"Justin, how do you feel about Joyce?" Jasmine had considered that it would be wonderful if Joyce could become her sister-in-law one day.

"Why do you suddenly ask such a strange question?" Justin was reluctant to answer any questions about women, especially about Joyce, whom he didn't want to consider romantically.

"You see, I like Joyce. She's really beautiful, and if she marries you, wouldn't that be wonderful for both of us?" Jasmine beamed with joy as she explained her reasoning to Justin. She really thought this was a good idea.

"No way!" Justin directly and vehemently vetoed her proposal.

"But why? She's single, and you're single too. I think that you are a perfect match." Jasmine pouted, very upset by his reaction. How could he disagree? It was such a wonderful notion in her eyes.

"It is very simple - I just don't love her! She is just like a sister to me, the same as you are to me. You're both my sisters. That's it," Justin said very seriously, his eyes fixed on the road ahead. He was not going to entertain such wild ideas.

"But love can develop over time. I heard that Mommy and Daddy were also in an arranged marriage. But everyone can see how much they love each other now." To reach her goal, Jasmine was trying her best to persuade Justin.

"Jasmine, you only see their happiness at present. But you don't know how miserable Mommy was before. Anyway, I don't approve of a marriage which

isn't built on love from the beginning." Justin was a little annoyed. They were always trying to fix him up with Joyce recently.

"Okay. It's fine, if you don't like her. But did you have to shout it out so loudly? You scared me!" Jasmine placed a trembling hand over her chest. She was really frightened by his raised voice.

"I don't want to hear nonsense like that anymore. If you really want a sister-inlaw, I will try my best t

But aren't you quarreling with me right now?" Daisy stared back calmly and set the tea service on the table. She didn't want to talk about this anymore.

"It is all because of them that I lost my temper." Edward's voice trailed off, as he realized that his arbitrary argument was no longer up for discussion.

"Oh! So, since you can't do anything to them, you decided to vent your anger on me instead." Daisy was exasperated. The trouble had started with his free-range-education methods. He did not enjoy his children's respect, because he had often laughed off their inappropriate behavior, thus losing his authority over them.

"Sorry, honey. I was just so mad at them! I didn't mean to take it out on you with a temper tantrum. I'm sorry," Edward hurriedly apologized, seeking her favor and forgiveness. He could offend anyone but his wife in this house. It was important to respect this unspoken law, because it would decide whether he would sleep in the study, or in the master bedroom tonight.

"Really?" While making the tea, Daisy maintained her air of inequity with an intimidating tone.

"Of course! I have never lied to you." Since he had given his promise to her, he would always act with fealty, and love her till death.

MY WIFE IS AN ALOOF BEAUTY

Since he had given his promise to her, he would always act with fealty, and love her till death.

"Okay, I will forgive you since you apologized so sincerely. Try the Pu'er tea I just made and tell me if you like it."

Unlike many other women who tended to take certain things too seriously, Daisy was a woman who knew where to stop. She would not sulk, or make things too difficult for Edward.

"Thank you for your benevolence," Edward said with a playful half-bow. Then he took a sip from the dainty tea cup and savored the delicately flavored brew.

Truthfully, life was, just like the tea ceremony, an order of priorities. When making the tea, we had to consider the amount of leaves, and more importantly, the water temperature and tools to make the tea. Likewise, in our life, we needed to manage good interpersonal skills. And more importantly, we needed to learn about forgiveness and gratitude.

On most days, Leena was an exemplary wife and mother, but at times she withdrew into her solitude, just like today.

She didn't want to do anything, except for reclining on the sofa, staring blankly through the window.

"Mom, you have been lying there for almost three hours. Could you please make me some food? I am starving!"

Richard finally interrupted her reverie, and reached out his hand, trying to pull her up.

"Go ask the housekeeper to make you some food. I don't want to serve anyone today."

Leena still rested motionlessly on the sofa, gazing at the breathtaking sunset framed in the panoramic window.

"But Mom, I don't come home every day, and now that I am here, you just ignore me. You can't treat me like this!"

Richard sat beside her and studied her with some concern. 'Did she quarrel with my father? Or, is she perhaps ill?' Richard wondered.

"How would you like me to treat you? Do you want me to worship you, like the Bodhisattva?"

Leena turned her head to him and fixed a cold eye on him. Then she resum your mother was?"

Leena was clearly disquieted today, otherwise she wouldn't be so cynical.

"There may be exceptions. Nothing is impossible. Probably those one or two exceptions may happen to like me."

Richard was quite optimistic. He had never considered his marriage would be a tough task in life.

"Then good luck!"

Leena smiled with genuine admiration of his carefree life-view. His calming attitude meant that he and Leena were more like friends than mother and son, and his sanguine attitude lifted her from despair.

Soon, they teased each other and laughed happily while buying the groceries. It was a harmonious scene. Many people who saw them mistook them as a couple, not mother and son, due to Leena's glowing skin. She always retained her youthful appearance due to her careful beauty routines.

"Leena, it really is you! What a surprise!"

Louisa cried out. She was pushing a shopping cart. A teenage girl of around 13 or 14 years old stood beside her. The girl could barely cover her surprise at noticing Leena who was so young and beautiful.

"Miss Ye, it's you! It has been a long time since I saw you last."

Leena held back her smile and examined Louisa carefully. She looked more haggardly than before. Obvious she had suffered a hard life.

"And who is this?"

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Chapter 1803 There Was Louisa Again (Part Three)



Louisa's eyes rested on Richard. The young man and Kevin were so much alike!

"Oh, this is my son. Richard, say hello to Aunt Louisa," Leena said gently. If it was fate that they met again, she didn't want to dwell on the old unpleasant things that happened between them in the past.

"Hello, Aunt Louisa!" Richard said politely, but frowned at this woman whom he didn't know.

"Oh! Hi! You resemble your father so much!" Louisa sighed sadly. She thought that she had forgotten Kevin. But when faced with anything connected to him, the blurred memories deep inside her suddenly became clear and brought fresh pain.

"Does Aunt Louisa know my father?" Richard looked at her doubtfully. He felt that the way she looked at him was a little strange and discomforting.

"Miss Ye, is this your daughter?"

Upon hearing Richard's question, Leena immediately steered the conversation away from the topic. She feared that Louisa would say something that should stay in their past.

"Oh! Yes. Connie, say hello to Aunt Leena and Richard," Louisa ordered harshly, as she suddenly remembered her daughter next to her. She didn't seem like a kind mother.

"Hi, Aunt Leena! Hi, Richard! Nice to meet you!" The girl greeted timidly, with lowered eyes. Then she shuffled back a few steps to stand behind her mother.

"Hi, nice to meet you too. What a nice girl!" Leena smiled gracefully. She noticed that the girl didn't take much after her mother, probably she inherited her appearance more from her father.

She absently wondered what kind of man Louisa had married.

"You haven't changed much."

Louisa felt a little upset. It seemed that Leena had been well cared for, and she still looked very young, just like a girl. Looking at herself, Louisa considered that she was getting old and had already lost her youthful looks.

"You're flattering me. I'm already the mother of a teenage boy. I'm becoming old." Leena laughed lightly. It was the truth, but Louisa didn't think so. She felt that there was an ulterior motive behind her words, and that Leena had said this intentionally to insult her.

"Leena, I do

the princess in all his uncles' eyes.

He had to acquiesce to his mother's behavior, or face a broken leg for offending his uncles by acting against her. Despite his mother being in the wrong, he would have to yield.

"Yes, that's my good boy! Let's go! Let's go to check out. I'm hungry now."

Leena behaved like a little girl when she was with her son, but it didn't mean that she had no authority over her son. Her amiable nature made Richard love her all the more, and he respected his mother greatly.

"Okay, dearest Mother. Let's go!"

Richard shook his head and sighed. 'Commander Gu, it's all your fault! What exactly did you do that has made her so angry?

You know what? Now she's venting her anger on me – her only son!' Richard complained in his heart.

Sometimes, life became a soap opera! When they arrived at the cashier, there was Louisa again! Worse, they arrived at the exact same time, and queued for the same payment line. Surprisingly, Leena backed a few steps and let Louisa pay first.

Louisa didn't say a word. However, she glanced at them with a frosty countenance, her chin arrogantly raised. She had walked forward as if expecting Leena to make way for her to go in the line first. Louisa's attitude made Richard very uncomfortable, and her insolent manner left a bad impression on him. He couldn't help but wonder why his mother was so timid towards this menacing woman.

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Chapter 1804 Life Was Hard To Predict (Part One)



Leena smiled indifferently to Louisa who entered the cue before her. She was generous and outperformed Louisa in both appearance and temperament. By not caring about trifles such as this momentary insult by Louisa, she was far outshining her. She won on personality and charm.

Richard seemed to have figured the situation out now. It turned out that in many cases, people were just pretending that they were getting along well with each other, while actually, they were secretly competing.

"Damn it! Where's my wallet? I can't find it." When it was Louisa's turn to pay, she suddenly became flustered and began digging frantically through her purse.

"Was there anybody suspicious approaching you just now, perhaps?" The cashier reminded her, trying to be helpful.

"No. I keep my wallet in my bag all the time." Louisa kept searching for her wallet, but she still couldn't find it.

"Then think calmly about it again. Maybe you forgot your wallet when you left home?" The cashier tried to calm her down by offering her possibilities for where her wallet was.

"What's wrong? Have you lost your wallet?" Leena had been lost in her own thoughts, but when she heard the noise at the checkout, she went over to see if she could help.

"I don't know if I lost my wallet, or if I forgot to bring it." Louisa was very worried. At this point, the people behind her in the queue began to urge her to hurry up.

"What about your items? Will you take them or not? If you are not going to take them, then could you please give the other customers a chance to pay first? We don't want to hold up the cue. Please don't affect everyone with your crisis!" The cashier looked at the packaged things and spoke to Louisa with a tone full of disrespect. The customers behind her were already getting impatient.

"We'll take them! Swipe my card." Leena handed over her bank card to the cashier as she said this. She didn't mean to insult Louisa in this way, but wanted to help her out and save face for Commander Ye. After all, the people behind her were becoming agitated because of the hold-up.

"No problem." The cashier happily received the bank card. In this way, she did not have to cancel the transaction, which would have taken even more time.

"Well, give me your banking details later. I'll transfer the money back." Louisa felt very embarrassed now, but she could not be so foolish as to refuse Leena's help at this time. Compared with the disdain of the other customers, she would be more willing to accept Leena's help.

"That's a

inner. Just wait a moment. Why don't you take the things to the car first? I'll be there very soon." Due to Louisa's presence, she didn't mention that she was waiting for her husband, as she didn't want to further embarrass Louisa again.

"All right! I'll meet you at the car. But please hurry up!" "Women are too troublesome!" Richard murmured, and then struggled with his burdens to the distant parked car.

"Let's go! We're all going to the parking lot, aren't we? I'm sure that he'll be there by the time we arrive." Louisa was really embarrassed because she sensed Richard was getting impatient over the delay to his evening plans. They set off after Richard.

"Well, you really don't need to be so polite." Now Leena felt embarrassed, because of Louisa's angst over paying her back swiftly.

Leena was shocked when she saw Louisa's husband. She looked at Louisa's husband with her mouth wide open in surprise until Richard touched her in concern.

"Summer, is that you?" Leena felt that today was just too surreal. How did Summer marry Louisa? She was a few years older than him, wasn't she?

"Leena, long time no see." Summer was also surprised to see Leena. They had been on a blind date once.

"Long time no see! You look so grown up now." Leena hadn't heard anything about Summer since Patricia married Tom. She did not expect to meet him in such a way.

"You are still so young and beautiful." Summer delivered his charming school boy smile.

"Thank you. But no, I'm already old." Leena shook her head, laughing helplessly.

"Do you know each other?" Louisa frowned at the two of them, and a dark thought occurred to her. Doubt began to worm its way into her mind.

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Chapter 1805 Life Was Hard To Predict (Part Two)



"Well. Louisa, this is Leena, my college classmate's girlfriend. We've met before, but I haven't seen her since I left S City." In his second year after meeting Leena, Summer left S City. It was not until a few years later that he returned because of a work opportunity.

"Louisa and I have known each other for a long time, so you don't have to introduce us to each other at all," Leena whispered. It turned out that he had left S City, which was why she lost contact with him.

"Oh, I see. I didn't know that. Your husband is a soldier, right? Then he should know my father-in-law." Summer suddenly clapped his forehead. How could he have forgotten that?

"That's right. It's how I got to know Louisa." Leena chose her words very carefully, fearing that there could be a misunderstanding, as Louisa had liked Kevin once.

"Well, why don't you give me my wallet first?" Louisa suddenly became gentler in front of Summer.

"OK. I almost forgot about it. You are always forgetting it at home." Summer pulled out his purse as he spoke. He seemed to blame Louisa, but Leena noticed that it was the way in which he showed his love for Louisa. It seemed that Louisa's life was not as bad as Leena believed before.

Since they insisted on giving her back the money, she had to accept it. If she didn't, they might think that she didn't respect them.

"Mom. Dad is phoning you. Do you want to answer it?" Just then, Richard suddenly joined them from the car, with Leena's phone in his hand.

"No." Leena was still mad at Kevin, so she refused without hesitation, completely forgetting the existence of Summer and Louisa. When she saw their quizzical looks, she smiled awkwardly and said, "We just had a little fight, so..."

"It turns out you guys also have fights?" It was unclear whether Louisa said this out of ridicule, spite or schadenfreude. Her face was a mask, not giving any hint as to her true feelings.

"No matter how good a couple's relationship is, they will definitely fight with each other. You guys must know this, right?" Leena did not want to think of what Louisa meant. She just sighed.

"You're right. Well. Thank you for your help today, Mrs. Gu. Good-bye!" Louisa was secretly relieved to know that there could be arguments between them too. It turned out that the man she used to love was not above quarreling with his wife.

"If you have time, we talk again at some point. See you." Leena considered that everyone now had families and children, so there was no need to dwell on what happened before.

"If possible, I'll phone you." Louisa found it doubtful that she was ever going to be friends with Leena. However, life was hard to predict. Therefore, she did not reject her directly.

"I will invite yo

The faint smile remained on his face, as he truly loved these games of intrigue with his wife.

By the time he got to the Westin, Leena had already ordered a meal, so he had something to snack on as soon as he got there.

"Daddy, what exactly is your agreement with mama?" Richard asked in a low voice, leaning sideways.

"You really want to know?" Kevin looked at him and thought, 'This kid's curiosity is going to get him into trouble some day. Doesn't he know curiosity kills the cat?'

"Yes. Tell me." Richard really wanted to know what could possibly have made his mother angry for so long, and why he had to suffer the whole afternoon!

"Sorry, no comment." Kevin continued eating calmly, not giving any credence to Richard's outraged expression upon hearing this.

"What? Is it necessary to keep it a secret?" At times like these, Richard was confronted by the divide between adulthood and childhood and he railed

against that barrier, as all young adults did. He felt that his father was being spiteful and he momentarily sulked.

"Nana, try some of this." Kevin ladled some of the dishes into Leena's bowl, completely ignoring Richard's distress.

"I don't like it." Leena refused with a frown, shaking her head slightly.

"This is good for your health, go ahead, try it." The oyster that Kevin offered her was not only an aphrodisiac, but also rich in zinc and other minerals.

"Here, eat this, Richard. You are growing." Leena transferred the oyster into Richard's bowl. She didn't want to eat it at all. Kevin glanced at Richard suspiciously as he saw Leena's move.

"Dad, don't look at me like that. I didn't ask for this. Mom put it into my bowl." Richard said innocently, thinking, 'I'm your son. Why are you looking at me like that? It's only an oyster, isn't it? Why are you being so mean?'