

## Gu Lingfei 341

### Chapter 341

Clive saw his sister's pale face and knew that she must be devastated.

He had been in love before. Although he had a happy marriage, he had experienced sadness and despair before that. Thus, he knew that feelings could hurt one deeply.

Clive could also tell that Zachary would not fall in love with Elisa, so if Elisa continued to pester Zachary, she would be the one who would get hurt in the end. It was better to let her give up on Zachary as soon as possible.

He sighed and said, "Elisa, it's not that I don't want to help you investigate Zachary. Think about who's working for him – Josh Bucham. You know what the Buchams are capable of. Once I do a background check on Zachary, Zachary will know.

"Do you think Zachary will let me find out? Besides, I've arranged for most of my subordinates to look for our aunt."

Elisa was silent.

She knew what her brother said was true.

Josh Bucham worked for Zachary, and everyone in Wiltspoon knew what the Buchams were best at.

"Elisa, there are so many good men in this world, so forget about Zachary."

Elisa lowered her head and said nothing. Soon, tears flowed down her face, drop by drop.

She was devastated.

Why was it so difficult to love someone and want to be with him?

Clive silently embraced his sister's shoulders.

"Oh, Clive."

Elisa leaned on her brother's shoulder and cried. "Why doesn't Zachary like me? Am I not good enough? Does he think I'm arrogant and willful? He just needs to tell me what he doesn't like about me, and I'll change.

"But he didn't even give me a chance. Am I just so unlikeable?"

Clive was heartbroken. "Elisa, there's no reason to not like someone. He doesn't like you not because you're not good enough. Humans aren't like cash. We can't make everyone like us. Even if it's cash, some people prefer pounds and euros over dollars.

“You are unique, and your character is innate. I think you should live a carefree and easy life, and there’s no need for you to change yourself for anyone. You’ll be miserable if you change yourself, and we, your family, will feel distressed when we see you like that.”

Elisa sobbed. “Brother, if I give up, I will feel that I have no purpose in life.”

“Silly girl! How can you not have a purpose in life? You can set your goal to become the richest woman in Wiltspoon or

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further your studies to better yourself. Or, you can take over the task of looking for our aunt for our mother. You can make that your goal!”

Clive pulled a few sheets of tissues from its box and handed them to his sister. “Elisa, life is not just about love. You still have family and friends, and you can do more meaningful things.”

Elisa took the tissues to wipe away her tears and snot.” Mom and aunt have been separated for decades. We have no clue how our aunt looked when she was older. We’ve been searching for so many years, but nothing useful came up.”

“Mom has been hung up over looking for her sister her whole life. As her children, we should continue trying our best to help her find our aunt. As long as our aunt is alive, I believe it’s just a matter of time before we find her. So, do you want to accept this challenge?”

Elisa cried a lot and vented the anguish in her heart. She finally calmed down, thought about it, and said, “I’ll accept this challenge then. I will definitely help Mom to find our aunt!”

To forget someone, one must do other things to distract oneself.

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Over time, Elisa would let go of her feelings for Zachary. “Clive, can you still help me find out if Zachary is married? You don’t need to do a background check on him, just ask around to inquire about it so Zachary won’t be alerted.”

Clive was speechless.

After his long and elaborated speech, his sister had not given up.

Zachary did not care whether Elisa believed he was married or not. He was busy once he returned to the office. At half past ten, he got off work early without waiting for Serenity’s call. He drove the national MPV he used to deceive Serenity and headed straight toward Wiltspoon School. On the way, he parked the car when he came across a florist.

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Zachary hesitated and struggled for ten minutes before he pushed open the door to get out of the car and walked into the florist

“Sir, would you like to buy flowers? Are they for your girlfriend?”

After Zachary looked around the shop, he said to the shopkeeper, "It's for my wife."

The shopkeeper smiled. "Is this for a birthday or wedding anniversary?"

"Neither. I just want to give her flowers."

The shopkeeper smiled. "What about a bouquet of roses interspersed with baby's-breath?"

Zachary had never bought flowers for a woman. He thought the shopkeeper's suggestion was good, so he nodded and said, "Sure, whatever you see fit."

"Please wait for a moment."

The shopkeeper could tell this was the first time this man was buying flowers for his wife.

After a while, the shopkeeper handed a bunch of flowers to Zachary. Zachary took the bouquet and paid the bill before turning around and walking out of the florist with the bouquet in hand.

Zachary put the bouquet in the passenger seat and glanced

at the flowers every few minutes while driving.

At the same time, he was still thinking about how he should give this bunch of flowers to Serenity.

Soon, he arrived at the entrance of Wiltspoon School. Since he got off work earlier than usual, the students were only dismissed from school at this time.

Thus, many students could be seen pouring into Serenity's store. Some students were looking for study materials while others picked up their favorite stationery.

Zachary got out of the car with the bouquet in his arms. As soon as he saw a sea of people in Serenity's store, he immediately put the bouquet back in the car. He then walked into the bookstore as if nothing had happened. When the students saw him, they began whispering as if they just saw a strict dean. Some students who were still struggling with which set of study materials to buy immediately made a decision and hurried to the cashier when Zachary came in. Zachary rarely appeared in the store at this time, but he left a deep impression on the students the last time he helped out at the store. That was why the students wanted to run away when they saw him.

"Uncle Zak!"

The students were afraid of Zachary, but Sonny was not. Sonny was lingering around Serenity at first, but when he saw Zachary, he stopped following Serenity and happily ran to Zachary. As he ran to Zachary, he opened his arms for

Zachary to carry him.

"Sonny."

Zachary squatted down, and Sonny jumped into his arms. Picking up the little guy, Zachary looked at his wife, who was busy collecting money. "Do you need my help?" Serenity smiled. "Never mind. The more you help, the less money I make."

Zachary pursed his lips.

Having held such a high position for so long, he had built up his authoritative vibe, so it was difficult for him to look gentle.

“There are a lot of people here. Mr. York, you’re helping me by looking after Sonny.”

Zachary hummed.

Having such a capable and skilled wife always made him seem useless.

Zachary moved a chair and sat in the corner to play with Sonny.

They sat there for about half an hour.

When she was done with work, Serenity turned her head and saw Zachary playing with Sonny.

Chapter 343 Zachary was exceptionally patient and would do whatever Sonny asked him to do. He would also teach Sonny some new ways to play with the toys.

Serenity could not help but think that Zachary would be a responsible father when he has his own children.

“What’s the matter?”

Jasmine noticed that her friend was staring in a certain direction, so she leaned over and found her friend looking at Mr. York. She suddenly laughed ambiguously and nudged Serenity’s shoulder. “Do you think your husband is particularly handsome?”

“There’s no need to think about it. He has always been a handsome guy.”

“Hurry up and jump him then. Look how nice and patient he is with Sonny. Although he looks like a block of ice, he’s actually quite soft-hearted. He must like children very much. You should jump him and get down to it, then you can give birth to a baby as good-looking as him. How great is that?”

Serenity laughed. “You talk as if I’m just trying to have a baby.” She paused and whispered, “Even if I jump him, I’m not brave enough to strip him, especially when I look at his stern and cold face.”

Men with Zachary’s temperaments were not easy to tease.

When Zachary lost, he would kiss her as revenge.

Jasmine burst out laughing, then quickly covered her mouth. She smiled and whispered, “Mr. York is just born with a cold face. Why don’t you get him drunk?”

Serenity thought about that scene briefly and came back to her senses. She said frankly, “I’m forbidden from entering his room. Forget it. I won’t dream anymore. We’ll take it day by day.”

After that, Serenity walked toward the two boys.

“Ant Swer!”

Sonny, who was having a good time, raised his head and called out to Serenity.

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Serenity reached out to pat her nephew's head and said to Zachary, "Mr. York, please play with Sonny for a while longer. I'll cook." Zachary stood up. "Why didn't you tell me just now? I know how to cook too." "It didn't cross my mind earlier. I'll drop the courtesy and take up your offer the next time you're here when I'm busy then."

Zachary looked at her deeply. By dropping the courtesy, did it mean that she was tempted to make their marriage long term? "I'll cook now. If you're hungry, have some snacks first."

Serenity pointed to the place where the snacks were kept and quickly went to cook lunch.

Zachary picked up Sonny and followed Serenity into the kitchen. He watched silently as Serenity was busy cooking. After a while, he said in a low voice, "I've asked my third aunt for the nanny's contact number. Mrs. Lane said she could start work tomorrow."

"You can relax once Mrs. Lane comes to work."

"You contacted her? How much is her salary?"

Serenity washed and chopped a few tomatoes to make a tomato omelet. This was an easy and quick dish.

"It's eight thousand dollars a month. We'll provide bed and board with two days off during the weekends. She'll get a bonus if she does well. This is the market rate for nannies in Wiltspoon. Some with higher education earn about ten thousand dollars a month." As the eldest in his generation, Zachary was aware of the domestic worker's salaries. Zachary under-declared the salary because Mrs. Lane would get more than ten thousand dollars a month working at the York Residence.

Serenity turned to look at him with a shocked expression. "A nanny's salary has really skyrocketed."

She initially thought it was three to five thousand dollars a month.

"The price of goods is expensive now, so wages will definitely go up."

"They have two days off on weekends too."

Zachary was silent for a moment before he said, "We don't have to work on weekends, and Liberty will take care of Sonny, so Mrs. Lane can have the weekends off."

More importantly, Zachary wanted some alone time with

Serenity on weekends and did not want Mrs. Lane to be the third wheel.

"I mentioned that I could take you to the beach for a weekend getaway since you like seafood. Let's go on a vacation, then you can eat as much as you like."

Serenity smiled. "Are you serious?"

"I never lie."

Of course, Zachary would not admit it even if he lied.

Serenity believed that Zachary was an honest man.

“Is Liberty coming over for lunch?” Zachary changed the subject.

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Serenity said, “My sister said she’s not coming over for lunch because her office is quite far from here. It’s troublesome to go back and forth since she doesn’t have a long lunch break. They have an office cafeteria, so she’ll be eating there.”

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Zachary hummed.

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“When Liberty comes back from work in the evening, you should ask her if she can adapt to the company and if anyone bullies her. I’m quite close with Mr. Lewis, so if someone bullies her, I will ask Mr. Lewis to back her up.”

Serenity turned her head to look at him again. “No wonder my sister loves you so much. She always tells me to treat you well.”

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Zachary blushed slightly.

He had always been on his best behavior in front of his sister –in–law.

Due to time constraints, Serenity prepared a simple lunch.

Fortunately, Zachary ate with relish and did not dislike it at all.

Serenity thought that apart from not eating bacon, green onions, garlic, and coriander, he was actually quite easy to please.

After the meal, Zachary did not leave immediately.

Serenity washed the dishes and came out of the kitchen. Seeing that Zachary was still there, she took out her phone and checked the time. She walked over to him and asked, “ Mr. York, don’t you have to go to work in the afternoon? It’s past one o’clock. I remember you used to hurry back to the office at about one o’clock.”

Serenity noticed that Jasmine and Sonny were missing, so she shot another question, “Where are Sonny and Jasmine?”

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“Ms. Sox said she was going to the supermarket to buy something, and Sonny followed her.” Zachary felt that Jasmine went out deliberately to give the couple some privacy.

It seemed that Jasmine truly had no intention of matchmaking Shawn and Serenity.

Zachary’s opinion of Jasmine improved greatly.

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“Oh.”

Serenity walked back to the cashier and sat down.

“Serenity.”

Zachary was in a dilemma. When Serenity looked at him, his words were stuck in his throat again, and he could not say anything

Before Zachary could say the next sentence, Serenity asked with concern, “Mr. York, have you encountered any difficulties? I can tell that you’re very troubled. You can share them with me and I’ll see if I can be of any help.”

Zachary was speechless.

He did not have any trouble.

No, he was actually in trouble.

He bought a bunch of flowers for his wife, but he did not know how to give them to her. “Is it a financial issue?”

Serenity definitely could not help Zachary with his work problems. Furthermore, he would not look so troubled in front of her because of his work.

“How much do you need?”

“I’m not short of money.”

“Then tell me what is it? What’s wrong? You don’t go to work when it’s time to leave, and you don’t speak your mind. Why can’t you just tell me straight? I told you that I’m stupid and can’t read your mind.”

Zachary was silent again.

When he thought about the agreement, he could not bring himself to say anything. He felt that giving flowers to Serenity was a slap in the face.

Serenity was anxious because of his stoic expression.

“Mr. York, you don’t have to tell me anything if you don’t want to. I just feel anxious looking at your troubled face.” Zachary still did not speak. Nana was eloquent and talkative, but her grandson was a man of few words.

Serenity suddenly understood why Nana was trying to matchmake her with Zachary.

Nana must have been worried that Zachary would stay single for life.

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Zachary looked at Serenity silently for a moment and was still keeping mum. He then turned around and left.

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Serenity opened her mouth and wanted to stop him, but she gave up. Since he did not want to say anything, it was useless even if she pried his mouth open.

“His silence is so annoying. Why can't he just say it frankly?”

Serenity criticized Zachary's reticence.

Humans were curious beings, and Zachary piqued Serenity's curiosity by being so hesitant to speak. She always wondered what he was trying to say.

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Within two minutes, the quiet man came in with a bouquet of roses.

Serenity looked at him, dumbfounded.

She could not believe that Zachary was holding a bunch of flowers.

Serenity rubbed her eyes and looked at him again to confirm that the man was indeed Mr. York.

'Is he going to give me the flowers?'

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For some reason, Serenity's heart raced, and every nerve in her body suddenly tightened. Hell, she was so nervous! Zachary did not hand the bouquet to Serenity. Instead, he

placed it on the cashier. The man of few words said, “I passed by the florist and saw the flowers were blooming beautifully, so I just bought a bouquet for you. It doesn't mean anything.”

After he finished his sentence, he turned around before she could react. He strode away and left.

He did those in one smooth motion.

It was as if he was afraid that Serenity would pick up the bouquet and slap his face if he paused for a few more seconds.

“Mr. York!”

Serenity came back to her senses. Without another thought, she rushed out of the store and called out to him.

However, Zachary got into the car and drove away quickly as if he was being chased by a ghost. In the blink of an eye, his car was out of sight.

Serenity was speechless.

After a long while, she sighed. “He's so fast! This is so unexpected.”

Serenity thought about how funny that was and could not help but smile brightly and laugh loudly.

Zachary was hilarious sometimes.

When she had her fill of laughter, she returned to the store and sat down in front of the cash register. She looked at the bouquet of roses for a moment and picked it up. "I don't have any vases in the store."

She walked around the store and put the bouquet back on the table.

"Serenity!"

Shawn suddenly called out to her.

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Shawn swiftly walked in. He was dressed in a black suit. He looked handsome and courteous like a successful businessman.

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However, Serenity still thought the best looking person in a suit was her husband. Perhaps it was Zachary's temperament that gave people the impression that he was a successful person. His maturity and calmness was not something Shawn could match.

Shawn was still too young.

"Isn't it working hours now? Why are you here?" Serenity asked instinctively.

"I just sent a document to my dad at the hotel and passed by here, so I came in to have a look. Is Jas here?"

Shawn did not dare to say that he missed Serenity. That was the real reason he stopped by.

Serenity also seemed to be a lot colder toward him, which flustered Shawn.

"Jasmine took Sonny to the supermarket."

Serenity took out her phone and took a picture of the bouquet. Her eyes were always on the bunch of flowers and not Shawn.

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Seeing how focused Serenity was when she took pictures of the bouquet, Shawn asked tentatively, "Serenity, this bouquet..."

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Serenity said, "My husband gave it to me. Isn't it pretty? I think it's beautiful. I love it!"

After taking countless photos of the bouquet, Serenity put down her phone to pick up the bouquet and took a sniff. "It smells so good too!"

To Shawn, this scene was an eyesore.

“Oh, your husband gave it to you? What’s the occasion today? I haven’t seen him send flowers to you before.” Shawn’s smile was a little stiff. His tone was a little bitter as if he had a bone to pick.

Serenity looked up at him and said, “Does it need to be an occasion for my husband to send me flowers? If I want, my husband can send me a bunch of flowers every day. I was just worried that he’d spend too much because a bouquet isn’t cheap. It’s not edible either. I told my husband that it would be better if he saved that money to buy meat instead of flowers. That’s why he never sent me flowers.”

Shawn said, “Right...”

“Shawn, are you looking for Jas? Why don’t you call her? She should be back soon.”

“It’s nothing. I just passed by and thought of coming in here to see you two. I’ll head back to work then.”

“Okay.”

Serenity responded while she admired the bouquet that Zachary gave her.

When Shawn saw that her attention was on the bunch of flowers, he felt unbearable. But he could not say anything about it, so he turned around and left.

Since the last time Serenity rejected Shawn’s invitation to attend a business reception with him, she was indifferent to him. She had always intentionally emphasized to him that she was a married woman.

Shawn thought, ‘Didn’t Serenity get married to a stranger?’

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Jas said that Serenity only got married to put Liberty’s mind at ease and that Serenity and her husband signed a half year agreement. They would divorce after the contract period.

Did Serenity fall in love with her stranger husband?

Shawn was listless.

“Shawn? Why are you here? Don’t you need to go to work?”

Jasmine brought Sonny back just in time to see her cousin’s dejected appearance and immediately understood what was going on

“Jas.”

Jasmine called out to Shawn and he quickly regulated his emotions in an attempt to cover up his loss.

“I was sending some documents to my dad and passed by after that, so I came to see you girls.”

Shawn’s excuse could deceive Serenity, but not Jasmine.

Jasmine was aware that her uncle would usually discuss business with clients at their hotel but the bookstore was not en route from Lowe Enterprise’s hotel to the company.

Jasmine did not expose Shawn’s lie and said, “Wait for me here. I’ll bring Sonny and come right out. Let’s go for a cup of coffee.”

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After that, Jasmine carried Sonny into the store. The little boy was already asleep.

“Seren, Sonny is asleep.”

Jasmine handed the little guy to her friend. Seeing the bouquet on the table, Jasmine understood the main reason for Shawn’s listlessness. She did not need to ask to know that Mr. York gave this bouquet to Serenity.

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Jasmine thought, ‘I guess Serenity made up with her husband. Mr. York even gave her flowers.’

Serenity carried her nephew. “Sonny slept late today. He usually naps at noon.” Jasmine put the snacks and toys she bought on the table.

“You bought so many toys for Sonny again.”

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“I bought whatever he liked, and it didn’t cost much. Seren, did Mr. York give you this bouquet? It’s so beautiful!”

When Jasmine praised the beautiful bouquet, she winked at her friend.

Serenity’s face flushed, and she said, “He told me he came

across a florist and saw this beautiful bouquet, so he got them for me. He also said that it didn’t mean anything.”

Seeing Zachary so troubled and him running away after he gave her the bouquet was enough for her to reminisce for a few days. It was nothing but hilarious!

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Jasmine said, “Do you believe that it doesn’t mean anything? Seren, if you both have feelings for each other, you two should seize the opportunity. I’m still waiting to attend your real wedding so I can be your bridesmaid!”

Jasmine teased her friend.

“You’re thinking a little too far ahead.”

“I don’t think it’s too far ahead. Haha! Seren, I’m going to grab a cup of coffee with Shawn. What do you want? I’ll get a takeout for you later.”

Serenity thought about it for a while and said, “Just get me a cup of milk tea, please.” “Okay,” Jasmine replied immediately. “You watch over the store. I’m going to have coffee.”

“Go ahead!”

The store was not busy at this time anyway. Serenity would either be napping at the cashier or making her handicrafts.

Jasmine left.

Shawn was waiting outside.

When Jasmine came out, the smile on her face faded. "Let's go."

She went straight to Shawn's car.

Shawn saw that his cousin's expression was a little serious and he felt a little guilty for no reason. At the same time in York Corporation, Zachary walked out of the elevator happily.

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Mr. Chaplin approached him with a letter.

"Boss, Mr. Bucham told me to hand this letter over to you personally. He said it involves your wife."

Only a few people in the company knew that the CEO was married. Mr. Chaplin was one of the lucky people who was

in the know.

Zachary took the letter without saying anything and went straight into his office. Sitting down on the black swivel chair, Zachary opened the envelope and retrieved the letter from the inside to unfold it. However, it was an anonymous letter, and the content was simple. It was to tell him that Serenity helped Elisa to come up with ideas on how to pester him.

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Zachary called Josh immediately.

The nosy Josh was waiting for his boss to call him.

"Who wrote this letter?"

Josh told Zachary that it was related to Serenity, so Josh must have known who wrote the letter.

"Your brother-in-law."

"My mother-in-law only gave birth to Liberty and my wife, so I don't have a brother-in-law."

Josh giggled. "Well, close enough. The Hunts are your wife's side of the family. Although they're not siblings, they're cousins and still related by blood."

Zachary said coldly, "They're not worthy!"

"John Hunt wrote the letter."

Josh finally answered Zachary after teasing him.

“He doesn’t know that you’re the CEO of York Corporation. He just knows that Mr. York is tired of Elisa’s pestering, so he wrote this anonymous letter addressed to Mr. York, thinking that Mr. York could deal with your wife.”

Josh laughed. “Boss, this show is getting more exciting!”

Zachary concealed his identity, which led to many troubles. John thought of using Zachary to deal with Serenity, which was pretty amusing.

If the money-hungry Hunts found out that Serenity’s husband was the heir of the York family, would they be frightened? What would they look like when they find out that they tried to use Zachary to deal with Serenity? Josh, who was relishing the drama, was reluctant to let the show end so soon. However, he hoped that Zachary would reveal his identity soon and scare those money-hungry people away.

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“John can still jump around? Josh, you didn’t solve the issue effectively this time.”

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Zachary said he wanted the Hunts to be poorer than beggars.

Josh replied with a smile, “There won’t be a good show if you crush them with a single blow.”

Zachary was speechless.

“You must be patient dealing with these people. Take it slow and let them lose everything they have bit by bit. It’ll be tormenting for them to try their best to fix their situation, yet they can only watch as they lose everything.” Josh admitted he dropped the ball this time because he was in no hurry to crush the Hunts in one blow.

“But don’t worry, boss! You’ll definitely be satisfied with the results.

“John Hunt was fired by his company. The trending story was very popular back then, so John has a bad reputation in the industry. It’ll be very difficult for him to find a good job.”

Zachary’s expression eased after he heard that John had completely lost his job. “You gotta thank Ms. Stone for this. Ms. Stone asked her brother to fire John. I have to say, Ms. Stone is especially nice to your wife.”

Zachary snorted coldly. Serenity did not know what was going on, so she supported

Elisa in pursuing Zachary. That was why Elisa was nice to

her.

If Serenity knew, she would have asked Zachary, “Are you the ‘Mr. York’ who Ms. Stone is wooing?”

Zachary would not have known how to answer that.

If Elisa could still treat Serenity well and protect Serenity after she found out that Zachary was Serenity's husband, then Zachary would believe that Elisa truly regarded Serenity as a friend. Zachary took out the gold ring again and put it back on the ring finger of his left hand.

When he went to Serenity's store, he took off the gold ring.

"By the way, John wants to join York Corporation, so he contacted our HR and said that he has worked in Aron PCB for many years, making his way up from the bottom. He not only has a lot of work experience, but he also knows some of Stone Group's insider news."

John was just shy of saying that he could help York Corporation go against Stone Group. Zachary said coldly, "Life will be lonely without opponents. It's not that I can't defeat Clive, I just don't want to make my life boring and lonely. John is just an executive of Stone Group's subsidiary, so how could he help me defeat Stone Group?"

"He's quite boastful."

Josh smiled and added, "There are so many people who are full of themselves these days. Let's just treat him like a clown."

"Give them another blow."

Josh replied, "That's easy. But if you push too hard and they become broke, they will pester your wife and sister-in-law for money. Don't forget that their grandmother is still receiving treatment at the hospital.

"When that time comes, they'll have nothing to lose, so they can do anything."

"Then do as you see fit."

Zachary was aware too that these people were hard to get rid of.

For the time being, the Hunts still had money to pay for Old Mrs. Hunt's medical expenses. If they were to become beggars all at once, they would full-on pester Serenity and Liberty for money as Josh had mentioned.

They should wait until Old Mrs. Hunt was discharged from the hospital and went back to her hometown before completely cutting off the Hunts' income.

Zachary's eyes were cold. Back then, the Hunts relied on Serenity's parents' insurance payout to get rich.

Now, Zachary would make the Hunts spit it back out little by little.

"Don't worry. I'll get it done properly," Josh assured with a smile. "You can count on me!"

Zachary hung up the phone.

He knew he could count on Josh, but Josh liked drama, which made Zachary feel helpless.

Was it that great to watch Zachary's drama? Grandma May, Josh, and the York brothers were all watching this drama unfold.

## Chapter 349

In a cafe, Jasmine picked a secluded corner and sat down.

Shawn sat opposite her.

“Shawn, what do you want to drink?”

“Whatever. I’ll have whatever you have.”

Jasmine said to the waiter, “Two cups of black coffee, please.”

“Jas, black coffee is bitter.”

Jasmine glanced at him. Shawn then said sheepishly, “Fine

After the two cups of coffee were served, Jasmine asked bluntly, “Shawn, I have a question for you. Are you in love with Serenity?”

Shawn was stunned.

He stared blankly at Jasmine.

“Jas...”

“Tell me the truth!”

Jasmine ordered.

Shawn’s face slowly flushed red.

Did he show it?

“Jas, I... I like Serenity.”

“When did it start?”

Shawn said in a low voice, “I don’t know when it started. It might have been when I first learned about love when I was 14 years old, or maybe 17.”

Jasmine said in a gloomy face, “You’ve had a crush on Serenity for so long.”

Shawn hid it long enough.

Jasmine and Serenity were not even aware of that and had treated Shawn as a younger brother. In fact, Shawn was three years younger than the two of them. He was like a younger brother to them.

Shawn blushed.

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“Shawn, just give up. Serenity won’t like you back. She has always treated you as a younger brother. It was fine when she was single, but now she’s married...”

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“Jas, didn’t you say that Serenity and her husband married for convenience? They’ll get divorced after six months.”

Jasmine said with a cold face, “You don’t need to bother why they got married. The point is, Serenity is married.

She’s someone else’s wife. Do you want to become a homewrecker?”

Shawn said resentfully, “I met Serenity first.”

“Love isn’t first come first served. Did you know? The last time Serenity treated you to lunch, her husband saw her putting some food on your plate because your favorite dish was placed in front of her. That caused a misunderstanding

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and a fight between them.”

Shawn said, “That just shows how petty her husband is. He doesn’t trust her, and couples who don’t respect each other won’t have a lasting relationship. They’ll get divorced sooner or later.”

“Whether or not they get a divorce isn’t important. What matters is that Serenity is married now, so you shouldn’t get close to her anymore. Don’t go to our store again unless the sky is falling. If you need to find me, just call me or go to my house.

“It’s better for both you and Serenity if you stay far away from her.”

Shawn’s face turned pale. “Jas, you’re my cousin, so why aren’t you helping me? I’ve had a crush on Serenity for many years and have such deep feelings for her. If you don’t let me go to your store, you’re stopping me from seeing Serenity.”

Chapter 350 Jasmine said, “I’m only telling you all these because I’m your cousin. Not to mention Serenity doesn’t like you. And even if she does like you back, I don’t approve of you two being together.”

“Why not?”

“Because of your family. I know my aunt very well. If she finds out that you like Serenity, do you think she’ll still smile at Serenity? She will only do everything possible to prevent you two from meeting each other. She may even do extreme things to Serenity.

“My aunt has been in high society for more than 20 years, so she has very high standards. You’re her only son and hope. You’re also the default successor of Lowe Enterprise, so her expectations of you are very high. She wants you to marry someone from an affluent family.

“Serenity’s a great girl, and her only flaw is her family background. If you’re not involved, my aunt will happily treat Serenity as her niece for my sake. But when it comes to you, she will be ruthless. Serenity is definitely not a good daughter-in-law candidate in my aunt’s eyes.” Jasmine got to the point and showed no mercy.

“Shawn, your feelings for Serenity won’t benefit Serenity. It will only bring disaster to her. I’m your cousin, and I don’t want you to be hurt by love, but I’m also Serenity’s best friend. I don’t want Serenity to be hurt by my relatives.

“Shawn, just let it go. Serenity is not the one for you, and she will never like you back. Think about it. You two have known each other for more than ten years. We all grew up together, so if she liked you at all, isn’t ten years more than enough time for her to develop feelings for you? “Serenity has treated you like a younger brother for more than ten years. An elder sister would never see her younger brother in a romantic light. If you don’t give up and go on like this, you’re the one who will suffer.”

Shawn’s face turned even paler than before. Shawn only knew that he loved Serenity and saw that his mother liked Serenity very much. He did not think any

further.

“Serenity got married to a stranger to move out of Liberty’s house because Liberty has always been worried about her. To reassure Liberty, Serenity married Mr. York at first sight and lied to Liberty about it. Liberty had always thought they got married for love.

“Why would Serenity rather marry a stranger than ask us for help? That’s because she had never thought about you guys. Your aunt once thought about matchmaking Serenity with your eldest cousin. In fact, as long as Serenity told me of her plans, she could have the liberty to choose any men from the family.

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“But in the end, she married Mr. York without telling anyone.”

Shawn asked with a trembling voice, “Jas, do I have no chance at all?”

“None.”

Shawn was speechless.

Seeing her cousin’s despair, Jasmine could not bear it and sighed. “Shawn, listen to my advice. Stop your crush on Serenity before she finds out. The sooner you let it go, the higher chances of you maintaining this friendship with her. Otherwise, you won’t be able to stay friends.”

“I think Serenity knows.

“She’s very cold to me now...”

Shawn said bitterly, “Serenity and I will either become lovers, husband and wife, or strangers.”

Jasmine said viciously, “Then you should become strangers. That’s better for everyone.”

“Jas!”

Shawn’s eyes turned red.

Serenity was the first girl he ever liked, and he had had a crush on her for many years. Shawn had thought about it. They had known each other for more than ten years. His cousin was also Serenity's best friend, and even his mother was very fond of Serenity. Therefore, he would confess his love to Serenity when he was more mature.

They would get their happy ending. However, his cousin brutally burst his bubble. He was in so much pain like his heart was cut into a million pieces.

"Shawn, if you really love Serenity, you should stay far away from her. That's what's best for her. If you truly love someone, you don't necessarily have to be with her. As long as she's happy, you'll feel happy too.

"Seeing her well would be a relief for you."

Shawn's eyes were red, and he said bitterly, "Jas, I'm not that selfless."

He loved Serenity and wanted to be her husband. He was not so selfless as to feel happy for her when she was with another man.