Gu Lingfei 761

Chapter 761 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Curling her lips, Liberty said, "I heard things aren't going well for both of you at work. One of these days, you might just find yourselves without a job. You'll only have access to an empty bank account. What's there to brag about?

"Although we paid for our half of the expenses, I got a million bucks off him during the divorce. My life with my son won't be affected even when he's out of employment."

Jessica was lost for words.

Hank pulled a sour face. "What do you mean by out of employment? We're doing fine at our jobs, thank you very much."

Serenity chimed in, "Your mom said otherwise. She's been at my sister's place nearly every day to rant about a mistress having you under a spell. She said Ms. Yates's a prodigal who doesn't care that money doesn't grow on trees. Your mom even commented that Ms. Yates's parents are selling their daughter instead of marrying off their daughter. Apparently, her family is money hungry."

Jessica scowled.

Agreeing that the Yates family was demanding a lot, Hank did not refute it.

Hank could afford the Yateses' wedding demands, but he was reluctant to give in to all their terms because the total cost was rather high. Hank still needed to pay for the home renovation.

Plus, the wedding and reception cost a lot. It made Hank think twice about offering additional financial support to the Yateses.

As mentioned by his mother, he could marry into prestige with 777,777 bucks, but could Jessica bring him prestige?

His mom also talked about Jessica's integrity. Jessica was cognizant that he was married with a son, yet she got involved with him anyway. Even though Hank fell for Jessica first, it took two to tango.

Jessica would have handed in her resignation and stayed away unless she got her eye on him too.

His mom said it was cheap of Jessica. She may be pretty, but it did not change the fact that she was a wh*re. Jessica could not compare to Liberty.

"Liberty, I need to get a lot more stuff. Let's carry on our shopping."

With her attempt to drive a wedge a success, Serenity called her sister and pushed the cart away.

Hank came over to give his son a cuddle, but he was so preoccupied with criticizing Liberty that he did not manage to hold Sonny.

"Hank, you should tell your mom off when we get back home. She shouldn't be going to Liberty. I thought she didn't like Liberty.

"Also, your mom shouldn't be telling the world about us and airing dirty laundry. She should know that. I wouldn't be that angry if she told an outsider, but she went to Liberty. Liberty must be laughing at us. How embarrassing is that for me?"

Jessica always thought herself to be a winner before Liberty.

Hank treated her so much better than Liberty, and it gave Jessica something to brag about when she ran into Liberty.

However, Mrs. Brown went to speak ill of her to Liberty, and it undermined Jessica.

Liberty must be gloating.

Pushing the shopping cart ahead, Hank uttered, "My mom has nothing better to do. She just wants to pour her feelings out to someone, but she only knows Liberty in the city. That's why she went to her."

Chapter 762 | [Serenity & Zachary]

"My mom doesn't mean it. Why are you hung up on this? Jessica, if I can be honest about the bride price, I think your family is demanding a lot. I'm fine with giving your family over seven hundred thousand dollars if they pay for the wedding and offer other gifts of the same value.

"Heck, I'll be happy if they offer half the value, but your parents said they'll only be gifting a few sets of bedding and an e-bike. The gifts are only less than ten thousand dollars put together.

"I overheard your parents the day they came to meet mine that the bride price would be split between your two brothers for their home renovations and new cars. Your parents are keeping sixty thousand dollars while only six thousand dollars is left for you and the wedding."

Hank admitted that he went through the roof when he eavesdropped on how Jessica's parents planned to spend the money.

He owned a fortune of around two million dollars. Since more than a million dollars went to Liberty, Hank had less than a million dollars left. However, he went back to becoming a millionaire after collecting the recent kickback and cash reward he hinted at the material supplier.

Nevertheless, the money would not last with the Yateses' exorbitant demand.

Jessica believed that her parents went too far too.

The monetary gift should be given to her instead.

She could not believe that her parents intended to give the money to her brothers to renovate the house and purchase autos when Jessica only got a few beddings and an e-bike. It was hurtful.

Jessica's parents, brothers, and sisters—in—law usually doted on her.

Now that she was about to walk down the aisle, the true colors of her parents were showing.

Her parents talked about her being the favorite in the family, but all they were trying to do was to use her to improve her brothers' standard of living.

Still, Jessica took her parents' side after Hank made his grievance known.

"My parents raised me and paid for my college. It was not easy for them, and they spent a lot of money on me. The monetary gift is only to thank them for raising me.

Since the money is for my parents, they can do whatever they want to do with it. Besides, it's our custom that the amount of bride price represents the love the groom has for the bride. It shows how far the groom is willing to go for the bride."

Hank told her off, "I make money to give you instead of your brothers a better life. Think about it. We won't be able to indulge in the life we're accustomed to if I meet your parents' demands.

"What if your parents continue to ask us for money after the wedding? The money will be gone once your brothers renovate the house and buy a new car. They might look for excuses to get cash out of us.

"They might be captivated by the city bustle after coming here once. They could end up asking us to contribute to their rental and house purchase here."

Sure, Hank had a soft spot for Jessica and would spoil her. He was willing to give her his everything, but he had not lost his head.

Mr. and Mrs. Yates wanted to give Jessica's brothers the best life through Jessica.

"My family wasn't well-off. My brothers joined the workforce at a young age to pay for my college tuition fees. They had it hard and have done so much for me. I should at least repay them.

"We're on a high income. We can afford it without lowering our standard of living even if we have to pay for their rental here."

Hank remarked, "Don't you think our boss finds us eyesores lately? I don't think we'll be working there for long."

They might not enjoy the salary they had right now when they leave Waltham Electronics.

"I'll go home and have a good talk with my mom so that she stops going to Liberty's and talking about us. Mom is making a fool out of us. You should discuss with your parents to lower the asking bride price. I can do about a hundred thousand bucks. It'll give us enough money to cover our renovations. I think it's a win—win situation."

Chapter 763 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Hank carried on saying, "The house is also yours since your name will be added to the title deed. We can enjoy a nicely renovated house instead of paying for your brothers' home renovation for your sisters—in—law to enjoy."

Although Jessica was in on Hank's idea, she said, "Are you expecting my parents to come down from their request of 777,777 dollars and settle with over a hundred thousand dollars? Hank, are you trying to haggle on a gift? You said you would give me the world and only want me to enjoy the best of life.

"You said you'll give me a grand wedding, but all you're going to offer is over a hundred thousand dollars? Is this the grand wedding you're talking about?"

Hank refuted, "The going rate for bride price in Wiltspoon is tens of thousands. Most people would settle for a few thousand dollars. It's not about the money here in Wiltspoon. Families here only want their daughters to have a good and lasting marriage."

Liberty also came from a small town. The Hunts demanded a lump sum of three hundred thousand dollars in family support when Liberty married Hank. However, Liberty stopped him from giving away the money, saying that these people did not deserve to ask for the gift.

Yet, the Yateses demanded over double the amount. They were trying to sell their daughter.

"Someone in our town got hundreds of thousands in cash from the groom without asking. The family even got a house and a luxury sedan worth over a million dollars." Perhaps that family's daughter got the wedding of her dreams, so Jessica's parents believed the Browns were doing well and wanted more since Hank earned a lot, had a house in the city, and his parents were supported by the state pension.

Jessica's family would be the talk of the town if Jessica married well.

Hank said, "That girl must have married a rich heir. I'm not a rich heir. You can find yourself a boy with daddy's money if you're jealous."

Prying Jessica's grip over his arm, Hank pushed the shopping cart and walked ahead. "Hank! Hank Brown!"

Jessica was left standing there, shouting his name.

Turning a deaf ear, Hank continued pushing the cart. He stopped looking around and went to check out.

"Take one more step and it's over between us, Hank!"

Without a care that they were in public, Jessica shouted and threatened Hank.

Many heard her screams.

Even Liberty and Serenity who were picking out snacks at the snack aisle picked up on the commotion.

Serenity said to her sister, "It's a trait common to men. They seek after and cherish unattainable women, but once they get the women, they no longer hold the women dear. Jessica and Hank are getting along now, but once they tie the knot, I can guarantee it's going to be a rocky marriage.

"But I hope they can get married. The Browns need a daughter—in—law like Jessica to give them a taste of their own medicine."

Liberty picked a few snacks for her son before giving her two cents. "Not all men are like that. Seren, don't be put off by my failed marriage. Well, don't let

affect your marriage with Zachary. Zachary's a lot better than Hank. I can't be more pleased with him."

Serenity uttered with a smile, "Alright, alright. I won't tar him with the same brush. Your brother—in—law is a good man. Oh, wait. He's the perfect man. Happy now?"

She moaned in her mind that her sister had not seen how petty Zachary could get.

Serenity would have forgotten that Zachary had been away on business for three days if he was not mentioned. He did not call or text her at all, probably because he was too busy. In fact, she did not give him a call either. While her man was away, Serenity had been having a blast like a free bird and forgot all about Zachary.

She should send a text message to ask the petty guy when he was coming back when she got home later. Why was he still traveling for work when Christmas and New Year were around the corner?

Serenity ranted about the CEO of York Corporation in her mind, labeling the man as insensitive. The company was about to close for Christmas and New Year, but Zachary still had to go away on business. What if Zachary was unable to finish the job before the festive holidays? Did that mean he could not take a vacation?

Chapter 764 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Liberty said with a smile, "Zachary is a good man. Don't lump him together with men like Hank."

Looking into the shopping cart, Liberty remarked, "It's full. Are you getting more? Why don't we stop here and take these things home? We can check what else is * needed and go from there.

It would be hard carrying all the shopping bags up the stairs if they bought too much.

Mrs. Lane was not around because Serenity gave her time off to spend time with her family during the holidays.

Serenity gave Mrs. Lane a Christmas bonus and some gifts since Mrs. Lane had

been a huge help to Serenity and her sister. Liberty also gave Mrs. Lane a Christmas bonus.

Plus, Mrs. Lane received another Christmas bonus and gifts from Zachary. She could spend the festive holidays with her family without worrying about finances.

She could not go wrong working for Mr. Zachary.

The missus and Liberty were the kindest people.

Apart from Mrs. Lane, Jim, who had served and remained by Zachary's side all this while, received a double Christmas bonus, a performance bonus, and Christmas gifts. He was Mr. Zachary's most–trusted bodyguard.

Jim did the right thing by cozying up to the missus.

"Alright then."

Serenity put some snacks into the shopping cart and followed her sister to the queue to check out.

Unfortunately, the sister ran into the jerk couple while in the queue. Serenity and her sister were at the front while Hank was at the back.

Hank still had feelings for Jessica. After the threat from Jessica, he went back to cheer her up and fill the shopping cart with presents for Hank's family and Jessica's parents and brothers.

Jessica simmered down and quit making a scene. All was rosy for the pair once more.

Hank watched as Serenity and her sister pulled out the items from the cart to the cash register. The total kept going up. Although Liberty was not paying, Hank was of the opinion that his former sister—in—law was reckless with money.

She bought a lot of stuff.

Serenity took over most of the household tasks to help her sister when she was still living under Hank's roof. All she contributed was three thousand dollars in living expenses. The money was nothing.

She would buy some food for Sonny and fruits for the family during festive holidays. Serenity had never brought his parents wines or cigars.

Yet now, she was preparing expensive gifts for the Yorks. She even brought snacks that were at a high price point.

It did not sit well with Hank, but it was not his place to say anything since Serenity was no longer his sister—in—law.

Serenity spent tens of thousands on shopping which included alcohol and cigars.

With Serenity swiping her credit card without flinching, Hank could not help but take a glance at Jessica.

Although Jessica was not officially his wife yet, they were already living together. The wedding date was already set for Valentine's Day, so Jessica was his bride—to- be. However, Jessica did not make any nice gestures for the upcoming holidays. Back then, Liberty...

Chapter 765 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Peering at Liberty who was spilling on the sides despite dropping thirty pounds, Hank snapped out of his thoughts and refused to take a trip down memory lane.

Serenity bought too many things for them both to carry. They let the mall concierge know before borrowing the shopping cart to push out of the store.

"Liberty, wait here with Sonny. I'll drive the car up."

Serenity's car was parked in the mall's underground parking. She needed to drive the car out of the parking lot before they could load the goods into the car.

"Sure."

Liberty was fine with the arrangement.

Seeing that his aunt was leaving on her own, Sonny panicked and cried, "Aunt Ser! Aunt Ser!"

Liberty responded, "Aunt Ser is driving over to pick us up, Sonny."

It gave Sonny the assurance he needed.

He thought his aunt was going to abandon him and his mother here.

Hank and Jessica soon emerged.

Since they too had made a huge purchase, they asked permission from the

concierge to push the cart out of the store.

"Darling, wait for me here. I'll retrieve the car.

Jessica replied coquettishly, "Of course, sweetheart. Hurry up though. I feel scared to be here by my lonely self."

Liberty could barf.

Was there a need to flaunt their relationship before her eyes?

"Dad," Sonny called Hank.

This time, Hank was able to give Sonny a cuddle and play with him for two minutes before putting Sonny back into Liberty's shopping cart. He then made his way toward the parking lot.

Jessica was left behind to stare at Liberty, but Liberty did not have time for her. "Liberty. Sonny."

A familiar voice was heard.

Liberty was surprised to see Duncan here. Once Duncan was near, she asked, "What brings you here, Mr. Lewis?"

The way she saw it, a major CEO like Duncan did not belong in a mall.

He could say the word, and someone would take care of his needs. There was no need for him to come all the way and shop in a supermarket.

Jessica did not know who Duncan was, but the respect Liberty had for Duncan in addressing him and a quick glance at Duncan's Porsche car keys was enough evidence that the man was rich. Pricking her ears, Jessica eavesdropped on their conversation.

She thought to herself, 'How did Liberty know such a wealthy man?'

Did Mrs. Stone introduce them?

Duncan had no impression of ever meeting Jessica, but he could feel the burn of her stare. He looked over, only to find Jessica twirling her hair and smiling at him. Jessica believed she was presenting her most charming side to him.

He merely took a glance at Jessica before turning his attention back to Liberty and Sonny.

"I was driving by when I saw you at the entrance of the mall. I see you bought a lot of stuff. Are you taking these home? Do you need a ride?"

Duncan had a keen sight.

He caught sight of Liberty and her son while driving by.

Liberty was speechless.

Why did she always run into Duncan while he was behind the wheel every time she went out?

It was a good thing she was standing two hundred meters away from the road. Otherwise, her shopping cart would probably put a dent in Duncan's car which was parked by the roadside.

Duncan was traumatized by Liberty causing damages to two of his cars. Similarly, Liberty had nightmares thinking back.

"Thank you, Mr. Lewis, but I'm with Seren. Seren bought the items for her in–laws for their meeting over the holidays. Seren went to get her car in the mall's parking lot. She should be here any minute."

Duncan's eyes flickered. Was Zachary taking Serenity home for Christmas and New Year?

Would that not blow his cover?

Chapter 766 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Nevertheless, that was Zachary's business. Duncan would not interfere in Zachary's affairs as he was only Zachary's best friend.

"I see."

Duncan took a fleeting glance at the items in the shopping cart. Zachary's wife did not take the visit to Zachary's home lightly since she bought a lot of good stuff. "Sonny."

As always, Duncan would play with Sonny.

Sonny turned his head away before Duncan could touch his hand. He asked Liberty to hold him.

Knowing that her son was afraid of Duncan, Liberty picked him up.

"Sonny, I gave you a pinwheel. Why are you still afraid of me?"

Sonny wrapped his arms around the nape of his mother's neck and buried his head against his mother's shoulder, refusing to meet Duncan's gaze.

Did Mr. Lewis think a pinwheel could win him over?

Sonny would not be taken in easily.

As if he would fall for that.

"Come, Sonny. Let me carry you to get more beautiful pinwheels."

Duncan tried to take Sonny from Liberty.

Sonny put up a struggle and cried, "No, I want Mom. No Mr. Lewis. No pinwheel."

He had broken the pinwheel given by Mr. Lewis and left the remains on the ground. Mom swept the broken pinwheel away while cleaning the house.

Once he got a taste of the pinwheel, Sonny was no longer attracted to it anymore. Feeling bad, Liberty said to Duncan, "I'm sorry, Mr. Lewis. Sonny's still scared of you."

Duncan had never once shown malice every time he bumped into the mother and son, even during the first encounter when Liberty scratched his car. However, Sonny shook at the sight of Duncan.

Sonny refused to let Duncan hold him.

Feeling the scar on his face, Duncan asked, "Is my scar that terrifying? My mom said the scar will make children cry."

He did not believe it, but Sonny's reaction was a rude awakening.

Duncan's appearance haunted little kids.

After all these years, the scar on his face was no longer as harrowing as before.

Maybe his lofty build and rugged personality could not draw Sonny close.

Liberty examined his scar and remarked, "People can get used to it."

Although it was subtle, Duncan could read between the lines. His scar was not the most pleasant sight.

Still, Duncan was not offended by the comment. He smiled and responded, "Yes, you're right. People will get used to it. Sonny just isn't used to it. When will the

renovations in your shop be completed?"

"Probably March."

Duncan did the math and nodded. "Not long now. I'll support your business once your breakfast place is ready to operate. Sonny will get used to seeing me around and won't be afraid of me."

Then, he would finally have his wish to hug the little man.

Liberty was lost for words.

She knew her son was cute, but this was the first time a man was so persistent about being close to Sonny and holding him.

Serenity drove out to the entrance and Hank was right behind her.

Seeing Duncan standing with her sister, Serenity was taken by surprise.

She got out of the car, said hello, and asked, "Are you here to buy gifts, Mr. Lewis?"

Duncan replied with a grin, "No. The family butler will gather everything we need for the festive holidays. We don't have to worry about that. I was passing by when I saw your sister and Sonny standing here. I stopped the car and asked because I thought they might need a ride home with the things they bought."

Serenity glanced at her sister.

She got the feeling that fate drew her sister and Duncan together. They often ran into each other.

It was more than a coincidence.

Chapter 767 | [Serenity & Zachary]

With Duncan's help, Serenity managed to put all her shopping haul into her car and filled it to the brim.

"Thank you, Mr. Lewis."

Serenity expressed her gratitude.

Duncan smiled and replied, "I'm not just business partners with Mr. Lewis. We're friends too, and the close kind. You're his wife. It's only natural that I help."

He then turned to Sonny and added, "Sonny doesn't like me and is scared of me, but I can't help but draw near and play with him every time."

Duncan found it amusing even though Sonny was scared to tears and burrowed himself in his mother's embrace.

Sonny would think Mr. Lewis was treating him like a pet monkey.

"We got to go, Mr. Lewis."

Liberty carried her son into her sister's car and said goodbye to Duncan.

"Bye." Duncan took strides to his car parked by the side of the road after Serenity started the engine.

Once they were gone, Jessica nudged the grimacing man next to her. With Hank scowling, Jessica remarked, "What? Are you angry that a man was all over your ex- wife?

"Hank, you and Liberty are separated! She's no longer your wife. What's with that face?"

Getting a grip on himself, Hank wanted to explain his way out of it, but it was true that he puckered his brows. There was no excuse for that. In the end, he said, "Jessica, I guess it's the trait of most men. Men don't see a problem finding a new love after a divorce, but their egos would be bruised if their ex—wives were getting some action.

"In other words, men don't want their ex-wives to be better off."

Releasing the tension in her facial lines, Jessica uttered, "That man must be rich. I saw his car. It was a Porsche."

"He's Mr. Lewis, the boss of Lewis & Co. He's the youngest heir of the Lewis family. He built his company from the ground up without financial help from his family. He's worth billions. Yeah, he's rich for sure. Mr. Lewis stood up for Liberty when my mom and my sister went to get Liberty to pay back the money owed by her grandfather.

"Didn't you see him at the police station?"

Jessica replied, "I was focused on Mrs. Stone and her daughter."

She did not get a good look at Duncan.

Jessica was immersed in the shock of learning that Mrs. Stone was Liberty's aunt to notice Duncan.

"Hank, I think Mr. Lewis likes Sonny. Will he slowly fall for Liberty because he took a shining to Sonny?"

Like Hank, Jessica did not wish Liberty a happy ending in life. Liberty's pain gave them great pleasure.

Jessica would be fuming if Liberty was better off after the divorce.

While loading the things into the car, Hank mocked, "Do you think Liberty has the looks to impress Mr. Lewis? Mr. Lewis will be thirty—six next year. I bet he has seen many gorgeous ladies in his lifetime, but he's still single. It can only mean that he's very picky when it came to women.

"There's no chance Liberty can marry Mr. Lewis. Maybe in another life when she's born into privilege. Who's to say Mr. Lewis is still around then?"

"Doesn't Liberty have a wealthy aunt? Her aunt might introduce her and marry her into money."

Jessica believed Liberty could not give Duncan butterflies in his stomach, but Duncan was super nice to Liberty and her son. Jessica was jealous and resentful, to say the least.

Hank got into the car, buckled up, and commented, "I'd believe if Serenity marries. into a rich and influential family. She's young and good—looking. Even though she can fight and won't hesitate to pull punches when she's angry, she has a natural grace about her.

"Liberty, on the other hand... Ha! Even I don't think she's good enough. A man of power and wealth like Mr. Lewis will never fall for her.

Jessica answered, "Didn't you notice Liberty has slimmed down? Mr. Lewis might have feelings for her when she shed the pounds and dress up a little. Some men have a thing for young divorcees."

Chapter 768 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Hank uttered in disdain, "She's still a fat cow no matter how many pounds she drops. I want to throw up just looking at her."

He put one hand on Jessica's lap. "You're the best, Jessica. I love you the most."

Jessica smiled in delight.

Liberty had nothing on her!

While on the way home with her sister, Serenity had to bring up Duncan to her sister," Liberty, I think the universe is putting you two together. You're always running into him. I mean, he was driving by when he saw you and Sonny."

Liberty burst into laughter. "That's just a coincidence, Seren. Mr. Lewis is fond of Sonny.

"Honestly, I have my apprehensions running into Mr. Lewis."

"It's true that Mr. Lewis takes a shine to Sonny. I was at an Italian place with Jasmine when we met Zachary and Mr. Bucham buying Mr. Lewis dinner. I can't believe the three of them were in the humble restaurant. We later had dinner together.

"Mr. Lewis asked why I hadn't brought you and Sonny along."

Liberty replied, "Mr. Lewis may look broad and callous, but he's sensible and a real softie."

That was why he took to Sonny.

Ring, ring, ring...

Serenity's phone rang.

Seeing that it was Zachary, Serenity said, "Your darling brother—in—law is calling me, Liberty. He's been away for three days now. This is the first time he's giving me a call."

"Did you take the initiative to call him? He's away on important business. You had nothing to do at home. All you did was take Sonny out to shop and dine with Jasmine. You took Sonny out and about, and now the boy has the travel bug.

"You didn't try to phone Zachary and show him concern. Did you ask him if he can make it back for Christmas and New Year?"

"He said he'll be back in time for the festive holidays."

Serenity said as she tapped to put the call on speaker.

"Where are you now, Seren?"

Zachary knew Serenity was out the moment the line was connected. He could hear the engine running.

"I went shopping with my sister. We bought a lot of gifts. All that's left now is for you to come home."

Zachary was upset to find an empty house on his return. With the intensity easing on his frown, Zachary sat down on the sofa and loosened his tie. He uttered tenderly," Are you on the way back? When are you arriving home? I'm home. Text me when you reach the neighborhood. I'll come downstairs to carry the stuff."

Serenity regrettably uttered, "You're back? I thought you'd only return later tonight or tomorrow morning."

"You don't want me home?"

"No. I do. I want you home. The timing's perfect. You can help carry the shopping bags."

Serenity believed she did not have enough fun, so she did not want her hungry wolf home too soon to drain her out.

Since Zachary was aloof in personality, Serenity thought that he would act the same in the bedroom. It never crossed her mind that he was zealous and had great stamina. He was like an energizer bunny. Serenity would think twice before trying to turn him on.

She was worried she might not get out of bed if she got him too excited.

"Am I a porter to you?" Zachary whined, but his tone reflected adoration. "Your personal porter will be downstairs, waiting for you."

Chapter 769 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Serenity responded, "When are we going to your family home? I bought gifts for your family. We can go in the afternoon or tomorrow, so the stuff can stay in the car. Otherwise, we'd be moving them up and down."

After much thought, Zachary said, "We'll go tomorrow morning. I feel a bit tired since I just got back today. I should get some rest."

The couple had been apart for three days, and he missed her so. He wanted to spend some alone time with Serenity before heading to the old residence.

"I'll leave the stuff in the car then."

"Alright."

Zachary had no issue with that, but he still reiterated, "Text me when you reach the neighborhood."

"Got it."

Serenity then asked, "If there's nothing else, I'm hanging up now. I'm driving."

Zachary would see her soon since Serenity was on her way home. Hence, he said, " Alright. Drive safe."

"Sure." Serenity then disconnected the call.

"Liberty, Zachary proposed to leave for his family house tomorrow. You and Sonny should come along. I think Nana and the others won't mind. I'm not comfortable with you spending the holidays by yourselves."

Liberty replied with a smile, "Why feel that way? I'm not a child. I can't go with you to your in-laws' place."

"Of course, you can. I married Zachary, so Zachary's home is my home. Is it wrong for my sister to spend the holidays at my place? I was always at your place during the holidays and even lived with you."

"It's fine. Sonny and I will have a calm and quiet celebration, unlike the previous years when I had to prepare gifts for my in—laws. I got called out for being reckless with money if I gave too much and being arrogant if I gave too little. I got told off no matter what I did."

Seeing that her sister's mind was set, Serenity said, "You can visit our aunt if you're bored. Jasmine's place is an option too."

"Aunt Audrey..."

Liberty was about to say something when Mrs. Stone's call came in.

She said to her sister, "Speak of the devil."

Liberty accepted Mrs. Stone's incoming call.

"Aunt Audrey."

"Are you out, Liberty? It sounds pretty noisy there."

"Yeah. I went shopping with Seren. Seren's going with Zachary to his family home tomorrow, so she got gifts ready for her in–laws."

Since the stores were closed on Christmas Eve, the shopping should be done in advance.

Mrs. Stone stayed quiet on the other end of the line before uttering, "I called to let you know that the family is traveling over the holidays. We won't be in Wiltspoon. Don't come over, or you'll miss us."

"Oh, okay." Liberty asked, "Where are you traveling to, Aunt Audrey?"

"We're going to visit a few cities. We'd probably be back after New Year's break. Clive is heading back two days before the office reopens."

"When are you leaving?"

"In a bit."

Liberty answered, "Alright, Aunt Audrey. I hope you have a great holiday." "Thank you. Where's Seren?"

Chapter 770 | [Serenity & Zachary]

"She's driving. Do you have something to say to Seren, Aunt Audrey? I'll put her on."

Liberty was about to hand the phone to her sister when Mrs. Stone uttered, "It's okay. Tell Seren to drive safely. Tell her not to put up with any mistreatments while she's at her in–laws. It doesn't matter who they are. You're my nieces. You deserve only the best."

Having found out her nephew—in—law was Zachary, Mrs. Stone did not know how she felt about it in the last few days. She mentioned it to her son, and her son had known about it too. However, he wanted to keep it from Elisa.

Mrs. Stone did not want her daughter to know that Zachary's mysterious wife was Serenity either.

Everybody was dying to find out who the missus of the York family was, not knowing that she was right under their nose.

Some even got on well with the missus of the Yorks.

Jasmine, for example, was into the hottest gossip about Mr. York. She was curious about who had won his heart and even wanted to know how his missus tamed him. Unbeknownst to her, her best friend was 'the' Mrs. York.

The Stones decided to travel for the holidays only because they did not want Elisa to find out that Serenity's husband was Zachary.

Serenity mentioned that she would bring her husband over for a visit and introduce him to the Stones.

The way Mrs. Stone saw it, Serenity would not be able to bring Zachary along if the family was away and returned after the holidays. By then, Zachary would be back at work. It would be hard to make time since work took up a lot of Zachary's time.

Anyway, the Stones planned to keep it from Elisa as long as they could.

Serenity replied with a smile, "Don't worry, Aunt Audrey. I won't put up with any malice. Besides, my inlaws are really nice, and I mean all of them. We get along well.

"Zachary will be there too. He won't put me in the spot."

Mrs. Stone happily responded, "I know you're a strong woman. You won't take anything lying down. I can relax knowing that. I've never met your in–laws, but I went and asked around. They're very nice folks."

Although it was a rivaling family, Mrs. Stone had to admit that the Yorks were good people.

It was not her daughter's destiny to be a part of the York family.

Thinking about Elisa's love for Zachary, Mrs. Stone sighed in her mind. Elisa was egoistic and proud. The only man she could see as an equal was Zachary.

However, Zachary married Serenity. Serenity was not a bad choice, but she had nothing on Elisa.

Elisa was a more suitable match for Zachary. It was a pity...

God knew how Elisa would react when she learned the truth. Perhaps she could accept the fact wholeheartedly if Serenity was better than her in every way.

"Aunt Audrey, I'll take Zachary to see you when you're back from your travels."

Mrs. Stone grinned. "Alright. That reminds me. I got you and Sonny some gifts for Christmas. We're about to make a move. I'll have the butler make the delivery."

She could send shoppingmode Apple cash to the sisters, but the girls would not accept it. Hence, she prepared wads of cash and sent the butler for the delivery just before the family went out. That way, the sisters could not return the money even if they wanted to because the Stones were already away.

The butler would also be delivering expensive gifts to Serenity and Liberty.

"Aunt Audrey, we're too old for presents. You can just give one to Sonny."

"I don't care how old you are. You're still children in my eyes. If you don't want the gifts, you can dump them in the can."

"We'll accept the gifts, Aunt Audrey."

How could they throw away gifts from their aunt?

The gifts were a nice gesture from Aunt Audrey.

After the call, Mrs. Stone handed over the presents to the butler to deliver to Brynfield. Liberty might still be staying with Serenity.