

Gu Lingfei 181

Chapter 181

With Shawn gone, Jasmine expressed her concern.

“Seren, did your sister have another argument with your brother-in-law?”

While caressing her nephew’s head, Serenity replied, “Hank is still at his parents’ home. He told my sister to return his portion of the living expenses because he wasn’t eating at home. He wants his cut back.”

Jasmine responded after a brief pause, “He’s not much of a keeper, isn’t he?”

Serenity

fell silent for a moment before answering, “My sister needs to find stability before she can think about the future.”

Jasmine was without a word.

“How was Mrs. Dawson’s party? Did you have chemistry with her son?”

“My head is still aching.”

Serenity blinked her eyes and burst out laughing. “Don’t tell me you faked being drunk at the party?”

It was all about poise and grace within the higher society.

Jasmine could forget marrying

“Well, I didn’t get drunk or go crazy, but I pretended to be intoxicated after consuming lots of wine. I lay on the floor and pretended to sleep. My aunt frantically dragged me out of there. I think my aunt won’t ever take me to any events now!

Jasmine went all out to get her elders off her back about marrying a rich and powerful guy

Although the wives of Wiltspoon’s finest did not attend Mrs. Dawson’s birthday party, those of the rich social class were there. Jasmine’s fake drunkenness and sleep-on-the-floor stunt was a complete faux pas.

She threw a drunken fit at Mrs. Dawson’s birthday party.

In a circle where gossip spread like wildfire, it did not take long for the whole community to find out.

These wives, who were hung up about status, looked down on Jasmine. There went Mrs. Lowe and Mrs. Sox’s plans to marry Jasmine up.

The Soxes were locals of Wiltspoon and made their money during the property boom. Since Jasmine’s parents took over the family business, their assets had doubled, if not tripled.

Nevertheless, in the eyes of the rich and powerful, the Soxes were nouveau riches who only struck a gold mine by luck due to the property boom.

Mrs. Lowe was able to marry into the Lowes due to her prowess and determination to make it through. She also bore a son, which secured her position as the woman of the house. However, not every woman in the Sox family could be as lucky as Mrs. Lowe.

Judging by Mr. Lowe's treatment toward Mrs. Lowe, Mrs. Lowe sure wore the pants in the marriage.

Serenity said in disbelief, "You sure risked it all."

"Desperate times call for desperate measures."

It was never Jasmine's intention to marry someone rich and powerful. Instead of looking for love, she was waiting for love to come to her. Her family did not need to rush her into marriage as she would marry when Mr. Right came along.

She could go on hundreds of dates but would not find chemistry with anyone if the time had not come.

"I think my mom and aunt will get off my back for a while."

"Your aunt probably wants to dissociate herself from you and pretend she doesn't know you," Serenity uttered with a grin.

Flashing back to when silence befell the room, and all eyes were on Jasmine when she pretended to be drunk and lay on the ground. Her aunt frantically picked her up and dragged her out of the scene.

Jasmine stole a glance at her aunt's face.

Her face bore so many emotions.

She burst out laughing.

"Hahaha!"

his aunt and Jasmine were giggling.

Sonny joined in on the laughter

This made the girls laugh even harder.

Guffaws filled the air.

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Sonny snacked on the pastry and played in the shop. His favorite toy was in the diaper bag. He could sit there all day and just play with the toy.

Jasmine told her best friend, "Sonny has a good focus.

Just look at him playing with the toy." "That's just because he's in a new environment.

He'll tear the roof of the shop down when he's familiar with the place.

Serenity often looked after Sonny for Liberty, so she had firsthand experience of Sonny's mischievousness.

Taking out her tools, Serenity began a rush job crafting and said, "I gave the maneki-neko to Ms. Stone since she likes my knick knacks.

So, I was thinking of making another one for Zachary because we're husband and wife, and we live together.

He could've waited.

"Instead, he got angry at me when he found out I apologized and admitted my mistake.

I even soothed him and offered to make him an extra craft before he was able to let the whole thing go.

I'm going to try to get his presents ready today I don't want to face his stone face when I get home tonight.

Jasmine told Serenity off, "Of course he would be angry w omised the maneki-neko to him, so it belonged to him.

Of gave it to Ms.

Stone without his permission." "It was my fault, and I apologized to him.

He seemed unhappy when he came home last night anyway.

I guessed he had trouble at work." The truth of the matter was, Zachary was frustrated because Serenity failed to pick up on the fact that he wore the clothes she gave him to work Ring, ring, ring....

Serenity's phone rang.

Fishing her phone out of her pocket, Serenity noted Grandma May on the caller ID She took the call.

"Nana." "Are you busy, Seren?" "Not too bad.

What's the matter, Nana? I'm all ears.

You're my priority no matter how busy I am." Serenity had often met up with Grandma May to chat before she got married.

Grandma May barely dropped in on her after the marriage.

The old lady probably did not want to be a third wheel while Serenity and Zachary bonded.

This was Zachary's request.

He said that he would concede to Nana's demand to marry Serenity, but that was where he drew the line.

Nana was not to interfere in his life after marriage.

He needed to be a judge of Serenity's character to see if she was worth spending the rest of his life with.

Grandma May was afraid her eldest grandson might be angry and treat Serenity poorly if she continued to meet with Serenity.

Grandma May had been holding herself back from seeking companionship with Serenity.

“Nothing much really.

Isn't tomorrow the weekend? Business at your shop is slow on the weekends.

Are you off during that time? I was thinking of spending the weekend at your place.

Can you ask Zachary if he's okay with that?” Grandma May was eager to find out if there was progress between the couple.

If so, to what extent? Callum mentioned that Zachary looked like he was jealous sometimes.

Grandma May was itching with curiosity.

“Nana, you can come anytime you want.

You don't need our permission.

It's your grandson's home, so it's basically your home too.” Serenity got along with Grandma May.

Plus, the house belonged to Zachary.

Grandma May was more than welcomed to come over for a break.

She felt her little home with Zachary was too quiet.

Sometimes, Serenity felt she was all alone in the house when Zachary did not speak or pay her any attention.

She wondered if she could get a couple of pet dogs and cats to care for.

That was an idea she planned to discuss with Zachary tonight.

“I should still ask Zack.

What if he doesn't want me to be the third wheel and ruin your alone time together?” Grandma May knew her grandson too well.

He would not like her turning up in case she got something up her sleeve again.

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Serenity said, “Not at all, Nana. I'll let him know tonight. Are you getting Callum to drive you over tomorrow, or should we pick you up?” “I'll get Callum to drop me off, probably in the afternoon, Callum sleeps until noon during the weekends.” Her grandsons would have their much-needed break on the weekends.

Not wanting to disrupt their rest early in the morning.

Grandma May often let them sleep in.

She planned to get to Serenity's place in the afternoon "Alright then.

What do you fancy eating? I'll cook dinner." Since Grandma May was coming in the afternoon, her lunch with Shawn could go on as planned.

Still, Serenity would bring Grandma May along to the luncheon if the latter came in the morning.

It did not matter as Serenity was buying lunch anyway "I enjoy your cooking Your food is the best." Having tasted Serenity's cooking, Grandma May mentioned in private that her eldest grandson was lucky to have a terrific cook in the house The whole family thought Serenity was a great gal, but Zack's mother, Tania, was not so keen as Serenity was an orphan and up in a rural area.

Grandma May had talked to his mother-in-law multiple times about it.

Their family was wealthy enough, so there was no need to strengthen their social status through diplomatic marriage.

All that mattered was the children's happiness.

Tania did not want to say much in Grandma May's presence as Grandma May was fond of Serenity.

However, Tania would grumble about her mother-in-law to her husband in private, whining that Grandma May's golden child might be Zachary, but she made Zachary marry an orphan from the rural area.

The woman was only holding Zachary back It would be hard for a country bumpkin like Serenity to fit in with the ladies when Zachary's brothers and cousins marry proper high-borns.

Serenity would not get the respect of her sisters-in-laws.

It was a good thing Tania found out that her son signed an agreement with Serenity.

She felt better knowing that the couple would separate six months later if they had no feelings for each other.

Tania knew a thing or two about the son she gave birth to.

Serenity was not the type that could steal her son's heart.

Even an heiress like Elisa did not have what it took It was nothing more than a duty to Zachary as a grandson to repay Serenity for saving his nana's life.

Tania had not shown her displeasure toward Serenity as a means of giving herself leeway.

In the event her son really fell in love with Serenity, Tania would acknowledge Serenity as her daughter-in-law.

Nevertheless, she would have to guide and teach Serenity, so the latter would not become an embarrassment when attending events with Zachary.

"Don't let me keep you, Seren. I'm going out with an old friend, and it's almost time to meet her. That's it for now. Don't forget to ask Zachary. I don't want him to find fault with you." Knowing how her grandson loved to be on top of things, Grandma reminded Serenity to let Zachary know.

Serenity acknowledged with a smile and waited until Grandma May hung up.

She then turned to her best friend and said, "I get the feeling that Nana is afraid of Zachary." "With a character like that, anyone would find Mr.

York terrifying." Reminded of Zachary's fluctuating moods, Serenity stopped talking.

She wondered how Grandma May managed to convince Zachary into marrying her at first sight.

At Wiltspoon General Hospital, Old Mrs.

Hunt had surgery yesterday, and the surgery was a success.

However, she was staying in the ICU ward for a two-day observation before she could be released to the general ward.

The rates for the ICU ward were costly.

Together with the surgery fee, the bill that the Hunts received daily hurt their wallets badly.

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The hospital bills were covered by Old Mr. and Mrs. Hunt's savings for now. Old Mr. Hunt said that his children and grandchildren should chip in to pay the bills once old Mrs.

Hunt could be discharged from the hospital.

As for the cost that Old Mr. and Mrs. Hunt had borne, the children and grandchildren were to return the money to them.

It did not feel right for old folks like them to carry on living without any money at hand.

The old folks might be money-hungry, but they knew their children and grandchildren would not be so nice if they had nothing left to their name.

It was better to count on a wad of cash than their birth children. Since the old couple had savings of several hundred thousand dollars, the children would only receive about a hundred thousand bucks per family if split evenly.

Still, nobody was going to say no to free cash.

With the nurse coming in with yesterday's charges, Old Mr.

Hunt picked it up for a look. Scowling, he said, "It hasn't been a few days, but we're almost running out of money." old Mr.

Hunt told his children.

"Discuss among yourselves the amount to fork out.

Pool the money and pay the bill before the hospital starts asking for it." "Dad, have you spent all of your money?" The oldest son of the family asked.

Old Mr. Hunt glared at him.

“What? Not happy to pay? Do you think your mom and I can afford to bum through cash like this? How many of you contributed since your mom fell sick? Your mom and I raised you and helped you to settle down.

Now that your mom is sick, shouldn't you pay the medical fees?” The oldest son immediately retorted, “Dad, we're not saying that we won't pay, but we don't know how much it's going to cost in total.

The hospital stay has been hemorrhaging cash for the past few days.” Even though they were quite well off now, their mother's hospitalization was bleeding them dry.

The oldest son felt the pain at the thought of paying for it.

No wonder people said that it was all right to be poor but never to get sick” It's all your fault for not getting those brats to cough out the money.

You wouldn't have to pay if you could take hold of them.

If anyone's to be blamed, it's those brats.

I don't care how you do it, but the only way you can back out from paying is by getting Serenity to pick up the tab.”.

John had asked a friend to dig up an update on Serenity and found out that Serenity owned a huge bookshop near Wiltspoon School.

Her business appeared to be doing well.

He heard that Serenity also had an online business which was quite successful too.

Serenity's monthly income could reach up to tens of thousands as John mentioned.

Liberty, who was most assertive back then, had a tough marriage.

She was a stay-at-home mom now and without a penny to her name.

Old Mr.

Hunt believed Liberty should have seen it coming as she had refused to give the relatives a lump sum for family support when she got married.

That was karma.

Now she should sleep in the bed she made.

Silence befell the room.

It was excruciating when it was their turn to pay.

The Hunts may have dropped the idea of making Serenity foot the bill before, but now they were back to cracking their heads for Serenity to bear the cost.

“That reminds me.

Is John still suspended from work? Is it still a big hoo-ha online?” Old Mr.

Hunt asked Chris.

The old man did not surf the web, so he had no access to the nasty comments online.

It did not affect him in any way.

A few people came to the hospital and lashed out at the Hunts in the first two days, but the hospital's security guards chased them away.

The Hunts had called the cops, and the angry netizens practiced self-restraint now with the cops involved.

The most harm they did was blasting hate messages online at the family.

Since then, nobody came to the hospital to chew them out.

No matter what, Old Mrs.

Hunt was a patient who just got out of surgery.

The netizens said that the Hunts were something else.

The netizens might be taken to court by the Hunts should anything harm Old Mrs.

Hunt after their tirade.

The netizens would lose a fortune if they had to compensate the family for damages.

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The only adverse effect Old Mr. Hunt noticed was inflicted upon his most valued and successful grandson, John. Due to the Twitter issue, John was suspended by his company. It never occurred to him that Serenity's retaliation would bring about John's suspension. John was a senior executive in the company, only second to the managing director and deputy managing director.

Following a call from the headquarters, John was placed on an administrative leave.

John's annual salary was over a million bucks.

"Not yet. John treated his boss to a meal and found out that the sister of Stone Group's CEO demanded that John be put on leave without pay and kicked out of the company.

It was a good thing John that is good at what he does and only got a suspension.

The company didn't fire him, so things could change for the better." Old Mr.

Hunt asked out of concern, "Why is the CEO's sister out to get John? Don't tell me the brat found herself an ally?" "Nah. Ms. Stone is an heiress of the second most influential and wealthiest family in Wiltspoon. Their family's worth is close to a hundred billion put together, right beneath the Yorks. How could she be Serenity's ally? I heard Ms.

Stone messed with John because the viral news took the public's attention away from the gossip about her and the heir of the Yorks." The two trending stories were unger on Twitter now.

John should be able to return to work when Ms.

Stone got over her anger.

“It’s all that brat’s fault for giving us so much pain.

The news is no longer trending on Twitter, right?”

“The netizens are still talking about it though.I still see a lot of hate messages online.” Old Mr.Hunt cursed Serenity out before asking, “Didn’t you say you found some sort of mediator from a TV program to act as a peacemaker? Even if it’s just for show, it should happen.

Don’t let this little thing affect our children’s careers.” Serenity’s tit-for-tat response jeopardized his children’s and grandchildren’s livelihoods.

They were losing money.

The other day, Old Mr.Hunt told his grandsons to look for Serenity and discuss a reconciliation.

That did not end well.

“Let me ask John.” Chris pulled out his phone to call John Since Old Mrs.

Hunt was still in ICU, not everybody needed to keep watch over her.

Hence, only the older folks remained at the hospital while the grandchildren went about their business.

John quickly picked up his father’s call.

“John, how are things going on with the mediation?” With a grimacing look on his face, John replied, “Dad, I was about to call you.We can forget about that.The mediation is not going to happen.Everything was underway, but those people suddenly said they weren’t going today.They won’t even tell me the reason.I’m furious.” As the third-in-command of his company.

John was cocky.

It had been a while since he was outsmarted and this time, he lost to his cousin.

He hated Serenity’s guts, “Can’t we just switch to another TV program?”

“My friend said that no mediator was willing to take up the task No amount of money could persuade them.

My friend mentioned that Serenity might have found someone to back her up I can say it’s someone with power since no mediators dare take the job.” John believed he had extensive connections.

He and Mike were pretty influential back in their hometown.

They were always on top of things However, they were losing ground this time.

John and Mike’s friend had been asking around.

Yet, they could not sniff out the identity of Serenity’s backer.

Perhaps they were just being paranoid.

Or perhaps, Ms.Stone was behind it.

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It was said that Ms. Stone was all over Mr. York. She was livid that the Hunts stole her thunder when she finally had her name next to Mr. York's on the trending news.

Ms.Stone did not seem like an heiress as she acted like she had never met a man in her life! It was revolting that Ms.Stone quashed the Hunts time and again just to woo a man.

Despite the Hunts' efforts to stick and work together, there was nothing they could do about Ms.Stone.

After coming to the city and going through all those unpleasant experiences, Old Mr.

Hunt realized that the world was bigger than he knew.

He thought his grandson was impressive and amazing, but there were people out there who were ten times better than his grandson, if not more.

"How did that happen? Wasn't everything agreed upon and underway? Your uncle and I got the script ready to put on a show during the mediation so the public would know we see the error of our ways, whereas Serenity would be seen as someone holding a grudge for refusing to reconcile. However, now you're telling me it's canceled?" Old Mr.Hunt's oldest son, Stuart, asked anxiously.

"What did John say? Is the mediator refusing to help?" John mentioned a few more the phone before his father hung up.

Chris turned to Stuart and said, "No mediators are coming forward. The best we can do now is to swallow our prides and pay Serenity a few more visits. John took the young ones there the last time. You know youngsters. They can be impulsive. Noah even said he'll smash Serenity's shop. He didn't go there to reconcile. I think he made the whole thing worse.

"Stuart, we should talk it over with everybody. We, the grown-ups, should personally apologize to Serenity. Maybe we can convince her to delete the tweet and share a post that we have settled our differences. It's the only way we can get out of this in ess." The power of the internet was beyond everything they knew.

Things had gotten out of hand.

Sigh.

Had they known, the Hunts would not have taken this approach.

They would have demanded money from Serenity at her workplace.

It was probably a better idea "I guess we don't have any other choice." Serenity neither knew about the Hunts' new attempt to bury the hatchet, nor did it matter to her. Her relatives may want to patch things up, but Serenity was not

going to budge and fork out the money. The Hunts look a chunk out of her parents' life insurance payout and occupied her parents' home and field without taking Serenity and Liberty under their care.

Now that the Hunts needed money, they expected Serenity to dish out hundreds of thousands for Old Mrs.

Hunt's medical bills Serenity might find it in her heart to compensate Old Mrs.

Hunt a little if the relatives were on the breadline Yet, the Hunts were wealthier than she was.

Why should she pay for the medical ins then? When the afternoon came around, Serenity got lunch ready and waited for her sister to eat together.

As her mind wandered to the man who tried to shut her up with money, Serenity had a passing thought about bringing Zachary over to have lunch together.

She told Jasmine, "Jasmine, I'm going over to bring my man here for lunch.

Watch the shop.

Tell my sister that Sonny has already eaten when she comes." Sonny had soft-boiled vegetables and a bit of formula before he went for a nap.

Jasmine teased, "Ah, I see Mr. York comes to mind when you have good food to share. It seems your relationship with him is going well."

"He's the one supporting my means and covering all the living expenses. He should get a taste of the food I make. I'll take a cab there and get a ride back with him."

"Hurry along. I'll be here." Jasmine was happy that her best friend was making strides in her marriage.

Serenity left for York Corporation.

She only phoned Zachary once there.

Zachary, Josh, and a few senior executives were talking business with an important client when Serenity's call came in.

Furrowing his brows, Zachary hesitated for a moment before taking the call.

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"Mr. York, I'm outside your office. Are you on your lunch break yet? I'm here to take you to my shop for lunch. Surprise!" Zachary was lost for words. Sure, it was a surprise, but not the good kind.

Thank goodness he was good at staying composed because that was quite a scare.

"Mr. York?" Serenity said as she did not get a response from the man.

Tugging on his tie, Zachary replied in a husky voice, "I'm on my break but the client hasn't left. We're still ironing out the business details with the client, so it'll probably take a while. Why don't you go ahead, and I'll meet you at your shop for lunch?"

"How long more do you need? I didn't drive. I took a cab. It's okay. I'll wait for you outside your office building. We can go back together when you're done with your work" Zachary lifted his arm to look at his

watch before responding, "There's a dessert shop right across the office. Wait for me there. I'll see you in a bit."

Serenity turned her head and saw the dessert shop.

Without a second thought, she took Zachary's suggestion. Once Serenity hung up the call, unconsciously sighed in relief.

He was afraid she might barge in ... and that would give his game away...

Since Serenity came for him, Zachary went to the VIP reception and quickly closed the deal with the client. He then arranged for Josh and the few senior executives to take the client to have a meal at the Wiltspoon Hotel. "Aren't you coming along, Mr York?" the client asked.

"Something came up, so I can't have lunch with you, Mr. Johnson. We'll have it some other time"

The important client today was none other than Remy Johnson, a member of the wealthiest family in Annenburg. FC & Co had subsidiaries in Wiltspoon but with FC & Co.'s Wiltspoon branch being sensible enough not to undercut the local tycoon, they had no reason to cross paths with York Corporation.

This time, FC & Co.'s Wiltspoon branch undertook a huge project and was looking for a potential partnership with either York Corporation or Stone Group. Both York Corporation and Stone Group were interested in doing business with Remy. After a discussion with the head of the Johnson household, Remy was leaning toward working with York Corporation. That was the start of a business relationship between both giants.

Remy tactfully ended the conversation. Josh ushered Remy to come along. Remy's bodyguards were waiting outside. Kenny often traveled with his security detail whenever he was out and about.

It was said that out of his ten siblings, Remy could not fight to save his life.

Hence, he was surrounded by bodyguards when in public.

Zachary personally walked Remy and the entourage to the elevator.

Once the group was in the elevator, Zachary returned to his office and took out a pair of binoculars to look down from the window.

With Remy and the rest cruising in a car out of York Corporation, he turned around. He whipped out his phone to call his bodyguards to wait for him on the first floor of the office building. A few minutes later, Zachary went down to the first floor.

"Sir." "Go on and have your lunch.

No need to follow me.

Just give me the keys to the MPV." Zachary said as he walked.

A bodyguard handed the keys of the MPV over to Zachary, The bodyguards followed behind Zachary when the latter waved them off.

It was a signal to stop following Zachary since Mr Zachary was using the N that case, they should not tag, as it could only mean that he would be with the missus.

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While waiting for Zachary at the dessert shop, Serenity did not want to sit in the establishment without getting anything, so she ordered two milkshakes to go. Since she was sitting near the entrance, Serenity was able to spot Zachary when he drove out of the office building.

Carrying her in milkshakes, she walked out of the shop.

With a smile across her beautiful face, Serenity waved at Zachary.

Zachary drove over and pulled up in front of her.

Serenity took a few steps forward and opened the door to the passenger seat.

She got into the car and put on her seatbelt before Zachary restarted the engine.

"Why are you wearing a black mask?" Serenity asked in passing.

Without a word, Zachary removed the mask. He did not want anyone to recognize him as he drove out of his office building.

Even though not many had seen him in person before, it was best Zachary practiced caution.

Instead of dwelling on Zachary's refusal to answer, Serenity asked, "Do you want a milkshake? I bought you a cup. I'll have mine now, and I'll take over the wheel when I finish it. You can then have your drink."

"No, thank you." Zachary never had milkshakes before.

"I'll give it to Jasmine then. Jasmine likes milkshakes. She loves to pair milkshakes with sweet treats for tea."

"I guess girls prefer to have milkshakes. I rarely have it. I don't like it that much either." Serenity took a sip and said, "I seldom drink milkshakes too. It's not exactly the healthiest thing." She would always order juice whenever Jasmine placed a delivery order for milkshakes.

"What made you come all the way here to pick me up today?" Zachary asked in a low voice.

"You could've called in before you came. What if I wasn't in the office? You would've come all this way for nothing." He just happened to be in the office today. Usually, Zachary would not be around at this hour.

"Do you always talk business when it's time to eat?"

"Yes." Zachary added, "Many deals are closed during lunch and dinner appointments." Serenity said, "Oh I'll call you in advance next time. I just wanted to give you a surprise. I guess I gave you more of a scare than a pleasant surprise."

"My sister's out looking for a job and will join us for lunch at the shop, so I made extra. You've been generous and caring toward me. I should repay you, so I came over to pick you up for lunch together." After a brief silence, Zachary uttered, "Serenity, we signed an agreement, but you don't have to be hung

up about the divorce once the time is up. We can get along like other ordinary couples. No need to feel like you owe me for every single thing.”

“It’s all about the give-and-take between husband and wife,” Serenity spoke matter-of-factly. Zachary choked, at a loss for words, because she had a point.

“If you don’t like me to pick you up and have meals together, I won’t come again.” Serenity thought that he disapproved of her coming to his workplace.

She still remembered what he told her when they just got their marriage license.

They were to keep their marriage a secret.

Serenity must not disclose their status to anybody without his consent.

Zachary fell silent once more.

He had no idea what to say.

For Serenity to pick him up at work, it meant that she was starting to give him care and attention.

W However, they were supposed to keep their marriage under wraps.

He did not want to spin a web of lies to cover his back every time she came.

Serenity took Zachary’s silence as admission to her question.

Drinking the last of the milkshake, she told herself to never pick him up from work at York Corporation again.

Chapter 189

“That reminds me. I need to talk to you about something.” Serenity changed the subject at hand.

By the sound of her cheerful tone, Zachary could tell his silence did not drive her mad.

For some reason, it did not sit well with Zachary that she was not angry.

“What is it?”

“Nana wants to stay at our place on the weekend. She told me to discuss it with you in case you’d say no. You’re her grandson, so of course, you’re going to be okay with it.” Grandma May simply did not want to intrude on the couple’s alone time.

Well, it was all in Grandma May’s head.

There was no alone time between her and Zachary as they were only a married couple by law.

They were busy doing their own thing during the day.

While at night, they slept on their own beds.

They would only engage with each other when there was a reason to. Other times, they would not have the chance or time to chat.

Serenity believed it would be a imagined of convenience, and now, it was exactly as she

She had a little crush on Zachary, but because of Zachary's silence after she came to pick him up from work, the fire in Serenity was put out. It was best to abide by the six-month contract

She would be single again five months later,

Zachary really did not want his nana to come. Nana was a sly fox who loved to pull a fast one on her grandchildren.

Knowing that he and Serenity were merely husband and wife in name, Nana would stay over and make every effort to luck them into the same bed

"We have our things to do on the weekend None of us have time to keep Nana company. She might as well remain in her own house. Her sons and daughters-in-law are retired, so they can spend time with her."

Listening to Zachary, Serenity tilted her head and looked at him.

It was no wonder Nana kept asking her to talk to Zachary about it instead of taking it upon herself to make the decision

The guy preferred if his nana did not come to his place.

"Don't you want Nana to stay for a couple of days? It's not a long stay. It's for two days. Nana said that she'll only be arriving in the afternoon if she does make it. I don't think it's a big deal if Nana stays at our place She used to hang around my shop She can come with me to the shop if she's staying over

"Mr. York, she's your nana. Your grandmother."

Zachary thought to himself, 'Do you think I'd marry you if Nana hadn't asked?'

Yet, he said, "I'm not saying Nana can't come. Alright now. I'll call Nana to talk about this later."

Serenity kept to herself for a while before she probed, "Mr. York, is your relationship with Nana... Um... Not so good? Don't you think it's a little quiet at our place? It'll be livelier to have another person in the house."

Nana was rather fun-loving.

Serenity believed Nana's presence would bring some life to the house,

"I moved out to enjoy the peace and quiet."

There was a pause before Serenity replied, "Okay then. You should talk to Nana You make the call.

"I still think it's too quiet at our place. Nana's only going to stay for a couple of days if she comes. Mr. York, can I get two dogs and two cats to join the family?"

Turning his head, Zachary glanced at her before moving his eyes back to the road. He said faintly, "Dogs and cats can't speak the human language Plus, they wreck the house, shed fur, and defecate everywhere. I hate it. Of course, I have no problem with you having pets if you keep them locked in your room and want to see them roaming around the house." Serenity was rendered speechless.

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Well, that killed the conversation Without another word, Serenity quietly sat there and looked at the streetscape outside the window. Liberty had just arrived when Serenity and Zachary reached the shop.

“Liberty,” Serenity said as she got out of the car.

Liberty turned around and noticed that it was her sister and Zachary.

With her plump face beaming, she asked, “Where were you and Zachary coming back from?”

“I went to his workplace to call him over for lunch.How was it, Liberty? Did you find a job?” Zachary came down from his car and greeted Liberty, to which the latter responded with a simile.

However, Liberty appeared beaten when her sister mentioned work.

Shaking her head, she replied, “Not yet.I submitted a bunch of resumes, but I either hadn’t heard back or got a flatout refusal.”

After a pause, Liberty added, “When they heard I have a two-year-old at home, they said I’d be preoccupied and distract my kid is young.

It got me so riled up.

Who said a mother with a toddler can’t focus at home “I told them that someone will look after my kid, so I would definitely give my everything during working hours.

They refused to listen and turned a deaf ear.

It seems mothers now face discrimination when looking for a job.” Liberty was tired and hungry from the morning of job-hunting.

Still, it came to nothing.

Her mind wandered back to when her in laws criticized that she would not be able to live if she left Hank Liberty had been out of touch with society for three years, After a long hiatus, Liberty would not have the luxury of picking a workplace.

Instead, she was at the mercy of the hiring companies.

Here she was, dreaming about getting back into her finance director role.

Now it seemed she would be lucky to find a job in any industry at all.

“It’s okay, Liberty.There’s no rush.Take your time.You’ll find a suitable job.” Serenity consoled her sister while linking arms with her sister as they entered the shop.

“Let’s have lunch and a rest.You can continue the job hunt later.Maybe you can submit your job applications online and wait until you’re called for an interview to go out.”

“I submitted a few applications online, but hadn’t received many callbacks for an interview.”

As for returning to the working scene, Liberty was confident at first, but the morning job hunt cast a shadow of doubt on her.

Perhaps she should lower her standards.

It did not have to be a job in finance.

She could try something else "Has Sonny been good?"

"He's been good.He had fun with Jasmine.He was taking a nap after his meal when I was on my way out to pick Zachary up.He must still be asleep." Liberty grinned.

"He's a cheeky monkey when I watch over him but he's a good boy for someone else, I see." She went to check on her son.

With her son sleeping soundly, Liberty reached out to caress his little face and leaned in for a kiss.

Liberty then came out to join everybody for lunch.

"Mr.York, have some more since you work a lot." Serenity gave her man an extra helping of food.

Picking up that her sister called her brother-in-law Mr.

York, Liberty said, "It's strange that you address Zachary as Mr.York." Serenity giggled.

"it's fine.I always call him different names.It's all him anyway.He's used to it." Zachary echoed her claim, "Liberty, we call each other whatever we want to.Sometimes, I'd call her Ms.Hunt." Liberty answered with a smile, "Alright, alright.I see you have your little fun there.Whatever floats your boat." She and Hank would call each other "honey" all day when they were most in love as newlyweds.

Somewhere down the road, Liberty started to call Hank by his name and vice versa.It appeared it had been a while since Hank addressed her as "honey."