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Serenity was unaware that her man was a little jealous and went to the store. Since she had nothing to do there, she started making her handicrafts again.

Jasmine saw that Serenity was busy making a miniature tree and asked, "Serenity, why are you always making this miniature tree lately? Is it a hot item?"

Serenity just finished making the sculpture, so she stopped for a short break. When she heard her friend's question, she smiled and said, "My online business has been doing very well recently, and the best–selling item is this miniature tree! There are so many orders for this."

"Did the netizens feel sorry for you and Liberty after looking at your response? Is that why they are supporting your online business?"

Serenity thought about it for a while and said, "It doesn't seem like it. The Hunts only put my childhood photo online, and they didn't know my phone number or other details. The original tweet has since been deleted, and those influencers have also deleted their tweets."

The influencers were probably afraid of being implicated by the Hunts.

"Luckily, Mr. York's gossip news was more popular than that trending story, so I managed to retaliate before the netizens had time to investigate my background and workplace. That's why I think it's unlikely that the tweet helped to boost the sales of my online business."

At the mention of Mr. York, Jasmine became intrigued and said mysteriously, "I heard from my aunt that Ms. Stone was upset that your trending story diverted the netizens' attention from hers, so she secretly suppressed your trending story."

Serenity was oblivious to this and laughed. "If you put it that way, Ms. Stone indirectly helped me!" She thought about it and laughed again. "I really want to thank Ms. Stone. I hope she can win Mr. York's heart as soon as possible! Ms. Stone is the heiress to Stone Group and has all the money and power in the world, so she should be able to find out whether there's any problem with Mr. York. We're lucky that no one heard us joking about Mr. York's impotence back then, so it's best we don't joke about this again."

Jasmine said casually, "We were just gossiping anyway. How would Ms. Stone know if Mr. York is impotent? There haven't been any young women around Mr. York, so who knows if he has any problems in that department?"

"I don't think Mr. York and Ms. Stone will end up together because the Yorks and the Stones don't get along very well. If the two giants become rivals and go head—to—head in the future, Ms. Stone will be caught in

the middle. Who should she help?"

Jasmine broke it down for Serenity. "Neither the Yorks nor the Stones will support their relationship. But Ms. Stone is truly bold to publicly confess her love to Mr. York with such great fanfare. She's forthcoming about her feelings; I admire her for that."

Serenity had a short break and took out the craft materials to continue making more miniature trees." Anyway, that's their business. People like us will probably never get to see Mr. York. We can listen to the occasional gossip, but we shouldn't waste our time on it."

"Your mom hasn't forced you to go on a blind date recently?" Serenity asked.

"Not for the time being. Maybe my aunt said something to her. I'm guessing my aunt will invite me to another dinner party soon. Serenity..."

"Don't even try to get me to go to those parties again. I'm not interested."

Serenity refused without a second thought.

She did not want to attend another dinner party like that again after having experienced it once. That did not mean Serenity was scared to be among the people of high society; she just did not enjoy that kind of occasion.

"There will be a lot of good food, so let's go and eat to our heart's content!"

"I can afford my own meals."

"But are you willing to spend on expensive food? I know you're saving up to buy a house."

Jasmine hit the nail on the head.

Serenity stopped talking.

"Seren, we're best friends, so I ought to share all the good stuff with you! It's settled then, I'll tell my aunt that you'll accompany me if she asks me to go to a dinner party. We can get to know more about high society if we attend more of these fancy dinner parties!"

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Jasmine and Serenity's conversation was interrupted. When Serenity saw her sister and nephew walking in, she immediately stopped her work, stood up, and walked around the cashier.

Jasmine was quicker than Serenity. She was already hugging and kissing the adorable Sonny. She even raised him up high, which made the little boy laugh.

"Liberty, why are you here?" Serenity noticed that it was past ten o'clock. At this hour, Liberty would usually be preparing lunch at home. If Hank did not have lunch when he got home from work, he would be complaining again.

"I was bored at home, so I came over to have a look. Sonny was also making a fuss because he wanted to see you."

Liberty took off her hat, wiped off the sweat on her forehead, and said, "It's almost November, but it's still so hot!"

Wiltspoon's fall was similar to summer, and it was not that cold in winter.

It was only cool in the morning and evening. During the day, it was still sweltering as long as it was sunny.

"It's past ten o'clock. Don't you have to cook, Liberty?"

Serenity did not think that it was her sister's duty to cook for her brother—in—law. She only asked because most people ate at noon.

"I fed Sonny before I came here, and I brought his milk powder over, so he can play here until the afternoon. I'll order takeout with you later, or I can go to the nearby market to buy some ingredients and cook for you girls in your small kitchen."

"As for your brother—in—law... I've already measured the pasta and filled a pot of water for him. All he has to do is boil it when he gets back. I've washed some vegetables for him and put them aside in the kitchen. He can blanch or stir—fry them for all I care."

Jasmine heard what Liberty said and laughed. "Liberty, are you just doing half the work for him?"

"Since we're going halves, we have to go halves in everything! What's the point of this system if I'm doing all the housework? He wanted to go halves but he thought it was just limited to the expenses."

Liberty was heartbroken because of her husband's recent behavior. Therefore, she had been very firm when it came to going halves as she wanted to get back at Hank.

That way, Hank would not dare to use this to control and threaten her in the future.

For three years of marriage, Liberty made concessions wherever she could. She raised their son, quit her job, lost her figure, and was treated with disrespect in return. If she did not fight back, he would think that she was a pushover.

Hank would think that Liberty was weak if she did not retaliate.

Both Serenity and Jasmine gave Liberty a thumbs up. They agreed that Liberty should not compromise on everything Since Hank proposed going halves, he should get a taste of his own medicine.

"Hank was so nice to Liberty back then. It hasn't been that long since they got married. What an eye-opener..." Jasmine sighed.

Marriage was truly the graveyard of romance.

Single people wanted to get married, but married people wanted out.

Jasmine did not want to get married so soon. She wanted to enjoy a few more years of freedom.

Liberty said resentfully, "My mother—in—law and sister — in—law instigated all this. He trusts his family too much."

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"I brought all the gifts that Serenity and Zachary bought last time into my room because I was so angry about this going Dutch issue."

Liberty sat on a chair. Serenity went into the small kitchen, took some fruit from the refrigerator, washed them, and offered them to Liberty while Jasmine poured a glass of warm water for her.

She took a few sips of water and decided to tell them about her family troubles. She came over today because she felt aggrieved and frustrated, seeking her sister to confide in.

If Liberty did not find someone to talk to, she was afraid she would fall into depression. Moreover, Liberty had known Jasmine for many years and knew that she could keep a secret. Liberty continued, "When I woke up the next day, Hank sent his family away, which I was glad to see, but before they left, they took all the gifts that Seren and her husband gave me

"My sister in—law even took some of Sonny's toys. I was so angry whien I found out, but Hank said that we don't lack those things, so he gave them all to his sister

"Does his sister lack those things then? His sister and her

husband are working and have a steady income. My parents—in—law are helping them to take care of their children and they too have social insurance, so their pensions combined are more than enough for their expenses. Yet, they still want Hank to give them an allowance. Isn't Hank just subsidizing his sister's family?

"His sister and her husband's income are untouched because they spend his parents' and Hank's money. If Hank didn't have a family to support and was willing to spend money on his sister, no one could say anything about that. But Hank has his own family, and we still have a mortgage to repay. How could she have the nerve to spend her brother's money to support her family?!"

Liberty could not understand her husband's behavior. Hank knew that his parents were using his money to subsidize his sister's family, yet he still transferred money to his parents every month without a hitch. On the other hand, Hank was so stingy with her. This agonized Liberty.

She also scolded her in–laws for putting up such a good act before she married Hank. Everyone pretended to be nice for so many years and successfully deceived her. As soon as she married Hank, got pregnant, and gave birth to Sonny, they finally revealed their true colors.

"It's right for a son to support his parents, but why would be support his sister's family? I'm not saying that he shouldn't give them anything, but he should give

them less and save more for Sonny's education. He didn't listen to my advice and even suggested going halves as if was spending a lot of his money."

Liberty regretted quitting her job early and becoming a full-time housewife.

Once a woman had no source of income and had to stretch out her hand to ask a man for every cent, she would unconsciously lower herself and lose her confidence and place in the household.

Liberty knew what it felt like.

Fortunately, Liberty could still rely on her sister to support her, so she did not have to worry about her expenses.

Jasmine was stunned and said, "Most parents like to subsidize their sons. Why do Hank's parents want their son to subsidize their daughter? It could be justified if their daughter was struggling to make a living, but she's not poor. She has a house, a car, and savings."

Serenity was familiar with the characters of her brother – in–law's family members. She took her nephew from Jasmine's arms while saying to her sister, "Liberty, you can start looking for a job now. You can leave Sonny to me. I'll take care of him during the day." "It's so that if you decide to get a divorce in the future, you can confidently fight for Sonny's custody. If you don't have a source of income, how will you fight for

him?"

Jasmine was taken aback. However, when she thought about Hank's money—hungry family, she had a feeling that Liberty would get divorced sooner or later.

No one could put up with such a husband and in–laws for a lifetime.

Liberty looked at her son and said, "I'll put up with them for another couple of months. It'll be the New Year soon, then Sonny can start kindergarten. You can just help with fetching him from there in the afternoon."

She must look for a job soon.

Even if Liberty could not land an executive role as she did before her marriage, she would still be able to get a decent job with her capability.

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Serenity hummed in response.

She kissed her nephew and asked him, "Do you want to go to the kindergarten?"

"No." The little guy liked to cling to his mother at this age.

Serenity smiled and said to her sister, "Have you thought about which kindergarten to send Sonny to? If you have, we can take Sonny there to play on weekends so he can get acquainted with the environment. Once he's familiar with the place, he won't be resistant to attending kindergarten."

Many kindergartens allowed parents to bring their children to visit and play there during weekends.

Liberty agreed and said, "There's one more thing that exasperates me. Hank's sister told him that she wants to transfer her two older children to the city for school, so her kids will live with us. She asked me to help with pick ups, drop—offs, cooking, and tutoring. Does she think I'm a babysitter for free?

"Hank even said that he was willing to give me an extra fifteen hundred dollars for food. He said since I was already raising one child, it'd make no difference to raise another two. I'm willing to raise my child because I gave

birth to him, so no matter how tough it is and how tired I am, I won't mind it. But why should I take care of someone else's kids?

"He also said that he would transfer our house's title deed to his sister. That way, it'd be easier for his sister's children to go to school in the vicinity. I think he has brain damage. How would he get his house back once it's been transferred?!"

Serenity and Jasmine were speechless when they heard this.

There were such cases online, but they could not imagine that it would happen to Liberty.

Liberty confided in them and did not hold back. She took two more sips of water and continued, "Seren, I told Hank that if he wants to transfer the house to his sister, he'll have to pay for the renovation costs. Otherwise, I won't be able to get anything out of this.

"Back then, I forked out four hundred thousand dollars to renovate that house."

All her savings from working for so many years were spent on running her small family. "If he doesn't pay me the renovation costs, I'll get a divorce. That way, I'll get my renovation fees back. Seren, will you help to keep a lookout for a suitable place for me to rent? If Hank keeps this up, our marriage will soon come to an end."

Liberty had noticed and felt her husband's indifference and avoidance.

She had never felt so heartbroken to the point she wanted a divorce. The two issues recently along with her husband's and in–laws' attitudes made Liberty feel disheartened.

Liberty began to think about what life would be like after the divorce so she could make arrangements and be prepared for it.

Hank bought the house before marriage, so Liberty would not get a cut from it. However, she must get back the renovation costs that she paid for. "I'm deeply disappointed in his attitude over the troubles we've encountered lately," Liberty said with her reddened eyes.

It took so much effort for the Hunt sisters to survive through all that, but Liberty made a mistake in marrying such a man. It was partly her fault for being blinded and tricked by Hank. She thought she married a good man, but who would have thought she married such a scumbag?

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Liberty said, "But not all men are like Hank. Jasmine, don't shy away from marriage just because of my failed marriage. If you do, I'll feel guilty forever."

She remembered that Serenity's best friend was still single and was being pushed into marriage by her family.

Jasmine smiled and said, "I know that there are scums everywhere. I just want to find someone I like whom I can entrust my life with when I get married. I won't be influenced by you, Liberty. But I'll be careful about the characters of my other half's family before I marry someone in the future."

Jasmine's mother often said that marriage was not just about marrying a man, but marrying into that man's family and integrating into his circle of relatives and friends. There was a lot to consider.

Jasmine glanced at her best friend and admired Serenity.

Liberty clearly had a failed marriage.

However, she could not be impulsive in getting a divorce because of Sonny. Liberty had to ensure she could make a living by herself and improve her standing to Hank's level before she could get a divorce.

Serenity and Zachary got married at first sight, so neither

of them knew each other before marriage. Such a marriage required a lot of courage.

Jasmine knew she would not have the courage to marry a stranger at first sight.

At present, Zachary was better than Hank. At least, when Serenity encountered difficulties, Zachary tried his best to help and never gave up. However, he still signed a half year agreement with Serenity. This alone made Jasmine feel disheartened, and she was worried about her friend's future.

Serenity did not say anything because some things were better kept from her sister.

Ring ring ring...

Serenity's phone rang.

She picked up the phone, saw the caller ID, then handed Sonny to her sister and said, "Zachary's calling."

"I'll head outside to answer the call."

Serenity was afraid that her sister would overhear their conversation and learn their secret, so she went outside to answer the phone. Liberty just thought Serenity wanted some privacy with her husband by doing so.

Serenity walked out of the bookstore. After making sure that she was far enough for her sister to not be within earshot, she answered Zachary's call.

"Mr. York, what's the matter?"

There was silence on the other end of the line.

Zachary said nothing.

Serenity thought the call was not connected, so she moved the phone away from her ear and looked at it to make sure she answered the call. She then asked the man over the phone, "Mr. York, are you listening? Can you hear me?"

"Mm," Zachary finally hummed.

If he did not say something, Serenity would definitely hang up.

"Mr. York, what's wrong?" Serenity asked again.

Zachary did not know why he made the call. He just went back to his office after a meeting and had a few minutes of free time when he made this call.

He instantly regretted it when Serenity answered the phone.

That was because he did not know why he wanted to call Serenity.

"Have any of your relatives contacted you?" Zachary finally found an excuse.

"They sent me a lot of messages, but I only read a few of them and ignored the rest. They asked me to delete my

response to the tweet, and if I do, they won't ask us for money. In short, they didn't think they were at fault and even said that I was ruthless."

"Don't delete it so the public can see their true colors."

"I won't delete it. This time, I want them to concede and publicly apologize to me and my sister. They need to promise not to extort us lest something like this happens

again."

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Zachary hummed and said, "They wouldn't dare mess with you again after this ordeal."

The Hunts would only regret it.

"Where do you usually go for lunch?" Serenity asked suddenly.

"Outside." Zachary replied, and then asked back, "Do you want to invite me over for lunch?"

Serenity smiled and said, "I'll invite you over if you're free since you've helped me so much. I'm very grateful for your help and have nothing to give in return, so let me treat you to a meal. But don't choose restaurants that are too fancy. I'm afraid I won't be able to afford it."

Zachary wanted to laugh. Serenity wanted to treat him to a meal to thank him, but she was afraid that she would not be able to afford a meal at a high—end hotel. Was this sincerity genuine or what?

"I don't have much free time during lunch, and there are too many people in the nearby restaurant at that hour. If you really want to treat me to a meal, go home early in the evening and cook a feast for me. But don't overdo it since we won't be able to eat that much."

Zachary would never pack food for Callum again. Why should he pack his wife's cooking for Callum? So what if Callum was his cousin? If Callum wanted to eat home cooked food, he should get a wife for himself so he could eat his wife's home—cooked food every day.

If Callum knew what Zachary was thinking at that moment, he would say, "Zachary is indeed jealous!"

Haha, what a slap in the face! Some time ago, Zachary said that he did not know what jealousy was and would never experience it. Did he finally know what jealousy feels like?

Serenity smiled. "Alright then. I'll go home early tonight to buy some ingredients and cook up a feast for you!"

"Thanks for your hard work."

Zachary did not think that it was a wife's duty to cook for her husband. Thus, he was grateful that Serenity was willing to cook for him.

Both of them had to go to work and had their own jobs, so no one had it easier than the other.

It would take both the husband and wife to work together to build a happy family,

The couple ended the call in less than five minutes.

After the call ended, Zachary looked at his phone for a moment, put it on the desk, and muttered, "Am I possessed? What did I just do?"

He suddenly called Serenity when he had free time.

Zachary was indeed possessed to do such strange things.

Ring ring ring...

The phone rang again.

Zachary quickly picked up his phone as he expected the call to be from Serenity. When he saw an unknown number, he felt a fleeting disappointment and he quickly put aside that feeling. He then answered the call from this unfamiliar number.

"Zachary-"

The whining voice was deliberately coquettish and sounded very fake.

Zachary frowned upon hearing it and did not give the other party a chance to speak again. He hung up and blocked the number because it was Elisa Stone!

This woman actually managed to get his contact number. Who gave it to her?

Was it Clive?

Clive did not support their relationship. Every time Elisa made a luss at the entrance of Zachary's office building, Clive or his wife would personally come to pick Elisa up.

With this, Zachary was sure that Clive would not give Elisa his contact number.

Zachary did not know who betrayed him and cursed the traitor.

He was disgusted by Elisa's bold confession and open pursuit of him. He was unfeeling by nature. Nana said he was fine with family, but when it came to love, Zachary was just a cold, rigid blockhead. Without Nana's help, he would stay single forever.

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Serenity tucked her phone into her pants pocket and was about to go back into the store when she saw her sister coming out of the store.

"Liberty, where are you going?"

"I'm going to get some ingredients to cook for you girls. Don't order takeout for lunch. It's not good for your health to eat too much takeout.

"Seren, keep an eye on Sonny."

Serenity did not stop her sister from getting ingredients and cooking for them. She just told Liberty to be careful on the road.

Serenity did not drive her new car to work and rode her e bike as usual because it was convenient and fast.

She was afraid of being stuck on the road during rush hour.

"Liberty, I'll transfer some money to you."

Serenity did not want her sister to use the food expenses her husband gave on them, so she sent Liberty some money.

Liberty rode the e bike to the market. She still had money herself to buy food for her sister.

After watching Liberty leave, Serenity returned to the store. It was not the first time Sonny came to the store, and he was also familiar with Jasmine, so he did not cry or cause trouble when his mother left him. However, the little boy walked all around the store and touched the books and pens that he could reach.

His curiosity was piqued.

"Did your husband call?" Jasmine winked at her. "He must have missed you to call you during work hours."

"He called to ask if my money-hungry relatives contacted me."

Jasmine said, "Oh, that's only because he cares about you. Seren, you should perhaps consider a real relationship with Mr. York." "I do think he's a good man after being with him for so long, but we'll see."

Zachary still had his guard up around Serenity and resisted her approach. She did not want to be aggressive, so she would just go with the flow.

Serenity thought about the light kiss this morning with neither of them taking it a step further and was surprised.

She felt like she struck gold because Zachary was so innocent in that aspect. It was rare for a man of his age to be so innocent

This also proved that Zachary was indifferent to relationships. No wonder his grandmother had to use so much effort to pair them up. Without Nana's involvement and with Zachary's temperament, Zachary would be blessed if he could get married at the age of fifty.

"Jasmine, what are good gifts for men?"

"Do you want to give your man a gift?"

"He helped me so much, so I want to express my gratitude."

Jasmine said enthusiastically, "I noticed that my mother usually buys clothes, ties, watches, and shoes for my father. My father likes to drink, so my mother occasionally buys a few bottles of fine wine for him."

"I don't know his size, and his clothes are all black. I suggested he change the color of his wardrobe, but he shot that idea down immediately. His face was glum, and his tone was very cold when he told me not to care about his wardrobe choices."

Jasmine smiled. "Your man looks hard–shelled and stone –faced, so wearing a black suit makes him even more callous. I can tell that he must be way up there on the corporate ladder, beating countless peers.

"Just think about what he likes and give him something accordingly."

Serenity was at a loss. The problem was that she did not

know what he liked.

"You can find out from Grandma May." Jasmine reminded her friend.

Serenity thought that was a good idea, so she called and asked Grandma May.

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Nana heard that Serenity was inquiring about Zachary's hobbies and saw hope in the couple's future. She happily told Serenity about her eldest grandson's preferences and even private things like his favorite color of underwear.

Zachary's clothes were all tailored and delivered to the door once they were finished . Grandma May saw them and therefore knew what color underwear Zachary liked to wear.

"Seren, there aren't many things that Zachary likes, so you don't need to think too much about it. Just buy him some clothes. I'll tell you his size."

"What if he doesn't like what I bought?"

The old lady smiled. "It's the thought that counts. It's his business whether he wears it or not, but I think he'll definitely wear it."

That boy liked to hide his feelings. He might show his dislike for the clothes that his wife bought for him, but he would still wear them to the office and show them off.

Even though Grandma May was no longer in charge of the company's affairs, she still had ways to find out about what was going on in the office Zachary had been showing off the benefits of having a wife in front of Josh Bucham.

Hearing Nana's words, Serenity decided to buy two sets of new clothes and two ties for Zachary.

Serenity checked her wallet and could not afford to cater to Zachary's rare preferences.

She was always true to herself and did things within her means. She would never pretend to be rich.

After wrapping up her work at noon and having lunch, Serenity rode her e—bike to the mall to buy Zachary some clothes.

She also took Liberty and Sonny home on the way to the mall.

"Liberty, Hank might quarrel with you again when you get back."

When they were busy at the store earlier, Hank called Liberty and asked her why she did not cook for him. Serenity heard Liberty's reply. Needless to think, Serenity knew how angry Hank must be after being used to Liberty's royal treatment all those years.

Liberty was silent for a while before she said, "Since I did this, I'm not afraid of getting into a fight with him

"Seren, if I get a divorce one day and need your help, you have to help me. But don't worry, I'll stand back up again."

Liberty needed her sister in terms of finances. However, she would be borrowing money and would not allow Serenity to just give it to her. When she could stand on her own feet again, she would repay her sister.

"Liberty, don't say that. Your business is my business. I'll stand by you no matter what you decide. Zachary also said that you can go to him if you need his help. He just doesn't like to deal with Hank."

"Zachary is a good man. You should cherish him and manage your small family well. Don't follow in my footsteps. What I regret most is listening to Hank's nonsense and believing that he'll support me forever. That's why I left the workplace and became a housewife. It turns out that it's all bullsh*t!"

"I'll cherish him."

Serenity sent Liberty home and insisted on taking her upstairs. Ji Hank dared to be rough with Liberty, Serenity would fight him.

After a few minutes, Liberty opened the door and entered the house with Serenity and her son, who had fallen asleep halfway into the journey.

"Where the hell did you go? Why are you only back now?! thought...Oh, Seren! You're here, too."

Hank wore an apron and came out of the kitchen with a

spatula in his hand. His face was extremely glum. He wanted to scold his wife, but when he saw his sister—in law, he swallowed those reproachful words.

"Hank, you haven't had lunch?" Serenity asked knowingly.

Hank glared at his wife, but Liberty pretended not to see it. She carried her son back to the room.

Hank complained to his sister—in—law. "Seren, look at your sister! All she does is care for Sonny and doesn't do anything else at home. I have to cook for myself when I come back from work. What's the point of having a wife?!"

ΙL

Serenity was furious when she heard this. Hank married her sister to be his nanny for free!

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"Hank, you want to go Dutch with my sister when she doesn't have a job. She's at home raising your kid, yet you have the nerve to go halves with her. What's the point of my sister having a husband then?

"You always say that my sister doesn't do anything at home, so she fulfilled your wish and did nothing today. Oh, wait... My sister still did half of the work. At least, she bought the ingredients, measured the pasta, and prepared a pot of water for you. All you need to do is cook it yourself."

Hank opened his mouth and wanted to say something, but Serenity did not give him a chance to speak. She continued, "Hank, do you think that your house cleans itself every day? Sonny is still young, so when he plays with his toys, he likes to put them all over the floor and he can't pick up after himself.

"You don't think that those toys put themselves away, do you? Also, who do you think takes care of your meals every day? Isn't my sister doing your dirty laundry too?

"Didn't my sister make three meals a day for you?

"You only resent my sister for not having a job and income. If it wasn't for my sister taking such good care of the household, would you be able to concentrate at work?

"This home is shared by the two of you. My sister is in charge of household matters while you're the breadwinner of the family. You can't say that my sister doesn't do anything for your family just because she doesn't have a job. In fact, my sister has it harder than you at work. Why don't you and my sister switch roles? You can do laundry, cook, take care of the baby, and clean up the house while my sister goes to work."

Liberty's income before marriage was not much lower than Hank's.

Hank opened his mouth several times after being refuted by Serenity, but he was speechless. After a while, he said sheepishly, "Serenity, I only said one sentence, but you gave me such a long lecture as if I've abused your sister. Aren't you busy at the store? If your business isn't good and you don't make much, just close your business and work for someone.

"Isn't Zachary working in a big company? You can ask him to pull some strings so you can join his company. It's better to get a few thousand dollars a month than to sustain a business."

Serenity said coldly, "You don't have to worry about my finances. I make enough for my expenses and have some spare change."

"I-I'm going to cook."

Hank knew that his sister-in-law was angry and did not

continue talking. He turned around and went back to the kitchen.

Serenity took a few deep breaths. Liberty was not ready to get a divorce yet, so Serenity had to put up with Hank. Serenity would go all out on Hank if he dared complain about her sister again when Liberty gets a job and prepares for the divorce.

She entered Liberty's room and saw her sitting on the edge of the bed, gently touching Sonny. She knew that Liberty was only putting up with this because of her child. Hearing the door opening, Liberty turned her head and saw that it was Serenity. She got up, walked towards Serenity, and said softly, "Serenity, your brother—in—law won't listen to what you say. Don't worry about me. I'll protect myself until I give up on him. "Aren't you going to buy a gift for Zachary? You should get going then. Don't worry about me. I'm fine."

"Then I'll go shopping now. Call me if you need anything. Tell me if he dares hit you. I will never allow anyone to hit my sister!"

Liberty nodded. She endured so much before because she loved Hank At this moment, Liberty only felt disappointment toward Hank. She was only getting by for the time being for Sonny's sake because she was not capable enough to gain custody. Hank would not be able to threaten her ii she got back on her feet.

Serenity left under Liberty's urging.

When Serenity left, Hank had just finished cooking a dish and brought it out from the kitchen. Seeing that Serenity was about to leave, he asked perfunctorily, "Serenity, have you eaten?"

"Yeah." Serenity casually responded and left.

Hank did not cook all the dishes that Liberty prepared and only made one dish. He forked a piece of his vegetable, put it into his mouth, tasted it, and spat it out immediately.

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It was unpalatable and sweet.

How was it sweet? Did he take sugar for salt?

Hank immediately went into the kitchen and picked up the box of seasoning to see if it was sugar, salt, or monosodium glutamate. They were all placed in the same box, so he must have mistaken sugar for salt just now.

Before Hank got married, his mother cooked for him at home. After marriage, the Hunt sisters cooked for him. He did not have to cook all his life. It was no wonder the dish he cooked was unpalatable because he mistook sugar for salt.

Then, he looked at the pasta in the pot. Since Liberty had measured everything for him, the pasta was edible.

However, the spoiled Hank could not swallow plain pasta without any seasoning or meat.

Hank turned hot – tempered when he thought how hard he had worked for the first half of the day and came back without food on the table. He went into the room angrily and became more infuriated when he saw Liberty sitting on the bed, looking at her phone.

He suddenly stepped forward, slapped away Liberty's phone, grabbed Liberty's hair. He dragged her to the floor

and started throwing punches and kicks at Liberty. He did not yell at Liberty for fear of waking up his son who was fast asleep.

Liberty was unprepared for Hank's sudden attack and was dragged to the ground by her hair. When she came back to her senses, she retaliated immediately.

Hank was a man, and he caught her by surprise, so Liberty was still at a disadvantage even when she fought back.

However, Liberty would not admit defeat even if her face and nose were swollen and bruised because of Hank's beating. She remembered a colleague once told her that when a couple fought for the first time, the woman had to win no matter what and could never lose the fight. That way, the man would know that the woman was not easily bullied

That was the only way to restrain a man. If the woman lost the first fight, the man would become addicted to violence.

When it came to domestic violence, there would either be zero or countless occurrences.

Hank threw another punch at Liberty. Although she was in pain, she grabbed his fist tightly and bit down hard on his arm, so much so that Hank cried out in pain. Hank used his other hand to pull Liberty's hair, but the more he pulled, the harder Liberty's bite was.

"Liberty, let go! Let go of me! Let's let go of each other!" Hank shouted as he could not take it anymore.

He let go of his hand that was pulling Liberty's hair and used that hand to push Liberty away.

The moment he let go of Liberty, Liberty pounced at him.

In the past two years of being a mother, Liberty did not watch her figure and put on at least thirty to forty pounds after marriage. She pressed her full body weight on Hank, who felt like he was crushed by a boulder.

This time, Liberty had the upper hand. She took a deep breath and slapped both sides of Hank's face with all her might.

Liberty fought back just as hard as how Hank hit her earlier. She only stopped and got up from Hank's body when he cried and howled with blood at the corners of his mouth.

After gasping for a few breaths, Liberty turned around and went to the kitchen to get a kitchen knife.

By then, Hank got up from the ground and called his parents and sister, telling them that he had taught Liberty a lesson, but Liberty retaliated. When he saw Liberty charging at him with a knife, Hank was horrified and did not bother to complain anymore. Hank was chased around the room and finally took the opportunity to run outside.