

Kissed AOM 1821

Chapter 1821

The situation was getting tense, and Joey could not sit still any longer. He tried to open the car door, only to realize that Corinne had locked it.

Thus, he could only roll down the window, leaned out, and shouted, "Mommy... Mommy! I'll apologize to them. Please don't fight with them! There are too many of them! I'll apologize..."

While she braced herself to face the challenge, Corinne softened at the sound of her son's voice. She turned toward Joey and sternly said, "No, you're not going to apologize! I told you to never apologize for something you didn't do! Now roll the window back up and take good care of Bryan and Christine!"

Joey's eyes reddened; he did not want to see Corinne getting bullied.

Bryan and Christine, too, grew anxious. They wanted to get out of the car to protect Corinne with Joey!

Unfortunately, one of the robust women grabbed Corinne's hair while she was distracted.

"Mommy! No! Don't hurt my mommy!" shouted the three kids in unison.

Corinne quickly reacted and fought back, but she was vastly outnumbered.

Just as the women were about to beat her up, a loud bang pierced the air, followed by another.

Bang, bang, bang!

The sound of consecutive bangs filled the air, and smoke began to swirl around.

The women were taken aback, momentarily letting go of Corinne as they glanced around in shock.

'What's happening? What was all that noise?'

Out of nowhere, a convoy of large SUVs drove in and mercilessly ran into the cars.

Witnessing his rented cars getting damaged, Terry began to panic. "Who's behind this? Where did these drivers come from? Are they blind?! Why are they smashing into my cars?! You better come down and explain yourself if you're half the man you are!"

It was not clear who was to blame, but anyone with common sense could tell it was not an accident-it was on purpose.

'Oh no! How am I going to pay for all these damaged cars?' fretted Terry. Sure, they had money, but it was not like they were so wealthy that these kinds of expenses did not matter to them!

While he was overwhelmed by how to deal with the situation, one of the SUVs abruptly crashed into the group of black sedans.

Crash! Bang! Crunch!

Following a series of explosive sounds, the SUV came to a stop beside Corinne's car.

The door then swung open, and a tall, handsome man stepped out.

Corinne who was tidying her hair which had been messed up by those burly women-was caught off-guard and stunned when she unexpectedly saw Jeremy.

'Where... Where did he come from? Wasn't he supposed to be heading back to Molomia?' Corinne wondered.

Terry walked over, demanding answers. "It's you, isn't it? You wrecked so many of my cars! You've got to pay for this, you crazy jerk! Do you even know how much those cars are worth?!"

Chapter 1822

Jeremy glared daggers at Terry, who broke out in a nervous sweat. 'Who...is he? Why does he look so intimidating?' wondered Terry.

Once Jeremy's eyes shifted away from the father and landed on Corinne, the grimness in his gaze softened. He arched an eyebrow and opened his hands slightly. "Did you miss me?"

Corinne looked at him, her clear eyes on the verge of welling up with tears, but her tone still lacked warmth. "Where have you been? Why didn't you reply to my messages?"

Jeremy walked up to her and wrapped his arm around her waist to pull her into a warm embrace. He then rested his chin on her shoulder and answered softly, "I threw away my phone to avoid being tracked. After escaping from the airport yesterday, I had to take care of some things. I'm sorry for being late again."

Corinne thumped his chest and said in a choking voice, "You jerk! I thought..."

She thought he had gone back to Molomia without so much as saying goodbye to her.

Jeremy, knowing what Corinne wanted to say, patted her back gently. "I'll never leave you again."

Corinne finally let her guard down. This embrace, which she had waited for three years, was something she thought she might never experience again.

Everything felt surreal to her at that moment. Was this a dream? Once she woke up, he would not be there anymore...

"Hey! Enough with the PDA! How are you going to pay me back for the damages you did to my cars?!"

As fearful as he was of Jeremy, Terry still could not contain his anger at the sight of his wrecked vehicles.

His angry outburst brought Jeremy and Corinne out of their emotional reunion. They were still holding each other but with a slight distance between them. Both of them shifted their attention to the irate man. Jeremy's eyes narrowed slightly. Ignoring the yelling man, he lowered his gaze and asked Corinne softly, "Who's that guy?"

Corinne frowned. Long gone was the tough-woman act as she clung to Jeremy's waist and said helplessly, "He and his son are nothing but thugs! He bullied me while his son bullied Joey! It's only fair to beat him!"

Jeremy nodded and said dotingly, "Alright, let's beat him up, then."

Terry was clearly annoyed by their lovey-dovey act. "Hey! Are you two done yet? I don't have time to waste on this mushy stuff!"

Jeremy spared Terry not even a glance. He stroked Corinne's cheek gently. "Wait for me in the car, okay?"

Corinne nodded and did as she was told. She shooed away the three curious little heads poking out, saying, "Close the window. Don't let blood splatter in."

"Who said you could get in the car, you b*tch! Stop right there-agh!" Terry rushed forward, trying to prevent Corinne from getting into the car. However, Jeremy grabbed him by the neck before he could reach her.

It was already too late by the time Terry realized what was happening. His face was turning purple from the lack of oxygen.

"I heard you bullied my wife?"

Terry instinctively tried to push away the powerful hand on his neck, but the overwhelming strength made it impossible for him to break free. He wished to move his head, yet he found himself immobile and could not utter a single word.

At the critical moment, Jeremy suddenly released his grip on the man's neck. However, in the brief moment he took a breath, Jeremy launched one deadly punch after another.

"Ah! Ah! Ugh!"

The continuous screams and the blood on the ground terrified the burly women who had come with Terry. They all scattered in fear.

Tonny, the only one left, wailed as he witnessed his father being beaten brutally.

Inside the car, Corinne and the kids watched the scene outside through the window in silence.

Chapter 1823

Joey and Bryan knew Jeremy as their father, so as Jeremy beat up Terry, the two boys watched in a mix of astonishment and excitement, occasionally letting out a cheer.

As for Christine, it was her first time meeting Jeremy. Even so, she watched him with a blend of admiration and curiosity.

Corinne, however, watched in her usual calm demeanor. She yawned lazily, thinking that Jeremy was taking too long.

When Terry was left crawling on the ground and unable to get up, Jeremy finally felt a sting in his fists. He pulled a handkerchief from his chest pocket and wiped his hands before disdainfully tossing it onto the man on the ground.

"The name is Holden, Jeremy Holden. Feel free to find me anytime if you want to have another go with me."

Terry's eyes widened in horror when he heard the name.

'What! Jeremy Holden?! So that woman is his wife? No wonder I couldn't find anything on them. This explains everything! Oh crap, I messed up this time. I should count my blessings that he didn't beat me to a pulp!' he thought.

With the matter settled, Jeremy turned to head toward Corinne's car.

Just then, a familiar voice called out from behind. "Hey, Jeremy! What about this little guy? You're not taking him?"

Jeremy turned to see his longtime friends Zeke and Gerald each stepping out of the other SUVs. Zeke was carrying Benjamin in his arms.

Jeremy was in so much of a hurry to get to Corinne that he had forgotten all about Benjamin.

Jeremy walked up to Zeke and took Benjamin out of his arms. "You two can head back for now. We'll catch up another day."

"Hey, screw you, man! You showed up after missing for three years and asked us to help you find Corinne, and now you're dismissing us without even buying us a meal?" questioned Zeke.

Gerald shrugged and nodded with his arms crossed. He rarely agreed with Zeke, and this was one of those times.

Jeremy could not bother to deal with them, so he just said coldly, "I said, I'll catch up with you guys another day."

After that, he turned and got into Corinne's car with Benjamin.

Zeke clicked his tongue, wanting to tease him a bit more, but Gerald pulled him back.

"Gerald, why are you stopping me? He needs to know it's bros before h*es!"

"Enough! Save it for another day. Can't you see he's in a hurry now? Come on, I'll buy you a meal."

Zeke glanced at Gerald. "Why?"

"I know you've been eyeing the two fine wines I have this morning."

"Well, in that case... Don't mind if I do!" Zeke chuckled, shrugged, and followed Gerald to their cars.

After settling Benjamin with the other three kids, Jeremy signaled with his eyes for Corinne to take the passenger seat while he took the driver seat.

Jeremy drove away from the unhappy place. After covering a short distance, he pulled over under a large tree by the roadside.

"Why are we stopping? Did the car run out of gas?" asked Corinne with a frown.

Jeremy did not immediately respond to her question. Instead, he turned and ordered the kids sternly, "Close your eyes, all of you."

Chapter 1824

The kids exchanged confused glances before obediently covering their eyes with their hands.

"We can't see anything!" they chorused in unison.

Corinne looked back at the kids, then shot Jeremy an annoyed glance. "Why did you ask them to close their eyes? What, are you trying to do a magic trick-mpf!"

Jeremy lifted her chin and kissed her deeply before she could finish her sentence.

Blushing, Corinne thumped him on the chest and tried to push him away.

'What the heck is he doing? We shouldn't be doing this in front of the kids! How could he...'

Jeremy refused to let her go. He moved his hand from her chin to the back of her head so that he could press her closer to him. The longing they had for each other exploded inside them in that instant.

The kids peeked at them through the gaps between their fingers, thinking, 'Mommy's being kissed. Hehe!'

Jeremy only let go when he saw Corinne near tears. He planted one last kiss on her lips before saying solemnly, "Little rascal, I'm back."

Corinne was slightly panting while tears streaked down her flushed cheeks. She wiped the corner of her lips with her arm before saying, "You... You shameless jerk! I don't want to talk to you right now. Drive us home this instant!"

Jeremy was amused at her rarely-seen shy side. 'My, she's still as cute as ever!' he thought.

"As you wish, my dear wife."

He then started the car engine and continued on their way.

Corinne was not really embarrassed about the kiss. She just did not want the kids to see her crying.

She wanted to explain herself to the kids but did not know how. Thus, she looked out of the window to collect her racing thoughts.

Jeremy took a glance at the kids through the rearview mirror and said gently, "Okay. You guys can look now."

The kids took their hands off their eyes and beamed cutely at him.

Corinne scoffed and said, "Huh! Do you really think they saw nothing?"

Jeremy smirked. "So what if they did?"

Still blushing, Corinne frowned and said, "You can be shameless all you want, but don't drag me into it! Do it again, and I'll kick you out!" "Alright, alright. I won't do it again."

I'll make sure they're somewhere else before I kiss you again, okay?" asked Jeremy with a laugh.

Corinne rolled her eyes at him. "Whatever."

Soon, they arrived home.

The few servants sweeping up the yard thought nothing of it when they saw Corinne's car. They just assumed Corinne had come back with the kids. When they saw Jeremy stepping out of the car, however, they froze in shock,

The first to react threw down his broom and ran into the mansion, shouting, "M...Mister Jeremy is back! Mister Jeremy is back!"

Jeremy kept all of his attention on Corinne as he followed her into the mansion.

Pamela and Greg instantly came running when they heard the servant shouting.

"J...Jeremy!" Pamela and Greg cried when they saw him.

"Where have you been all these years?!"

"You're finally back!"

Jeremy walked up to comfort his grandparents.

Chapter 1825

Corinne quietly brought the kids upstairs to give Jeremy and his grandparents some space.

Once back in their room, Corinne sat on the sofa.

Christine walked up to her and asked, "Mommy, is that man my daddy?"

Corinne looked at her and nodded. "Yup. Do you like him?"

Christine frowned in consternation. "I don't know 'cause I don't know him. Though, if you like him, then I like him, too."

Corinne raised an eyebrow. "Do you think I like him?"

Christine nodded. "Yeah! I think you really like him."

Corinne was a little stunned. She pulled her little daughter into her arms and rubbed her cheek against hers. "What makes you think I really like him?" "Because you let him kiss him! You wouldn't have done that if you didn't like him," answered Christine with shiny eyes.

"Oh... So you did see us kissing," said Corinne with a dejected air.

"Hehe! I wasn't the only one who saw it. Joey and Bryan saw it as well!"

Corinne pinched the bridge of her nose. 'D*mn it! They're never going to take me seriously now.'

Not wanting to continue the embarrassing topic, she said, "Why don't you go over there and play? Mommy wants to be alone for a while."

"Okay!" Christine jumped down from Corinne's lap and ran over to play with her three brothers.

Corinne leaned back on the sofa and put her hand on her forehead. It all still felt like a dream to her. 'Jeremy is back... He's here, home with us! He must be talking to his grandparents now... I wonder how long that will take.'

Corinne had so many questions to ask him, but her emotions were all over the place, so she did not know where she should start.

There was a knock on the door just when she was zoning out.

'Ha... I see he's learned how to knock after being away for so long,' thought Corinne. After all, Jeremy usually just barged in whether or not she gave her permission.

She got up and went to open the door, but it was not Jeremy standing outside.

"Ma'am, Mister Jeremy asked me to look after the kids so you can go to his study to find him," said the maid happily.

Corinne nodded. "Okay."

She did not go straight to the study but went back to her room to change.

She had taken over Jeremy's study over the years. On the days when she especially missed him, she would sit quietly inside.

Thus, she found it hard to describe what she was feeling when the person she missed the most reappeared in the study.

It just so happened she had many questions to ask him, so it would be better to talk in the study to avoid interruptions from the kids.

She was about to open the study door when she suddenly stopped. After some hesitation, she decided to knock instead.

A second later, the door opened and she was pulled inside. What greeted her next was his cold aura and hot kisses.

Corinne was startled by the kiss, but she gave up struggling after thumping his chest twice.

'He hasn't changed at all. He still loves to kiss me just like before...'

Jeremy slowly moved from her lips to her chin, then to her neck. He then lifted her chin so he could cover more skin area.

Suddenly, a sharp pain brought Corinne out of her enjoyment. Thinking she should not let him mess around anymore, she frowned and pushed him away. "That's enough!"

Jeremy stopped kissing her, but he did not let her go. He kept his arms tightly wrapped around her as he snuggled against the crook of her neck. "No, it's still not enough."

Chapter 1826

"Hey, what are you doing?!" said Corinne. It felt really ticklish for Jeremy to be rubbing his face against her neck.

Jeremy straightened himself and rested his chin on her head.

"What do you think I'm doing?" he asked in a breathy tone.

Their noses were so close together, and it looked like he was about to kiss her again when Corinne quickly put a finger to his lips.

"No," she said sternly with a frown.

"Why not?" asked Jeremy pitifully.

Corinne glared at him. "Do you really think now's the time to be doing this? Let me go. I have a lot of questions to ask you."

Jeremy reluctantly let her go. "I'm not going anywhere. Can it wait?"

Jeremy's reasoning nearly made Corinne cave in, but she mustered all of her willpower to stay rational.

"No! I'm not going anywhere either, so we can have se..."

She was too shy to finish the sentence. In fact, her face had turned beet red by then.

Jeremy laughed and rested his cheek against hers. "Yes? Go on. What can we do later?" he asked dotingly.

Corinne used all of her strength to push him away. "Nothing! Behave yourself!"

Finally, Jeremy let her go but not physically. He was willing to push his agenda aside, but not her body.

He picked her up, sat down on the office chair, and placed her on his lap.

"Okay, we'll do what we want later. So, what do you want to ask me?" he asked as he looked at her like she was the most precious thing in the whole world.

Corinne's mind became even more chaotic sitting in Jeremy's lap. She had no idea where to begin her questions.

"L...Let me go! I can't t-think straight like this."

Jeremy did not share her sentiment. He rubbed his cheek against hers again. "Why not? It's not like I'm stopping you from thinking. Or is it because your mind is elsewhere? Say, the bedroom where we can-" Corinne frowned and pushed his handsome face away. "No! It's not like that. Listen, 'cause I'm going to ask you the first question now. Does Sophia know that you've run away?"

Hatred flashed across Jeremy's eyes at the mention of Sophia's name. "She didn't know yesterday, but she should know by now."

Corinne's eyes darkened. "Then what are you going to do next?"

Meanwhile, back in the hotel, Sophia had just woken up. After crashing Annie's wedding the previous day, she went to drink at a bar.

She rarely drank when Jeremy was around as he did not like her drinking. He would always give her the silent treatment and actively avoid her whenever he caught her drinking. Thus, not wanting him to hate her, she stayed off alcohol.

She felt so much more at ease after sending Zachary back to Molomia. At least, in the short term, she did not have to worry about Corinne stealing Jeremy from her.

Her mansion in Molomia was heavily guarded. Even if Corinne went there, she would never be able to step foot inside, let alone take Jeremy away.

Sophia should feel happy and relaxed because she won, but for some reason, she felt a tightness in her chest. Thus, she went to the bar and drank copious amounts of alcohol.

She used to be a party girl in the past. She had a lot of friends and would often go clubbing until the early morning with them.

However, she stopped going out with her friends after she abducted Jeremy; she feared he would be gone if she went out for a long time. Gradually, her old friends stopped contacting her.

Chapter 1827

'I've changed so much for him, so why does he still hate me? Why does he still treat me so coldly? What did I do wrong? I'm just as good, if not better, than Corinne! Why? Why? Why?!' thought Sophia bitterly. She used to firmly believe she would be able to make Jeremy fall in love with her if given enough time. However, reality proved her wrong. He was never going to fall in love with her, no matter what she did or how long they had been together.

Even so, she refused to let him go. She was not going to let all of the effort of stealing him and the three years making him fall in love with her be wasted.

Most importantly, she did not believe any man in the world was better than Jeremy. Only he was worthy enough of being her husband.

With a stomach full of anger, resentment, and stubbornness, Sophia drove to the bar and drank until she passed out. In the end, Adam's men had to carry her back to the hotel.

She had a splitting headache when she woke up. She looked at the time and realized it was around nine in the morning.

'That means I haven't slept for a long time since I came back around dawn... But why did I wake up so early? It's not like I have to make breakfast for Zachary... Wait a minute, I think I was woken up by some noise...'

At that moment, her phone rang again. She scratched her messy hair and picked up her phone to answer it.

"Thank god, Miss Sophia! You've finally answered your phone!" said the servant in Molomia.

Sophia yawned and said, "Yeah. So what's up? Have you picked up Zachary and Benjamin?"

"No. Miss Sophia, did you by any chance give us the wrong flight details? We waited at the airport for a long time and even checked the immigration records, but there was no record of Mister Zachary and Benjamin coming into the country!"

"What?!" Sophia instantly woke up. "What did you say? That's impossible! I personally dropped him off at the airport yesterday. Check the immigration records again!"

"We did! Many times! And there's no record of them! I kept calling you, but you didn't answer your phone. I got our people to look into the matter, and I'm telling you: Mister Zachary didn't get on the plane! Why don't you give him a call to see where he is?"

Sophia's world spun as she felt dread bubbling in her stomach.

'Zachary didn't get on the plane. There's no record of him going into Molomia, either. Where did he go? Where could he have gone in his crippled state? I saw them going into the plane with my own eyes. I even arranged for Dad's men to sit next to them, so how could they vanish?'

She quickly hung up the phone and called Jeremy's number. However, it went straight to voicemail.

'Sh*t! He must've switched off his phone! This can't be good,' thought Sophia. She rushed to find Adam in his suite.

She kept banging on the door until Adam opened it. "What the hell is wrong with you?! Why are you banging on my door this early in the morning?" he asked irritably.

Sophia paid no mind to Adam's attitude as she had more important things to worry about.

"Dad! Zachary's gone! He didn't go back to Molomia. Call your men now and ask them where Zachary is! Hurry!" begged Sophia anxiously.

Adam frowned with surprise. "What? He's gone?"

Chapter 1828

"Yes! Zachary's gone! He didn't go back to Molomia," repeated Sophia tearfully.

Adam thought about what Sophia said with furrowed eyebrows. He then turned and went back to his suite.

Sophia quickly followed him in. "Say something, Dad! Can't you see I'm panicking here?!"

Adam picked up a glass of water and sipped before saying slowly, "What do you want me to say?"

Sophia stomped. "Call the men who are supposed to keep an eye on Zachary now!"

Adam looked at his stubborn daughter before picking up his phone and calling his men. He then put the phone on speaker and put it down on the table again.

All Sophia heard was the automated message saying the number was unreachable before the system operator automatically hung up the call.

All hope disappeared from her eyes. "How... How could this be? Dad, I beg of you. Please help me find Zachary! Please..."

Adam was not surprised that he could not reach his men. It was as if he had expected it. He calmly sipped his water before saying, "Don't you understand? He's planned this all along. It's pointless to find him now."

Sophia wiped away her tears with her arm. "It's not pointless! Dad, you just need to help me find him, and I'll handle the rest!"

Adam slammed his glass down on the table angrily. "Enough! When are you going to wake up?! Everyone can tell he doesn't love you! He won't even let you touch him, so what's the point of keeping him by your side? Just let him go, Sophia!"

Sophia swept everything off the table hysterically. "No! Never! I'm going to find him! He's mine! I'm going to be with him forever! I'm going to bear his children! We're going to live together as one big happy family!"

Adam looked at the hysterical Sophia with both anger and heartache. "But he doesn't want to be with you!"

"No! It's not like that! I'm sure he loves me too! I have to find him! I must find him!" screamed Sophia.

"Heh! You won't be able to keep him by your side even if you find him! How do you think he escaped? Do you think he could've easily escaped from my men with his crippled legs and a kid dragging him down?"

Sophia was taken aback, but realization dawned on her quickly enough. "Dad, are... Are you saying Zachary got the use of his legs back?"

"He must've planned his escape for a long time," said Adam angrily. "If anything, he's probably back with his own family, so it's pointless to look for him now. Listen to me, Sophia. Just stay in the hotel, and we'll go back to Molomia together after the tax investigation is finished. There's a chance he won't seek revenge if you don't bother him anymore, but you're on your own if you don't listen to me. You'll have to face all the consequences yourself then!"

Sophia was unwilling to accept the outcome. Even with reality staring straight at her, she still refused to believe it. "No, that's impossible! Zachary doesn't have memories of his past, so why would he go back to his family? No..."

Adam had lost all hope of talking sense into his daughter. "Did you think the hypnotic effect will last forever? He might've gotten back all of his memories and was only pretending when you were around!" Sophia recalled everything that had happened recently and began to realize her father was right.

"Even... Even if his legs are healed, even if he really recovers his memory, I still have to go find him! I want him to know that I'm the one who loves him most in the world! Not Corinne, but me!" she screamed hysterically.

With that, she got up and ran outside.

Chapter 1829

Meanwhile, back in the Holdens' estate.

Jeremy and Corinne had a long talk in the study, and she was able to ask him everything she wanted.

She wanted to get up from his lap, but he kept his arms tightly wrapped around her. He then leaned in for a kiss.

Corinne turned her face away and poked his chest. "You better take a shower first."

Jeremy narrowed his eyes. "You want me to take a shower? Why? What are you planning to do to me?"

Speechless, Corinne rolled her eyes at him. "I can ask you the same thing! I asked you to take a shower because I don't like another woman's smell on you!"

Jeremy dropped his head down and said in mock sadness, "I'm very clean. Even though I've forgotten you for a while, I never did anything with Sophia. You'll never find her scent on me..."

Corinne frowned. "I'm talking about the smell of softener on your clothes! I don't like it 'cause it reminds me that she did your laundry!"

Taken aback Jeremy looked down at his own clothes. Indeed, Sophia was the one who bought them and was also the one who washed them. He had been in so much of a rush for the past two days that he did not have the time to change into a new set of clothes.

In the end, he let her go and said, "Okay. I'll take a shower now and throw out all these clothes. From now on, I'll only wear the clothes you get for me."

Corinne might look visibly annoyed, but deep down, she felt somewhat bitter. She pouted and said, "Go now! Grandpa and Grandma must be over the moon to see you. We still need to have a reunion dinner tonight."

Jeremy nodded obediently. "Yes, dear."

After thinking about it, Corinne added, "You should go to bed straight after dinner so that you can wake up early tomorrow to go to work. I don't want to run your company anymore! There never seems to be an end to the sh*tstorm going in there."

Jeremy stood up and ruffled Corinne's hair gently. "Okay. You're the boss of me."

"And! I'm planning to take you somewhere tomorrow, so you better keep your lunch break free!"

"Where are you planning to take me?" asked Jeremy curiously.

"Have some patience. You'll know it when you see it tomorrow. That's all for now. Go take your shower."

Corinne strode quickly out of the room out of fear Jeremy would get raunchy with her again. She knew she would not be able to resist then as she was a little hypoxic.

Jeremy watched her leave with tenderness and adoration in his eyes.

Corinne went downstairs to look for Bowen. After she found him, she gave him some instructions.

Bowen immediately nodded and did as he was asked.

As Corinne then walked toward the kitchen, someone suddenly broke through the door, causing a huge commotion. The intruder jumped on Corinne, startling her. Since she was feeling a little hypoxic, she almost fell down while a deep sense of helplessness washed over her.

Chapter 1830

Francine was out on a date with Chester when she learned of Jeremy's return. She immediately rushed back home with Chester and glomped Corinne excitedly as soon as she entered the door. "Corinne! Is it true that Jeremy is back?"

Corinne was almost knocked down, but she managed to steady herself before saying, "Yeah!"

Francine burst into tears of happiness. "So he's really back! Where is he right now?"

"He's taking a shower. You'll get to see him later. Please let me go for now, though. I can't breathe."

Francine immediately let go of her. "Sorry, Corinne. I... I was just too excited."

In fact, she let go of Corinne as excitedly as she hugged her, so much so that she nearly fell backward. Thankfully, Chester caught her before she injured herself.

Chester steadied Francine and said apologetically, "Sorry, Corinne. You know how clumsy Francine can get."

He sounded like he was already treating Francine as his wife.

Corinne looked at them both fondly and nodded. "It's okay. I'm used to it, anyway. Chester, why don't you bring her to the living room? I need to head to the kitchen to arrange for tonight's dinner." "Sure thing!" Chester nodded gentlemanly before putting his arms around Francine and leading her to the living room.

Corinne went to the kitchen to tell the staff to cook Jeremy's favorite food for dinner that night. She then instructed them to serve latte to Chester and Francine.

When Corinne got back to the living room, there was only Chester sitting there. Francine was nowhere in sight.

Corinne sat on the sofa next to Chester and asked, "Where's Francine?"

Chester smiled dejectedly and said, "She said she couldn't wait to see Mister Jeremy, so she went upstairs to look for him."

Corinne nodded. She knew how impatient Francine was.

Chester put down the cup of latte the servant served him and joyfully said, "Congratulations, Corinne! You've finally reunited with Mister Jeremy!"

"Thank you. You and Francine can get married once Jeremy solves the problem at hand," said Corinne with a smile.

Chester blushed and scratched his head awkwardly. "If possible, can you please put in a few good words to Mister Jeremy for me? I'm worried he'll think I'm not good enough for Francine."

Corinne smiled after taking a sip of her latte. "Don't worry. He doesn't have a say in who gets to marry Francine. I do."

At that moment, Jeremy had just put on his clothes after showering. He walked out of his room, and from where he was standing on the stairs, he could see Chester and Corinne talking in the living room.

His expression darkened when he saw Chester blushing at something Corinne said. After walking down the stairs, he immediately sat next to Corinne and put his arms around her.

Ignoring Chester, he said to Corinne, "Sorry for making you wait."

Corinne was speechless. 'Why is he acting like this in front of a guest? Doesn't he know how embarrassing this is for Chester?'

She squeezed out a smile and introduced, "Jeremy, meet Chester. He was my junior in college, and he's now..."

Before she could say Chester was Francine's boyfriend, Jeremy picked her up and placed him on his lap.

Once his arms were securely around her, he glanced at Chester and greeted him coldly, "Hello, Chester."

It was so obvious he wanted to make it known to Chester that Corinne was his alone.

The intimidated Chester smiled awkwardly. "Hello, Mister Jeremy."

Jeremy ignored him again and instead looked down at Corinne. "I'm clean now, so what do you say we go back to our room and continue what we were doing?"