Gu Lingfei 431

Chapter 431

Serenity was aware of Elisa's deep affection for Mr. York and did not want to linger on this topic lest Elisa felt upset. Thus, she quickly changed the subject.

As they chatted, Elisa talked about what she was up to now. She said, "My brother was worried that I'd think of Mr. York when I'm bored and become upset, so he gave me a task. He wants me to find my aunt."

"Your aunt?"

Serenity did not know anything about the Stone family. She only knew that they were a family second only to the Yorks.

The only Stone family member she knew was Elisa.

"Speaking of which, my mom's story was quite similar to your sister and you. My grandparents died early too, and no relatives were willing to take my mom and her sister in. In the end, they were sent to an orphanage where they stayed for a while. My aunt was still young, but she was cute, so she got adopted by a rich couple who weren't able to have a child even after many years of marriage.

"My mom was left in the orphanage, but she had always remembered her younger sister. When she grew up and had the means, she started to look for her sister. It was very difficult to find someone in the past since the internet wasn't as developed as it is now. It was easier to locate missing people with current technology and connection.

"My mom hasn't found my aunt yet. Some time ago, we found the couple who adopted my aunt. We were all very happy and

thought that we could help my mom find her sister. Unexpectedly, when we accompanied my mom there and asked about the whereabouts of my aunt, they said they didn't know."

Serenity grew nervous when she heard this and asked, "How could they not know? They adopted your aunt. Did they deliberately say they didn't know because they didn't want your mom to reconnect with your aunt?"

Elisa said angrily, "That's not it. One year after they adopted my aunt, they had a child of their own, so their feelings toward my aunt turned sour. They started beating and scolding her. They were afraid that if they raised her, she would compete with their own child for the family property. The couple decided to give my aunt to another couple who had no children."

Serenity was furious when she heard that. "They adopted your aunt because they didn't have children and only got a child after they adopted her. Your aunt brought them blessings, so they should have been nicer to your aunt instead. How could they beat and scold her? They even gave her to someone else. That's too much!"

"They didn't end up well. Their child grew up spoiled and leads a life of dissipation. He lost all their family assets and often scolded and beat his own parents."

Elisa was not sympathetic at all when she saw the couple's fate. In fact, she felt great pleasure.

"Have you found the second couple who adopted your aunt?"

"We did, but their family's condition was bad. They felt they couldn't afford to keep my aunt and gave her away too. When

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we found the third family that had adopted her, the family had all died of illness."

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Serenity's heart seized as she listened.

"I don't know where my aunt was sent to. We finally got a lead, but another dead end again. My mom is really depressed. Some time ago, my dad and I accompanied her on a vacation to relax."

Elisa came back early because of Zachary, but her father continued to accompany her mother.

"Now, I'm helping my mom look for my aunt. If God has eyes and knows that my mom is still so concerned about my aunt, He'll definitely let me find her."

"Yes, you'll definitely find her. Maybe your aunt is also looking for your mom. If you post the story about your mom and her sister online, maybe your aunt will see it and contact you."

"My mom said that my aunt was too young to remember much when they separated. She couldn't recall at all if there was no one to tell her."

Chapter 432

"When my mom and her sister were separated, they took a photo. They had a copy each so they could use it to find each other, but my aunt's photo was burned by the first couple who adopted her.

"My mom kept the photo too, but it's been several decades since. Even if she kept it in good condition, it's not easy to find someone using it. My brother also posted the photo on the internet, but there was no news. The only way to find my aunt is if her children look like her, and my mom sees them by chance."

Otherwise, it would be utterly difficult to find.

Even then, the chances were almost zero.

"God helps those who help themselves. Elisa, you'll be able to find your aunt one day."

Serenity could not help much except to cheer Elisa on.

The Stone family had money, power, and connections, but they were unable to find her aunt even after searching for years. Someone like Serenity who had no power or connections had no way of helping.

"I hope we find her sooner than later and reunite my mom with her sister. Serenity, tell me if you know someone who was adopted. I won't let go of any possibility."

Serenity suddenly thought of her own mother.

She asked Elisa, "How old is your aunt this year?"

NO

"Fifty-four years old. My mom and her sister haven't seen each other for fifty years."

Serenity was silent for a moment. "My mom would be fifty four too if she were still alive. My mom was actually not my grandparents' biological daughter. She was picked up and adopted by my grandparents. My mom only gave birth to my sister and I, but you've already seen us both."

There were many people who were adopted. Serenity would not think that her mother was the person the Stone family was looking for.

Elisa had also met Serenity and Liberty before. Liberty looked like their mother, but Elisa had no reactions when she saw Liberty, so their mother could be ruled out.

Elisa was aware that Serenity's parents died in a car accident fifteen years ago. She thought her aunt would not pass away so young, so she did not think much about it and asked, "Besides your mother, do you know anyone else who was adopted?"

"There are a lot of people in my hometown who don't have daughters and they adopted daughters, but the ages don't match up. Does your aunt look like your mother?"

"No, my mom looks like my granddad, and my aunt looks like my grandma. My siblings and I take after both our parents more, but I think there'll be similarities more or less."

Serenity said, "In that case, I haven't seen a middle-aged woman who looks a little like you. You can send me the photo of your mom and aunt together someday. I'll keep an eye out for you."

"Sure, I'll send it to you later. It's just that my aunt was still a

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toddler when the photo was taken. Women change a lot from when they were young, so we don't know what she looks like now."

Serenity paused. "It's fine, just send it to me. I'll draw a portrait of your aunt when I'm free. If I imagine what she looks like when she grows up and draw it o

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Elisa said, "You know how to draw too? That's great! Why

didn't I think of this method?"

Serenity laughed. "That's why I told you to tell me if you encounter difficulties. Two heads are better than one."

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Chapter 433

Elisa said gratefully, "Serenity, if you help us find my aunt, you'll be our family's benefactor. We won't treat you badly."

"We're friends, so don't be such a stranger. I'm also thinking of my mom. If she were still alive, my sister and I would also do our best to help her find her family."

Her mother passed away more than ten years ago, so she did not have a deep impression of her mother. Fortunately, her sister looked like her mother, so she could remember the latter by looking at her sister.

"I won't disturb your date with your husband. Have fun and tell me when the wedding is held. I'll be your bridesmaid."

Elisa teased Serenity a little and took the initiative to end the

call.

"Was it Ms. Stone again?" Zachary asked nonchalantly.

"Yes. She wanted to come over to meet us, but she changed her mind when she heard that I was with you."

Zachary snorted coldly in his heart. 'Good!'

"Elisa is really a good girl, but your boss..." Thinking of Mr. York wearing a wedding ring, Serenity sighed. "I guess they're just not meant for each other."

"What did you two talk about? I heard you mention your mother." Zachary changed the subject.

He did not want to gossip about himself with her.

They both walked forward shoulder-to-shoulder while

1/4

holding hands. "Serenity said she's focusing on finding her aunt now. It's better to have something to do, lest she thinks of Mr. York all the time.

"I didn't know Mrs. Stone grew up in an orphanage. She had a younger sister who was adopted, but got shuttled to different families several times. Even till now, they still can't find her

sister.

"My mom was also adopted by my grandparents, but she has no relatives looking for her. She doesn't have memories of her early childhood either. All she remembered was that her previous adopted parents liked to scold and beat her, and she escaped because she couldn't stand it.

"She escaped when she was only seven or eight years old. She had no way of feeding herself, so she fainted from hunger by the side of the road until she was picked up by my grandparents and they adopted her. Then, she lived a stable life, met my father and married him before giving birth to us. Both my parents knew how to earn money, and our family condition was getting better, but..."

She trailed off.

Zachary knew about all that.

"Mrs. Stone still remembers her sister, and the family is pouring money and effort to find her. They never gave up looking for her. The sister might have been misfortunate, but she was much luckier than my mother. At least there is family still thinking about her.

"My mom doesn't remember if she had a family. Her environment was constantly changing when she was young, and she was always beaten, scolded, and starved. She had a

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serious illness once and forgot everything from before she was seven or eight years old."

Zachary held her hand tightly and said in a deep voice, "Your mother did not have relatives looking for her. Her relatives are either gone, or she was abandoned. In that era, many people did not like giving birth to daughters and threw them away."

Serenity thought about it and said, "That's true. If my mom was abandoned, there's no need to look for her relatives even if they exist."

Her mood became gloomy while speaking about her late mother. "Zachary, I want to go back to pay respects to my parents. The Hunt family hasn't let us visit my parents' graves since they drove my sister and I out of town. They warned us and threatened to raze my mother's grave to the ground if we dared visit it secretly.

"They have also relocated my parents' graves, so I don't even know where they're buried now."

Serenity was reluctant to reconcile with her horrid relatives back home mainly because they had gone too far.

It was her parents' graves, but they were not allowed to visit. The sisters could not resist when they were young, but now that they had grown up, the Hunt family moved the graves without telling them so the sisters could not visit even if they wanted to.

They went so far before but now they were trying to make peace with her now. However, Serenity could not forgive them.

Zachary stopped in his tracks.

Serenity stopped too.

The couple looked at each other. Zachary clasped her shoulders and promised solemnly, "Serenity, I'll make sure your sister and you can visit your parents' graves one day. You'll also get back the house that your parents had left behind."

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"That's for sure. I'll go to court with them to get my parents' house back!"

"Since you have such confidence, don't feel depressed any more. We're out to have fun today, so we should be happy. We'll deal with the unresolved matters from the past one by one and solve them eventually."

He took Serenity into his arms, squeezed her, and said gently, "You still have me. Even if the sky falls, you don't have to worry. I'll hold it up for you."

Serenity did not struggle and quietly snuggled against his chest. Only after a few moments did she leave his embrace.

Her face was a little weird.

"There are many people around us."

Zachary took her hand casually and led her forward. "We're husband and wife, not having an affair. What are we afraid of?"

Serenity was speechless.

"It's no wonder my sister always tells me to be nice to you." He had already completely won over her sister.

After their sudden marriage, as the couple got along, Serenity realized that although this man had shortcomings, there were more advantages than disadvantages. Then again, everyone had their own shortcomings. She herself was also full of them.

When it came down to it, Zachary was so much better than that scumbag, Hank.

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Serenity's already restless heart once again stirred up into a frenzy for Zachary.

She had to find an opportunity to steal his copy of the agreement and destroy it. Then, she could tease him all she wanted. When she got him then and they became a real couple, he would not mention the six—month contract

anymore.

She glanced at his face, which was as stoic as usual.

Serenity sighed. 'It's better if I train my heart to be stronger first. Otherwise, even if I strip him naked, my fire will be extinguished immediately by his cold face.'

"Then be nicer to me."

"Am I not nice enough to you?"

Zachary pursed his lips and said nothing.

They both gave and took as a couple. Serenity was not the kind of person who only enjoyed other people's kindness and did not return it.

If he treated her well, she would treat him just as well.

If he did her ten favors, she would also do ten favors for him. In short, she would never owe him anything.

If he wanted her to be better to him, he had to be better to her

first.

A couple had to work together for their marriage to be long lasting.

"Where's Nana and Mrs. Lane? I don't see them anymore."

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Serenity remembered Grandma May and hurriedly asked Zachary, "You're tall and can see further. Do you see them in front?"

Zachary looked ahead and replied, "I don't see them, but it's fine. Nana has been here several times and is familiar with the place. We'll call her later and ask her to wait for us in the restaurant."

This was their own property after all. Who would be more familiar with this place besides them?

Zachary was not at all worried that Grandma May would get lost.

He dared say that Grandma May and Mrs. Lane had walked ahead so quickly on purpose.

They deliberately pushed Sonny away and walked quickly because they wanted to leave the couple alone. They wanted the couple's relationship to improve and taste the sweetness of dating.

Chapter 435

Serenity was not dumb.

Grandma May and Mrs. Lane walked away to create an opportunity for the couple to be alone.

It was rare that Zachary did not act cold and reject her, so she enjoyed the taste of dating.

The couple held hands and strolled around the Oriental garden. Serenity especially liked this garden style with its antique colors and fragrance.

"Zachary."

"Yeah?"

Zachary's mind was not on the scenery. He kept stealing glances at the woman beside him.

When he heard Serenity call him, he stopped to look at her again with a straight face, as if he had been looking ahead the whole time instead of peeking at her.

"You work in York Corporation, so you should know what properties are under your company, right? How many resorts like this one did your boss invest in?"

Zachary thought about it and said, "Our company has branches in all major cities. We invest and operate in all kinds of industries, but only in two vacation resorts like this were invested in and built. That's because it's very difficult to choose a site, and the capital needed to invest in creating such a vacation resort is also pretty significant.

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"This resort is wholly owned by our company, and the one far away in Jensburg is a joint venture with the richest family in Jensburg. Because of the long distance, they manage most of it while we have some shares for the dividends."

Serenity looked around. She could not see the end of the Oriental garden, let alone the whole of the resort. Zachary also mentioned that they would only manage to scratch the surface even if they walked the whole day. It was clear how large the

resort was.

"Your boss' family really is the richest in Wiltspoon. They're so rich and powerful that they have properties everywhere."

Zachary kept mum.

The York family had been operating in Wiltspoon for several generations, and their wealth was accumulated by that many generations as well. Furthermore, there were no members of the York family who were loafers, so their wealth only increased.

If he was asked how much money the York family had, he did not know either. In any case, the amount was in the hundreds

of billions.

Serenity suddenly patted him on the shoulder.

Zachary looked at her in confusion.

"Zachary, your last name is York, and you also work in York Corporation, but you're just a manager while the other guy who shares your last name is the richest man in the city. You have to work hard! If other people know your last name, they'll think that you're the heir of the York family." Zachary laughed. "There are many rich men in the country, and even more people who share the same last name as them. How many of them are from the York family? There are also many people in the world who have the same first and last names."

Serenity also laughed. "That's true. People who hear that my last name is Hunt always ask if William Hunt is my ancestor. I checked, but my ancestors really have nothing to do with William Hunt. We just have the same last name."

Zachary suddenly asked, "Serenity, if I was the heir of the York family and was a billionaire, would you believe it?"

Serenity laughed and said, "I'll believe it if you have evidence, but I'll never believe it if you can't prove that you're a billionaire.

"Billionaires aren't ordinary people. Do you think you can find one just by strolling down the street? We got married out of convenience. If I ended up marrying a billionaire just like this, pigs might start flying."

He worked in York Corporation and also had York as his last name, so it was easy for others to suspect that he was related to the richest man in the city. However, the car he drove, the house he lived in, and the daily expenses he spent with her were no different from that of ordinary people.

Furthermore, if he really were the heir of the York family, how could he marry her, a woman with no power or background?

Even if she saved his grandmother, he did not have to repay her by sacrificing his marriage, right?

Chapter 436

It was said that the old ladies in the gentry were not easy to get along with, but Grandma May was affable, just like an ordinary old woman. She also usually dressed plainly and did not seem like she was part of the gentry at all.

Zachary's gaze was deep. He touched the top of her head and said in a low voice, "You're a very realistic person who doesn't dream."

"I'm a person who lives in real life. Even if I want to dream, it depends on the dream. It's a waste of time dreaming that kind of unrealistic dream, not to mention it'll affect my sleep too."

Zachary pursed his lips and said nothing.

After strolling for half a day, the couple met up with Grandma May and the rest.

They settled on lunch in an interesting restaurant. If not for the modern facilities inside, Serenity would have thought they traveled back to a tavern from bygone times.

Sonny was especially happy today.

Grandma May and Mrs. Lane took him to feed the fishes and bought him as much fish feed as he wanted to feed them to his heart's content.

It was easy to get tired when having fun, and he fell asleep in Serenity's arms even before he finished his meal.

"Zack, Nana is old and can't walk that far. You take Seren for an afternoon stroll while Cecilia and I rest here with Sonny. Let's stay the night here. That way, we can take our time to

enjoy ourselves."

Zachary gave a faint hum.

Serenity asked, "Or we could go back?"

Grandma May said, "Since you're here, you have to finish exploring the place. It'll be a waste of the ticket if you go back after venturing into just half of the resort.

"It's okay, Seren. You and Zack go for a stroll in the French garden. I've been here a few times, so it doesn't matter if I don't go again. Don't worry about Sonny either. Cecilia and I will take care of him."

With Grandma May's advice, Serenity decided not to waste the tickets bought. After the meal, she took a short rest and continued to hang out with Zachary.

Zachary boldly took her hand. From behind, the young couple looked like lovebirds.

Grandma May hurriedly took out her cell phone and captured photos and videos of the couple's fading backs.

She said, "I'll take a picture and send it to Zack so he can look back on it when he has the time. I wish him godspeed. Now, my goal is.'t to hold my great—granddaughter. It's to make the couple become a real couple first, not just one in name."

Mrs. Lane laughed. "Mr. Zachary finally figured out his feelings for the missus. He moves quickly."

He was the head of the York family, after all. His decisions were usually crisp and clear.

Mrs. Lane firmly believed that Zachary would win over Serenity very soon.

"That's not necessarily true. Some people, like Zack, have high IQ but low EQ. It's not that bad though. At least there's some progress. I was really worried when they had a misunderstanding and started a cold war some time ago."

"It's normal for couples to have a few misunderstandings."

Mrs. Lane thought, 'Mr. Zachary and the missus got married out of convenience with no emotional foundation, so they still can't trust each other completely. It's normal to have misunderstandings, conflicts, and cold wars.'

Grandma May stopped taking pictures and said, "I hope they won't have any misunderstandings in the future. With Zack's character, it's a lifelong matter once he falls for someone. He's domineering and has a strong urge to control. If they fall out again, who knows how long it'll take for them to reconcile."

She sighed at the thought of her grandson concealing his identity to examine Serenity's character. That was a landmine. Once it explodes, the consequences would be unimaginable.

However, that was the path chosen by Zachary himself. No matter what the consequences were, he had to bear with it himself.

Chapter 437

Time flew by when having fun.

The day was over in the blink of an eye.

Serenity strolled all day, arrived home, took a shower, and fell asleep.

Grandma May saw Serenity going back to her room and thought of repeating her trick. Unexpectedly, when she entered Serenity's room, the latter was already sleeping soundly, leaving the old woman with no chance to play her acting skills.

After leaving Serenity's room, she came out to see her grandson sitting on the sofa watching TV. Even though her heart was disappointed, she could not help but get angry.

She walked over and snatched the TV remote control from Zachary's hand. "Have you forgotten what to say and do after coming home?"

Zachary looked at his grandmother and said innocently, "We're already back. What do I have to say or do?"

He made a lot of progress today.

He held Serenity's hand for the whole day.

Serenity also talked to him about anything now. Her trust in him was growing.

Grandma May was speechless.

"Nana, you must be tired too after playing all day long. Shall I ask Mrs. Lane to help you clean up the guest room?"

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Grandma May sighed and hummed in agreement.

Mrs. Lane had already cleaned up the guest room without being ordered by Zachary.

"You rest early too."

She admonished him, got up, and went to the guest room.

Zachary sat in the hall for a while before turning off the TV and going to his room. As soon as he was inside, he called Josh.

"I was just about to send you a message to ask if it was convenient to call you, but you called first. Great minds think alike."

Zachary walked to the set of sofas in his room, sat down, and asked indifferently, "What do you want to tell me?"

"I'll be waiting at Beans and Cream for Ms. Sox at ten in the morning tomorrow. Ask your wife to inform Ms. Sox for me."

Zachary smiled. "So you still care about this blind date?"

"You're the one who is matchmaking us. I have to be more enthusiastic so I won't let you down."

"Fine, I'll talk to Serenity later and have her tell Ms. Sox. You'd better buck up. Ms. Sox has high standards."

Josh laughed. "You speak as if my standards are low. I wouldn't have bothered to meet her if it was anyone else playing matchmaker."

Although he was often forced to see his boss's PDA, which envied him, he still enjoyed the carefree life of being single. The heir of the Buchams was already thirty—three years old, but he was not married yet.

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Why did Josh need to hurry then?

"You won't regret it. Ms. Sox is very suitable for you."

Josh laughed. "I knew she was suitable for me just by how she lay down at Mrs. Dawson's birthday party."

Zachary paused before saying, "It seems she became famous after that incident."

"Hahaha, that's right. Now, as long as Ms. Sox's name is mentioned, everyone will think about the girl who lay on the ground at Mrs. Dawson's banquet. You don't know this, but her aunt is Mrs. Lowe. You didn't see the look on her face back then. I laughed for a few days when others described it to me."

Zachary said, "It's a shame you didn't manage to join in on the fun."

"Exactly. In the future, I'll go to every banquet I'm invited to so I don't miss a good show."

"Gossiper."

"How would I get information for you if I don't gossip?"

Zachary laughed and said, "Fine, I want you to find some information for me. I want to know how many assets Hank Brown really has, and whether he transferred his property in advance. I want something with evidence."

Chapter 438

Josh said casually, "When do you want it?"

"The sooner the better, of course."

"I'll give it to you tomorrow. Is that too late?"

"That's fine."

Tomorrow was when Liberty and Hank would be talking about divorce. It would be advantageous for Liberty if she held evidence of Hank's assets.

"You're really going all out for your sister—in—law. I don't see you working so hard for your own company."

Zachary was silent for a moment and said, "Serenity is full of gratitude to me now."

"Gratitude is not love. You have to do more for her to fall in love with you. However, if you can help solve her sister's problem, she'll feel that you're an amazing person. She'll grow more dependent on you, and her heart will be moved subconsciously."

Josh did not have a girlfriend, but his analysis was clear and logical.

After the analysis, he asked Zachary, "Did you fall in love? Don't try to make your wife fall in love with you without the intention of loving her back. That's called playing with her feelings."

Zachary paused before saying, "Tell me what kind of reaction proves that I'm in love. I get nervous and excited when I hold

her hand. Is that love? When I see her smile, I feel happy as well and want to kiss her. Is that love?"

"Woah, not bad, Zachary. You've already gotten to his point? I thought you only knew how to put on a long face, purse your lips, glare at others, and ignore them."

Zachary wanted to hang up the phone.

Only Josh dared make fun of him to his face like this.

However, Zachary still depended on him for information.

"I told you long ago that you were showing concern for your flash marriage wife, but you stubbornly refused to admit it. When your wife had a meal with Shawn, you fumed for several days but refused to admit that you were jealous. To be honest, you're really hard to deal with when you're jealous."

Zachary's expression darkened. "I wasn't jealous!"

"Not even an idiot would believe you now. I'll call someone to check on the properties under Hank's name first. I'll also check if anyone in his family has a large amount of savings. I'll discuss with you another day whether or not you were jealous."

Josh did not forget to give a reminder. "Don't forget to help me inform Ms. Sox that I'll be waiting for her at Beans and Cream tomorrow at 10 o'clock in the morning. I'll be holding a red rose in my hand."

"Got it," Zachary replied in amusement.

His friend was really looking forward to his blind date this time.

He also hoped that Josh and Jasmine would click. Jasmine was

Serenity's best friend, so Zachary also thought of her as his friend. He naturally hoped that Jasmine could achieve

happiness as well.

After the call ended, Zachary wanted to call Serenity, but he remembered that she was asleep and could not bear to wake her up.

He thought about it and got up to go into the small study. He took a pen and paper to scribble something.

Then, he took the note and went to Serenity's room.

Serenity thought that Grandma May would sleep with her and did not lock the door before going to bed, so Zachary entered her room easily.

He placed the note on the dresser and placed her cell phone on top of it. That way, she would see the note when she woke up and notify Jasmine as soon as possible.

After doing all that, he stood in front of the bed, staring at Serenity who was in slumberland for a while, before silently walking out.

Serenity slept soundly, but Zachary tossed and turned. He only spent one night in the same bed as her, but he could not sleep when she was not with him tonight.

'Should I go to her room and carry her over to sleep with me?

'No, I won't be able to explain my behavior in the morning.

"Then, should I go sleep in her room instead? 'I can sneak back into my room before she wakes up.

Chapter 439

Alas, Zachary only thought about it and did not act on it. His pride stopped him from doing something that sneaky.

Thus, he tossed and turned, and finally got taken away by the sandman.

Meanwhile, in an apartment, Hank was fumbling around the bedside table for a pack of cigarettes. He then pulled out a stick, and was just about to light it up when the woman next to him reached over. "Give me one too."

Hank handed the cigarette to Jessica and helped her light it.

"Just smoke once in a while."

Hank was not a heavy smoker and only smoked when he talked business with clients. Usually, he did not smoke unless he had something on his mind.

Liberty did not like men who smoked all the time because she felt their breath stink.

Jessica smoked, but she pretended to be virtuous and never smoked in front of Hank. However, Hank and her had gone all the way, and he was also preparing to divorce Liberty for her sake.

Thus, Jessica did not think it was necessary to hide it anymore. Hank would find out in the future anyway.

After smoking half a cigarette, she leaned on him and asked softly, "Something on your mind?" "It's nothing."

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Jessica laughed and traced her fingers over his chest. "Can't bear to divorce that fat woman in your house?"

"Of course not. I was wondering how I should write the divorce agreement. I told my parents I would give Liberty two hundred thousand, but they both felt that that was too much. When my sister found out, she also scolded me and said I was too generous to the poor. She said Liberty didn't earn a penny after marriage, so there was no need to give her so much

money.

"I'm just wondering. We're still husband and wife, and I was the one who let her down first. We should part without hard feelings, so I'll give her two hundred thousand lest she makes a fuss. If the story between us breaks out, our reputation will be ruined."

Jessica put out her cigarette and said, "Your parents and your sister are your family. They're the ones who want the best for you. You should consider their suggestions more."

The next moment, she said coquettishly, "We've already gone this far, Hank. Shall I rent out my apartment and move into your house?"

Hank kissed her and said placatingly, "Not yet. We'll live together when I finish the divorce procedure with Liberty."

He also promised, "Don't worry, I won't give the house to Liberty. I'll keep the house and the car and just deposit some savings to her superficially. Jessica, I'll make sure our future life is worry—free. I'll marry you in an honorable manner."

Jessica was relieved. "My parents are always asking when we'll get married. They say you're too good, and others will snatch

you away."

She did not dare let her parents know that she was actually interfering in someone else's marriage. She lied to them that Hank was still unmarried.

Hank was only thirty and had a successful career, so her parents believed her when she said he was single. They bragged about how she had found a capable boyfriend in front of their friends and relatives.

"We'll get a marriage license immediately after I get divorced, and then we'll hold a grand wedding."

Jessica kissed his face and said softly, "I'll wait for you."

The two billed and cooed for a while, then Hank rolled out of bed to draft the divorce agreement.

After writing it, he gave it to Jessica to read.

Hank only thought of himself, so the divorce agreement was quite satisfactory to Jessica. The only thing she was unhappy about was that he wanted to keep Sonny.

In her heart, Jessica hoped that Hank would give up custody of Sonny and let Liberty take him away. That way, she would not have to see that eyesore.

Who wanted to take in and raise a child that was not their own?

She was still young, and Hank was not too old either. They would have their own children after marriage. When they did, Sonny would become even more of an eyesore.

Chapter 440

Jessica was upset but did not show it. After all, she was not his wife yet, so she could not say too much lest Hank resent her. Her future husband's family might also have a problem with her.

Sonny was just over two years old. He was not sensible yet and could not take care of himself. If he lived under her hands, she had plenty of opportunities to deal with him, so there was no hurry.

"No problem."

Jessica handed the divorce agreement back to Hank. "I'll print two copies for you. Take them to Liberty tomorrow and have her sign them, one for each of you. On Monday, hurry and go to the City Hall to file for divorce."

Hank laughed. "I'm more impatient than you are."

"I'm not impatient."

Jessica laughed as she helped Hank print the divorce papers.

That night, the two people dreamed beautifully, thinking about their happy life after marriage.

The night passed without a word.

The next day, Serenity woke up and saw the note Zachary left on the dresser. She quickly picked up her phone and called Jasmine.

"Seren, I'm still sleeping."

Jasmine's eyes were not even open yet. She yawned while

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saying, "I slept late last night."

Serenity laughed. "I figured you're not up yet. You wouldn't be able to read if I sent you a message, so I called you instead. Zachary left me a note saying his colleague will be waiting for you at Beans and Cream at 10 this morning. He'll be holding a red rose in his hand."

"I would've forgotten about the blind date if you didn't remind me."

Jasmine opened her eyes and sat up. "Beans and Cream again? Okay, I got it. I won't be late."

At most, she would leave early.

"Set your alarm and go back to sleep for a little longer. I won't bother you."

"You're not coming with me?"

Jasmine was always accompanied by Serenity every time she went on a blind date.

Serenity's relaxed tone turned heavy, and she said, "My sister will be discussing the divorce with Hank today. I'm my sister's only family, so I have to be there."

"You're right. You need to help Liberty out. Don't let her be bullied by the Browns. Yesterday evening, your scumbag brother—in—law went to our shop and wanted to pick Sonny up, saying that Sonny's grandparents missed him.

"I couldn't be bothered with him. When he didn't see Sonny in the shop and I kept ignoring him, he left resentfully. You were on a getaway, so I only told Liberty."

Serenity sneered. "They miss Sonny? If they really miss him,

they wouldn't have tried to make him sick. I think he just wants to take Sonny away to blackmail my sister into making concessions or leaving without a penny to her name."

Ham

Hank had an affair and was caught by Liberty. He was at fault.

When a divorce lawsuit was filed and properties divided, he should give her more money.

However, how would jerks like the Browns be willing to give money to Liberty? They just wanted to use Sonny to blackmail her into giving in.

Serenity hated people like Hank the most. He neglected his child but wanted to fight for custody during the divorce, as if he would die if he lost the child. In fact, he was just using the child as a bargaining chip.

If he really won custody, he would just turn around and send the child away, neglecting them again.

"Seren, will Sonny be in danger? Why don't you discuss it with your sister and send Sonny to a safe place to live for a few days? Send him somewhere the Brown family can't find or won't dare to go to, lest they threaten your sister with him."