

Extraordinary 41

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"Alright, alright, now that we've found the money, let's leave it at that," Horace consoled Mary. "What can I do? She's my mother."

"I don't care; I don't want to see her anymore!" Mary threw Susan back onto the ground and sat on the sofa. She turned to Horace. "If it weren't for me, this family would've been finished!"

Mary's only useful skill was attracting investors. Over the years, she had brought Horace quite a few investors for his company.

Horace had spoiled her a lot, so in his book, it was alright for her to act unreasonably. On the other hand, he shot Susan a look of despise. Why is my mother such a piece of trash? She's stealing, and she won't even admit it when she has been caught!

"You'll be sleeping in the storeroom."

"But sir, the storeroom is in a mess and it's filthy! It's summer now, so how could you let Old Mrs. Berry stay there without air-conditioning?" Aunt Sally, the housekeeper, pointed out.

She felt bad seeing Susan in such a state.

However, she was just a housekeeper and did not have a say in their matters. She took her pay from Horace and Mary, so she could not protest much either.

"She's so old, surely warm air is better than the cold. Hurry up and pack it up. Enough with the nonsense," Mary spat and continued bawling on the sofa.

"Argh, my life is terrible! When I was raising my child, my mother-in-law wasn't here to help out and just stayed in the countryside. She wouldn't even come and take a look at her own grandchild! Now that she's gotten old, I've got to take care of her. Alright, fine, that's my duty. How did I get a thief to be my mother-in-law though? It's just my bad luck!"

Horace pacified Mary and hugged her. "I've already punished her, haven't I? She's getting old, so don't make things difficult for her. While you were giving birth to Xavier, she was taking care of Ashlyn in the countryside. She couldn't leave."

"Ashlyn is her granddaughter, but Xavier is her grandson as well! She's biased!" Mary continued crying for a while. Good, at least I've achieved my aim. Now that this hag is going to stay in that stuffy storeroom, hopefully, she'll die of heatstroke soon.

Susan staggered up the stairs. The Berry Residence had three floors. The housekeeper's room was on the first floor. The Berry family lived on the second floor, with Horace and Mary sharing a room while

Penelope and Xavier had their own rooms.

On the third floor, there was a piano room for Penelope and a room storing Xavier's toys.

Above that was an attic which served as a storeroom.

The storeroom was filled with a cluttered mess. Aunt Sally brought Susan's belongings upstairs and set up a foldable bed.

She then made the bed for Susan.

Taking a seat, she suggested, "Old Mrs. Berry, if Ms. Ashlyn is capable of supporting you, I think it's best for her to take you away to live with her. You can't possibly stay in a place like this."

"Ashlyn is just a doctor. She doesn't have the money to buy a house! I don't want to cause trouble to the child anymore. She lost her mother at a young age and had a tough life with me in the countryside. I don't have much time left. I'll survive for as long as I can." Susan wiped her tears. She felt terrible to lose her granddaughter's money like that.

After all, she knew that Ashlyn did not have an easy time earning money and assumed that she had saved up for a long time before giving her the twenty thousand as allowance.

Yet, she allowed Mary to take it away so effortlessly.

The more she thought of it, the worse she felt and her tears started flowing uncontrollably.

Aunt Sally consoled her as she started rearranging the mess in the attic, "I don't think Ms. Ashlyn is a pushover. I think we should consult her about this."

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Old Mrs. Berry has had it tough in the Berry Residence. I wish I could tell Ms. Ashlyn that Old Mrs. Berry wasn't sick at all! Horace had pierced his mother's hand using a needle to make it look that way. Horace and Mary have been abusing her and now they've even accused her of stealing! Old Mrs. Berry is living worse than me right now, and I'm a servant! I'm already sweating after staying for a few minutes in this storeroom. Who knows what will happen if I let such an old woman stay here!

"Forget it," Susan mumbled. Her head still hurt, so she lay on her bed and stared blankly at the ceiling.

I can't forgive myself. Ashlyn's mother's death doesn't seem natural no matter how you slice it. It must've been that son of mine! After Ashlyn's finally escaped from the Berry family's clutches, I can't possibly drag her down any further!

Meanwhile, in the South Star Airlines meeting room.

Lucas was engaged in a pre-departure briefing.

Everyone present could tell that he was in a foul mood.

The man's cool and aloof expression was much sterner than usual.

Every word that escaped his lips had an icy and threatening tone. Finally, he ended the meeting with, "Dismissed. Prepare for departure."

As Lucas stood up, his captain's uniform was bulging and highlighted his muscular build.

Lucas adjusted his cap and left.

The co-pilot and the purser, Nancy, followed behind him.

Then, the flight attendants followed suit as well.

The entire group made their way to the plane.

One of the flight attendants whispered to Jenny, "Is it just me, or is Captain Nolan in a bad mood?"

"Doesn't he look more charming this way?" Jenny smiled as she stared dreamily at the tall figure walking in front.

When she considered the possibility that he was in a bad mood because he had a tiff with his wife, she was overjoyed.

After all the routine checks, Lucas prepared for takeoff as per usual.

He recalled the last time he flew a plane. Back then, Ashlyn was with him and they had not divorced yet. In the four years of their marriage, she had only accompanied him once. "Captain, all systems go," the co-pilot reported.

Lucas pulled himself together and nodded.

Before take-off, he did a routine check on the passenger list.

When he saw Ashlyn's name, he frowned and stared at the name for a long time before returning the list to Nancy. His eyes narrowed as he instructed, "Keep an eye on her and the passengers around her."

Nancy was taken aback. Ashlyn Berry? Is there anything special about her?

When she took a look outside, she understood what was going on. Isn't she the girlfriend Mr. White brought last time?

She was in a light purple dress which made her skin look even fairer. Her defined features were beautiful and captivating.

Just by leaning against the window, she was a sight for sore eyes.

There were countless beautiful flight attendants working for South Star Airlines and Nancy was a beauty herself. However, she had to admit that they all paled in comparison to this woman.

Everything was normal with the flight and the clouds shone with a pale glow.

Soon, Nancy walked in and reported, "Ms. Berry took a quick nap but woke up because her male neighbor dropped his earbuds on her seat. She picked them up and returned them to him."

Lucas frowned. That's got to be intentional!

"That man dropped his portable charger while fumbling for it in his bag and Ms. Berry picked it up for him again."

Shortly after, Nancy entered the cockpit again.

Before she could speak, Lucas sneered, "What did that man drop this time?"

"This time, he didn't drop anything, but he offered to help Ms. Berry stow away her luggage."

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"Yakov, from Russia, huh?" Lucas read out the male passenger's name.

His eyes narrowed and his expression became stern.

The co-pilot felt the pressure in the cockpit increasing after every one of Nancy's reports.

He felt crushed by the pressure.

"Captain Nolan, your memory is astonishing! Did you remember the names of every passenger?" Nancy exclaimed in shock. "Well, Ms. Berry declined his offer. She..."

Nancy looked troubled.

"What did she do?" Lucas demanded.

Nancy covered her mouth as she recalled that heart-pounding scene that happened earlier. I've never thought that the word 'cool' could fit a woman so well!

"She lifted her luggage with one hand, and like, bam, she just tossed it to the overhead stowage! It was so cool! She did this so gracefully like the luggage was weightless! If Ms. Berry were a basketball player, she would be famous!" Nancy automatically thought of her as a national athlete.

She had been a flight attendant for many years and seen many types of passengers, but she had never seen such a suave man before, let alone a woman!

"Oh, right, she did the same to Yakov's luggage as well," Nancy sniggered. You should've seen the look on his face!

Lucas' face had remained stern until he heard that last sentence.

His lips then formed a smirk.

A woman who can take down a six-foot-tall goliath like Winsor Jaquin probably has a trick or two up her sleeve, but I didn't expect her to put Yakov to shame like that.

When Nancy noticed Lucas' sudden change in expression, she wondered how this woman was related to him.

I've never seen Captain Nolan so concerned about someone else before.

"Ask her if she'd like strawberry juice," Lucas instructed indifferently.

"Sure," Nancy replied.

It was not time for the in-flight meal yet.

Back when they were married, Ashlyn loved to make her own strawberry juice.

She would often offer Lucas a glass as well.

After Nancy left, the co-pilot, Fred Langsley, teased, "Captain, can I have some too?"

Lucas refused him immediately, "Denied."

He had prepared the strawberry juice specially for Ashlyn.

The co-pilot was speechless.

In the business class cabin, Ashlyn closed her eyes to rest after flinging her luggage overhead.

She had completely ignored the shocked expression from Yakov and the other passengers.

Nancy walked over and inquired softly, "Miss, would you like a glass of freshly-squeezed strawberry juice?"

Ashlyn opened her eyes and scanned her surroundings. It's still a little early, isn't it?

She frowned. "No need. I don't like strawberry juice."

When Lucas heard that from Nancy, his gleeful expression faded. She doesn't like it? Then why does she drink it all the time back then? Just how many lies has this woman told me?

Anger welled up within him.

He checked the time and instructed, "When it's time for the in-flight meal, pass her all of my fish and chicken wings."

Soon, it was time for the in-flight meal.

Nancy prepared this behind Jenny's back.

When Yakov saw this, he asked in broken English, "Why she have prawn, have fish, me only chicken?"

Nancy gave a professional smile. "I'm sorry, this is a special service prepared for this lady only."

It's special alright. The captain's only left with rice and vegetables now!

Ashlyn stared at her food in doubt but accepted it in silence.

When Nancy returned, Lucas enquired, "Has she eaten it?"

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"She already ate," Nancy answered quietly.

Lucas gave a satisfied smile after hearing this.

Seeing the purser coming out from the cockpit, Jenny got curious and asked, "Nancy, what are you up to? You've been in and out of the cockpit a few times!"

Jenny examined her expression closely, wondering if Nancy also had a thing for Captain Nolan.

She put up her guard instantly.

Nancy was speechless. She was not interested in getting into any drama. "A few planes crashed in other countries recently, so Captain Nolan has been asking for frequent updates on how the passengers are

doing.”

“Don’t you think it’s unnecessary to report back to him so frequently?” Jenny felt something was a little off.

“You know the captain takes his work seriously. Do you think I enjoy running in and out so many times?” Nancy replied, stretching her limbs after she finally got to sit down.

The flight was crossing into Italian airspace.

Lucas immediately reached out to the local air traffic control, requesting a lower altitude so the flight could be more stable.

It had been five to six hours since they took off. The co-pilot said to Lucas, “Captain Nolan, let’s switch.”

Lucas nodded and got up.

The co-pilot quickly moved over.

By the time Lucas opened the cockpit’s door and stepped outside, the sky over the horizon was already dark.

The cabin was dimly lit. Some passengers were sound asleep, while others had their headphones on listening to music.

Lucas could hear a few people snoring away.

Ashlyn was in the third last row. She had bought tickets for the whole row of seats, so there was no one next to her.

Right now, she was resting her head against the seat with her eyes closed.

Across the aisle, Lucas spotted Yakov. His blond hair fell loosely on his forehead, making his skin look particularly fair. His glasses elegantly rested on his prominent nose bridge, but to Lucas, he was still not the best-looking guy.

He walked down the aisle, sat down beside Ashlyn, and took a good look at her.

Ashlyn was alerted. Sensing a warm presence, she reflexively opened her eyes.

The light was faint. But she could still vaguely see Lucas’ refined and flawless features.

She found herself lost in his mesmerizing eyes until his sturdy voice called her name.

“Ms. Berry,” Lucas called softly. “Welcome onboard, I’m your pilot, Captain Lucas Nolan.”

She did not realize Lucas was the pilot when Nancy asked her about the strawberry juice. It was not until the meal was served just now that she found out that he was indeed the pilot—and that he even knew she was on this flight.

But she did not expect Lucas to come over to the cabin and look for her.

Since we have decided to go our separate ways, why not just treat each other as strangers? Ashlyn wondered.

“Captain Nolan, I’m resting. Please stop bothering me,” she said indifferently.

“I want to rest too,” he replied, giving her a determined look.

Ashlyn could not do anything with him. “Well, then go back to your own seat.”

“I like this seat,” Lucas replied wittily.

“Mr. Nolan, I already bought this seat,” she retaliated.

“Well, why not you kiss me? And I will leave immediately,” he said cheekily. He gently took a strand of her hair and started playing with it.

Ashlyn pushed his hand away. But Lucas continued making fun of her, saying, “The guy over there, do you think he’s handsome?”

Ashlyn really thought Lucas was the most childish man ever. She knew who he was referring to. Looking at Lucas for a few seconds, she went back to sleep. She did not have the energy to deal with him.

“I will take it as you think I am more handsome then,” Lucas whispered in her ears.

His breath tickled her ears and she could not help but tilt her head a little.

Snippets of memories came flooding back. This man used to come up close and whisper all sorts of nonsense in her ears. Those were the days.

She shook off the thought. Seriously, what is he doing here? He should be working instead of babbling nonsense here.

“Honey, you are always so nice to other people. You even helped him with his luggage. But you’re always so cold to me.” There was a hint of jealousy in Lucas’ voice.

“Oh, is that what you want? Can I throw you into the overhead compartment too? Do you want to try?”

Ashlyn replied impatiently.

“Don’t you used to like strawberry juice? Oh, and you used to like me biting your ears too, which is just what I’m about to do.” Lucas made his voice deep and sexy, throwing a provocative glance at her ears. He opened his mouth slightly. Biting her earlobe, he gave it a little tug, and smiled.

Is he for real?

He must be crazy!

Feeling his lips on her ears, Ashlyn became slightly disconcerted. She almost let out a moan.

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They were married for four years. He knew just right where to touch.

“I don’t like strawberry juice anymore. It’s better to let go of things when you have already outgrown them,” Ashlyn said coldly. But this was exactly why Lucas found her attractive.

A shade of pink lingered on her fair cheeks. The faint lighting made her all the more desirable.

Her almond-shaped eyes glistened in the dark.

He had not slept with anyone after they divorced, and this woman in front of him suddenly became more irresistible.

Never had he realized that this woman had such powers over him.

Just a look from her could make him want her there and then.

Ashlyn could sense his pent-up frustration, and it was suffocating.

He locked his gaze on her face.

She finally pushed him away and said, “Go back to your seat and rest.”

“I’ll just rest here.” Before she could even react, Lucas grabbed her waist and scooped her up, putting her on his lap.

For a moment, Lucas felt he finally found the missing piece of his life. His heart was full.

He did not like being alone in an empty room. I don’t like it at all.

Everything now felt so familiar. The woman in his arms, her scent, her body. She made his heart pound.

Ashlyn struggled to break free from him. But Lucas was not letting her go.

"Stop it. Just stay here or you'll have to clear up more mess," Lucas warned her.

Ashlyn understood what he meant. She sat still at last.

She could not do anything but her face was crimson red from anger and embarrassment.

Fine! We were married for four years anyway, so it's not like this is anything new!

I'll just take it as a random handsome man hitting on me.

She glared at him and closed her eyes.

After some time, Lucas opened his eyes and gazed at her. Just as he was slowly moving toward her, a shout broke the suspense.

"Gosh! Just let me sleep in peace, will you?" An angry passenger shouted, slamming the magazine in his hand on the floor.

Lucas opened his eyes, looked at Ashlyn, and located where the voice came from.

The vexed passenger was a man in his 20s.

The commotion startled the other man sitting beside him, who was also now awake. He turned toward the first man and said, "Come on man, what is the fuss about? I need to sleep!"

The noise had awoken many other passengers.

"What the heck? You're the one who has been disturbing my sleep! You've been snoring all night through, and now you're saying I'm being noisy?" The irritated first man shouted.

The situation quickly escalated into a heated fight.

A few flight attendants quickly came out to appease the two.

Nancy handled the situation professionally. "I am the purser here. Let's settle this calmly, shall we?" she said to the two men.

"Settle this? What do you know? All you know is 'tea or coffee!' I want to see your captain!" the second man ridiculed.

"Get out of the way! Do you own this plane?" the first guy pushed Nancy away.

This was not something new— flight attendants were never treated with much respect.

Nancy was taken aback. She tried to hold her anger in and said slowly, “Please calm down. We need to make sure no one’s safety is affected here, okay?”

Just as the two men were about to start a fight again, a severe and commanding voice came from behind.

“I am the captain. If you continue to disrespect my cabin crew, I will order an emergency landing.”

A tall and imposing man in uniform appeared before them. The air around him was intimidating and solemn.

Anyone could tell he was not in his best mood. But they did not know it was because someone just interrupted his kiss. Lucas would make sure these people pay up.

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Everyone was dazed. They had never seen such a fine young man before.

His enchanting and attractive aura amazed the passengers.

How can a captain be this good-looking? They wondered.

Lucas’ entrance shocked the two men who were previously fighting. Disconcerted, they stuttered accusations at one another. “He started it,” the second man said, pointing at the first man, who retaliated by saying, “He was the one who started snoring and disturbing me!”

The whole business class cabin quickly became unsettled. Passengers craned their necks trying to see what just happened; some of them gathered around trying to understand what was going on—but no one failed to notice the handsome captain standing in the middle of the two angry passengers.

This man was like a magnet. He attracted all the attention.

Ashlyn was peeved. Rude passengers like these just had to ruin her peaceful journey.

“You guys want to fight? I can land the plane right now,” Lucas stated curtly. “I can also send you to the police station if you like,” he added.

Some passengers started fearing the worst and whispered among themselves, “What... It’s already so late at night! It’s dangerous to land now!”

“I know right? Where are we now again?”

Ashlyn decided to put a stop to all this fuss. "Alright, why not Captain Nolan give each of them a parachute and push them off?" she interjected.

Her eyelashes flapped gently against her beautiful eyes as she blinked hard, trying to elicit a response from Lucas.

That crisp and melodious voice of hers turned many curious heads.

Everyone was in awe.

They could not believe they actually overlooked such a beautiful woman on their flight.

A heather-purple dress adorned her glowing skin and slim body. Her pair of beautiful eyes, plump red lips, and pink cheeks grew so perfectly on her exquisite face.

Jenny was bewildered. She did not expect to see Ashlyn here.

Why is she on board? Why didn't I even realize she is here?

Lucas was mesmerized. Ashlyn's voice sent a chill up his body.

It had been a long time since he heard her talk like that. She had always been so cold to him after they divorced.

Her suggestive voice echoed in his ears, reminding him of the times when they were still married—especially when they were doing those things in their bedroom. She would beg him to stop every time they were in bed. But her tantalizing and sensuous moans only made him wanted to go deeper and faster.

Lucas drew in a breath slightly before he collected himself and looked at the crowd. He realized the male passengers were looking at Ashlyn and he was irritated. He shouted at the two men, "Hand me your passports!"

"Why? You're not a cop!" the first man reacted.

"I am the captain in charge here and I'm responsible for everyone's safety. Your unruly behavior is disrupting the flight and therefore I have the right to ask for your passports. One more word and you'll be out!" Lucas was at the tip of exploding.

He wanted to dig out all the eyeballs glued to Ashlyn right now.

If these two scums are not gonna stop, I'll seriously throw them out!

The two passengers had no choice but to take out their passports.

Nancy quickly came over and took their passports. "An American and a Frenchman," she reported.

"I will be keeping your passports until the end of the flight." Lucas glared at them from the side of his eyes. Before any of them could say anything, Lucas continued bombarding them. "According to our country's Civil Aviation Law, the pilot's responsibility includes taking necessary and appropriate actions against anyone who damages the aircraft, disrupts order within the aircraft, endangers any personnel or property within the aircraft and poses a threat against flight safety. So if you want to sue me, go ahead. Just be ready to lose."

After the harangue, Lucas took a glance across the passengers, warning, "If anyone would like to follow suit, feel free to do so. This is what will happen to you."

"But you can't..." Before the first man could even finish his sentence, Lucas shot him a fierce glare and he shut up.

Lucas then asked Nancy to keep an eye out for the passengers before he went back to Ashlyn.

Jenny was upset. Why does he even sit beside her?

Why do they look so intimate?

Over at Ashlyn's side, Lucas finally got to sit down after the whole ordeal. He was in a foul mood.

"Do you think I look cool back there?" Lucas knew Ashlyn was not asleep. He purposely went close to her and asked in a low voice.

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Ashlyn did not open her eyes.

"Don't you think your hubby is the hero?" Lucas probed.

But Ashlyn remained unperturbed and only rolled her eyes in her mind.

Is he crazy? He was so stern and cold back there; now he's so childish and impudent. What is he trying to do? Ashlyn clearly saw the way those women looked at him just now.

They should really see how childish this man is right now.

Lucas was thinking about that kiss before the fight broke out.

Silence resumed in the cabin and the lights became dim again.

He felt restless and thirsty.

Bending over, he wanted to plant a kiss on Ashlyn's lips.

Ashlyn did not move. Lucas smiled slyly, moved closer, and was ready to kiss her.

But before he could reach her lips, Ashlyn nimbly tilted her head and he missed.

The kiss landed on her neck.

Her scent intoxicated Lucas and he kissed her hard.

He did not get to kiss her lips, but he got to kiss her neck. That was enough for him.

Ashlyn was not expecting this.

His warm and gentle breath spread across her body. It felt familiar and exciting.

But she quickly pulled away from Lucas and said, "We are already divorced."

Lucas peered at her in the dark.

He shrugged and feigned nonchalance, saying, "I only kissed your neck, not your lips."

He advertently licked his lips and asked, "Don't you miss me?"

Ashlyn laughed and said, "Lucas, please stop being a joke. You are the one who wanted a divorce."

What do you take me for, Lucas? You want me here when you need me, and you want me gone when you're tired of me.

You wanted a divorce, and now you want to mess with me again?

Don't tell me you like playing hard to get.

Lucas was speechless. He realized Ashlyn knew just how to make him speechless.

"Please leave me alone, right now," Ashlyn demanded.

"I just want to stay with you," Lucas said, recalling what she did earlier on when she asked him to throw the two passengers off. She looked so naughty and cute.

But she was giving him the cold shoulder now and he did not like it.

Lucas badly wanted to find out what business she had in Italy.

But he knew she would not tell him.

“Whatever,” Ashlyn said. She did not want to talk to him anymore. Then, she curled up like a ball as if she were protecting herself against a lunatic.

Lucas looked at her long and fair neck. A kiss on the neck is not that bad after all.

But of course, the best would be her lips.

He was really tired after such a long haul.

So, he eventually fell asleep beside her.

Meanwhile, Jenny had been looking at them for quite a while already.

She could not believe what she saw.

Her jaw dropped looking at Ashlyn seducing Lucas.

What a cheap woman. How dare she seduces Lucas?

Lucas is a stern and severe man, and all this flirtatious woman does is sway him.

How dare both of them do all these nasty things over at the back!

Jenny was furious. She woke Nancy up and asked, “Tell me, this woman is the reason why you went into the cockpit so many times right?”

Nancy finally got to have some much-needed sleep. She was not happy at all to be woken up by Jenny over such a trivial matter. “Jenny Holt, what do you want? What woman are you talking about?”

“That woman on the third row from the back. I saw them doing all sorts of stupid things at the back!” She was so pissed tears started rolling down her eyes.

The loud noises woke the other flight attendants up.

Everyone looked at her groggily. “What’s happening, purser?”

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“What’s the matter?”

“Come on, what’s happening? We really need to rest!”

"Why are you crying, Jenny? I didn't even say anything to upset you!" Nancy clearly did not want to bear the blame for waking everyone up.

"I saw Captain Nolan kissing that woman just now!" Jenny was infuriated. She had waited for Lucas for so long, and it was not like she did not come from a good family. She gave up her executive job in her family business, took up the cabin crew assessment, and even used some connections just to get on the same flight as Lucas.

She had invested so much time and effort in him, but what did she get in return?

Lucas did not even spare her a look. He only had eyes for that b*tch.

She was treated like a princess at home, but she was willing to go through all hardships just for this man.

When she found out that Lucas got married, she refused to believe it because technically, no one had ever seen his wife. So she stubbornly believed that he was still single.

But after what she had been through because of him, this was what she got. She saw them kissing!

"Which woman are you talking about?" Nancy acted as if she did not know Ashlyn was on board.

"That woman on the third last row!" Jenny replied angrily, wiping her tears away.

"Oh, you mean that woman? Isn't she Mr. White's girlfriend?"

Nancy tried acting like she did not know anything. She looked at Jenny and thought hard. This woman must be out of her mind. Captain Nolan has been married for years! Is she still dreaming about becoming his wife?

Although Nancy was not sure herself if Ms. Berry was Captain Nolan's wife, judging from their interaction, it must be true that she was his wife.

And if she had to choose between Jenny and the captain, she would definitely stand by the captain.

Jenny was a spoiled girl. Many among them did not like her haughty attitude when she was talking to other flight attendants.

Everyone was simply trying to be polite; no one actually treated her as a real friend.

"I saw what I saw! I saw him kissing her!" The scene kept replaying in Jenny's mind. It was driving her crazy. "What's wrong with Captain Nolan? She is not even that pretty! What does he even see in her?" she berated.

This quickly became a personal attack against Ms. Berry. Everyone was in a tight spot because they did not know if they should join the conversation.

What if Captain Nolan really liked her? What if she was really his wife?

Besides, Captain Nolan was South Star Airlines' boss. Back when South Star Airlines was falling apart, Captain Nolan came in and reformed the whole company. He even took up the captain's role and revived the company.

Because he became the captain himself, South Star Airlines' business had been growing exponentially.

Who would want to cross a boss like him?

"Jenny, we don't know what kind of a person she is. I'm pretty sure we made it clear during your pre-job training that we should always be polite to our customers. I hope this is the last time I'm hearing remarks like this from you," Nancy said after much thought. I am the purser here anyway, so even a princess like you will have to listen to me. This is my territory.

Nancy had to do her job. It was time to set things straight and let everyone know she was in charge here.

Talking bad about people behind their back was way too distasteful to Nancy.

On top of that, Ashlyn really had nothing to do with this. She was not even aware that Jenny liked Lucas, and she did nothing to harm Jenny. It doesn't mean that you have all the reason to talk bad about Ashlyn just because Lucas kissed her.

Nancy's blood boiled thinking about the way Jenny looked at the situation. To her, Jenny was simply being unreasonable. Lucas is not even your husband; your feelings for him are purely one-sided.

Who are you to throw such a tantrum?

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Lucas was woken up by a sudden turbulence.

Being with Ashlyn made his sleep sweet and sound. He woke up refreshed and in a better mood.

Opening his eyes slowly, he saw the passengers were still relaxed.

But it did not take long before the flight shook violently because of the turbulence.

Ashlyn frowned.

Lucas got up in a hurry and took a look at the woman beside him. From his angle, he could clearly see her long lashes and her frown.

He bent over and gently whispered, "I'll go over to the cockpit."

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"Okay," Ashlyn mumbled without opening her eyes.

Just as she was about to continue her good rest, Nancy's voice came from the broadcast speaker.

Nancy assured the passengers that they were going through turbulence but everything was under control.

Just as everyone thought things would be okay, the jittering intensified.

The flight attendants returned to their seats and fastened their seatbelts. The shaking became more serious.

"What is happening?"

"We have the right to know what is happening!"

"It's getting worse! I thought you said it would be fine?"

"Tell us what is happening!"

The passengers were getting anxious. They started questioning what was going on.

Yakov looked up and asked Ashlyn, "Are you afraid? I hope everything will be okay."

"Everything will be fine," Ashlyn replied shortly.

"Are you sure? We are high up in the sky! Geez, do they even know how to fly a plane? It takes more than just a handsome face to fly one!" Yakov teased sarcastically.

The person in front heard Yakov and readily agreed. "Yeah! No doubt he's handsome, but God knows if he can fly a plane!" the man grumbled.

Ashlyn was irritated. She rolled her eyes and refuted, "Hey guys! He is South Star Airlines' president, and he is also the best pilot here!"

"The company's president flying the plane himself? Are you for real? What a joke!" Yakov scoffed.

He was dismayed and doubtful.

The plane shook fiercely again.

“Oh, I might really die here!” Yakov complained.

“If the pilot were a little more experienced, this probably wouldn’t be happening. This captain has no skills at all!”

When it came to Lucas’ competence and professionalism, Ashlyn never once doubted him. They were married for four years, so she saw how much work he put into physical training and his company. He was second to none.

Although they were already divorced, Ashlyn would still readily defend him. What more when these foreigners were questioning her fellow countryman?

She knew where her loyalty lay and she would not just watch them question Lucas.

She smiled confidently and challenged him, saying, “If you doubt him, why not you go and do it?”

These people only knew how to criticize people.

No one dared to answer. But they were still dissatisfied and scared.

This was a matter of life and death.

Everyone was fearful—some of them began to prattle on about what was happening, others were lambasting the cabin crew, asking for an explanation.

Nancy went into the cockpit and reported, “Captain Nolan, the passengers are all nervous and agitated. Ms. Berry even got into a fight with Yakov because of you.”

Lucas had no time to reply her. He fixed his eyes on the radar image.

Outside, Ashlyn was busy thinking. The shaking was just too serious; this was no normal turbulence.

She looked outside towards the immense darkness enveloping the plane and squinted.

Just as she was trying to make sense of what was happening, the plane shook wildly.

It was serious this time. Jenny reflexively held on to the seat handle.

Meanwhile, Nancy just got out of the cockpit, but the intense shaking threw her to the ground and she rolled towards the cockpit door until her head knocked against it.

She let out a cry and shivered up in pain. Holding her head, she groaned as her vision became blurry.

"Purser!"

The nearest flight attendant crawled toward her carefully as she went to check on Nancy.

The bags and luggage in the overhead compartment slammed against each other as if they would fall out anytime.

Hearing Nancy's shriek, Ashlyn stood up without losing a moment and walked toward the cockpit.

[Chapter 50](#)

"Please remain seated, you shouldn't be moving around right now! You're putting yourself in danger!" A flight attendant quickly stopped Ashlyn. Ashlyn did not heed her advice.

She continued walking forward quickly as she held on to the handles. Jenny shouted, "What are you doing? It's dangerous!"

Ashlyn disregarded her and finally reached Nancy. Those flight attendants could not even stay as calm as Ashlyn.

She knelt down on one knee and helped the other flight attendant to get Nancy up.

The cabin was in a total mess. Kids started crying and some passengers even started shouting loudly.

"I don't want to die!"

"Mommy!"

"Don't tell me we are going to die!"

A few flight attendants tried comforting and assuring them, but to no avail.

"Please fasten your seatbelt, pull down the oxygen mask, and remain in your seat! Please be cooperative and trust our captain!"

The turbulence raged on. Everyone was tensed up and worried.

Even the flight attendants stuck to their seats and fastened their seatbelts.

The chaos behind her rolled on as Ashlyn checked if Nancy was okay. Nancy looked pale and she was sweating furiously.

"I am Ashlyn, the doctor in Riverdale First Hospital. Your body is very weak now, so please breathe

slowly.”

“Please remain seated, you shouldn’t be moving around right now! You’re putting yourself in danger!” A flight attendant quickly stopped Ashlyn. Ashlyn did not heed her advice.

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“I am Ashlyn, a doctor in Riverdale First Hospital. Your body is very weak now, so please breathe slowly.”

She held her and sat her in the purser’s seat. “Take a rest,” she said softly.

An excruciating pain pierced through Nancy’s head. It was so painful she could not even speak.

She thought she would die as she sat on her seat disoriented and disheveled. “Thanks... Thanks...” She struggled to say something.

Her whole body was in extreme pain.

The cabin crew was all shocked. Although they had been on countless flights, they had never

encountered anything like this before. A flight attendant who had only been flying for half a year was so afraid she started crying.

But she quickly collected herself.

She saw a kid before her and reached out to him, saying, "It's okay, it's okay, everything will be okay."

The whole cabin was in disarray.

Fear got the best of everyone and they kept crying and scolding the pilot.

The flight attendants could do nothing to calm them down.

Suddenly a voice came from the broadcast speaker.

"Dear passengers, I'm the flight captain's... wife, Ashlyn Berry. My husband, Lucas, is a professionally trained pilot. When I married him four years ago, he brought South Star Airlines back from the ashes. To make the company better, he worked hard for his pilot's certificate. I was with him all the way—from when he was a trainee pilot to when he was a co-pilot—and until he became the captain today. I saw the hard work he put in, and I know he is capable. Please trust him. Since his wife is on this flight, he will make sure I am safe, and he will make sure all of you are safe. He will not desert us. He will bring us to safety."

Ashlyn stood in front of the cockpit door and held the speaker in her hand, like a brave soldier cheering her comrades on. There was determination in her eyes, and there was assurance in her voice.

Her voice reached every corner of the cabin, and everyone heard her loud and clear.

Everyone finally quietened down and listened to her.

Suddenly, all became calm.

Her soothing voice brought tranquility to the passengers, and they felt comforted.

Seeing that everyone was more composed now, Ashlyn continued, "I'd like each of you to cooperate with us as we bring you to safety. Please remain seated, fasten your seatbelt, and wear the oxygen mask. Cabin crew, do your best to assist and reassure the passengers. South Star Airlines invested so much in training all of you so that you can stay professional and step up in times like this!"