

Chapter 208 Thank You

Janessa could only look at Rylan with a sheepish grin. "Actually..."

"I know you didn't mean it, but I wanted to take it seriously. So, when will you go see a movie with me?" With his charming smile, Rylan stared at Janessa expectantly.

Chasing an unmarried woman was not the same as pursuing someone who had been divorced.

For this reason, Rylan had to do things differently and make sure that he did everything sincerely. He knew that it was cliché to send flowers, invite her to dinners, and ask her to go to the movies with him, but he did all of them knowing that sincerity was the key.

"You don't have to feel so embarrassed. I'm only going to ask you out if you have the time. If you don't want to go, that's okay. I can wait for you." Rylan knew what was going on inside Janessa's mind, so he went ahead and clarified things for her. Naturally, she was inevitably moved by his thoughtfulness.

For so many years, Janessa had been putting up a facade of a strong woman.

No matter how tough life was, she had to work hard to bear it. Not only did she have to endure everything for her family, but she also had to struggle against Rayan. She was really tired.

But now, Rylan was here, and he was someone who would prioritize her no matter what he did in life. He was much like a poppy that people couldn't get enough of once they got along with him.

"Don't make things hard for yourself. A divorced woman like me can't possibly deserve a man like you." Janessa didn't feel worthy of being with someone like Rylan, who was always so thoughtful and considerate. Not to mention, he was handsome, talented, and rich. He was definitely a man of many girls' dreams. It wouldn't be right for her to marry such a man, especially since her heart wasn't ready.

"Janessa, please don't ever say nor think of that again. I don't know if we will end up together. But right now, all I know is that I like you, and I won't hurt you. If one day you find that your happiness isn't with me, I'll go. But until then, don't drive me away. Even if I'm not the one for you, I hope you can let me be with you for a while."

There was nothing else that Janessa could say. She had already failed Gordon before. Now, she was afraid to let the same thing happen with Rylan.

After what Rylan said, the topic was over. They continued to eat and talk casually about other things.

The biggest difference between Rylan and Gordon was that Gordon had a dirty sense of humor, while Rylan could tell witty jokes he found on the Internet. He could even talk about puns with Janessa.

He didn't run out of jokes and punch lines no matter how long he talked, and every time he told one, he made Janessa laugh.

"Do you know where the coldest place in the world is?" Rylan asked, looking at Janessa seriously.

"North Pole? Or maybe the South Pole?"

"No, no. It's anywhere without you!"

"Oh, you're tricking me again." Janessa had already read the punch line online, but it felt different hearing it from Rylan.

It was usually a way for men to hit on girls, but Rylan turned it into a good joke.

"You know what? You look so beautiful when you smile. Try to avoid keeping a long face. You're still young, so you don't have to be so serious all the time."

Although Janessa didn't utter a single word, her smile had already said everything. Now, they simply enjoyed the pleasant atmosphere between them.

However, there was a sudden stir at the door. When she turned to check what it was about, she found something unexpected. "You've got to be kidding me."

How could Rayan be wherever she was?

Janessa could accept that the first time they ran into each other must have been a mere coincidence. However, she believed that meeting him a second time didn't feel so random anymore. This restaurant happened to be somewhere close to a remote suburb. There was no way that he would come to a place like this.

On top of that, Rayan came here with a group of men that looked rather dignified. They seemed ready to talk about business.

"Mr. Lu must like you very much. He can even find you in the middle of nowhere." Rylan was a pretty astute man. He could easily read people like a book.

Although Janessa smiled faintly, it was obvious that she felt a little embarrassed. "Don't mind him. Let's leave."

She was currently not on duty, so it was unnecessary for Rayan to concern himself with her life.

All of a sudden, Rayan turned and looked at the direction where Janessa was. He then spoke to the people around him and left them to walk towards her.

Janessa rolled her eyes so hard. If she had only known that Rayan would suddenly appear in this place, she wouldn't have ordered the dessert. Then maybe, they could have left early and she wouldn't have ended up seeing him.

"That's great that you are here. I don't need to look for you anymore. As you might have already guessed, those people over there are important clients of our company's project next month. Since Corbin is not here, you should assist me in dealing with them." After saying that, Rayan raised his eyebrows and looked at Janessa sternly. Although he didn't say it, the look on his face clearly told her that she couldn't refuse.

Janessa was rendered speechless. She had already gotten off of work, but her boss suddenly appeared, and now she was being forced to work overtime.

As an assistant, she knew that she didn't have the right to refuse. After all, just as Rayan said, it was for the company. Even though she really didn't want to do it, she could only endure it and bite the bullet.

"Rylan, I'm sorry, but looks like I have to work overtime. You can go ahead. Anyway, thank you for the dinner." Janessa could only apologize to Rylan. This was obviously so unexpected. Fortunately, they were still able to enjoy their dinner before Rayan and the others arrived. Otherwise, Janessa would be deeply embarrassed.

Rylan just nodded and said, "It is okay. You don't have to apologize. In fact, the food here is not that spectacular. Let me just treat you next time to somewhere else."

"Alright then," Janessa answered flatly.

"Mr. Lu, is it really necessary that you drag Ms. Qiu all the time? Work should be something that you can bear alone. It looks ridiculous that you are so helpless without her help," Rylan took the opportunity to let Rayan hear a piece of his mind. Of course, it was pretty obvious that the only reason why Rayan needed to drag Janessa into the business meeting was so she couldn't be with Rylan.

However, Rylan found this to be too despicable, so he decided to speak up.

"Mr. Feng, the affairs of the Lu Group is none of your business. Do you have the authority to speak for Janessa? If you have a problem with it, talk to me when you're already married to her!" Annoyed that Rylan had the guts to talk down upon him, Rayan snapped before leaving them.

Shaking his head, Rylan turned to Janessa and said, "How about we talk about that next dinner later on? Don't hesitate to call me if you need anything later. After all, I just live nearby."

"I see. I'm leaving now. See you later." After saying that, Janessa followed Rayan upstairs.

It turned out that the negotiation was just an informal one, and it was over some drinks. Fortunately, Rayan still had some decency, not letting Janessa drink over the course of the meeting. Her only job was to take down notes as they talked about the cooperation projects.

At the same time, because of Rayan's presence, the partners didn't dare embarrass Janessa by forcing her to drink.

After the meeting, Rayan and the clients turned out to be a little drunk from all the alcohol they consumed.

As the only sober one, Janessa sent them to their cars one by one. Lastly, she called Rayan's driver in order to take him home.

When Janessa was left all alone, she realized that there was no taxi passing by the area at that hour. Today, she came here through Rylan's car, so her car was still in the garage of the company.

Now that she didn't have her own car, and there was no other public transportation available, she didn't know what to do.

Fortunately, while Janessa was worrying about how she could get home, a familiar car stopped at the gate of the restaurant.

Then, a man in a suit got out of the car and walked towards Janessa.

"Why are you here? It's already late..." Janessa was kind of confused since the person who just arrived was supposed to have gone home a long time ago. However, he was now standing at the gate of the restaurant as if he had been waiting for her all this time.

"Well, I told you that I live nearby. Besides, I also know that you won't be able to get a taxi in this area at night. That's why I waited for you. Your boss didn't even have the etiquette to ensure that you can safely go home. What a jerk. Anyway, let's go. I'll drive you home."

Looking at Rylan's tired face, Janessa could only sigh in relief. "Thank you for waiting. I really appreciate it."