

Gu Lingfei: Married at First Sight Novel Chapter 1371

Chapter 1371

“Your nana mentioned that whoever brings a daughter to the family will get a five-hundred-million-dollar reward from the family fund. Your mom and I will give you something too. Well, we won’t give more than your nana. We’ll add five hundred million dollars to the pot too.”

Liam and his wife had personal assets amounting to several hundred million dollars.

The extra five hundred million dollars out of their pockets was not a small amount to them.

“No one has gotten the five hundred million dollars. Zack, maybe *you* and Seren will get lucky.”

Tania gleefully chimed in. “I’ll give half of my jewelry to my granddaughter if *you* give us one.”

Zachary looked at his parents.

He waited until his parents had a happy moment to themselves before murmuring, “The pee result was negative.”

“Negative?”

Liam turned his attention to his wife whose smile froze. Tania uttered, “It’s okay. You’re still young. You’ve only been married for six months. You still haven’t had your wedding reception. There’s no rush. We’re bound to hear good news since you haven’t used protection.”

“Oh, she’s not pregnant.”

Disappointed, Liam said, “I thought I could finally give out the reward to my daughter-in-law.”

Tania immediately consoled him, “It’s okay that she’s not pregnant yet. They’re young. There’s no rush. The wedding preparations are still underway. Her belly will show at the wedding if she’s pregnant now. She’ll have a bump in their wedding photos. Zack, has Seren’s wedding dress been custom ordered?”

Serenity was the missus of the York family, so she needed a designer to tailor a dress for her.

Zachary had not had a wedding dress custom-designed for his wife...

It suddenly hit him that he had left a lot of matters on the back burner, probably because he thought he still had time before the wedding.

“We got pregnant early, didn’t we, Tania? You had Zack by the time we got back from our honeymoon.”

Liam had no other intentions when he said this.

Nevertheless, Zachary took it the other way.

He believed his parents may say they were not in a hurry to have a grandchild, but the truth of the matter was his parents could not wait. His parents must think that he and Serenity should be pregnant as they had been married for months.

His mother had him early, carrying him in the belly when she returned from her honeymoon. Zachary had been officially together with Serenity for five months and had gone all the way with Serenity for a while. Still, there were no buns in the oven yet.

Did their health come into play?

Since Mrs. Stone said that frequent intimacy had an impact on the chances of conceiving, Zachary had been holding back for a couple of nights. All he did was hold Serenity to sleep.

“Zack, did you get into a fight with Seren because she isn’t pregnant?” Getting an inkling, Tania glared at her husband and asked her son.

Zachary fell silent for a while before answering, “Seren was worried that there might be a problem with our health and suggested a body check-up. I said no. I think there’s nothing wrong with me, and she’s healthy too. We both look after ourselves, so I doubt there’s a problem.

“She asked if I was scared of the doctors. Anyway, she put her foot down on getting a medical examination, but I didn’t want to. Then... I got mad and ditched her. I left.”

Liam and his wife were speechless.

The next minute, Tania raised her hand and gave Zachary a slap.

Liam threw the chessboard at his son.

The chess board and pieces that had been put away were slammed onto Zachary and scattered on the ground.

Zachary winced his face.

He looked at his parents.

“What’s the problem with getting a physical? Just think of it as an annual check-up. Fine, if you don’t want to get a physical. Why did you ditch Seren? You’re really... Seren probably feels hurt and wants to cry.”

Tania yelled at her son, “When are you ever going to change that temper of yours?”

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Chapter 1372

Zachary answered, “I didn’t say anything harsh. I just left. Why would she feel hurt and cry?”

The thought of Serenity shedding tears broke his heart.

“How would you feel if Serenity leaves you alone in the hospital?” Tania asked her son.

Her son had no game when it came to relationships. It was no wonder Grandma May made Zachary marry Serenity to repay her kindness. With that temper of Zachary’s, any woman would give him the snub.

Zachary pursed his lips and said, “It’s not like I don’t have legs. I know the way. I *know* my way home even if she doesn’t leave with me.”

Tania was at a loss for words.

“I said we’re fine in health, and there’s no need for a physical. She said that I’m scared of doctors and that I looked like I’ve seen a ghost.”

Zachary whined, “She won’t trust my word. She doesn’t trust me enough. She can’t get pregnant just because we want her to. I’ve not been married to her for long. We can get a physical when we can’t get pregnant in a decade or so.”

Tania was speechless.

Seriously, Tania would never know that she wanted so badly to beat up her son, who had always been her pride and joy, if he did not get married.

“You’ll be old in a decade or so. You need time to resolve any issue if anything shows up on the medical report. Seren would have a high-risk pregnancy by then. You b*stard! God knows what is going on in that brain of yours! Would it hurt you to get a medical examination?”

Liam gave his son a piece of his mind too.

“It’s not the problem of getting a check–up or not. He abandoned Seren alone in the hospital and took off himself. Zachary, don’t come running to us and ask for our help if Serenity decides to give you the silent treatment. You deserve it. You still think Serenity is acting up and that you’re not the problem.”

Rising to her feet, Tania pulled her husband up.

“Come on, Liam. I think I won’t be able to keep my image as a lady for once if I continue to listen to him.”

Liam walked with his wife into the house.

He said to the maid the moment he set foot inside. “Tell the kitchen that the extra serving is no longer required.”

The maid was confused. “But Mr. Zachary is back.

“Don’t worry about him!”

The maid had no idea what had happened, but it was not her position to ask, seeing that Liam and Tania were furious. She quietly went into the kitchen and communicated the same to the chef.

Zachary sat in silence outside for a while before entering the house.

He then realized that his parents had dinner.

With Zachary coming into the house, Tania told the maid, “Clear the table. We don’t have much leftover, so just dump it.”

“Mom, I haven’t eaten,” Zachary said.

“Well, we don’t have anything for you here. You have a wife. Your own family. Go home and have dinner with your wife.”

Tania wanted to kick her son out.

Zachary answered, “Mom... This is my home too.”

“You’re not welcomed here so long as you’re not with Seren.”

Zachary scowled. “Am I your child or is Seren your child, Mom?”

“I shower Seren with more love and attention because she’s not my child so that she can feel the warmth of a home.”

Pursing his lips, Zachary turned to his father.

Liam uttered, “Don’t look at me. You’re lucky your nana isn’t here. She’ll make you doubt yourself if she were home. You’re lucky that your mom and I don’t have a sharp tongue like your nana.”

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Chapter 1373

Zachary could not pull a longer face.

“Don’t you wish to have grandchildren too?”

Tania said, “Yes, we do, but we never want to rush Serenity, so don’t put the blame on us. We never pressure Serenity to give us a grandchild.”

“Seren puts the burden on herself.” Zachary knew Serenity was feeling it when she talked about getting a physical.

He believed Serenity was stressed from trying to get pregnant.

“You should be telling Seren that the child will come when the time comes if she’s feeling the pressure. It’ll be harder for her to get pregnant while sitting under a lot of pressure. Tell her not to think too much about it. You have not been together for long. I think the medical examination is necessary after two to three years of trying without hearing any good news.”

“That’s what I’m saying. I don’t think we need a check-up since we’re both fine and healthy. She’s just under a lot of stress. I told her that I’ll take her on a trip after Josh and Jasmine’s engagement party.”

It dawned on Tania that her son was reminding them not to rush or pressure Serenity even if Serenity did not get pregnant in the next two years.

The boy was conniving indeed.

As Serenity’s parents-in-law, they had never rushed Serenity because the young couple did not even have a wedding reception yet. Tania and Liam did not feel the need to jump through the steps.

“Alright now. It’s a matter between you two, so you should take care of it. I can promise you that I won’t rush you into starting a family in ten years. You can decide when you’re ready.”

With Zachary’s facial lines softening, he said to his mother, “Thanks, Mom.”

“Don’t mention it. Hurry up and apologize to Serenity. Don’t just walk away every time you have a fit. You go nuts when Serenity does it to you. You’re lucky Serenity is nice and tolerates you,” Tania peevishly remarked.

Zachary uttered, “I got to go.”

Liam asked, “Are you going to stay for dinner?”

Tania jumped in. “Dinner? He can forget it and leave hungry. All he needs to do is bend over and cry out in pain when Seren won’t give him time of the day. Seren will feel bad for him.”

Zachary blushed.

“Mom, I never pretended to be sick or poorly.”

He was really sick the last time he had a stomach ache.

Tania glanced at her husband before replying, “You have a lifetime to spend with each other. Are you going to guarantee that you’re never going to pretend to be sick or poorly for the rest of your life?”

Zachary could say nothing.

With her mother urging him, he turned on his heel and took strides out of the dining room.

As his son’s footsteps faded away, Liam asked his wife, “Tania, what was with the look just now?”

“It means what you think it means.”

“It’s been years now.”

“I’ll always remember no matter how many years have passed.”

Liam chuckled. “Come on. I’ll take you out on a stroll.”

Tania did not refuse.

Out of Wildridge Manor, Zachary gave Serenity a call. The call was connected, but Serenity would *not* take the call.

Serenity did not reply to his text messages either.

She was presently at the Soxes' residence.

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Chapter 1374

The Soxes had just had their dinner. Since Serenity was not in the best of moods, Jasmine had a walk with her nearby after dinner.

“Seren, I remember you saying that your in-laws didn't pressure you to have children. Why are you taking in all the stress?”

The pair were best friends who could pass as sisters. Jasmine had been there throughout Serenity and Zachary's journey together. She had never heard about the York family rushing Serenity to have a baby.

“They did not pressure me, but I'm worried I might be the problem that I'm not expecting yet.”

Serenity sighed and added, “No one is giving me pressure, but I can't help putting the strain on myself. Even if my in-laws are from an ordinary family, I would be worried about not getting pregnant despite being married for a while. I won't feel much of it if we have been using protection.”

Jasmine's mind flew to the families she knew. The women usually got pregnant soon after the wedding, but most of them had a shotgun wedding now. A woman who had been married for more than six months and trying without protection would stir people to talk behind her back.

She could understand what her best friend was going through.

“Seren, I haven't been married. I've never experienced this, but I know you can't put the pressure on yourself. It's harder to get pregnant if you can't stop thinking about it. I believe you're fine. Just free your mind. Dwelling on it isn't good for you.”

Serenity let out another sigh.

“Jasmine, I'm not upset that I'm not expecting. We fought, and Zachary just left me. The face and tone he gave me really hurt.”

Wrapping her arm around her best friend's shoulder, Jasmine gave her assurance. "It's frustrating and infuriating that Mr. York did that. I'm furious for you. You should stay with me tonight. Don't go with him right away if he comes to pick you up. Let him feel the anxiety. I'll let my parents know to ignore any commotion out there."

"He loves brushing me off when he throws a tantrum. He might be back at the manor now. I don't expect him to come for me since he's giving me the cold shoulder," Serenity said tauntingly.

"Maybe it's a good thing. We can cool our heads. I need to reflect to stop being so hard on myself. Come what may. Let's check out our farming fields tomorrow."

Jasmine said with a smile, "Sure. I'll go with you wherever you want to go."

"I'll only take a day out of your busy schedule. Your engagement with Mr. Bucham is up. You won't have much time. Jasmine, things are going well for you and Mr. Bucham. You might not have a whirlwind romance, but you have realness in the mundane."

Jasmine and Josh never had a fight.

Josh had a high EQ.

He had a good temper, unlike Zachary who was used to the compliance of others. Zachary had tried his best to change for Serenity, but there were times his arrogance as an heir took over.

"Seren, your relationship with Mr. York is strong too. It's just an occasional squabble. It won't change the way you feel about each other. You can only grow from here."

Serenity fell silent for a while before uttering, "Let's head back. I had a bit too much to drink last night. My head is hurting since I hadn't caught up on sleep today."

"Sure."

Jasmine walked home with her best friend and even told her parents to enjoy their sleep in dreamland without bothering about what would happen tonight.

"Dad, should we release the hounds tonight?"

Mr. Sox replied, "I don't keep them on the leash at night."

Serenity followed Jasmine upstairs and to Jasmine's room.

"Wear my clothes, Seren. I have a lot of new clothes I haven't worn. We're about the same size. My clothes will fit *you*."

Jasmine went to her closet to bring out her new clothes for Serenity.

Seeing that Serenity drew close to the window and pulled the curtain to look down, Jasmine peeked downstairs and said, "My dogs will bark when he arrives."

"Will your dogs bite if they're not on a leash?"

Jasmine answered with a grin, "We lock the gate at night, so the dogs won't get out to bite anyone. The most they do is bark. Well, it's a different story if Mr. York decides to climb the fence." Would Zachary climb over the fence?

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Chapter 1375

Ring, ring, ring...

Jasmine's phone rang.

She looked at the caller on the display screen before telling her best friend, "It's Josh. I think your man might have sought help from Josh. Josh must be calling to ask where you are."

Serenity faintly uttered, "Just ignore him. Does he think he's the only one with a temper? I have a temper too."

Always having Serenity's back, Jasmine believed her best friend was not in the wrong.

Serenity was a confident and cheerful person, but for her to be worried about not being pregnant, the pressure had to somehow come from her man, Zachary.

Jasmine felt sorry for her best friend.

She wanted to help her best friend give Zachary a taste of his own medicine.

Ring, ring, ring...

With the phone ringing endlessly, Jasmine had to pick up the call.

"What are you busy with, Jasmine? Don't you miss me? It took you a long time to pick up. I miss you so much. I thought about driving to your place to check on you if you take any longer to take my call."

The perkiness in Josh's tone was the most moving sweet nothing Jasmine had ever heard.

Josh was good to her, and the pair got along well. There had never been a disagreement since they went on a blind date until now.

Sometimes, Jasmine thought her love life was going on too smoothly. Now that she had seen the fights her best friend and Zachary got into, and Serenity feeling down and hurt, Jasmine believed it was not a bad idea that she had a plain romance with Josh.

"I didn't have my phone with me. I was getting ready to shower when you called. I ran out of the bathroom to take your call. That was why it took some time," Jasmine lied.

She added with a smile, "I miss you. I miss you every second of the day. I see you in my dreams every time I go to bed."

Josh broke into a smile on the other end of the line.

Serenity learned something from listening to the conversation between her best friend and Josh.

She was cozy with Zachary, but they were not the kind to sweet-talk with one another.

"Jasmine, can I call you my wife now?" Josh lovingly asked.

Jasmine replied with a smile, "We're getting engaged in two days, and the wedding comes after the engagement. You won't be able to get away once we get our marriage license. You'll belong to me, and me alone. Who are you going to call your wife if not me? I'll skin you alive and feed you to the dogs if you take someone else as your wife."

Josh was quick to give his word. "I'll only have you in my life. Only you will be my wife. I miss you so much, wifey, but there's one thing I need to ask *you*. Is the CEO's wife with you?"

Jasmine turned to her best friend. Her guess was right.

Zachary would ask Josh for help right off the bat whenever the couple got into a tiff.

Josh was Zachary's love consultant.

It did not make sense that Zachary refused to give Josh an extra month of marital leave since Josh worked his ass off to help Zachary with his relationship.

Jasmine was Josh's beloved woman indeed. They shared the same thought of getting an extra month off work.

“What’s the matter?” Jasmine replied to Josh with a question instead, with no hurry to answer him.

Josh sighed and answered, “Oh, you know my boss. He got into another fight with his wife. It’s just a tiny matter, and yet he made such a huge fuss. Our dear CEO’s wife refuses to take his call or reply to his messages. He panicked when he got home and his wife wasn’t around. He had to come to me *for* help.

“So darling, our CEO’s wife is with you, right?”

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Chapter 1376

“Oh, you didn’t dig into it?”

Josh immediately said, “I didn’t because you didn’t like that everything was in my control while you know nothing. I won’t use my connections to investigate if it has anything to do with you. I’m just guessing that Serenity is with you. You guys are bosom buddies. She tells you anything that’s going on in her life.”

“Seren is with me. Tell Mr. York that Seren is staying with me for the night. She’s not going home for the time being.”

Josh answered, “Okay, I’ll let him know later. Is there anything you want to say to me, my dearest wife?”

“Your boss should serve as a cautionary tale. Don’t learn from him.”

Josh uttered with a smile, “Don’t worry. I do the opposite of what he does. I won’t copy the things that he angered his wife with.”

“You gave me no reason to worry. I love you, Josh. I love you to death!”

“Me too.”

Jasmine said, “You better reply to Mr. York before he freaks out. He loves Seren so much, but the little things he does... I’m going to take a shower.”

Josh could hardly bring himself to put down the phone.

He then gave Zachary a call. Once Zachary picked up, Josh uttered, “Your wife stole the love of my life and took time away from me.”

“I’ll bring her home right now, so she doesn’t take time away from you.”

Zachary guessed Serenity was at the Soxes’ residence too.

He had asked Aunt Audrey and was sure Serenity was not with her aunt. The only place left was

the Soxes’ residence.

Zachary did not bother to ask Elisa unless he was left with no alternative.

“Jasmine told me that your wife will be staying with her for a few days. It’s best if you refrain from disturbing her if it’s nothing important.”

Zachary tensed his facial muscles. “I am wherever she is. I’ll go and pick up my wife now.”

He then hung up on Josh.

Josh was going to remind Zachary that the Soxes had two vicious hounds. These dogs would usually just bark unless provoked, then they would charge ahead if someone were to break into the property.

The Soxes would tie these hounds to a leash during the day, but they were free to roam during the night. Nevertheless, the gate to the yard would be locked, so the dogs would not go out and scare other people.

These pets were perfect watchdogs.

The Sox family’s neighbors also had dogs as pets.

Before Wiltspoon’s rapid growth, the Soxes’ residence was in a rural area. While the name of the place was kept, the area the Soxes lived in had developed into a bustling town that could rival a major city.

The locals were loaded.

The Sox family was locals, making money off the rental industry. Nevertheless, the family kept a low profile and lived like an ordinary family. They still had nine-to-five jobs.

After making sure his wife was at the Soxes’ residence, Zachary informed Jim and the other bodyguards not to follow. He drove himself to the Soxes’ residence.

Despite feeling sleepy, Serenity tossed and turned while keeping an eye on any sudden movements from the dogs in the yard.

Knowing what was going on, Jasmine said, "The dogs will bark if and when Zachary comes. Don't think about him, Seren. Get some sleep. You didn't sleep well last night."

"I'm not thinking about him. Jasmine, I made up my mind to stay with you for a few days."

Serenity refused to admit that the infuriating man occupied her mind.

Jasmine smiled. "Alright, alright. You're not thinking about him. Well, sleep then. Stop tossing and turning. You're like a pancake being flipped on a pan."

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Chapter 1377

Serenity turned over and gave Jasmine a light pinch. "Alright, I'll sleep. I'm not flipping pancakes." Jasmine hugged her and offered comforting words. "You're basically an elderly couple now. Mr. York loves you a lot. It's just a miscommunication. It'll be over before you know it. Relax and go to bed. You're able to face another day once you get a good night's sleep."

"I'm so lucky to have you, Jasmine. At least I have someone to talk to when I don't feel good."

"Duh, we go way back. I come to you when I'm feeling down too. Come on. Let's sleep. Don't torture yourself with all those thoughts."

"Okay," Serenity answered.

Her best friend's assurance soothed Serenity to dreamland.

It was dark and quiet all around by the time Zachary arrived at the Soxes' residence. Everybody was deep in slumberland.

He pulled up at the gate of Jasmine's family home.

Zachary parked the car and gave Serenity another call.

Since Serenity was asleep, and her phone was on silent mode, she did not take his call.

As a last resort, Zachary braved himself to call Jasmine.

Awakened by the ringing phone, Jasmine accepted the call without looking at the caller ID.

“Who is it? Don’t you have a heart? Why are you calling in the middle of the night? I need my beauty sleep even if you don’t. It’s a sin to wake people up.”

Zachary murmured, “Ms. Sox, it’s me…”

“Who are you? You… Oh, Mr. York?”

Zachary answered in a husky voice, “Yeah, that’s me.”

Jasmine tilted her head to glance at her best friend who was beside her. Seeing that her best friend was in deep sleep, Jasmine gently got up and tiptoed to the window. She pulled the curtains open a little to look down. As expected, she saw Zachary’s car at the gate.

“Why aren’t you in bed at this hour? What’s the meaning of calling me in the middle of the night?”

“I’m at the gate of your house.”

“Oh.”

“Ms. Sox, is Seren asleep? Can you call her out? I’ll take her home.”

Jasmine said, “Why don’t you look at the time? She’s asleep. Come back in two days. She said she’ll stay with me for a few days. She’ll go home after my engagement party.”

Zachary took a moment in silence before uttering, “It’s before midnight. Is Seren really asleep, or does she not want to see me?”

It was still early in Zachary’s books. Nevertheless, to most, it was late at night.

“It’s good that you’re aware of that.”

Zachary fell silent.

“Mr. York, I told you what Seren wants. You can either go home or wait here until morning light to see if Seren wants to see you. I’m going to bed. Good night.”

Jasmine terminated the call before Zachary had a chance to say anything else.

She then put her phone on silent.

That way, she could hear nothing even if Zachary blew up her phone.

Zachary helplessly slipped his phone back into his pocket and lifted his head to look at the Soxes' house. There was a glint coming from a room on the third floor which Zachary guessed was

Jasmine's bedroom.

Judging by Serenity and Jasmine's friendship, they must be sharing a room.

Zachary wanted to shout out loud but was afraid he might wake the others.

He stood in front of the gate for a while before checking the surrounding walls of the Soxes' residence. They were pretty tall. Although the gate to the yard was high, it was easier to climb over there.

Zachary wondered if he should climb the wall and bring Serenity home.

Nevertheless, it would make people think he was a thief.

He could never show his face in town if word ever got out.

In the end, Zachary whipped out his phone once more to call Jasmine.

Jasmine did not answer.

Nevertheless, she was quick to send him a text message.

"Seren doesn't want to go back with you."

Having received the text message from Jasmine, Zachary believed Serenity was still awake. Only, she did not want to take his call or pay him any mind.

He decided to climb over the gate to get to her.

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Chapter 1378

Zachary believed that Serenity would go home with him so long as he made it inside without bothering the Soxes from their rest.

With that in mind, a certain somebody got into action.

He had no idea that the Soxes' hounds were spying on him in a corner.

Zachary climbed up the gate, ready to jump off when he turned and saw two wolfhounds fixating on him.

Zachary nearly lost his wits.

He knew that the nearby neighbors had dogs.

These dogs were barking as he drove past their houses to get to the Soxes' residence.

However, he had no clue that the Soxes kept dogs.

The dogs belonging to the neighbors stopped barking when he pulled up in front of the Soxes' residence and the Soxes' dogs did not make a sound either.

It never occurred to him that these hounds were not barkers.

The saying was all bark and no bite, but if it were the other way round...

These dogs would have ripped him apart if he jumped without turning over to look.

Woof! Woof

Seeing that Zachary had no intentions to jump, the hounds started growling at Zachary.

Zachary then noticed a light coming onto the Soxes' property. He quickly jumped off the other side of the gate and returned to his car upon landing. Leaning against his car, he pretended like nothing ever happened and tried to pull a cigarette out to smoke. Zachary could not find his cigarette pack.

He rarely smoked now since Serenity was not keen on the smell of tobacco.

Zachary did not carry any cigarettes with him.

"Who is it, Whiskey?"

Mrs. Sox's voice was heard.

She came out of the house and turned on the lights in the yard. With the dogs barking toward the gate, she walked down the steps to get a closer look.

Zachary approached the gate to the yard and said, "Mrs. Sox, it's me, Zachary."

Mrs. Sox saw him.

"Oh, Zachary. It's late. What brings you here?"

“I’m here to bring Seren home, Mrs. Sox.”

Mrs. Sox drew close, but she did not open the gate for Zachary. She said, “Seren said she had a headache, so she slept early. I don’t think we should wake her. Why don’t you just come in the morning?”

Zachary asked with concern, “Why did Seren have a headache?”

“She said she had too much to drink at the party and didn’t rest well today.”

Zachary blamed himself for that.

She was not able to catch up on sleep today because of him. That was why her head hurt.

“Mrs. Sox, I see there’s a light in the room on the third floor. Is Seren awake?”

Mrs. Sox turned around and looked up to the third floor. She answered, “No. That’s Jasmine’s night light. It’s just a slight glimmer.”

“Oh,” Zachary remarked.

He wanted to pick Serenity up, but Mrs. Sox said Serenity had gone to bed early on.

She did not want to wake Serenity.

Now that he knew Serenity had a headache, Zachary did not want Mrs. Sox to wake Serenity either.

“I’ll come by in the morning to bring Seren home, Mrs. Sox.”

Mrs. Sox replied, “You might want to come early. Jasmine talked about taking Serenity to check on the progress of their investment project first thing in the morning.”

“Okay. I’ll be here by dawn. Thank you, Mrs. Sox.”

“You’re welcome. Now go home.”

Mrs. Sox petted the hounds and said, “He’s not a stranger, so stop barking. Go lie down.”

The hounds obediently turned around and crouched in their corner as they continued to watch the house.

Mrs. Sox then turned on her heel and walked back to the house.

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Chapter 1379

Zachary watched as Mrs. Sox returned to the house and closed the door behind her. He stood in front of the gate for a while before waltzing back to his car.

He sat in silence for a few minutes before starting the engine and driving off.

Zachary arrived at the Soxes' residence first thing in the morning.

The gate to the Sox family's home was wide open, and the two hounds were tied to a leash.

Zachary had a bad feeling that he arrived too late.

He pulled up and before he could even get out of the car, Mrs. Sox, who was sweeping the yard, approached him with a broom.

"Mr. York, Jasmine and Serenity are out. They went to Liberty's diner."

Zachary asked, "How long have they been gone?"

"Around twenty minutes. Serenity woke up and said she needed to pick Sonny up from her sister's, so they left early."

Zachary thanked Mrs. Sox and uttered, "I'll head to my sister-in-law's breakfast place then."

"Okay," Mrs. Sox answered.

Zachary quickly drove away from the Soxes' residence.

He dialed Liberty's number while on the road.

Liberty took the call.

"Morning, Liberty."

"Oh, morning, Zachary. What's the matter? You must be looking for Seren. Seren and Jasmine are having breakfast here."

Liberty had no idea that the couple had another argument. Since she was busy, Liberty handed the phone to her sister and said, "It's Zachary."

Now that the phone was with Serenity, Liberty was back to working mode.

Serenity was tempted to hang up, but Zachary cried out anxiously on the other end of the line, Please don't hang up, honey. I know it's my fault. I'm to blame for everything. I shouldn't have left you alone and gone off on my own. It's all my fault."

She listened without a word.

"Don't ignore me, honey. Please don't avoid me, okay? Don't leave yet. We can have a good talk. I can go with you if you want to check on the progress of your project."

Serenity finally broke her silence, talking in a flat tone, "I wouldn't dare ask the great Mr. York to keep me company since he's busy."

"I'm sorry, honey."

His wife's sarcastic remarks prompted Zachary to apologize.

"Be careful on the road. I'm having my breakfast," Serenity faintly uttered before ending the call. She returned the phone to her sister.

"What's up?" Liberty asked her sister amid cooking for the customers.

"My phone was put on silent last night. He panicked because he couldn't get in touch with me, so he called you instead."

Serenity pulled out her phone to cancel the silent mode.

"Why did you put your phone on silent out of the blue? You can carry on with your work later. No need to look after Sonny. The boy starts his lesson at the gym today."

"Okay." It slipped Serenity's mind that Zachary made arrangements for her nephew to learn and defend himself.

Zachary riled her up so much that her memory was failing her.

Jim was responsible for Sonny's pick-up and drop-off at William's gym.

Serenity left before Zachary arrived at the diner.

Along with Jasmine and Elisa, they headed to her hometown together.

Prior to leaving, she sent Zachary a text message.

“Home for dinner tonight.”

This was her giving in to the fight.

There was a difference between loving and not loving someone.

The couple would engage in giving each other the cold shoulder without backing down when they were not in love. Serenity thought nothing of their quarrels back then.

Now that they had feelings for each other, they missed one another like crazy from just being a night away. He freaked out, and she felt bad.

Having received his wife’s message, Zachary went straight to the office instead of going to his sister-in-law’s diner.

Zachary ran into his future sister-in-law, Camryn, at the entrance of the office building.

Camryn was holding a cane in one hand and a bouquet in another. It appeared she was here to deliver flowers to Callum.

Picking up on steady footsteps, Camryn stopped in her tracks.

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Chapter 1380

Facing Zachary, Camryn probingly said hello, “Is that Mr. York?”

There was a glimmer in Zachary’s dark eyes. The girl could determine the person by their footsteps.

“Ms. Camryn.”

Zachary greeted back in a low voice, “Are you here to deliver flowers to Callum, Ms. Camryn?”

Camryn nodded with a smile. “Mr. Callum ordered a bouquet from my shop. He asked me to make the delivery right now.”

Zachary asked, “Did you come here on your own?”

“Yes.”

Zachary believed Callum was on his way to his own undoing. He knew Camryn could not see, and yet he expected Camryn to deliver the flowers all by herself.

Nevertheless, Zachary said nothing.

This was Callum's business. Zachary could stay **out** of it and observe from the sidelines.

"Do you need help to get upstairs?"

"Thank you, Mr. Zachary. That won't be necessary."

She remembered the route as she had been here twice. Camryn could get to Callum's office without guidance.

Without another word, Zachary went ahead into the office building.

With Zachary's footsteps fading, Camryn took her time to head inside.

The two receptionists greeted her, and Camryn returned them a smile.

Ten minutes later, Camryn stood outside Callum's office and raised her hand to knock on the door.

There was no response on the other side of the door.

She waited in silence for a bit before knocking on the door once more.

The door swung open.

Standing in front of Camryn, Callum looked at her.

"Mr. Callum."

Camryn presented Callum with the bouquet and uttered with a smile, "Here are the flowers you ordered. That will be three hundred bucks."

Instead of taking the flowers, Callum turned around and walked inside while telling Camryn, "Come in."

Camryn was quiet for a moment before following Callum into the office.

"Shut the door if you can."

Camryn felt around for the door handle and closed the door for him.

“Come and take a seat.”

Callum drew close to the sofa and sat down. He told Camryn to come over.

Camryn determined the direction from the sound of Callum’s voice until she felt the back of the sofa. She slowly ran her fingers along the sofa to find a seat when suddenly, she felt a warm sensation on the touch. It was Callum’s hand.

She recoiled her arms.

“Are you trying to take advantage of me?”

With a hot breath closing in, Callum’s shameless words penetrated Camryn’s eardrums.

Camryn answered, “I’m sorry, Mr. Callum. It was an accident. I can only apologize if you think that I’m taking advantage of you.”

Out of the blue, Callum gently grabbed her by the chin and plucked her face up to get a better view of her features.

Camryn was calm throughout, neither flustered nor screaming as Callum inspected her face.

Soon, Callum let out and removed her sunglasses. He said, “Yesterday afternoon, your dad—hang on—your uncle contacted me. He said I saved you and witnessed your most vulnerable moment when *you* were nearly humiliated.”

He stopped talking at that point.

Camryn felt her way to the sofa and sat down. She then put the bouquet on the coffee table.

“He wants *you* to marry me, right?”

“So they told *you*?” Callum asked.

Truth be told, Mr. Newman beat around the bush, but that was what he was hinting at. Callum was tempted to laugh.

The thing suggested by Mr. Newman was right up Callum’s alley.

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