

## Chapter 249 A Crazy Woman

"Gracie, it is imperative that the realization of the part you played in this whole dilemma dawns on you. You really need to figure it out, so you can stop blaming everyone else. You had chosen to leave Rayan. I subsequently married him. I did not do anything immoral. As for why Rayan and I decided to divorce, you know clearly what tricks you played that led to the divorce. It's not necessary for me to re-hatch what happened, and I don't want to talk about it anymore. I suggest that you do not take this any further. You have gone far enough," expressed Janessa. Janessa was evidently dumbstruck.

Gracie was the one who kept poking at Janessa, attempting to get her riled up. Now that Janessa was retaliating, Gracie wanted to blame her. Gracie had always been unreasonable. It was no longer surprising for Janessa the lengths Gracie would go to, to be able to avert accountability.

"If only you had minded your own business, instead of choosing to uncover and expose my secrets, Rayan and I would be happy and I would be Mrs. Lu. I would be a part of the Lu family," said Gracie, with a sharpness in her voice. Gracie evidently could not contain her anger towards Janessa because she was screaming so loudly on the other side of the phone.

Janessa could not help but imagine the look on Gracie's face at that moment they were conversing over the phone.

"How ridiculous!

Gracie, do you honestly believe that everything you lost out on is as a result of others, like me? Do you really think I am responsible for the choices you made, that ended up destroying your life? I do not think you are being fair," stated Janessa. Janessa had hit the nail on the head.

Since Janessa was coerced into ending her marriage to Rayan, this result was to be expected. It was unfortunate that Gracie could not grasp this understanding of the entire situation.

"You ruined my life. If it were not for you, Rayan would be with me. Who the hell do you think you are and what makes you think that you are more deserving of being with Rayan? He can only be with me. It can only be me, even after knowing all he now knows. Never assume that I have lost. I will never lose. Even without bearing a child for Rayan, I will never lose!" said Gracie, clearly convinced by all she was uttering. Gracie raged on and on like a lunatic. She was more so interested in airing out her anger than actually having someone listen to her. As long as Janessa felt her wrath, Gracie felt much better.

Janessa could not help but let out a loud laugh. The more Gracie spoke, the more deranged she sounded. How could she possibly think that after cheating, Rayan would still want to be with her? This was what upset Gracie so much and what made her attempt to bring Janessa into disrepute.

Janessa could not comprehend why Gracie was even questioning her and calling her to throw tantrums. It was as if Gracie believed that there was a way that Janessa could fix this mess and everyone knew there was no convincing Rayan once his mind had been made up about something, let alone this Gracie dilemma.

"Gracie, you need to realize that there are repercussions for every action. You wanted a child at any cost, clearly that was at the cost of your relationship with Rayan. You clearly got what you wanted. It is unfortunate that you took Rayan for granted and chose to bear another man's child." Janessa did not want to make mention of this but Gracie kept pushing her.

"Sometimes you can make up for your mistakes and fix things but sometimes, you just have to accept you made an irreparable mistake, apologize and then move on with your life. You said you love Rayan and even though your actions make me doubt that you do, I will try my best to believe that you do indeed love him. Loving Rayan means always having consideration for what he wants and needs. I do not have to explain to you that no man could bear the thought of his woman being with another man, let alone the thought of her being impregnated by another man. It is even worse because you attempted to pass off another man's child as Rayan's child. That is even more unforgivable. Are you too ignorant to understand this sentiment?" It was clear to Janessa that Gracie was really stupid. A smart person would not have attempted what Gracie did, let alone believe that they could get away with it.

When Janessa first saw the signs, she became suspicious. Upon seeing the evidence, her suspicions heightened even more.

It had always been obvious to any onlooker that Gracie did not seem to love Rayan deeply.

However, Rayan loved Gracie so much that he lost all sense of reasoning.

"Janessa, what makes you believe that you have any reason or right to say that?" questioned Gracie, irate. "I only called you today for one reason and that is to inform you that you will never live well until you leave Rayan alone. You were lucky to find clues. You will not be so lucky if you do not choose to leave because that will be at the sacrifice of your reputation."

Gracie went into a maniacal laugh after uttering such vile threats. Janessa was now convinced that Gracie was unwell mentally.

Was she going to deal with Janessa as she had done to Frank?

"Gracie, there is a saying goes, 'Do not play with fire unless you are willing to get burned.' Have you heard of it? I think you need to consider that saying very deeply before meddling in this situation." Janessa hung up. Though she managed a slight smile, she was irked beyond measure at the threats from Gracie.

'If you amuse a crazy person, chances are you are also crazy,' Janessa thought to herself. The fact that she listened to that crazy woman Gracie, made Janessa question her own sanity.

Glancing at the phone still in complete shock, Janessa decided that she should head out to the hospital to visit Alana.

It was roughly half past six in the evening when Janessa arrived at the hospital. As soon as she entered the ward, there was a shift in the atmosphere.

Janessa was surprised to be greeted by two peoples' faces in Alana's ward.

It was Alana's parents. It was a rare occurrence to see the Shen family under one roof.

"Greetings Mr. and Mrs. Shen. Glad to see you here," Janessa managed to offer. Janessa did not like Alana's parents much but realized it was in everyone's best interests that she managed to remain polite. After all, they were her best friend's parents.

"What are you doing here? How did my daughter end up in the hospital while she lived with you? How come you are not laying on this hospital bed as well?" It was obvious that Mrs. Shen's words carried with them a contemptuous complaint against Janessa.

Janessa had the inclination that she would, at some point, be faced with fingers of the Shen family pointing at her as the person to blame for this ordeal. She did not anticipate that it would happen so soon after she set foot in this ward.

"Mom, what are you doing? You were not even present when this ordeal occurred, mother. Janessa is not to blame for this. Had she not helped me timeously, I would be dead as we speak." Alana was completely baffled at her mother's line of questioning. Alana had always been the one to fight against any injustices. She openly defended Janessa and guarded against Janessa's honor because she appreciated the fact that they were best friends. Alana would not sit back and allow for anyone to bully Janessa, not even her own mother.

"Shut up. I have not even finished what I was saying." Mrs. Shen snapped. Mrs. Shen was sizing up Janessa, her brown eyes staring down Janessa and made everyone in the ward so uncomfortable.

"Miss Qiu, I wonder how you managed to get my children wrapped around your finger because they defend your honor at every turn, even at the risk of separating our Shen family," Mrs. Shen said this while pointing a short, thick finger at Janessa's face.

Gordon had, for once, decided to speak back to Mrs. Shen and defend what was right. He did this to finally rid himself of the control his parents had over him and Alana, even if it meant him getting hurt in the end. And Alana moved in with Janessa and never came back home after her parents set her up for a blind date.

Mrs. Shen's children would defend an outsider more than they would defend her because they knew her to be unreasonable.

Mr. Shen's face always did the talking for him. His face always had his disapproval written all over it. It was quite clear to Janessa that he too was hard to deal with.

"May I please have a word with you in private, Mrs. Shen?" pleaded Janessa. Janessa knew that it was pertinent that she nip this in the bud as soon as possible, or else this misunderstanding would carry over to the future and never get solved.

Therefore, Janessa felt that clarity was required for everyone's sake, especially Gordon and Alana, to make their lives easier.

Placing the thermal pot on the table, Janessa revealed hang-over soup and said, "Gordon and Alana, drink the soup. It will help and make you feel better. I also brought food for you to eat and strengthen up."

Staring at the square box placed on the side table next to Alana's bed, Janessa said, "It seems that you will not be needing the food I brought for you though."

Janessa took the box of food with her, with a mocking expression and walked out of the ward to be able to speak to Mrs. Shen privately.

Mrs. Shen and Janessa walked to the end of the corridor and were out of earshot of Mr. Shen, Gordon and Alana. It became the most convenient time for them to converse.

"If what you want to say to me can be considered nonsense, please do not even waste my time," said Mrs. Shen, with an unimpressed look on her face.

"Mrs. Shen, I do not think you could consider something that pertains to Alana, your daughter, as nonsense. Please lend me your ear. It is rather important. I am aware that my family, the Qiu family, can never be compared to your family, the Shen family. I hope you do not think I am being forward since I am not a parent, but I believe that all parents hope that their children can be nothing short of happy. Being some rich man's girlfriend or wife is not something that will assure Alana true happiness. What Alana needs is to feel that she is in control of her life. No one, not even you Mrs. Shen, should take over the controls of Alana's life. All that you have done for her all of her life has surely been for her own good, but please try and think things from her point of view. It is vital that you realize that the harder you push her, the farther she will stray away from you and into the unknown. You wanted to know how I managed to have Alana wrapped around my finger. It is because I support all of her decisions and let her have full control by not interfering in her life," professed Janessa.