

## Chapter 344 What Does That Ugly Woman Want To Do

Upon arriving home, Janessa felt relieved that she could finally get some much-needed rest. But on her way to the bedroom, she noticed something odd.

"Hmm, why is it so quiet? Usually, the servants would be busy cleaning and cooking right now. Why did they all go?"

But despite her confusion, she didn't think that the strange situation was something to be worried about. The person in charge of taking care of the house was Willie, a perfectly good man. She was sure that he had a valid reason for everything going on.

After shrugging her shoulders, she continued on her way to the bedroom. When she opened the door, she was greeted by a horrid smell.

The room reeked of cigarettes, overwhelming Janessa's sensitive nose.

The couple's bedroom was far more spacious than a regular one, and it was also well-ventilated. So whenever Rayan smoked inside, the smell would be barely noticeable. But now, the smell was so prevalent that it seemed like a hundred men gathered inside and did nothing but smoke cigarettes all day.

While Janessa was trying to figure out what was going on, she noticed a faint glow inside their pitch-black bedroom.

"Who's there?"

She asked while scrambling to turn on the lights. When she finally managed to do so, she saw that it was just Rayan, sitting on the sofa with a lit cigarette in his mouth.

Judging from the number of cigarette butts in the ashtray, he had probably been cooped up in their bedroom the entire day.

"It's me! Who else would you expect to be in our bedroom?"

Rayan answered with a strained voice.

"Oh, why didn't you turn on the light then? I thought you were a robber or something!" Janessa exclaimed while clutching her chest. Rayan was right, the only other person who'd be inside their bedroom was him. That said, she couldn't help but be startled, especially when she thought that the room was empty.

After calming her nerves, she closed the door behind her and started taking off her clothes to change.

Seeing her act so casually after ignoring him the whole day angered Rayan. With a frigid glare on his face, and his blood slowly coming to a boil, he thought to himself, 'I can't believe this woman! Not once did she respond to any of my messages or calls! And now that she's back home, the first thing she does is scold me about not turning on the lights?'

"Why didn't you respond to my calls or texts?" Rayan asked stoically before puffing his cigarette. His voice now was a lot raspier than before.

It was like something was stuck in his throat, preventing him from breathing properly.

"Oh, my bad. My phone's battery ran out a few hours ago. What time did you happen to call me?" Rayan stayed dead silent, completely ignoring her question. Confused, Janessa quickly plugged her phone into a charging cable and waited anxiously. A minute later, when her phone turned back on, she saw a dozen messages and a few missed calls. All of them came from one person, Rayan.

'Oh crap! I think I made him worry too much. He's probably fuming right now.'

It didn't take long for Janessa to realize that she made a big mistake. Hoping to avoid a catastrophe, she didn't hesitate to give her explanation.

"I'm sorry, Rayan. I really didn't mean to ignore you. I made plans with Leona to go shopping this afternoon. We finished early so we decided to kill some time at the cinema. Before the movie started, I set my phone to silent. I guess while the movie was going on, my battery ran out. I only noticed it when we were leaving the cinema." Janessa's excuse seemed pale, and not very convincing. But it was the honest truth.

All of a sudden, she came up with a way to prove that everything was just an unfortunate sequence of events. She grabbed her phone, hurried over to Rayan, and eagerly showed him something, "If you still don't believe me, look here. I posted a few pictures on WeChat moments before going inside the cinema."

With a critical eye, he glanced down and saw Janessa and Leona having a blast.

'Huh, I guess she just wanted to spend some quality time with her best friend.'

With his doubts and worries slowly subsiding, Rayan's stone-faced gaze changed to a playful one. All of a sudden, he grabbed Janessa, made her sit on his lap, and started kissing every part of her face. Then after a short pause, he gave her a passionate kiss on the lips.

The moment they became a couple, Janessa never backed away from a kiss, especially when they were alone together in a room.

But now that Rayan reeked of cigarettes, she absolutely couldn't stand to be so close to him.

With all her might, she started struggling to break free from his grasp, even closing her mouth so he couldn't pass on the horrid taste in his mouth.

The only thing Janessa hated more than the smell of cigarettes was the taste of it on her tongue. It was a bit of a stretch, but whenever he kissed her right after smoking, she couldn't help but feel like a prostitute.

The more she struggled, the tighter he held on to her. This was her punishment for ignoring him, and he wanted to make sure she would never do it again.

When Janessa finally gave in and accepted her fate, Rayan unexpectedly let her go.

As soon as she broke free from his grasp, she ran all the way to the other side of the room and wiped off her mouth.

"Why are you running away from me? Do you not love me anymore?" Rayan tried to chase after her. But since he'd been sitting down for hours, he immediately felt dizzy the moment he stood up. So with one hand cradling his head, he walked towards Janessa at a snail's pace.

"Don't be silly, Rayan. Of course, I still love you! It's just that—how do I say this nicely. You really need to brush your teeth right now!" It suddenly occurred to Janessa that Rayan had kissed her before after he smoked. But every time Rayan kissed her, she would brush her teeth a few more times until there was no smell of smoke in her mouth. Then Janessa would go back to her room to sleep.

"Did you really just go shopping and watch a movie this afternoon?" Rayan asked in a deadpan voice. However, Janessa could tell that he was carrying a burden in his heart. 'Is he scared of losing me? Is that why he's acting so strange?'

With this in mind, she quickly made her way towards Rayan and wrapped her arms around him.

She didn't care anymore about his smell. In fact, the scent of cigarettes, mixed with his cologne, gave her a feeling of warmth in her heart.

"I'm really sorry if I made you worry, Rayan. But I promise you, I was just with Leona the entire day." Even though he had absolutely nothing to worry about, she didn't mind giving her beloved partner some assurance when he needed it. So she tightened her hug as much as she could, nestled her head into his chest, and listened closely to his heartbeat.

Of course, her simple ways worked like a charm. Any trace of sorrow Rayan had left in his heart vanished into thin air.

"From now on, wherever you're going out, please let me know!"

"Sure thing, dear. Anything for you."

With their slight misunderstanding done and dusted, Rayan started feeling a little silly for letting himself get so overworked for no reason at all. A few hours later, the couple found themselves lying in bed, getting ready to sleep. While Rayan was reading a book, Janessa laid her head down on his thigh and stared blankly at the pictures hanging on the wall.

"You've been quiet for a while now. Is something bothering you, Janessa?" Whenever Rayan was in a good mood, he'd be a lot more sensitive to his surroundings. So when he noticed that Janessa was acting odd, he didn't hesitate to caress the top of her head and try to figure out what was going on.

"Oh, I'm fine! I was just thinking of something," Janessa replied with a forced smile on her face.

'Wow, was I really that easy to read? I guess I have to be a bit more careful from now on,' she thought.

"I ran into an old classmate of mine from middle school a few days ago. He said our school was planning to host a reunion for all alumni. I was debating whether I should go or not." Despite sounding like she was having a hard time deciding, Janessa had no plans of going. She appreciated that Errol didn't forget to invite her. But sadly, she really saw no reason to go, especially when she could barely remember any of her previous classmates.

Additionally, she hated what had become of class reunions. Instead of catching up with old friends, people nowadays went to such events just to compare their success to their peers or see who ended up being a failure in life.

'Crap, I can't let him figure out what I'm thinking. Because if he does, I'm sure he'll go overboard. I should just keep smiling and talk as little as possible,' she anxiously thought.

"Oh, I see. If it's just a class reunion, then I have no problems if you want to go. And if you don't, I won't force you." Right after responding, Rayan let out a sigh of relief. He was worried that she was dealing with something troublesome. Luckily, it turned out to be just a simple gathering.

"There's really no reason for me to show my face there, especially if you consider the state of the Qiu family right now. And besides, I'm sure Imani will be there." 'Knowing her, she wouldn't pass up the opportunity to show off,' Janessa bitterly thought.

Ever since middle school, Imani had always attended the same school as Janessa. It was like the two cousins were always destined to be together. Luckily for Janessa, that wasn't the case later on in life.

'I'm sure whatever reunion I go to, she'll be there, ready to steal the show.'

Ever since Imani's wedding catastrophe, Janessa hadn't bumped into her a single time.

And despite being cousins, she honestly preferred if it stayed that way.

"Hmm... Imani?" Rayan mumbled while trying his best to remember a person with that name.

"She's my uncle's daughter. Do you remember?"

The moment she finished talking, an image of Imani's face popped up into his head. With the utmost disdain, Rayan exclaimed, "Why would that unsightly woman be at your reunion? Uh! Just the thought of her revolts me!"

When she heard Rayan's colorful description of her cousin, she immediately burst into laughter.

'Ha-ha! I wish Imani was here to hear that.'

She tries way too hard to look like royalty. I'm sure if she heard someone calling her ugly, she'd go ballistic!'