

Secret Admiration Finding True Love After Prison

Chapter 71 – 80

Chapter 71 Just Friends

The woman seemed quite fearful of Meryl. She cast a furtive glance **in** her direction and then hid behind Dante.

Dante was stunned. “Lola, why did you come out?”

Lola Cohen pressed her lips and looked at Meryl cautiously again. “I was worried about you. She is?”

“She is a friend of Anne,” Dante replied, then turned his gaze towards Meryl and asked, “What did you just say? What happened to Anne?”

Meryl frowned.

As soon as she saw Lola, her desire to continue instantly vanished.

“You stayed out all night just for her?” Meryl asked, glancing at Lola with cold disdain. “Dante, you have a poor taste.”

Sure enough, as soon **as** she finished speaking, Lola’s face paled.

Dante was also stunned and quickly explained, “Don’t **talk** nonsense. There is nothing between Lola and me.”

Meryl was about to speak when Anne appeared out of nowhere.

“**Nothing?** Dante, don’t you feel disgusted saying that?” Anne

Chapter 71 Just Friends

2/5

glared at him, her anger palpable as she hurled the bag in her hand at him. “Scumbag!”

Lola immediately stepped forward and stood **in** front of Dante **to** protect him.

“Anne, we’re not what you think we are. Please don’t take it out on Dante. If you need to vent, hit me instead!” Lola declared.

Before she could finish speaking, the handbag struck Lola in the face. She screamed and collapsed to the ground, burying her head in her hands, tears streaming down her cheeks.

Dante's expression shifted, and he immediately checked for any injuries. "Lola!" he exclaimed.

Even Meryl found the scene distressing, not to mention Anne.

The bag **was** made of soft sheepskin and contained only a phone and keys. It didn't hurt at all when it hit someone.

Anne's eyes were red, and Meryl gently held her cold hand.

"Divorce. I'm with you."

Anne nodded and whispered, "Accompany me to the operation in a few days."

"Okay."

They didn't speak loudly, but Dante heard it.

Chapter 71 Just Friends

3/5

Upon hearing that Anne needed an operation, he immediately released Lola.

Dante frowned and scrutinized Anne. "What operation? Where are you feeling uncomfortable?"

"None of your business," Anne snapped.

She then stepped on Dante's instep, pressing hard with her high heels, and walked away as **if** nothing had happened.

Dante grabbed her wrist and asked, "Did your leg injury relapse?"

Three years ago, Anne injured her leg **in** an accident.

She was originally a dancer, but a serious leg injury forced her to quit. She even spent two years abroad recuperating.

As **a** result, she could only change her career into modeling.

Feeling amused, Anne asked, “Dante, are you pretending to care about me?”

“You’re my wife. Isn’t it normal for me to care about you?”

Anne corrected him, “It’s the ex–wife.”

“What ex–wife? I didn’t sign the papers,” Dante said, then lifted Anne onto his shoulders.

“What are you doing!” Anne yelled, horrified as she punched

Chapter 71 Just Friends

and kicked him. “Dante, put me down!”

4/5

“Your leg injury has relapsed. Just be quiet. I’ll carry you back.”

Unable to break free, Anne could only scratch his back with her nails.

But Dante didn’t care.

Amid the surprised gazes of passers–by, he carried Anne and walked away.

Meryl was stunned.

She had never seen anything like that.

Meryl intended to catch up but realized it would be inappropriate. After all, Dante and Anne looked more like a quarreling couple.

Turning around, Meryl frowned upon seeing Lola still there.

“Ms. Cohen, you’ve also seen that, too. Being a mistress **won’t** do you any good,” she remarked.

Dante’s actions clearly showed that he cared about Anne; otherwise, he wouldn’t have carried her so worriedly upon hearing about her needing **an** operation, fearing her leg injury might worsen.

As someone who could be friends with Chandler, Meryl didn't believe that Dante was truly a scumbag.

Chapter 71 Just Friends

So, she guessed that the problem lay with Lola.

5/5

"I... I'm not a mistress," Lola explained, lowering her head with her cheeks flushed. "Mr. Paltrow and I are just friends."

Write your comment

Chapter 72 Go on a Blind Date

Meryl only found it ridiculous and sneered.

1/5

"So, as a friend, you should know the boundaries. Don't throw yourself at him; it can easily lead to misunderstandings. After all, he's married. Don't you think?"

Lola bit her lip, appearing pitiful.

Meryl had no intention of saying more; she just wanted to offer a reminder.

She returned to the private room and was about to wrap up the half bottle of wine they hadn't finished.

However, unbeknownst to her, a thoughtful gaze had been fixed on her from the moment she entered Dante's private room.

In Dalton's impression, Meryl was dull and boring. No matter what he said, she would simply respond with **an** "okay."

But recently, Meryl had repeatedly refreshed Dalton's perception of her.

She had transformed so much that Dalton didn't realize she could be so charming and full of vitality **in** front of others.

Meryl had just returned to the private room when Bianca called.

Chapter 72 Go on a Blind Date

2/5

“You agreed to come to Cedar Café for a blind date at 7 o’clock tonight. It’s already 7:10 . Where are you?” came Bianca’s voice.

Meryl frowned. She had forgotten about this matter.

“You arranged a blind date for me because you were worried that I would ruin Dalton and Lydia’s wedding,” Meryl pointed

out.

Then, she carried her bag and walked towards Cedar Café.

“What a shame! I wish they’d get married soon. Besides, I’m not interested in blind dates, so don’t even think about arranging one for me. If you annoy me, I swear I’ll make a scene at Dalton and Lydia’s wedding and make you the laughingstock of all of Kingsdom.”

Angered by Meryl’s words, Bianca retorted, “I’m your mother, and of course, I care about your marriage. You’re not going to cause trouble at Lydia’s wedding, are you? It’s too late for that, and being jealous won’t help.”

Meryl hung up the phone, not bothering to waste her breath on her.

Unexpectedly, she had just walked out of Cedar Café when she ran into Bianca coming in.

Bianca beamed upon seeing Meryl. “The matchmaker told me that the other party is no worse than Dalton. You should meet him.”

Chapter 72 Go on a Blind Date

With that, she pulled Meryl and walked inside.

Meryl shook Bianca’s hand vigorously.

How funny.

She was married. Why would she go on a blind date?

3/5

However, having just drunk some wine and with Bianca holding her tightly, Meryl was unable to break free.

Just as Meryl was distracted, a man and a woman came over from the opposite corridor .

It was Dalton and Lydia.

What a coincidence.

Seeing that they were about to meet, Meryl turned her head to look at Bianca.

“Which room?” Meryl asked.

Meryl’s sudden change in attitude left Bianca momentarily stunned.

“Right here,” Bianca replied.

Meryl pushed the door open without hesitation and slammed it. shut, separating herself from Dalton and Lydia.

Lydia asked curiously, “Mom, what are you and Meryl doing

Chapter 72 Go on a Blind Date

here?”

4/5

Lydia already knew that Meryl was going to have a blind date at Cedar Café.

Initially, Dalton planned to take Lydia to the bar tonight.

However, she wanted Dalton to see Meryl on a blind date with his own eyes, so she temporarily changed the location to Cedar Café.

She didn’t expect that she would just happen to run into Meryl.

Bianca didn’t know Lydia’s trick, so she told the truth, “I sent Meryl here for a blind date.”

Sure enough, upon hearing this, Dalton narrowed his eyes and asked, “Blind date?”

Bianca nodded. “You and Lydia are getting married soon, and I’m afraid that Meryl will mess around, so I want her to divert her attention.”

Dalton frowned and said in a deep voice, “She agreed?”

Bianca glanced at the closed door of the private room, sensing Dalton's tone tinged with displeasure.

Inside the private room, Meryl knew they were outside.

It wasn't that she was cowardly; she simply didn't want to waste time talking to them and preferred to find a quiet place to rest.

Chapter 72 Go on a Blind Date

5/5

Noticing no one else in the room, Meryl breathed a sigh of relief.

She walked to the sofa and sat down, thinking that she would go out after they walked a way.

Unexpectedly, she heard the sound of flushing in the bathroom.

Stunned, Meryl turned to see a man in a black shirt walking out, wiping his hands with a tissue.

Chapter 73 Not a Good Match

Meryl noticed that he had long, smooth fingers, which she observed with interest.

1/6

"Those fingers must be great for playing the piano," she thought.

The moment he saw Meryl, he paused for a second, clearly surprised. "You're here?"

Meryl looked away and spoke calmly, "I entered the wrong private room. I'll sit for a couple of minutes and then leave."

He chuckled, knowing Meryl was making it up, but he didn't call her out.

He sat down in the chair across from her, extending his hand politely. "Hello, Meryl, I'm Ethan Moore, your blind date for tonight."

Meryl raised an eyebrow, her gaze lingering on his fingers, but she refrained from shaking his hand.

"Do you know me?"

Ethan didn't seem to mind.

He picked up the decanter and poured two glasses of red wine, offering one to Meryl.

Chapter 73 Not a Good Match

2/6

“Your recent escapades have caused quite the stir in Kingsdom. How could I not know you?”

“And you still dared to go on a blind date with me?” Meryl

glanced at the wine glass without taking it, showing a faint detachment.

Ethan simply placed the glass on the table in front of her.

“Just curious to see what kind of enchantress could send Dalton to the hospital,” he said, raising an eyebrow.

“Do you have a grudge against Dalton?” Meryl inquired.

Ethan nodded. “You could

say

that.”

“What kind of grudge?”

“When we were five, he wet the bed and blamed it on me.”

Meryl was puzzled.

That reminded her.

Dalton’s aunt married someone from the Moore family, so she felt Ethan must be the son of Dalton’s aunt.

What a bizarre choice by Bianca.

Bianca really chose Dalton’s cousin as a blind date for her.

She wondered if she was not concerned about stirring up the

Chapter 73 Not a Good Match already mess of the Aniston family.

Technically, now that she was married to Chandler, Ethan should be calling her aunt.

3/6

Dealing with one Dalton was troublesome enough. Meryl didn't need more trouble.

She guessed the people outside had left, so she opened the door to leave.

To her surprise, the moment she opened the door, three people turned to look at her.

Bianca glared at Meryl warningly.

Lydia craned her neck to see behind Meryl. "That was quick, Meryl. Was he not a good match?"

Dalton spoke up, "If it's not a match, don't force it. No one's pressuring you."

Meryl looked at the three of them, took a deep breath, rolled her eyes, and closed the door again with a bang.

She went back to the couch and downed a whole glass of wine.

She felt these people were like bad pennies.

"Mom, who was that man inside?" Lydia asked curiously.

Chapter 73 Not a Good Match

Bianca shook her head. "I don't know. The matchmaker said he'd be a good **fit**, so I didn't ask more."

4/6

Dalton scoffed. "A good fit? Her standards are so high. Who else could she possibly fancy besides me?"

He took out a cigarette to light it, finally succeeding after several attempts.

He smoked deeply, his eyes darkening.

Lydia detected a hint of jealousy in Dalton's tone.

She really disliked how Dalton's focus was always on Meryl.

She was even more afraid that Dalton might try to sabotage Meryl's blind dates.

Gritting her teeth, Lydia gently grabbed Dalton's sleeve. "Dalton, didn't you say you wanted to go to a bar just now? I feel like having a drink too. Let's go."

“I feel like Dalton still has feelings for you.”

Ethan said excitedly, “I saw the way he looked at you. It was pretty melancholic.”

Meryl remained silent, finding the sweet red wine to her taste and pouring another glass

.

Chapter 73 Not a Good Match

“I’m sure Dalton is jealous,” Ethan continued as he paced around the room.

5/6

He suddenly slapped his forehead with an idea. “How about we pretend to be lovers to rile him up?”

Ethan grew more enthusiastic. “Just imagining Dalton fuming makes me excited.

“Think about it. The woman who always chased after him suddenly becomes his cousin’s girlfriend. If Dalton finds out, he’d lose his mind.”

The grudge between them was old.

They were often compared to each other due to their similar ages.

Dalton excelled in everything, joining the prestigious Galaxy Holdings Group right after graduation, following the path expected of a man of his stature.

On the other hand, Ethan was more unconventional and pursued a career in esports instead of joining the family business.

In a typical family, esports might be a normal job, but it was seen as irresponsible in a wealthy family.

Holding her wine glass, Meryl found Ethan’s idea coincidentally aligned with her own thoughts.

Chapter **73** Not a Good Match

But still...

“Why would I choose you and not Chandler? Chandler is

Dalton's uncle, and theoretically, making Dalton call me aunt sounds even more thrilling, doesn't it?"

Chapter 74 Having Matchmaking

1/5

Ethan froze for a few seconds and then suddenly slapped his thigh, showing panic. "My goodness, you've really got some wild ideas!"

He pulled **up** a chair and sat down next to Meryl.

"Are you kidding me? Or are you hallucinating from drinking. too much? Chandler? That's my uncle! Do you know what kind of man **my** uncle is? I've never seen a woman by his side **my** whole life! And you want him to be your fake boyfriend?"

Ethan gave Meryl a thumbs-up. "But hey, if you really manage to win over my uncle, **I'll** perform a feat of breaking a stone with my chest."

Meryl just smiled without a word.

She felt Ethan was definitely set on his dramatic gesture.

The wine was sweet at first but had a strong aftereffect.

Meryl leaned hazily on the couch to sober up while Ethan went to answer the door.

The three people outside had already left, and Ethan came back.

"I mean, think about what I said. I'm quite popular with the ladies. Being my fake girlfriend wouldn't be a loss for you."

Chapter 74 Having Matchmaking

2/5

Ethan looked up, noticing that Meryl, with her eyes closed, didn't respond. He stared at her for a couple of seconds.

Meryl's face was flushed red, and she lay motionless on the arm. of the sofa, clearly having drunk too much.

Her forehead hairs were messily hanging down, with one strand landing on her long eye lashes.

A breeze came through the door. She tried to grab the strands with her hand but missed, frustratingly propping her head up.

Just as Ethan wondered what she was about to do, Meryl held her cheeks with both hands, shaking her head.

She only stopped after managing to shake off that strand of hair.

Ethan was stunned.

He hadn't expected this side of Meryl.

Just as he was about to speak, Meryl laid down again.

Ethan couldn't help but smile.

He knew she must have really drunk too much.

Yet, he thought Meryl, in every way, was cuter than Lydia, even when drunk.

He wondered if Dalton was blind.

Chapter 74 Having Matchmaking

A tender warmth crept within Ethan without his notice.

His arms casually crossed over his chest, a seemingly careless pose carrying a hint of nonchalance.

"Where do you live? Shall I take you home?"

Meryl, on the couch, was silent, clearly very drunk.

3/5

Ethan looked at his own hands, valued at over a hundred million dollars.

He was about to help her up when a man in a suit suddenly walked into the room, standing between him and Meryl.

Ethan froze for a moment.

Surprised, he looked at Chandler. "Chandler, how come you're here?"

Chandler reached out his hand and bent down to scoop Meryl into his arms.

He looked road-weary directly here from the airport without having gone home first.

Chandler's gaze fell on Meryl's reddened cheeks, briefly and meaningfully looking over Ethan.

"Here to take my employee home."

Chapter 74 Having Matchmaking

Ethan's eyes widened in surprise, and his brows twisted in disbelief. "Your woman? Chandler, you... You guys..."

He wondered if Chandler had also drunk too much, seeing illusions.

He thought, "What am I seeing?"

Chandler is actually carrying Meryl?

And he says Meryl is his employee or woman?"

4/5

Ethan was bewildered. He then calmed down, his eyes wide with astonishment. "Are you guys together?"

Chandler was about to say yes.

But as the word reached his lips, **he** remembered that if their relationship were known, it might ruin Meryl's prospects.

So the yes turned into Chandler saying, "She works in my executive office. If she's not my employee, what is she?"

Hearing this, Ethan breathed a sigh of relief.

That almost scared him to death.

He thought, "I definitely won't be breaking any rocks with my chest."

Chandler held a trace of cool detachment. "I heard you guys were having matchmaking here tonight?"

Chapter 75 Say Something Wrong

Ethan nodded vaguely. "Yeah, that's true. I even asked her to pretend to be my girlfriend..."

He stopped midway, sensing Chandler's increasingly cold gaze. Ethan shivered suddenly, a cold sweat breaking out on his back.

He wondered, "Did I say something wrong?"

Chandler's fine brows were slightly furrowed, his voice cold and harsh as he said, "The female employees of the president's office at Galaxy Holdings Group are forbidden to date."

He spoke emotionlessly, "No matchmaking either."

As soon as he finished speaking, Chandler picked up Meryl and left the private room.

Ethan stood there dazed, taking a long while to regain **his** composure.

He thought, "What's going on?"

Galaxy Holdings Group, such a human-centered company, is a benchmark in the industry; when did they come up with such a bizarre rule?

I've never heard of this.

Chapter 75 Say Something Wrong No dating, no matchmaking, isn't that a bit extreme?"

Chandler held Meryl as they got into the car.

He looked gloomy throughout the ride.

2/5

He thought, "I was only away on a business trip for a few days, and my newlywed bride ran off to meet my nephew for a matchmaking date.

And she got herself drunk in front of a stranger she had only met once.

She's really getting bold.

How could she be so unguarded?

What if she had encountered a bad person?"

She in his arms lay quietly in his embrace, completely unaware of the jealousy **on** his face, even snuggling closer to his chest.

Chandler frowned, gently pinched her at the most sensitive spot on her waist, his teeth clenched as he said, "Meryl, you better have a good explanation for this."

Meryl nuzzled her face against Chandler, finding a comfortable spot, and slept very peacefully.

While driving the car, Walter sped up to 180, wishing only to quickly get these two home and away from the trouble.

Chapter 75 Say Something Wrong He thought, "Help me.

It feels like I'm becoming a useless third wheel..."

Even though Chandler was clearly upset, Walter felt superfluous.

3/5

Meryl's eyelashes fluttered slightly, showing no signs of waking.

Suddenly, Chandler leaned down, his face inching closer to hers, almost touching her lips.

Her lips were plump and glossy, slightly parted. Chandler's Adam's apple bobbed, and he grasped her chin.

Just then, the car smoothly parked **in** the garage.

Walter didn't dare look back, wishing he could be invisible. "Mr. Aniston, we're here."

Chandler grunted in response and got out of the car with Meryl in his arms.

Unexpectedly, she, in his arms, suddenly opened her eyes.

Meryl looked around with a bit of confusion, her gaze settling on Chandler's face after a while.

She paused and then threw herself into Chandler's arms.

Her voice was coquetry and sweet, with a bit of drunken. clinginess.

Chapter 75 Say Something Wrong “Honey! You’re back from your trip!”

4/5

Chandler was speechless.

Walter watched, dumbfounded.

Chandler froze, Meryl’s head resting against his chest, her words tender, almost coquettish.

“Why did you take so long to come back?”

Meryl swayed slightly, a bit unsteady on her feet, her feet fumbling.

But her cheeks remained firmly against Chandler’s chest, her eyes brimming with a blurry innocence.

Chandler’s back was rigid.

The jealousy and anger that had surged in his heart just now had completely vanished.

His mind was filled with the image of Meryl looking up and calling him honey.

She was so soft and endearing. He just wanted to hold her tight and have her.

Chandler wanted to be mad at Meryl.

But she had called him honey.

Chapter 76 Wait Here

Meryl, drunk and uncooperative, finally got home with Chandler’s help.

1/6

Turning **around**, Chandler saw Meryl start to pull at her clothes.

She was already lightly dressed, and as she stripped, only a slim-fitting knit dress remained.

Chandler’s eyelids twitched as he grabbed her hand, stopping her from undressing further. “What are you doing?”

Meryl smiled mysteriously and pointed towards the bathroom. "I'm getting ready for a shower."

Chandler was speechless.

After saying this, she crouched down, trying to pull her arms out of her sleeves.

"Drunk people shouldn't take baths." Chandler insisted, stopping her.

He quickly stepped forward, blocking the bathroom door with his tall frame.

"Why?" Meryl asked, her eyes blurry with bewilderment.

Chandler furrowed his brow and bluffed seriously, "Drinking too

Chapter 76 Wait Here

much can lead to drowning in the bath."

A bit slow to respond, Meryl pondered this for a few seconds. almost believing him. "Really?"

Chandler nodded. "Of course, it's true."

2/6

"But aren't I a fish?" Meryl, her cheeks flushed, muttered softly and then suddenly crouched down.

She made cat claw gestures next to her cheeks, opened her mouth wide, and playfully snapped at Chandler.

"Piranha, roar."

Far from menacing, it was rather cute.

Chandler, smiling, gently tapped her nose tip with his finger. "Even fish fear the water, didn't you know?"

Meryl looked even more puzzled.

Chandler grabbed her hand and pulled her into the bedroom. "Forget the bath. Just go to sleep."

Once Meryl hit the bed, she collapsed like she had no bones, her whole body going limp

Behind her, Chandler let out a long sigh of relief.

He thought, "A bath?"

Chapter 76 Wait Here

She's too drunk for that.

What if she needed my help when she was bathing... I'd go insane."

On the bed, Meryl turned over **in** a daze, wriggling a bit like a

Worm.

3/6

Feeling a burning sensation in her stomach, she suddenly sat up.

"What's wrong?"

"Piranhas need rain to thrive."

"Wait. I'll get you some water."

But the next second, Meryl started pulling at her knit dress. again.

"Piranha shedding its skin."

Chandler was speechless.

Just as her smooth thighs were about to be exposed, Chandler. quickly wrapped her up in a quilt.

Turning **away** stiffly, he threw a sleep shirt in front of her, his voice tinged with resignation.

"Change into **this**. I'll get your **water**."

After saying **that**, he went to the living room.

Chapter 76 Wait Here

4/6

Chandler waited four or five minutes, figuring Meryl must have changed by then before he walked back in with a cup of water.

The sleep shirt was men's, too loose and big. She wore the shirt, which could have already covered her upper body.

Her legs, long and straight, were casually curled up on the bed.

Chandler's Adam's apple moved. He then loosened his necktie.

He grabbed a blanket and wrapped her legs up as well.

Just then, Meryl snatched the cup from his hand and accidentally fell onto him due to the inertia.

The water spilled all over Chandler's thigh.

Meryl, regretting the spill, caressed the damp spot on Chandler's leg.

At her touch, like a jolt of electricity, Chandler got excited.

His jaw clenched, his voice husky. "Meryl, what **are** you doing?"

Meryl looked up dazedly.

She reached out, spread his palm, gently scratched it, and then interlocked her fingers with his.

"Not enough."

Chapter 76 Wait Here

Chandler's temples throbbed. "What's not enough?"

"The water."

Meryl's eyes, innocent and slightly pleading, met Chandler's.

Her innocent appearance, coupled with her softness, made it hard for him to refuse. "Can you pour me a little more?"

Her hands were very small, soft as if boneless.

He felt that holding hands like this was tantalizing.

Chandler clung to his last bit of sanity.

He pulled his hand **away**, teeth gritted. "Wait here!"

Soon, Chandler returned with another cup of water.

He held the cup to her lips, but Meryl suddenly turned over.

5/6

She was drunk and knew no boundaries, and it seemed she was about to roll off the bed with the blanket...

Chandler immediately reached out to support her.

Because he was too hurried, he kneeled on one knee, and water from the cup spilled over his chest and arms.

Seeing the mess, Meryl fell silent for a few seconds before frowning.

Chapter 76 Wait Here

Then, she smiled at Chandler, grabbed his collar, and pulled him up from the ground.

6/6

Chandler was unsure what Meryl was doing next, so she pressed her lips against the damp spot on his chest.

Chapter 77 Ignoring Me

Due to their balance loss, Meryl and Chandler fell onto the large bed.

Meryl's hair spread across his cheeks and shoulders.

Her burning face pressed against his chest, pinning him beneath her.

By the time Chandler realized what was happening, Meryl was **lying** on his chest, licking the droplets of water left on his skin.

Chandler was speechless and petrified.

Feeling a ticklish sensation starting from his collarbone, he stiffened as **if** he were a stone statue.

"Meryl!"

His temples throbbed wildly, nearly driving him insane, his **voice** deep and emotionally husky.

“Do you even know what you’re doing?”

He gritted his teeth, struggling to control the desire surging through his body.

Meryl looked up groggily, giving Chandler an innocent smile. “I’m just drinking water, didn’t you see?”

Chapter 77 Ignoring Me Chandler was speechless.

Her voice was soft and coquettish, the places her lips had touched unnaturally red.

2/5

He pressed his lips tightly together, his Adam’s apple bobbing.

Suddenly, he grabbed her wrist and pinned her beneath him.

Their eyes locked, his gaze filled with desire and restlessness. “In situations like this, it’s probably better for the man to take initiative, don’t you think?”

Before she could respond, their lips were already entwined.

They nibbled and licked each other’s lips.

He nibbled on her lips, passionately kissing her.

The room temperature soared, and Chandler’s breathing grew heavier.

air

Meryl felt as if she was being roasted on a stove, the thinning with every breath.

She moaned softly, turning her head to escape.

Unexpectedly, Chandler held her head with one hand, deepening the kiss.

Their breaths mingled, and Chandler, caressing her slender

3/5

Chapter 77 Ignoring Me

waist, sought to draw her even closer for the next step.

Then suddenly, he noticed Meryl lying beneath him, her eyes closed with even breathing.

Chandler was dumbfounded.

She had fallen asleep silently.

The room was **lit** by a single warm lamp, its soft yellow **light** casting a quiet glow on Meryl's peaceful sleeping face.

Chandler furrowed his brows.

His eyes were filled with intense desire. He clenched his fist, staring at Meryl for a full half-minute...

He thought, "She's really asleep?

Just like that?

Ignoring me?"

Chandler glanced down at his abdomen.

He sighed softly.

Then he sighed again.

Perhaps it was the alcohol, but Meryl slept deeply.

Unaware of her dreams, she turned in her sleep.

Chapter 77 Ignoring Me

Unexpectedly, Chandler gently turned her head back, pulling her into his arms.

4/5

All night long, whenever Meryl tried to move, Chandler would kiss her cheek, pulling her head back to his chest.

He let her listen to his strong, pounding heartbeat, his warm chest pressed against her as **if** venting his frustration.

It was so much so that the next morning, when Meryl woke up, she felt as if her neck had stiffened!

The area around her neck was so stiff that moving it pulled at her entire shoulder, causing severe pain.

She got up, saw a glass of water on the bedside table, and drank it greedily without hesitation.

After drinking, she suddenly felt something was off.

She looked down and saw her shirt just covering her upper thighs, but her lower body was bare.

She thought, "This seemed to be... Chandler's pajamas?"

How did I end up wearing Chandler's clothes?"

Meryl, still groggy, recalled that she had drunk too much in the private room and sat on the sofa to sober up, and it seemed Chandler had come after.

Chapter 77 Ignoring Me

She thought, "So, Chandler is back in the country?"

And these clothes on me, did he help me change into them?"

5/5

Her face flushed to her ears. Although they were now a couple, their relationship hadn't progressed to this stage yet...

Meryl suddenly felt a bit embarrassed.

Hearing noises from the living room, she quickly changed her clothes and, blushing, walked out.

Chapter 78 Hold Your Liquor

1/5

The table was already set with an abundance of dishes and soup, all of which Meryl loved to eat.

Meryl paused for a moment, baffled. She and Chandler had only dined together a few times. She wondered how he could remember her favorite foods.

She thought, "Or was it just a coincidence?"

Meryl sat down at the table, noticing Chandler's Mandarin collar shirt that covered his neck. It was less formal than usual but added a touch of asceticism.

Meryl pressed her lip and asked, "Why didn't you tell me you were coming back to the country?"

Chandler ladled a bowl of soup and placed it in front of Meryl. "If I had told you, how could I have caught you on a date with another man? Mrs. Aniston, am I too lenient with you?"

Meryl was taken aback, knowing she was at fault.

At the time, she was merely trying to avoid Dalton and Lydia without much thought.

"It wasn't really a date," Meryl looked down and muttered, her fingers curling. "Ethan is our nephew. You could think of it as... a senior inviting a junior for a meal."

Chapter 78 Hold Your Liquor

Meryl's voice faded, her guilt evident.

2/5

The meal yesterday... It turned out she hadn't even paid for it.

Meryl felt lost, but she could understand Chandler's perspective.

She thought, "Returning home to find his newlywed wife on a date with his nephew must have seemed like a soap opera..."

"I'm sorry." Meryl looked down, appreciating that Chandler had brought her home drunk and hadn't exploded right there.

Considering Chandler's sacrifices by marrying her, she certainly didn't want to trouble him further.

"Mr. Aniston, I was wrong. I..."

Before she could finish, Chandler frowned.

He picked up a piece of meat with his fork and held it to Meryl's lips.

Meryl instinctively opened her mouth, swallowing her unfinished words.

Chandler showed a hint of resignation as he saw that Meryl hadn't touched her food. He gestured for her to eat.

"No need to apologize. I'm not blaming you."

Meryl was stunned, taking a while to respond.

Chapter 78 Hold Your Liquor She thought, "Not blaming me?"

Then why did he seem upset?"

3/5

"You can't hold your liquor. Don't drink when I'm not around."

Meryl nodded.

"Especially not in front of other men."

Meryl nodded earnestly.

She thought, "Absolutely!

Drinking leads to trouble! I didn't expect to get drunk last night.

It's all because the alcohol was too strong!"

Curious, Meryl asked, "I didn't throw **up** on the way home last night, did I?"

"No."

"I didn't do anything outrageous, right?"

Chandler's eyebrows knitted, and he gave Meryl a deep look.

After a few seconds, he looked down and continued eating, staying silent.

Chandler's behavior made Meryl feel uneasy.

Chapter 78 Hold Your Liquor

She hesitantly ate a few bites, uncertain about what dreadful thing she might have done to cause his silent treatment.

4/5

She thought about asking if Chandler had changed her pajamas.

Then she wondered if it would be even more embarrassing if he changed it.

She decided it was better to feign ignorance!

Soon, they finished eating, and Meryl instinctively began clearing the table.

As she stood up, she inadvertently caught a glimpse of several hickeys under Chandler's Mandarin collar shirt.

On Chandler's neck and chest were hickeys that clearly came from a passionate encounter with a woman.

Meryl froze.

She thought, "Does Chandler have another woman?"

She looked down. Her eyes dimmed with sadness.

She thought, "Who is this seductress?"

She had always suspected that a man like Chandler would be popular with women.

But the thought of her husband being intimate with another

Chapter 78 Hold Your Liquor

woman made her feel incredibly uncomfortable.

She thought, "No way!

I can't just stand by and do nothing!

5/5

He's a golden opportunity right before me, and I haven't yet held on tight. How could I let someone else beat me to it?"

After putting away the dishes, Meryl suddenly rushed back and threw herself into Chandler's arms.

Chapter 79 Help You Recall It

1/5

Chandler paused. He had just finished his meal and was about to check his emails on his laptop on the sofa.

Unexpectedly, Meryl's sudden act caught him off guard.

Her soft arms wrapped around Chandler's neck. She sat very close to him.

He swallowed hard, caught off guard as he met Meryl's reddened gaze.

He frowned with a mix of confusion and deep concern. "What's Wrong? Who has upset you?"

Meryl tilted her face upward, mimicking how Chandler had kissed her before, gently closing her eyes to kiss him.

Chandler found this behavior from Meryl too strange and turned his head to avoid the kiss.

He had a gut feeling that something serious had happened.

With a grave expression and a restless feeling, Chandler asked, "What happened? Is Dalton bullying you again? Tell me. I'll stand up for you."

Meryl was startled when Chandler dodged her kiss.

Chapter 79 Help You Recall It

2/5

She felt like someone had doused her with cold water, her heart chilled.

She thought to herself, "It's over. The rival must be too formidable. Chandler is even ready to stay loyal to that woman."

Stubbornly, she tilted her head back, wrapped her arms around Chandler's neck, and straddled his lap.

"Chandler, I'm your wife. If you have desires, you can tell me."

Meryl tightly clutched his collar with her smooth hands, pulling him close to her.

“But if you’re being unfaithful, how are you any different. from that scoundrel Dalton? If you don’t want me as your wife anymore, just tell me in advance. I can make you two be together.”

Meryl had never initiated a kiss with a man before.

During the seven years with Dalton, she always followed him around.

Dalton never truly cared for her, and naturally, he never slept with her.

So, Meryl learned how to kiss only after marrying Chandler.

But she **was** far from proficient, her lips clumsily bumped against Chandler’s, pulling away and then touching without any real technique.

Chapter 79 Help You Recall It

Yet this rusty kissing stirred a deep desire **in** Chandler, and a dark feeling began to build within him.

Meryl panicked.

3/5

Having been abandoned before and just after enjoying a few days of peace, the thought of someone trying to steal Chandler away filled her mind with strategies to win him back.

She was quite satisfied with her life now.

But she hadn’t expected that Chandler, merely away on a business trip for a few days, might already be seeing someone. else, which made her anxious.

Anne had once said that men and women are different. Men had sex needs, which were particularly significant to them.

So, Meryl guessed the problem must be there.

She was completely oblivious to how intimate their position was.

Chandler's eyes darkened. Suddenly, he took control by grabbing Meryl's head and entwining his lips tightly with hers, deepening their kiss.

After the kiss ended, Chandler whispered against her nose, "Being unfaithful? Mrs. Aniston, where did you get that idea?"

Meryl tightened her hands on Chandler's collar, and in one swift motion, she ripped his shirt open.

Chapter 79 Help You Recall It

Buttons flew off, exposing his broad chest.

From his collarbone, numerous pink and deep

Chest to

purple hickeys crisscrossed evidence of fierce sex.

Meryl frowned. "Then what is this?"

"Mrs. Aniston, you're quite the violent one, aren't you?" Chandler said with a smile, looking down at his torn shirt.

Meryl paused, her cheeks flushing as she saw Chandler's muscular chest.

4/5

Chandler thought Meryl was just embarrassed, so he pretended to forget everything about the previous day's events upon waking up, not mentioning a word about it.

She didn't mention it, and he didn't say much either, considering a man being dominated and kissed by a woman wasn't exactly dignified.

But he hadn't expected she actually didn't remember, still thinking these were marks left by another woman.

"Do you really not remember?"

Chandler's smile was somewhat teasing. "Isn't this from last

night when you drank too much and had me under you, marking me with your bites, Mrs. Aniston?"

Meryl was utterly shocked.

Chapter 79 Help You Recall It

Chandler grasped Meryl's chin with one hand, forcing her to look up into his into his eyes.

His gaze narrowed. "Shall I help you recall it?"

Chapter 80 Can't Date

Meryl hastily let go of Chandler's clothes and got off him.

Unexpectedly, Chandler reached out his arm, suddenly pulled her tightly against him, and brought her back.

1/4

"Weren't you bold when you were seducing me earlier? Got cold feet now?"

Meryl's cheeks rested against Chandler's chest muscles, because she had just torn open his shirt. They closely touched each other.

Chandler held her by the waist tightly.

That was her ticklish spot, and instinctively, she wanted to escape, her smooth cheeks rubbing against his chest.

Chandler tightened his **grip** on her waist, grunted, and said, "Call me honey, and if I'm satisfied, I'll let you go."

Meryl was speechless.

She remained silent, and he teased, "Come on. Say it."

Like a docile kitten, Meryl lay on his sturdy chest, completely trapped in Chandler's arms, and had no chance to struggle.

She tried to move away while being mindful of **her** stiff neck.

Chapter 80 Can't Date

Finding herself helpless, Meryl called out a few times, but Chandler was not satisfied.

2/4

Frowning, she suddenly opened her mouth and bit down hard on Chandler's broad shoulder.

Chandler squinted his eyes, thinking, "Little kitten, you even bite?"

The bite sent a sharp pain through his shoulder. He felt twin flames of irritation within him.

Such resistance seemed like tickling to Chandler, and he laughed wickedly.

"Mrs. Aniston, you haven't forgotten you still owe me a wedding night, have you?"

Meryl didn't let go, and Chandler didn't make a move, just sitting on the couch, letting her bite.

However, Meryl was about to **give** in. Chandler's words left her **in** a dilemma. She was unsure whether to persist or let go.

In her moment of hesitation, Chandler's hand slid down from

her waist.

He gave Meryl a meaningful look, turned his head, and kissed her earlobe, his breathing deepening.

This time, he was serious, unlike the playful kisses before.

Chapter 80 Can't Date

3/4

A tingling sensation shot up from her back, leaving Meryl's mind blank.

Chandler's smile grew as he prepared to move even closer.

Overwhelmed by the kiss, Meryl was caught off guard when her phone suddenly rang at this inopportune time.

Instinctively, she tried to answer, but Chandler held her waist firmly.

She thought, "Never *mind*. *It's probably* not an important call."

She lay dizzily **in** his arms, letting him do as he pleased.

Her phone rang until it went to voicemail and then rang again.

Such interruptions were inevitably a mood killer.

Initially, they both were feeling the moment, but it was abruptly broken.

Eventually, Chandler let go of Meryl.

When one wasn't fully engaged, the other could sense it keenly.

He noticed that Meryl's mind was on the incoming call.

He did not take advantage of her.

Meryl answered the call, and Chandler headed into the

Chapter 80 Can't Date

bathroom.

Bianca's voice sounded displeased.

4/4

"Meryl, I went through so much trouble to arrange a marriage for you. How can you be so ungrateful? I asked Dalton. Galaxy Holdings Group doesn't have any rules against employees dating!"

After hearing her words, Meryl was confused and responded, "What are you talking about? Who said Galaxy Holdings Group employees can't date?"

"Didn't you say last night that Galaxy Holdings Group has a rule against employee dating, and that's why you rejected him?"

Bianca got angrier thinking about it. "What kind of lame excuse is that? Are you still hung up on Dalton, hoping to marry him?"