

Chapter 169 Not Going

Janessa had returned home from work around nine o'clock the previous day.

This day, though, was different. Janessa didn't go to the company in the morning. Edison had been dealt with and although they hadn't replaced him as a new general manager yet, he had no power over the Lu Group.

Janessa had sneaked a peak in Rayan's agenda so she knew that he would be coming back today.

She really didn't want to see him, that was

why she decided she'd skip work entirely.

But the change in her daily routine did not go unnoticed by the other denizens of the house...

"Well, busy bee, why didn't you go to work today?" Holding a bag of chips in her arms, Leona took a seat beside Janessa, who was sprawled on the sofa watching TV.

"My boss is away on a business trip, so I decided I'd take the day off." Janessa had been relieved to find this morning that Edison's assault had left no bruises on her. Otherwise, if Leona and Alana had seen anything, all hell would have broken loose.

"Rayan has been away for several days. So, why take just today off?" 'Is that true?' Leona looked at Janessa closely, as if looking for the slightest indication that something was wrong.

"Well, it did take several days for me to finish all the work that had piled up, so that I can spend some time with you. If you want me gone, just say the word and I will go to the office. But don't whine about me working too much later." Janessa stood up, ready to leave if Leona said she should.

"No, no. It's great that you have the day off! You can come with me to the hospital later. I want to check on the baby." Looking down at her belly, Leona's smile was blinding.

She had grabbed Janessa's wrist to stop her from leaving, the same one that Edison had gripped the day before. Janessa had struggled hard to escape him, leaving her wrist sore and aching.

Leona's touch, albeit gentle, was enough to send a jolt of pain through Janessa. She gritted her teeth and managed to keep a yelp of pain from escaping her mouth, but she couldn't stop the painful expression that crossed her face.

Luckily, Leona had been looking down at her bump, so she didn't notice.

"I can't wait to see what the baby looks like in the ultrasound."

Janessa shot Leona a scathing look.

"I've told you countless times that you can't eat that junk anymore. Give it here." She grabbed the bag of chips from Leona's hand and tossed in on the coffee table, eliciting a mournful gaze from Leona.

"It's okay if it's just this once," she mumbled. She knew that stuff weren't good for the baby, but she couldn't resist her cravings.

"No, you need to start eating more healthy. If you keep eating junk, you are going out by yourself," Janessa said, stamping her foot before she stormed to her room.

Leona's had stopped midair, as she had been reaching for the chips. She sighed and let her arm fall to her side.

Half an hour later, the two of them were at the hospital's front doors. During their ride there, they had felt like children exploring a brand new world, discussing all about pregnancy.

Janessa had been pregnant once and she could give valuable advice to Leona. The two of them had compared their experiences and made plans for when the baby would come.

This little angel would be in great hands! They would both cherish it and make sure it never missed anything!

Janessa accompanied her friend in the examination room and was just as excited as the mommy-to-be.

Although the two month-old fetus was tiny, seeing in on the ultrasound screen was magical for them.

They talked about it all the way out, when they bumped into the last person they'd want to see.

"Miss Qiu, what are you doing here?" Gracie had spotted Janessa walking down the hospital corridor with another woman and her anger flared up. 'Why is she here, in the OBGYN wing? Oh, God, please don't tell me Rayan got her pregnant!'

Gracie was so close to losing her temper, but she managed to calm herself down. She wouldn't want to embarrass herself in a public place. Besides, she was Rayan's girlfriend, not that bitch. So even if Janessa was pregnant, it made absolutely no difference.

"This is a hospital, not a park. You are not pregnant as far as I know, so why don't you take a stroll elsewhere?" Janessa ignored Gracie and kept walking, knowing that this would make the woman lose her wits.

Gracie turned red from anger and rushed over to the two women.

Leona looked at the stranger in from of them with wide eyes. The hostility between that woman and Janessa was almost tangible. Leona reached over and patted Janessa's hand, trying to support her friend as best as she could.

"Janessa, who is this?"

"Oh, this is... she's... Gracie Mo, a doctor here at the hospital." Janessa had just spotted the name tag on Gracie's chest, stating that she part of the medical staff.

Until now, all she had known about Gracie was that she gained access to Rayan's life when she became the Lu family's doctor.

"This is my friend, Leona. I don't think you two have ever met. I'm not here to bicker with you today. You may as well find someone else to annoy."

Janessa was careful not to introduce the two women formally. She was not in the mood for Gracie's nonsense.

Janessa wished she could just blink and that horrible woman would go away, but wishful thinking rarely pans out. She tried to leave, dragging Leona with her, but Gracie was not done.

"Oh, say no more. If she is your friend, I feel I already know what she's like. You exploited my absence to seduce my boyfriend, so any friend of yours must be cut from the same trashy cloth," Gracie sneered, smiling broadly. Humiliating Janessa in public was truly a joy.

And it was more so, because they were at her turf.

"Gracie, keep this up and I'll make sure some lovely videos of yours in the Lu family villa find their way online,"

Janessa whispered, as close to Gracie's ear as she dared get. Even Leona, who was standing right behind her, didn't hear what she said.

This seemed to get through to Gracie. Threats were the only language this woman understood.

Hearing the word "villa", she flinched and took a step back.

They both knew that some things were better left unsaid. Some secrets must never see the light.

"Janessa, wipe that smug look off your face. It's not over yet... You will regret it sooner or later,"

Gracie hissed and strode away.

Janessa sighed helplessly. She had hoped that Gracie would have let it all go after a few months, but apparently, the woman still held a grudge.

As they left to go shopping, Janessa called Alana to join her and Leona. The three of them had a blast!

They had snacks while they shopped, but a few hours later, they decided to sit at a small, cozy restaurant to get dinner.

They were sitting at the table waiting for their food to arrive, when Janessa's phone rang. She tried to ignore it and focus on their conversation, but

it kept ringing. She cast an annoyed look at it.

"Go ahead, answer it. What if it's your boss ordering you to work overtime again?" Alana was still frustrated from ranting about Gracie, who she accused of pretending to be young while getting collagen injections that stretched and deformed her skin. 'Isn't she tired of that?' Janessa was more annoyed by Rayan, right now.

She had no choice but to answer the phone, but it was very quiet on the other end of the line.

"What is it, Mr. Lu?" Janessa said instead of a greeting, her tone resentful. After all, anyone who had gone through what she had the day before would be angry.

"There is an important event tonight. You will attend it as my companion!" Rayan's bass voice sounded somewhat crude on the phone.

"I'll not!" Janessa hung up on him fiercely and put the phone back in her purse.

