## Chapter 148 Christmas Eve

Rena's countenance turned rosy with a subtle blush, giving her an alluring appeal when her timidity arose.

Robert's gaze fixated upon her, unwavering and

With an air of composure, Rena attempted to utter, 
"Roscoe has departed."

Robert acknowledged her statement with a nod.

He once again directed his gaze towards Rena and articulated, "My vehicle is currently undergoing maintenance at the shop, and I arrived here by taxi just now! Miss Gordon, would you be so kind as to offer me a ride?"

Rena found herself hesitating, grappling with the audacity of Robert's request.

Although he exuded a remarkable temperament, they were mere strangers, meeting for the first time.

How could he blatantly ask her to chauffeur him home?

Rena possessed a simplicity that was evident to

Robert acknowledged her statement with a nod.

He once again directed his gaze towards Rena and articulated, "My vehicle is currently undergoing maintenance at the shop, and I arrived here by taxi just now! Miss Gordon, would you be so kind as to offer me a ride?"

Rena found herself hesitating, grappling with the audacity of Robert's request.

Although he exuded a remarkable temperament, they were mere strangers, meeting for the first time.

How could be blatantly ask her to chauffeur him home?

Rena possessed a simplicity that was evident to Vera, who discerned Robert's desire to pursue her. Vera had actually heard of Robert prior to this encounter.

He possessed an appealing appearance and boasted a prestigious education. Naturally, he wouldn't engage in casual pursuits of just any random woman. Vera never anticipated that he would be instantly smitten with Rena!

Vera herself had yet to resolve her own situation but she was already contemplating aiding Robert in his pursuit of Rena.

She graciously scooted over and flashed a charming smile, addressing Rena, "Rena, he happens to be Roscoe's cousin. Could you, for my sake, offer him a ride?"

Unable to refuse Vera's request, Rena mustered a gentle smile and replied to Robert, "Very well! Please tell me the address."

Although Robert lacked extensive experience in wooing women, it didn't imply his ignorance on the matter. Effortlessly, he added Rena as a friend on WhatsApp and promptly forwarded his address to her. Rena couldn't help but feel astonished by the proximity of Robert's place to her own residence. She motioned for Robert to enter the car and initiated the ignition.

Throughout the journey, Vera persistently engaged in conversation.

Robert acknowledged Vera's connection with Roscoe, yet he maintained a respectful demeanor towards her, leaving a favorable impression on Rena.

Upon their arrival, Robert gracefully exited the vehicle.

He strolled over to the driver's side and lightly tapped on the windowpane.

Rena obediently rolled the window down, allowing a gentle breeze to caress her face.

With a warm smile, Robert expressed his gratitude, "Thank you, Miss Gordon. I shall have the pleasure of treating you to a meal on another occasion."

He playfully shook his phone as he hinted at future plans.

Rena reciprocated his smile and concurred. Deep down, however, she perceived Robert's offer as merely a polite gesture. After all, their encounter had been a serendipitous one and the odds of meeting again seemed remote.

Robert gazed at her meaningfully before departing from the scene.

As Rena resumed the ignition, Vera let out a yawn, exclaiming, "I'm feeling rather sleepy."

She tilted her head and grumbled, "Roscoe must have abstained from intimate encounters for quite some time. He has left me utterly exhausted."

A flush of embarrassment colored Rena's cheeks.

Vera's forthrightness often caught her off guard.

\*

Ultimately, Joseph relented and decided to let the matter go.

Vera stayed at Rena's humble abode for a week before eventually returning to her own place.

Subsequently, Rena discovered that Vera and Roscoe continued to maintain contact, even embarking on a week-long excursion abroad together.

Vera radiated happiness and vitality.

18:20

24,3%

☑ 100%

Rena could only let out a wistful sigh.

Her life remained unchanged, still drenched in monotony. It seemed as though her existence was confined to the realm of tedium.

Yet, gradually, she grew accustomed to this routine.

On Christmas Eve, Rena concluded her workday at six
o'clock, stepping out onto the streets adorned with
a jubilant ambiance, teeming with young couples.

Unavoidably, Rena's thoughts drifted to the notion that perhaps it was time for her to seek a romantic partner.

Aware of Rena's recent breakup with Waylen, Eloise entertained the idea of introducing her friend's son to Rena. However, Rena declined the offer.

It was precisely at this moment that Eloise reached out to Rena, her name flashing on the screen of Rena's phone.

Eloise reiterated her proposition, her voice brimming with enthusiasm, "Rena, just meet him once, alright? He's the vice dean of a renowned university. I've laid eyes on him myself and, I must say, he is quite handsome. You're on the verge of turning 25, my dear. It's time to take matters seriously!"

Rena raised her gaze towards the radiant Christmas lights, their gentle twinkling captivating her with their adorable charm.

A smile graced her lips as she replied, "Alright!

I will arrange to meet him on another occasion."

Eloise couldn't help but chuckle, evidently pleased with Rena's response.

"He expressed his desire to spend Christmas Eve with you."

Rena found herself taken aback, a tinge of surprise coloring her features.

After a brief pause, she consented, "Very well, kindly share his phone number with me."

"No need for that!"

Rena's surprise led her to turn around.

There stood Robert.

Clad in a white sweater and a gray coat, he exuded an aura of elegance.

Towering at about six feet, his demeanor was gentle and his countenance undeniably handsome.

Rena locked her gaze onto him and uttered in a hushed voice, directed towards Eloise, "I've already encountered him."

Eloise, now satisfied with the turn of events, terminated the call.

Robert seemed to be an ideal match for Rena!

With that, Rena concluded her call as well.

Raising her phone slightly, she inquired, "You are

the one Eloise intended to introduce me to?"

Robert responded straightforwardly, his words carrying a sense of transparency, "Indeed, it is I!

May I have the privilege of calling you by your name?"

Rena raised no objections.

Robert stepped alongside her and continued, "There's a delightful Mexican restaurant just ahead. They offer delectable cuisine and exquisite liqueurs. No need to worry about driving under the influence; I will arrange for my driver to collect us later."

Abruptly, Rena came to a halt.

"Robert, during our previous encounter at the police station, you didn't take a taxi there as you claimed; you actually drove there, correct?"

He didn't deny it.

A smile graced his face as he replied, "Indeed, I was uncertain how to approach you, so I concocted a feeble excuse. Little did I anticipate that you would eventually uncover the truth."

His gentleness and thoughtfulness were evident in his demeanor.

Engaging in conversation with him felt like a soothing balm to Rena's soul. She couldn't help but ponder that this person might be the perfect match

for her, igniting a willingness within her to give this potential relationship a chance. Perhaps they could forge a deep connection and find happiness together.

Rena shifted her gaze ahead and spoke in a soft, contemplative tone.

"In that case, let's proceed and indulge our palates."

Robert fixed his gaze upon her, his eyes brimming with uncontained delight.

Unbeknownst to Rena, a resplendent golden Bentley
Continental GT glided by in a leisurely manner.

However, inside the vehicle, Waylen caught sight of Rena and Robert.

Robert's gentle gaze remained affixed on Rena.

The frigid air enveloped them. As Rena rubbed her hands together, Robert swiftly removed his scarf and tenderly placed it around her neck.

Waylen abruptly brought the car to a halt.

He made a swift U-turn and silently observed the two of them walking side by side.

In Waylen's mind, Robert and Rena had surely embarked on a romantic relationship.

His countenance darkened with an indiscernible mix of emotions.

After savoring a delightful dinner together, Robert

proposed the idea of catching a movie.

However, Rena expressed a desire to visit an art exhibition instead. To their astonishment, the exhibition center was teeming with people even on Christmas Eve, and Rena found herself jostled amidst the bustling crowd.

Robert's smile remained unwavering as he enveloped Rena in a protective embrace.

Rena found herself taken aback, yet she didn't resist the gesture.

Upon their departure from the exhibition center, Robert took hold of Rena's hand and guided her to a more serene and secluded location.

Since it was Christmas Eve, the night sky became a canvas for a breathtaking display of fireworks.

Robert's gaze, brimming with fondness, was fixated upon Rena.

From the moment he had laid eyes on her, he had been captivated.

A strong desire to kiss her welled up within him, yet he feared it might startle her. Consequently, he exercised restraint and pressed a tender kiss upon her forehead.

"Rena, tonight has been an absolute delight," he uttered with genuine warmth.

Rena had also experienced happiness. It wasn't a

thrilling or exhilarating date but rather, it encompassed precisely what she yearned for. Robert, in an act of tenderness, enveloped her in a gentle embrace.

Rena nestled against his shoulder, finding solace in his comforting presence.

A delightful fragrance of paper and ink emanated from him, distinct from the scent she associated with Waylen.

She couldn't help but acknowledge that being with Robert felt right.

It was time for her to let go of Waylen completely and embark on a fresh chapter in her life.

With a tender embrace, Rena reciprocated Robert's pursuit, allowing herself to be swept away in the embrace of affection.

In the distance, Waylen lingered amidst the bustling crowd.

His gaze fell upon Rena as she embraced Robert, a faint smile gracing his lips. Witnessing Rena wrapping her arms around Robert's waist, he couldn't help but ponder—

Had Rena decided to bestow her tenderness upon another man?

Could she even marry Robert someday?

Would she graciously accept Waylen's gift on her

