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Chapter 361 A few moments later, Serenity said, "After listening to what you've said about your colleague, I think he's better than all the blind dates Jasmine had gone to. I'll ask her what she thinks tomorrow.

"It's late now, Mr. York. I'm going back to my room to wash up and sleep." Serenity was exhausted from shopping. Zachary got up as well and said faintly, "Oh, good night."

Serenity replied with a good night and went into her room. She could not be bothered to even put away the things she bought from shopping and planned to leave them for tomorrow morning.

Seeing how she went straight into the room without any intention to stay, Zachary stood where he was and remained silent for a long time.

After a while, he walked out to the balcony, sat down on the swing, quietly looking at the night sky and wondering how both of them would go on in the future.

Zachary was used to sleeping late, so he sat at the balcony until past eleven o'clock before returning to his territory.

The husband and wife lived in the same house, but they stayed separately. He did not enter her room, and neither would she step into his territory. Once the doors of the two rooms were closed, it was as if they had nothing to do with each other.

It was Zachary himself who had caused this.

The night passed without another word. The next day, Serenity woke up at her usual time.

She habitually went to the balcony to tend to her flowers.

Then, she saw some tiny ants on the balcony. When she bent down to have a closer look and followed the ant trail, she traced it back to them crawling out from several potted flowers.

She realized why there were so many ants in the area.

It was because the ants hatched from their eggs in the soil since she had not used any pesticide when she made a garden out of the balcony

She usually watered the flowers without bending down, so she did not notice there were ants in the flower pots.

After watering the plants, she took her purse and went out to the market to buy groceries for a home—cooked lunch later in the store. She also bought a few packs of ant repellent and sprinkled them in the flower pots.

In the future, Sue had to diligently kill insects and ants for her flowers, lest the pests go out of control.

Serenity was at the market for half an hour and came back with several bags of groceries.

When she went upstairs, she found a middle—aged woman standing in front of her house. The woman was pulling out her cell phone, seemingly wanting to make a call. "Madam."

Serenity walked over and called out to the woman, who was startled by her greeting. She smiled and asked the woman," Madam, may I ask who you're looking for?" Mrs. Lane blinked. 'Is this the missus?

'I was about to call Mr. Zachary and our conversation might give away his identity. Fortunately, she interrupted me by calling out to

me.

'Otherwise, if he picked up my call and she heard me addressing him as Mr. Zachary by habit like how it is back in the main residence, it might raise suspicion to the ordinary man persona he painstakingly crafted, or it could have also been exposed by me.' "Hello."

Mrs. Lane smiled. "I'm Mrs. Lane, the nanny Mr. York hired. I'm here to start work today as agreed. I came here according to the address that Mr. York gave me. Are you Mrs. York?"

So it turned out to be Mrs. Lane.

Serenity took out her keys and opened the door, saying, "Mr. York told me about you. You can just call me Serenity, Mrs. Lane. I'm not too used to being called Mrs. York." In reality, she still felt like she was the same free and unfettered Serenity Hunt. She only remembered that she was married when she saw Zachary. "That's... not really..." Mrs. Lane was hesitant to call the missus by her name. When they spoke, she had already sized up Serenity. She saw that Serenity was carrying several bags of freshly bought groceries in her hands, and felt that Serenity was someone down—to—earth, just like Old Mrs. York.

She was not arrogant or haughty like other rich ladies. Serenity invited Mrs. Lane into her home and said with a smile," Since you're coming to work with us, we have a professional relationship. You can just call me by my name. There's no need to call me Missus."

Hearing Serenity and Mrs. Lane's conversation, Zachary quickly put on his clothes and came out of the room. "Mr. York."

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Mrs. Lane greeted Zachary with a smile. Zachary instructed her to call him Mr. York in front of Serenity.

"Mrs. Lane, you're here. Serenity, this is Mrs. Lane, the one I told you about."

Zachary quickly made the introductions.

Serenity smiled. "I saw her as I was coming back. Mrs. Lane already introduced herself. Have a seat, Mrs. Lane. I'll bring the groceries inside." "Let me do it, Mrs. York."

"Mrs. Lane."

The woman smiled apologetically. After stealing a glance at Zachary, she stopped calling Serenity "Mrs. York" and changed her form of address to Ms. Hunt instead.

"Mr. York and Ms. Hunt, I reckon you haven't had breakfast? I'll cook for you."

Serenity wanted to stop her, but she said with a smile, "Ms. Hunt, I'm here as a nanny. Mr. York already briefed me on my job description. From today onward, I have to earn my pay. You can't let me receive a salary without doing anything and leaving everything to you, right, Ms. Hunt?"

Serenity had no choice but to let Mrs. Lane take the groceries she brought back into the kitchen.

"Mrs. Lane, I'm bringing the spare ribs, corn, carrot, peas, the two sausages, as well as that handful of leafy vegetables to the store for my lunch later."

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Mrs. Lane answered from the kitchen, "Yes, Ms. Hunt."

She quickly separated the ingredients Serenity wanted to bring to the store before using the remaining ingredients to make breakfast for three.

Serenity stood at the kitchen door for a moment and watched Mrs. Lane's skillful and swift movements. Judging by how she cleaned as she went, it seemed that Mrs. Lane liked to keep everything clean too.

Thus, Serenity was relieved and went to the balcony.

Zachary followed her.

"Mrs. Lane is meticulous in her work."

He saw his wife holding a small bag which contained several small packets, and asked, "What is that?" "Ant repellent. I've never used pesticide on the flowers since I bought them, and there are ants everywhere now. Maybe there were ant eggs in the soil, but we didn't know because we didn't pay enough attention. The ants have hatched now."

She explained while taking out the ant repellent, tearing open the bag and sprinkling a little into each pot of flowers.

"You need to get rid of ants regularly when growing flowers."

Although Zachary had never done gardening before, he knew the basic concepts. He saw the gardeners at home often spraying insecticide and sprinkling ant repellent to keep insects away.

Serenity hummed and continued to sprinkle the repellent into the flower pots.

However, she ran out of the ant repellent.

She bought too little.

She would have to buy a few more packs again tomorrow.

Standing up straight and turning around, she saw Zachary holding the prong and using it to collect the clothes that he hung to dry here yesterday. Serenity recalled his little actions yesterday, but she feigned ignorance and asked casually, "Are they dry?" "Yeah."

Zachary touched the new clothes. They were all dry.

However, his expression grew a little sullen. That was because he made an amateur mistake. He washed the clothes with water.

He did not think it through and casually threw the clothes in the washer. It was already too late by the time he realized what he did. However, he accepted the mistake and looked at the silver lining instead.

Looking at the clothes now, Zachary regretted it. He most likely would not be able to wear them anymore.

If Nana knew he made such an amateur mistake, she would laugh at him for the whole year.

"What's wrong?" Serenity asked him.

Zachary immediately rolled the clothes into a ball in his hands and said, "Nothing. I'm going back to my room to change." With that, he turned away with the clothes he could not wear anymore.

When he got into his room, he called Jim immediately. He asked him to get more sets of clothes from the store Serenity bought for him and send them to the dry cleaners so he could wear them for Serenity to see another day.

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Zachary stayed in his room for a while until Serenity came knocking on his door. "Mr. York, Mrs. Lane says that breakfast is ready."

Serenity stood in front of his room door, knocking on the door while shouting for him.

However, she silently thought, 'He's been in there for a while. Is he not done changing?

'He's usually swift and decisive, rarely dilly-dallying.

'Oh, except when he wants to send flowers. He's not swift and decisive when it comes to that.'

Zachary opened the door.

His shirt was on, but it was still unbuttoned. As soon as he opened the door, Serenity saw his slightly exposed pecs.

She was stunned, then said, "It's time for breakfast, Mr. York."

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Zachary paid attention to Serenity's expression. When he saw that she only froze slightly, he walked away after she finished speaking.

He closed the room door again and looked down at his unbuttoned shirt. Did he not expose enough? His wife was not drooling yet.

Wait.

He seemed to be playing tricks and seducing his wife.

More importantly, he failed to seduce her.

Zachary felt that he must have been possessed for the past two days to act like this. When he was at the office later, he would ask Josh if the latter could recommend any powerful mediums to him and get rid of the spirit.

A certain Mr. York, who had been dilly—dallying and waiting for his wife to knock on the door, moved much faster after his wife came knocking. In less than two minutes, he came out of his territory.

Serenity saw that he was only wearing a shirt and suit pants. He had not put on his suit jacket, and his tie was not worn either.

She sighed again in her heart. 'What's wrong with Mr. York? It took him so long to change his clothes, but he didn't even put on his tie yet.'

"Mr. York and Ms. Hunt, try my cooking."

Mrs. Lane brought out the breakfast she prepared and placed them on the dining table before calling for the young couple.

Since there were i nly two of them living in the small home, the house was neat and tidy with only a small amount of chores to do. With Mrs. Lane around, Serenity had nothing else to do, so she strolled over upon being called. "Only two portions? Where's yours, Mrs. Lane?"

"I'll eat in the kitchen later."

Mrs. Lane and her fellow colleagues usually set up a separate table for themselves and ate together.

Zachary bore a stoic face constantly and was intimidating. Whether it was in his private villa or in the old residence with the other nannies and helpers, no one had the courage to eat at the same table with him.

"Come and eat with us, Mrs. Lane."

Serenity did not care much about social class. They all worked for a living, so she did not have a sense of hierarchy.

In the eyes of the York family, Serenity was the missus of the family. This title was honored beyond comparison in Wiltspoon.

Unfortunately, Serenity was not aware that she had such a prestigious status.

Serenity even went into the kitchen to help Mrs. Lane bring out her breakfast.

Mrs. Lane looked at Zachary. Zachary said gently, "Mrs. Lane, if Ms. Hunt says to eat together, then let's eat together. We're very easy to get along with. Just think of this place as your own home." Mrs. Lane was shocked. It turned out that Mr. Zachary could actually speak so gently and pleasantly. "All right."

After being glared at by Zachary, Mrs. Late snapped back to her senses and quickly went into the kitchen. She took her breakfast from Serenity and said with a smile, "I'll do it, Ms. Hunt."

There was an additional person at the table. Serenity ate with gusto as usual, praising Mrs. Lane's cooking skills as she ate.

Zachary was as elegant as usual.

Mrs. Lane, on the other hand, was quite uncomfortable, and glanced at Zachary from time to time. Fortunately, Serenity was so focused on eating that she did not notice Mrs. Lane's strange behavior.

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Mrs. Lane smiled when she saw Serenity eat with such enthusiasm. As she watched, she suddenly felt hungry as well. She stopped looking at Zachary and started to eat with gusto.

While Mrs. Lane brought the dishes to the kitchen to wash them after the meal, Serenity pulled up a chair and slowly walked to Zachary.

Zachary instantly straightened up like a defensive hedgehog.

The difference this time was, he was not guarding against her. Instead, he was nervous and had no idea what his wife wanted to do to him.

"Mr. York, we have a guest room, but there's no bed. After we pick Sonny up later, we'll send Mrs. Lane and Sonny back to the store. We'll have to go and buy a bed and sheets for her since we can't let her sleep on the floor."

The hedgehog's quills flattened at once. "You're the lady of the house. You can arrange it however you like." Zachary had an important meeting this morning and could not spare the time to accompany Serenity to buy the beddings.

"Have you run out of the ten thousand I gave you previously? When I get to the office later, I'll use a computer to transfer some money to the living—expenses card. Although we hired Mrs. Lane as a nanny to take care of Sonny, we can't treat her poorly. Buy a higher—quality bed and cabinet. Don't feel bad about spending the money."

"I haven't used up the money, so you don't have to transfer more. There's enough money left to buy the furniture for Mrs. Lane. Don't worry, I'm not the kind of person who would abuse the nanny." Serenity's face reddened a bit when he mentioned the living—expenses bank card.

When they were having a cold war, she was in a bad mood and went out on a mad shopping spree. She swiped the card used for living expenses

and spent quite a lot of his money.

Serenity decided to use her own money later when she went shopping as a way to make up for her act of abusing the living—expenses card.

In a family, both the husband and wife had to contribute. She would not take advantage of him, and he would not scheme against her.

They coexisted peacefully and respected each other like a guest. Zachary's face was gentle, but his eyes were like a bottomless and unfathomable pit when he looked at her.

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However, not a word came from him.

Serenity was used to his habit of staring at her silently. In fact, she would find it abnormal if he spoke more.

Zachary was speechless still. "Oh, it's getting late. We have to hurry to fetch Sonny from my sister's place. My sister has to go to work."

Liberty was riding her own bike to work today, so there was no need to pick her up and drop her off again.

Zachary hummed and stood up.

He walked back to his room.

Soon, he came out again.

In his hand was an extra suit jacket as well as a tie.

He simply held them in his hands, neither tying the tie nor putting the jacket on.

Serenity was waiting for Mrs. Lane at the kitchen door.

Perhaps because Zachary's gaze was intense, Serenity looked over and saw him staring at her. She blinked, smiled at him, and turned back to Mrs. Lane,

Seeing that Mrs. Lane finished washing the dishes, she said with a smile, "We have to go now, Mrs. Lane. Your daytime job is mainly to help me take care of my two—year—old nephew, Sonny. He's very obedient when he wants to be, and equally naughty when he's feeling mischievous.

Mrs. Lane removed her apron and laughed as she walked out. "All children are like that."

When Sam arranged for her to come over, he made it clear to her what her job was.

Zachary would increase her pay as long as she did her job well.

Zachary was still standing there with his jacket and tie in his hands. Serenity did not know what he wanted, but Mrs Lane did.

She whispered something to Serenity.

Serenity instantly looked at Zachary.

'That's what he wants?

'But I don't know how to help a man tie a tie. 'Is it too late to search the steps online and learn now?'

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Serenity did according to her thoughts.

She immediately took out her cell phone and searched online on how to tie a tie.

After quickly reading the steps twice, she stuffed her phone back into her pants pocket. She moved forward, grabbed the tie that Zachary held in his hand, and placed it around his neck. "You went back to the room to change your clothes, but you took longer than a girl putting on makeup. You didn't even wear your tie."

Seeing this, Mrs. Lane tiptoed and went out.

She waited for the young couple outside.

"Of all the men I know, no one wears suits and ties except for my scumbag broth:—in—law. I really have no experience and just learned it froi.. the internet, so I don't know if I can get it right. Bear with me if I strangle you, okay?"

Zachary's eyes flashed with pleasure as he heard her soft mutters.

She had no experience.

She never tied a tie for a man before.

She even had to surf the Internet on the spot to find the steps.

This made him incredibly happy.

Although Serenity read through the steps twice, she still could not tie it well. 'It looks easy, but why is it so difficult?

'It wasn't this hard for me to learn to weave my handicrafts.'

"I'll do it."

Zachary took back the tie in resignation, afraid that she would accidentally strangle him to death if she continued. Serenity sighed with relief and blushed a little. It was such a simple thing, but she did not succeed.

It was like when she wore her red scarf in first grade. The red scarf looked flattering on other people, but when it came to her, her scarf was a mess as if she simply tied a knot around her neck. Serenity thought in her heart, 'He should've done it himself from the start.'

In the past, if she merely touched his face, he would avoid her like she was a pervert. Now, however, he waited for her to tie his tie.

The man, who was unable to enjoy the experience of having his wife tie his tie for him, put on his suit jacket only to see that Serenity was already walking out with her purse. Zachary was speechless.

He first drove Serenity to Bright Boulevard. Liberty was waiting downstairs anxiou. .y with Sonny.

"Sorry we're late today, Liberty. Will you make it in time for work?"

Liberty handed her son to her sister, but the little one clung to her neck today and refused to follow Serenity.

"I want Mommy."

Sonny kept repeating, "I want Mommy." Serenity quickly coaxed her nephew. "I'll carry you, Sonny. Let's go shopping later, okay?"

Sonny said insistently, "I want Mommy."

"Sonny, be a good boy. Mommy needs to go to work to earn

money to buy milk formula for you. Go with Aunt Seren, okay? Mommy will be back soon."

Liberty also coaxed her son while forcefully prying his hands away from her neck and shoving him to her sister to hold.

"Seren, I have to go to work now. I'm running late. I'll try to come over at noon to keep Sonny company." Her son probably refused to go with her sister today because he did not see her yesterday since she did not drop by at her sister's store for lunch.

"I want Mommy. Mommy-"

Sonny started to wail. His small body thrashed around in Serenity's arms, trying to break free from his aunt's embrace.

Liberty put on her helmet and quickly rode away. When Sonny saw his mother leaving, he cried even louder. As Liberty drove away, she could still hear her son's heartbreaking cries. She suddenly felt her vision turn blurry.

However, she coul not earn money to support her son if she stayed by his side.

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However, if she went to work to earn money, she would not have time to spend with him.

Liberty sniffled but did not turn back. She moved forward on her bike ferociously.

She would be fine once her son's crying was out of earshot.

Serenity carried Sonny to the car. After coaxing him for a long time with Mrs. Lane, the boy finally stopped crying.

He refused to sit by himself and nestled in Serenity's arms. He wrapped his arms around her tightly and muttered pitifully, "...not want me anymore?"

He did not speak clearly, so Serenity could not catch what he said at first.

She gently pushed the little one away and asked softly, "What did you say?"

Sonny looked up a. Serenity and asked, "Mommy no want me anymore?"

"Who said that? Your mommy only went to work. It's not because she doesn't want you. Your mommy will come back every night to accompany you."

Sonny said in grievance, "Daddy said mommy no want me." Serenity wanted to cuss.

"That scumbag Hank Brown! He doesn't want Liberty to work, so he spoke nonsense to Sonny. He's trying to use Sonny to stop Liberty from rejoining the workplace.

"Sonny, your daddy is lying to you. Your mommy will never throw

you away. She said she'll come to see you at noon."

The boy was just two—years—old and could not think for himself yet. However, the closest people to liim were his mother and his aunt. Since his aunt said that his mother was not throwing him away, he believed her and was relieved. He was willing to play a little now.

On the way back to the store, Mrs. Lane managed to coax Sonny into playing together. When Zachary stopped the car when they reached the store, it was Mrs. Lane who carried Sonny out of the car.

Serenity was relieved and said to her husband, "Mr. York, the nanny you found is great with children. She got Sonny to open up to her so quickly." "Mrs. Lane is a wonderful nanny. Whether it's household chores, grocery shopping and cooking, or taking care of children and tutoring their school work, she's great at all of it."

"Let's give her a pay raise if she does a good job." Serenity's online store was doing well, so her wallet was bulging a little. She was more than happy to raise Mrs. Lane's salary if the latter did a good job.

"Sure."

Serenity pushed open the car door to get out. She then thought of something and turned back to Zachary, saying, "Mr. York, turn your face here."

Zachary did as she said and asked, "What". A soft and delicate kiss suddenly fell on his face.

Zachary's eyes widened. After Serenity kissed him gently, twice at that, she hurriedly pushed open the car door to get out. However, his hands were faster.

He grabbed her arm, dragging her back into the car. His body twisted as much as he could, and he held her tightly before pressing a domineering kiss on her lips.

After the kiss, Serenity said with a forced composure, "Your kissing skills are improving. I enjoyed that."

She pushed open the car door and calmly got out.

She turned around and waved to the man who was inside the car, and said with a smile, "Bye, Mr. York."

Zachary watched as she stepped into the store at a leisurely pace. When she was out of his sight, she dashed into the washroom.

As soon as the door closed, she washed her face with water. She felt her cheeks burning up.

What seemed like a long time later, when her face was no longer red when she looked in the mirror, she pulled out a napkin and wiped her face repeatedly. She then calmly walked out of the washroom.

All three of them, Mrs. Lane, Sonny, and Jasmine were staring at

her.

"What are you looking at me like that for? I urgently needed the loo, okay? Anyone can do a hundred—meter sprint when it's urgent."

Jasmine laughed. "I thought you encountered a beast outside so I rushed to get a broom to fight it off, only to see Mr. York looking at something in the car mirror. He left when he saw me run outside with a broom."

Serenity was speechless. "That man...

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After leaving Wiltspoon School in his national MPV, he stopped at huis usual spot and ordered his bodyguards to drive the MPV while he got into his Rolls Royce.

On the way to the company, he called Sam and asked him to arrange for someone to send a booster seat over.

To Zachary's surprise, Elisa was waiting in front of his office building again, but she was not blocking his way anymore. She just quietly stood by the side and watched his car entering the building

It was hard for Elisa to let go of her love for Zachary. She told herself that she would see him again today, and never again.

However, if she found out that he was not actually married and only wore the ring to make her give up on him, she would make a comeback.

After Zachary's motorcade drove into the building, the gate of York Corporation closed soon after. When the Rolls Royce was out of her sight, she stood for a while longer before turning around and returning to her car despondently.

It took a while before she started the car. She first drove very slowly, but then she suddenly picked up speed and sped away.

Whenever Elisa was in a bad mood, she would go shopping.

Two hours later, her car stopped in front of Serenity's store.

Jasmine heard the noise outside and came out for a look. She just – so happened to see Elisa getting out of the car, and she walked over with a smile. "Ms. Stone, you're here."

Elisa went on a two-hour long shopping spree and was in a much better mood.

When she saw Jasmine, she smiled and said, "Ms. Sox, you're just in time. Give me a hand. I bought so much stuff that it took up the entire backseat. Help me move them."

Jasmine glanced at the car, and her jaw dropped. "Ms. Stone, what have you bought? There's so much."

"I bought everything that caught my eye. I don't even know what I bought. It's probably everything from food, drinks, toys, and other stuff."

She swiped stuff off the racks like she was crazy.

Jasmine called Serenity. Serenity was also stunned. Then, at Elisa's request, the three girls carried everything from the car into the store. "The toys are for Sonny." Elisa remembered nothing except the toys. She wanted to be close to Sonny. The little boy was utterly adorable, so she bought plenty of toys for him. There were those that flew in the air, crawled on the ground, and those that swam in water.

Serenity looked at the two large boxes of toys and laughed. "When Sonny is a little older, he'll be able to open up a toy shop without stocking up anymore. Even if he only sells the toys you gave him, his business will be able to last for a long time." Elisa sat down and said, "I like Sonny, so I bought toys for him. You guys spoil him your way, and I spoil him my way. Serenity, your nephew is just too cute. If I had such a cute nephew as well,

I'd pluck the moon out of the sky for him if that's what he wanted.

"Unfortunately, my mom only gave birth to one daughter, me. The only nephews I have will be from my brothers."

Out of her two brothers, her eldest brother was married, but the couple was still in their honeymoon phase and did not want to have a child to intrude on their lovey—dovey time. As for her second brother, she wondered if he even had a girlfriend.

Sonny slid down from Mrs. Lane's arms.

Sonny's eyes grew dizzy when he saw the bulk of toys. He was frazzled and could not decide which to play.

Snowball crouched in front of the box with Sonny.

Serenity found that Snowball liked Sonny more than her.

As for her two pet cats, they would jump on the shelves to sleep after they were fed, and fight with each other when they woke up.

Occasionally, one of them would jump into Serenity's arms.

Serenity poured Elisa a cup of warm water and asked, "What made you buy so many ings?" "I shop when I'm in a bad mood and I buy everything that pleases me. Now that I'm calm again, I suddenly feel that I don't need these, so I'm giving them to you and Ms. Sox. I don't mean anything else by that. I just think that my mom will scold me for wasting money if I bring them home."

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"You'll be doing me a favor by accepting it. Help a girl out, will you?" Elisa said as she made a playful pleading gesture. The Stone family liad plenty of money, but Audrey grew up in an orphanage. Even though it had been decades since she married into a wealthy family, she was still frugal.

She hated it when Elisa spent money indiscriminately. Serenity thought, 'The rich really are willful!'

Jasmine felt that she herself was quite extravagant too when it came to shopping, but compared to a true wealthy lady like Elisa, it was likened to comparing an ant to an elephant.

"Serenity, who's that lady?" Elisa asked Serenity after seeing Mrs. Lane.

"I hired her to take care of Sonny. Jasmine and I are busy sometimes, and I worry that Sonny might run out of the shop, so I got someone to look after him. That way, we can both be at ease." Serenity was taki.g care of another person's child. Even if he was her nephew, it was a heavy responsibility.

She could not afford to be careless when taking care of Sonny.

"That's true."

Elisa did not comment much about Mrs. Lane. Serenity asked with concern, "Why were you in a bad mood, Ms. Stone?"

"Just call me Elisa. I'm in a bad mood because I failed my goal." Elisa listed the cup of water that Serenity had poured for her, took two sips, and said, "Mr. York wore a wedding ring."

"Huh?"

Serenity was astonished.

Even Mrs. Lane looked over.

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She tried to recall when she saw Mr. Zachary in the morning. She did not see a wedding ring on his finger. His fingers were completely unadorned. The same went for Serenity's fingers.

Jasmine was also in disbelief and asked, "Mr. York is married? I've never heard of that. With his status, his wedding would definitely cause a sensation in the city if he got married. The reporters in Wiltspoon would go to town on the news."

After a moment of silence, Elisa said sadly, "I didn't hear of his marriage either, but he really was wearing a wedding ring on the ring finger of his left hand. It's so dazzling that there's no way I was mistaken."

"That's..."

Serenity was at a 'ss for words. She could tell that Elisa truly loved the heir of the York family. She supported and encouraged Elisa, and even taught her tips and tricks to pursue her true love.

However, Elisa said that the man was married.

Serenity felt her cheeks burn. She actually taught Elisa how to be a homewrecker and destroy someone else's marriage.

If Mr. York's wife were to find out that she was teaching Elisa how to pursue her husband, she would definitely come after Serenity with a forty—meter—long knife and chop her into minced meat.

Then again, how was it possible that there was no news of Mr.

York's marriage?

If there was just the slightest rumor about it, she would not have encouraged Elisa to pursue him. "I'll never be a mistress. Regardless of whether he's really married or not, as long as he's wearing a wedding ring that

declares his marital status, I won't bother him!"

Elisa spoke firmly. However, her heart hurt like it was being cut by a thousand knives!

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Serenity patted the back of Elisa's hand and comforted her." You're a good girl, Elisa. Give up the man who doesn't belong to you, and you'll find happiness at your next stop."

Elisa pursed her lips. Her eyes reddened, but she stubbornly wiped away the tears at the corners of her eyes and forced a cheerful expression. "Yeah. As long as I want to marry someone, there are plenty of men lining up for my hand in marriage. I don't have to steal another woman's man!"

Jasmine chimed in, "Isn't it nice to remain single? You'll be free and unfettered."

She had not fallen in love with a man before, so she could not imagine Elisa's pain of not being able to attain her love.

Elisa looked at her and thought of something. Her eyes were still red, but she laughed and said, "Ms. Sox got famous in Wiltspoon for lying down on the ground at Mrs. Dawson's party. "You were really unk. Thinking about it now, you did that on purpose, right? I neard your family has been nagging you to get married."

Jasmine chuckled. "They're much quieter now. My mom and aunt stopped getting together to prattle about which rich gentleman they're going to marry me off to." Elisa laughed. "Your method is truly amazing. Your aunt is probably reluctant to mention you in front of other noble ladies now. I've met your aunt before when I accompanied my mom to banquets. Besides praising her own children, the only other person she talks about is you."

"Fortunately, I managed to break free."

Jasmine remembered that night and smiled smugly.

"By the way, I almost forgot. Jasmine, my husband wants to set you up with his colleague. He's about the same age and apparently is quite handsome. He also has a high salary and a good family background, but he has never dated before because he's too busy with work."

Jasmine said, "...You two are matchmaking me?"

"He casually mentioned it to me. Judging by my husband's description, that man's conditions didn't sound that bad. If you're interested, I'll ask him to arrange a meeting for you, but if you don't want to, I'll help you decline." Jasmine thought about it. This was the first time her best friend and her husband were playing her matchmaker. Furthermore, it was Mr. York's colleague, which meant he was working in York Corporation. Solely based on these facts was enough to determine that this man was a professional elite and not a trust fund kid.

There was no harm in meeting him. She would not let her friend's kind intentions go to waste.

"Does he have any strengths and weaknesses?"

"I've told you about his strengths, so as for his weaknesses, he likes drama and the good ol' gossip. However, I think most people are like that to some extent. When we're out and see a crowd by the roadside, we'll be curious and go over to get in on the scoop."

Serenity paused and added, "He's also talkative and glib tongued."

Elisa teased Jasmine, "Go and meet him, Jasmine. From how Serenity described him, I think this man is quite exceptional. You've probably killed your chances with wealthy families after – your sprawling act at Mrs. Dawson's party, so you should just go for a business elite instead."

"I've never wanted to marry into a rich family, and it's not like I could marry into one even if I wanted to. Although I'm pretty, I'm not exceptionally stunning. It's better to marry an ordinary person, live an ordinary lise, and be happier."

Most outsiders were not aware of what the marriage life of people from wealthy families was like.

Jasmine saw how hard her aunt had it after marrying into a wealthy family. She did not want to follow in her aunt's footsteps.

Elisa was born with a silver spoon, so she knew that better than anyone else. "Actually, it's better to marry someone whose family status matches yours. If the gap is too big, it'll be difficult to reconcile. The feelings of both parties may still run deep at the beginning of the marriage, so they might be able to tolerate each other. However, after a while when the passion diminishes, the problems stemming from the wealth gap would raise their heads. That will end up backfiring on the couple instead. "The exception is if you're extremely exceptional and can stand with power on your own two feet so no one dares to look down on you. My mom often says that if a woman doesn't want to be belittled or bullied after marriage, they either have to be strong themselves, or their maiden family has to be strong."

After a pause, she added, "Some wealthy families don't care about matching statuses and place more importance on fate. Those elders won't forcefully influence their children's marriage. However, such families are few and far in between."

Among the several wealthy families in Wiltspoon, the only family that could do that was the York family.

Elisa knew that her own family could not do it. Her sister—in—law — was bold and daring, but she was also from a wealthy family that was a match for the Stones.

Although Audrey was raised in an orphanage, she was strong enough to conquer Darrell with her personal charm.

Chapter 370

Before Clive had taken over Stone Group, Darrell's voice was weaker than Audrey's. The seniors in the company were more than willing to defer to her.

It was clear what status Audrey held in Stone Group.

"Yes yes yes, I also agree with Elisa."

Jasmine felt that she and Elisa shared the same thoughts.

Her mother and aunt had always wanted her to climb up the social ladder.

Serenity laughed. "That's why I found myself a man with similar status and had never expected to marry into a rich family." Zachary's salary was a little higher than her income, but he was still a salaryman, so they could be considered to be on the same level.

"Since you all say so, ask your husband to arrange the date for me then, Serenity. I'll meet with his colleague. Maybe this is our fate."

"Sure."

Serenity was quite thrilled to be able to help her friend find happiness.

Mrs. Lane was listening in on the trio's conversation about marriage and agreed with Elisa's statement.

Elisa and Serenity got along well, and Elisa did not act like the stereotypical arrogant and haughty wealthy lady. Mrs. Lane felt that the world misunderstood Elisa.

At the same time, she was worried about Serenity.

Elisa had no idea that Serenity was the missus to the heir of the

York family. Even Serenity herself was in the dark too. However, the truth would come to light sooner or later.

When that time comes, what would happen to the two girls who had become friends?

Would they turn against each other?

At that thought, Mrs. Lane felt that Zachary was a bit unethical to hide his identity for so long. Even if he wanted to conceal his identity to observe Serenity's character, it had been almost two months. Was he still doubtful?

However, Mrs. Lane only dared to keep those thoughts to herself and dared not say them out loud.

Beep, beep

Serenity's phone received a WhatsApp message.

She tapped on the app and saw a message sent by Zachary.

He told her that he transferred fifteen thousand to their family living expenses card. He said he received a bonus of thirty thousand and gave her half for living expenses, while he kept the other half for himself.

Serenity: (There's no need to give so much for living expenses.)

Zachary: (Pay for Mrs. Lane's salary using the card.)

Serenity replied with an OK emoji.

The household expenses card was bound to Zachary's bank account. Since he said he transferred the money, Serenity did not check on it.