

Gu Lingfei 531

Chapter 531

“The fight was just kids being kids. Plus, it was an accident. We will take good care of Sonny and keep him from harm’s way when we get custody.”

Mrs. Brown heartachingly said, “Hank, don’t go with the divorce. I can’t take it.”

It never crossed her mind that fights between children could influence decisions on a child’s custody.

Despite Mrs. Brown’s old age, she had never seen anyone take their divorce to court. In the separations that she came across, the women would pack their things and walk out, leaving the house, car, and children to the men.

“Sure, it was just a fight between children, but people would see Sonny living with us as whether it’s conducive to his growth and well-being.” Hank patiently persuaded his parents. “Mom, I don’t love Liberty anymore. It’s not like Liberty would take me back either. You can’t make things work just by force. It would be hard for her and me at this rate. Besides, Liberty’s willing to settle. The divorce is going to happen. “I’ve made up my mind, and I only came back to let you know.” Jessica was right. It was best if Hank made the decision for the matter between him and Liberty. It was good enough that he let his parents in the loops. With the sobs underway, Mrs. Brown smacked her husband. “Say something, old man! No, I must give Chelsea a call, and get her to talk some sense into you.” She was about to give her daughter a call when her husband stopped her. “Telling Chelsea will only make the matter worse.”

Mr. Brown peevishly remarked before asking his son, “Is divorce the only way? Are those pictures that big of a threat to you?”

He understood his son best. His son would not compromise and go with Liberty’s way unless he was under threat. “Dad, my career is done for if Liberty hands over the stuff to my boss. It doesn’t sound like a bad deal if I can end a loveless marriage and safeguard my future.” Mr. Brown fell silent.

Mrs. Brown lashed out. “Liberty went too far. What will she gain by destroying your future?”

“She’s trying to get back at me since I didn’t go easy on her. I lose out far worse than her because she has nothing to lose.”

Mrs. Brown cursed her heart out.

She went from criticizing Liberty for going overboard, chiding her son for his failure to keep it in his pants, to blasting Jessica about being the other woman and coming in between her son’s marriage. Now her son and daughter-in-law were splitting and dividing the estate.

“Mom, it’s not Jessica’s fault. I fell for her first.” Hank could not stand her mother speaking ill of Jessica. His feelings for Jessica grew before hers did for him.

“Mom, Dad, think about it. I wouldn’t be enjoying this sort of income if I were to work in another company. Although I’ll feel the pinch for giving Liberty a million bucks, I can regain the amount and more with my job still intact.

“Liberty will petition the court for divorce if I don’t agree to her demands. She’ll get whatever she demands anyway, but I’ll lose my job and my reputation in the industry. It’ll be hard for me to look for another job. I agreed to Liberty’s terms after careful consideration.

“Don’t worry about Sonny. Sonny will still be your grandson after the divorce. Just let Liberty know when you want to see him. She’s fine with visitations.” Mr. and Mrs. Brown held their tongues. Her son’s career was more important than anything else. They knew it had not been easy for their son as he had worked his way up from a measly office staff to his current role as a manager. The side income he earned in a month was the annual income of many. It took a while before Mr. Brown solemnly said, “There’s nothing more we can say since you’ve already made up your mind.”

Chapter 532

Mrs. Brown grabbed the divorce paperwork for another look, feeling the pain every time she read the line on the payout to Liberty. “I thought the estate was split evenly. The amount doesn’t seem right.” “Liberty’s relinquishing her rights to the house and car, so I need to make it up to her monetarily. Altogether, that’s the total payout.” Mrs. Brown replied after a pause, “What about the renovation cost for the house?” Hank answered, “It’s not included. I’ve said it before. I won’t compensate her for that.” Although feeling a little better, Mrs. Brown said, “The renovation was tens of thousands of dollars. I guess we benefited a little since she didn’t ask you for the renovation cost.”

It did not hurt as bad anymore for the money they were losing.

“Hank, how did Liberty collect these photos?” Mr. Brown believed his daughter-in-law did not have such means. “Did someone help her?” “I asked her, but she wouldn’t say, nor did she know who helped her. The person’s pretty good at gathering information. To me, that’s a walking timebomb. Dad, I’m scared, so I gave in to her demands.” Having gotten the whole picture, Mrs. Brown uttered, “Could Serenity and her husband be behind this?”

“Liberty didn’t show the evidence when something happened to Sonny, so it can only mean that she didn’t have it then. However, she managed to gather the evidence in a short time since she somehow produced the documents a few days later. Although Liberty has a lot of relatives, none of them are capable of pulling it off. “Don’t worry too much about it, Mom. Everything will be fine so long as we meet Liberty’s requests. She made it clear on the divorce papers that she will not act out in retaliation after the divorce.”

Mr. and Mrs. Brown fell silent once more.

Hank looked at the time and said to his parents, “Mom, Dad, I need to get back. I have work tomorrow. I’ll take leave in the afternoon to go through the paperwork.”

His parents were without a word.

Hank sat for a bit before getting up to leave.

Once he was gone, Mrs. Brown told her husband, “Are we just going to let them go through with the divorce, old man? Can’t they stay together?”

By not going down the divorce route, the estate would not be split, their grandson would still be theirs, and their son and daughter-in-law would still be married. “Hank has decided. What else can we do? Stop

the divorce? They'll start the divorce proceedings tomorrow afternoon unless Liberty changes her mind." After much thought, Mrs. Brown said, "I'll go talk to Liberty and convince her. If that doesn't work, I'll look for Serenity. I have a feeling that Serenity is her sister's pillar of support in this.

I'll try and persuade them out of the divorce. "I can't stand it. It's so upsetting. It's so easy for other people to go through a divorce. Why does our son have to take a big hit when it's his turn?"

It was over a million bucks, for goodness' sake. The amount was enough to pay the down payment for a house in a bustling city. Mr. Brown sighed. "What's the point of regret now? You and Chelsea are to blame for Hank's undoing."

It took Mrs. Brown a while to find her words. "You're only saying that in hindsight as if you're blameless. It's not like I can predict things will end up like this after they get married and have a kid together." Mr. and Mrs. Brown were really friendly and embraced Liberty, letting Liberty know that her in-laws were good people before the wedding. Liberty knew Hank for a long time, and the Browns had shown their good nature over the years. It never occurred to Liberty that her in-laws would reveal their ugly side after she walked down the aisle. "Do you think people nowadays are like those from our generation?" Mrs. Brown was speechless. No. She must try to fix it.

Mrs. Brown immediately sent a text message to her daughter, inviting the latter to go into the city together tomorrow. As Chelsea was not in a good mood, she replied to her mother,

(Mom, I'm having a tough time at work now, so I can't take off tomorrow. You should go with Dad.)

Chapter 533

"Chelsea said she's having problems at work. I wonder what happened. I thought she was doing well. What changed?" Mrs. Brown mumbled as she swiftly tapped the call button to connect to her daughter. During the call, Chelsea restlessly uttered, "I don't know what's going on, Mom. I have a feeling the people at work are out to get me. They have a bone to pick in everything I do. Not one good thing happened the whole day. Just let the divorce go through if Hank wants it, Mom. Your son is a great man. He'll have no problems finding another wife."

"God knows where Liberty found dirt on your brother, and she got enough to threaten your brother to meet all her demands. Liberty gets over a million bucks in alimony, full custody of Sonny, and three thousand dollars a month for child support." "Does Hank have that much money to give her?" Chelsea was shocked. "Hank had transferred his assets out, but Liberty somehow got proof of the transfer. Never mind. Since trouble at the workplace is putting you down, you don't have to go with me. Your dad and I will go into the city first thing tomorrow morning to have a chat with Liberty and her sister." Chelsea replied, "Go for Serenity, Mom. Convincing her is basically convincing Liberty." "I think so too." The mother and daughter chatted for a while over the phone before they disconnected the call.

Serenity popped over to Liberty's place after work to discuss the latter's housing following the move out of the Browns' residence.

As expected, Liberty turned down the offer to move into her little sister's place. She said, "I will have enough money so long as Hank pays up, so I won't need to move to your place. I'll rent a place and look around for a property. The money should cover the deposit for a slightly smaller house.

“With the rest of the money, I’ll see if I can continue working at Lewis & Co. In the event I can’t work there anymore, I’ll quit and run a breakfast place as you’ve suggested.”

Serenity stopped the persuasion and instead said to her sister, “Let me know whenever you’re in need. I can lend you the money.”

“Don’t worry. I won’t hesitate to ask you.”

Serenity stroked her nephew who was nestled in her sister’s arms.

“Ant Swer.”

“Does Sonny want a hug?”

After much thought, Sonny stretched both arms out to let Serenity hold him.

Serenity gave him a hug before carefully inspecting the bruise on his face. “The doctor mentioned applying a hot compress every day after twenty-four hours have passed.” “I followed the doctor’s order, and the bruise is looking much better now.” Sonny’s whining had calmed down a lot as Liberty took the time to be with him and pacify the boy. “Take Sonny out for a stroll tomorrow, Liberty. Come to my shop if you don’t have any place to go to.”

“Sure,” Liberty answered.

Serenity stayed for a friendly chat before leaving her sister’s place. Mrs. Lane remained at Liberty’s house. Prior to leaving, Serenity had Mrs. Lane help pack Liberty’s things. Once the divorce was finalized, Serenity would bring people over to help her sister move and demolish the house renovation before returning the house to Hank. By the time Serenity returned to Brynfield, Grandma May was already asleep. She tiptoed into the room and took a shower before creeping into Zachary’s room. Zachary told her to wait for his return in his bedroom.

With a phone in hand, Serenity scrolled for videos in bed until she gave in to the sandman’s dust. She dozed off without knowing her phone had fallen onto the bed. Zachary returned home with glee. Serenity promised him that she would be waiting for him in his room. Zachary deliberately left his bedroom door unlocked before he went out this morning to give Serenity access. He eagerly pushed his bedroom door open the moment he got back. The room was brightly lit. Lo and behold, his wife was lying in bed, but she was asleep.

Chapter 534

Serenity’s phone fell on the bed. Sure, Serenity had waited for Zachary, but sleepiness got the best of her. It was a blow to Zachary’s exhilaration.

He brought along two Eternal diamond rings that he bought from Nana with the intention to put one on Serenity’s finger. Yet, she was far off in dreamland.

Sitting on the edge of the bed, Zachary reached out to pinch Serenity in the face. “You could sleep through an earthquake, little piggy.” After pinching her cheeks, he leaned down to kiss her face and hovered against her lips for a prod. He then grabbed her phone and put it on the bedside table.

Although his wife fell asleep waiting for him, at least she was in his bedroom.

That was what a certain Mr. York comforted himself with. The next day, Serenity woke up only to be blown away by a huge bouquet of flowers. Behind the flowers was Zachary's handsome face.

She blinked.

Serenity sat up the moment she was certain she was awake, and it was Zachary before her eyes. She uttered with a smile, "You're back." "Good morning, darling." Good morning? "Is it morning now? Did you work until morning?" "No. I came home last night. Somebody promised to wait for my return, but she dozed off on her own." Serenity smiled embarrassedly as she reached out to accept the bouquet of beautiful flowers. "Is there a florist that opens this early in the morning?"

"I can get flowers at any time."

After Serenity took the bouquet, Zachary bent over and locked his dark eyes on her gorgeous face. He asked with a raspy voice, "shouldn't you give me a morning kiss?" Zachary called the butler of the Yorks' residence to cut the most beautiful blossoms in the garden, wrap them up, and deliver the flowers by car so he could give her the bouquet. Romanced by Zachary's thoughtfulness and gift early in the morning, Serenity generously gave him a morning kiss.

"Seren."

"Whatever it is, you can tell me."

Serenity admired the bouquet. "Where did you get the flowers from? They bloom well and better than the ones on our balcony."

"I made a phone call to order directly from a flower field and got it specially delivered. No florist is open at this hour."

Zachary's dark eyes were fixated on Serenity as he waited for her to feel moved and reward him with another kiss. "Is today a special day? You even got the bouquet specially delivered." Sure, Serenity was moved, but it was not the kind of moving emotions that Zachary imagined it to be. "Why must it be a special day to give you flowers?" Zachary pulled out two jewelry boxes and opened them in front of Serenity. Taking the ring for Serenity, Zachary held Serenity's left hand up and slipped the ring onto her ring finger. While doing so, he said, "We've been married for a while now, but you've been missing a ring. It's time I make it up to you. "Wear it at all times, especially in front of Shawn. Show off your hand so he can see the wedding ring on your finger." Although surprised, Serenity did not refuse as Zachary put the wedding ring on her finger. She was amused by his statement though. "Uff, someone's jealous early in the morning. I can feel it a mile away." "Anyway, just put it on at all times. Zachary urged before extending his hand. "Seren, put the wedding ring on me too." Putting down the bouquet, Serenity compliantly took the other ring and slipped it onto the ring finger of his left hand..

Chapter 535

"Seren."

Serenity was putting the ring on Zachary's finger when the latter tenderly uttered, "No matter what happens, we won't talk about splitting up or a divorce, alright?"

Thinking the wedding bands were perfect for them, Serenity was in awe of Zachary's good taste. Zachary was able to pick out a suitable ring for her in her absence.

Serenity heard what he had to say and picked her head up to look at him. "I can't promise you this. What if you turn out to be like Hank? Am I not supposed to bring up divorce? Cheating men should be dumped as soon as possible. Why should women keep these disgusting men around?"

Zachary wanted to bait a promise out of her in hopes she would not leave him when he came clean about his identity. To his surprise, she did not fall for it. Despite being caught in a tender moment, her head remained clear. She was deservedly the woman he fell in love with. "Um... In the context that I don't have an affair, you can't ask me for a divorce no matter what happens. Our marriage is forever." || Zachary would never cheat.: 17 He was the type of guy who would stay faithful forever once he had fallen for the person. Hence why he was afraid. Zachary was afraid that Serenity would dump him the moment she found out he was the great Mr. York "Did you do me wrong or something?" Serenity added, "You're acting strange today. You had flowers specially delivered to me first thing in the morning, and now you even gave me a wedding ring. Although I can't appraise jewelry, I can tell that the ring is expensive.

"It's no coincidence. You must have done something to wrong me, so you're trying to sweet talk me into falling into your trap. You're trying to put me in a situation where I can't get even with you on the matter."

Zachary quietly stared at her. A while later, he extended his hand out to shuffle Serenity's hair and said nonchalantly, "You sure have a wild imagination. "I put some effort into romancing you, yet you came up with conspiracy theories." "Did I guess wrongly?"

The unchanged expression and confidence on his face made Serenity uncertain.

"So you didn't do me wrong?"

Zachary replied to her with a question, "What could I do wrong? Cheat on you? Impossible.

I'm not good with the ladies. In fact, I had been single until my nana had to arrange my marriage. Otherwise, I could be single for life. "There's no way in hell I would have an affair."

He did not carry much desire toward women. As a matter of fact, Zachary was amazed that his feelings for Serenity would develop so soon. Perhaps they were destined for each other. "No man would say they would have an affair early in the marriage. Everybody gets married, thinking it will be their forever." Zachary choked. "Forget it. It's too soon to talk about this. We'll revisit this when you've done something. I'm getting up."

Serenity's mind was occupied by her sister's separation from Hank today. She got off the bed and walked on, only to make her way back and pushed Zachary down the bed. Clasp his face, she gave him a big smooch and said with a smile, "I'm really happy to receive a bouquet and the wedding ring first thing in the morning." Not too long ago, they were still sleeping in separate rooms. He was even torn about giving her a bunch of flowers.

Serenity realized that there were certain things that came naturally to men. It did not take long for them to make up for the lack of experience with practice. This was the case with Zachary. He got the hang of

sweet talk and romancing rather quickly. Letting go of him, Serenity turned on her heel and went to the bathroom. Zachary sat up and touched the area she kissed. Pursing his lips, he muttered, "Didn't Nana tell her to jump me, strip me naked, and eat me up?" She jumped him alright, but she did not strip him naked. If Serenity could read his mind, she probably would retort that she wanted to fatten him up before eating him. Zachary would hope that he was a piece of meat! Serenity came out of the bathroom a while later. Zachary was still sitting in bed when Serenity drew close. He mentioned in an affectionate voice, "I'm going away on business in two days."

"For how long?" Serenity knew that senior executives of major companies often had to go away on business.

Chapter 536

"That's hard to say. I'll be back once my work there is done." "Let me know when's your trip. I'll help you pack and drive you to the airport." Since Serenity did not have a change of clothes in his bedroom, she intended to return to her room to get dressed and wash up. With Serenity about to leave, Zachary reached out to pull her back. His dark eyes were fixed on her beautiful face. "That's it?" Serenity was without a word.

She blinked, unable to get the message he was trying to convey.

What else if not that? Was he expecting her to see him off at the city he was conducting business in? "Can family tag along too?" Zachary was twitching by the corners of his mouth. "Since I can't go with you, is it not enough that I'll drive you to the airport?" Zachary's hand over hers loosened.

Serenity stared at his hand and uttered with a frown, "I thought you had been slick with your words lately, but you lost it now. You just keep me guessing by leaving things hanging. I'm not smart enough to read your mind. "I'm going to change out of my pajamas. Are we going out for breakfast or having it at home?" Serenity asked while walking out. "You can decide." Detecting the grumpiness in his tone, Serenity stopped at the bedroom door and looked back at him before opening the door and leaving. As Serenity came face-to-face with Grandma May, she wished the old face a good morning like nothing ever happened. "Good morning, Nana." "Morning."

Grandma May watched happily as Serenity came out of her grandson's bedroom,

Although the couple did nothing, at least they were sleeping in the same bed. This was progress. They ended up having breakfast at home. Serenity made the grandmother and grandson a simple breakfast. Ring, ring, ring...

Serenity's phone rang.

Thinking it was her sister, Serenity grabbed her phone and looked at the display screen. It was an unfamiliar number.

She grimaced. Any foreign number that showed up on her phone basically belonged to her unscrupulous relatives. Since Elisa stood up for her the last time, these people had called it quits for a while. What were they up to now that they were calling her again? With no desire to take the call, Serenity rejected it.

They dialed her number once more. She cut the call.

After their third attempt, Serenity slammed her cutlery down.

The grandmother and grandson looked at her. She held the phone and took the call, reflecting her attitude through her icy tone. "What do you want now?"

"Serenity, I'm your granddad!" Scowling at the harsh question, Old Mr. Hunt wanted to give her a piece of his mind but the thought of his grandchildren's present predicament held his tongue. "So?"

"Can't you be nicer? I'm your granddad, your elder! Don't you have any respect for your elders? I don't know how your parents raised you." "I'm sorry, but my parents passed away when I was young, so they couldn't raise me like that. What? Are you going to tell on me to my parents? Well, go on. My dad is your son. Show him you're his father and give him a good dressing-down." Old Mr. Hunt's complexion turned red with rage. "Are you hurrying me to my grave?" His son and daughter-in-law had been gone for more than a decade. Serenity was telling him to take the issue to his son and daughter-in-law in the afterlife.

Chapter 537

"I said nothing of that sort. You said it yourself." Old Mr. Hunt replied, "Where are you? Look at the time, and your shop isn't open yet. Other businesses would have made a lot of money by now."

"Zachary, my granddad's so concerned as to what time I'm setting up my shop. Are pigs flying? Can you grab your phone and check from the balcony? You need to take a picture of this phenomenon."

With a scowl, Old Mr. Hunt lashed out, "Don't change the subject, Serenity. I'm talking to you. Your uncles, aunts, and I are waiting for you at the shop. Hurry up and get over here to unlock the door! We haven't even had breakfast. Get us takeouts on your way here."

"There are plenty of breakfast places around. You can go hungry if you don't want to eat there."

Why should Serenity be so kind to get them takeaway? They would only tear into her after getting fed.

Offended by Serenity's attitude, Old Mr. Hunt wanted to let Serenity have it when John snatched the phone over. John sounded rather nice over the phone. "Serenity, this is your cousin, John. We're waiting in front of your shop. It'll be great if you could get here soon. We need to talk to you about something." "I'll head over after I have my breakfast."

"Alright. We'll be waiting for you."

John then hung up the call.

"Was that your relatives again?" Zachary asked solemnly as Serenity put down the phone.

He had been making those people pay in secret, so life must have been hard on them to come back again.

Josh was right when he said that these people would be all over Serenity, demanding money from her since they had nothing to lose now.

“Yeah. I think all of them are waiting in front of my shop. I don’t know what they want. Anyway, I will never oblige with their request to pay for my grandmom’s medical fees. So what if they come in numbers?” Seeing that Grandmom had a lot of devoted children and grandchildren, Serenity, as the unfavored granddaughter, had no obligation to pay for the hospital bill. Her cousins had better lives than Serenity and her sister anyway.

“I’ll drive you to the shop later,” Zachary offered. Grandma May jumped in, “I’ve never seen your relatives. It’s time we meet.” The Hunts were utterly absurd. Suill, it did not change the fact they were related to Serenity by blood. They were the York family’s in-laws by name. As the grandmother and grandson braced themselves and declared they were coming with,

Serenity responded with a smile, “It’ll be fine, Nana. All they want is money. I have the money, but I’m not going to give them any. What can they do about it?”

“I was fine chipping in a little for my father’s sake if they couldn’t afford to foot my grandmom’s medical fees. That was despite the way they treated me and my sister.

“But they’re richer than I am. The only thing holding them back from forking out the cash is their greed. They even benefited from my parent’s insurance payout. I wonder if their conscience will ever come back to bite them.”

Granddad and Grandmom had not aged to the point that they were mobility impaired, nor were they confined to the bed due to any illness. Yet, their children and grandchildren were already expecting Serenity to step up to the plate and take responsibility. In the event the old couple was to be bed bound, their corpses would not even be discovered until they were rotten.

Every time Grandmom and Granddad were feeling under the weather, it was Serenity’s parents who brought them to the hospital and took care of them back when her parents were still around.

Nevertheless, Grandmom often spoke ill about her parents to the townspeople.

Grandmom and Granddad should take a good look at how their favored children were treating them now.

Chapter 538

Serenity smirked in her mind. No deed went past God himself. Karma was bound to strike back

The writing was on the wall. Granddad and Grandmom got it coming for them.

“Regardless of their intentions, we’ll go there with you. You can use an extra pair of hands in a fight.”

Grandma May insisted on going along. Serenity wanted to say that she could fight, but she could be outnumbered by all her relatives at her shop in a fight. Hence, she did not stop Grandma May from going with her. Liberty mentioned before that Grandma May could kick*ss. With the trio finishing off their breakfast, Serenity tried to clear the table when Grandma May gave her grandson a look. Zachary quietly got up and took the dirty plates from Serenity to carry into the kitchen for a wash.

“Seren, don’t spoil him too much.”

Grandma May showed Serenity the tricks. "You need to get him to help out with the house chores. This home belongs to you two, and you need to run it together. Sure, it's taxing for him at work, but you go to work and make money too. Who's to say you don't get tired too?"

"Don't let him act like a king at home. Order him to work around the house. You can relax a little too."

"Nana, Zachary's doing good. He does help around the house."

It was her scumbag of a brother-in-law who acted like a boss after getting off from work.

Hank expected her sister to do everything for him. When told he could do it himself, Hank would unapologetically say that he was tired after being at work all day and all he wanted was to rest at home.

He would then go on about her sister having it easy at home since she only had to take care of a child. Yet, Hank was expected to help with the house chores. Hank labeled Liberty lazy for that...

Serenity refused to waste her time whining about the scumbag as her sister was about to dump him on Jessica Time would only tell if Jessica would spoil Hank and do everything for him. "I've urged him, his brothers, and cousins to be self-reliant from a young age, but I was concerned that you might give in to him because you feel bad that he has to work all day long. Seren, I'll let you in on something. You need to teach a man to be good. Men only become lazy

because we pamper them).

"You need to take the time to guide Zack if you want a good man. He might not know how to say the right words or express his feelings, but he'll spoil you crazy when he cares about you. It's better that he spoils you than the other way around." Serenity answered with a grin, "You're Zachary's grandmother, Nana. He'll say you're playing favorites if he hears this.

"I'm only imparting this knowledge because I'm his grandmother. I want you two to live happily ever after."

Grandma May boldly admitted her favoritism toward her granddaughter-in-law. Serenity was the granddaughter-in-law she handpicked after all, so she was certainly going to dote on her chosen granddaughter-in-law. "I'm not like those old folks who can't stand couples getting lovey-dovey. What's fun about trouble stirring and drama at home? Do they really think their children can do better after divorce?"

"Many people think their children are the best and can find better spouses after a failed marriage. There's still a possibility for their divorced children to find someone worse or no one else.

"Families with daughters would quietly do a background check on the men's families before marrying off their daughters. Who would want to marry their daughters into an egotistical family?"

"The divorced men can be alone for the rest of their lives. By the time they grow remorseful about their actions and go back to their ex-wives, the women would have moved on. Hah." Grandma May got her head straight. She would not play the devil with the young ones, nor would she allow her children and daughters-in-law to do so.

Chapter 539

In the kitchen, Zachary heard every last word of Grandma May's conversation with Serenity.

Zachary was accustomed to his nana's favoritism toward Serenity.

Nana had been hoping for a granddaughter for far too long. Alas, she welcomed nine grandsons instead.

Nana developed an instant liking for Serenity and saw Serenity as her own granddaughter. However, the old lady changed her mind at the thought that her granddaughter would have to marry somebody one day

Hence, Nana did everything in her power to make Serenity her granddaughter-in-law, so Serenity would be with the Yorks forever.

Zachary washed the dishes and wiped the stove clean. He then cleaned the wiping cloth and washed his hands before coming out of the kitchen.

Serenity got up to bring out his jacket and tie. Although she had not gotten the hang of putting a tie on him, Zachary was flattered by her initiative.

Zachary felt it was worth it if washing the dishes could earn him a little sugar from the Inissus.

Grandma May was pleased with Serenity's gesture, knowing that it was a reward for Zachary. Zachary would be eating out the palm of her hand. It was all about the give-and-take between a couple for the relationship to last a lifetime. Should only one party be doing the giving and the other doing the taking, the giving party would be disheartened one day.

Half an hour later, they arrived at the shop. The shop was set up by Jasmine by then, but she paid no heed to the Hunts.

Apart from Old Mr. Hunt who told Mike to get him a chair from the shop to sit on, the rest were either standing or squatting at the shop entrance. They appeared to be impatient from all the waiting. Only God knew how many cigarettes John smoked.

After he sent an anonymous letter to Mr. York, John was certain he was going to join York Corporation. Alas, he heard nothing back.

John would not even seek employment in other minor companies, much less York Corporation. No one would give him a job.

Other than his unemployment, the whole family's jobs and businesses took a huge hit as well. They were losing sales to their competitors and going in the red,

John knew better than anyone else that it was the doing of the person backing Serenity.

He was scared.

John persuaded Granddad to swallow his pride and brought the rest of the family to make

peace with Serenity once more. Besides, they were also here to talk about Liberty and Hank's divorce, Mrs. Brown came to the hospital with a sum of money and asked for Old Mr. Hunt. She pleaded with the Hunts to talk Liberty out of the divorce. Money talked. Old Mr. Hunt accepted the sum from Liberty's

mother-in-law and took on the task. As requested, old Mr. Hunt took his children and grandchildren to seek Serenity beforehand.

“Aren’t you embarrassed to keep your elders waiting?” Old Mr. Hunt laid it down to Serenity the moment she got out of the car. Serenity and Zachary helped the abled old lady into the shop while faintly replying, “I didn’t ask you to wait.” “Grandma May.” Getting up, Jasmine immediately pulled a chair for the old lady to sit on.

She whispered to her best friend, “Seren, they did not come in peace. They’ve been waiting for a long time. I guess they won’t leave until they see the money.’ Serenity patted Jasmine’s arm to comfort her.

Chapter 540

“Serenity.”

Mike and John entered the shop with Granddad.

The others were left outside. “Is this your man?”

Old Mr. Hunt sized Zachary up for a while, forming the opinion that Serenity’s husband was better than Liberty’s husband.

Meanwhile, he was upset as well as his granddaughters did not give them financial support when the girls got hitched. The girls were raised, only to ditch their own family for another.

His son would turn over in his grave if he knew what his daughters did.

Although the girls’ parents were no longer around, their grandparents, Old Mr. and Mrs. Hunt were. Serenity and Liberty should have provided their grandparents the financial support. However, Serenity and Liberty did nothing of that sort.

“That’s your grandson-in-law. What do you think? Isn’t he hot?”

Approaching Zachary, Serenity placed her hand on his shoulder and deliberately asked Granddad. “Don’t we look good together?”

Old Mr. Hunt was rendered speechless. He asked the old lady. “And you are?”

“Your in-law.”

Ah. The old lady was from Serenity’s husband’s side of the family.

Old Mr. Hunt pulled out a waterpipe and some tobacco to take a couple of puffs before remarking, “Serenity didn’t inform us about getting married. We have no idea of your existence. Today is the first time we met.

“I heard Serenity didn’t have a wedding. I’m wondering how much financial support you’re intending to provide for our Serenity. Have you prepared a marital home, car, and whatnot for her?”

“Although Serenity’s parents are no longer with us, we, as the grandparents, are still around. We might have had our differences in the past, but it doesn’t change the fact that I’m her grandfather. The means of support you’re giving Serenity should come through us first.”

Grandma May would have stormed off with a grimace at the mention of money during the first meeting with in-laws if she were an ordinary wealthy lady.

Nevertheless, the old lady uttered with a smile, “of course, we would provide the necessary, but it would be for Seren. As to how she intends to use the money, that’s her business. We won’t poke our nose into the matter.”

In other words, the Hunts would need Serenity’s permission to access the money. Following the numerous confrontations, the Hunts had been bested by Serenity. They should think twice before trying to get their hands on Serenity’s money.

Old Mr. Hunt was lost for words.

“Is your sister filing for divorce, Serenity?”

Knowing they could not get a penny out of Serenity, Old Mr. Hunt stiffly changed the subject. This was also one of the main reasons they were here today.

“Well, news sure travels fast to you, Granddad.”

Serenity retorted sarcastically, guessing that the Browns probably had a change of heart and persuaded Old Mr. and Mrs. Hunt to talk to them.

“Look at Liberty. Who would want a divorcee like her? She also has a child. Why take the divorce route? Her man only strayed a little because of the business engagement he has to conduct for his successful career. She could turn a blind eye so long as he comes home to her.

“I know what her man did to her. I’m furious too. See. I brought your uncle and cousins along to stick up for your sister and teach her man a lesson. We can beat him up if necessary. He’ll see the error of his ways and stay true to your sister.

“Serenity, your sister listens to everything you say. Take my advice and talk some sense into your sister. Don’t file for divorce. It’s better to save a marriage than to wreck it. You’re Liberty’s sister. You should talk her out of getting a divorce.

“Your sister’s man only abused her because she did not have a family standing up for her. Now that we’re here, we’ve got her back. I can promise that her man won’t lay another finger on her.”

Old Mr. Hunt peered at Zachary before adding. “Serenity, no matter what we’ve done to you and your sister in the past, we’re still family. You both are married and will be picked on by your in-laws if you don’t have your family by your side. “Take the high road and be forgiving. Stop giving your cousins a hard time. Let them go back to doing their business and job.” Old Mr. Hunt defended the Browns while pleading on behalf of his children and grandchildren.