

# The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire

## Chapter 21

### Chapter 21 A Lamborghini

Jane turned in the direction of the voice and found a white BMW parked at the curb not far away.

Jocelyn was sitting smugly at the passenger seat, wearing a sexy camisole dress and large sunglasses. An equally flashy man, presumably her boyfriend, was behind the wheel.

She looked at her sunglasses now, and smacked the gum she was chewing as she eyed Janet and Ethan. "What do you want to do or something?" Jocelyn drawled. "I suppose that's fine, but make sure you wipe your shoes before you get in, or you're going to ruin my babe's new car." Janet looked out her phone and wordlessly rounded the corner to take photos of its license plate. When she straightened, she pointed at the road only just up ahead. "Didn't you see that you're not allowed to park here? If you don't move right away, I'll report you to the traffic enforcers."

Jocelyn crossed her arms over her chest and scoffed, "Go ahead, then. We can pay the fine, no matter how much it is. I'm not like you, who probably can't even afford to take a taxi. For all I know, you must be out here begging for alms, aren't you? Like some piss-poor vagrant. Oh, wait. Now that I think about it, our dog does the game."

Jocelyn's harsh words cut deep into Janet's skin. She gritted her teeth and looked at her feet to keep herself from spouting bitter words at the woman.

Janet had worked hard to build herself up over time, yet her morale seemed to have crumbled in the blink of an eye. She felt as though she had regressed back to her younger, helpless self. Janet clenched her fist so hard that her nails almost cut into her palm. It was all she could do to keep her tears of bay. She couldn't let anyone see her cry.

All of a sudden, Ethan pulled her back and took her in his arms.

Her forehead was then pressed against his broad, warm chest.

"I've never hit a woman in my life, although I don't really mind doing so."

If I have to,” he said in a menacing tone, his cold eyes sweeping from Jocelyn to her boyfriend. “You’d better discipline your woman and keep her in line. You’re the general manager of Cogen Group, aren’t you? I’ll be sure to keep it in mind.”

The other man didn’t know why, but felt a chill run down his spine. He wondered where this no-good punk got the call to act so arrogant

“That’s enough, he chastised Jocelyn, ‘What if that bastard goes to my company and make some trouble?’”

“Don’t tell me you’re scared. You coward”

In fact, Jocelyn was rather spooked as well, but if she balked now, it would be a great blow to her ego. Why was this good-looking guy being so protective of Jonot, anyway? They had only been together for a few days,

Just then, a Lamborghini sped toward them, its engine roaring in the otherwise serene highway. It screeched to a halt just a few feet behind the BMW

“Whose car is this?” Jocelyn’s boyfriend exclaimed “It’s a limited edition model!” It must be some rich young master showing off their wealth just to get the girls’ attention

Jocelyn craned her neck and stared at the Lamborghini in a similarly covetous fashion. Very few people in the city, no, in the whole country could afford this luxury car. The BMW was nothing compared to this sleek Lamborghini.

The driver of the Lamborghini got out of said car, walked past the BMW, and stopped in front of Ethan. He gave a small bow and spoke in a respectful voice. “I apologize for keeping you waiting, sir. Please get in the car”

Jocelyn and her boyfriend were stunned speechless.

That punk actually owned the Lamborghini?

But how was that even possible?

Ethan nodded at the driver and squeezed Janet’s shoulder. “Let’s go home,” he said softly

— Chapter 21 A Lamborghini — Jocelyn glared at the scene unfolding in

front of her, her nostrils flared in anger.

Just what kind of man had Janet married?

Janet had been burrowing in Ethan's arms all this time. When she finally looked up and spotted the Lamborghini, she froze and gaped. "Ethan..."

Her unblinking eyes never left the Lamborghini.

Ethan was unfazed. He gently ushered Janet into the backseat of the car.

They drove off without another word to Jocelyn and her beau.

It wasn't until they had driven some distance that Janet finally shook herself out of her daze. She whirled at the man beside her, looking confused and mad, and perhaps a little scared. "Ethan! What the hell is going on?"

## The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire Chapter 22

### Chapter 22 House Hunting

Ethan averted his gaze

"I rented this car for your first day of work. I wanted to pick you up in this car."

Renting a luxury car for even just one day must have been expensive.

Ethan, I know you did it out of kindness, but you don't have

to do this for me. We have to accept the reality and live our lives,

Janet stuttered. She was not the biological daughter of the Lind family – but a simple girl who was used to living in poverty.

The situation was embarrassing. She had been working hard to save up money to pay for Hannah's medical expenses and meet her daily needs.

Even though Ethan didn't spend her money, it still broke her heart to see him waste it on unnecessary luxuries.

On second thought, she realized it was perhaps difficult for Ethan to change his habit because he was used to living a lavish life. She couldn't push him too hard.

Janet handed the wallet back to Ethan. "Forget it. She smiled happily.

"Today is my first day at work. I should celebrate it. You better save the money for yourself. I think you would also need money."

She had married Ethan as Jocelyn's substitute Janet had already deceived him and felt it would be unreasonable to spend his money as well

"Great! She stretched her body and sighed with contentment. I have never been in a luxurious Lamborghini before." Ethan sat beside her and looked at his wallet He remained silent all the way The woman was different than he had thought

The next morning

Janet took a bus to the company

The long commute had exhausted her. She had to get up early to reach the company on time

"The director asked you to go to his office. One of her colleagues nudged Janet's shoulder as she yawned.

"Okay, I'll be right there."

Janet hadn't met the department director yet She had only heard that he was a talented designer

She entered the office and tucked a loose strand of hair behind her ear, revealing her delicate face. Mr Lyman, what can I do for you?

Ike Lyman stood in front of his desk. The man was in his thirties with an average height

He turned around to look at Janet. His eyes widened with amazement when he saw the woman in front of him "Nice to meet you I'm Ike Lyman," he greeted, stretching out his hand. "I went on a business trip a few days ago and just came back today Welcome to the design department

Thank you, Mr. Lyman Janet smiled and let go of his hand after shaking it.

Yesterday, a colleague complained that Ike was a harsh man However, he seemed kind and affable toward Janet.

Perhaps he was yet to show his other side

"If you have any doubts or problems regarding your work, you can always approach me I'm in charge of all the design projects of our company" he narrowed his eyes and studied Janet's face.

The greediness in his eyes made Janet squirm It felt as if he was picturing her naked

"Okay Janet left calmly, but her skin prickled with goosebumps as she

stepped out of his office

Janet's stomach flipped with unease as she recalled how Ike looked at her. By the time she got home from work, it was already dark.

The commute took most of her time, and Janet felt drained and exhausted.

As soon as Janet returned home, she slumped on

the sofa

Tihan was sitting by the window, sorting the documents. Seeing Janet, he

closed the file and looked at her tired face. Why don't we rent a house

near your company? Your work is a long drive from here. Traveling to

the company consumes most of your time'

Janet finally opened her eyes and looked at him.

Forget it. The company is in the heart of the city. The houses there are

expensive. I can't afford it."

"Leave it to me. I promise I will find you a comfortable house with

affordable rent. Ethan stepped closer and picked up the shoes that Janet

had casually thrown beside the sofa.

Janet stood up, blinked, and thought for a while. It would be great if she

didn't have to spend hours travelling on bus. That way, she could have

more time to work on her designs. Besides, she could go to the hospital to

visit Hannah during her spare time.

"Okay. Try to find a house with reasonable rent, okay?"

## **The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire Chapter 23**

### **Chapter 23 A Haunted House**

Janet was busy every day at work and seldom had time for herself. Time seemed to pass in the blink of an eye because she was consumed with work.

"What a coincidence! How about we go back together?" Christopher

stopped Janet in front of the elevator.

Ever since Janet joined the Larson Group, the two had been

coincidentally meeting every day after work.

Sometimes, Janet would meet Christopher even if she worked overtime.

“Chris, how come we meet every day after work?” Janet asked, smiling. Her biggest problem was not knowing to say no to people.

Just then, her phone blared in her bag. She took it and saw Ethan’s name flashing on the screen.

Therefore, she quickly answered the call. “What’s up?” “I found a house. I’m in the cafe opposite your company. Let’s go and see the house together.” Ethan’s words were brief and concise.

She didn’t expect him to act fast.

Janet put away her phone and looked at Christopher apologetically. “I’m sorry, Chris. I have important work to do. I have to go now.”

“Okay, go ahead.” Christopher smiled and watched Janet scurry out.

He couldn’t hear what the person on the other end of the line had said. However, judging from the smile on her face, Christopher felt she shared a good bond with the caller.

When Christopher walked out of the building of the Larson Group, he saw Janet and a tall man disappear into a corner. The man was holding Janet’s laptop bag.

Looking at the man’s side profile, Christopher felt he was a handsome man.

The house Ethan had mentioned earlier was near the Larson Group. It was a small apartment with two bedrooms, one living room, a bathroom, and a kitchen. The location, neighborhood, and every aspect of the house seemed to work well for Janet. The tasteful decoration was an added advantage.

“Ethan, the house has excellent lighting and is close to my company. It’s only ten minutes’ walk from the Larson Group.”

Janet’s eyes twinkled with delight as she walked around the house.

However, the happiness vanished from her face in an instant.

Janet arched an eyebrow in suspicion. “This house is perfect in every way. The rent must be at least a thousand dollars, right? asked you to look for an affordable house.”

Ethan looked at Janet's flustered face and smiled. "The landlord wants to rent out this house as soon as possible for personal reasons. He is only charging two hundred bucks."

Janet cast a skeptical look at the realtor and pulled Ethan closer to her side. "How is that possible? Is he a fraud?"

"If you don't believe me, you can ask the realtor." Ethan looked at the realtor.

"That's true. Mrs. Lester, your husband inquired about the situation. The owner of the house is desperate to rent out the house, so he is willing to lower the rent." The realtor wiped the sweat on his forehead.

The man wasn't a realtor but was pretending to be one under Ethan's orders. He hoped that Janet would be dumb enough to believe him

If he made any mistakes and Janet suspected him, he would lose his job.

"Okay, thank you Do you mind if we looked around the house one more time?" Although Janet sounded polite, she had become vigilant. She walked into the rooms and carefully inspected them.

Leaning against the door, Ethan saw her looking around the house and rummaging through the cabinets and drawers. "What are you doing? he asked in a hushed voice.

Janet was still worried, so she even checked under the beds. Then, she parted the dust on her dress and stood up. "Something seema fishy. The rent of a house like this can't be this cheap. Perhaps this house is haunted, or someone has died here. We have

— Chapter 23 A Haunted House to check it properly."

Ethan was speechless.

He stepped closer to her and gently wiped the dust on her face. "There is dust on your face."

He dusted his dirty fingers and frowned. "You are overthinking. Perhaps the landlord is having a financial crisis."

The apartment was Ethan's property. He knew his house well.

Janet's skin prickled as his touch left a burning trail on her cheek.

She quickly wiped her face and turned around. “You’re too naive. I feel something is wrong with the house. Otherwise, they wouldn’t rent it at such a cheap rate. And if that’s the case, I have to go and bargain with the realtor.”

She rolled up her sleeves and trotted to the living room. “One hundred bucks. What do you say?”

## The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire Chapter 24

### Chapter 24 How Could She Be So Cute

‘What? One hundred bucks a month for an apartment like this? That’s unbelievable.

The man looked dumbfounded. However, the apartment didn’t belong to him, so he couldn’t finalize the rent.

“Mrs. Lester, I’m actually surprised to hear your offer. However, this house isn’t mine. I need to check it with the landlord of the house.”

He walked out of the room with his phone on the pretext of making a phone call. Taking the opportunity, he winked at Ethan to ask for his opinion. Ethan understood his gesture and agreed without hesitation.

Janel was a little nervous. After all, she knew her offer was definitely unacceptable,

A few minutes later, the realtor returned with a smile.

“The landlord has agreed.”

Janet’s mouth popped open in shock. She tried slashing the price but didn’t think the landlord would actually agree

She blinked at Ethan.

Ethan coughed and walked up to her. “What’s wrong?”

“I don’t think this is an ordinary haunted house. I think something extremely terrible must have happened here before. Otherwise, why would the landlord agree to rent it at only a hundred dollars?”

Her hot breath blowing in his ear seemed to distract Ethan. After a

moment's hesitation, he blinked and asked, "Do you want to find another house?"

"No. We are lucky to have found such an affordable house. I won't let go of it."

"Aren't you afraid it might be a haunted house?"

"Nope. The rent is unbelievable. Even if there are ghosts in the house, I don't mind inviting them for dinner, Janet said intently

Ethan had never seen anyone willing to move into a haunted house just because the rent was cheap

He narrowed his eye and pinched Janet's cheek. "Wow! You're brave."

He gulped, surprised by the softness of her cheeks,

"Ethan, it hurts!" Janet's face turned red. She stood on tiptoe to grab his face. However, Ethan towered before her, so he quickly stepped back. Janet couldn't even touch his chin.

"Let me go! Ethan! I'm angry."

"Don't move. There is still dust on your face. I'm just wiping it for you."

The smile on his face widened as he looked at her.

'How could she be so cute?' he thought.

Janet and Ethan moved into the apartment the next day.

It was more convenient for her to go to work

She could save all her commuting time.

In her spare time, Janet accepted freelancing design gigs to earn extra money

During weekends, she went to the hospital to see Hannah.

"Hannah, I have planned to transfer you to a better hospital for treatment.

The hospitals in the city are more advanced than this one. It would also be convenient for me to meet you often," she said while peeling an apple

Hannah had raised Janet. The old woman was all she had

"The hospitals there will be too expensive. I'm fine here." Hannah shook her head

Her hair had already turned white. Hannah was only in her sixties, yet she looked older because of her illness,

Hannah knew that Janet lived a hard life even though she never openly discussed her problems

“I’ve found a new job. I can handle it. Don’t worry about me.” Janet smiled and handed the plateful of apple slices to Hannah. “Fat the apple,” She knew the medical expenses would double if Hannah moved to a better hospital in the city Janet didn’t have enough money

## The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire Chapter 25

### Chapter 25 Drug Trial

After leaving the hospital, Janet immediately called Bernie and Fiona. But neither of them answered,

She had no choice but to go to the Lind family’s house again.

“Are you insane? Why are you constantly ringing the doorbell?”

Minutes later, the maid opened the door and yawned. She seemed annoyed that Janet had disturbed her sleep.

“Let me in! I’m looking for Bernie and Fiona!”

“The entire family is on a vacation to the Maldives. They’re not at home.”

“When will they come back?” Janet asked anxiously.

Fiona said she didn’t have the money to pay the agreed money. How could they go on vacation to the Maldives?

“I don’t know. Go ask them!” The maid slammed the door.

Janet stared at the door and kicked it. Her body trembled with rage. “You lying bastards! All of you will rot in hell!”

The Lind family had gone to the Maldives. Regardless of whether it was true or not, Janet couldn’t get in touch with them. She had to think of a way to pay Hannah’s medical bills.

Perhaps God had sensed that Janet needed money. As soon as Janet opened her browser, she saw an advertisement about a hospital looking for volunteers for clinical trials to come up with tumor drugs.

They were paying the subjects a thousand dollars for staying in the hospital for a few days and trying out the medicines. In case the drug had repercussions on the subject’s body, they would get about ten to forty

thousand dollars as compensation, depending

on the seriousness of the problem,

It seemed like the perfect opportunity for Janet. She was young and

healthy. Even if the medicines had any side effects, they

wouldn't harm her that much.

Janet went to the hospital, filled out the registration form, and went

straight to get a physical examination,

She planned to try the medicines the next week. Delicious smell of food

wafted in the air as soon as Ethan entered the house.

“Why did you come back early today?” Janet cast a sidelong glance at

him and continued to toss the spaghetti in the pan.

The apron accentuated her alluring figure. One could grasp her slender

waist with one hand. Her curvy bum bobbed as she moved around. The

bowtie on her back seemed to tease Ethan — as if hinting at him to open

it and peek at the tempting gift

inside.

Ethan's eyes darkened as he felt hot in his throat.

He unbuttoned his collar and went to the fridge to get a bottle of water. “I

was off duty earlier today,” he said after gulping down

the water

He looked at her floral apron and tugged at the hem. “Is this an apron?

It's pink. It can't even cover your thighs.”

It was more like a sexy lingerie. “Stop pulling my apron. I got it at a

discount. Pink is a beautiful color, is it not? Take the

spaghetti to the table. I'll make some salad.” Janet glared at him and

continued to cut the vegetables without uttering a word

Ethan grinned and put the spaghetti bowl on the dining table.

Several design sketches were scattered on the table. Just as Ethan sorted

the papers and was about to keep them aside, a piece of paper fell from

his hands.

It was the physical examination report Ethan looked at it and felt

something was wrong

He couldn't understand why there was a nicotine test.

Janet put the salad on the table and realized that Ethan didn't seem to be

interested in the food tonight

“You don’t like the food?”

“No, I was thinking about something.” The fork in Ethan’s hand sulked, he turned to look at her

Chapter 25 Drug Trial Janet met his piercing gaze. “What’s it?” she asked. “Have you volunteer to do drug trials?” he asked coldly.

Janet’s hand trembled, and her fork fell.

She didn’t know why she was flustered, but she tried to remain calm. Yes. The hospital conducts regular trials like these. Moreover, the trial is legal. Don’t look at me as if I have done something horrific.”

Ethan put down his fork, pursed his lips, and looked at her. “Don’t go. Don’t you know that the drug trial could cause serious side effects?”

## **The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire Chapter 26**

### **Chapter 26 Unexpected Concern**

The expression on Ethan’s face frightened Janet. Her heart leaped to her throat

She took a piece of tissue and wiped her lips, pretending to be calm.

“Why are you stopping me?” I’m in urgent need of money now, I have no other choice.”

Ethan’s eyes smoldered with anger. “How much money do you want? I’m your husband. If you’re going through any problems, why can’t you tell me? Why would you do something like that?”

Janet had been short of money ever since she was a child.

Tears welled up in her eyes. She took a deep breath and looked at him.

“We are husband and wife only to the outside world. You have already said that we shouldn’t interfere in each other’s business. What makes you think I’d share my problems with you and even ask for money?”

Her words silenced Ethan.

He rubbed his brows, and his chest tightened with unease. He stood up and looked at her. “Let’s calm down first and then solve

this problem.”

Ethan closed the door and went out. The cold summer breeze and the chirping of cicadas filled the air.

Ethan took a deep breath, and the sweet scent of roses filled his nostrils. Janet had planted them on the balcony.

Ethan leaned against the door as the moonlight kissed his soft features.

Ethan realized that he had crossed the line tonight.

Before they got married, he never liked Janet and didn't intend to be her husband.

However, his impression of her changed. He seemed to like her more with every passing day.

Ethan ran a hand through his hair and let out a weary sigh.

He couldn't understand when he had started caring about her so much.

He rubbed his temples and closed his eyes, trying to suppress his incomprehensible emotions.

Janet stood at the table and picked up the tableware. Just then, the door flew open, and Ethan walked toward her and took the tableware from her hand. “I'm going to wash them.”

“Why did you come back?” Janet thought he wouldn't come back, so she grabbed the plates and held them tightly in her arms in a fit of pique. The oil from the vessels had stained her clothes. “You don't need to wash them. I'm afraid you will only break them,” she said.

“Why did I come back? You want me to let you cry here alone?” Seeing her bloodshot eyes, Ethan's eyes darkened. He raised his hand to touch her cheek.

“Don't touch me! I'm not crying!” Shocked, Janet stepped back. Her eyes were red and puffy. She stared at Ethan fearlessly.

Ethan felt dejected. Janet was like a delicate flower that would wither if he forced her. Ethan put his arms on the table, trapping her in place. He leaned closer and stared into her eyes. “Don't do the drug trial. Maybe you will get other income soon. Please listen to me,” he said softly, “What will you do if I don't listen to you?” Janet sneered at him.

Ethan's brows furrowed, and his eyes looked frightening. "There are several ways to deal with women," he hissed through his teeth. "Anyway, I'm a gangster. I'm not afraid of anything."

He inched toward her and reached out his hand to unzip her dress.

"I know. I won't do the trial." Janet hugged herself as her voice trembled, Ethan let go of her and stood aside.

Biting her lower lip. Janet ignored him and walked to the sink with the plates. She turned on the tap and began to wash the dishes.

She didn't want to disagree with him. Anyway, Ethan was busy with his business every day and didn't have time to care about her.

Chapter 16 Unexpected Concern She could still do the trial next week without letting him know.

The next day, as soon as Janet went to the company, several messages popped up on her computer.

She opened the e-mail and found that a client had contacted her about a design gig for a high payment.

## The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire Chapter 27

### Chapter 27 A Magnanimous Client

"Twenty thousand dollars?" Janet stared at her laptop screen, her mouth wide open. She quickly typed a message to the client.

her fingers flying over the keyboard.

This was going to be her first big client ever since her graduation. Given the amount of the offer they had made, she was

expecting a heap of strict instructions she would have to abide by.

"Excuse me. May I know whether you are a gentleman or a lady?"

This website played as a bridge between clients and freelance designers.

The clients had the option to use their real names or remain anonymous,

but most of them didn't really bother setting up a profile. Most of the

profiles in the listings were nothing more than the default gray icon, with

no way to tell the client's gender.

“Male,”

came the client’s reply.

“I see. Do you have specific requirements regarding the design, sir?”

Janet leaned forward and propped her chin on one hand, bracing herself for a long list of demands. It didn’t take long for the client to write back.

“I have seen the designs you posted on the website. They are very good. You may have free rein in designing my suit. I will provide you with the necessary feedback once you have given me your first draft.”

Janet wasted no time and began drawing a prototype according to the client’s measurements. Meanwhile, the company had recently asked them for tentative designs meant for a regular, pre-selection process. That meant that none of her work would go to waste in the end. Apart for a few hours’ sleep, Janet spent all of her time poring over her digital panels. Three days later, she was finally able to send a final design to the client. The bespoke ensemble comprised of a double-breasted, gray jacket with matching trousers, an immaculate white dress shirt, and a skinny black tie. A silver tie clip completed the outfit. Over the course of her work, Janet had presumed that this client must be young, probably around her age or so. After all, her designs did not appeal to the more mature demographics, but young professionals who liked to look smart and fashionable at the same time.

She was also expecting a complete overhaul. In this field, the first drafts almost always needed revisions. If the client was willing to pay such an exorbitant amount of money, and for a rookie’s design, no less, then the preliminary rejection was inevitable.

And so, Janet was utterly surprised when the client instantly approved of her design.

“This is brilliant!”

“Do you need me to polish anything?” Janet typed with some trepidation. Despite her good fortune, she was feeling a little guilty about how smooth the transaction was going. It shouldn’t be this easy to earn twenty thousand dollars, should it?

“Not for the time being. I will contact you if there’s anything I want to change in the future. Don’t worry, this price is reasonable enough. I’m paying for the uniqueness and originality of your design.” It seemed that the client had seen through Janet’s nervousness, hence his words of reassurance.

She was about to type her thanks when a payment notification popped up on her dashboard. The client had confirmed their business deal on the website and wired the money to her account. Janet clutched her laptop in both hands and stared at the figure displayed on her screen. She felt immensely proud and gratified, and it showed in the twinkle of her eyes.

Another message popped up from the client. “If you’re interested, we can talk about a long-term collaboration.”

Really ?

Janet pictured fireworks going off in the background. “Of course!” she typed hurriedly. “I am. I have plenty of time!”

The man then gave her several more orders, all with some minor instructions. He seemed to be very fond of suits, though he wasn’t in any hurry to have them made. He advised Janet to take her time with her designs, and even reminded her to take a break every now and then

“Oh, my God, Janet! You just made a fortune!” Overjoyed, Janet got to her feet and bounced on her bed like a little kid.

—— Chapter 27 A Magnanimous Client All at once, there was an urgent knocking at her bedroom door.

Ethan had probably heard her squeal just now. He entered the room without waiting for her to ask what he wanted. “Did something happen?” he asked, frowning.

“Ethan! We finally have money!” Janet exclaimed as she resumed her festive bouncing.

Her long hair danced around her flushed cheeks, and her eyes were clear and bright.

The next thing they knew, she had jumped off the bed and was throwing

herself in Ethan's arms.

He instinctively reached out to catch her. After making sure that she was all right, he promptly froze on the spot.

Janet was still so engrossed in her recent milestone to notice anything amiss. She pulled back and grinned at him. "Do you know what it means?"

"What?" Ethan's smile was tender, not that he was aware of it.

His smile caught her attention, and this time, she was the one who froze.

Only then did she realize what she had done. Janet abruptly pushed against Ethan's chest and took a couple of steps back. Her face turned red with embarrassment even as she averted her eyes and tidied her messy hair.

"I didn't mean anything by... Well, I was just so happy that I lost sense of what I was doing. I'm sorry."

After saying that, Janet cleared her throat and changed the subject as if nothing significant had happened. "Why did you come, by the way?"

"Ah, I heard you yelling and thought something bad happened." Ethan bit his lower lip and put his hands into his trouser pockets.

Traces of their brief embrace still lingered in his person—the warmth of her chest, the scent of her hair...

If he could, he would have held Janet in his arms and laid in bed all day.

## **The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire Chapter 28**

### **Chapter 28 A Big Meal**

"Did I disturb you? I'll try to keep my voice down." Startled, Janet clamped her mouth with her hand and looked at him apologetically.

Ethan shook his head and walked to her bed. Then, he slumped onto it and inhaled her sweet fragrance.

Propping his head on his arm, Ethan closed his eyes. "What happened?"

Why are you so happy ?” he asked casually

“Don’t lie on my bed, Ethan.” Janet’s cheeks puffed as she tried to pull his arm

He was tall and heavy. Finally, she gave up and sat on the chair beside the desk. “I met a wealthy and generous client who asked me to design for him. I just submitted my draft and got paid.” Ethan opened his eyes and saw Janet grinning with joy. “Then, you don’t have to go for the drug trial. That’s good.”

Janet smiled. She rested her chin on the palm of her hand and poked the lamp on the desk with one finger. Why don’t you ask me how much I’ve earned ?”

“It’s all your money and is none of my business. I only wish for you not to go for the drug trial.” Ethan smiled at her.

Janet didn’t expect him to care so much about her. A smile tugged at the corners of her lips as she leaned on the desk. The next day, after work, Janet went to the hospital to pay Hannah’s medical fee. She still had three thousand dollars left in her bank account even after that.

When she got home, Janet wondered if she could take Ethan out for dinner. She would still earn in the future. Moreover, she would get her salary in two weeks.

“Ethan, let’s go out for dinner tonight. It’s my treat! I’m going to buy you a big sumptuous meal,” Janet said, raising her wallet. She looked like she had just won the lottery.

Ethan was lying on the sofa. He looked at her tattered wallet and stood up. “Okay, I know a nice place.”

When they arrived at the door of a magnificent restaurant, Janet stiffened. She pursed her lips and pulled Ethan’s arm, who was just about to enter the restaurant. Her eyes widened in horror. “Ethan, this is the best restaurant in the city.”

The restaurant belonged to the Larson Group and was one of the most famous restaurants in the city. It would cost all her savings to eat here.

“Didn’t you want to treat me to a big dinner ?” Ethan arched his brows,

pretending to be confused

Janet gritted her teeth and forced a smile. “Yeah. Nothing. Let’s go inside.”

When Janet checked the menu, she felt she couldn’t afford any of the dishes here. Her heart sank as she skimmed through the menu card

Not even one dish was affordable here. Biting her lower lip, Janet continued to look at the menu.

“Miss, could you please hurry up? We still have to serve other guests,” one of the waiters said impatiently, casting a disdainful look at her. Two waitresses nearby cast a scornful look at Janet. “They shouldn’t have come here if they can’t afford it,” one of them whispered to the other.

“I haven’t seen them before. They don’t look like regular customers. They’ve been looking at the menu for ten minutes. Don’t they feel ashamed?”

## **The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire Chapter 29**

### **Chapter 29 The Conflict In The Restaurant**

Janet put down the menu card as the blood drained from her face. She stood up and looked at the two noisy waitresses. “What are you talking about? There is no time limit for ordering in your restaurant. Can’t we check the menu for a while before ordering?”

The two waitresses examined Janet’s and Ethan’s clothes and assumed the two were poor people. They didn’t think offending the two would cause them any trouble.

“We didn’t say anything. I guess you are mistaken,” one of the waitresses said confidently.

“That’s right. We were just discussing what to eat tonight,” the other waitress chimed in.

Ethan poured a glass of water for Janet and stood up. “I, too, heard what you were talking,” he said, glaring at them.

The waitresses looked startled. “Are you two here to make trouble on

purpose?" one of them asked in a sobbing tone

Just then, the restaurant manager heard the commotion and approached their table

The manager looked at Janet and Ethan and back at the waitresses "Enough! Stop fighting!" He waved his hand "Don't disturb the other diners. What's going on here?"

The waitress pointed at Ethan. "These two have been looking at the menu without ordering anything. We didn't say anything! Only reminded them to order, but they got offended and started fighting with us."

The manager's face darkened as he believed her. This was one of the most popular restaurants in the city. Many diners came to hang out without ordering food and sometimes ordered only the least expensive dish. These people came to the restaurant just to click fancy pictures. The restaurant manager hated such people and assumed Janet and Ethan were here for the same reason. "All night I understand what's going on."

The restaurant manager straightened his suit and walked to Janet. "Sir, miss, please leave. Other diners are waiting for a table you don't intend to order, please allow the other diners to occupy the table."

Ethan's face darkened. He didn't expect the restaurant that belonged to Larson Group would have such poor service. The workers disrespected the diners. He wondered how Garrett managed his subordinates.

He crossed his arms over his chest and looked at the manager. "What makes you think we aren't going to order food? You blindly believe their words without listening to us."

The argument caught everyone's attention. They stopped eating and gawked at them.

Several passersby outside were also peeking into the restaurant through the glass door.

The manager broke out in a cold sweat. After all, the quarrel would affect the restaurant's reputation. If the media covered the news, people would stop coming to the restaurant.

"I've already inquired the waiter and waitresses. You two were making trouble out of nothing. How dare you question me."

The restaurant manager grew anxious and was desperate to solve the

problem as soon as possible. He picked up the walkie talkie on his chest and said, “Security, come to the second floor. A couple is making trouble here. Muty up and drive these two people out.”

Janet became furious when the manager called the security guards. She walked to the manager and glared at him. “Yours is a high end restaurant. How could you insult your customers like this? Your service is poor, and your workers are impolite. And you drive us out of the restaurant if we point it out? My husband didn’t say anything wrong. How could you disrespect him? You’ve gone too far!”

The manager frowned and glanced around the guests who were already whispering about the issue. What are you talking about, he shouted. “Don’t spread nonsense to ruin the reputation of our restaurant. Our restaurant is how for exceptional service.”

Ethan pursed his lips, trying to suppress his smile. He was happy to see his wife defend him.

## **The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire Chapter 30**

### **Chapter 30 The Boss Was Here**

“Come here.” Ethan grabbed Janet’s wrist and pulled her closer to him, “Stay away from him. Look at the man. Aren’t you afraid that he might slap you?” he whispered into her ear.

“They are wrong. They didn’t offer good service and were extremely rude. They humiliated us. Why should I spend my money here?” Janet looked at him, anger blazing in her eyes.

Ethan smiled and gently stroked her hair. “Leave it to me.”

He then turned to the manager, with a stone-cold face. “I want to see your boss. Call him!”

The manager had been working in the restaurant for several years. He could tell Ethan wasn’t an ordinary man but exuded a strong aura. If not for his shabby clothes and menacing looks, the man would have mistaken him for a movie star or a rich young master from some noble family. However, judging from his clothes, the manager felt he was a lowly man.

trying to cause trouble.

He snorted with disdain. “Who do you think you are? My boss won’t come and see you as and when you wish.”

“Believe it or not, if he doesn’t show up, I’ll make sure this restaurant is sealed tomorrow,” Ethan said calmly.

The threat in Ethan’s voice and the intensity of his gaze frightened the manager. He swallowed as sweat beaded his forehead. “Just wait and see!” He pointed his trembling finger at Ethan. “Just wait and see. Our boss will teach you a lesson.” A few minutes later, the manager returned with the owner of the restaurant. “Boss, they’re the ones making trouble.

We must

call the police.” The owner’s face turned pallid when he saw Ethan sitting at the table, his cold eyes piercing through him. His legs grew weak

He felt flustered. Their staff had made a grave mistake offending Ethan.

“Boss, listen to me. These two people are trying to cause trouble...

“Shut up!”

the owner shouted, stopping him. He gritted his teeth and glared at the manager and the waitresses. “All three of you apologize to our guests right now!”

“Boss, we...” The manager and the waitresses exchanged glances. They had thought their boss would drive the couple away. But to their utter dismay, he was asking them to apologize.

The boss wiped the sweat on his forehead and looked at his staff. “What have I told you? Guests are like God. People come to our restaurant for its exceptional taste and service. What are you doing here?” The manager and the waitresses were frightened. They immediately pressed their palms together and bowed before Ethan and Janet. “Sorry, we didn’t mean to insult you. Please accept our apologies. We’re really sorry.”

Ethan turned a deaf ear to them. He calmly poured a glass of water without batting an eyelid at them. Janet seemed just confused.

“Is this how a restaurant owned by the Larson Group treats its guests?”

Ethan asked, his jaw tightening with menace.

The boss understood the meaning behind his words and looked at the three people standing aside. “That’s enough! All three of you are fired!”

Then he turned to Ethan again. “I apologize on behalf of our staff. You can stay here as long as you want — no one will disturb you.

Your dinner is on us. You can order whatever you want.”