

Chapter 177 A Friendly Reminder

Holly was in a daze. She and Gabrielle were still alone in the living room. She was surprised at the way Gabrielle had spoken to her. It was not until now that she realized how stupid she had been. All this while, she had thought that Gabrielle was just a simple woman that she could easily push around, and also thought that it was only a matter of time for her to get Gabrielle and Westley separated since they didn't get married out of love but out of atonement. 4

How wrong she was! Right now, it seemed like it was no longer a matter of time, but capability. Gabrielle was a woman who was not as simple and as fragile as she looked.

"What are you trying to say, Miss Jones? Are you trying to insinuate something else with the statement you just made? Westley and I are just good old friends. There is nothing more than that between us. Let me just remind you." Holly didn't want to expose her weakness to this

woman anytime soon. Especially now that she knew that Gabrielle wasn't an easy-going woman as she had thought before. She wouldn't let Gabrielle know her true intentions.

Or Holly herself would lose the game before it even started and she was not a lady prone to losses. She wanted to win in every area and this wasn't an exception. ②

'Good old friends?' Gabrielle mused.

If she believed Holly's ridiculous lies, then she must be stupid. It was clear that Holly was trying to take her for a ride and she wasn't willing to join her. ③

Right from the moment she saw Holly, she knew that this woman was hostile to her because she liked and wanted Westley for herself. ①

Even if the marriage between Gabrielle and Westley was a fake one, she didn't want other women to spy on her husband in this way. It made her feel very uncomfortable. It was as if somebody was trying to take what legally belonged to her and she couldn't just sit around and watch that happen.

Westley wasn't the only one who was possessive. Gabrielle was also in the game. Even if there was no love in their marriage, they didn't want anybody spying on them. But as it were, Holly was so shameless that she boldly showed her intention to destroy their marriage in such an obvious way. ②

"Well, since you say that you and my husband are just good old friends, let me make it very clear to you that I am a very selfish and possessive person. I don't like my husband getting too close to any of his female friends, thereby having a vague and uncertain relationship with them. I think you should understand what I mean. After all, we are both women and we are capable of feeling the same way, right?" Gabrielle said to her with a sly smile on her face, but her eyes were full of ruthlessness. ⑦

The words that Gabrielle spoke annoyed Holly in every way.

Just like being stripped naked in public, a sense of humiliation surged out from the bottom of her heart.

"Miss Jones, you should not speak in this way. I expected more than this from you.

I believe that it's Westley's business whether I should get close to him or not. By the way, we've been friends for so many years. It's impossible for us to just break up all of a sudden," she said with a hint of anger in her voice. Even though she was angry, she did her possible best to hold back her anger. ②

'Gabrielle is even more powerful and tactical than I earlier thought. How could she have the audacity to challenge my relationship with Westley in such a blunt way? This woman is just an adopted daughter of the Jones family, and she doesn't even qualify to be Westley's wife or the wife of any well-to-do man for that matter. How dare she talk to me in such a manner?' Holly fumed as she gritted her teeth. ②

Wasn't Gabrielle afraid that she would lead herself to death if she offended Holly?

"Of course, I know. After all, you have been friends for so many years, and it won't be easy for you both to break up all of a sudden. But at the same time, I will discuss with my husband and make sure that he stays away from women as far as possible in the future, and gradually you



can make a clean break. I think you should be able to accept it, shouldn't you?" Gabrielle asked her with an innocent smile.

'Damn it! Gabrielle must have bewitched Westley with such a fake smile. Who does she think she wants to bewitch again?' Holly thought within herself.

"Of course, if Westley says so, I would gladly accept it. But Miss Jones, you should be clear that Westley loves someone else, and he wouldn't have married you if not for some certain circumstances. I don't think such a flash marriage will last long, so don't get your hopes up so soon," Holly pointed it out directly.

Her original purpose was to destroy Gabrielle and Westley's marriage. She didn't want to tell anyone about Helena's matter in a hurry. Moreover, it was not yet time to make it known.

But now, she was so surprised and even had a sense of crisis with Gabrielle's reply, so she was hesitating on whether she should talk about Helena right now or just wait for the right time.

"Miss Edwards, you've probably heard

the saying that a lifetime is too long. What I care more about right now is what I have at hand. I just want to live a good life with Westley now. After all, no one knows what would happen tomorrow. This is also a sentence for you, Miss Edwards. Don't overestimate yourself trying to get what you shouldn't get. Just live the good life you have now. You should cherish it now than regret it in the future. Other than that, you'll feel very sad when you think about what you have done one day in the future." Gabrielle looked at her with a smile. It looked as if she was caring about Holly, but in fact, her words were very aggressive.

She couldn't afford to be a victim in this case. She didn't want to say anything just because she didn't want to make trouble for herself.

"Gabrielle, you..."

Gabrielle interrupted her immediately without allowing her to finish her statement.

"Oh, and that reminds me. By the way, I'm a very open-minded person. I don't like to count any penny. We are all

adults here. Everyone has his or her experience no matter how short or long it is. One cannot be called youth if one doesn't meet one or two bad men or women. What I want now is Westley. I don't want him to keep absorbing in his past," she said with a calm air around her.

But her words were like several needles poking small holes into Holly's heart.

It goes without saying that, Holly had truly underestimated Gabrielle's value.

"Do you think Westley's past was just about trivial things? He..."

Before Holly could finish her statement, Miley came in with a basket full of vegetables in her hand, dressed like a peasant woman.

"Oh, Grandma, welcome back. Did you go to the vegetable field?" Gabrielle paid no attention to Holly anymore and went straight to Miley to take the basket away from her. ①

The way Miley dressed reminded her of the granny who helped her on a rainy night a few years ago.

"Gabrielle, you're awake. Hope you slept well? Are you feeling hungry? Don't worry, I'll make you some noodles with chopped scallion. I remember you liked it very much the last time I made it for you. I just went to get some of the scallions in the field." Miley looked at her with a broad smile. It was obvious that she liked Gabrielle so much.

As Holly looked at this scene, she felt so pained in her heart. Everybody knew that Miley was so hard to please. If she didn't like someone, it didn't matter how hard the person tried to please her, it was utterly useless. Even when Helena was alive, she tried to please Miley in several ways, but still, Miley was not fond of her.

But Gabrielle could make Miley like her so effortlessly, from the bottom of her heart.

'What trick could this woman have used to make Miley like her so easily?' Holly pondered. ⑦

"That's very good, grandma. I just want to eat it so much! I've never eaten anything more delicious than the noodles cooked by you since I have tasted it. I will be so happy to have it

again today," Gabrielle said excitedly as she looked at Miley with a smile. Although she was flattering Miley, it was not annoying in any way.

"You can tell me what you like. I can cook for you whenever you want," Miley said to her. She spoiled Gabrielle silly.

"That's just what I want to eat now. Grandma, let me help you wash the scallion," Gabrielle offered happily.

"Alright, Gabrielle. Just wash it yourself first. Let me go to my room to change my clothes first and I'll be back." Miley smiled at her lovingly.

"Okay, grandma. I'll go in and wash the scallion first." As Gabrielle said this, she walked quickly into the kitchen carrying the basket in her hand.

Chapter 178 I Believe In Fate

When Miley saw how the younger ones enjoyed the food she prepared, she couldn't help but smile. After all, aside from taking care of her plants and flowers, the only hobby she had was cooking.

Unfortunately, she couldn't cook in the Morris Mansion. Several housekeepers, cooks, and servants would do that for her. Since she needed to be the Madam of the Morris family, the family forbade her to cook.

As such, she never enjoyed staying in the Morris Mansion. Despite being a noble lady, she felt restricted and unhappy.

It was a shame that she had poor health. Otherwise, she would've left the Morris Mansion and lived in the countryside instead.

"Grandma, tell me if you need help, okay?" Holly felt jealous when she noticed how well Miley and Gabrielle got

along.

"It's okay. Holly, there's no need for you to do anything other than rest and recover. You can't even walk because of your injured leg. There isn't much to do here anyway." Miley smiled at Holly.

Holly seemed to be a sensitive girl who never revealed her thoughts to others. On the other hand, Miley never enjoyed guessing other people's thoughts. As such, she wasn't fond of Holly.

Meanwhile, Gabrielle was straightforward and honest. Miley could always understand what the girl was thinking about. As such, she liked Gabrielle very much.

Nonetheless, everyone has their personal thoughts. No one could be purely innocent and naive. If Gabrielle were so simple-minded, even Miley would've disliked her.

Only a dimwit could live a simple and naive life.

Miley had known Holly for a long time. Whenever Holly and Helena were together, the former was quite reserved. She never expressed herself too much. It



seemed that Holly was afraid she might steal Helena's spotlight. Moreover, she often sweet-talked everyone else.

However, Miley hated that act.

It was an exhausting life to live. Even watching someone live that life felt troublesome. Miley had no interest in something so tedious. ③

Holly seldom visited the Morris Mansion after Helena was gone. As such, Miley hadn't seen her for a long time. This time, it seemed that fate brought them together in the small town.

However, Miley was smart enough to figure things out. Although it seemed like fate, their coincidence was actually a deliberate plan.

Despite how much Holly hid it, Miley already knew that the young lady loved Westley. She lived long enough to understand people's intentions.

Love was like a hurricane. It was unstoppable and very noticeable.

Unfortunately, Miley found Holly suspicious and disapproved of the young lady. Even Nellie was more acceptable

than Holly. Nellie was at least honest enough not to do something she didn't want to do even if other people forced her. She was brave enough to escape the day before her own wedding. As such, Miley had a positive impression of her. ②

"Grandma, my leg doesn't hurt that much. Since it's just a light sprain, I can walk slowly now because of my treatment. As such, I can do simple chores for you." Holly insisted on helping. She wanted to behave properly in front of Miley. It would be a shame if the elderly looked down on her for not being able to do anything.

Unfortunately, it was all for naught. Miley already saw through Miley's facade. ③

The elderly lady wasn't interested in what Holly could or couldn't do. What mattered was how Holly could hide her feelings for Westley.

After all, he already married Gabrielle.

Miley was hoping that the fake marriage between the two could turn into a real relationship. She wished that Westley could live happily with Gabrielle.



"There's nothing important to do for now. I'll ask for your help if I need anything," Miley softly answered.

Holly felt so much better when Miley answered in such a sweet voice. Although Miley didn't actually hate her, Holly still felt a sense of loss when compared with Gabrielle. However, Miley's words boosted Holly's confidence again.

"Okay, Grandma. I'll do anything to help you."

"Well, rest first so you can recover. I'll go to my room and change my clothes for now."

Miley quickly changed her attire and headed to the kitchen. Meanwhile, Gabrielle had finished washing a basket of vegetables and placed them on the kitchen counter. Then, she leaned against the window while eating an apple. No one knew what was going on in her head.

"Grandma, I am done washing the vegetable. Can you cook the noodle with green onion oil for me? It's been a long time since I ate the noodles you made. I

am craving for them." Gabrielle happily smiled when Miley came in.

"I already told you to visit if you want to eat. Grandma will prepare any food you want. Alas, you never come to see me. I thought you've forgotten about me." Miley pretended to pout as she looked at Gabrielle.

Since she knew that Miley was just pretending, Gabrielle placed the apple on the table and held the elderly lady's arm. "Grandma, you know that I've been busy lately. Nonetheless, you are always on my mind. Please forgive your granddaughter-in-law."

Miley couldn't get angry when Gabrielle was acting so coquettish towards her.

"Gabrielle, do you believe in destiny?" Miley smiled and asked in a serious tone.

"What do you mean?"

"There are those who are fated to meet again no matter how long they are far apart. When two people's destinies are intertwined, they cannot escape what fate has planned for them," Miley explained in a low voice.

Gabrielle comprehended the elderly lady's words. It was about her and Westley. Although they didn't know each other, they were finally married and living together. Just like what Miley said, two people, even if they didn't know each other, couldn't escape destiny.

"Grandma, I didn't believe it before. However, I can accept what you mean. It also meant that you and I are destined to be a family. I am fortunate to have you as my grandmother." Gabrielle didn't mention Westley.

Miley understood that Gabrielle didn't want to talk about him. As such, she didn't point it out. Instead, she simply touched the young lady's forehead. "Thank you for washing the vegetables. You can leave now. I'll prepare a delicious bowl of noodles for you."

"Okay, Grandma. However, where are the others?" Gabrielle raised an eyebrow. Since Holly couldn't move easily, she was left alone in the house. However, everyone else wasn't around. Gabrielle would've thought that everyone left if she hadn't realized that the cars were still there.

"They went to the river to fish. Westley said he wanted to catch some fish since it is a nice day. Well, you leave them to their affairs. Just rest. I won't give them lunch if they can't catch any fish before noon," Miley playfully said with a smirk.

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