

Gu Lingfei: Married at First Sight Novel Chapter 1221

Jasmine sighed and said, "Some parents can be quite baffling. They disapprove of their grateful children but play favorites with other children who can't care less about them." Serenity took a moment in silence before saying, "These parents hurt the kids who care while their favorite children hurt them instead. Some siblings never get close and even cut contact after their parents pass away because of the deferential treatment among siblings."

"I'm lucky my family is not like that. My grandparents treat us all equally. There are no favorites or least liked. My uncles are nice too. We get along well with our cousins," Jasmine said.

Serenity did not add to the conversation after that. She wished she had a family like Jasmine's.

She was not on good terms with her cousins.

Ring, ring, ring....

Jasmine's phone rang.

Thinking it was Josh, Jasmine pulled out her phone and said to her best friend, "He didn't call me the whole day today. I think he's starting to get bored of me."

Serenity amusedly replied, "Mr. Bucham loves you to the moon and back. He'll never get bored of you."

"Like attracts like. My man is committed, so I'm sure his best friends have the same attitude when it comes to love too. Don't worry, Mr. Bucham had been single for so long for the right woman to come along, and that person is you."

"It's not Josh. It's my brother."

Serenity murmured, "Oh, it's not Mr. Bucham..."

She thought Josh called to ask Jasmine out for dinner.

Serenity had informed Zachary that she met Shawn, but Zachary had not replied. She wondered if Zachary might get jealous.

She only happened to run into Shawn, and the meetup was no more than five minutes. Surely, the man would not be jealous... right?

Since he was not responding, Zachary was probably busy at work.

Zachary was the CEO of York Corporation after all. Time was money to him..

“Drake.”

Jasmine accepted the call from her brother. “What’s the matter? Something’s going on at home?”

“Come home quickly, Jas! There’s something you got to see.

Drake sounded thrilled over the phone as he urged Jasmine to hurry home.

“What’s that?”

Jasmine was itching with curiosity.

“What’s the something I got to see?”

Drake answered with a smile, “I can’t tell you right now. Anyway, just come back as soon as you can. It’s something good. That’s what I can tell you. Hurry home, okay?”

“B*stard! Just put me out of my misery. What is it? Did something good happen at home? Did Dad win the jackpot? Did you bring your girlfriend home?”

Mr. Sox got into the habit of buying lottery tickets. He had never won anything, but that was his guilty pleasure.

He would only buy the same set of numbers, and he believed the numbers would win him the jackpot one day.

“Well, I won’t tell you to come home quickly if I’m bringing my girlfriend home. Stop asking, Jas. I told you it’s something good. Just come home, and hurry. Tell Serenity to watch the shop tonight or just close early.”

Jasmine looked at the time—school was almost out.

“Drake, just tell me already. The kids are getting out of school soon, so that means we’re going to be busy at the shop. This better be good, so unless the sky is falling down, I won’t be heading back until after six.”

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Drake was not going to say more. “Jasm, hand the phone to Serenity. I need to talk to her.”

Jasmine mumbled, "I'm your sister, and you're saying something happened at home. You don't want to tell me, but you plan to tell Serenity? Do you think you can hide it from me, b* stard?"

Despite the nagging, Jasmine passed the phone to Serenity and told her best friend, "Drake is keeping me guessing. I don't know what's going on, but he wants to speak to you."

Taking the phone with a smile, Serenity asked Drake who was on the other end of the line, "What's up, Drake? You can talk to me. I promise to keep it a secret. I won't let your sister know."

Truth be told, Jasmine had stuck her ear against the phone so she could get the message straight from Drake.

Her brother piqued her curiosity. Now, Jasmine was dying to find out what was going on at home. All she was told was that it was good, but it was not enough for her to go by.

"Serenity, is my sister eavesdropping next to you? Go outside, and don't let my sister follow you. Then, I'll tell you." Drake knew his sister too well.

Serenity looked at her best friend.

"Dang. Is the boy spying on us or something?"

Jasmine chewed her brother out.

With a smile, Serenity got up and walked out of the shop. She refused to let Jasmine come along.

Thinking that Serenity would tell her later, Jasmine left Serenity to walk out of the shop.

There was no telling what Drake said to Serenity. Serenity returned several minutes later and gleefully handed the phone back to Jasmine. She said with a smile, "Don't bother about the shop, Jasmine. Just get home."

"I have Milo and Harry here. They can help. Just go home."

"What is it? Why are you all acting secretive? What did he tell you, Serenity? Just tell me."

The suspense was killing Jasmine. Yet, her best friend and brother would not let slip.

"You'll know when you get home. It'll ruin the surprise if I tell you now. I can tell you that it's a good thing though. Now go home."

Serenity happily urged her best friend to go home.

She grabbed Jasmine's car keys and slipped them into Jasmine's hand. "Go on."

Jasmine stared at her best friend and then at her car keys in her hand before lightly pounding on Serenity's shoulder. She grumbled, "You won't even give me something to work on even though we have been friends for more than a decade. Well, I'll have to see for myself what's this big surprise."

Serenity saw her best friend off and uttered, "Don't speed on the road. There's nothing to worry about. It's a good thing."

Jasmine mounted her e-bike, started the engine, and replied, "Got it."

Standing at the shop entrance, Serenity watched her best friend ride away.

Although it was something good, Jasmine could not figure out what it was. Her brother refused to tell her, and even Serenity was holding back on her. Serenity said something about ruining the surprise.

While many guesses went through her head, Jasmine rolled the throttle and made her way back home.

Fortunately, her home was not too far from the school. She soon reached her town.

Her town was well-developed and bustling like the city.

Before getting to her house, Jasmine noticed a lot of people gathered around her gate. There were many cars parked outside too. These people held their phones up and took photos.

What was going on?

Why were they crowding at the gate of her house? What were they snapping?

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"Jasmine's back."

Someone spotted Jasmine and shouted out loud.

The crowd at the gate of the Soxes' residence gave way by parting into two rows.

Jasmine got a good look at the people at the gate. Most of them were the townspeople and nearby tenants. They looked at her, all smiles.

With everybody moving out of the way, Jasmine found out what everybody was looking at from the gate. It was a humongous display of flowers.

Josh, who had not called or texted her all day, stood next to the flowers with a bouquet of roses in his hands. He was smiling widely at her.

Jasmine stopped her bike.

“Go on, Jas.”

Drake drew close and dragged his sister to walk ahead.

Jasmine was pulled to the floral display. Those were roses. Josh used thousands of roses to spell out something.

[Marry me, Jasmine!]

Josh was proposing.

After giving it a lot of thought, Josh decided to go the cheesy way and form words with flowers. It would be beautiful and romantic. He could then propose to Jasmine before everybody.

Jasmine was either at the bookshop or at home.

Josh was concerned about the disruption to students since the bookshop was in front of the school. That was why he chose to display the flowers at the gate of her house and propose to her here instead. The Soxes could bear witness to his feelings for Jasmine.

He wanted Jasmine to be his wife.

The Buchams and the Soxes had been pining for the pair to get married.

Mrs. Bucham would visit the Soxes every now and then, and the elders of both families had a lot to talk about. They had been waiting for Josh to propose, so they could begin preparations for the wedding.

“Isn’t it nice, Jas? Josh formed the words with flowers himself, and it took him a long time. to do it too. Josh bought all the roses from every florist in Wiltspoon. A lot of florists had to restock.”

Jasmine looked at the letters arranged in flowers. The sea of red bounced a rosy shimmer off her face and melted her heart.

Josh had always been a romantic. Although his proposal was corny, she was able to see the beauty in it.

Bearing a bouquet, Josh approached her.

Drake got out of the way and left the center stage to Josh.

Everybody was watching.

Some even took videos to bear witness to the lovers' happy and exciting moment.

Josh got down on one knee before Jasmine and presented the bouquet to her. He tenderly asked Jasmine, "I love you, Jasmine. Will you marry me? I will love, cherish, and honor you for the rest of my days."

Jasmine looked into his eyes.

She could see the affection reflecting in his eyes as he looked at her. Anticipation with a little bit of nervousness and fear were written all over his face.

He must be scared that she might turn down his proposal.

"Say yes, Jasmine. Mr. Bucham is so good to you. I'm an old lady, and even I'm moved by him," One of Jasmine's aunts remarked with a smile.

"Yeah, Jasmine. You and Mr. Bucham made a cute couple. You're made for each other."

"Jasmine..."

"Jasmine..."

Many of the onlookers were the townspeople and Jasmine's relatives. From the bottom of their hearts, they hoped Jasmine would accept Josh's proposal.

Turning her head, Jasmine glanced at her parents standing at the door. Shawn and Aunt Rachel were there with her parents too.

Aunt Rachel must be here to visit the Sox family and happened to come across Josh's proposal.

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Seeing that Jasmine took her time to respond to Josh, Mrs. Lowe said to Mrs. Sox, "Why isn't Jasmine saying anything? Josh is such a good man. She won't find another man like him. I wish I could say yes on her behalf."

Shawn uttered, "She shouldn't answer too quickly. She needs time to consider. It will seem like Jas is too eager if she gives an answer too soon."

Jasmine was happy to give her hand in marriage. No longer playing it coy, she reached out to take the roses from Josh and loudly responded, "Yes, Josh. I'll marry you."

Josh was overjoyed.

He pulled out the engagement ring and took Jasmine's hand to put the ring on her finger.

Jasmine pulled him up.

Josh put his arms around her, lowered his gaze to meet hers, and kissed her lips.

A thundering applause broke out.

Jasmine closed her eyes and indulged in the brief mingle of hot breaths before opening her eyes. She beamed as Josh held her.

"When did you start planning this?" she whispered while resting in his arms.

"I had been at it for a while now. I thought this idea was the best. Do you like it, Jas?"

Jasmine lifted her chin to stare at him and replied with a grin, "I wouldn't have said yes if I didn't like it. It doesn't matter to me how you propose so long as your feelings for me are true, I will never reject you."

Of course, Jasmine was more thrilled because he went through the trouble to romance her. It showed that he cared.

"No wonder you hadn't called or texted me. You were preparing a surprise for me."

Pecking her forehead, Josh dotingly uttered, "I wanted to give you a surprise. I didn't let Drake tell you on the phone."

"The punk kept telling me it was something good. He left me guessing, but I didn't think you were going to propose to me."

Jasmine was smothered with love and joy.

She exchanged gazes with Josh. They only had eyes for each other.

It took a while before it hit her that her family and neighbors were watching. Red-faced, Jasmine pushed Josh away. She was either happy or embarrassed, probably both.

“I want to take pictures.”

Jasmine wanted to capture the sweet moment.

She snapped the floral display, the ring on her finger, and a photo of her and Josh.

After the photo session, she locked fingers with Josh and walked up to her parents.

“Mom, Dad, I’m engaged. You can finally marry me away.”

The people burst out in laughter.

Mrs. Sox said to Josh with a smile, “Thank you, Josh. Thank you.”

Jasmine remarked, “Mom, you’re talking as if nobody wants me... Josh is not taking a charity case.”

“Your blind dates didn’t go well. Your aunt and I had been fretting over your marriage because nobody wanted you. Well, at least Josh wants you now. You should be nicer to him.”

Mrs. Sox pretended to nag her daughter.

Josh curled his lips and said, “Mom, I want to thank Jasmine for marrying me. Otherwise, I would be single for life.”

Following the proposal’s success, Josh was now calling Mrs. Sox “Mom”.

Mrs. Sox was more than pleased.

They knew what a good man Josh was. They witnessed Josh’s care for Jasmine. Now that Josh had finally popped the question, Mrs. Sox could not stop grinning from ear to ear. Her daughter had found her happily ever after.

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“Let’s go inside. You must have dinner with us tonight,” Mr. Sox said to his future son-in-law.

For Josh to propose to his daughter before everybody, Mr. Sox was pleased with his future son-in-law. Unlike Mrs. Sox who took to Josh immediately, Mr. Sox needed some warming up.

Despite Mr. Sox’s approval of Josh, the man kept a stoic face and remained courteous to Josh.

“I will stick around for dinner even if you don’t invite me,” Josh brazenly commented. He said hello to Mrs. Lowe and nodded with a smile at Shawn.

“Call your father, Shawn. Tell your dad to join us for dinner here after work.”

Mrs. Lowe happily informed her son to call her husband over. Dinner together would be pleasant.

She had always hoped her niece would find a rich husband. To make it happen, Mrs. Lowe had been playing the matchmaker. It was a pity her niece was not too keen about it. Jasmine went so far as to lie prostrate on the floor at a banquet to stop her chances of marrying up. Since then, Mrs. Lowe refrained from introducing men to her.

Mrs. Lowe believed that since her niece did not want to marry into a rich and powerful family, she could at least find someone of equal status.

The Soxes were relatively well-to-do. Their business was in the rental market for domestic and commercial spaces. The family’s assets altogether were more than a hundred million dollars.

Mrs. Lowe was shocked and had mixed feelings about Serenity marrying the richest man in Wiltspoon—Zachary York. Alas, her favorite niece was not as lucky.

Later, Mrs. Lowe found out that Zachary and Serenity introduced Josh to Jasmine. Mrs. Lowe was happy her niece managed to find the one in Josh.

None of the men she had introduced to Jasmine could beat Josh.

The Lowe family had to send Shawn away to save him and Lowe Enterprise because Shawn had feelings for Serenity and nearly became a homewrecker.

Even so, it had always been a concern to Mrs. Lowe that it might be the end of Lowe Enterprise. Nevertheless, the worry was no more when Zachary and Serenity matched Jasmine and Josh together, and there was chemistry.

Thanks to Josh and Jasmine, Lowe Enterprise lived to see another day.

Shawn said with a smile, "Sure. I'll call Dad right now and tell him to come over after work."

Mr. Sox welcomed his future son-in-law into the house and uttered, "Josh, can you ask if your parents are free to have dinner? Since you are now engaged, we, as parents, can discuss your wedding when your parents come."

Mrs. Sox chimed in. "That's right. Call your parents to come now, Josh. We can discuss the wedding tonight."

She then told Jasmine, "Jas, tomorrow is Friday. It's the last working day of the week. You should go to city hall with Josh tomorrow morning and get your marriage license. The wedding reception can come later."

Jasmine remarked, "What's the rush?"

She turned to Josh and said, "I thought we could have an engagement party before getting our marriage license."

Josh held her hand. He would fulfill her wish if that was what she wanted.

"Mom, Dad, you can talk about a date when my parents come over. Jasmine and I will have an engagement party. We can get our marriage license next. Of course, I hope we can be married sooner than later."

He did not want a wedding like Zachary's after fall.

Zachary and Serenity already had their marriage license. In fact, the couple had done everything a couple would have done, except for a wedding. That was why they were not in a rush to have a wedding.

Josh and Jasmine had not gone all the way, and he simply could not wait.

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Josh's statement made Jasmine blush.

The guy just could not wait.

"Alright. We'll have the engagement party, then the visit to city hall, and finally the wedding."

Josh respected Jasmine's wishes and only wanted the best for her. Doing things in the right order would make the Soxes happy.

The engagement party was bound to be a huge event since Josh was a man of position. The attendees were the movers and shakers of Wiltspoon's higher society.

Josh gave a call to his parents and told them that he proposed to Jasmine. Of course, Jasmine said yes.

He asked his parents if they were free to come over and discuss the wedding details with his future parents-in-law.

Delighted by the news, Mrs. Bucham replied, "I'm busy right now, but nothing comes before my son's marriage. Alright, I'll ask your dad and uncle to prepare the gift and head over to your in-laws'."

"Thank you, Mom."

Mrs. Bucham answered with a smile, "Don't mention it. I'm happy for you. Josh, be nice to Jasmine. Don't take advantage of her. I'm not going to take your side just because you're my son. Jasmine is right when she is right. She is still right even if she's wrong. A happy wife is the way to a happy life."

Her son was picky when it came to women. Finally, Josh was willing to end his bachelor life for Jasmine.

Mrs. Bucham had a special place in her heart for Jasmine. Besides, Mrs. Bucham had given Jasmine the family heirloom during their first meeting. She had decided a long time ago that Jasmine would be her daughter-in-law.

"Got it, Mom."

Josh had his serious face on. Marriage was no fun and games to him. He had thought it through and listened to his own heart.

"Alright. I know my son. I trust you will treat Jasmine well. I should end the call here. I need to call the lady of the household and ask her to help pick a gift. We will be there by sundown."

Josh was the first to get married in his generation.

The senior family members would not take this huge event lightly.

Josh was the nephew of the head of the Bucham household. He was also close to Julian, the heir of the Buchams.

The Bucham family's elders, heir, and others arrived at the Soxes' residence before sunset.

Judging by the arrival of people and vehicles bearing gifts, the neighbors around were under the impression that Josh and Jasmine were getting married that night itself. It was obvious what the Buchams thought about Jasmine.

Now that Josh and Jasmine were a sealed deal, the heir, who was older and single, got a lot of attention from his senior family members that night.

Julian had to look for an excuse and scam after dinner.

Seeing that the elders were concerned about Julian getting married, Jasmine whispered to Josh, asking curiously, "I wonder what type of woman can tie Julian down."

Julian was not as well-known as businessmen like Zachary and Clive in Wiltspoon, but he was more powerful than these CEOs. He was not one to be messed with.

Josh uttered, "I don't know. He never told me the type of girl he's into. The head of the household is liberal-minded and doesn't really insert himself into our private lives. Even so, he's been pushing Julian lately to get married since Julian isn't getting any younger."

Julian was older than Josh, and Josh was in his early thirties. Julian was closer to his forties than he was to his thirties.

It was natural that the head and lady of the Bucham household were anxious.

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Jasmine said, "You must introduce to me the girl who wins Julian's heart. I'm curious as to the type of woman who can tame Julian."

Josh drew close to her ear and kissed her cheek before uttering in a raspy voice, "You're now part of the Bucham family. We will be the first to know when Julian finds a girl."

Jasmine gave him a nudge. "The elders are around."

Yet, he kissed her.

Sure, Jasmine was bold. However, she was shy to engage in any sort of intimacy in the presence of elders.

"The closer we are, the happier they get."

Jasmine took a quick look at the oldies. They were going back and forth on the date of the engagement party to pay attention to the couple.

“Let’s go for a stroll,” Jasmine suggested.

Josh was more than happy to oblige.

“Mom, Josh and I are going to take a walk.”

Jasmine told her mom before dragging Josh out the door.

The floral display at the gate shimmered under the night sky. Josh had installed colorful fairy lights along the roses. Once the night took over, the fairy lights were plugged in and lighted. It looked beautiful.

The streetlights were turned on too, shedding light on the various luxury cars parked along the street. Jasmine told the man beside her, “I wanted to look for a man of my social class and be a landlady. Money will come into my bank account even in my sleep. I never dreamed that I would be with you.”

“I own a lot of housing properties and shops. My money is collecting dust in the bank. We can use it for investment. You can still be a landlady. The houses and shops under my name can be rented, and you can collect the rent. You are free to spend the money however you want. If you don’t want to spend the money, you can use the money to buy land and build houses to rent out. Make your money grow.”

Jasmine replied, “It costs a lot to buy land and build houses now. It didn’t cost a lot to set up a house for rental when the real estate market first took off. It was a sound business since the rents haven’t gone down.”

Her generation witnessed the property boom firsthand.

The property prices shot up.

“Real estate isn’t a lucrative business now. Didn’t you go into an investment with Serenity and Ms. Stone? You can collect rent to invest. Just do whatever you want to. Don’t worry about taking a loss. I got you covered.”

Jasmine felt loved.

She heard the same words Zachary said to Serenity from Josh.

Jasmine had nothing to be afraid of since she had a man by her side. She could go ahead and make something of herself.

She rested her head against Josh’s shoulder. “Josh, did I ever tell you that I love you?”

“I think you did, or maybe you didn’t. Even if I had, I still want to hear it from your lips.”

Jasmine smiled. “I love you!”

Stopping in his tracks, Josh pulled her into his arms and looked at her with ravishing eyes. He wanted to take her.

His “I love you too” disappeared into the locking of lips.

Jasmine’s best friends, Serenity and Elisa saw the photos and videos posted by Jasmine on Facebook.

Serenity was the first to find out about Josh’s proposal.

She posted her congratulations under the post.

Serenity had only asked Jasmine this morning when she could expect the wedding bells. To her surprise, Josh popped the question by the time evening rolled around.

Alone at the shop, Serenity looked at her best friend’s Facebook post and felt happy for her. Her mind wandered to herself and Zachary.

They got their marriage license from the get-go.

Zachary had never proposed to her.

The jealous man had yet to reply to her text message. God knew whether his non-reply was due to his work or jealousy.

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Unable to stand the wait, Serenity gave Zachary a call.

The phone was ringing, but Zachary did not pick up.

“Is he really jealous?” she mumbled to herself as she gave up calling him.

She placed her phone on the cash register and sat in silence for a while before taking out her crafting tools. She might as well pick up on crafting since she had nothing to *do*.

Serenity was only getting to it when a bouquet of flowers appeared before her eyes.

Lifting her chin, Serenity met a pair of beady eyes.

“You... Why didn’t you pick up your phone? You could’ve at least answered your text message.”

Dropping the crafting, Serenity took the bouquet and groaned.

Zachary looked deeply into her eyes and replied, “I’m here now, so I didn’t take the call. I was busy during the day so I could get off work early today.”

Seeing that she had finished a miniature tree, he picked up the copper wire product for a look.

“Didn’t you hire people? Don’t tire yourself out. You need to watch your hands.”

Zachary put down the miniature tree and held her once-injured hand. The injury was no more, but a scar was left behind as evidence of her carelessness. He caressed the scar, reflecting the heartache in his eyes.

She got hurt because of him.

“The flowers are fresh.”

Not wanting Zachary to blame himself further, Serenity withdrew her arm and changed the topic. “Didn’t Mr. Bucham buy out all the roses from every florist in Wiltspoon?”

Since Josh needed to use a lot of flowers for his proposal, Serenity assumed all florists in Wiltspoon would run out of roses.

“I was late because of these flowers.”

Serenity looked at him, “Don’t tell me you went to your home to cut these flowers?”

Zachary dotingly dabbed her button nose and gave her scarlet lips a quick pinch before replying, “You got that wrong. My home is your home. That is our home.

“Do you still remember that you asked Ms. Sox to get a truckload of poultry? They were raised in the orchard near the estate. They laid a lot of eggs. My mom told me to collect those eggs because nothing beats homegrown eggs. She had a few poultry prepped and

killed so I could take them with me too.

“I dropped by and cut the bunch of flowers in the garden.”

Serenity replied, “I forgot about that...”

She did a silly thing when he put her under house arrest after she found out about who he was. Serenity had a truckload of poultry dumped at the orchard near the estate.

She never gave it another thought after that.

“Mom said the free-range chickens are tastier, so she wanted *me* to bring you some. We’re only two people, plus Nana. I doubt we can finish all of them. I’ll give *some* to Liberty later.” Zachary never forgot to include his sister-in-law for the good stuff.

For this, Serenity was grateful. He cared for and respected the people who mattered to her.

“Mr. Bucham proposed to Jas.”

“I know.”

Zachary stared at her, “Are you envious, honey? I can pop the question *to you* in public.”

“Oh, please. We’re basically an old married couple now. We got our marriage license a long time ago. I don’t need a proposal.”

Zachary fell silent for a moment before uttering, “I will give you the grandest wedding so you will become the envy of all women.”

“I’m already the envy of all women.”

Zachary got to the cash register and held Serenity from the back. Sticking his chest against her back, he breathed into her ear and could not hide the jealousy in his husky voice. He asked, “Why did Shawn come back? What did he tell you? The look in his eyes when *he* stared at you... Was it as passionate as ever?”

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Putting down the flowers, Serenity stripped his arms from around her, stood up, and turned around to meet him face-to-face.

“I asked. Shawn came back because his mother wasn’t feeling well. He took two days off and combined with the weekend, he had four days to visit his mom.

“He thought about dropping in to see Jas since he was passing by the bookshop. He didn’t come for me.

“Jas told me that Shawn called her before coming to see if I was at the shop. He only came when he was sure I was not there. I ran into him when he was about to leave. We didn’t talk for more than five minutes.

“Harry and Milo were outside watching. You know your bodyguards will be on your side if anything does happen.”

Serenity helplessly pinched his face. “Oh, you. You’re always jealous. I told you that I see Shawn as a younger brother. I don’t have that kind of feeling for him.”

Taking her pinching hand, Zachary leaned his face into her palm and looked deeply into her eyes. He murmured in a raspy voice, “I mind that you and Shawn know each other for many years. He had a lot more time with you than I did. Not to mention, he loved you too.”

“There’s nothing we can do about that. I came to know him first, and we’ve been friends for more than a decade. Can you turn back time? I don’t have to know him if you can. I’ll only have you in my life.”

The man would bring up the fact that she knew Shawn before him when jealousy reared its ugly head.

Zachary pursed his lips without a word.

He had no control over time. If he did, he would turn back time and grow up with Serenity.

Seeing that he could not shake off the ill feelings, Serenity softened her voice and pacified him. “Shawn has moved on, babe. Shawn may be the first to know me, and our friendship dates back years, but you will be the one with me for the rest of my life.

“You can have decades with me if I die in my eighties. Isn’t that longer than Shawn?”

Zachary said, “We’ll live to be a hundred.”

He added, “You say Shawn’s name so naturally.”

Serenity answered, “Alright, I won’t call him by his name. He’s Mr. Lowe to me.”

She continued to soothe him. “Now enough of the jealousy.”

“Try not to see him again.”

“Alright, alright. I won’t see him. He’s rarely in Wiltspoon anyway.”

“Call me babe. Always call me babe.” Zachary was milking it.

Serenity usually addressed him as Zachary or Mr. York. It was only when he was angry that she would calm him with a term of endearment.

“Alright, alright. Babe. You’re a babe. You’re acting like such a baby.”

Zachary responded, “It sounds weird coming out of your mouth.”

“I’m more used to saying your name.”

With a smile, Serenity pulled his head down and kissed his face before purring, “Babe.”

An electrifying wave coursed through his body.

Now that was the stuff.

With the tension along his facial muscles easing up, Serenity sighed in relief.

The jealous man was finally pacified.

“When can we go back?”

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Zachary asked.

“We need to deliver some poultry to my sister, so we should leave now.”

Her sister might be asleep if they went too late. The last thing they wanted was to wake Liberty up.

Serenity closed the shop and got into Zachary’s car while the bodyguards took her car back.

During the ride, she asked Zachary, “Any news on the kidnapping at the zoo? Was it not the Newmans?”

Zachary took a moment in silence before answering, “The only thing confirmed is that Mr.Newman wasn’t in on it.”

“If it wasn’t him, was it Mrs. Newman?” He mentioned nothing about Mrs. Newman.

“Josh is still investigating. Nothing is concrete for now, but we have our eyes on Mrs. Newman.” Zachary had believed the prime target was him right from the start.

After a series of investigations though, he realized that the mastermind was after Serenity, not him.

Since Mrs. Newman and her daughter had a grudge against Serenity, they zeroed in on Mrs. Newman.

“Mr. Newman and his wife seem to have a lot of secrets, but they’re cautious and careful not to leave any dirt behind. The couple even piqued Julian’s interest.”

Julian was interested in cases that were tough to crack. Now that his attention was caught, Julian would handle the investigation himself.

“Maybe we’ll get something on the couple if we get help from Ms. Camryn.”

With Camryn’s disinterested personality, Serenity voiced her concern, “How can she help if she can’t see? No matter what, Mrs. Newman is her mother.”

Camryn and Mrs. Newman did not get along, but it would not change the fact that Mrs. Newman was her mother.

Zachary kept to himself for a while before replying, “We’ll see how things go for Callum and Ms. Camryn. Callum has asked a practicing student of miracle healer to treat Ms. Camryn’s eyes.”

“Miracle healer?”

The term did not sound very scientific.

Since entering Zachary’s world, Serenity realized she was introduced to a lot of unfamiliar things and people.

As expected, she lived in a simple world before.

“The miracle healer is a highly skilled medical doctor. We don’t know his name. All we know is that he is a genius doctor. He doesn’t work in the hospital or a health center for that matter.

“He would only see patients of his preference. He won’t even examine if the patient doesn’t meet his personal liking. Nevertheless, he managed to heal the people he examined. That is how he earned his name.

“If my guess is right, he must be about my nana’s age. It must be hard for the old man to move around at this age because not much was heard about him lately, but he has a student.

“The student, Dr. Carden, is a legend too. She rescued Mr. Lafayette during the power struggle between the Hamiltons and Lafayettes in Meadspring last year. She was the reason for the fall of the Hamiltons. The police arrested the family.

“Later, I heard Dr. Carden became close with Lee and Tim of the Johnson family but nothing more thereafter.”

Since Lilian Carden did not return to Annenburg with the Johnson family, the Yorks could not track her down.

“Dr. Carden is on good terms with the ladies of the Lafayettes and the Johnsons. However, Mr. Lafayette and his wife went on a honeymoon. We’ll see whether we can get anything on Dr. Carden from Mrs. Young–Johnson.”

Serenity listened intently and asked, “You talked about taking me on a trip to Annenburg- when are you bringing me? I want to get to know Mrs. Young–Johnson. I’ve heard stories about her.

“She’s like the heroine in a book. Her life story was movie–like. Everybody wants to be her.”

Serenity got to know a bit about Jane from Zachary and Elisa.

She believed Jane had the best of both worlds–deeply loved by her in–laws and her family.

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