

Chapter 1156 I Need Love, Not Benefits

As Loraine engaged in lively conversation with Kenji, her phone rang. She glanced at it and furrowed her brows when she saw it was Francis calling. Choosing to ignore it, she hung up and seamlessly continued her conversation, her smile unflinching.

Despite her composed expression, Marco noticed the fleeting coldness in her eyes and a hint of impatience as she checked her phone.

Throughout their conversation, Loraine's gaze drifted to her phone several more times, each look mirroring the first.

As their meeting with Kenji was concluding, Loraine extended a warm invitation. "Mr. Glyn, I'm getting engaged soon. Would you honor us by attending?"

Kenji, pleasantly surprised, accepted the invitation, noting it was for her engagement to Marco. He smiled warmly. "Of course, it would be my honor!"

After a few more pleasantries, Kenji excused himself. Loraine saw her phone light up again and dismissed the call without a second thought.

Marco approached her with concern. "What's going on? Someone from the Wilson family is calling you?"

Loraine softened slightly and nodded. "It's Francis."

As she spoke, Francis called yet again. Loraine hesitated, considering the Wilson family's typical arrogance. It was

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unusual for Francis to be so persistent. Perhaps it was something urgent?

Marco advised, "Maybe you should take it and see what he wants."

With a nod, Loraine answered the call, immediately greeted by the sound of Francis's heavy, frustrated breathing.

No one had ever dared to hang up on him like that before!

Realizing the call had connected, he quickly moderated his tone. "Loraine, you finally answered my call."

Loraine found his sudden affection puzzling, nearly asking if he was out of his mind.

Francis continued earnestly, "I know about your past. It pains me to think of what you've endured. Lorrie, it must be uncomfortable living outside. Come back to the Wilson family. We're the ones who can truly look after you."

Loraine paused before laughing softly. "Thanks, but no thanks."

Though his words were unexpectedly touching, Loraine remained unmoved by his plea.

She stood firm in her resolve. "You should know, I can only be happy away from the Wilson family. If you truly care about me, please stop bothering me."

Francis's breathing intensified as he attempted to regulate his emotions, striving to sound like a concerned elder. "Loraine, I'm only thinking of what's best for you. As a man, I know best. Reuniting after a divorce is rarely a good decision. A truly good man would never have left you in the first place. Marco is only back because you're successful now, and he wants to reduce you to a housewife again."

He continued, "Once you're married and back to being a housewife, his interest will wane, and he'll hurt you again. Men are like that. So instead of repeating your mistakes, let me help you. With the Wilson family's support, any man I choose for you won't dare mistreat you."

Unbeknownst to Francis, Marco was right next to Loraine, listening to every word.

His expression darkened with anger.

Loraine quickly held him back, signaling him to remain silent. She then asked Francis, "Oh really? Was it you who arranged Kaley and Marco's blind date?"

Caught off guard and irritated by the change of topic, Francis responded seriously, "Yes. Marco might not be suitable for you, but as the eldest son of the Cruz family, he's valuable for strategic marriages. Having Kaley marry him helps maintain the alliance between the Cruz and Wilson families."

Loraine scoffed, "So, to you, marriage is merely a tool for securing benefits?"

Francis, without hesitation, affirmed, "As adults, we must not be swayed by emotions. You're a businessperson; you should understand that practical benefits are what truly matter."

Disgusted, Loraine replied coldly, "Sorry, I'm not like you. I need love, not benefits."

She clarified her position firmly, "Since you prefer a puppet who brings benefits, treat Kaley as your cherished niece. Leave me out of it."