

Be Yours 231

Chapter 231 I'm Sorry I Was Nervous

The moment the words left her mouth, everyone was stunned. They looked at Jenny, all wanting to know her answer.

Jenny didn't think much about the identities except for the one about her being Alec's ex-wife. Did that really matter? Why did everyone want to know about that?

Feeling their gazes, Jenny nodded. "Yes. It's me."

"Oh my God!" the girl exclaimed. But then she apologized at once. "I'm sorry. I was just nervous."

What was there to be nervous about? Jenny didn't understand it.

The employees didn't expect such a young woman to bear so many identities. Each of them was difficult to accomplish.

"I'm going to stay," the girl said. She believed that someone this capable wouldn't make the company bankrupt; it might even get better. She was not going to let this opportunity go.

With someone taking the lead, everyone else would follow naturally. At once, the majority of them chose to stay, but a few still chose to leave. Part of it was because they didn't think Jenny would know how to run a business. Plus, she had just fired the designers. There was no one left in the company to create the designs, and it would be a wonder if they could continue running. Taking the money and leaving the ship before it sank would make better sense.

Very quickly, a third of the employees had gone. Jenny nodded approvingly at the remaining people. It was better than she had expected. "Thank you for choosing to stay. Please believe in me. I will not disappoint you," she promised.

Just when the employees were feeling elated, beginning to dream about a brighter future alongside Jenny, people stormed through the door. A few of them marched in angrily. When they saw how young the new boss was, they grew angrier.

"Are you the new boss?" one of them shot the question at Jenny. There was no respect in their tone.

Jenny smirked. "Yes. Do you have any objections?"

"We're the pillars of this company. Have you ever thought of the consequences of firing us?" another roared.

"Consequences? I don't know what consequences there will be if I fire just a few employees." Jenny smiled, not taking their words seriously.

They were incensed by her attitude and gnashed their teeth. "We're the only designers in the company. Not only that, but without us, you'll never win the approval of the Board of Fashion Design. It looks like you don't even know what they are. Without their support, your designs would never be recognized."

Jenny frowned. Indeed, she hadn't known about this. As a consumer, she had never heard of brands needing approval from the Board of Fashion Design before going on the racks. "Why should I need their

approval? My clothes only need to be recognized by the consumers.” She looked at them, not taking the Board of Fashion Design seriously.

Her words made them so angry that they laughed. “What a big talker. The consumers’ recognition? Why would they recognize you?”

“You won’t have to worry about that.” Jenny didn’t want to waste her time on them anymore and turned to the clerk. “Escort them out, please.”

“Yes, Miss Jenny.” The clerk nodded. She was referring to Jenny as ‘Miss Jenny’ now, and it made Jenny spare her another glance. She was a quick thinker.

The security guards were called in quickly. “Please leave,” the clerk said. “Or I’ll have the security guards drag you out.”

“You...” Someone pointed at Jenny. “Just you wait!”

They stormed off, cursing Jenny in their heads.

Chapter 232 You’ve Sabotaged Me

The others instantly felt conflicted when they saw Jenny’s ruthlessness. Some were happy because a strong boss like her would guarantee an improved company. Some were worried that ruffling the feathers of these designers would not be good for the company—they might even come back to bite it.

Jenny didn’t explain further. There wasn’t much that she could say to help. Only good results would win their trust.

The meeting ended. Jenny handed the business plan she had long prepared to the clerk next to her and said, “From today onward, you will be my assistant.”

“Me? Miss Jenny, I... She couldn’t quite believe it.

“Do you think you can’t do it?” Jenny looked at her. “If you think you can’t, just forget what I said.” She was willing to give her a chance, but if she didn’t want it, Jenny would not force her to take it.

The clerk was stunned, and her face shifted at once. “I can do it! Thank you for giving me this opportunity. I will not disappoint you.”

Jenny smiled in satisfaction. “Alright. Make yourself busy.”

She nodded and turned to leave. Right as she reached the door, she stopped and looked at Jenny. “Im Anna.”

“Okay, Anna.”

Anna left, leaving Jenny alone in the meeting room.

Jenny had written down everything the company needed to get done in that business plan, including registering themselves under a new name. Once these were done, the company would be like new. However, that would not be enough. For a fashion design company to survive, it had to make clothes that consumers would purchase. That was what she needed to do right now.

She took her phone out and made a call. "Come to Parrington, Jade."

At night, Jenny went back to the apartment. She hadn't seen Alec around tonight, which left her slightly disappointed, but the feeling quickly vanished. What was there to be disappointed about? It was what she wanted.

She went into her room and took a shower, Then, she lay in bed and prepared to sleep.

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Alec's car stopped at the gate of Perry Residence. He had no thoughts of leaving as he watched Jenny's lights turn on and off. He wasn't a smoker, yet he decided to light a cigarette that night. The strong smell of smoke made him choke, but he didn't stop.

"You've sabotaged me, Paul," he murmured. Until now, he hadn't found a way to let Jenny forgive him.

At the same time, Marigold Wagner was drinking at a bar because she hadn't been able to invite Gilbert out. As the Wagners' daughter, she knew that her family was complicated, but she didn't quite know why until she met Gilbert.

Although she was raised in the Wagners, she was nothing like them. She was shocked to hear about the things that Paul had done, yet she didn't have the courage to ask. She felt alarmed, but she didn't know what to do.

Not far off, Yvonne downed her drink in one shot. Then, she put it down and walked toward Marigold.

Marigold took no notice. She drank because she wanted to drown her sorrows.

"Do you know who Gilbert has a crush on?" Yvonne's voice floated into Marigold's ear. Gilbert's name drew her attention, and the question stunned her.

Chapter 233 Gilbert's Crush

"Are you talking to me?" Marigold looked at the person next to her. She vaguely remembered Yvonne, having seen her on the news a few times before.

"What's her name..." Marigold wondered silently. "Yvonne? Yeah, that's it."

Yvonne nodded. "Yes. I'm talking to you."

"What are you trying to say?" Although Marigold didn't care about what happened in the Wagners, her gut instincts told her that this woman had no good intentions.

"I think you're hurt because you don't know why Gilbert rejects you." Yvonne smiled lightly, looking as if she cared for Marigold.

Marigold frowned. "You said Gilbert liked someone."

"Yes. In fact, you know her." Yvonne was just waiting for Marigold to take the bait. She couldn't do anything to Jenny now, but that didn't mean everyone else couldn't.

Marigold's eyebrows furrowed. "That's impossible. There's no one by his side, and he's said before that he doesn't like anyone."

“It’s not that he doesn’t like anyone. He can’t let her or anyone know that he likes her.” There was a hint of mockery in her smile. Marigold was even more bewildered by her words. She stared at her, waiting for her to continue. “There is actually a woman by his side. You just haven’t considered thinking of them that way.” Yvonne was dropping a hint, not saying Jenny’s name out loud. She believed that Marigold was smart enough to put two and two together.

As expected, after a moment of silence, Marigold’s eyes grew wide. “Jenny? How can that be? They’re siblings...”

“They’re not biological siblings. I believe you can find this out.” Their family names were enough for anyone to make an educated guess.

Marigold was silent. She was still in disbelief. “Even if they’re not biological siblings, they’re still adoptive siblings. How could Gilbert like her?”

“Why not? Why do you think no other woman has appeared by his side? That’s because he has a crush on Jenny, so he doesn’t want any other.” Yvonne was making things up. She wanted Marigold to hate Jenny as she did.

Marigold didn’t take the bait. She was quiet for a while and then accepted it as it was. “Even if Gilbert likes Jenny, they can’t be together. I’ll just have to wait. I’ll be with him one day.”

Yvonne seemed dazed by her words. She’d spoken so much, yet Marigold’s reaction was less than she had expected. Weren’t the Wagners a bunch of devils, doing things underhandedly? But this woman...

She didn’t give up and continued, “Do you think it’s a one-sided love?”

“Isn’t that so? Could Jenny like him back?” Marigold couldn’t believe it.

“Of course Jenny doesn’t like him back. But that doesn’t mean she’d reject him,” Yvonne said, making the implications clear.

Marigold seemed to understand now. Her face shifted at once. “Is she stringing him along?”

“What do you think? Why would Gilbert persist in his crush if he hadn’t seen a glimmer of hope somewhere?”

This time, Marigold didn’t retort. She thought it was likely as well. Gilbert was such a brilliant man. Many women liked him, but how could he keep liking Jenny if she didn’t even like him back?

At the thought of this, Marigold began to hate Jenny.

Chapter 234 Get Back Here!

Jenny raised her glass in the restaurant to toast the woman in front of her. “Thanks for agreeing to see me, Jade.”

“You don’t have to be so polite with me, Jenny. I’ve said before that I can help you whenever you need it.” Jade Weston raised her glass and clinked it against Jenny’s.

“I know, but I was afraid I’d be bothering you. You were going into hiding...”

“That was such a long time ago. Maybe no one even remembers me. You’re worrying too much.” Jade smiled, reminiscing her past. It couldn’t haunt her now.

Hearing Jade’s reassurance, Jenny’s concerns dissipated slightly. She told Jade about the company and said, “I hope you’ll come help manage this company, Jade. After all, you were once in this industry.”

“It’s no big deal. I can do it.” Jade nodded. Managing a company was her bread and butter. “However, it’s a design company. It prioritizes designing. You can count on me for the business part of things, but design, on the other hand...”

Jenny looked at her, widening her eyes innocently, making Jade’s heart drop. Jenny’s smile was bright. “Designing is what you do best, Jade.”

“But... I haven’t designed anything in a very long time.” Jade was hesitant. The things that had happened before had made her swear off designing, and now...

Jenny could see her hesitation and held her hand. “Jade, we can never escape the past. But the best way to deal with it is to defeat it.” She knew more or less what had happened, but she hadn’t told anyone of this. She didn’t want Jade to live in the past anymore.

“Jenny...”

“It’s alright, Jade. Just help me manage the company for now, and I’ll handle the designs. Don’t forget that I’m your only mentee!” Jenny said with a chuckle. No one was forcing Jade into anything now.

Jade said nothing more. “Alright. From a design perspective, you’re far better than I am. You possess more creativity.”

“Don’t flatter me, Jade. I’m embarrassed.” Jenny pretended to blush, and Jade rolled her eyes.

“Quit with the antics. I don’t fall for that.”

They talked and laughed merrily. Outside the restaurant, Max chattered away, his voice grinding on Alec’s ears.

“Hey, are you listening to me, Alec? The plan must go exactly as I want, or I won’t let go of her so easily. When that happens...” He followed Alec’s gaze toward the restaurant, spotting Jenny and Jade at once. A smile appeared on his lips as he realized what Alec was looking at now and smacked him, saying, “Isn’t that Jenny? Why, are you sad that she didn’t invite you out for dinner?”

Alec rolled his eyes in response.

Max smiled happily and pretended to walk into the restaurant. “Since we’re here, we should go in.”

“Get back here!” Alec called to him. He hadn’t thought of how to make Jenny forgive him, so he couldn’t very well appear in front of her now.

Max was not one to listen to Alec. In the blink of an eye, he was already in the restaurant. Alec had no choice but to follow him in.

Max’s appearance stunned both Jenny and Jade. They were in the middle of a conversation.

“Is this a friend of yours, Jenny? Could you introduce us?” Max said shamelessly, as if he had drunk liquid courage before sauntering in.

Chapter 235 This Is Her Ex-husband

Jenny rolled her eyes at the pickup line. “Mr. Pearson, I don’t mind if you want to flirt around with women, but please stay away from my friends.”

“Don’t be so heartless, Jenny. We’re friends, too.” Max sat down in front of Jade and smiled. “Hi. I’m Jenny’s friend, Max Pearson.”

Jenny was speechless. Compared to her, Jade seemed much calmer. Little boys like him always amused her. “Hello. I’m Jade Weston. You may call me Miss Jade.”

“Miss Jade?” Max frowned. “That’s like calling you my elementary school teacher.”

Jade chuckled. Jenny was about to speak, but then another figure appeared. She looked up and saw Alec.

Alec was feeling a tirade of emotions. He noticed that Jenny had stopped talking and thought she didn’t want to see him. Apologetically, he said, “Sorry. I’ll take him away at once. Sorry to have bothered you.”

“Don’t be so anxious to leave. I haven’t eaten anything yet.” Max didn’t want to leave. It was rare for him to find someone who could be on the same wavelength as him. It’d be a shame if he left.

Alec’s face darkened. He glared at Max. “Are you leaving or not? Don’t make me punch you.” He could control himself in front of Jenny, but he had a limit.

*Alec Faust!” Max thought Alec simply wanted to antagonize him, but now, he was clearly trying to ruin his shot at happiness.

Just before Alec was about to strike, Jade said, “Since you’re Jenny’s friend, you may sit down with us. What do you think, Jenny?”

Jenny had no choice but to nod under Jade’s gaze. “Yeah. They can sit.”

“Sit down, please. I’ll get the waiters to bring us some more food.” Jade nodded at Alec and beckoned for a waiter to come over.

Truthfully, she wasn’t that generous. She merely saw that Jenny and Alec had a long history and wanted to know more about it. After all, it was about Jenny’s happiness. The entire village took that very seriously.

Alec was embarrassed, but he didn’t refuse. He wanted to have a meal with Jenny, too, so that she could forgive him.

The meal was now amongst four people. The atmosphere instantly changed, but of course, with a chatterbox like Max around, it wasn’t quiet. Only Jenny and Alec stayed silent, while Max and Jade got along well.

“Why are you so aloof, Alec? Aren’t you going to explain yourself to Jenny now that she’s here?” Max couldn’t take it anymore. He’d even spoken on his behalf, and here he was, not making a single peep.

Alec glared at him. Max needed to learn to shut his trap.

Jade smiled, asking, "Explain what? He and Jenny..."

"Don't you know?" Max was surprised. He thought Jenny and Jade were very close, so she should know everything.

Jade shook her head. They were close in the village, but after Jenny left, they talked less. Jenny didn't tell her much about the things that happened in the city.

"You probably know about Jenny's divorce, don't you?" Max asked.

Jade nodded. She'd heard the villagers talk about this.

"Well, this person right before your eyes is her ex-husband." Max pointed at him.

Alec was pursing his lips. He wished the floor would swallow him whole. Max had introduced them as if this was something to be proud of, and Alec was rendered speechless.

Chapter 236 We're Not Close

Ex-husband?

Jade began looking at Alec differently. No wonder she thought something was off between Alec and Jenny.

"Hello, Miss Jade," Alec said exasperatedly.

Jade didn't smile at him. "Don't call me that," she sneered. "We're not close."

She didn't know much about Jenny's marriage, but she knew a little bit, at least. She knew that Alec hadn't even visited Jenny once in their marriage. It had angered not only her, but also the entire village.

Alec saw the murderous gaze she was wearing, and his heart sank. He said grimly, "I was wrong. I didn't cherish Jenny. But now I know what I did wrong, so I wish to make up for it. I hope that she'll give me another chance."

However, Jade wasn't moved by his speech. In fact, she was a little angry. "What do you take her for? Do you think she owes you a chance just because you're ashamed?"

1..."

"The Faustus of Parrington. I've heard of you. Your family is great, but your character is nothing much to talk about." Jade was not holding herself back. She didn't care that the person before her was Alec Faust, whom no one in Parrington dared to upset.

Alec's face shifted, and his lips parted, but he said nothing.

think

Jade, however, was not going to let things rest. She glared at him and said haughtily, "Maybe you think Jenny is just a village girl and she's not worthy of you. But I think that Jenny is the best woman in the world. Since you couldn't cherish her, you should just disappear."

Jade knew that Jenny was worthy of Alec, but he was the one who wasn't worthy of her. She lived in the village and knew of Jenny's multiple identities. Although she wasn't sure what they were, she knew that Jenny was an interesting woman.

"It's alright, Jade. You don't need to waste your breath." Jenny couldn't describe what she was feeling. She'd heard everything that Jade said and seen the quietened Alec. However, she found that she wasn't as happy as she thought she would be.

Jade looked at her, upset. "Why? Are you feeling upset on his behalf?"

"I'm not." Jenny was exasperated. Why would she be upset?

"Jade, your observation is on point. Jenny is just sympathetic. Don't believe her when she says she feels nothing. Deep down, she likes Alec." Max was speaking up for Alec, and he even batted his eyelashes. Surely Alec was moved that he was standing up for him instead of fanning the flames.

However, Alec rolled his eyes and said nothing.

Jade glared at him. "You will call me Miss Jade."

"Alright, alright, Miss Jade." Max didn't argue. It didn't matter to him, as long as he could make her happy.

Soon after, the waiter served them their food, and they started eating. Alec and Jenny didn't have much of an appetite, so they only ate a little.

It was a hard meal to digest.

The four of them stood on the sidewalk. Jade looked at Alec and said unpleasantly, "Drive her home safely. If anything happens to her, I'll never let you go."

Alec was stunned. He couldn't quite believe his ears.

Jenny was surprised, too. She asked, "Where are you going. Jade?"

"Miss Jade agreed to go to the bar with me. You can sit in Alec's car. Bye!" Max answered for Jade. He ushered her toward his car, leaving behind the dazed Jenny and Alec.

Chapter 237 He's My Enemy

Melodious music filled Max's car.

"Alec doesn't seem as scary as those people make him out to be." Jade was scrolling through her phone, reading up about him.

"Don't be fooled by his appearance," Max replied. "He's only honest with Jenny around. In reality, his schemes run deep."

The Faustus wouldn't have been as prosperous as if Alec hadn't been capable.

"You stood up for him, but now you're talking behind his back. Are you helping him out or not?" Jade put her phone away and looked at Max.

Max smirked. "Why would I help him? He's my enemy. But, even though I hate him and want to destroy the Fausts, I have to be honest. He really is head over heels for Jenny." He didn't want to praise Alec, but he

had to tell the truth when it came to it.

"Head over heels? Would he have divorced her if that's true?" Jade didn't buy it.

Max laughed loudly. "That was just a misunderstanding." Then, he told her everything in detail, especially the time when Alec had no idea who Jenny was and made a fool of himself. He laughed while talking about it.

He thought it'd be something he'd use to laugh at Alec for the rest of his life.

Jade was speechless. "So when he began to have feelings for Jenny, he had no idea at all that she was his ex-wife?"

"Yeah. Isn't that hilarious?"

It was. Jade laughed, too. "Well, even so, I still have to keep an eye on him. Who knows if this is all just an act?" Jade said, still having some reservations about Alec.

Max pursed his lips and said nonchalantly, "Do you need to? I thought you were giving him a chance when you let him take her home."

"How could that be?" Jade retorted at once, but she felt a little guilty since that was exactly what she thought.

It was eerily quiet in Alec's car.

"Don't take Jade's words to heart," Jenny finally said after a long while.

Alec glanced at Jenny. "What she says is the truth. I didn't cherish you back then."

Most importantly, he didn't know that Jenny was his ex-wife. Neither did he know that he would fall in love. Now that he looked back, he thought that he was crazy back then. Why didn't he visit her when they were married?

"That doesn't matter. We've missed our chance; we just aren't meant to be. There must be a reason that destiny has kept us apart, so I don't think you should be wasting your time on me." She thought it was better to reject him. With Alec's frequent appearances, she felt her emotions growing complicated. She didn't like how it felt and wanted to cut him off completely.

It was a shame that Alec wasn't the type to easily give up. He didn't agree with what she said. "If it weren't meant to be, we wouldn't have met after the divorce, and I wouldn't have fallen for you. I think it's just how destiny is challenging us." Alec stepped on the break, and his gaze trailed toward Jenny. "Don't keep rejecting me, Jenny. Give me a chance. No, give yourself a chance." 1

They locked eyes with each other. Jenny felt her heartbeat quicken. Alec was leaning in, and she couldn't quite catch her breath.

Chapter 238 What on Earth Happened?

The sudden ringing of a phone startled the both of them. Jenny came back to her senses and pulled away from Alec's lips.

"What's wrong, Gilbert?" she said, answering the call.

"Where are you? Are you alright?" Gilbert's voice sounded from the other end. He sounded anxious, worried.

Jenny frowned. She sensed that something was wrong with him. "What's wrong, Gilbert? What happened?" "Nothing...nothing." Gilbert was tripping over his words. He didn't know how to explain himself.

"What on earth happened?" Jenny was not a fool. She could tell from Gilbert's tone that something had happened.

Gilbert was quiet. Then, he said, "It's really nothing much. I just fought with Marigold, and she might have gotten the wrong idea. I was worried that she would go for you."

"A fight?" Jenny thought that was weird. Would Gilbert fight with someone? She'd never seen anything like that.

"It's just a misunderstanding. Well, if she goes to you, ignore her. Don't believe anything she says," Gilbert said. However, the worry in his heart had not dissipated.

"Okay." Jenny wasn't sure what went on between them, so she couldn't offer an opinion. She hung up and put the phone away before noticing Alec was looking at her.

"Was that Gilbert?"

"Yeah." She nodded.

"He sure picked a good time to call," Alec said sarcastically. He hated him with all his heart.

Jenny ignored him and acted as usual. "Send me home."

"Jenny, I—"

"Send me home!" Jenny cut him off, raising her voice. She looked angry, but the blush on her face gave away how she truly felt.

Alec said nothing else and began driving toward Perry Residence.

Not long after, the car stopped at the entrance. Jenny was about to get out of the car, but Alec called out to her. "Jenny, I'm sorry for what happened to Stephanie. I'm not asking you to forgive me, just that you don't push me away."

"Right." There was no way to tell if Jenny was pleased or upset. She got down the car and went into the apartment, disappearing from his sight.

Jenny was still thinking about what Alec had said in the elevator. Should she believe him, she wondered.

The elevator stopped at her floor, and she got out. She made the short walk home and saw someone there, which surprised her. The visitor looked to have been waiting for a long time. When the visitor saw her, she widened her eyes and glared at Jenny as if she were her enemy.

Jenny was bewildered. "Marigold?" she said, puzzled. Gilbert had called to say that Marigold might come looking for her, and here she was.

"Hmph. I was beginning to think you were too scared to come home," Marigold scoffed coldly, her arms crossed. She shot daggers at Jenny.

Jenny was even more confused. "Why would I be afraid to come home? I don't understand what you're saying."

"Really?" Marigold smiled and walked toward her. "It's just the two of us here. What's the point of keeping up the act?"

"What act?" Jenny was getting irritated. She was nice to Marigold when they met. Why was she treating her like she was the bane of her existence now?

Marigold grew angrier. "What's going on between you and Gilbert? He's your brother. Don't you think it's disgusting?"

Chapter 239 Gilbert Likes You

Marigold said a lot of things, but Jenny didn't understand a single word. She stared at Marigold, who was on the brink of turning crazy, and thought of Gilbert's phone call. Could she be going crazy because of a rejection?

"Go to the hospital if you're sick. Don't scream around here." She was not a psychiatrist. She was helpless against something like this.

"You!" Marigold was infuriated and pointed at Jenny. "You're the one who's sick! You call him your brother, but you're stringing him along while getting close to Alec. You're fucking sick!"

Jenny's eyebrows furrowed. Something wasn't right with Marigold's words. "What do you mean?"

"Do you dare say you haven't been stringing Gilbert along? If it weren't for that, he wouldn't be so fucking infatuated with you!" Marigold was determined to expose Jenny's pretense.

Infatuated? Jenny thought that was an odd phrase to use.

But Marigold didn't care and blazed on, as if she wanted to vent her anger in one go. "If you don't like him, why are you giving him hope? Do you want him to be your third wheel forever? I thought you were a nice person, and since you're Gilbert's sister, I figured I should consider you my own in case Gilbert and I ever got together. Now looking back, I think it was foolish of me. You're siblings! You're family! How could you do this?" She said a lot at once, but even then, her anger was still ablaze. She glared at Jenny, wishing she could just tear her apart.

Jenny was in a daze, but in her confusion, she somehow seemed to understand something. She just wasn't sure if it was true.

"I don't know what you're saying, but to me, Gilbert will always be my brother." Jenny's expression was cold. She no longer looked at Marigold kindly. "I don't know what conflicts have happened between you two, but that's between Gilbert and you. I will not be involved in this. I respect all of his decisions."

Jenny was about to open the door, not wanting to waste her breath on Marigold anymore, but then Marigold grabbed her arm. "Don't you dare tell me you don't know Gilbert likes you!" She laughed while she said it. How could Jenny not know?

When Jenny heard her, she was indeed dumbstruck. She nearly dropped the keys in her hand. It was as if she'd heard a joke and laughed out loud. "You're sick. Gilbert is my brother. Even if he likes me, it's brotherly love. It's not as complicated as you think."

"As what I think?" Marigold sneered. She hadn't quite believed it when Yvonne said it, but she became absolutely certain when Gilbert confirmed it to her this morning.

"Why do you think Gilbert rejected me? It's because he likes you. Don't you tell me that you knew nothing about this!" Marigold glared at her as if she wanted to pierce right through her.

However, she was arguing with Jenny. Even if Jenny's emotions whirled around like a tornado, her face was as calm as a tranquil lake. "That's just your speculation. I believe that Gilbert has no such intentions."

"Oh really? Do you really believe that, or is that the denial speaking?" Marigold was smiling coldly.

Jenny flung her arm away and went into the house. "This is my business. It doesn't involve you. If you have the time, you should be thinking about how to make Gilbert like you."

"You..."

The door slammed shut. No matter how Marigold knocked, Jenny wouldn't open it.

Chapter 240 Don't Give Me Those Eyes

Jenny leaned against the door, hearing Marigold's thumps and knocks. Even after she left, Jenny stood frozen in her spot, unmoving.

Gilbert...

Jenny tried hard not to think about what Marigold had said. She told herself that it wasn't real, that Gilbert was just her brother, that he wouldn't mix up his feelings for her. But then, she couldn't calm down. Her memories with Gilbert flashed before her like a movie. His actions, the look in his eyes....

She realized the signs were all there, but she hadn't thought of him that way, which was why she never noticed. And now, after being rudely exposed, she realized that she couldn't lie to herself.

She slid down the door and buried her head in her arms. A throbbing pain permeated her heart.

Alec appeared outside the door. He'd waited a long time for Jenny's lights to turn on, and had begun to worry for her safety, so he came up to look. He just so happened to hear Marigold's words.

He hadn't come forward to stop her because he thought Jenny deserved to know. He only went to her door after Marigold left. He didn't knock, knowing that Jenny would be upset and he wouldn't be able to do anything.

No comfort in this world would be of use. Jenny had to get through this on her own.

He sighed helplessly, leaning against the door. Instinctively, he thought about lighting a cigarette, and his lips twisted into a bitter smile. He seemed to be smoking more frequently now.

He was contemplating lighting the cigarette when the door unexpectedly opened as he was finally putting it back. Alec had no time to hide, presenting himself to Jenny head-on.

"Why are you here?" Jenny frowned. Wasn't he supposed to have left a long time ago? Then, she thought of something, and her face changed. "Did you hear everything?"

"Jenny..." Alec wanted to explain, but when he saw her reddened eyes, he knew that anything he said would not be of use.

"Don't give me those eyes. Are you pitying me?" Jenny looked at Alec, not understanding why he would look at her like that. Even if Gilbert liked her, what was there to pity her about?

"No. I was worried about you." He was worried that Jenny wouldn't be able to take it.

At first, Jenny truly couldn't take it. But then she calmed down quickly. She couldn't take Marigold's word for it. Who knew if what Marigold said was true?

She wanted to go out to look for Gilbert so she could talk to him about it. If it were real, she would have to make it clear that he'd have to stop thinking about her that way. They were siblings. Even if they were not blood-related, they could only be siblings.

Jenny waved her hands. She was in no mood to talk to Alec. "There's no need. Please, go home."

"Where are you going?" Alec asked.

"I have something to do." Jenny walked into the elevator, and Alec followed closely behind.

In the elevator, Alec guessed where she was going, but he didn't ask. "Alright. Call me if anything happens. I'll always be there."

Jenny only looked at him, not saying anything.

The elevator stopped on the first floor. Jenny walked out of the gates, hailed a cab, and left quickly. Alec didn't even have the chance to offer to drive her.