

Chapter 306 Getting Back Together

Throughout Janessa's stay at the hospital, Alana never failed to visit her every day. Much to her chagrin, however, she didn't have much to do in her ward.

All she had ever done was eat and sleep, and she had already gained two pounds from the lack of other activities.

Her injury healed rather quickly, though, thanks mostly to the great care the doctors and staff had been giving her.

Today, the weather was as good as one could ever hope for. Janessa was lying in bed and enjoying the beam of sunshine that passed through her window when she suddenly felt the impulse to take a walk.

Without wasting any time, she got out of bed and fetched a thick coat. She was just about to step out when the door was pushed open and a woman stepped in.

Janessa stared at her visitor in surprise.

"Mom—I mean Mrs. Lu, what brings you here?" Janessa had been so taken aback that she hadn't thought twice about calling this woman "Mom." Fortunately, she was able to correct herself in the next second.

"I heard that you were injured, so I came to see you." Sarah smiled kindly at her as the family chauffeur lumbered behind her, carrying a large fruit basket.

"Oh, it's good enough that you came to pay me a visit. You shouldn't have bothered with a gift. Please come in and have a seat." Janessa discarded her coat as she ushered the older woman inside. The driver followed suit and set the basket on the table before quietly excusing himself from the room.

Janessa and Sarah were now alone in the ward.

Sarah bought some time by looking around the ward before fixing her eyes on Janessa.

"How have you and Mr. Lu been doing? I'm sorry I haven't found the time to visit you recently. I'll be sure to come and see you before the Spring Festival." Despite everything that had happened in the past, Janessa was still grateful to her former mother-in-law. Although she had only married Rayan for the best interests of her family's business, Sarah had been absolutely wonderful to her. And over the years, Janessa had returned the favor and taken care of the older woman as if she were her own mother.

Alas, they were simply not destined to be a family.

"We're doing fine. I heard that you were hurt during your overseas trip. My silly son didn't even tell me. How are you feeling now?" Sarah's tone was apologetic. She felt guilty that she hadn't reached out to Janessa sooner.

"I'm still young and healthy, so it isn't really a big deal. As for you and Mr. Lu, you must take better care of yourselves." Beneath the exchange of pleasantries, Janessa was contemplating Sarah's purpose in coming here.

Was she perhaps thinking of a possible reunion between Janessa and Rayan?

'No, I don't think she will bother with such nonsense.'

The thought did make Janessa pause, however. After that, she didn't dare to make any more guesses.

A pleasant chat soon followed.

After a long time, Sarah began to get to the point.

"I heard that you traveled with your friend this last time."

'Is that what her visit is all about?'

Janessa studied Sarah, astonished by her sudden question.

"That's right," she eventually answered. "I went for some much-needed relaxation with a friend." Although it was true she had been injured by a knife for Rayan when they had been abroad, she just didn't need to tell Sarah who she had gone there with.

However, Janessa couldn't tell a lie because Sarah cared about her.

"To be honest, Janessa, I came here today to ask you if you still have feelings for my son or not. I know you broke up due to some misunderstandings, mostly involving Gracie. But surely, this hasn't diminished whatever affection you once had."

Sarah looked composed on the outside, but Janessa could feel her anxiety. It was palpable in the air between them.

What on earth could have happened to make this confident and classy woman to suddenly become so worried?

Why was she concerned about Janessa's feelings toward Rayan?

Their relationship had no foundation to begin with. It was inevitable for the two of them to separate.

"Well, Rayan and I..." Janessa hesitated. They had gotten along while they were in Y Country, but it was more of a friendship rather than anything romantic. Rayan had probably only done his part as thanks since she risked her life to save him.

"You two... Tell me, is it possible for you to get back together?" As innocent as the question was, there was a hint of grievance in Sarah's voice. If it were up to her, she would prefer it if the young couple reunited. But she did not want to force Janessa against her will.

The older woman grew silent then, seemingly at a loss with what else to say.

"We all knew since the beginning that I did not marry Rayan for love. My family needed money at the time, and yours needed a daughter-in-law. Everything just clicked into place and happened as a matter of course. But it was all a big, messy mistake. I needed to fix the situation, and that's why I chose to get a divorce. I'm not diving into that same mistake again." As Janessa spoke, her mind was bombarded with fragments of the past.

When she had come to his home after they had gotten married, Rayan had made a point of skipping dinner. He had wanted to tell her that their relationship would be anything but harmonious, and he had done this by refusing to share a single meal with her.

They had slept in the same room every night, of course, but it had done nothing to cultivate any semblance of affection between the two.

"I don't know how you learned about my injury. Some things may have happened while we were abroad, but now that we're here, everything is back to the way they always were. There was a time when I also thought we might get back as a couple, but we haven't spent any time together since returning to the country. We've barely even seen each other. And since Rayan likes someone else, anyway, there's no point in me trying to pursue this matter."

Janessa's message was clear—they weren't getting back together. There was no need for her to struggle uselessly.

"Janessa, I..." Sarah looked devastated. She had witnessed Janessa's misery with her own eyes, and she didn't want the young woman to go through that again. But deep down, she truly wished...

As things stood at present, she would have to forget about her wish if she didn't want to see Janessa get hurt again.

Sara found herself in a bit of a dilemma.

"I know what it is that you want to say, but it's all over. I still believe that Rayan will find you a more suitable daughter-in-law in the future. As far as I know, his relationship with Gracie is no longer what it used to be, so you have nothing to worry about." Janessa didn't know how else she could comfort her former mother-in-law, so she might as well be honest.

Rayan was bound to marry another woman sooner or later. As for what had happened abroad, well, she would just have to pretend that it had all been a dream.

"I understand." Sarah smiled sadly. "Take good care of yourself, Janessa. Come visit us when you feel better. The door of our home will always be open for you. Why don't you spend the Spring Festival with us? I don't want you to be alone at such an occasion. I'm sure you'll be lonely, and so will Mr. Lu and I."

"Rayan will probably bring someone home with him. It wouldn't be appropriate for me to be there as well." Janessa was painfully aware of her position. She couldn't even begin to imagine the catastrophe that would ensue if Rayan brought another woman home. How was he supposed to introduce Janessa to her, then?

Should he say that they were ex-husband and ex-wife? That would only cause a bigger misunderstanding none of them would care to deal with.

After all, no self-respecting woman would willingly accept such an arrangement.