I grabbed his hand and asked, "What should I do?"

"I don't understand. What happened?" Derek's eyebrows knitted in confusion.

I showed him the online warrant on my phone screen.

"I don't know where they are now. What would happen to Louise if the police catches Layne? Would they arrest her for fleeing with him? She is currently pregnant."

Derek said indifferently, "I don't know what would happen to Louise. But Layne broke the law. He has to face the consequences of his actions. No one is above the law."

His calm response stunned me. I suddenly calmed down and looked at him.

"You don't seem shocked about what is going on. Why are you so calm? Did you already know about it?"

Derek remained unruffled even after hearing my questions.

"Have you ever seen me lose my cool? Except for matters that relate to you, there are only a few things that would make me jump."

He was saying the truth. It was rare for him to get worked up over something.

I sighed and lowered my head. My mind was teeming with a tangle of worries, just for Louise. "Well, everything would get sorted out in the end. Don't think too much about it. Let's go out for dinner." Derek patted my shoulder as he spoke assuredly.

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Chapter 384 Friends

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Chapter 384 Friends

Derek and I went out for a simple meal. When we got out of the restaurant, he brought me to a bar. I had been to this bar before. It was the one I went to the night before I divorced Shane.

If I remembered it correctly, this was Eric's bar. The second we entered the bar, Eric came up to greet us and took us to a corner booth. It turned out that he had it reserved for us.

"Enjoy yourselves, alright? Make yourselves at home," he said.

Derek looked down as he lit up a cigarette. "Why did you want to see me?" he said to Eric.

Eric scratched the back of his head and chuckled awkwardly. "It's been a while since we all saw each other. So, it's time for us to have a get-together."

As soon as he finished his sentence, I noticed Felix entering the bar.

When he spotted us, he stopped in his tracks, bit down on his cigarette, and attempted to leave. However, Eric immediately rushed to his side and grabbed his arm. Afterwards, Eric pushed Felix towards our booth.

"If you'd told me sooner that someone I dislike is here, I wouldn't have come here!" Felix complained loudly.

We all knew who he was referring to.

At this time, Derek fell silent.

It seemed that Felix was still mad at him. He was acting like a boorish child. Compared to him, Derek was much more mature and rational, so he wasn't going to take offense at Felix's words.

Not long after, Eric pressed Felix down on the sofa and asked one of the waiters to bring him some wine and fruits.

I could tell that Eric wanted to play the peacemaker today.

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As Eric poured several glasses of wine, he tried to speak. But before he could say anything, Felix spoke in a voice laden with sarcasm. "What? Your new friend has committed a crime, so now you're trying to befriend your old bro now?"

"Can't you speak a little nicer, Felix?" Eric slammed the bottle onto the table.

Felix pursed his lips and fell silent; his face, smoldering with hostility.

In silence, Eric gulped down an entire glass of wine. The second he put down the glass, some of the wine dripped from the corner of his mouth, and he wiped it away using his palm. Clearly, he was getting annoyed.

"Look, I don't know what the fuck is going on between you two, but you've been my best friends for so many years. Why are you two acting like children, huh? Why are you putting yourselves through this shit? I don't care what happened between you two. Let's just not talk about anything that upsets us. Sit the fuck down, and have a drink. For my sake, okay?"

Having said that, he glanced at the glass of wine in front of Derek. "Derek, can you drink?"

Right when I was about to say something, Derek said, "Yep."

It would be inappropriate for me to stop him now, so I just said, "In moderation."

Derek nodded in agreement, gently patting the back of my hand.

Later on, only Eric was the one talking, while the other two men barely spoke.

Meanwhile, I went to the washroom. By the time I came out, I saw Felix standing outside the washroom.

"Where is she?" he asked bluntly.

I shook my head in response. "I don't know, either." Felix smacked his lips and sneered, "Are you afraid that I'll tell the police? You're her best friend, Eveline. How could she not tell you?"

I let out an exasperated sigh. Just to quell his doubt, I took out my phone and showed him the message that Louise sent me the day she had left. Felix stared at the message for several minutes, petrified by its contents.

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I was aware that the message had a lot of details that were cruel to him. Louise was pregnant now, and she even told me that she wanted to live out the rest of her days with Layne.

Felix finally gathered his composure. He gave me back my phone and smiled bitterly. "Fuck! I am so fucking stupid. We agreed that we should go our separate ways, so whatever goes on in her life, it's none of my business now. Whether she lives or dies, I shouldn't even care."

When he returned to the booth, he drank like there was no tomorrow. He refilled his glass himself, and soon, he had emptied out a few bottles all by himself.

Eric advised him not to drink too much. Clearly inebriated, Felix said in a slurred voice, "Don't be so stingy, man! You rarely ever pick up the tab. Just let me drink. I'll pay, okay?"

It wouldn't be appropriate for Eric to stop him now, so Eric just let Felix drink as much as he wanted. After Derek drank another glass, I nudged his arm, implying that he should stop.

After glancing at me, he understood what I meant, so he put down his glass and said, "Enjoy the rest of the drinks. My wife and I are leaving now. It's okay for men to stay up late, but it wouldn't be good for women to do the same."

However, the second Derek stood up, Felix grabbed his arm.

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