

Chapter 981 I'm Just Trying To Avoid Any Misunderstandings

Loraine and Vincent left the restaurant together. Loraine was uncomfortable with how close Vincent was, but he started discussing his teacher's hobbies, so she listened intently and memorized every detail in silence.

When Vincent shifted the topic, Loraine responded courteously, "Thank you for sharing that, Mr. Wilson. I'll make sure everything is ready for the visit. We'll meet again when he arrives. Goodbye."

Vincent paused, visibly surprised. He gave a bitter laugh before responding directly, "You don't have to burn bridges so obviously, do you? I've apologized already, and I promise not to assume you're just seeking publicity with me anymore. Why do you still keep your distance?"

Loraine found herself at a loss for words with Vincent. It was no wonder he was a successful celebrity; he seemed to expect that people would naturally gravitate towards him if he didn't antagonize them and instead showed kindness.

However, Loraine had only just learned about his teacher's hobbies from him. She carefully masked her true feelings and offered a polite, though insincere, smile. "I'm just trying to avoid any misunderstandings."

Vincent laughed and said, "I'm not worried about rumors. Why are you? Are you concerned that your boyfriend might get jealous? Didn't you mention you have broken up?"

At this, Loraine fell silent for a moment. She then turned to

hail a taxi without responding.

She felt that she had entertained the conversation with Vincent long enough. If he was going to delve into her personal affairs, she preferred to keep silent.

Seeing her reaction, Vincent made a few sounds of frustration. He quickly caught up to her and asked earnestly, "I'm genuinely curious. Why did you and Marco break up? Was it because he lost contact with you during that time?"

Not surprisingly, Vincent was a natural socializer. He sighed, looking as if he and Marco were close friends, and said regretfully, "You really misunderstood him. Last time I was at the Cruz family's house looking for him, I discovered that the lunatic Melvin put him under house arrest and drugged him! Can you believe that? But Marco managed to escape. He's still evading the Cruz family. He's truly remarkable!"

Loraine paused, somewhat taken aback. She was aware that Marco might have been restricted, but she didn't know the full extent of his situation.

Vincent continued, "Honestly, I really respect him. Escaping from the Cruz family's house must have been tough."

Marco likely endured a lot, given his capacity to withstand pain. He must have been exhausted, which would explain why he hadn't contacted her right after leaving the Cruz family's house.

Loraine couldn't help but feel sorry for Marco. But then she remembered the issues with Solar Company and scoffed, "Don't make wild guesses. That's not why we broke up. Besides, it's none of your business, right? Are we okay?"

Vincent flashed a mischievous smile. "Loraine, if you need something from my teacher, it'd be wise to stay on good terms with me. It'll make your conversation with him much easier."

Lorraine frowned in disgust and began to doubt whether she had made the wrong decision to agree just now.

Vincent continued, "Don't worry, I won't take advantage of you. You could just pretend to be my niece. You're about the same age as Kaley."

At the mention of Kaley, Lorraine's irritation grew. She retorted, "If I'm asking for help, I should approach him honestly. Why should I lie?"

"You are so strange. Do you realize how many people would love to be my niece?" Vincent asked, puzzled.

Lorraine responded indifferently, "What they want is not really to be your niece but to be part of the Wilson family. But don't think that everyone thinks highly of the Wilson family. I've worked hard for my career and never felt inferior to anyone."

As Lorraine spoke, her thoughts drifted to her supportive family. In the strange land of Zodiac, she offered a rare smile and said calmly, "My family has given me the confidence to pursue what I want without relying on others. I prefer to handle things on my own and don't need any fake uncles."

Vincent was stunned. Even though he had seen all kinds of life in the play, he had never seen a smile as free and easy as Lorraine's.

Clearly, she hadn't grown up in Zodiac. She lacked the vanity typical of its residents. Vincent found himself particularly envious of the expression Lorraine wore when she spoke of her family.

Her family must cherish her greatly, as her deep love for them was evident.

Meanwhile, in a luxury car not too far from where Lorraine and Vincent stood, Marco observed them chatting with evident joy.

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When Loraine smiled, he couldn't help but pound his fist on the seat.



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Chapter 982 Meeting Each Other's Parents

Seeing the shocked and dazed look on Vincent's face, Loraine couldn't help but feel amused. It was rare to see such a proud and arrogant man look so shocked.

Since her family was being discussed, she softened a bit, and her dislike of Vincent reduced. "Why are you stunned?" she asked teasingly.

Her question quickly brought Vincent back to his senses. He forced a smile to his face but said nothing.

Frankly, members of the Wilson family were pretty friendly to one another. Joseph treated all of his sons equally.

But Vincent's mother died when he was very young. As a result, he didn't have the experience of a complete family. When Jaylah came into the Wilson family, he angrily left home to start out on his own, even though he was a young man.

Thus, he was envious of Loraine, especially when she looked happy while talking about her family.

"You've asked me to pretend to be your niece, but are you not worried that Kaley will get very angry when she finds out the truth?" Loraine asked curiously.

"No. She won't mind," Vincent said, scratching his head.

So far, he had not found any evidence that linked the previous incidents to Kaley, so even though he felt that something was off about her, he chose not to dwell on it at all. Instead, he

preferred to think of Kaley as his innocent and lovely niece just like he had always regarded her.

As they talked about Kaley, the first thing that came into their minds was the incidents involving the crew and the subsequent rumors. Now that he and Loraine were on talking terms, Vincent took the opportunity to sincerely apologize. "Loraine, I was wrong to accuse you without finding out the whole truth. I'm sorry, but what really made me mad was the fact that you suspected a member of the Wilson family without any solid evidence."

Loraine didn't say anything. She just kept quiet and let him continue.

When he saw that she did not interrupt him, Vincent went on, "Maybe you're prejudiced against me and Kaley because the Wilson family is rich, but our family motto is that we can't use our power to bully others."

He said with pride, "My ancestors are all outstanding people. They all contributed to our nation in one way or another, either by serving in the military or by prospering in their chosen industry. My father himself was a founding father of the state. He was highly disciplined and strict, and he taught us to be upright and outstanding people. We all watched Kaley grow. Though my father dotes on her, he never allowed her to grow up badly. I admit that she may be a little spoiled. At worst, she's sharp-tongued and verbally abusive. But the suggestion that she would commit arson and harm someone else, that's something I would never believe."

Since Vincent looked and sounded so sincere, Loraine felt there was no way he could belittle the reputation of his ancestors by lying in their name. So she came to the conclusion that he truly believed what he was saying and was not showing any favoritism.

As a result, she couldn't help but smile. Though Vincent could

sometimes be annoying, he might not be a bad person after all. Apart from his upbringing which had made him overly naive, perhaps his family ties had also made him blind to the truth.

Now that she understood his stance, Loraine decided not to insist on criticizing Kaley. Instead, she subtly reminded him, "Given that my life was at stake, I don't think it's right to say that I made wild accusations. Since you're a globally acclaimed actor, you should be able to tell whether or not someone is acting, shouldn't you?"

Vincent stayed silent, frowning as he tried to understand what she had just said. Did she mean that Kaley had been putting on an act to deceive him?

If it was Jaylah, he would be able to tell immediately if she was acting or not. But as for Kaley, he had watched her grow up and had always regarded her as a lovely girl. But indeed, there had been times when he couldn't tell whether she was lying or not.

While he was still deep in thought, Loraine suddenly said, "I have something else to do, so I have to go. See you later."

Vincent nodded in understanding and watched as she walked away, his mind still preoccupied with her words.

Meanwhile, Marco, who had been watching the whole thing from a distance, let out a sigh of relief when he saw Loraine leave on her own.

He started his car and secretly tailed her, feeling a strong urge to know what she had discussed with Vincent. Why was she so happy? He couldn't help but wonder.

After tailing her for a while, he watched as she entered an antique shop and selected some items that were usually favored by older people.

Then, she went into a tea set shop and bought a lot of tea sets.

Marco's heart skipped a beat when he saw this. All these things looked like gifts meant for elders!

Immediately, he recalled how Loraine had smiled at Vincent, and his heart became filled with jealousy.

Loraine was coming to buy these gifts just after they separated, so did this mean that she and Vincent had made rapid progress to the point of meeting each other's parents?

Marco took a deep breath, and his face had a resolute look on it. This was absolutely unacceptable!

He had conceded as a strategic move, not because he had given up! There was no way he could allow Loraine to be with other men.

Pulling out his phone, he thought for a while. Then he called Qbot and spoke to it in a low voice.