Gu Lingfei 321

Chapter 321

Chelsea lowered her voice even further. "Spend some money to buy a small gift for her. Everything will be solved if you coax her.

"In any case, she's still Sonny's mother. For

Sonny's sake, and since your niece and nephew need someone to take care of them, bow your head and coax her. You're a man, so you should be flexible."

Olivia leaned in and picked up where Chelsea left off, whispering to her son, "Hank, for Sonny's sake, you two still have to continue being together. Listen to your sister and buy some gifts for Liberty

to coax her.

"Think about how well she took care of you before, and look at how you are now. It's not like you'll suffer if you bow your head a little."

When Olivia came over this time and saw that her son could not afford to put on airs as the head of the family to oppress her daughter—in—law, she felt very distressed on behalf of her son.

However, this was a result of the instigation by her

daughter and her.

If they had not instigated her son to split

household costs with Liberty, Liberty would not be so strict and stingy with them.

"How about your dad and I come over and stay here with you for the time being to help pick up the children?"

Olivia added, "By then, Sonny will be in preschool, so I can pick up and drop him off, and Liberty can go to work."

Chelsea curled her lips and said, "Go to work? She should have a second child when Sonny goes to preschool. The Brown family has always had a few sons. I have Hank as my only brother. I can't have another little brother even if I wanted one.

"Sonny doesn't have any siblings yet. Hank, you have to consider having a second child. If you want a second child with Liberty, you have to start trying now so the child is born next year when Sonny starts preschool."

Chelsea did not want to let Liberty go to work.

That woman was rather capable before she married. If she returned to the workplace, she

would soon regain the confidence she had before her marriage. She would then not let herself be trampled underfoot by them anymore.

Letting Liberty have a second child was the best solution. They would continue to use children to drag her down.

"Mom, you and Dad are already old. It's tiring enough for you two to help me take care of Lucas. How can I let you continue to suffer? Just let Hank coax Liberty and convince her to help. It'll save so much work."

Olivia thought about it and said, "It'll be great if Liberty is willing. Hank, your sister is right. You two should consider having a second child. Have a few more sons. Our family is still a little short of male children."

After a pause, she said in a low voice, "The woman you're keeping outside can't compare to Liberty. I think that Jessica girl is only after your money.'

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Olivia knew that someone of Jessica's temper was not easy to mess with.

She would not be willing to work hard without complaining like Liberty.

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In the end, it was Liberty who had feelings for

Hank. That was why she was willing to become the woman behind Hank and work hard for this small family over the years.

"No matter how good a lover is, if she becomes your wife, she'll be like how Liberty is now."

Olivia earnestly advised her son, "If you give Liberty money for her to work up and regain her slim figure, as well as buy her a lot of expensive skin care products and beautiful clothes for her to wear, she won't lose to Jessica at all."

"Mom, don't mention Jessica at home."

Hank could not stand to listen to his mother's advice. He hated Liberty now.

However, he endured it for the sake of his son.

'When my son goes to preschool next year, I'll kick Liberty out and divorce her!'

"I'll listen to you guys. I'll buy her a small gift to coax her when I get off work tonight and bring it up to her again. As for a second child, I can have one with Jessica instead."

Hank did not plan to have a second child with

Liberty.

He was preoccupied with how to win over Jessica.

Every day, he could see her and touch her, but he could not go all the way with her. It was no wonder that he felt antsy.

Liberty came out of the kitchen.

The conversation among the three dropped off instantly.

Hank put his son down, got up, and said to Liberty, "I'll go back to the office to work overtime."

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Then, Hank said to his mother, "Mom, go shopping with Chelsea. If you see anything you like, just buy it."

He took out his phone and transferred five thousand to his mother for her shopping spree.

"Okay. I'll shop with your sister later and buy some new clothes. Hurry back to work and remember to come home early afterward."

Olivia sent her son out and winked at him to remind him to buy some gifts for Liberty when he got off work.

Liberty pushed the stroller over and placed her son into it before saying faintly, "I'll take Sonny downstairs for a stroll."

"Go ahead," said Olivia, smiling lovingly.

Liberty immediately put her guard up.

'If my mother—in—law is acting like that, she must be planning something against me. More accurately, my mother—in—law and sister—in—law are trying to trouble me again, right?

'No matter what they ask, I won't agree.'

With that thought, Liberty could not be bothered to deal with them anymore and pushed the stroller out of the house.

On the other hand, Serenity finished working and had dinner. Jasmine went home first, so Serenity packed up the crafts she had done and called the courier company to come and collect them.

After shipping out all the crafts scheduled for today, she closed up the shop early tonight before it was eleven o'clock.

Zachary sent her the evidence of Hank's infidelity at noon, which helped the sisters a lot. Serenity felt that she had to thank him again, so she decided to buy two new shirts for him.

This time, she intended to buy him two designer suits. With a handsome face like his, wearing designer suits would make him even more dashing.

When her husband received praises for being handsome, as his wife, it would naturally make her look good as well.

Serenity closed the store and drove off.

As she arrived at a clothing store of a well–known brand, she found a spot to park and sent a message to Zachary while getting out of the car.

Zachary was still discussing business with clients at Wiltspoon Hotel when he received the message from Serenity. His expression did not change, but if one paid attention, one would notice that his lips curled up when he read the message. His mood was obviously much happier.

Serenity: [I'll give you a new present tonight.]

What present would she prepare for him?

Zachary was looking forward to it.

It was easy to buy clothes for Zachary since she knew his size. She just had to choose clothes that were black in color.

Soon, Serenity came out of the shop with several bags in her hands.

Just as she was leaving, she unexpectedly saw her mother-in-law, Tania.

Tania was walking and talking with her friend.

Perhaps she felt Serenity's gaze on her, so she turned to look at Serenity.

Serenity smiled and went forward to greet her mother-in-law.

However, the moment she opened her mouth, Tania already took her friend's hand and walked away before Serenity could call out to her. Tania did not look at Serenity and acted as if she did not know

the latter at all.

Serenity's words were stuck in her throat.

She stood at where she was while watching her mother—in—law walk away.

When Tania's friend turned around for a double

take, Serenity quickly pretended to look somewhere else before lifting her feet and walked away.

"Tania, was that girl we saw earlier smiling at us? Do you know her?"

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Tania also turned to look at Serenity, who now already had her back to them. "Was she smiling at us? I don't know her."

"Oh, maybe it was just my imagination, and it wasn't us who she was smiling at."

Tania's friend did not think much about it.

She turned around again and saw that Serenity had already walked away. She said with a smile, "I must've really gotten the wrong idea.

"That girl was quite pretty and bore a good mien. I couldn't tell which family she's from, so I thought she was someone you knew." The friend teased Tania, "All the ladies in Wiltspoon will smile at you when they see you.

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Tania had three sons. The most famous one was her eldest, who was the head of York Corporation. In the York family, he was the most important person

after Old Mrs. York.

All the men in the York family were extraordinary. Excluding the youngest two, one of whom was still

in high school while the other had just reached adulthood and was not suitable for marriage, the other seven in their generation were all of marriageable age.

The York family was the richest in Wiltspoon. They were true nobility.

Every woman wanted to marry into the York family and become one of them Mrs. Yorks.

Therefore, Tania and her two sisters—in—law were the most popular noblewomen in high society. All the families with daughters of marriageable age tried their best to please Tania and her two sisters in—laws, hoping to become in—laws with them.

Tania laughed softly. "There's no point smiling at me. Our family is open—minded, so when it comes to our children's marriage, we can only offer advice. We won't make the decision for them. As

long as the woman's character is good, we will agree to whoever they like."

She did not like her eldest daughter—in—law, Serenity, but she knew Serenity had a good character. Since her eldest son agreed to marry Serenity, as a mother, she would not nag her son even if she did not like Serenity.

She did not complain about her son's marriage to her mother-in-law either. She did not even

badmouth Serenity, so how would she comment anything about her mother—in—law, who had brought up her eldest son. Old Mrs. York cared deeply for her grandchildren.

Moreover, Tania had lived as Old Mrs. York's

daughter-in-law for decades, so she believed in the old woman's judgment.

Tania had not had any more encounters with

Serenity since the previous meal. However, she had been secretly observing Serenity's actions and conduct.

She ignored Serenity and pretended not to know her because Zachary said he wanted to examine Serenity's character and see whether she was worthy to spend the rest of his life with. He did not announce he was husband and wife with Serenity.

Secondly, Tania had not fully accepted Serenity as her daughter—in—law, so she pretended not to know the latter.

Serenity was sensible and did not pester Tania, and quickly left instead.

3/4

"That's true. The elders in the York family are all open—minded. That's exactly the reason those noble ladies want to marry into your family. None of them are short of money, but you elders are open - minded, your family is exceptional, and all the men in your family are giants among men. No matter who they marry in the family, their happiness would be enough to make others envy."

"It's a shame I don't have a daughter. Like you, I only gave birth to sons. I hope I'll have a granddaughter in the future."

Tania's friend also wanted to become in–laws with the York family.

Unfortunately, her womb disappointed her and did not give her a girl.

Otherwise, with Tania's friendship and if she had a daughter, the girl would definitely be childhood friends with Zachary.

"I look forward to having a granddaughter in the future too. There are only sons in the family. Boys are such a headache. They're not as considerate as girls."

Tania did not have a daughter, so she also wanted a

granddaughter in the future.

The York family would even give a reward to whoever had a daughter. Old Mrs. York said she would award five hundred million to the couple who gave birth to a girl.

If their womb managed to produce more daughters, they would become incredibly wealthy.

The two chatted about their children as they walked.

After Serenity walked away and looked back at her mother—in—law, she saw that Tania had already left with her friend. She stopped and was silent for a moment before walking back to her car, which was parked at the corner of the street.

Since the day the Yorks visited Serenity and Zachary at the newlyweds' home, Serenity had sensed that her mother—in—law did not like her

marriage with Zachary. However, Serenity's mother -in—law was cultured, so even if she did not like Serenity, she was still polite and did not make things hard for her daughter—in—law. She had at least maintained a cordial relationship.

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Serenity understood why her mother—in—law pretended not to know her and did not take it to heart.

After walking back to her parking spot, she unlocked the car and placed the clothes she bought for Zachary on the passenger seat before driving

away.

A short while later, she arrived at Brynfield. Zachary had yet to return, so she fiddled with her small garden on the balcony.

The roses were blooming in overabundance, so she took a pair of scissors to cut a few off. However, she was reluctant to throw them away, so she took them back to the hall to trim them and arranged

them into a vase.

Ring ring ring...

Her cell phone rang.

She answered and it was from her neighbor at the store. It was inconvenient to take the pets with her since she was going to shop for Zachary's clothes,

so she asked the neighbor to look after the pets for

her.

"Mr. Charles, I'm so sorry. I completely forgot. I'll go over and pick them up now."

Serenity would have forgotten about the pets if she had not received the call.

Well, she was too busy and had just started having pets. She had not gotten used to it, so she forgot about the dog and two cats.

"I've brought the pets to the entrance of your neighborhood for you. You can just come out and fetch them from here.

"I figured you forgot about them since you didn't come back to pick them up after so long. I had nothing to do anyway, so I brought them to you,"

said Mr. Charles.

Charles was the neighbor who thought he was good at reading faces after reading a few books on the subject. He thought Serenity had a face that spoke of wealth, and she was someone who would go through hardships before attaining a smooth life. In the future, she would no longer be in the same circle as them.

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Since his wife and him took over a small store in front of Wiltspoon School, he had never had a problem with Serenity and the others. In his eyes, Jasmine was also destined for a life of riches.

Of course, with the Sox family's current fortune, Jasmine was already considered rich.

"I'll be right out."

Serenity was grateful and embarrassed.

After hastily replying to him, she quickly hung up the phone and went outside.

Bam.

him.'

It was only after closing the door that she realized something. In her haste to pick up her pets, she forgot to take her house keys.

'Oh no, I won't be able to get into the house later.'

She hurriedly looked at the time. 'It's already nine o'clock. I'll call Zachary later and ask what time he finishes work. If he's working until late at night, I'll take a cab with the pets and get the keys from

Serenity quickly ran to the entrance of the neighborhood and saw Charles holding her pet dog and carrying the cat carrier.

"Mr. Charles."

She walked over and smiled in embarrassment. "I'm so sorry, Mr. Charles. I forgot about them and troubled you to come all the way here."

Charles smiled and handed the leash and cat carrier over to her. "It's fine. I had nothing to do anyway, so no harm done."

"Thank you, Mr. Charles."

"You're welcome. Well, I'll go back now." Charles did not want to stay long.

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Since Charles said so, Serenity could only say, ((Drive safe then, Mr. Charles."

Charles rode a pedicab here.

He smiled, waved at Serenity, and rode away.

After he left, Serenity called Zachary.

"What's wrong?" Zachary said in a low voice.

"Mr. York, are you getting off work soon?"

Zachary was silent, but he thought, 'Does she miss me?'

However, he instantly scrapped that answer. There was no way she would miss him.

He had become more and more oversensitive lately.

"Why?"

He did not give her a direct answer. He wanted to know the reason she was asking before he answered.

"Um, I came out in a hurry and closed the door, but I forgot to bring my keys, so I can't get back in. If you're still working overtime, I'll take a cab to your company to get the keys now, but if you're getting off work soon, I'll wait at the door."

Zachary thought about it and said, "I'll come home now. You don't have to take a cab here."

"Sure. I'll wait for you in front of the house."

He hummed and hung up the phone.

When Josh heard Zachary, he knew he had to continue to negotiate business with the client on his boss's behalf again.

Before Zachary could speak, Josh said considerately, "Go ahead. I'll handle things here."

Zachary patted his friend's shoulder and waited for

the client to return from the washroom so he could apologize and excuse himself due to an urgent matter. After getting the client's understanding, he left Wiltspoon Hotel with his entourage of bodyguards.

Josh thought, 'If my family sets up a blind date for me in the future, I'll definitely meet the woman. Maybe we'll click instantly and I'll get married in a flash just like my boss did.

'Once I have a wife, I can be like my boss. If my wife

calls, I can drop everything and rush home to accompany my wife.

"The world is important, but a wife is the most important of all!"

Serenity did not have to wait long for Zachary.

"Did you take them for a walk and forget the keys?" Zachary asked his wife while pulling out the keys to open the door.

"No, I closed up the store early tonight and went shopping. It was inconvenient to bring them along, so I entrusted them to Mr. Charles. I thought of picking them up after shopping, but I forgot about them. Fortunately, Mr. Charles sent them here to

me.

"I didn't want to keep him waiting, so I left in a hurry and closed the door behind me. I forgot to bring the keys and got locked out instead."

Serenity smiled in embarrassment. "This happened to me before. I only realized I forgot my keys after I closed the door. Fortunately, my sister is often home, so she'll open the door for me after I knock a few times."

Now that the couple lived together, she could only

wait for Zachary to come back from work to open the door for her.

"I think many people have experienced that before."

Zachary helped carry the cat cage into the house.

He once again reminded Serenity, "Make sure you are a good owner. If I see them poop all over the place, you'll never have a pet again as long as you're my wife."

Serenity looked astonished, but she quickly assured him, "Don't worry, I won't let them poop everywhere. I'll definitely clean up on time and make sure the house is always clean."

Nana had mentioned to her that Zachary was a bit of a clean freak.

After settling the pets in, Serenity washed her hands before picking up the bag she had placed on the sofa, and handed it to Zachary.

"What is it?"

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Zachary took the bag and looked at it. "More clothes?"

He took out the clothes and looked at them. This time, she was much more generous. All of them were branded goods.

"I have no experience in giving gifts to men, so I can't prepare a big surprise. Small surprises are all I can do. The clothes I gave you last time weren't expensive. They were just a thousand or so each set, but this time, I bought you something branded. Each set costs more than ten thousand dollars.

"Wearing it is like being decked out in money. Isn't it a surprise? Even at my age, I could never bring myself to wear such expensive clothes."

Zachary smiled. "With your temperament and financial ability, it really is a surprise that you're willing to buy such expensive clothes for

me."

These new sets were many times better than the clothes she gifted him last time.

Yes, it was a pleasant surprise indeed. "Thank you for helping my sister collect the evidence of Hank's infidelity."

"Don't mention it. Your sister is my sister. It's only natural that I'll help my sister, but you went out of your way to give me clothes as a thank you gift.

It was no wonder she suddenly bought clothes for him again. It turned out to be a gift of gratitude for his help.

She treated him with utmost courtesy and did not consider him as family. If he helped her, she would repay him in other ways since she did not want to owe him a favor.

Zachary did not know whether to laugh or cry when he realized this.

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If she did this when they just got their marriage license, he would definitely think she was being tactful.

However, now, he felt she was rather distant. She did not let him into her world.

Then again, he could not blame her.

He was the one who asked her to sign the agreement.

"My sister is always reminding me to be kinder and better to you. Since I bought you some new clothes, you have to put in a good word for me when my sister mentions it again next time."

Zachary could not help but laugh. "Sure. If I see your sister in the future, I'll tell her that everything I wear was bought by you. If you buy underwear for me too, I can tell her that my whole outfit from head to toe was packaged by you."

"Do you need underwear? What color do you like? I already bought you suits that cost more than ten thousand each, so I don't mind buying you a few sets of underwear."

Zachary was speechless.

"Are you too embarrassed to tell me? That's fine. If you let me look at your closet, I'll know what your favorite type—uh, I mean color, is."

Zachary remained silent.

By observing her anticipation, he knew she was curious about everything in his room.

They had been married for a while, but he did not allow her to enter his room, so it was only natural for her to be curious.

"Any color is fine as long as it's not red." Zachary answered willingly lest she insisted on seeing what color of underwear he wore.

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"Oh, okay. I'll go shopping again when I'm free and buy you underwear with a variety of colors. That way, you can wear a different color every day."

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Zachary's mouth twitched.

No one could tell what kind of underwear he was wearing anyway.

What was the point of wearing different colors every day?

Serenity stopped talking about underwear and turned around to tease the pets.

She did not mention the encounter with her mother—in—law near the shop to Zachary either.

Although Serenity kept mum about it, Tania felt uneasy and finally called her eldest son to ask a few vague questions. Zachary was confused and could not figure out what his mother was trying to ask.

Tania, however, knew from her son's responses that Serenity had not spoken ill of her to him. Her face reddened in shame at her own wild suspicions.

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After the mother and son ended their call, Zachary frowned and thought about it. He then went ahead and asked the lady in front of him who was holding her kitty on the balcony swing. "Did you meet my mom without my knowledge?"

Serenity froze.

She had not mentioned the encounter with her mother-in law to him. How did he know?

L 11

Zachary walked up to her and stood opposite her. His burning dark eyes locked on her pretty face, and he asked again, "Did you meet my mom today?". Serenity saw he was still holding his cell phone and thought her mother—in—law had called to complain to him about her, so she quickly explained, "I bumped into your mom when I was buying clothes for you. I wanted to greet her, but maybe she didn't recognize me. She walked away with her friend while laughing and talking, so I didn't greet her."

Zachary was a smart person.

Tania was his mother. Althoughhe was brought up by his grandparents, he did not alienate his parents. His relationship with his parents was cordial too.

He knew his mother very well.

His mother definitely did not want people to know that Serenity was her daughter—in—law. It was to help him hide

the fact that he was married, and also because she was not entirely pleased about Serenity. She had nothing against Serenity as a person, but she felt that the gap between Serenity's background and her son was too large.

His mother felt heartbroken for him. His grandmother had nine grandsons, but her son had to be the one who married Serenity as a show of gratitude.

After a moment's silence, Zachary said, "My mom is a little nearsighted, but she doesn't like to wear glasses. Even if she might see people she knows when she's out, she always looks at others for cues. Unless she's very familiar with the person, she'll just walk by and pretend she doesn't know them because she doesn't dare to greet them. Serenity understood now. "I see. It's no wonder she saw me but quickly pretended not to know me earlier. I couldn't bring myself to greet her either because I was afraid of making things awkward.

"I'll tell Mom to wear glasses when she goes out shopping next time, lest something like this happens again. She thought about it when she got home and felt that the person looked like you, so she called to ask me. I was confused and figured that you two might have met."

"You can tell her to wear contact lenses if she feels uncomfortable wearing glasses." Zachary hummed.

Seeing that she adored the pets, he looked at the time and asked her, "Do you want to take them downstairs and have a stroll around the neighborhood? We're usually busy and

only have time to walk them when we get home at night."

"Are you accompanying me?"

Zachary's gaze softened slightly. "Since I proposed it, I'll play my part as a gentleman to walk with you."

Serenity laughed and picked up the little kittens.

The kittens were still unfamiliar with the new environment, so the couple did not bring them out. They only brought the dog downstairs for a walk.

Н

After moving in, the couple seldom sauntered in the area.

It was almost ten at night, but the small garden in the community was still lively. Many children got carried away with playing and refused to go home, so they had to be coaxed by their parents and carried away. For some kids who were still not old enough to go to preschool, their parents allowed them to continue having fun.

The parents felt it was easier to tuck their children into bed if the latter got tired from playing.

"How is your sister doing after she got home?" Zachary asked about his sister—in—law while walking. "Tell me if you need help. I'll try my best to help you. You don't have to treat me courteously. We're still husband and wife, so your troubles are my troubles. Your sister is also my sister. I have great respect for her. Serenity turned to look at him.

Chapter 328 The husband and wife did not mention anything about the cold war they had and reconciled in silence. Serenity originally thought of getting through the six months and forgot about it, but she could not help but feel moved by his concern for her. She wanted to break that half—year agreement.

However, she was afraid it was nothing but her own wishful thinking. She feared that if they divorced once the agreement expired and she ended up falling in love with him whereas he did not, she would suffer the pain of losing him and spend a long time forgetting him, all while he lived his new life happily.

Falling in love with someone was easy, yet the same could not be said about letting go of someone you love.

11

"Don't worry, my sister and I will definitely ask for your help if we can't solve a problem."

Since he was kind, she would respond in like. She added, "I called my sister when she got home, and she's fine for now. She's good at enduring, so she won't act impulsively if she thinks it's not time yet. Right now, it'll be detrimental for her if she impulsively tears off the fig leaf.

For Sonny's sake, her sister went from a walk-on actress to a blockbuster movie star in a flash.

Her skills were so marvelous that the Brown family could not tell that it was just an act.

"Her mother—in—law and sister—in—law came again, but I don't know why. I'll ask her when I go over to pick Sonny up tomorrow."

Liberty was starting work at Lewis & Co. tomorrow, so Sonny would be sent to the store for Serenity to look after him.

Serenity was glad she helped take care of her nephew after he was born. The aunt and nephew had a good relationship, so he was willing to be with her and would not cry for his mommy.

"Do you want to hire a nanny to help you take care of Sonny? Boys his age are very active, and you're busy sometimes. If he runs out while you're not careful, the consequences will be unimaginable."

Zachary thought over it well.

Serenity considered and said, "Maybe, but not now. I'll make sure to carry him on my back when I'm busy and won't let him run around. I'll only hire a nanny if I really can't handle it. I'm worried the nanny will take advantage of our inattention to bully the chitd."

After coming across many news articles about nannies mistreating children when their parents were not at home, Serenity was a little resistant to the idea of hiring a nanny.

"You don't have to worry about that. I know a very good nanny. I'll arrange it for you."

Serenity looked at him again and laughed. "Mr. York, I suddenly feel like you're superman. It's like there's no problem you can't solve. And you even know a nanny?"

Zachary said in his heart, I'll be superman for you only.

'I wouldn't bother if it were anyone else.'

"The nanny of my ninth cousin brother still keeps in touch with our family. She's an excellent lady. She's attentive, kind, highly educated, and has very good morals. All the children raised by her turned out to be exceptional. If you don't mind, I'll talk to my aunt and contact the nanny to ask her to come over and take care of Sonny."

Serenity thought of Rowan. He was indeed a sensible child and was a happy–go–lucky person. He was her favorite out of all her brothers–in–law.

"All right, you can talk to your aunt and share with me the nanny's number when you get it. I'll contact her and talk to her about the rates."

"Sure. It's a little late now, so my aunt is probably asleep. Let's not disturb her. I'll call her tomorrow instead."

Zachary was in a cheery mood after solving yet another problem for his wife. "I'll pay for the nanny's salary. When she gets acquainted with Sonny, let her stay in our house during the day so she can look after the pets while she's at it. She'll also clean a little. Think of it as hiring a house helper.

"Both of us don't come home till late. You'll get tired if you stay up late or wake up early to clean the house. People who

are not in the know might think that I'm a slave driver for my wife."

Chapter 329

Serenity stopped walking.

Zachary too. He looked at her deeply and asked, "What's wrong?"

"I'll pay for the nanny. She's going to be taking care of Sonny, who's my nephew, so I should be the one to pay for it. I can't let you use your money."

It would cost thousands of dollars to hire a nanny now.

He was already paying for all their living expenses.

Serenity felt like she was taking advantage of him.

Zachary could not help but reach out and pinch her face." You are always haggling with me. We're a family now, so why do you have to split hairs over everything? On the day we got our marriage license, I already said that since I married you, I can afford to support you.

"Sonny calls me Uncle, and I like that child very much too, so I'm willing to pay for a nanny to take care of him."

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After a pause, he added softly, "Most importantly, I don't want my wife to be so tired." .

"Pardon?"

"I said, I'll pay for the nanny."

He was very insistent.

Serenity could not win against him. After thinking about it,

she said, "All right, you can pay for the nanny. Mr. York, do you have any plans this weekend?" "Why?"

Serenity led the dog and continued to walk forward while asking, "We've been married for some time, but I haven't been to your old home before. I figured that if you're free this weekend, you could take me back to your old home."

Her in—laws had seen her, but as a daughter—in—law, she had never set foot in her in—laws' home. Even now, she did not know where her in—laws lived.

"Nana's birthday is in half a month, and all of us will go back on that day. I'll take you back and introduce you to them then. You'll be able to meet all our family and friends at once."

"Is it a landmark birthday?"

"No, just close relatives invited for a meal together."

If it were a landmark birthday, the family would definitely throw a birthday banquet for Old Mrs. York and invite all the socialites of Wiltspoon.

It would be hard to deceive Serenity if that was the case.

Since only close relatives were getting together for a dinner to celebrate Nana's birthday, arrangements could be made in advance and the truth could be concealed with some instructions from him.

Zachary's view of Serenity had changed significantly. He recognized now that Serenity was not in it for his or his

grandmother's money. After observing her for a period of time, he felt that she had a good character, but had not decided whether or not to spend the rest of his life with her.

Therefore, he would continue to hide his real identity from her.

"That's fine. Let's wait for Nana's birthday and go back together then."

Serenity had no problems with his arrangement.

The young couple strolled two laps around the small garden in the neighborhood before going back.

"Do you want to have supper?" Serenity asked him out of habit.

"No, thank you."

He ate a lot when he was socializing.

"Forget it, I won't eat either. Good night, then."

"Good night."

Serenity turned around and went into her room.

Zachary stood in place while he watched her enter her room and close the door behind her before he went back to his room.

Once inside, he took the new clothes given to him by Serenity to wash them by hand and dry them with the washing machine. He then hung them out on the balcony.

They should be dry by dawn.

Chapter 330

Hank twisted the door handle but failed to open the door. Liberty had locked the door.

LI

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He knocked.

"Liberty, open up."

Liberty came to open the door, but she blocked the doorway to keep him from entering the room. She asked, "What?"

"I have something I want to discuss with you. Let me in."

This was originally the couple's master bedroom, but now it was occupied by Liberty.

Hank was a little displeased, but in order to coax and persuade Liberty to help with the school run for his sister's children, he held back his temper.

"Can't it wait till tomorrow? It's already late now."

"It's only 11. I usually come back during this time after dinner parties."

Liberty guessed that Hank wanted to talk to her about something having to do with her mother—in—law and sister in-law. She was curious too, so she stepped to the side and said, "Go back to your room to sleep when you're done."

Hank cursed in his heart, 'I just couldn't hold it in that night because I drank... Do you really think I wanted to touch you?'

However, his mouth said, "Wait, I'll go get something."

He turned around and quickly headed to the room where he now slept. He picked up a small brocade box containing a pearl necklace he bought specially for Liberty after work earlier. However, it was not an expensive pearl necklace. It only cost a couple hundred dollars.

He then brought the small brocade box into the master bedroom.

Serenity sat on the loveseat in the room, waiting for him.

Hank entered the room and went to see his son first. Seeing the little boy sleeping soundly, his heart softened and he leaned down to kiss the boy's cheek. He caressed his son's face before standing up straight and turning around to sit next to Liberty

"Honey."

"Say my name."

Liberty corrected his term of address indifferently. She did not want to hear him call her "honey" anymore. It made her sick.

Hank chuckled sheepishly and handed the small brocade box to her. "Liberty, I apologize to you. I was wrong to hit you last time. No matter what, I shouldn't have gotten violent with you. I know I was wrong. Will you forgive me? "I bought this for you. Open it and see if you like it."

Liberty looked at him and took the brocade box to see what was inside. She took out the pearl necklace and looked it

over for a while, then put it back into the box and closed it.

"Was this necklace expensive?"

"It was quite expensive. I went to a jewelry store to buy it. Goods in jewelry stores are all of high quality and rather expensive."

Liberty laughed.

'Is he looking down on me for not knowing how to appraise jewelry?

'If this pearl necklace was sold at a roadside stall, it would be priced at a few dozen at most. If it's sold in a large supermarket or jewelry store, it would cost several hundred dollars. In my estimate, this necklace cost less than five hundred dollars.

'His gift to me was no more than five hundred dollars.

'However, if he's buying it for his lover Jessica, it'll be something no less than five thousand.'

Liberty suddenly felt like she was a joke for thinking about him, saving money for him, and helping him manage this family!

"Let me put it on for you."

"No need. Just say what you want to say."

Liberty stopped Hank's move to help her put on the necklace.

Hank smiled sheepishly again and said, "Liberty, my sister came this time to ask about the matter she mentioned to

me before. She asked if we had a thought about it. She said we should act early and get it done before the year ends." "What are you talking about?" "Transferring the ownership of our place to my sister so her children can go to a better school. Also, there's the matter of picking up, dropping off, and cooking for her children. We're all busy at work and have no time. Only you are free at home with Sonny."