

Gu Lingfei 751

Chapter 751 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Zachary took the time to answer. Seeing there was a nearby pergola, he walked toward it.

The fake snow around the structure gave an illusion of a winter wonderland.

There was a stone table at the center of the pergola. Zachary scanned the fake snow everywhere, somehow getting the chill of December. He said to Remy, "The fake snow adds a nice touch to the view."

It snowed in Meadspring. By now, the city would drop to freezing temperatures and be covered in a thick blanket of snow.

The closest thing to snowflakes in Wiltspoon was fake snow.

"Well, it's only right to decorate during the festive season. The snow in the estate and on the ski slope is real. Can I interest you in going down the slopes?"

Zachary faintly replied, "I prefer skiing up north."

Remy smiled. "Oh, me too. We can set a time to go together and admire the snow there. What better way to enjoy the view than up north on the slope?"

"It looks like something is on your mind, Mr. York. If I may ask if you're down in the dumps due to a relationship problem?"

Although Remy was single, his keen eye picked up on Zachary's absent-mindedness during his brother's wedding.

Although Zachary had published his relationship on Facebook stories and everybody at York Corporation was aware that he was taken, Zachary had not publicly announced his marriage.

Despite knowing that fact, Remy decided to play dumb until Zachary decided to go public with his marital status.

Looking at Remy, Zachary asked, "Is it that obvious?"

Remy grinned. "People who don't know you well won't notice it since you always keep a deadpan face but that's how you look when you have something on your mind."

"I can lend an ear if you feel you can trust me, but I might not be able to be of help though. I'm single after all."

Remy did not even have a girlfriend.

He once had a crush on a girl sitting in the front of the class during his younger days. He applied to a different college after high school. He kept in touch with the girl in the beginning, but she later got a boyfriend. That was when Remy stopped contacting her.

Over the years, Remy managed the subsidiary of FC & Co. conscientiously while his love life stood nonexistent. He had not met a girl he liked or made his heart flutter.

To Remy, love would happen when it was meant to be.

He believed his time would come.

Love would come when it was least expected, and it could not be forced.

He was waiting to meet the girl who would enter his life out of nowhere.

After a brief silence, Zachary uttered, "I trust you, Mr. Johnson, but as you said, you're single and probably won't understand how torn I am feeling right now. I'm hoping to speak with your brother.

"Can you convey my message to Mr. Young-Johnson?"

Remy answered with a smile, "Sure thing. Do you want to meet my brother now?"

Zachary must have come all the way to FC Manor today to meet with his brother.

"It depends on Mr. Young-Johnson's availability today. I know it's not a good time to bother him considering it's only a day after his wedding."

Zachary understood that his presence was rather untimely and inappropriate.

Out of all the days, he had to visit on the day after Ben's wedding.

Remy looked at the time and responded, "My brother should be free. Let me ask him."

He then pulled out his phone and gave Ben a call.

It did not take long for Ben to pick up.

After Remy conveyed Zachary's wishes to see him, Ben happily agreed to chat privately with Zachary.

Chapter 752 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Ten minutes later, Ben showed up at the pergola.

"Mr. Young-Johnson."

Zachary got up.

"I'm sorry to bother you." Since Zachary was taking a flight back to Wiltspoon tonight, he had to steel himself and intrude on Ben with the little time he had.

Ben smiled. "It's fine. Do sit, Mr. York."

Once Zachary had taken a seat, Ben gave his brother the go-ahead, and Remy told the butler to bring out a pot of tea and snacks.

"I wonder how I can help you, Mr. York."

Blushing in embarrassment, Zachary uttered, "Mr. York, it's something personal. I need your advice on the matter because you and I basically rushed into our marriage."

Ben had no idea Zachary got married on such short notice.

Remy had never informed the family of anything of that sort.

Ben looked at Zachary in surprise.

It was hard to believe that an aloof man like Zachary would choose the path of a whirlwind marriage.

“How long have you been married? Have you fallen in love with your wife?” Ben already had an answer in mind.

Zachary would not be in turmoil, nor would he disturb Ben on the day after his wedding if the former had not fallen head over heels for his woman.

“We’ve been married for three months. She saved my nana’s life. My family was grateful for that fact and wanted to make her time worthwhile. My nana took a shine to her I guess because there haven’t been daughters and granddaughters in the family.”

After a pause, Zachary added, “You can say my family is like yours. We have more boys than girls in the family.

“I had not met her prior to the marriage. Heck, I didn’t know who she was, but I was thankful that she saved Nana. Somehow, everything changed not too long after. Nana only spoke highly of her in front of me, hoping she could become an official member of the family.”

With his mind harking back to his nana’s daily nagging until he relented and signed the marriage papers, Zachary carried on, “Out of all my brothers and cousins except the youngest two, anyone could have married her.

“But Nana specifically named me to marry her. I said no, of course. In fact, I was livid. I believed she was scheming and was trying to gold-dig her way to riches and power under the excuse that she saved my nana’s life. Nana did try to explain that it was all her own idea.

“I didn’t want to hear any of it and made up my mind that she was a gold digger. I told Nana many times not to be fooled, but she wouldn’t listen. As the matriarch of the household, she demanded that I marry her.”

The days leading up to the marriage were a pain in the neck for Zachary.

His nana was the type who would not stop until she got what she wanted.

As Nana had her eye on Serenity and wanted Zachary to marry her, she would drill the thought into Zachary, saying that he could repay Serenity’s life-saving kindness through marriage. His refusal to marry her would label Zachary an ungrateful grandson.

Nana went to lengths to say that.

Zachary was born into privilege. With Nana forcing him into marriage, it would only mar his impression of Serenity further.

Remy poured Zachary and his brother a cup of tea each before filling his own. He indulged in the canapés and savored the tea as Zachary let everything out.

“And you agreed to marry the girl in the end?” Ben asked.

Zachary nodded. "My nana called me ungrateful, so my only choice at that point was to marry her.

"I told the girl the day we got our marriage license that we should keep our marital status under wraps since we did not marry for love. I didn't tell her that I'm the heir of the York family."

Ben got the drift, which was Zachary keeping hush about who he was. It was just like when he had not been honest with Jane about his identity.

Chapter 753 | [Serenity & Zachary]

"How have you two been getting along since getting the marriage license?" Ben pried.

He was swept into a whirlwind marriage with Jane, but they had known each other for eleven years.

At least, they were old acquaintances.

Besides, Ben had his eye on Jane from the very beginning. He had repressed his feelings for her and did not show affection of any kind as she was not of age. Things changed when Jane was pressured by her family to marry—she had to hire him as a boyfriend.

Ben took the chance to set Jane up and make their contractual relationship official.

He and Jane got married knowing each other, but it was different from Zachary who married a complete stranger.

Ben had a yen for some hot gossip.

"I made it clear to my nana before going ahead with the marriage that I could marry her, but it was my business how I managed the marriage thereafter. My nana wasn't to interfere.

"I didn't tell my wife who I was, so I could observe her in her raw moments and see if she was as independent as Nana said she was. At first... we weren't used to having each other around."

It even slipped his mind more than a handful of times that he had a wife.

She too was not accustomed to being someone's spouse.

There had been a few frictions, but they got through them through communication.

"Then you got used to having her around and developed feelings for her after spending time together? It can be scary when you get used to something or someone. They kind of grow on you."

It was hard to lose someone, perhaps even fearful to lose after the person had been present in one's life.

Zachary nodded again.

"Our relationship can't be in a better place now. I admit that I've fallen in love with her."

Well, he said he would never go after Serenity, but here he was.

"I'm conflicted as to whether I should come clean to her about who I really am. Will she be angry and leave me for being honest with her? One more thing, her cousin was my admirer who publicly professed

her love and pursued me. My wife even helped her cousin to win my heart because she was unaware of my identity.”

“Blegh-”

Remy spat out a mouthful of tea.

The two CEOs turned to stare at Remy.

Remy hurriedly pulled a napkin to wipe the table. While clearing his throat, Remy embarrassedly smiled and uttered, “Sorry. Sorry. I couldn’t help myself.”

That was hilarious of the Yorks’ missus. She actually helped her love rival to chase after her husband.

Ben was dying to laugh, but he was able to pull himself together unlike Remy.

“How close are the cousins?”

Zachary answered, “Her cousin only came into the picture recently. She’s Elisa, the heiress of the Stones. Mrs. Stone had been searching for her sister, who is also my mother-in-law. I feel like a deer in headlights to have a cringy and cliché story happening to me in real life.

“My wife’s close to her cousin. I showed off my wedding band to Ms. Stone, and she stopped harassing me once she realized I was married. However, it would take time before she could let go of her feelings for me. Clive met with me after catching on about me and my wife. He wants me to keep it that way because Ms. Stone might not be able to handle the truth.

“I want to be truthful with my wife now, but I fear she might be able to accept it. Worse still if she feels guilty and sorry for Ms. Stone since her cousin likes me.”

Chapter 754 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“Mr. Young-Johnson, you’ve been through this. I need your advice. How did you confess to your wife about your identity? What was your wife’s reaction when she found out? What did you do that she wholeheartedly accepted you without running the risk of external factors?”

Ben finally got to the bottom of Zachary’s internal conflict.

Zachary did not have the guts to come clean because he feared the harm it would bring his wife.

He got himself in a sticky situation with the heiress of the Stones as well.

If handled wrongly, Ms. Stone might get jealous. The cousins may have a fallout or even turn against each other.

It would, in turn, come between Zachary and his wife.

Picking his cup for a sip of tea, Ben said, “Mr. York, my situation is different from yours though. Although my wife and I jumped into marriage right away, I set her up for it. I had a crush on my wife for eleven years. I fooled her into getting a marriage license with me.

“In principle, we did get married in haste, but we were acquainted for eleven years. Jane did not know much about me, but I knew her well. In fact, I had an agenda of my own.

“You and your wife went from strangers to husband and wife, so you knew nothing about each other. I bet you were wary of your wife at the start of your marriage. You might even propose to sign a contract.”

A suspicious flush rose upon Zachary’s handsome face.

They walked the same path for sure. Ben was able to guess about the contract.

Zachary uttered in a husky voice, “I got the wrong idea about my wife and kept my guard up against her for a long time. We signed an agreement, and the content was made to restrict her... The only things she was getting were our marital home and my car once our marriage ended. It was to compensate for her loss of time and energy.”

Ben asked, “Does the contract still exist? Jane and I signed a contract too, but I nullified the agreement. I didn’t want to be restricted by the contract now that I got our names on the marriage license.”

It hit Zachary that he came to the right guy.

He had gotten rid of the contract, so no party was bound by the agreement.

“I burned the contract to ashes and flushed the remains down the toilet. She won’t be able to find the agreement unless she can turn back time.”

Ben laughed. “It sounds like what you’d do.”

He destroyed the contract and made sure no evidence was left behind.

“Jane was shocked when she found out about me. I didn’t tell her about it. My nemesis, Yves, blew my cover. She believed she was out of my league and wanted a divorce.”

Color drained from Zachary’s face.

“How did you convince your wife to not go down that route?”

Ben and Jane were the most loving and adorable couple now.

They also had a baby on the way.

Zachary was envious of Ben and hoped he could successfully get through the marital crisis like Ben. He wanted to grow old together with Serenity and be surrounded by their children and grandchildren.

“I took practical steps to prove there was no gulf between us. I proved to her that my family accepts her for who she is. I went out of my way to show that I really love her and that I could give her happiness. I supported whatever she wanted to do. I would figure out ways to sort out any issue she may have. Gradually, she trusted me more, and I became someone she could count on.

“Of course, I’ve known Jane for over a decade, so it does become easier. You can learn from me, Mr. York, but it’s not an easy path for you since it takes a long time for a relationship and trust to grow.

“Your wife has to face the fact that her cousin likes you sooner or later. I think you should consider what her cousin’s reaction may be. You’re a capable and protective man, Mr. York. I believe you keep your wife out of harm’s way.

“Mr. York, the truth will come out. She’ll find out with time. I personally recommend that you come clean to your wife as soon as possible.”

Chapter 755 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“It’s better you tell her the truth than she realizes it or hears it from someone else.”

Ben had been there.

Jane might not have reacted so strongly if he had been honest with her.

It meant that he trusted her to bare his soul to her.

Since Jane got the news from Yves’ mouth, Jane believed Ben had no confidence in her and walked on eggshells around her. Plus, his mother-in-law was convinced there was a social gap between them. Worried Jane would be treated like dirt by the Johnsons, his mother-in-law was once against the marriage.

“She’ll take it that you trust her if it comes from your mouth, but the moment she finds out from someone else... She’ll be angrier by the minute, thinking the whole world but she knows about it. The deceit won’t sit well with her. In fact, she’ll conclude it to be a lack of trust and confidence.

“Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.”

With Serenity’s temper coming into mind, Zachary timidly uttered, “I sounded her out to see under what circumstances she would leave me. She said she’ll go for divorce if I ever cheat, abuse, or lie to her multiple times.

“I started off with a lie, but I had to make up more stories to cover up for that one lie. I have lied to her multiple times. I even told her I was away on business to attend your wedding.”

Ben replied, “I’d still recommend coming clean to her. I can’t guarantee how your wife would react to it though. We both might be quick to sign the marriage papers, but our situations are different.

“Mr. York, you can’t escape what’s to come. You might as well face it head-on.”

Zachary fell silent.

“Maybe you can go back and have a think about it. You can pick a good time and date and be truthful to her in a different way.”

After much thought, Zachary thanked Ben. “Thank you for your advice, Mr. Young- Johnson. I’ll examine my options.”

Ben uttered with a smile, “We’re all human. I’m sure your sincerity will touch her heart. Besides, you’re already a couple, and you’ve developed feelings for each other. You’re conflicted now, but she’ll feel the same regardless of her decisions when she finds out who you are.

It was easier to fall in love than out of it.

Rarely anyone was a master of their own emotions when it came to love.

Zachary expressed his gratitude to Ben once more.

“Don’t mention it, Mr. York. You can talk to me if you encounter any more problems. Although my wedding was yesterday, I have gotten the marriage license for a while now. I’ve been through it, so I have more experience than you newlyweds.

“I hope you can bring along your wife next time, Mr. York. I believe my wife will be happy to have a friend.”

Zachary knew a little about Jane’s history. Jane was friendly and did not put on airs like the missus of a wealthy family. It was good for Serenity to make friends with someone like Jane.

“I’ll bring my wife for a visit if an opportunity arises.”

Ben remarked with a grin, “You can make opportunities happen, Mr. York.”

An opportunity would not exist if Mr. York did not wish to make the trip.

Zachary rose to his feet. “I’ve been a bother today, Mr. Young–Johnson. I’ll take you around Wiltspoon and buy you dinner if you ever go there.”

Ben looked at his brother and said teasingly, “You can buy me dinner anytime anywhere, but if you know a nice girl, please set Remy up for a date. He’s flying out of the radar by permanently staying in Wiltspoon, and I rarely fly there. I don’t have many connections to introduce anyone to him.

“The senior of my family is worried if he’ll ever meet a girl.”

Remy was neck–deep into the gossip until he was suddenly pulled into the picture. His brother even asked Zachary to set him up on a date. Remy jumped in. “Ben, Lee and Tim are single and older than I am. You should start with them, not me.”

Ben answered, “They’re in Annenburg, so we don’t have trouble pushing them to take the major step. You, on the other hand, are heading back to Wiltspoon after New Year. We know nothing about your social life there. That’s why we need to seek Mr. York’s help with it.

“Tim’s out anyway. He’s got his eye on a girl, and you’ll probably get yourself another sister–in–law in no time.”

Chapter 756 | [Serenity & Zachary]

The seniors of the Johnson family were most worried about Lee and Remy.

Lee and Remy had different mothers, so the age gap between these brothers was not huge.

Remy was well past the statistical age of marriage among ordinary people. Many men of Remy’s age were fathers of two children by now.

Zachary uttered apologetically, “I would help matchmake Mr. Johnson if I could, but I don’t know many young girls. I might not be of much help, but I can ask my wife to keep an eye out, or I can let my nana know. She’s checking out girls for my brothers anyway. I could ask her to introduce a girl to Mr. Johnson too.”

Remy was at a loss for words.

He had never met Old Mrs. York, but stories that the old lady was young at heart and broadminded had traveled far.

Old Mrs. York should be credited for Zachary's marriage with Serenity.

"Thank Old Mrs. York for me."

Ben believed it would be hard for Zachary to play matchmaker for Remy. Zachary and Tim were the same kinds of people—they could not be depended on to find a girl as they steered clear of young women.

The chances would increase if Old Mrs. York lent a hand. The old lady had a lot of worldly experience, and she had an eye for people. Old Mrs. York would be able to find Remy a wife for sure.

"My nana will be glad to be of assistance."

The old lady loved to play matchmaker.

Remy remarked, "Ben... shouldn't you ask for my opinion?"

"You'll be informed when a date is set up."

Remy was speechless.

Before Ben got married, he got the family off his brothers' backs about marriage because he was unmarried himself. They had it easy then.

Now that Ben was married, not only did Ben not ward off the urging, but he was also on Team Marriage.

Ben should be pushing Lee instead.

After all, Lee was a tad older than Remy.

Lee would have gritted his teeth if he learned what was on Remy's mind.

Zachary's mind flew to Elisa. Elisa and Remy...

He thought Elisa and Remy made a cute couple, but considering Elisa's undying feelings for Zachary, it would not be appropriate to pair Elisa and Remy together. What would Remy and Ben think?

After much thought, Zachary decided against suggesting Elisa.

He thanked Ben and Remy before leaving FC Manor together with his security detail. Remy and Ben saw him off at the door.

With Zachary gone, Ben said, "I can't believe a guy like Mr. York would be troubled by love. He has always been decisive and doesn't waste time dwelling on things."

Remy chimed in, "There's a lot of uncertainty when it comes to love. The more he cares about his wife, the more he hesitates."

Ben cocked his head and looked at his brother.

Sensing danger, Remy uttered, "That reminds me. I need to take care of business. Got to go, Ben."

With that, Remy slipped away.

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Zachary did not stay in Annenburg for long after leaving FC Manor. He flew back to Wiltspoon on the same day. He did not inform Serenity of his flight to surprise her with his return.

While on the road, Zachary deliberated about Ben's advice.

Ben suggested that he come clean to Serenity about everything.

Elisa's feelings should not be in his consideration.

It was Elisa's business that she loved Zachary. It was not as if Zachary flirted with her.

God knew how long before Zachary could let Serenity know about his identity if he waited until Elisa let go of her feelings as Clive mentioned.

Besides, Elisa meant nothing to Zachary.

Why should he listen to Clive?

It was only a matter of time before Serenity and Elisa's possible fallout. There was no avoiding it.

Zachary should pick a special day when Serenity was happy, to be honest about who he was...

"Jim," Zachary called out solemnly.

"Sir," Jim respectfully responded, on standby for Mr. Zachary's instructions.

"What days are special?"

Jim was confused.

What days were special?

How special was Mr. Zachary talking about?

He gave it a thought before asking to clarify, "Special in what way, Sir?"

"Um... What days are special to lovers? Something that's easy to remember and makes someone happy."

From there, Jim knew Mr. Zachary was talking about the missus.

He replied, "Wedding anniversaries, birthdays, and Valentine's Day are occasions lovers tend to celebrate."

Jim then added, "Sir, I don't have a girlfriend or any experience in this, so I don't know if I got it right."

Zachary glanced at him. "What? Are you trying to get my help in finding a girlfriend?"

Jim immediately uttered, "Not at all, Sir."

It was not as though Mr. Zachary could find him a girlfriend if he asked.

Old Mrs. York was the one who helped Mr. Zachary ditch the single life.

“Wedding anniversary...”

Zachary murmured. When did he and Serenity get the marriage license again?

He did not seem to recall now.

Uh, oh. Zachary could not even remember their wedding anniversary. He should pull out the marriage license from the safe to check the date when he got back. He intended to engrave the date in his mind so he would never forget it again.

That was the day he and Serenity got married.

Zachary had no idea when Serenity’s birthday was either.

Uh, oh.

He talked about loving Serenity, but he did not even know the day Serenity was born.

Zachary caught a glimpse of her birthdate when they were applying for the marriage license. However, he did not think it was important to remember.

Still, he believed he saved her birthdate somewhere in his phone.

Zachary immediately checked his phone for Serenity’s birthday and found it, but it was in September.

It was too long of a wait to be truthful about everything.

Although he could not remember when he got married, Zachary knew it was somewhere in October.

So, the wedding anniversary was an even longer wait.

Should he try... Valentine’s Day then?

Valentine’s Day was nearing.

“Sir, your wedding anniversary is on the 10th of October.”

Chapter 758 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Jim reminded Mr. Zachary.

Mr. Zachary did not pay any attention to the missus at the time, so the security team had to remember the missus’s name for him. Jim and his team had to remind Mr. Zachary all the time.

Jim would not count on Mr. Zachary to remember a day like the wedding anniversary.

Mr. Zachary was not the least bit romantic.

Zachary asked, “Are you sure it’s October the 10th?”

“I remember it because of the same digits.”

It made sense to Zachary now that he thought about it.

“A quick check on the marriage license should confirm it.”

Seeing that Zachary was in a better mood, Jim boldly asked, “Sir, are you planning to give the missus a surprise?”

“Are you expecting me to throw you a surprise too?”

Jim replied, “I’ll get more of a horror than a surprise, Sir.”

Zachary shot him a glare.

Jim bit his tongue.

Since Serenity did not receive any message of Zachary’s return, she went Christmas shopping with her sister.

Zachary was taking Serenity back to his family home for New Year, so Serenity should prepare some gifts for her in-laws.

It was a polite thing to do.

“I don’t know what they’re into, Liberty, but I guess I can get some ideas of what you used to prepare for Hank’s parents.”

As Serenity and her sister only had each other for years, she was there to witness her sister’s relationship with Hank from start to finish. Serenity knew what Liberty usually gave her in-laws for Christmas.

Liberty replied, “Sounds good.”

She had given expensive and plenty of gifts to Hank and his parents in the past.

Although Hank was cheap with her, he was very generous with his family.

Hank would lash out at Liberty if she did not give enough.

“Dad. Dad.”

Sitting in the shopping cart, Sonny burst out in happy screams.

“Mom, Dad.”

Sonny called for Hank before turning around to tell Liberty. He even pointed Hank out.

Hearing Sonny’s cries, Hank took notice of Liberty and her sister.

He wanted to head on over.

Next to him, Jessica immediately pulled him back.

“What are you doing? Can’t keep it together because you saw your ex-wife?” Jessica whispered in Hank’s ear before turning her attention to Liberty and her sister.

Liberty had been keeping up with the weight loss program and lost another ten pounds lately. Of course, she was still at a plump size at a hundred and seventy pounds.

Nevertheless, shedding thirty pounds showed a definitive change in Liberty.

Looking at Liberty slimming down, Jessica was reminded by the talk in the office that Liberty once had a hot body and face before walking down the aisle. It was plain to see from Sonny's good looks.

Sonny got his mother's beauty.

Liberty did not watch her figure after marriage and became big. The fats ruined all her assets.

Would Hank rekindle his feelings for Liberty if Liberty succeeded in her weight loss and regained her looks?

Jessica's future mother-in-law and sister-in-law would brag about how good Liberty was while putting Jessica down. Jessica was worried Hank would go back to his ex- wife.

Liberty was once an outstanding woman.

"What are you saying, Jessica? I was going there to see my son. Sonny is my son, you know."

Hank helplessly added, "Jessica, I got a divorce and gave up on Sonny's custody rights for you. Can't I give him a hug now that he's here?"

Jessica used to be sensible and understanding.

Now, Hank found her to be paranoid and fussing over the tiniest thing

Chapter 759 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Following Hank's words, Jessica said, "I'm not saying you can't give your son a hug. I just don't want you to go alone. I need to be with you."

She intimately wrapped her hands around Hank's arm.

Hank dabbed her forehead amid chuckles. "Silly girl. Don't be jealous. I divorced her because I wasn't in love with her. Don't listen to my mom and sister. I won't get back together with Liberty."

His mother and sister believed Liberty would be a huge help to his career since Liberty now had a wealthy aunt.

Hank had to say that things were not working out for him at Waltham Electronics, but he would not leave so long as his boss did not fire him or take away his perks.

He also upped the kickbacks to earn more prior to leaving the company.

Hank needed a lot of money since he was about to marry Jessica.

Although Liberty welcomed a wealthy aunt in her life, her aunt never offered a helping hand. In fact, Liberty used Hank's money from the divorce to rent a place to set up a restaurant.

Her aunt did not contribute a single penny and had no say in where the money went since it belonged to her.

It was the same thing when it came to parents giving their wealth to their children- they were not obligated to.

That was why people should depend on themselves to make money.

Serenity and her sister watched amusedly as Jessica affectionately held Hank's arm as Hank pushed his shopping cart toward them.

Was Jessica showing off her claim on Hank?

Only Jessica would think a two-timer like Hank was worth holding onto.

"Dad."

Seeing that his father was here, Sonny gleefully greeted him.

Liberty was not too pleased. Sonny was never enthusiastic about seeing Hank like right now before the divorce.

After the divorce, the little man would be very happy to see Hank.

Did absence make the heart grow fonder?

Hank only stopped when his shopping cart was about to bump into Serenity and Liberty's cart. He and Jessica peered into Liberty's cart and found gifts filled to the brim.

There were a few wine bottles worth thousands and a few boxes of branded cigars.

Pulling a long face, Hank questioned Liberty, "It's just you and Sonny. Why do you need to buy so much stuff? You always spend lavishly. Let me put it out there. We don't owe each other anything. Don't come to me looking for money when you've spent it all.

"One more thing—Although I've given a year's worth of alimony for Sonny in advance, you must provide me with a list of expenditures to prove the money went to my son.

"You can keep in contact with Jessica if you don't want to add my number. You can send the list to Jessica every last day of the month starting next year. I can have a look—see."

"It should stop you from spending money needlessly."

Hank could not break the habit of criticizing Liberty.

It was not something he could change even after the divorce.

There were a lot of expensive items in Liberty's shopping cart. The total amount was roughly more than ten thousand dollars.

It hurt Hank to see his money disappear. Worse, he had to give a million to Liberty, and the latter was spending it everywhere.

The mother and son did not require a lot for Christmas.

Even if the items were gifts for someone else, who could Liberty give them to? It was only the Stone family.

As the second wealthiest family in Wiltspoon, the Stones had everything they needed. Liberty did not need to spend so much on gifts for them.

Chapter 760 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“You got it wrong, Mr. Brown. I’m the one buying the gifts for my in-laws, not my sister.”

Serenity offhandedly added, “Even if my sister’s buying gifts, she’s not spending your money. Nobody wants your two cents.”

To think Hank expected her sister to make a note of every expense for Sonny’s upkeep.

Hank was a loser for sure!

Mrs. Brown had the nerve to persuade Liberty to get back together with Hank. Did

Mrs. Brown think her son was the last man left on earth?

It was freaking hilarious.

“Yours? Why are you getting your in-laws so much?”

Hank was surprised.

He thought the sisters would be preparing gifts for the Stones.

It never crossed his mind that Serenity was getting gifts for her in-laws.

Tch. Serenity turned out to be quite generous.

Come to think about it, where did Serenity get the money from? Did she ask her sister for money to buy Christmas gifts?

“I can get as many as I want. It’s none of your business. You can let the lady next to you know if you’re jealous. Tell her to learn from me and be generous to spend some cash on the in-laws. Only the best for the in-laws, am I right?”

Hank turned to Jessica.

Jessica was fuming.

She had a bit of savings since she had been in the workforce for many years. Her parents and brothers knew nothing about it, and Jessica wanted to keep it that way in case her parents would take her money to give to her brothers.

Jessica would not even spend her money on her family, so why would she splurge on the Browns?

“Hank and I aren’t married. I’m not part of the Brown family yet.”

As Jessica was reluctant to present her in-laws with gifts, she stuck to her story that she had not married into the family yet.

Liberty glanced at Hank and curled a fake smile. "I'd give your parents and sister expensive gifts even before we were married. Your parents praised me, calling me sensible and well-mannered."

In other words, Jessica was not sensible and well-mannered to skimp on the gifts.

Jessica felt a rush of blood to her head.

The fat cow was taunting her.

She snapped a biting remark, "Well, you may be sensible and well-mannered, but Hank dumped you anyway."

Unfazed by the sarcasm, Liberty smiled. "I wasn't dumped. I asked for a divorce because he was tainted. Ms. Yates, I should thank you. I wouldn't be able to get rid of him if you didn't take over. You got him, and I got a wad of cash out of it. I'm living the life now.

"Life has never been better!"

Liberty had it easy after leaving Hank. At least, she no longer had to wait on Hank's hand and foot or deal with her parents-in-law. She escaped her mother-in-law and sister-in-law's nitpicking.

With the Browns' characters coming to mind, Jessica had to admit that Liberty did the right thing by leaving Hank and staying away from his family.

"Hank and I are getting married on Valentine's Day."

Changing the topic, Jessica began bragging to Liberty about getting her happy ending with Hank.

"Hank's giving my parents a lump sum of 777,777 dollars. You tore the previous house down, but it's a good thing because I didn't like the design. I'm going to have our marital home renovated. Hank said my name will be on the title deed. "I'll have access to his bank account too, unlike you who had to split everything."