

A Life Debt Repaid Free Online

- Chapter 851-860

Chapter 851

Zoe was speechless.

Jay's name just had to keep popping up.

Was she unable to survive without him?

If Jay really wanted to take responsibility, he would already have done so. He did not need to bury his head in the sand and pretend he did not know anything.

"He won't take responsibility for this. It's that simple." Zoe did not want to explain any further.

It would just be a waste of breath.

Quinn wanted to say more but someone suddenly knocked on the door.

Clara opened the door and poked her head in. "Zoe, Jay is here."

Zoe was stunned.

The look on Quinn's eyes clearly said, 'I told you so. I know Jay Parker isn't like what you described him to be.'

"What are you doing just standing there? Go out and discuss with Jay how to deal with the news," Quinn urged.

Zoe pursed her lips.

She eventually walked out of the room with Quinn.

Jay was carrying Yelena in the living room.

Yelena wrapped herself around Jay as she said, "Daddy, are you here to bring me out to play? But Mommy is at home today. Aren't you afraid that she'll see you?"

Zoe furrowed her brows.

What did Yelena say?!

Quinn was shocked too, but she quickly figured out what was happening. Clearly, Yelena and Jay had been in contact since long ago, yet Zoe thought that Jay was still clueless.

How could someone as smart as Jay be clueless about it?

When news broke out today, Jay did not respond immediately, and it was probably because he already knew that Zoe had a daughter. Given

his personality, he must have wanted to think through how to deal with the entire situation before coming to find Zoe.

Jay saw Zoe come out of the room along with Quinn.

He put Yelena down and said, "Daddy has something to discuss with Mommy today. Play by yourself for now, all right?"

"No." Yelena tightened her arms around Jay's neck. "I want Daddy."

"Yelena, be good."

"I want to play with Daddy." Yelena turned to face Jay with those large, innocent eyes that one would find hard to reject.

Zoe and Quinn saw the tender look on Jay's face, his eyes brimming with love, as he said, "After Daddy and Mommy are done talking, Daddy will play with Yelena, okay?"

"Can Daddy sleep with Yelena? Daddy will sleep with Yelena tonight," Yelena said innocently.

Jay pursed his lips. Of course, he could not promise her.

Just because he wanted to stay behind did not mean Zoe would let him.

"Daddy, don't you want to stay with me?" Yelena's eyes turned red as tears welled up in her eyes.

Quinn witnessed for herself some serious acting chops right there.

Yelena's expressions were so on point-did she get it from Zoe?

No.

If Zoe had Yelena's emotional intelligence, she would not have suffered so much in her love life.

"I promise to only leave after you fall asleep, okay?" Jay immediately gave in.

"Okay." Yelena nodded.

Her eyes twinkled, knowing that she succeeded in getting her way.

Quinn could not help but smile.

Chapter 852

A classic doting father, no doubt.

Jay finally managed to put Yelena down and then said to Zoe, "I came here to discuss with you how we should deal with news about Yelena."

"When did you find out about her?" Zoe went straight to the point.

If she still could see how close Yelena and Jay were, she would truly be foolish.

"The night when you were drunk and I sent you home," Jay said.

"Did you do a DNA test?" Zoe's face fell.

"I didn't."

Zoe raised her brows.

“There’s no need to,” Jay added.

“You’re so sure she’s yours?” Zoe smirked.

“I’m not sure, but... I don’t care even if she’s not,” Jay said.

Zoe stared at him.

“Let’s discuss the solution to the problem.” Jay suddenly changed the topic.

Zoe agreed that they should just cut to the chase.

They sat on the couch.

Clara carried Yelena to her room to play, giving them the space they needed.

“We have three possible solutions. One, deny that Yelena is your biological daughter. You can say that she is your relative’s or friend’s child.”

“I won’t deny it.” Zoe rejected his first suggestion.

That would not be fair to Yelena. Though she might not know anything given how young she was, it could potentially harm her once she grew up and looked back on this news.

Zoe could not bring herself to make Yelena call her Ms. York in public.

“Okay. Two, admit that Yelena is your biological daughter. However, you claimed that you were not married and did not have children when you joined Actors On Set. Your admission would cause you to be labeled as fake and your reputation might suffer. Given that your career has just started, you know the consequences of having a scandal break out at this point.”

Of course, she knew.

“Even if that is so, I’ll still choose Yelena.”

“There’s a third option.” Jay looked at Zoe and paused for a moment.

A long while later, Jay said, “Admit that Yelena is our child.”

“No way!” Zoe rejected the third option without a second thought.

“Zoe, why don’t you hear Jay out on why he even suggested it in the first place? Don’t be in a hurry to reject it.” Quinn tried to persuade Zoe.

“No matter what the reason is, I don’t want to hear it.” Zoe clearly detested the idea. “What’s more, isn’t claiming that I married you the same as the second option? What’s the difference? Just because it’s you and people in the entertainment circle don’t dare to offend you, and so in turn, they’ll let me off the hook?”

“Undeniably, that is one of the reasons.” Jay did not become agitated upon seeing Zoe’s reaction. He went on patiently, “Although the Levine family businesses are no longer around, its family assets remain unrivaled. Society is practical and money is everything. As a member of the Levine family, the entertainment industry will respect me because of that.

What’s more, I’ve made many actors famous through my movies and I have a good standing in the industry. Most media outlets wouldn’t dare to outrightly offend me.”

“Secondly, I’ll tell everyone that I’m the one who asked you to keep Yelena a secret, so that both of us can participate in this program and you can make a comeback in the industry. With that, public opinion will sway against me and I’ll announce my immediate withdrawal from the filming of Actors On Set while you remain in it. Don’t worry, I won’t let you get affected by the media and public opinion.” i
Zoe fell silent.

Given the power that Jay could wield in the industry, of course he was able to help her stay out of trouble.

After all, one person was sufficient to bear the consequences for this. Put simply, Jay was using his position to put pressure on entertainment media outlets. If he were involved, media outlets would not dare go on a reporting spree.

Once news lost its virality, it would also lose all influence.

Chapter 853

“Since you’re willing to sacrifice yourself to suppress the news, why don’t you expose another scandal of your own like the last time and help cover up my news?” Zoe said coldly.

Quinn thought she must have heard Zoe wrongly.

Wasn’t that being too harsh on Jay?!

How could Zoe be capable of something like that?

This woman had no compassion whatsoever.

Jay had already compromised so much, yet she was still not satisfied.

Who did she think she was?!

Quinn scolded Zoe in her heart countless times over, but on account of Zoe being her good friend, she could not bring herself to scold Zoe outright.

She was that... biased.

She simply looked at Jay turning quiet.

Quinn felt rather nervous as she chanted in her heart for Jay not to agree to Zoe's request.

Otherwise, it would be harder for him to pursue Zoe.

She saw this as the golden opportunity to tie the two of them together, never to be parted again.

Everyone could see how much importance Zoe placed on her career in showbiz.

"No way," Jay suddenly said.

Zoe sneered, and Quinn heaved a sigh of relief.

Jay was finally standing his ground for once.

For some reason, although it seemed as if Zoe had always been the one taking the initiative on the surface, Quinn thought that Jay had always been the one being wronged.

"I don't have any scandals to be exposed. Even if I were to suddenly have one, the media has become more forgiving in recent times and me being in a relationship at my age is absolutely reasonable and therefore is not newsworthy..."

"You can expose yourself for favoring a particular female celebrity," Zoe blurted.

Jay was rendered speechless, while Quinn continued holding herself back from speaking.

If Zoe were not her best friend, Quinn really would have given Zoe a tight slap to wake her up.

"Admitting that Yelena is our child is currently the best solution. I've already tasked my PR team to handle this emergency situation." Jay remained calm without a hint of anger.

"Since you've already made a decision, what's the Yes.

Jay had already decided before coming that he would try his best to persuade Zoe to choose the third solution.

Naturally, he had made preparations to implement the third solution.

Selfishly, he wanted to use this chance to be with Zoe.

So, when the media exposed Yelena's existence, he was undeniably gleeful about it.

"Before that, we need to make some preparations." Jay ignored Zoe's tone and said gently, "We first need to get a marriage certificate.

Otherwise, the media or keyboard warriors may think that Yelena is an illegitimate daughter and that we're having an underground relationship.

If that happens, not only will we not achieve our desired outcome, but it might even cause both our reputations to be ruined.”

Zoe tried her best to hold herself back. She really felt like killing someone right now.

“I don’t think getting a marriage certificate right now would make Yelena a legitimate child though...” Quinn raised an opinion.

The next moment, she looked like she had an epiphany.

Jay must have thought of the same thing she just did.

It was just a matter of timing.

It was not difficult for Jay at all.

Since Jay saw that Quinn had figured it out, he did not further elaborate on it.

There were some things that were best left unspoken. What was more, Quinn was a lawyer who worked to bring justice to people.

“I have a request,” Zoe said.

Although her tone still betrayed how upset she was, she was clearly coming to a compromise.

Jay did not dare to show how glad he was, for fear that Zoe might detest his reaction. >

She might misunderstand that he had schemed against her and the scheme had worked.

He tried his best to remain calm and composed, while Quinn sighed inwardly with relief.

Chapter 854

Thankfully, Zoe did not remain stubborn.

Sometimes, Zoe’s stubbornness made her capable of doing anything.

”Sure.” Jay nodded.

“Firstly, the marriage is fake and just for the media. After the dust settles, we will get a divorce.”

Jay pursed his lips and nodded.

He did not dare to disagree with her request.

If he did not, she would probably reject his solution.

The only thing he could do was to seize the chance to spend more time with her during this period.

“Secondly, even after we get a marriage certificate, we will not stay together. You will stay at your place and I’ll continue staying...”

“No way.” Jay rejected her outright.

Zoe stared at him.

“After announcing that we secretly got married, the media will surely stalk us. If they realize that we aren’t staying together, what would they make of it? That we divorced? Or that we’re faking it?”

“I won’t do anything to you,” Jay said solemnly. “Even though we’ll be in the same house, we’ll sleep separately.”

“Of course that goes without saying,” Zoe said agitatedly.

Jay swallowed, i

He had thought that that was what Zoe minded. He did not expect her to in fact detest the idea of staying in the same place as him.

She did not want to see him day in, day out.

“Thirdly, Nancy will surely oppose our marriage. I don’t want to deal with her. Explain things to her and don’t cause me trouble,” Zoe said coldly.

But in fact, each time she mentioned Nancy, her eyes would go dim.

“Sure.” Jay immediately agreed.

All of a sudden, all was quiet in the living room.

Since everything was in place, there was not anything more to say.

Quinn took the initiative to lighten the mood, “So... shall we get the marriage certificate right now?”

Jay looked at Zoe, as if asking her for her opinion.

Zoe was clearly reluctant to do so.

But she recalled that it was just a fake marriage, as she had made clear just now.

“I’ll get my identification documents.” Zoe got up from the couch.

The moment she left, Jay and Quinn both heaved a huge sigh of relief.

Both of them felt as if they had just accomplished something great.

Both of them exchanged glances, and Jay thanked her from the bottom of his heart.

He could clearly sense that Quinn was on his side today.

‘Be good to Zoe. Don’t let her go again.’

“Yes, I will.” Jay nodded.

A while later, Zoe came out of the room with her documents and asked,

“Do we head out together now, or do I wait for you to get your documents before I head out separately...”

“We’ll head out together,” Jay replied. “I have my identification documents.”

Zoe refused to believe that he did not have it all planned out right from the start.

But she...

Forget it.

As long as she didn't have any expectations, she would not end up disappointed.

"Let's go." Quinn rushed them.

She was afraid that Zoe might suddenly change her mind.

"Drive my car, just in case there's paparazzi hanging around. They won't recognize my car," Quinn offered enthusiastically, even more so than the two of them who were about to get married.

Jay and Zoe did not turn down her offer.

The three of them walked into the civil registry office.

At that moment, when Zoe took out her identification documents, she suddenly felt an inexplicable tinge of unwillingness!

Chapter 855

After they registered their marriage and received their marriage certificate, the three of them returned to Quinn's car.

Quinn turned out to be the happiest of the three of them—at least on the surface.

A smile hung on her lips as she asked, "Where are you two newly-weds planning to go? Are you going back?"

Zoe glared at Quinn.

She was not the one who got married. What was she so excited about?

"Let's return to Zoe's apartment since Yelena is still there. She can take the chance to pack her bag..." Jay's voice gradually faded away.

He was clearly scared that Zoe might get angry.

And she was quite angry.

Somehow, she could not shake the feeling that she had been taken for a fool.

Yet, upon deeper thought, what could Jay get from fooling her?

He was just trying to help her solve her problem.

They drove back to Zoe's apartment.

Yelena was slightly miffed.

Because they did not tell her daddy had abandoned her, and she was sobbing miserably at home.

She refused to talk to Zoe and Jay out of spite after they returned.

"Come here, Yelena." Zoe that she must have thrown quite the temper at home.

"I don't wanna." Yelena objected.

Fire burned in Zoe's chest.

Yelena had quite the temper as a child.

She could also get very stubborn.

"Yelena, come to Daddy. I'll bring you

Yelena's eyes lit up at his words.

"Really? Can I sleep with Daddy tonight?

She was only three years old, yet she displayed such impeccable logic.

"Yes, you can." Jay nodded by way of confirmation.

Yelena pounced into Jay's open arms without any hesitation.

Zoe looked at Yelena fawning over Jay.

She felt like the flower she had been cultivating completely by a stranger.

"Pack your clothes,

"To Jay's house?" Clara was taken aback.

"Yes. Now that Yelena's identity has been exposed, it has affected me quite badly and I need Jay's help. So we'll stay at his place during this period until things blow over then we'll come back." Zoe did not talk about her and Jay getting married.

"Oh," Clara didn't really understand the inner workings of the entertainment industry, but since this was Zoe's arrangements, she would follow it.

But when she turned around to pack her things, she suddenly crouched down again, looking as if she had something to say.

"What's the matter?" Zoe thought that Clara might not want to go to Jay's place.

After all, there would be a lot of getting used in a completely new place.

"I live alone. There's no one else in my place," Jay suddenly added.

Clearly, Clara was worried about going to Levine Villa, where Nancy Levine stayed, as Nancy was very hostile toward them.

Clara heaved a sigh of relief upon hearing what Jay said, then she immediately went to pack her things.

Zoe did the same as well with a tiny suitcase.

Jay glanced at Zoe's luggage, noticing that she had packed fewer things than what Clara was packing for Yelena.

Jay did not ask any further.

Chapter 856

Of course, he knew that Zoe was prepared to move back anytime, so she did not want to pack too many things which would be troublesome for her.

After they were all done packing, Jay called for a van for the luggage before leaving with Zoe and the rest.

Quinn knew how to take a hint.

It was now their 'family' time and she should not be interrupting them, so she made up an excuse and left.

The 'family' sat in a sedan, and things were not as awkward as expected in the car.

Yelena was bright and lively as she chattered non-stop. The car was filled with her voice and Zoe even found it slightly noisy.

They soon arrived at Jay's single-story bungalow.

Yelena was so excited as she walked into it. "Daddy, your house is huge and I love it! Wow, the glass windows are so huge, I can see so far away. Daddy, I love your house. Can I come here frequently?"

"You'll stay here from now on, Yelena." Jay caressed her head dotingly.

"Really?"

"Not really." Zoe doused a bucket of cold water on Yelena.

"We'll return home after a while."

"Mommy's so terrible." Yelena scrunched her nose up.

Jay caressed Yelena's head and said, "Daddy's going to help Mommy pack her luggage. Stay here and be good. Don't trip and fall."

"Okay."

Jay stood up and said to Zoe. "Go and see which room you like? You can choose any room, even mine..."

"What are you thinking?" Zoe looked straight at him. i

"I mean, if you like my room, I can move out and make way for you. I can stay in another room," Jay hurriedly explained himself.

"There's no need for that. I can stay in any room, since we're not staying here for long anyway."

Jay did not say anything further, and he brought Zoe and Clara to check out the guest rooms.

There were a total of five rooms, which was definitely sufficient even if Yelena had a room to herself.

But Yelena was still young and had always been sleeping with Clara.

Clara herself could not bear to sleep separately from Yelena either.

Zoe and Clara chose their own rooms, and by the time they were done packing their bags, lunch was ready in the kitchen.

“Come and have lunch,” Jay said, trying to be a good host.

“Did you cook?” Clara was surprised.

She did not expect Jay to know how to cook.

“No.” Jay immediately clarified, “I ordered takeout. I don’t know what all of you like to eat, so I ordered a little bit of everything.”

“I’m not picky, I eat anything,” Clara said in an easy-going fashion.

The ‘family’ sat around the table, where Yelena insisted on sitting next to Jay.

No matter how Zoe glared at Yelena, she chose to ignore Zoe’s hints, even asking Jay to feed her.

She was truly asking for it.

“These dishes are Zoe’s favorites,” Clara suddenly remarked. “Eat more, Zoe.”

Zoe pursed her lips.

She looked at the dishes and knew they were all her favorites.

But having lived with Jay for so many years, wasn’t it normal for him to remember what she liked to eat?

“Oh yes, do you cook on a daily basis?” Clara asked Jay.

“I’m usually busy with work and seldom eat at home. If I have time at home, I’ll call for housekeeping to prepare meals for me. Now that all of you are staying here, I’ve contacted some chefs and will select a suitable one to

prepare meals for us at home.”

“There’s no need for that. Since it’s just the few of us, I can cook for everyone,” Clara volunteered.

Jay glanced at Zoe, implicitly seeking her permission.

Zoe remained silent.

Clara went on. “I have nothing to do anyway. When Yelena attends kindergarten, I’m left at home with nothing to do. It’s better for me to move around and keep active. What’s more, I know best what Zoe and Yelena like to eat.”

“In that case, thank you very much.” Jay saw no objection from Zoe and agreed to Clara’s suggestion.

Chapter 857

“What do you usually like to eat?” Clara asked Jay.

Since she was planning to cook for everyone, she had to cater to everyone's taste buds.

"I'm not picky, I eat almost anything. I'll eat whatever you guys eat. Sometimes I'll be quite busy and won't have many chances to come home for dinner," Jay said.

"Is there anything you don't like in particular, such as specific condiments or something? I'll take note when I cook."

"None at all."

"Okay." Clara nodded and could not help but tease, "It's pretty easy cooking for you, then, unlike Zoe and Yelena who are so picky."

"Zoe has been picky since young."

Jay smiled as he started chatting with Clara, i

"Yelena is just like Zoe, a very picky eater. She doesn't enjoy eating and is as skinny as a skeleton," Clara exclaimed exaggeratedly.

"It's not too good for children to grow too fat either. Yelena is just nice like that." Zoe really did not want to join in the conversation but she could not hold herself back.

"She should still gain some weight. She's a little too skinny," Clara insisted.

Zoe did not want to say any further.

Each time they were on the topic of Yelena's appetite, she would always lose to Clara.

Jay's lips were lifted in a smile throughout the conversation.

The atmosphere was great.

After lunch, Jay accompanied Yelena for her afternoon nap which she had a habit of having, while Clara and Zoe stayed in the living room.

Jay's living room was at least thrice the size of the living room in their apartment.

The two of them sat on Jay's couch, feeling rather out of place.

"After everything is settled, we'll go back," Zoe said.

"This place is quite nice. The rooms are so big, and Yelena has so much space to run around and play. Things are a little cramped in our house."

"We'll move to a bigger place as soon as I can afford it." Zoe supposed after this incident died down, she might have more engagements in the future and earning more money would not be a problem.

What Clara had wanted to say was that staying here sounded like a good idea and there was no need for them to go back.

The two of them chatted idly, and Jay came out of the room

after putting Yelena to sleep.

“Is Yelena asleep?” Clara asked.

“Yes, she is.”

“Thank you so much,” Clara said politely.

“You’re welcome.” Jay smiled courteously. “It’ll be tough on you two in the days ahead.”

“It’s very easy to take care of Yelena. It’s not tough at all,” Clara immediately said.

Jay nodded and did not say anything further.

It would have appeared pretentious of him if he said too much.

He turned to Zoe and said, “The makeup artist will come at around five in the evening to do your makeup for the press conference where we’ll announce Yelena’s identity.

“Do I need to go see the reporters too?”

“That will appear more sincere. Of course, if you’re really reluctant, it’s fine...”

“I’ll go.” Zoe agreed.

Jay was right.

She would appear more sincere if she were to turn up in person.

It was critical for her to leave a good public impression.

“Okay,” Jay replied.

Very soon, the makeup artist arrived at Jay’s house. Not only did she do an exquisite job in dolling Zoe up, but she even prepared a fitting black gown for Zoe. It was not revealing but showed off Zoe’s sensual figure. Meanwhile, Jay put on a black suit.

Their outfits appeared to match each other’s.

Chapter 858

They looked like they were in a couple outfit.

After both of them were dressed and ready, they sat in a car and drove to the venue of the press conference.

Representatives from hundreds of news outlets were cramped in the venue and there were people everywhere.

This was the first time since Zoe fell from her A-grade status that she felt so ‘popular’ on such a large scale.

She was beginning to wonder if news of Yelena being exposed was a blessing in disguise.

Zoe held Jay’s arm and entered the room.

Jay hobbled in on his walking stick, making it look as if Zoe was supporting him.

Everyone was shocked to see Jay in the room. Why was he here at Zoe's press conference?

Of course, the media knew that Jay and Zoe were both on *Actors on Set*, and Jay was Zoe's mentor.

But even so, was there a need for her mentor to appear in person?

Since when did Jay put in so much effort for his celebrities?

Jay did appreciate Zoe's acting skills in the program, and Zoe did not disappoint him. She had never been popular among viewers and she definitely could not rely on luck.

The moment they appeared, the media went wild.

"Zoe, photos of you and a little girl behaving intimately have been leaked. It is said that she is your daughter. Is that true?"

"You previously said that you were not married and were without kids when you joined the show, yet now it's been exposed that you do have a daughter. Don't you find this embarrassing?"

"Who is the father of the child? Who is your husband?"

"Director Parker, why are you with Zoe at her press conference? Are you here to show your support for your mentee?" 1

"Director Parker, how do you view the fact that Zoe has a daughter? Do you find her dishonest?"

"Director Parker..."

It was utter chaos at the conference.

The host immediately cut in, "Everyone, please quieten down. Quieten down so that Ms. York can respond to all queries."

That was when the reporters gradually kept quiet.

The sudden silence in the meeting room made the atmosphere tense up.

Zoe took a deep breath and prepared to speak.

Just then, Jay said, "Regarding Zoe's child, allow me to respond to everyone first."

Zoe turned to look at him.

She saw how serious he looked.

"Firstly, thank you very much to all for gracing Zoe and my press conference amid your busy schedules. I am very thankful for everyone's concern..."

"Director Parker, what do you mean Zoe and your press conference? Isn't it Zoe's conference?"

“Director Parker, what is your relationship with Zoe?”

“Everyone, please listen to me,” Jay went on, “You can feel free to raise your questions after hearing me out. If you keep interrupting me right now, it will be difficult for me to answer all of your questions.”

The reporters turned silent again.

They were clearly trying their best to control their curiosity which was bursting at the seams.

They could sense that there would be major news today.

“Reporters have photographed Zoe and a little girl together. I would like to clearly state that the little girl is Zoe’s

biological daughter-our biological daughter,” Jay said emphatically.

Reporters were suddenly unable to process such shocking news.

They all appeared to be shaken to the core, and it took them a while later for them to begin raising questions.

“Let me finish what I wish to say before taking everyone’s questions.

Otherwise, it’ll be difficult for us to wrap up this press conference,” Jay cut in once more.

The reporters tried to control themselves and stop their barrage of questions.

“Zoe and I have been secretly married for four years and our daughter has just turned three years old. Zoe has not been active in the entertainment industry over the past few years because of our family.

The reason why we did not announce our relationship was because we did not want to take up too much public resources and also hope to give our child a less complicated environment to grow up in.”

Chapter 859

Jay paused for a while before going on, saying, “Our daughter is now three years old and is more independent right now, which is why I encouraged Zoe to pursue her dreams again and accept the director’s invitation to join Actors on Set. Of course, the production team did not know about our relationship when they invited us and I selfishly did not inform the director. I did it in hopes of bringing Zoe back into the public spotlight through this platform, giving her the leverage she needed to return to her glorious past. She has sacrificed too much for me over the past few years.” i

“I hereby sincerely apologize for taking up so much public resources because of things between Zoe and 1.1 would also like to take this chance to apologize to all staff members of Actors on Set for not being

honest about my relationship with Zoe to the production team because of my selfish intentions. The production team invited both Zoe and I to the program without any prior awareness about our relationship, and they were unable to make any efforts to avoid the current situation. I officially announce that from now on, I will no longer take part in the filming of Actors on Set. Please forgive me for the inconveniences I've caused to the production team." '

Jay stood up from his seat and bowed to the cameras.

He straightened up and sat back down before saying, "I have said whatever I wish to say. Everyone, please take turns to raise your questions. Thank you once again."

The moment he stopped talking, a reporter jumped in to ask, "Director Parker, is it really true that you've been secretly married to Zoe for four years? There has been no scandal whatsoever between the both of you over the past four years."

"I've already mentioned that we were married in secret. Of course, we wouldn't leak a secret." Jay chuckled. "I knew you guys wouldn't believe it, so I even brought our marriage certificate. May I ask one of the staff members to take it out and show it to everyone here? Please take good care of it and don't wreck it, I only have one marriage certificate."

Jay's little joke made everyone burst out laughing.

Someone teased, "Director Parker, do you place so much importance on that document?"

Someone else added, "Who said he places importance on the document? It's the person he cares about!"

Everyone burst out laughing once more.

Zoe clenched her fists tighter.

She felt so awkward that she wanted to dig a hole the size of Jay's bungalow and bury herself in it.

She truly did not understand how Jay could bring himself to say something so mushy so naturally.

The staff member showed everyone the marriage certificate and carefully returned it to Jay.

Jay placed it into the inner pocket of his jacket carefully in front of everyone.

He even patted it gently after he was done.

It clearly looked like he cherished it a lot.

“I remember that you were in a very serious car accident back then, Director Parker. Was Zoe pregnant then?” one of the reporters asked quick-wittedly.

“Yes. Back then, we were overseas and she took care of me while pregnant. It was very tough on her and she really sacrificed a lot for me,” Jay replied.

Zoe furrowed her brows.

He got into a car accident when she was pregnant?

When exactly did Jay get into a car accident?

How long ago was that accident?

How did it happen?

Was the accident very serious?

He was crippled by it. Of course, it must have been very serious.

“Director Parker, you said earlier that you allowed Zoe to participate in Actors on Set to give her a chance to return to the entertainment circle. I personally feel that compared to this program, it might be more effective and faster for you to produce a movie specially for her, isn’t it?” A reporter raised another question.

It was clearly not logical.

“Would you believe it if I told you that Zoe did not want to go through the back door?” Jay said with a tinge of helplessness in his voice.

The reporters laughed.

Jay continued, “Let’s put it this way. When the director looked Zoe up, she was unaware that the director had already looked me up. What’s more, everyone knows that I never participate in variety shows, so all the more she did not expect me to participate in it. I signed the contract with the director behind her back, and she only found out at the recording studio. But by then, things had progressed to a point where we had no choice but to pretend not to know each other.”

Chapter 860

“In that case, Director Parker, did you let Zoe go through the back door during this program? Zoe was criticized heavily at the start, yet there has been a huge rise in her popularity now.”

“Everyone is welcome to look back on the previous two episodes. I can beat my chest and say proudly that I did not do so, and Zoe’s achievements to date are a result of her pure hard work,” Jay said affirmatively. He even threatened jokingly, ‘Please don’t frame me, Zoe won’t allow me to open the back door for her. Do you want me to end up

sleeping on the couch tonight?! Don't make up groundless accusations, all right?"

The reporters laughed out loud.

They have never seen such a friendly side to Jay.

He was good-natured, but he would never crack jokes.

It was indeed true that men would behave differently in front of their wives.

"How did you feel when Zoe was criticized severely at the start?" another reporter asked.

"I can only say that my heart ached for her."

"Did you consider asking Zoe to withdraw from the competition?"

"More so than the difficulties she faced, Zoe enjoyed the sense of achievement that the program brought her. Clearly, her growth and transformation due to the program is proof that she has made the right choice to stay," Jay said smoothly.

"Director Parker, may I ask your wife some questions, please?" a reporter suddenly requested.

The word 'wife' pierced through Jay's heart.

It made his heart beat quicken all of a sudden.

"Of course, you may." Jay calmed himself down as he said, "But don't be too harsh on her."

"Director Parker, you're so protective over your wife that I almost don't dare to ask her questions directly. Thank you for your grace, Director Parker. I will just ask her a few simple questions," the reporter said with a good sense of humor.

He went ahead to raise his questions.

"Ms. York...No, I should be addressing you as Mrs. Parker now," the reporter corrected himself quickly.

Zoe pursed her lips.

Her words of objection died on her lips.

She reminded herself that she had to pretend to be lovey dovey with Jay.

Life was like a drama anyway, and she had always been good at putting up an act.

"Mrs. Parker, how did you and Director Parker meet and get together back then? Do you find it worth it to secretly marry him and start a family with him, thereby losing your successful career?" The reporter shot her with many questions at one go.

Zoe spoke into the microphone. "We got to know each other through filming a movie. You could say that we grew to love each other with time."

"Oh..." Everyone began wolf-whistling and cheering.

Zoe realized that what she said might have been suggestive, which was why all the reporters were shooting her strange looks.

"Don't let your imagination run wild. We simply developed feelings for each other with time," Zoe said, blushing.

"I know, I know. Mrs. Parker, please continue sharing with us your love story." The reporter went along with her.

All the reporters felt like they were not actually on duty, but were behaving more like curious onlookers.

"We developed feelings for each other with time, and felt that we were each other Mr. and Mrs. Right, so we got married. We didn't want to announce our wedding for fear of taking up too much public resources. I did consider leaving the entertainment industry for the family as well. If we announced our marriage, I would not have been able to truly leave the industry," Zoe weaved a story on the basis of what Jay said.

She went on to say, "As for whether it is worth it, that is a non-existent question. One cannot compare between family and career, and when both cannot be had, there has to be a sacrifice made. It is also impossible to ask Jay to give birth.

I can only say that I do not have any regrets."