

# Married at First Sight [On-Going]

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## Chapter 4564

Romina hung up the call and sighed.

It felt like everyone around her now saw her and River as a couple.

Leaning back in her seat, she grew more annoyed. But after sulking for a bit, that annoyance turned into something deeper—her heart started to ache.

She and her grandfather had already talked it through—there was no way she and River could be together.

Their families were business rivals. Even if she left the Lafond Group and married him, could he ever truly trust her? Wouldn't he always think she might steal company secrets?

And honestly, she had no intention of leaving the Lafond Group.

If that was the price for love, then she'd rather stay single.

Her grandmother had always taught her that women should be financially independent—before and after marriage. Depending on a man was a gamble.

Even if she married rich and became some high-society lady, if she had no income of her own, she'd always be at someone's mercy. She'd have to watch her tone and behavior, always worried about whether she could ask for something.

Her grandmother had seen it all firsthand.

She told Romina about her own mother-in-law, Romina's great-grandmother, who lived a life of complete dependence. When she married into the Lafond family, her husband—Romina's great-grandfather—was just starting his business. He didn't have time for home life. She stayed home, raised kids, and looked after the household.

As the business grew and her husband became wealthy, she remained in the same position—just the housewife in the background.

When he was in a good mood, he'd give her household money.

When he was in a bad mood, he gave that money to the butler instead.

The servants in the house had salaries—they were wealthier than the wife. She had nothing unless her husband gave her something.

Once, after a bad argument, he left on a business trip without giving her any money. She was forced to sell her jewelry just to survive.

It was only when their children grew up and started giving their mother spending money that her situation improved.

Romina's grandmother had experienced this and refused to repeat it. When she married into the Lafond family, her father-in-law wanted her to stay home and live like a traditional lady. He said they were rich enough—she didn't need to work.

But she didn't listen.

Romina's grandfather was more progressive. He supported his wife's career. Together, they expanded the Lafond family business into what it is today.

That's why Romina was raised on these lessons: no matter how powerful the man, a woman must be financially independent.

The mountain may collapse, but self-reliance is unshakable.

Romina had her own career. Even if she had enough money to live comfortably for the rest of her life, she wouldn't give up everything she had built—not for love, and certainly not for marriage.

She would rather stay single than lose her freedom.