

Chapter 408 A Wife Not A Partner

Albert didn't believe Rena's words.

"Are you really capable of this?" Albert asked, his eyes warily narrowing at Rena.

Rena continued tending to the roses, seemingly oblivious to Albert's questions. She marveled at the beauty of these stemmed roses and wondered how elegant they would look once put in a vase.

After a while, she smiled at Albert and replied, "Just wait."

With his nerves on edge, Albert thought about smoking, but on second thought, he decided not to.

At that moment, Waylen approached them.

A shaft of sunlight pierced through the window, making the garden feel as warm as spring. Rena was wearing a white wool dress while quietly arranging the flowers.

Her figure looked particularly slender whenever viewed from behind, and her long brown hair cascaded down her waist like a majestic waterfall.

Had Albert not been present, Waylen would've wanted to flirt with her.

Seeing her with another man, he couldn't help but feel jealous.

Nevertheless, he quietly approached her and took the vase. "This is gorgeous," he said.

Rena smiled.

She then turned to Albert and said, "Don't worry. I will fulfill my promise."

When Albert saw their quiet intimacy, mixed feelings brewed in his chest.

He wanted to get closer to Rena, but his brain told him to restrain himself and keep a respectable distance from her.

Eventually, he left.

Once he was gone, Waylen asked Rena, "Why did you get along with him alone?"

Rena fiddled with the vase before shooting a glance at Waylen. "Why? Are you jealous? Or are you just making up an excuse to get something for yourself?"

Waylen chuckled in response. He leaned closer to her, his lips almost touching her ear, and whispered, "You really know me well, honey."

Although he said so, he didn't do anything aside from keeping her company.

Rena continued meticulously arranging the two vases of flowers in front of her. Once she was done, she gave one of the vases to Cecilia.

When Cecilia saw it, her face brightened. She liked it very much.

Meanwhile, after attending to Kyle, Mark went back to the bedroom. There, he saw Cecilia fiddling with the vase. With some alcohol coursing through his system, he had a certain level of bravery that he would otherwise not possess. "I don't usually see your hands working this hard," he said with sly smile.

Cecilia didn't want to understand the real meaning behind his words.

But after having sex with him for so many times, it was difficult not to see that he was teasing her.

With flushed cheeks, she uttered, "You keep teasing me just because you think I won't fight back."

Hearing this, something within Mark was stirred.

How could a man hear such a soft voice from his beloved one and not feel anything?

Slowly, Mark approached her as he reached out for her hand. Then, he carried her in his arms and brought her to the sofa.

With her arms wrapped around his waist, Cecilia could feel the warmth of Mark's body radiating through his thin layer of shirt. The heat must've made his face look red.

Mark looked down at her as he gently caressed her face.

"When have you ever not fought back?" he said in a hoarse voice.

Whenever topics like this were brought up, Cecilia would always end up in a disadvantageous position. Flustered by the question, Cecilia stammered as she retorted, "But you... You never listen to me!"

Her childish antics made Mark's eyes soften.

Without saying anything, he lowered his head and kissed her lips.

But before the kiss could go any deeper, Cecilia pushed him away. "I thought... I thought we had a deal?"

"I never agreed to it," Mark responded gently.

He leaned closer and began planting soft kisses in her ear. "Cecilia, if a man doesn't want to do it with a woman while they're together, then there must be something wrong with their relationship," he whispered.

How could a man bear not to touch his woman?

Cecilia pursed her lips and looked away. After a while, she gave a hesitant nod.

As their intimacy grew more passionate, something kept niggling at the back of Cecilia's mind. She caressed Mark's sweaty cheek and, in between moans, she said, "Kyle came here two days ago. I think Rena was remarkable since she could handle him properly. Mark..."

She sniffled. "Do you think I'm useless?"

At this moment, Mark was so attracted to Cecilia and hungry for her body that he didn't have the patience to console her.

After all, he was just a regular man with regular desires.

He lowered his head and playfully bit her nose. "Why do you say you're useless?" he said affectionately.

He then lifted her up and threw her to bed. Then, he pounced on her like a starved lion and began doing her.

Once the sex was finished, Cecilia rested her head on Mark's chest, catching her breath.

Although her face didn't show it, Cecilia was still bothered by the fact that Mark had a lot of competent women around him. Aside from Cathy who was astoundingly capable, Miss Holt was remarkably outstanding as well.

Although Cecilia despised Cathy, she couldn't deny Cathy's capability.

The thought of this fact brought a sense of insecurity and jealousy in her.

By now, Mark had already calmed down. When he saw the look on Cecilia's face, he could tell she was still thinking about it. So, he planted a consoling kiss on her forehead and said, "I want a wife, not a partner. Why would I need a capable woman?"

Hearing this, Cecilia felt much better.

She grazed his skin with her soft fingertips and drew circles on his chest. "Rena is capable. But Waylen and Rena have a good relationship," she said coquettishly.

Mark smiled. Indeed, Rena was capable, much like most members of the Evans family. Her character didn't resemble her mother's. Rena's mother was Reina, who was Mark's younger sister.

Cecilia was like Reina. Both of them had a simple yet lovely air about them.

The more Mark looked at Cecilia, the more tender his eyes grew.

He placed his hand on the back of her head and pulled her closer to him, almost burying her face to his chest. "They are who they are, and we are who we are," he told her.

This was one of the things that Mark liked about Cecilia the most.

If he wanted an able woman to be his wife, then he could've married someone while he was younger.

At last, Cecilia felt reassured thanks to Mark's words.

After wiping his nose with the back of her hand, she bit his shoulder a few times before whispering, "My brother said they'll be going back to Duefron in five days. He also said he wanted to bring me back with them."

As soon as Mark heard that, his eyes shot wide open.

For a second, he thought he had misheard. Cecilia would leave in five days?

Mark wanted her to remain by his side, but she sounded like she really wanted to go. "I also have some work to take care of after the holiday," she added. "I'll be waiting for you in Duefron, Mark."

A small smile broke on Mark's lips. "Okay. I'll visit you and our son whenever I'm free."

Given they couldn't see each other after a few days, Mark couldn't help but indulge in their intimacy.

Cecilia wanted to lose herself in their passions as well, but she was worried about his health. After all, he was already at this age.

When she brought it up, Mark's face crumpled. "What age? Have I not satisfied you well?"

He seemed particularly offended by this. As punishment, he did her rough, reaching his climax after she begged him for mercy several times.

On the other side, Rena had plans of her own.

She had been carrying out her plan in secret.

A guest from Duefron had been staying at the Evans family's house for a day already. Now, this very individual was in Zoey's room.

Neither Mark nor Cecilia knew about this.

After Rena finished her work, she came back to Duefron with Waylen and their children together with Cecilia and Edwin. Edwin didn't want to leave Zoey and was crying.

Mark was so occupied with his work that he didn't even have time to see them off.

Cecilia sat on the private plane and stared at her phone for a while before reluctantly turning it off.

She totally understood Mark's predicament. After his project failed, its launch had to be delayed for another half a month. He must be stressed out and loaded with work. He didn't invite her to pay a visit to his workplace.

Cecilia would like to have a see if she could make time for it.

After all, Mark had been exerting painstaking efforts on this for the past several years.

Waylen sat next to Cecilia and began folding the newspaper. When he saw the disappointed look on her face, he snorted and said, "Once you get married, you can see him all you want."

Cecilia was caught off-guard by his words and blushed. "I don't miss him at all!"

Seeing her get flustered, Waylen chuckled.

In response, Cecilia stuck out her tongue like a petulant child.

When they got back to Duefron, they went their own separate ways. Waylen took Rena and their children back to the villa.

Upon reaching home, the children began playing freely while Waylen and Rena headed upstairs.

The two of them didn't like it when the servants would come into their bedroom and clean up. Thus, they often cleaned the room themselves.

Since Rena was pregnant, Waylen did all the heavy lifting and started to unpack their luggage.

Rena smiled, thinking how considerate Waylen was.

Although she wanted to rest, the sight of him working so hard for her stirred something within her. Out of impulse, she walked toward the cloakroom and wrapped her arms around his waist.

Her sudden move took Waylen by surprise.

Nevertheless, he was pleased with her gesture. "I know I'm an attractive man, honey, but you have to learn how to restrain yourself."

Rena didn't retort his teasing words.

She leaned against his back and whispered, "Waylen, you are so sweet."

Waylen's heart melted at her words.

He whispered back, "I did promise to be a good husband and father, didn't I? Besides, I like doing these things for you."

Rena chuckled, remembering that when they first met, he occasionally enjoyed social activities.

While he didn't flirt with women, he certainly knew how to work a room.

Just as something more intimate was about to happen to them, a servant knocked on the door, ruining the mood for the both of them. "Mrs. Fowler, a lady named Helen is here and wants to see you."

"Okay!" Rena shouted, loud enough for the servant outside to hear.

With a resigned sigh, she planted a kiss on Waylen's cheek. "I'm going to see her."

But before Rena could even take a few steps forward, Waylen grabbed her arm and pulled her closer to him.

"Isn't she Albert's mother?" he asked, a slight hint of uneasiness flashing in his eyes. "Rena, although I know that you're doing this for Mark, I'm still jealous."

Rena smirked. She had been married to Waylen for a long time now and knew exactly how to handle him.

She gently stroked his arm and said softly, "But I'm not only doing this for Mark. I'm doing this for Cecilia as well."

Kyle had been seeking connections with the Fowler family recently, and Rena was interested in the project that Kyle was doing.

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succeeded faster and thus, making Cecilia feel better.

Waylen quietly stared at Rena. Actually, he wasn't really jealous. He just wanted Rena to comfort him. He liked it whenever she cared about him very much.

Waylen pursed his lips and pretended to be coy.

Even though he was silent, Rena had a good idea on what was running through his mind. With a smile, she stood on her tiptoe and kissed him on the lips. "We already have several children, and yet, you're still acting like this."

In response, Waylen held her slender waist, and the two of them kissed passionately.

After a while, their lips pulled away, catching their breaths as they exchanged one last kiss before Waylen let her go downstairs.

Before she went down, Rena made sure her clothes didn't appear wrinkled.

When she arrived downstairs, she was greeted by the sight of an elegant, beautiful lady sitting on the sofa.

Her name was Helen Weston, and she was a renowned novelist. She was Albert's mother.

Standing on the staircase, Rena flashed a welcoming smile and greeted, "Hello, Helen."

Although Helen was already in her forties, she looked young at her age.

Upon hearing her name, Helen bolted up from her

seat. "Be careful on your way down," she said as she rushed to Rena's side.

"Don't worry," Rena assured Helen with a smile. "I'm not that fragile. I exercise every day."

The two of them sat down and engaged in a relaxed conversation.

While they were talking, Helen showed Rena a beautiful parenting book. Since it was published abroad, it was difficult, if not impossible, to find a local copy. Upon browsing through the pages, Rena enjoyed what she had seen so far.

After their casual chat, they finally got to the point.

Rena took out an invitation and handed it to Helen. "There will be a charity party next month. All the celebrities across the country will be attending it. Helen, I understand you don't want anything to do with Kyle, but you have to think about Albert's future. The Moore family has no heir apart from Albert. I won't comment on Kyle, but partnering with him will undoubtedly help Albert lead a different life."

This topic was a sensitive issue for Helen. Helen didn't like it as she watched Albert lead a reckless life and hang out with women all day.

Helen wanted to see Albert get married, have his own child, and get his life on track.

Upon recalling Albert's past, Helen sank her head and said, "I... I failed to do right by him. I've just stood by and seen him lead such a life."

Since Helen and Rena got on well, Helen started to share her worries.

Rena patted Helen's hand, offering some reassurance.

Since then, Helen had become a distinguished guest of the Fowler family. From time to time, she would come and pay Rena a visit. Strangely enough, although Albert would also come to her home, he and Helen had never actually bumped into each other.

Rena went upstairs, carefully leaned her back against the sofa and stared at the ceiling as she let her thoughts run wild.

Once Waylen was done unpacking their luggage, he approached Rena and placed an arm around her shoulder. "What's wrong?" he asked her. "Anything bothering you?"

Rena placed her hand atop his and fiddled with his fingers.

Then, with a sigh, she said, "Albert's mother just told me something about Albert. After listening to her, I can't help but feel sorry for Albert."

Waylen just smiled. He instantly knew what she was guilty about. It was about Albert and Aline having sex.

Waylen, however, didn't think it was a big deal.

"Oh? The guilt weighed you down?" Waylen deliberately teased.

Though sensing the teasing in his tone, Rena clarified,

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"Not that serious."

Rena knew how to coax Waylen and bring a sense of security in him. She turned around, pressed her face against his stomach, and said, "Waylen, you're my love story."

As Waylen smiled, the look on his eyes softened.

In the next half month, Rena attended several banquets with Helen.

Although these events weren't grand enough, they were all attended by dozens of celebrities.

Once they had attended enough of these events, people started to know about a lady named Helen, who was connected with Zoey. Helen was Zoey's daughter's age.

Besides, Helen often showed up with Rena.

Given Helen's connection with Zoey and Rena, no one dared to mistreat Helen.

Rena thought she had done enough and could move on with her plan.

She employed Albert to work in the company. From time to time, she would even give him useful advice.

Since Albert had inherited Kyle's business acumen, he quickly picked things up. Besides, he never wanted to disappoint Rena.

When Kyle heard of Albert's rapid progress, he called Rena to thank her.

"I just managed to give Albert a leg up, Kyle," Rena told Kyle. "Albert did well with the opportunities I offered to him."

The two of them exchanged casual small talk for a while. During that, Rena was secretly maneuvering the conversation toward the project she desired to secure for Mark's sake.

Coincidentally, Kyle happened to look for cooperation on this.

Kyle didn't mind working with Mark since the cooperation could bring him countless exclusive benefits.

If the cooperation was established, he could form a connection with the Fowler family and also give a helping hand on Albert's promising career.

It was like killing multiple birds with just a single stone.

Thinking of this, Kyle agreed to her proposal, which sent Rena over the moon.

"Well, let's meet at the charity party next week," she said to Kyle. "We can sign the contract by then."

Kyle chuckled. "Rena, you truly are a skilled businesswoman," he complimented her. "Are you sure you don't want to go back to the business world? I have many projects in hand. If you want to, I would love to share some of the work with you or Mark. Of course, it would be better if Albert could continue to learn something from your substantial guidance."

Rena just smiled silently.

She did all these to get Albert occupied with work and make it less possible for him to show up in her life.

She wanted Albert to take charge of the family business willingly.

That way, he might fail to make time to chase after her anymore.

Albert had stated he had a crush on her. Moreover, he kept showing around her. Although Waylen didn't voice his displeasure about this, Rena knew she needed to do something.

Although Rena had lots of thoughts swirling in her mind, she didn't blurt any of them out loud.

Their phone conversation was ended.

But mere seconds after, her phone rang again. This time, Vera's name was flashing on the screen.

Upon connection, Vera hastened to tell Rena that Aline was sentenced in advance because of various interferences.

In the end, Aline was given the harshest verdict of all: the death penalty.

Although Rena had expected this result, it still left her a bit stunned. After all, Aline was once her classmate. For Aline to meet such a tragic fate like this made Rena sigh.

After a while, Vera added, "She said that she wants to

see us."

At first, Rena thought Vera would reject Aline's proposal without hesitation. But to her surprise, Vera said, "Let's go and meet her. This will be the last time we'll ever see her."

Rena forced a smile as she asked, "Why are you being so compassionate all of a sudden?"

Vera cast her eyes to the floor and answered, "Rena, Joseph will be going with us. I suppose this will bring some closure to the story."

As Rena listened to Vera's words, she realized Vera had not yet moved on even after all these years. Until now, Vera still held a deep-seated hatred.



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