

Gu Lingfei 1171

Gu Lingfei: Married at First Sight Novel Chapter 1172

Liberty clung tightly to her son.

Jessica knew the plan would fail when Liberty held Sonny, and the York family's bodyguards escorted the group out of the aquarium.

"Lucas! Lucas!"

Chelsea's shrieks snapped Jessica out of her thoughts. A big man grabbed Lucas and made a run for it.

Jessica was dumbfounded.

Did they grab the wrong child?

"Honey! Hank! Go after them! That person took Lucas!"

With no time to watch the fight, Chelsea tried to pursue the man who took Lucas while calling her husband and brother for help.

Realizing that Lucas was kidnapped, the Browns tried to go in pursuit, but they could not get past the crowd.

"A kidnapper! My child was kidnapped! It's that tall man there. That's him! He took my child!"

Chelsea went pale in panic.

Unable to elbow her way through the crowd, she cried out loud.

Hearing a kidnapping was taking place, all the parents, who were here for the show with their kids, stuck with their children and ran out of the aquarium. It only made the situation more chaotic than it already was.

Some kind-hearted people tried to save Chelsea's son.

The man who had Lucas ran too quickly, and somebody seemed to have paved a way for him to make a quick getaway.

"Serenity! Serenity! He took Lucas! Please save my Lucas!"

Chelsea squeezed her way into the crowd and screamed at Serenity and Liberty when she found them.

No matter their differences, Serenity was not going to sit by in a moment of crisis and let a kidnapper take Lucas.

Nevertheless, she did not go ahead and rescue Lucas. Instead, she told the two bodyguards to chase after the man and bring Lucas back.

While the two bodyguards were in pursuit of the kidnapper, Liberty felt a sudden force ripping her son out of her hands.

Acting quickly, Liberty clutched onto her son and refused to let go.

Serenity turned back to find someone trying to snatch Sonny from her sister. Without a second thought, she lifted her leg and kicked the man in black to stop him from taking Sonny.

Elisa joined in to help Liberty protect Sonny.

“Liberty, we should leave now.”

Sensing something amiss about the disturbance, Serenity and Elisa shielded Liberty and Sonny as they escaped the scene.

Someone had called the cops because of the commotion at the aquarium.

The security guards of the zoo were the first to arrive.

Not too long later, the nearest police station dispatched its officers.

A few police cars arrived at the scene.

That was the least of Serenity’s problems. The only thing on her mind was to get her sister and nephew out of the zoo.

It was a precarious situation to be in.

The Browns screamed and shouted, saying that their child was kidnapped.

The two other bodyguards who were protecting Serenity in the shadows showed

themselves when Serenity, Liberty, and Elisa evacuated from the place. They escorted the adults and child out of there.

Seeing that Mrs. York had two bodyguards in the open and two bodyguards in the dark, the mastermind behind the commotion knew that while the diversion was a success, it was unlikely they could kidnap Sonny now.

Plus, Serenity herself was highly skilled in self–defense.

The York family’s bodyguards were around and now the cops were here. The priority was getting out of the zoo as they could no longer carry on with the plan.

Under the protection of the bodyguards, Serenity’s group made it safely out of the zoo and into Elisa’s car.

Liberty held onto her son the whole time.

She was afraid to think of the consequences.

Chapter 1173 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Liberty would have lost her son to the kidnapper if she had loosened her grip even by a tiny bit.

Now that they were inside Elisa’s car, Liberty continued to clutch onto her son. Color drained from her face.

The lingering fear had not left Serenity.

Elisa called her brother and the moment her brother picked up, she said, "Clive, send all our bodyguards to fetch us from Wiltspoon Zoo. There's a kidnapper on the loose. Sonny was nearly taken.

"I don't think I can drive now. What if someone stops the car and kidnaps Sonny?"

This was Elisa's first encounter with such a chaotic and dangerous situation.

Sure, she was cocky and acted as if nothing scared her, but her legs went weak when Sonny was almost taken.

It would be hard to catch up to the kidnapper amid the chaos if Sonny was really taken...

The thought of it drained the color from her complexion. Her limbs were still shaking as she could not settle down. She was not in a position to drive right now. The last thing she wanted was to get into a car accident.

"What? Is Sonny okay? I'll send security right away."

Clive was shocked to hear Sonny was nearly kidnapped.

Ignoring the fact that he had an important meeting to attend in a bit, Clive walked out of his office and called his security team to set out to the zoo.

The two bodyguards in the shadows had already contacted Zachary. The first thing Serenity did was call Zachary once she got a grip on herself.

While Clive was rushing over with his team of security, Zachary drove with his security detail to the zoo.

"Sonny."

Serenity stroked Sonny's back and calmed her sister down. "It's okay now, Liberty. It's okay now."

She nearly put her nephew in danger due to her carelessness.

"Sonny would have been taken if I wasn't strong. He was a big guy too."

Liberty mumbled under her breath.

She was relieved that she had been working out to shed the pounds. Liberty did all the manual work at the diner, so she was strong enough to hold onto Sonny tightly.

"Seren, thank goodness you can fight."

Liberty was glad that her sister took up kickboxing.

Her sister kicked the man the moment she sensed something amiss. The man ran away when he realized he could not take Sonny.

Serenity gave Sonny a huge cuddle. Not knowing what was going on, the little man quietly let his mother hold him.

Now that he was in his aunt's arms, Sonny asked, "What happened to Lucas, Aunt Ser?"

"It's fine, Sonny. Don't be scared."

Caressing her nephew's head, Serenity tenderly uttered, "He'll be okay."

Now, Serenity was grateful to Zachary for assigning bodyguards to protect her in the open and in the dark. God knew what would happen today if it were not for them.

She said, "It's best not to stick around when something like that happens. Things can happen when the situation gets out of hand."

The message should be for parents with children.

It was a good lesson to learn.

The Browns were too busy watching the commotion instead of watching over Lucas. It made Lucas an easy target.

Although the kidnapper was quickly spotted, a lot of things were happening in the aquarium at the same time. The kidnapper must belong to an organization, and the Browns did not have the means to save Lucas.

Moving past their differences, Serenity assigned two bodyguards to rescue Lucas. She wondered what happened thereafter.

"We're safe now, Seren. You should ask them to check if Lucas is found. Chelsea is a terrible person, but she's a mother. I can understand since I'm a mom too. Sonny was almost taken. I can only imagine Chelsea's panic and pain."

Liberty hoped her sister could send the bodyguards out to search for Lucas.

They were all on the trip together. There was no way Liberty could go off without checking on the others.

In the end, Serenity left a bodyguard with Liberty and Sonny in the car while she and Elisa reentered the zoo with another bodyguard to help find Lucas.

Chapter 1174 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Serenity ran into the two bodyguards at the zoo entrance as they were carrying Lucas out.

"Mrs. York."

The two bodyguards brought the kid, who was screaming for his mom, to Serenity. Putting Lucas on the ground, the bodyguard uttered in distress, "Can you give his family a call to pick him up? He's been crying the whole time."

"Serenity."

Lucas wailed out of fear.

He had never met the York family's bodyguards. The boy was taken by a stranger and rescued by another pair of strangers. While Lucas was a wild child, he was only four years old.

It was normal to be frightened to tears.

Serenity was someone he knew. Lucas immediately clung to Serenity's leg, asking to be picked up when he saw Serenity.

"It's okay now."

Although Serenity was not fond of Lucas, she needed to soothe the poor child.

Serenity dialed Hank's number and said, "We got Lucas. We're at the entrance of the zoo. Come out here."

The Browns were crying on their knees after Lucas was kidnapped. Mrs. Brown had passed out once. Someone had pinched her nose to wake her, and Mrs. Brown continued to scream the walls down with her daughter.

Hank and George scrambled to look around, having no idea where the kidnapper went.

Following a phone call from Serenity, Hank was overjoyed and thanked Serenity profusely. He immediately informed his sister and brother-in-law.

By the time Zachary and Clive arrived at the zoo with their security teams, the Brown family had found their way out.

"Lucas."

With her son lost and found, Chelsea charged ahead, put her arms around her son, and burst into tears.

George was relieved to see his son safe and sound.

Mrs. Brown and her daughter hugged Lucas and cried nonstop.

It took a while before Chelsea turned around and fell on her knees before Serenity. She thanked Serenity and expressed her gratitude. "Thank you, Serenity. Thank you for saving Lucas. Thank you."

Lucas would be long gone if Serenity was without bodyguards and did not put the past behind them.

Many families spent a lifetime searching for their kidnapped children but to no avail.

Serenity was her family's savior for sending her bodyguards after Lucas.

Chelsea was not the nicest person. She often drove a wedge between Hank and Liberty when she was Liberty's sister-in-law. Nevertheless, as Liberty said, Chelsea was a mother.

To mothers, their children were more important than their lives.

Mothers were willing to do just about anything for their children.

"Get up. Please get up."

Serenity helped Chelsea up.

"I'll help anyone in the same situation. Just don't forget to watch the kid. A lot of times, tragedy happens when parents take their eyes off the children even for a second."

Wiping her tears, Chelsea relived the fear and replied, "I won't be such a busybody anymore."

“Serenity, thank you. If it wasn’t for you...”

The Brown family took turns to thank Serenity.

“Seren.”

Zachary came running with his security detail.

Clive arrived on the scene with his bodyguards too.

“Where’s Sonny?”

Looking solemn, Zachary asked with concern, “Is Sonny alright?”

Chapter 1175 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Serenity answered, “My sister got a good hold on Sonny, and I gave the man a kick. The kidnapper gave up on Sonny and ran away.”

She turned over and looked in the direction of Elisa’s car before adding, “Sonny is in Elisa’s car.”

Through the conversation between Serenity and Zachary, the Browns realized that Sonny was nearly taken too.

Mrs. Brown cried and shouted to see her grandson.

It was then Liberty took Sonny by the hands and got out of the car.

“Sonny! Sonny!”

Mrs. Brown held onto Sonny, making sure her grandson was fine before choking with sobs. “Thank goodness you’re okay. Thank goodness.”

“Grandmom.”

Seeing that the old lady had tears on her face, the little man reached out to wipe away her tears.

Mrs. Brown had never looked after Sonny, but Sonny was her only grandson, so of course, she adored him. With Sonny’s caring gesture touching Mrs. Brown’s heart, she cuddled Sonny and had another bout of crying.

The Browns gathered around Sonny.

“Stop crying, Mom. All is good now.”

Hank consoled his mother.

Rising to her feet, Mrs. Brown wiped her tears and turned around to give her son a push. She pointed her finger at her son. “It’s your fault. This wouldn’t have happened if you twodidn’t take the kids to the zoo.

“It was a good thing Sonny asked Serenity to come along. Otherwise... I would suspect that you brought the children to the zoo to be kidnapped if you weren’t Sonny’s father and Lucas’s uncle.”

Mrs. Brown’s accusation washed the color off Jessica’s face.

When Mrs. Brown's angry eyes were fixated on her, Jessica struggled to refute, "I was only trying to bond with Sonny. No one would want this to happen."

Mrs. Brown gave Jessica the stink eye, believing that the woman was bad luck.

Since her son married Jessica, nothing had gone well for the family. A simple trip to the zoo with Sonny ended up in a kidnap attempt.

These people were brazened to abduct children in public.

Embarrassed, Jessica hung her head low.

She looked hurt.

Feeling bad for his wife, Hank stood up for her, "It's an accident, Mom. No one wishes for it to happen. I told Sonny early on that I would take him to the zoo. Why are you putting the blame on Jessica?"

"You always come to her defense. Well, you'll regret it one day."

Mrs. Brown glared at her son.

"Let's go home, Liberty."

Not one to stay for the Brown family's circus show, Serenity told her sister and went to pick Sonny up.

Zachary took Sonny from Serenity's arms.

"Uncle Zack."

Sitting in his uncle's embrace, the little man happily shared his experience at the zoo without knowing that he had escaped a disaster moments ago.

Zachary kissed the boy on the cheek and dotingly uttered, "I'll go with you when you want to see the animals again."

With him around, no one would dare harm Sonny.

Today may look like an accident to the public, but Zachary and Clive suspected something more sinister.

Chapter 1176 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Even Serenity suspected foul play.

They simply did not raise their suspicion in front of everybody.

"Okay."

The fun ended too soon for Sonny. He found the show at the aquarium entertaining, but it was a shame that his mother brought him out before it was over.

The York family's security team stood in two rows, clearing a way to the Rolls Royce. Carrying Sonny in his arms, Zachary walked alongside Serenity to the car.

Liberty hitched a ride in one of the cars driven by his bodyguard.

Elisa took her brother's car while a bodyguard drove her car back.

Soon, the two CEOs left Wiltspoon Zoo, escorted by their security teams.

Once they were gone, Jessica could breathe a sigh of relief.

She was afraid everybody might suspect her.

On their way back, Serenity said to her husband, "Zachary, something about today doesn't sit well with me. I feel like it's more than just a kidnapping. They created a distraction and kidnapped the children amid the chaos.

"No one was holding Lucas at the time, so the kidnapers saw their chance to take Lucas. However, my sister was holding Sonny, but they tried to snatch him out of my sister's hands. I think their target has always been Sonny.

"Lucas's kidnapping might be the diversion because I had bodyguards with me. They couldn't get with the bodyguards around, so they abducted Lucas. Although I'm not fond of Lucas, that doesn't mean I'll just watch him get taken away.

"I sent the bodyguards to rescue Lucas, leaving us without one. We're adults, but we're also three defenseless women. The kidnapers would face less resistance if they tried to kidnap Sonny then.

"It'll increase their success rate at kidnapping Sonny. Some parents didn't manage to cling to their children amid the chaos, and the kids were wandering about. These people did not after these other children."

Serenity did not want to read too much into the situation. Yet, she could not help herself. She got the feeling that today's incident was more than met the eye.

Looking sullen, Zachary gave it a thought before responding, "I see your point. I'll get Josh on it. The possibility that Sonny is the prime target is slim."

He stared at Serenity.

Serenity got the message. "They're either after you or me?"

Zachary answered in a husky voice, "It's more likely that they're after you. Sonny is your nephew. You have a great relationship because you raised him. It would kill you if anything were to happen to Sonny.

"Would you go after Sonny if he was taken? Of course, you would. They might use Sonny to lure you into a trap."

Zachary's facial lines tensed up.

Serenity had a heart of gold and rarely upset anybody. The people she had a conflict with were her relatives, but the Hunts were not capable of such an elaborate scheme.

The only other people left were Mrs. Newman and her daughter.

Ms. Carrie was still in police custody.

Zachary kept Mr. Newman and his wife on surveillance, and the couple was busy bailing their precious daughter out. Despite their resentment toward Serenity, the couple would not be able to pull off the scheme in such a short amount of time, unless the plan had been in the works for a while.

Nevertheless, it had not been long since Serenity and the Newman ladies crossed paths.

If Serenity was not the prime target, these people must be using Serenity to get to Zachary.

Zachary was leaning toward his latter theory.

He was the mover and shaker in Wiltspoon. Apart from Clive, many others would try *not* to get on Zachary's bad side even though they could not rub shoulders with him.

Nevertheless, there were still people who found Zachary an eyesore and hated his guts.

It was hard to go after Zachary since he was always surrounded by his bodyguards and had the skills to defend himself. His vehicle was bulletproof too. The next best person to strike was the love of his life—Serenity.

Chapter 1177 | [Serenity & Zachary]

The whole of Wiltspoon knew Zachary was crazy for his wife.

It would be the death of Zachary if anything were to happen to Serenity.

“Do you think Mrs. Newman is in on it?” Serenity's first thought was Mrs. Newman.

After a brief silence, Zachary said, “I can't tell for sure, but I told Josh to keep an eye on Mr. Newman and his wife after your argument with Ms. Carrie. There's no unusual activity on their end.

“Seren, we can only know through an investigation if the mastermind is after you or me.”

Zachary put Sonny next to him and pulled Serenity into his arms. Locking Serenity in his embrace, he vowed solemnly, “Don't be scared. I'm here for you. I won't let anyone harm you.”

Lifting her chin, Serenity looked into his eyes with worry. “If they're out to get you... You must be careful, Zachary.”

“Unfortunately, I hold a status that tends to attract danger. I'm used to it. Don't worry. I'll be fine.”

The York family sheltered their descendants from the outside world until they were ready to enter the business world. The world had no idea what their names were.

The purpose of doing so was to protect the York boys against malice.

The York boys took up the art of self-defense since they were young to train their bodies and defend themselves.

Although they would not be caught dead without their bodyguards, there was still that 1% chance they might find themselves alone and needing to fend for themselves.

Serenity rested her head against his chest. “I hope it's only an accident and nothing more to it.”

If it was simply an accident, they could call themselves unlucky to be eyed by kidnappers.

Should there be a mastermind involved, incidents would only keep coming.

“It was quite a commotion today. Even if it was a scheme, the mastermind wouldn’t try anything so soon.”

Sonny, who was left alone and ignored by his aunt and uncle, nudged Serenity away from Zachary. As Serenity straightened her back and watched in confusion, the boy climbed onto Zachary’s lap and sat down.

Leaning back, Sonny rested against Zachary’s chest.

He looked rather relaxed.

Serenity was speechless.

Her nephew was fighting her over her man!

“Sonny.”

Relaxing his facial muscles, Zachary lowered his head and kissed Sonny on the cheek. He tenderly asked Sonny, “Do you want to learn to fight, Sonny?”

“What do you mean, Uncle Zack?”

“Have you seen your aunt fight off the bad guys? Don’t you think your aunt is awesome? She learned to fight those bad guys.”

Sonny had never seen Serenity exchanging blows with anybody, but he did see Serenity give the stranger who tried to hold him a kick. At the time, Sonny thought his aunt was the coolest person ever.

He bobbed his head. “I want to be a fighter like Aunt Ser, Uncle Zack. I want to learn to fight.”

Zachary said affectionately, “How about I hire a teacher to teach you to fight? But it’s not going to be easy. You can’t cry when it gets too hard.”

“He can take lessons from schools.”

Serenity added, “There are gyms everywhere.”

Sonny earnestly uttered, “I won’t cry, Uncle Zack. I want to be as good as Aunt Ser.”

Zachary smiled. “Okay. I’ll find you a teacher for one-on-one sessions. The lessons won’t come in the way of your school in September.”

He then told Serenity, “The gyms work well to the extent of a good workout. It will take a long time before he gets to your level. You have the skills to take down thugs, but you have nothing on the real professionals.

“The boys in my family got lessons from experts. Sonny would benefit more from one-on-one sessions than a gym setting. It will be hard though. I don’t know if Sonny can stand the hardship.”

Chapter 1178 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“It’s a personal choice to take up self-defense if you’re an ordinary person, but now... Sonny should learn to fight and protect himself.”

Zachary had always held a torch for Sonny. He believed Sonny had a lot of potential and thought about taking the boy under his wing when he was older.

Now, Zachary was merely carrying the plan out ahead of schedule.

“That’s true. Alright, we’ll go with your idea. Thank you, babe.”

For Zachary to help Sonny tap into his potential and creativity, Serenity was happy for her nephew and thanked Zachary for it.

Zachary carried Sonny with one hand and dabbed on Serenity’s nose with his free hand before uttering, “You always call me Zachary, but suddenly I’m “babe” when I talk about getting Sonny a coach. Does Sonny hold a bigger space in your heart than I do?”

Serenity replied with a smile, “You both hold equal spaces. No, you take up a bigger space in my heart.”

Sonny was only a kid, but Zachary was an adult. Of course, Zachary took up more space.

Not able to read between the lines, Zachary lovingly dabbed her nose again. “I won’t be jealous of Sonny.”

“Great. Imagine the jealousy when we have a baby if you can be jealous of a three-year-old.”

“I’ll only love our baby. I won’t fight with a baby over your love and attention.”

Zachary believed he would give the baby all the love in the world. Why would he compete with a baby?

Of course, he was prone to eat his words.

Serenity chuckled.

Yeah, right. Zachary was a possessive man. Serenity doubted he would not compete with a baby for her affection.

Back at the city center, Zachary brought Serenity and Liberty to Brynfield. Grandma May had received the news by now.

She had been waiting at Brynfield.

Hearing that someone was at the door, Grandma May approached the entrance. The door opened to Serenity holding Sonny’s hand. Grandma May scooped the boy into her arms.

“Oh, thank God. Thank God.”

Grandma May repeatedly expressed relief.

Clive and Elisa also went to Brynfield. Clive and Zachary may not be on the best terms in business, but they could agree on one thing—they needed to work together to get to the bottom of this.

If it was a case of unintentional mishap, they could protect their families by adding security.

However, if it was something sinister, they needed to fish out the mastermind and stop this from happening again.

The incident at the zoo quickly became breaking news in Wiltspoon.

Zachary and Clive, together with their security teams, were caught on camera picking someone up at the zoo. While others may not know whose children fell victim to the kidnapping, Duncan saw the news and immediately thought of Sonny.

This was because Zachary and his wife did not have children yet, and Clive's baby was still in his wife's belly.

Duncan's mind immediately flew to Sonny.

Zachary and Clive would be the first ones at the scene if anything happened to Sonny.

Both were Sonny's uncles.

Duncan dialed Zachary's number instead of Liberty's. Once he received confirmation, Duncan could not sit still in his office.

Although he knew Sonny was fine, Duncan needed to see Sonny with his own eyes before he could feel at ease.

Ditching work, Duncan hurried out of his office.

He ran into his mother and Lily at the lift.

Chapter 1179 | [Serenity & Zachary]

The pair must have returned from a shopping trip. Lily held Mrs. Lewis's arm while carrying a few shopping bags herself.

"Are you heading out, Duncan?"

Running into her son, Mrs. Lewis asked.

"Mom. Ms. Harmon."

Duncan said hello before adding. "I have an emergency, Mom. Sorry, I can't attend to your and Ms. Harmon. You can either wait in my office or go home for now?"

"What's the emergency?" Mrs. Lewis asked with concern.

"It's an emergency."

Duncan may be dense, but he was not going to tell his mother that he was ditching work to check up on Sonny.

He was afraid Mom might get the wrong idea about him and Liberty.

A lot of people took it the wrong way and believed Duncan had a thing for Liberty.

Nobody believed Duncan when he said he took a shine to Sonny. People thought he was trying to earn Sonny's regard to become his stepdad.

"Is it work-related?" Mrs. Lewis asked.

Duncan lied, "Yes, Mom. I got to go."

"Alright. Go on then. Come home for dinner. Lily bought you some clothes. You can see if they fit when you're back for dinner. I'll send Lily to deliver food to you starting tomorrow if you skip out on dinner tonight."

Mrs. Lewis knew her son well.

Duncan did not have the hots for Lily, and he did not like Lily pestering him every day. Mrs. Lewis needed to threaten him so he would come home for dinner.

"Also, stop staying over at Zachary's place. He's a newlywed and wants to spend time with his wife. Your presence is making you the third wheel. Don't you have a home? Don't you have a house? Why must you stay at Zachary's place?"

"Move back home tonight."

Duncan responded, "Zachary and Serenity have been married for six months. They're past the newlywed's phase."

"They're intimate, so every day is like a honeymoon to them. Do you have a problem with that?"

Duncan was speechless.

"I'll talk to Zachary if you don't move back. Our home needs a facelift anyway. Since we don't have a place to stay, we can stay at his house. I'll go wherever you go."

Duncan was speechless.

His mom was always true to her word.

Lily was silent as it was not her place to butt in when Mrs. Lewis threatened Duncan to come home.

Mrs. Lewis was doing so to give her a chance to bond with Duncan.

"Fine, Mom. I'll be home for dinner."

Duncan relented. "I got to go, Mom."

"Go on."

With her threat taking effect, Mrs. Lewis generously waved her arm and let her son attend to business.

Duncan slipped into the lift.

Standing outside the lift, Mrs. Lewis and Lily watched Duncan go in, and the door of the lift closed.

Mrs. Lewis then took strides ahead.

Lily followed behind her.

Mrs. Lewis went to ask Duncan's secretary about the nature of Duncan's emergency.

The secretary replied, "Mr. Lewis rushed out after he got a call. I think something went wrong with the XX project. That's the most important project right now. Mr. Lewis personally keeps tabs on it."

"Oh," Mrs. Lewis remarked.

Lily asked, "You're Duncan's secretary. Why didn't you go with him?"

The secretary answered, "My colleague, another secretary is waiting for Mr. Lewis there. The secretary follows up on the project with Mr. Lewis, so I won't be of much help even if I go."

Lily responded, "Oh, Duncan has two secretaries?"