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Gu Lingfei: Married At First Sight Chapter 91

Ring, ring, ring...

Serenity's phone rang.

Picking up the phone for a look, Serenity saw that it was her sister and took the call.

"Seren, did you see the news on Twitter? They're too much!"

Liberty was up in arms.

As she was fifteen when their parents died in the accident, Liberty had a clearer memory of the events that followed.

Liberty kept a diary of every detail of their grandparents and uncles' heartless deeds. She still had the diary in possession.

It never occurred to Liberty that these relatives would do a one-eighty and point finger at the sisters.

"It's not like they turned bad overnight. They have always been evil."

"I'll go online now to explain our side of the story."

Liberty was about to hang up when Serenity stopped her. "No need to jump to our defense. Let the story sit for a while before we respond. Then, it's our turn to show the whole world who they are.

"Since they put our faces and numbers online, we should do our homework and stick the evidence in their faces."

"What do you plan to do, Seren? You have my full support. That reminds me, I had the habit of keeping a diary back then and I still have it. I remember everything they did to us. How about we post the diary online?"

Surprised that Liberty kept a diary, Serenity replied, "Send the diary to me, Liberty. I'll compile the proof we need to fight back. I'll post a long tweet together with the evidence and make them regret for putting us in this spot."

Did the relatives think the online attack and cyberbullying would intimidate her from going down without a fight?

"Alright."

"Don't get involved, Liberty. I'll handle it. You have Sonny. These trolls can be ruthless to go after you and your son. Don't go online in the next few days. Turn off your phone or change your number. We can stay in touch with your new contact number."

Liberty was reluctant. "This involves us both. How can I let you face it alone?"

"I know you're not scared, but you have a son to protect. He's young. God knows if these people would harm your family."

Cyberbullying could go as far as harassing the family.

Serenity was mainly concerned about her young nephew getting dragged into this.

“Don’t worry, Liberty. I’ll sort it out. Remove your SIM card and contact me when you get a new number.”

“Okay.”

Liberty responded, “I’ll head to your shop right now.”

Although Liberty agreed to get a new SIM card, she was not going to stay out of the matter.

After the sisters ended the call, Liberty received a call from her husband. Hank yelled at her through the phone, “Is the article online tweeted by your relatives? I told you to cut ties with them. I don’t care what happens to you, but don’t get me and Sonny involved.”

Now that Hank had climbed his way to a managerial position, his income was a lot more than what it used to be.

Those bloodsuckers would try to milk him dry if they were to find out about it.

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With her husband blowing up on her, Liberty was furious and disconcerted. She snapped back. “Don’t worry. I won’t get you involved.

After what I did to my relatives, I had no intention of staying in touch with them.

They’re the ones who won’t leave me and my sister alone.

They want me and Serenity to pay for Grandmom’s medical bills.”

Realizing that he might have come out harsh, Hank toned it down.

“Liberty , you can write a tweet to clear the air.I’ll pay for professional trolling to hype your post.You must refute their claims.Don’t let them twist the story around.”

Although Hank was disgusted by Liberty’s presence, he had to admit that her relatives loved to spin stories far from the truth.

When he and Liberty got hitched, these relatives filled two cars and intimidated Hank with great numbers to fork out a lump sum of family support.

Otherwise, they would not see the marriage through.

Hank and Liberty were college sweethearts , so he knew the sisters had it rough coming this far in life.

Over the years, Liberty had never once badmouthed the relatives.

Although she despised them, she was not one to air her dirty laundry.

However, as if the hurt from fifteen years ago was not enough, these relatives had the nerve to demand more money from him.It was outrageous.

Liberty drove them out of there and did not invite them to the wedding, refusing to give them even a dime.

In Liberty's words, she was not indebted to her relatives since they never raised her.

Although Liberty welcomed them to the wedding to celebrate the joyous occasion, they could forget it if they were here for something else.

They had no say over her marriage.

Liberty became an independent woman and took guardianship of her sister after their parents' death.

"Seren and I will deal with this. Don't worry. You won't be caught in the crossfire. Worst comes to worst, we can divorce if they find you and ask you for money. This way, they won't come after you since you'd have nothing to do with me." Hank immediately replied, "What are you saying, Liberty? What divorce? I was just worried about Sonny."

Divorce was in the cards for Hank, but his son was still young.

Reading the disappointment in her

Even if Hank got custody of the kid, who was going to take care of Sonny?

He would proceed with the divorce once Sonny was older and no longer needed to be tended to.

Jessica often brought up that she would never become a mistress who could only hide in the shadows.

Hank should divorce Liberty and be with her if he really loved her.

With Jessica having Hank wrapped around her little fingers, Hank was subservient to her every wish.

While Hank went halves on everything with Liberty and refused to contribute more to living expenses, he was generous with Jessica.

Hank had a dinner date with Jessica tonight at a five-star hotel.

"Alright then. I better get back to work. Call me if you need me." Hank put down the phone before Liberty could say anything

A contrast to Hank's eagerness to dissociate himself from the scandal, Zachary was a lot more thoughtful.

Zachary had no time to catch up on the latest gossip.

Josh, however, told his secretary to keep an eye out after he was tasked with investigating the Hunts.

His secretary happened to come across the Hunt sisters' scandal when she was checking out the viral tweet about her CEO.

She immediately reported the matter to Josh.

Josh called his boss right away to update him about the news.

Zachary had noticed Mike's connection to the press when going through the file on the Hunts.

He predicted that the relatives might turn the online community against Serenity to get an edge.

Needless to say, he was right.

Instead of calling Serenity, Zachary left his work at hand to his people and drove straight to Serenity.

Serenity was surrounded by neighbors by the time he got to the shop.

They did not jump on her, but rather just inquired whether the story online was true.

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“We’ve been operating on business on this street for years now. You all know what Seren’s like. Whatever that’s written online is bullsh*t.” Serenity did not say much to defend herself.

It was Jasmine, who could not stand people getting the wrong message about her best friend, sticking up for Serenity.

Jasmine spilled the beans on the sisters’ hardship while they were in the hands of the Hunts.

It was a tell-all account that included the latest fiasco of the relatives demanding Serenity to foot the grandmother’s medical bill and cover the cousins’ gas and whatnot after the grandmother had fallen ill.

Everybody had borne witness to Serenity’s character.

Even the other booksellers down the street, despite the competition among businesses, believed Serenity was not that kind of girl.

Now that they got the whole story, everybody was fired up to put the truth across to the netizens.

The Hunts should not get away with this.

Now that was a low blow even for the Hunts.

They were stepping on Serenity and her sister because their parents were not around.

Spotting Zachary, Jasmine elbowed Serenity who was scribbling something off the notepad.

Since the whole debacle took off, Serenity did not turn off her phone or change her number.

However, she only took calls from friends and rejected unknown numbers.

The demeaning text messages that netizens bombarded her phone with were left unread.

Calm and collected, Serenity wrote a retaliation strategy down on the paper.

“Your man’s here, Seren.” Jasmine was really liking Zachary now.

He rushed to Serenity’s side in her time of need.

Even though they married in a haste, Zachary took upon the role of a husband.

Serenity lifted her chin as Zachary took steady paces over.

Zachary quickly stood before her desk.

Jasmine gave them some space.

Zachary first assessed Serenity's emotional state.

He was at ease to find her level-headed.

With his eyes drawn to the paper at the cash register, he picked it up for a look.

His eyes reflected commendation by the time he shifted his gaze back to her.

"What brings you here?" Serenity asked.

To be frank, Serenity was swallowed into a warm embrace when Zachary stepped into the room.

He told her before that he would have her back.

Zachary was true to his words.

He came over the moment she was in trouble.

"I was worried, so I came to check on you." Zachary's voice was husky.

"I can relax now seeing that you're coping well."

"Did you take time off? Would that affect your work attendance?"

Zachary's attendance at work seemed to be more of a concern to Serenity than her own situation.

Attendance must be crucial at a major corporation.

Serenity would feel bad if her issue got in the way of his work as that was the last thing she wanted.

Zachary said faintly, "I've been with the company for many years, so being a senior has its perks.

Don't worry about my job.

What's taking a few hours off just to see if you're okay?

"Come on."

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Serenity fell into contemplation before agreeing to let Zachary come with. Walking around the cash register, Serenity told her best friend, "I'm heading out for a while, Jasmine. I'll leave the shop in your hands. Reassure my sister that everything's going to be okay when she comes over. I'll sort things out."

"Okay."

After telling her best friend to be safe, Jasmine watched as Serenity and Zachary took off.

Sitting in Zachary's car, Serenity asked him, "Mr. York, do you know anyone in the media?"

"Yes. Do you need their help with something?" Serenity replied, "I'm going back to my hometown to take photos of my uncles' houses. It'll be more convincing with a third party validating it. I still don't know what my relatives do for a living."

Her grandparents were still hogging her family home too.

Serenity intended to snap photos of their living conditions.

A visual proof was crucial to disapprove their claims.

As for the public witch hunt online, Serenity was not going to go into that for now.

She should let sparks fly for a moment.

With online trolls taking the lead, the netizens tore into the sisters like never before.

Once the finger-pointing was reversed, the netizens would realize they were used and unleash their fury on the Hunts.

Serenity was only paying back an eye for an eye.

“I got some friends to dig into your relatives’ jobs and incomes. You can write about what happened once you get pictures of their houses. I can find someone to write for you if you need help in that department.”

“Thank you. That won’t be necessary because I won’t be posting a tweet. My sister had the habit of keeping a diary and accounting for what happened. She still has the diary, so I’m going to take photos of her entries to put online for everyone to see.

“My grandparents signed a contract with us when they took a share of the insurance money. There are three copies of the contract. The town council and my relatives each hold a copy while my sister and I have one. I’ll share the contract on the web too.

“The truth will prevail and justice will be served.” Serenity was completely unfazed.

“It’ll be more convincing if the town council tweets their copy.”

“My sister and I have been away for a long time. The town council won’t help me, considering we don’t live there. Granddad mentioned that John is doing well for himself and earns an annual income of a million. The whole town is one big family. I’m sure the town council will be on their side since they’re affluent there.”

Zachary quietly navigated the road. He knew Serenity had a point.

“My sister’s diary and the contract in our possession should be enough.”

Zachary remained silent.

He decided to wait until he got to a rest area to give Josh a call. He needed Josh to get the community’s seniors and the people from back then to speak up for Serenity.

Josh was more than capable of making it happen without being there.

Poor Josh would be speechless to hear about this.

However, it was not an overkill to get Josh involved as Zachary was more well-versed in the dark nature of human beings than Serenity.

The evidence Serenity intended to provide could very well be used against her.

It was hard for the sisters to walk away from the scandal should the Hunts question the authenticity of the contract.

The key for the sisters to turn the tide was to get the insiders to speak up and prove the Hunts did Liberty and Serenity dirty.

The few people from the media who adopted Mike's story could expect to be banned from journalism forever!

Those who laid hands on his woman were challenging his authority.

Zachary was not going to let these people who twisted stories and slandered the innocent walk free.

"Thank you, Mr. York." Serenity had no idea the man beside her planned to unleash his wrath on the people involved.

She was just grateful that Zachary was here for her during her most vulnerable time.

Zachary uttered solemnly, "We're husband and wife."

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Caught off guard by the response, Serenity ensued with a smile.

"Many couples break up in the face of adversity. We got married without knowing anything about each other and have only lived together for two weeks. I'm grateful that you're willing to face this together with me."

in the scandal if not handled well.

The people around her might be embroiled

"My sister and brother-in-law were college sweethearts and had been dating for years before tying the knot. They also have a son together. My brother-in-law wasn't very nice when he discovered that my sister and I were villainized on the internet."

Zachary fell silent for a while before responding, "Serenity, you can't use your brother-in-law as the benchmark for every man out there. It's unfair to them and not everyone's the same."

He believed Hank's feelings for Liberty had gone sour.

As the new addition to the family, Zachary did not want to point out that Hank was having an affair without proof.

However, it was his gut feeling that Hank was up to no good.

"You have a point." By looking at Liberty's marriage, Serenity was turned off by love and matrimony.

Serenity was lucky her man was decent.

Although there were times he hurt her pride, Zachary was reliable when it mattered.

Her mind wandered back to Jasmine's teasing.

Since she had signed the six-month contract with Zachary, why could she not give the relationship a go? a rest stop ahead.

"There's Do you need the loo? I want to fill up the tank."

"Sure." Serenity was fine with it.

The car cruised along the highway for a few minutes before pulling up at a rest area.

Zachary stopped the car at the parking lot.

The couple got out of the car together.

However, Zachary returned to the car on his own after washing his hands to give Josh a call.

With Josh answering the phone, Zachary instructed in a gruff voice, "Josh, I don't care what you do or how you do it, you need to get those in the know to speak up for Serenity." Josh replied after a pause, "It's no big deal. I can get it done with a single phone call."

Zachary was bringing out the big guns over the littlest matter again.

After all, Josh had engaged with the community there while investigating the Hunts.

"What does Serenity plan to do?" Since the CEO's wife was at stake, Josh had to ask.

However, the truth was, he was just being nosy.

"She's gathering as much evidence as possible to prove the relatives can afford the medical fees. She's going to pull out the signed contract as well as proof of the Hunts' treatment toward her and her sister. I think we can turn things around if the community stands up for the girls."

"Serenity seems composed, level-headed, and speaks with reason. She's just like you." Raising his brow, Zachary snapped peevishly, "How is she like me?"

"She's your wife. She got her composure from you after spending so much time with you. She got it together despite being made the victim. What? Do you hate that I praise her wit and poise? Are you taking it the wrong way?" Josh mocked Zachary.

Zachary was tempted to hang up in Josh's face.

"Can you send someone to the hospital to check on her grandmother's condition?"

"Got it."

Josh readily heeded the call and asked, "I've offered you quite a bit of help here. Can I take a week off once you're back?"

"You get a day at most. People might think you're going to get fired if you rest for a week. Clive has been waiting to get one-up on me and poach you. He might be upset that it's not going to happen."

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“Of course, I can give you an extra day if you’re going on a blind date and getting married.”

Josh disconnected his boss-cum-best-friend’s call.

Zachary was trying to lead him astray! Not happening! Zachary only married in haste because his nana made him do it.

Grandma May took a fancy to Serenity so much so she sacrificed her darling grandson’s marriage.

After giving out directives to Josh, Zachary got out of the car and went to get some snacks.

By the time Serenity returned , Zachary had snacks ready for her in the car.“ It’ll take some time to make the roundtrip.Have something to eat.Don’t starve yourself over a tiny issue,” he said.

“Have you eaten?”

“Yeah.” Zachary ate just enough to stop the hunger.

The snacks were not to his liking, Seeing that Zachary was full, Serenity helped herself with the food

Zachary was tasked behind the wheel while Serenity filled her belly.

Serenity’s hometown was over an hour’s drive on the highway from Wiltspoon.

It had been nearly ten years since Serenity returned to the place.

The sisters would come back for the summer holidays in the past, but their return was usually met with the grandparents’ cold shoulders.

Their grandparents would not feed them, so Liberty and Serenity had to source their own food.

That was nothing compared to a later time when their grandparents tossed out their belongings from their rooms touse as storage.

The sisters had no place to stay when they returned.

With their parents gone, their grandparents were the girls closest family.

Not only did they refuse to take the girls under their care, but they also kicked the girls out and occupied the home left behind by the girls’ parents.

Liberty and Serenity did not have close ties with the local community as they were young.

Although some people felt sorry for the sisters, they were powerless to defend against the grandparents.

Serenity’s grandmom had quite the temper and a vile mouth.

Not many in the community had the guts to step on the grandmother’s toes.

The sisters were also not welcomed to visit their parents’ graves or look into the parents’ will under the excuse that they were young.

In fact, the grandparents took the liberty to name one of the sisters’ cousins as the adopted son of their deceased parents.

Under such circumstances , Serenity and Liberty had no reason to come home.

If Serenity remembered correctly, the so-called adopted son was John.

The grandparents did so for John to take over the house, land, and farm left behind by Serenity's parents.

Zachary was a stranger in the rural area while many did not recognize Serenity as it had been a while since she was back.

It gave Serenity full access to take photos of her uncles' residences.

Back then, her grandparents took her parents' insurance money and split it between the uncles.

The uncles used the money to build new houses and start businesses.

Life could not get any better for them.

Now, the uncles lived in their standalone villas.

They had the most lavish lives in the community.

Setting foot back in the place she once called home, Serenity stood at the gate and stared at the house built by her parents.

Memories of her parents flooded her mind and filled her chest with suffocating despair.

There was a catch in her throat as tears in her eyes glistened against the light.

Zachary stood not too far behind and watched her quietly.

Knowing that she was on an emotional roller coaster, Zachary had the sudden urge to offer her comfort and a shoulder to cry on.

Time passed.

An old lady was walking by when she caught sight of Serenity.

She stopped for a closer look before exclaiming in joy, "Are you..."

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Serenity swiftly wiped away her tears before turning to look at the lady. Serenity immediately recognized her. "You must be Mrs. Deli." The lady was one of Mom's close friends when Mom was still alive.

"It's me. You came back."

Mrs. Deli was very friendly toward Serenity.

"Do you want to come by my place for a catch-up?"

She looked at the house and said to Serenity, "I heard your grandmother is sick and getting treatment at a hospital in the city."

Your grandfather and your uncles made quite the fuss when sending your grandmother there.

They all took their cars.

People might mistake them for going to some wedding or holiday.

"I've never seen them so proactive, but somehow, they were very zealous the moment your grandmother fell sick. They were just putting on a show for us." Mrs. Deli had no idea about the tweet online since she was without internet.

The viral tweet had not been up for a few hours, so it had not spread far and wide yet.

"Mrs. Deli, do they usually ignore my grandparents?"

"They only visit your grandparents during the holidays. Your grandfather has a pension and some money left from your parents' insurance. Your grandparents have nothing to worry about. I heard they have a savings of four hundred thousand dollars. Mrs.

pointed at the villas and said, "Those villas belong to your uncles. They're the richest people in our community. Your grandfather loves boasting about his children and grandchildren..

"If it wasn't for... Is this your boyfriend?"

Mrs. Deli believed Serenity's uncles only had everything going for them because the grandparents took half the insurance money and split it with their sons without any regard for Serenity and Liberty who had just lost their parents.

Only then, the uncles had the funds and means to build their careers.

All the relatives now own assets worth over a million.

It was a contrast to Serenity and Liberty who lost their parents and home. It had been a while since Mrs.

Deli heard from the sisters.

Now that Serenity was back, Mrs. Deli was happy and felt bad for her, but what could Mrs. Deli do about it? "This is my husband, Zachary." Mrs. Deli uttered in delight, "Oh, you're married? When?"

"We recently got our marriage license, but the reception hasn't happened yet."

"I see. Your parents would be happy to see you married. Sigh. Your parents were such nice people but left before their time. Your relatives really took advantage of you and your sister. I've been waiting for justice to prevail. They should get what they deserve for all the bad they've done."

It was a shame that karma never struck back.

Zachary gave Mrs. Deli a nod as a greeting before pulling out his phone to tap on the voice recording function.

He had secretly recorded the conversation between Mrs. Deli and Serenity.

With Mrs. Deli extending a warm invitation, the couple went to her place and stayed for dinner.

After dinner, Mrs.

Deli whispered to Serenity, "I'm relieved that you and Liberty are doing fine now. You must be careful not to let your grandparents know about it. Your grandmother is sick. I think it's the early stage of liver cancer. The surgery probably costs a lot of money.

"Knowing them, they will be shameless enough to make you and Liberty pay for it, even though they have more money.

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"Back then, your grandparents said you didn't have to help them with the cost of living if you split them half of the insurance money. Besides, your grandmother is blessed with a lot of children. You girls shouldn't be forking out the money for her medical bills.

"Your parents were still at the morgue when they seized a share of the blood money and hogged your house and land. They wouldn't even take you in or let you visit your parents' grave. Don't feel bad for not footing your grandmother's medical expenses."

As a close friend to Serenity's mother, Mrs. Deli was aware of the events at the time.

Once the uncles got their hands on the cash, they wanted no part in the funeral since Serenity's parents died in a gruesome car crash. Her uncles either feigned sickness or made up some sort of excuse to evade the responsibility.

It was the mayor who had to step in and give the family a telling-off.

With the community giving them judging looks, the uncles begrudgingly helped put the funeral affairs in order.

"Yeah. They are ridiculous."

After learning that Serenity was back, some of the townspeople dropped by Mrs. Deli's for a catch-up.

They had nothing to be afraid of since Serenity's grandparents were not around.

Talking about that fateful event, everybody was ceaselessly exchanging their views.

They reflected their sympathy for Liberty and Serenity through their narration.

Zachary recorded the exchange. He also told the townspeople about the viral tweet and that their recorded conversations would serve as proof to retaliate.

Having found out that Zachary put their voice on tape, the townspeople felt put on the spot.

Since there was no way to run from rubbing the Hunts the wrong way, they might as well rise to the occasion and lend Serenity a hand.

Everybody went into detailed accounts about the Hunts' misdeeds toward Serenity and Liberty so Zachary could have evidence to put forth a strong case.

Meanwhile, Old Mrs. Hunt sat on a bed in a ward at Wiltspoon General Hospital, looking rather alive and well.

Although she had liver cancer, Old Mrs. Hunt kept a positive attitude.

The cancer was still in the early stages, so the illness had not consumed her.

Old Mr.Hunt was peeling an apple for his wife as he asked his oldest grandson.

“Mike, didn’t you say your plan was bound to work? It’s been a while now, but Serenity and Liberty haven’t presented us with the money.

“Your grandmother’s going into surgery in two days.The surgery and post-op care cost a few hundred thousand dollars.The girls must be doing well for themselves considering they have been in the city for years.They must foot the bill no matter what.” Old Mr.Hunt still carried traditional patriarchal values, albeit not shown on ordinary days.

However, those beliefs reared their ugly heads when money was at stake.

Reluctant to spend his sons’ and grandsons’ money, Old Mr.Hunt expected the daughters and granddaughters to cough up cash.

This time, the couple had their minds set on getting Serenity and Liberty to pay up.

The old folks were still bitter about Liberty refusing to pay for their maintenance when she got married three years ago

Mike uttered calmly, “Don’t worry, Granddad.The effects are starting to show.I got my friend to help me with the tweet.It’s still viral on Twitter.Many netizens are calling out their atrocity and ungratefulness .They mentioned that a pet dog was more loyal than the sisters.”

It was satisfying for Mike to read the condemning tweets about the sisters.It was payback for blocking his number.

“I’ll get John to write another tweet.” John was a senior executive in a subsidiary of Stone Group.

He had a secretary who could pen a good article.

Netizens always loved a good sequel.

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“Won’t they try to explain themselves online?” Old Mr. Hunt asked.

The internet was a foreign world to the old man.

However, he knew the story his grandson posted on Twitter was made up.

He was worried that his two granddaughters would straighten the facts and leave the Hunts without the money and pride in the end.

“Who would believe them? We hired trolls to write nasty comments and spill dirt on Serenity and Liberty.The netizens will blast them to kingdom come if they even so much as get online.”

Old Mrs.Hunt chimed in.

“Mike, use my phone and give Serenity another call. She better delivers the money right now if she doesn’t want to face public outrage. Liberty probably doesn’t have much money since she has a family. You must get Serenity to open her wallet.”

“Say that you’ll delete the tweet in exchange for six hundred thousand dollars or be prepared to be ruined. She won’t be able to show her face in public,” Old Mr. Hunt added “Granddad, we shouldn’t be the ones to call them. We can only get what we want if they contact us instead.”

Mike believed the trending tweet should be able to force his cousins out of hiding.

Old Mr. Hunt believed Mike had a point after thinking about it.

The person who made the first move would be the loser.

Old Mrs. Hunt contemplated for a while before saying, “People might not recognize them since the photo you used was over a decade old. Liberty was looking more like her mother the last time I saw her. Serenity takes after her father.”

Mike answered helplessly, “That was the only picture we have of them. They didn’t stay in touch after they turned eighteen. Where was I supposed to find a recent photo?”

The sisters changed a lot once they reached womanhood.

“Ah, why did the tweet drop from the trending list?” Mike witnessed the tweet dropping in the Trend ranking.

It fell a few more places minutes later when he refreshed the site.

With the tweet about to be drummed out from Trends, he quickly gave his friend a call.

Despite getting an answer, Mike could not do anything about it

“What happened?”

Old Mr. Hunt asked worriedly, “Is the story not trending anymore because Serenity and Liberty cleared the air?” Mike mentioned that there were some netizens coming to the sisters’ defense when the story went viral.

These people clearly knew Serenity and Liberty personally.

“No. Apparently, the viral tweet ahead of us wasn’t getting as much traction after our tweet blew up, so our tweet had to be pushed to the bottom. The viral tweet is the gossip about the richest heir in Wiltspoon and the heiress to Stone Group.”

It was Elisa Stone.

She had finally made news with Zachary, but the story about a pair of ungrateful granddaughters stole her limelight.

Fueled by anger, she pulled some strings to get traffic taken off the Hunts’ tweet.

Thanks to Elisa’s meddling, the Hunts’ tweet quickly made its way down the trending list.

Mike's only option was to seek help from his media friends to share the tweet so the story could reach a wider audience.

Serenity and Zachary arrived back in the city at nightfall.

"Let's grab dinner." Zachary uttered tenderly, "We'll get dinner at a restaurant before going to your sister's place."

"Sounds good to me." Throughout the day, Serenity observed Zachary's approach to handling things and began to have trust and confidence in him.

Zachary was slick and sharp while staying perceptive and considerate of her feelings.

He made sure she never went hungry either.

He took Serenity to a fine-dining restaurant.

The couple picked a table by the window to be seated.

They had just ordered from the menu when Zachary's phone rang it was Nana.

"Zack, are you with Seren? I think she turned off her phone."

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Zachary quietly handed the phone to Serenity. With many netizens blowing up Serenity's phone with text messages and calls, her phone was out of battery.

Serenity could at least get some peace and quiet, but her friends and family had trouble getting in touch.

"Who is it?"

"Nana," Zachary answered.

Serenity took the phone and greeted, "Nana."

"I just got online and found out about the tweet, Serenity. Are you okay? Do you need help? Just let Zachary know. He's been around the business world to know a lot of big CEOs. It's a piece of cake for him to sort things out.

"Don't feel shy to ask. You're married. You can tell me if he doesn't even help with this tiny favor. I'll beat him up." Grandma May had only learned about it now.

It was mainly because the viral story did not get far enough.

Plus, the tabloid post about Zachary and Elisa snagged the attention away from the tweet.

It did not make much of an impact either when it was retweeted by the press.

Grandma found out from Callum that her darling granddaughter-in-law was painted in a bad light by her relatives.

"I'm alright, Nana. It's not a big deal. I can handle it, and Zachary has been a huge help. He has been with me the whole day." Nana replied with a smile, "It's good to hear that the boy has a heart and pulls his weight as your husband."

She had a different thought in mind though.

Grandma May was counting on the days for their relationship to blossom once the couple spent more time together.

Her grandson should always be there to make Serenity's problems disappear.

It was the perfect opportunity to develop feelings for each other.

Her grandson would discover the appeal of Serenity's independence and unyielding self-empowerment while Serenity would learn that her grandson had a soft touch hiding under a tough exterior.

Grandma May could not wait for the day when the young couple became real husband and wife.

That would be the time she could welcome a great-grandchild.

Well, Grandma May was not going to say that in Serenity's face.

Grandma May hung up after checking in on Serenity without sparing a word with her own grandson.

Zachary was not a stranger to Nana's favoritism.

Since Nana had no granddaughters, she poured all the love to her only granddaughter-in-law and spoiled Serenity rotten.

Once the other grandsons got married, Nana would probably share the love among the other granddaughters-in-law too.

After getting something to bite, Zachary drove Serenity to Liberty's place.

Hank was not home yet.

He sent a text message to Liberty, informing her that he would be home late due to a work engagement.

Liberty needed not to stay up for him and should head to bed with the kid.

Liberty would not count on her husband to help or comfort her anymore.

However, she was worried about her sister.

With Serenity and Zachary here, Liberty sighed in relief. "Where were you, Seren?"

"I took a trip back to our hometown and collected some evidence in our favor. Are you doing okay, Liberty?"

Liberty responded, "Yeah. I've been disconnected from the world while I took care of Sonny over the years. I don't go out much, so it doesn't really affect me. It's been quiet since I changed my phone number."

“The tweet didn’t last long on the trending list, but it started making rounds again after the press retweeted it. I had a former colleague who saw the post and shared the link with me, asking if the tweet is talking about us.” Serenity was seething with rage.

These people had no shame.

So, the relatives were not going to let her go, huh? “Liberty, can you bring me your diary? It’s high time we play ball.