

## Chapter 364 Apologies

Janessa's happiness only lasted a short while before a traffic officer knocked on her window.

"What is the problem, officer? Is there anything wrong?" Janessa asked innocently. With all the excitement, she didn't remember what had happened.

"The problem is ma'am, you can't park here. Show me your vehicle license and driver's license, please," the traffic policeman said in an indifferent tone as he stared right ahead. Even though Janessa was a woman, he didn't care to be gentle.

"Okay." With that, Janessa handed them over. Many people had come over. All of them were curious as to what was happening.

"Aren't you aware that you shouldn't park here?" he asked as he checked the licenses. He still hadn't looked at Janessa and his attitude wasn't any better.

"I am. It's just that the driver in front of me slammed the brakes suddenly. I didn't want to bump into it, so I turned the steering wheel to come here. There was no one on this pavement and besides the cars behind me had to stop." Janessa didn't mean to brag about her quick action. She was just explaining herself.

"But you didn't think you would be affecting the safety of the pedestrians, now did you? There is an accident up ahead, but it's nothing too serious. You can go on your way." The policeman returned the licenses to Janessa, but he didn't allow her to leave before he issued her with a ticket.

"You parked the car illegally. That's one point off your driver's license. And don't forget to pay the fine."

As she took the ticket and licenses from him, Janessa felt like crying, but no tears came out. She had to pay a fine for something that wasn't her fault. There was no point in crying anyway.

Janessa didn't drive very often, so she didn't feel that bad for what had happened. Smiling at the officer, she said, "Thank you, sir." After the ordeal, Janessa drove straight to the Lu Group.

On entering the building, many people looked at Janessa with pity in their eyes.

The security didn't stop her. After all, no one had ordered them to stop her from coming to the company. So everyone just looked at her as gossip and rumors filled the air.

"Does Janessa still not know what happened between Mr. Lu and Miss Mo? Is that even possible?"

"It's obvious. Can't you see that she isn't affected at all? Poor Janessa. She doesn't even know her husband was stolen. Otherwise, she wouldn't be so calm."

"True. Although Mr. Lu is quite the catch, it's still so unfair to her, as a woman."

"Well, you women..."

Before Janessa arrived at the elevator, her colleagues had already started arguing about the dynamics of her relationship. They had created more than a dozen versions of what had happened between her and Rayan, each one more absurd than the last.

Janessa looked through the employees' WeChat group in the elevator. They tended to ignore her being in the group just because she was always silent. The texts were coming in faster than she could read them. All the fake pity they had shown her on the way in was now stripped away. Her colleagues thought they were discussing behind their backs, so they didn't hold back.

Janessa went to Corbin's office first. After confirming that Rayan was in, she walked towards his office with the food she had carried. Even so, she didn't miss Corbin's worried glance.

She finally understood when a cloud of smoke and the stench of alcohol hit her as soon as she opened the door.

Janessa pinched her nose as disgust filled her eyes.

Rayan had a stomachache. Yet here he was drinking and smoking. Did he honestly want to die that much? The smoke made tears flow to her cheeks.

Janessa walked to one of the huge windows in the room and opened it. She almost leaned into the fresh air that was just out there. The foul-smelling air in the room was also on its way out.

"Close the window. Who told you to open it?" With the alcohol clouding his mind, Rayan couldn't see clearly who the person in front of him was.

He could only see a blurry silhouette in the smoke.

As drunk as he was, Rayan still knew it was Janessa. Only she could enter his office without permission and even dare to open the window.

The air around him became less foggy and the smell of smoke had reduced. Someone had really opened the window, it wasn't just in his head.

"Who is there? I told you to close the damn window. Are you deaf?" Rayan shouted at the blurry figure in his vision. His voice was hoarse due to the smoking and drinking he had been doing lately.

When he roared, it was enough to make someone depressed.

"Are you regretting breaking up with me?" Janessa didn't understand him. He was the one who had kicked her out. So why was he acting as if he had been left alone?

She had always been able to predict his next move. When did Rayan become so incomprehensible? Did he really regret breaking up with her?

Janessa's voice was clear enough to assure Rayan that he wasn't hallucinating. A sense of relief settled in his chest subconsciously. He rubbed his eyes and found her standing in her favorite spot by the window, dispersing the smoke from the room.

The office was free from the greyish cloud after a while. Looking at the bottles and cigarette butts littering the marble floor, Janessa frowned.

"How do you get any work done like this? I guess you haven't eaten yet. Hurry up and have something." Regardless of Rayan's bloodshot eyes, Janessa squatted and picked up the wine bottles from the floor and threw them into the trash can. She carefully wiped the ashes from the table and took out the lunchboxes she had packed one by one.

"Drinking on an empty stomach is just asking for trouble. You'd better have some food first." Janessa spoke so gently as if nothing had changed between them. She was still the same Janessa who loved cooking for him, and Rayan still loved the meals she made.

But how could he pretend that things were okay when she had broken his trust?

"Who let you in here? How dare you set foot in this company? Don't you have any shame? Get out!" He pointed at the door furiously. Rayan hadn't eaten anything the whole day. He had worked on some important documents in the morning but the thoughts in his head became too overwhelming. So he found himself drinking. There was only alcohol in his stomach which was now aching.

It was like Rayan's nose was naturally attracted to Janessa's food. Every time he got a whiff of her delicious food, he could still eat one more bowl even if he had already had dinner.

That hadn't changed. When Rayan smelled the food, he suddenly had the urge to eat.

"Rayan, I'm here to apologize to you. I didn't mean to do any of it. I honestly had no choice." Janessa didn't know how to explain it to make Rayan believe that she hadn't betrayed him.

At first, Larry hadn't cared about the unimportant projects. He had only been interested in the core secrets of the Lu Group. They weren't easy to come by, which was why Janessa had lurked in the Lu Group for so long. But when the chance to steal something finally came, she couldn't do it because she had fallen in love with Rayan.

That was when Janessa had ended her deal with Larry.

"Apologize? For what exactly? Stealing confidential information from the company or sneaking into my study? Or maybe it's for lying to me all this time?" As the wind blew in, it cleared Rayan's mind. With sobriety came the feelings he had been running from.

Even the way he looked at Janessa changed.

"Study? What study?" Janessa couldn't remember going anywhere near a study.

"Are you playing dumb now? It won't help in any way. Let's jog your memory, shall we?" Rayan turned on the computer, and with a few clicks on the keyboard, a video appeared.

In the video, Janessa walked into the dark study and turned on the computer, the light from it illuminating her face. She seemed to be searching for something. Then she took out a flash drive and with a few more taps, she turned off the computer. The room was thrown into darkness once more until she opened the door and crept out.

Just then, the memories of that night rushed into Janessa's mind.