

## **Marrying 261**

### Chapter 261 Who's That Woman?

Lucy repeated the statement multiple times in the video.

Firsaily, she put her cup on the table and glared at Cherise. "I can't believe you actually took a video!"

"Of course I did!" Cherise gloated, feeling proud of herself. "I don't usually lie, you know."

Lucy cleared her throat and ordered, "Delete it."

"Of course not!" Cherise held her phone protectively.

"If you don't..." Lucy glared at her, but Cherise met her gaze fearlessly.

"I shan't!"

Thus began a glaring contest between the two women until Lucy conceded defeat.

"Cherry, my love, please delete this for the sake of my future."

"Now that's more like it!"

Cherise waved her phone. "Just deleted!"

However, she smiled slyly before Lucy could feel any relief. "But I have backups.

After a moment of silence, Lucy reported, "You learned nothing but deceit from Damien."

Cherise pouted. "My husband is not a deceptive person at all! He's the best in the world!"

Lucy rolled her eyes. The rose-tinted glasses are quite thick on her.

Just when she was about to change the topic, she saw a beautiful woman walking into the restaurant with a man behind her who looked familiar.

"Look at that woman!" She tapped Cherise's shoulders.

Cherise turned around and exclaimed, "Gosh, she's stunning!"

That woman was wearing a fluffy black shirt and a pair of blue trousers that made her legs seem long. Apart from that, her facial features were so exquisite that it was difficult for one to turn their gaze away from her.

Even Cherise could understand her appeal.

Lucy frowned. "I'm not just asking you to look at her; is the man behind her Mr. Hampson?"

Cherise froze and turned to look at them once again.

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Some passers-by blocked Mr. Hampson a moment ago, but Cherise had a clear look that moment. It really is him!

From afar. Mr. Hampson smiled and chatted with the woman as they made their way to the

clevator.

When the elevator door opened, he gestured for her to enter first.

Cherise's eyes widened at the exchange.

Like Frances, Hampson also works for Damien. Now, who's having a private connection with that woman- Hampson or Damien?

Lucy nudged her. "Is it Hampson?"

"Yes," Cherise admitted reluctantly.

There was a chime as the doors started closing. However, right before they were completely shut, the woman flashed a smile at Cherise.

Her prominent face left an indelible impression on Cherise.

Suddenly, she recalled one of the pictures she saw in Damien's study. She looks exactly like that

woman!

Cherise was stunned beyond belief. Even though her spirits dropped, she took a deep breath and smiled. "Perhaps Damien has some business dealings with her."

He's an important businessman. It's normal to have interactions with other beautiful women. As his wife. I shouldn't overthink this and create more trouble for him.

## Chapter 262 Mysterious Woman

Lucy frowned dubiously “Are you sure? She looks our age and might even be younger than Violet’ What kind of business could she possibly be involved in?”

Cherise continued eating. “Perhaps she’s a prodigy. Who knows?”

Lucy slapped her forehead upon seeing Cherise’s denial.

“Cherry, let me get the situation straight. Your husband is now meeting another beautiful woman behind your back. Instead of feeling suspicious, you are now defending him?”

Cherise took a sip of the lemon juice. “You think too much. They are not alone anyway. Isn’t Mr. Hampson with them?”

Mr. Hampson’s presence is enough to show that they are only planning to talk business.

As soon as she finished her sentence, Lucy nudged her again, redirecting her attention to a certain someone.

It was Mr. Hampson making his way out of the restaurant. Lucy fell speechless, watching his figure disappear from view,

“Damn!” Lucy placed her cup on the table loudly. “If I remember correctly, the second floor only consists of private rooms. Now that Mr. Hampson has left, what on earth are they going to do?”

With that, she pulled Cherise up. “Let’s go!”

“W-Where to?” Cherise protested.

Even though she wasn’t comfortable with the thought, she still trusted Damien.

“Sure, you might trust him, but I don’t!”

Lucy dragged Cherise all the way to the elevator. “F-Forget it, Lucy

As they exited the elevator, she mumbled, “Perhaps she’s not meeting Damien, or perhaps they have something related to business to talk about.”

She had complete faith in Damien, and she didn’t want to meddle in his work...

If I mess up his meeting and leave a bad impression on others. I’ll feel so bad about it!

Lucy glowered at her. “Come on, Cherry. You can’t possibly be so naive! Your good-looking husband is not blind anymore, nor is he crippled! On top of that, his business is flourishing! Don’t you worry that other women might seduce him?”

“No.” Cherise’s lips were pressed into a line as she looked at Lucy earnestly, rendering the latter speechless.

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Chapter 263 Confrontation

Cherise felt as though she was being unreasonable and insecure by doubting her own husband.

“This is the last one. If we don’t find them here, I’ll trust your husband as much as you do.”

With that, she knocked on the door.

There was no immediate response.

However, when Lucy knocked again, Damien’s low voice rang. “Come in.”

Cherise stiffened as soon as she heard the familiar male baritone.

It really... is him.

Lucy sneered and dragged Cherise into the room, which was illuminated in warm light.

Even the room temperature was perfect.

Dressed in a formal suit, Damien glanced at her from the chair while the beautiful woman they encountered just now sat right across him elegantly.

She eyed Cherise and Lucy briefly before turning around to look at Damien questioningly. “Do you know them, Dame?”

Cherise felt her blood run cold. She’s already using his nickname. Lucy doesn’t even do that. This signifies how close they are.

Her sixth sense tingled uncomfortably,

“Of course!”

Lucy walked over and sat next to the woman.

Cherise was about to join them when Lucy gave her a shove. "Why are you joining us? Go sit next to your husband! You aren't worried about letting people know your identity, are you?" she

hinted.

Mandy flashed a small smile as she took a sip from the teacup. "It seems that this is Mrs. King. Is my understanding correct?"

Cherise almost lost her balance if it weren't for Damien, who quickly steadied her.

After placing her down next to him, he chastised adoringly, "Clumsy girl!"

Cherise blushed without saying another word.

As he poured a glass of lemon-infused water for her, he smiled at the woman and explained.

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"Apologies for the distraction, Ms. Wool. This is my wife, Cherise."

"Nice to meet you. I'm Mandy Wool." The woman smiled at Cherise. "Though I just met Dame, we hit it off pretty well."

Lucy frowned at her words. Who's overthinking now? As women, we can understand another woman's true intentions. This Mandy reeks of a pretentious slt from head to toe. Even if Damien couldn't discern that, Cherise should be able to tell. How naive can she be? Or does she trust Damien that much?

"The pleasure is mine, Ms. Wool." Cherise returned the smile.

“Why are you here?” Damien smoothed out her hair. “Just half an hour ago, I heard from Frances. that you were still sleeping.”

Cherise blushed. “I asked Lucy out for lunch.”

“I see.” He let out a low chuckle. “And you guys chose this place? Since it’s Leonard’s restaurant, you probably don’t have to pay, since he’s my close friend. On top of that, you get to enjoy your favorite roast chicken here.” He took another sip of his tea as he guessed her reasons impeccably.

Cherise lowered her head shyly. “Scoring a free meal is not the reason.” She pouted. “I planned to pay with the platinum card you gave me.”

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Chapter 264 Quick-Witted

“I’m not a freeloader.”

Darien smiled and caressed her hair. “Well, I think Leonard doesn’t have the guts to take your money.

“That’s between you and him. I will pay for my meal-I’m an honest person.”

“Is that so? Someone who’s honest wouldn’t quietly go to a fancy place without letting her husband know.”

www



The entire room was silent apart from their lover's squabble.

Mandy tightened her grip on the glass as she processed the information.

If she wasn't mistaken, Damien had a limitless platinum card that was one of the few in the entire world. The cardholder could enjoy VIP privileges of all high-end places in Adania.

It had an unlimited credit that allowed the holder to spend any amount of money they liked. On top of that, the owner was given access to exclusive privileges. Someone once said enviously that possessing the card would make one feel like a king.

Damien came to possess that card because his father had once saved an extremely important person, who gave the card as a gift after that.

I can't believe that Damien gave this card to the country bumpkin next to him.

Meanwhile, Lucy was quietly gloating as she noticed the change of expression on Mandy's face.

It seems like Damien knows what we want today. He's deliberately showing his love for Cherise in front of Mandy.

Cherise turned to Mandy, "I hope you don't mind, Ms. Wool. We just got married, so we are in our lovey-dovey phase now. We didn't mean to be rude."

"Don't worry about it. I heard of your background. It must be difficult for people like you to encounter a man of Mr. King's caliber. Of course, it makes sense for you to cling to him." she said, taking a sip from her teacup gracefully.

Her seemingly understanding statement was actually implying that based on Cherise's countryside family background, she was not a good match for Damien. Hence, her insecurity made her keep a close watch on him at all times.

This unspoken layer behind her words was apparent to both Cherise and Lucy.

Halfway through the squabble with Damien, Cherise froze and stopped smiling.

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Mandy widened her eyes in shock and covered her mouth in feigned horror “Please don’t get me wrong, Mrs. King. I accidentally blurted everything out because everyone’s been talking about it

This was another jab at Cherise, telling her that others also had similar thoughts.

Cherise’s face darkened as she took a sip of her lemon water.

“If I hadn’t met you today, I wouldn’t know that socialites from a prominent family like yourself like gossip as much as the old ladies in my village. It seems like family background is not the deciding factor for how cultured you are. What do you think?”

I might not be as educated as them, but I’m not an idiot. It doesn’t mean they can belittle me!

Cherise’s retort perhaps came as a surprise to Mandy. “That’s true. Fortunately. I’m different from them.”

Very well, now pointing the fingers at others, pushing the blame away from herself. Just a moment ago, she was putting me down with her words.

“Good for you,” Cherise shot back sarcastically. “It’s better to stay away from those who gossip. Otherwise, you might behave the same way as well. That’s a terrifying thought.”

Mandy’s face drained of blood as she remained silent.

Chapter 265 Cherise’s Vindictiveness

Meanwhile, Damien was quietly smiling as he drank his tea. I didn't know Cherise was so quick-witted.

Lucy smiled and took a sip of her tea before asking, "We came here for the food, but what about you, Ms. Wool? Are you here... for business?"

younger than

Mandy smiled upon hearing that. "Of course not. I'm only nineteen-two months Mrs. King. Of course, I'm not here on business with Mr. King. We have some private matters to

discuss."

"How do you know my age and birthday?"

The condescending smile continued to linger on Mandy's lips. "I've seen some information about

you."

"I see." Cherise nodded. Suddenly, she thought of something and jerked her head up. "Since you've looked up my information, surely you know what I look like? Why did you act as though you didn't know who I am and even asked if I'm Damien's wife?"

Mandy was at a loss for words. Who said she's dim? Her responses are so quick and sharp.

Lucy tried to suppress a smile as she replied, "I suppose Ms. Wool meets many different people every day. You probably slipped her mind.

Cherise's brows furrowed together as she thought about it. "You might be right. Perhaps she's not utilizing her memory well. She can't remember my face, yet she can remember that she's two months younger than me. That's not the main point." With that, she smiled at Mandy. "Perhaps I can teach you

one of my secrets to memorizing things quickly. I'm at the top of my class in school. I always get full marks in exams. I remember things easily because I have my own techniques."

Mandy remained silent at her offer. Who wants to learn that from her? She's doing this on purpose as if I'm a fool who can't remember things!

"You should really consider that, Ms. Wool." Damien smiled and rubbed Cherise's hair lovingly. "In our discussion just now, you didn't remember lots of things."

Then, he turned to Cherise and grinned at her. "Teach her how you do it when the opportunity arises."

"Sure thing!" The approval from Damien gave her confidence. She nodded and said earnestly, "Ms. Wool, don't be disappointed. If you keep forgetting stuff, it must be due to using the wrong techniques. I'll teach you from the ground up. Since you're Damien's friend, I won't ask for anything in return."

Ugh! Mandy exclaimed inwardly, but she remained silent.

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pride and vindictive

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Ken Mandy had left

Chapter 266 Explanation

Jealousy seeped into Cherise's voice.

Upon seeing that, Lucy quickly gulped down her drink and fled "Cherry. I'm leaving as well. Bye!"

She would stand up for Cherise anytime, but she had no intention to be involved in their quarrels.

Only Damien and Cherise remained in the room.

He took another slow sip of the tea before looking at her with his profound eyes. "Are you jealous, dear Mrs. King?"

His penetrating gaze was filled with danger, as though he could see through her.

Cherise lost her composure upon meeting his eyes. Startled, she looked away. "I'm not."

Damien pulled her into an embrace and kissed her. As his breath lingered around her, he asked, "Why are you pulling a long face, then?"

"1-"

Cherise wanted to get away from him, but he tightened his embrace. "Weren't you quite quick-witted just now? Where have all the smart retorts gone?"

She pursed her lips. "M-My husband is secretly meeting an attractive woman. Even if I were not jealous, I should know the reason, shouldn't I?" she asked, sensing the tension in the air.

"She's not as beautiful as you." Damien pinched her cheeks.

"Her figure is definitely better, and her chest as well."

Damien smiled. "I don't like big ones. Yours is just nice."

With that, he cupped her chest, making her blush. Trying to push him away, she said, "Don't."

Damien enjoyed seeing her getting flustered, so he took it another step further.

"I didn't expect you to notice that when you were observing her.""

Cherise felt her cheeks burning.

Meanwhile, as he continued to move his hands along her body, she could feel his desires getting awakened.

"S-Stop it." She shoved his hands away.

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Someone else might enter the room!

Damien's voice rang as he whispered into her ears, "Even if they do, they can't do anything about it. We're husband and wife-there's nothing wrong about it, and..." His voice trailed away

dangerously. "Now I really want to do something."

The warning bells sounded in Cherise's mind.

"I-I'm old school!" She pushed him away and kept a distance away from her, maintaining at defensive stance. "A-And I'm not fully recovered yet! I know you are young and energetic. I understand your

feelings since it's been days since we did anything. But we're outside here, so calm down! On top of that, I'm not feeling well."

Nevertheless, the scorching passion in his eyes terrified her. Gritting her teeth quietly, she said, "How about this? W-When I'm fully recovered, you can do anything you like to me. But it must be at home." She blushed and lowered her head shyly.

She's old school? Damien burst out laughing.

Pulling her into his arms, he kissed her again and again. "I only wanted to kiss you, dear. What are you thinking?"

He pinched her rosy cheeks and teased, "Do you really think I would do it here, even when you're not fully recovered?"

Chapter 267 Do You Trust Me?

As he continued teasing her, the smile on his lips widened.

Cherise was taken aback when she heard that. Only... kissing?

Feeling deceived, she glared at him. "You did this on purpose!"

Of course, I have something else in mind, considering how he said it! By the time I misinterpreted his words, he told me I was dirty!

"You sly b\*stard!" She huffed angrily.

Damien was delighted at her reaction and kissed her over and over again. "But you reminded me that I've been neglecting you lately. When you've recovered, I'll give it to you in doubles and triples." He kissed her lips.

Cherise thought to herself, Can I reject him?

“Don’t even think of rejecting me,” he warned before continuing the kisses.

Cherise pursed her lips, but she suddenly remembered something and turned around. “Fine, then.” There’s no point in resisting him. “But don’t you need to explain what’s happening between you and Mandy?”

She saw a picture of Mandy in the morning, and Damien had already asked her out for lunch. with Mr. Hampson and Mr. Kolson.

She would be kept in the dark if it were not for Lucy.

“I think an explanation is not too much to ask for.”

Damien chuckled. “What do you think?”

“I really don’t know,” Cherise shook her head.

“Do you trust me?”

“Of course I do.”

She wrapped her arms around him and looked at him earnestly. “You’re my husband. Of course, I trust you. But the explanation that you owe me has nothing to do with my trust.”

He shouldn’t keep me in the dark simply because I trusted him. He was the one who said we should be honest with each other and even asked me to give him a heads-up if I were to meet another guy. The same rule should apply to him as well!

Damien sighed gently with her in his arms. “I didn’t meet her because of her looks. The reason is



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When Cherpe saw the figures in the photograph, her eyes widened in show i

korerune who looked exactly like Mandy was in the shot, along with a yosung her. Home

young lady in the picture exuded a far better air compared to Manily

Though they looked the same, the woman in the picture seemed erudite, collected, and graceful the the other hand. Mandy seemed cold and petry.

The young boy in the picture was of the same age as Blake, but his temperament and fai sal features already showed indifference that was akin to Damsen.

Cherise lifted her head and looked at him. “This is.”

Thirteen years ago, when I was thirteen.” Damien replied quietly, leaving Cherise shocked

The girl next to him should be at least seventeen if Damien were thirteen. Herice, the woman should be close to her thirties at that time. However, Mandy was two months younger than

Cherise

It was clear that the woman in the picture was not Mandy

Chapter 268 Danielle's Doppelganger

The woman in the picture was someone who looked like Mandy.

"This is my sister." Damien took a deep breath and closed his eyes. "Thirteen years ago, she died in a fire on my birthday."

Cherise froze when she heard that.

"This is your sister?"

Damien hadn't talked about his deceased family until then. When she was introduced to his family members, his grandfather also did not mention the deceased.

Hence, she never knew what Damien's sister looked like.

What is Mandy's relationship with Damien? Why does she look like her sister?

"Yes. I share similar doubts as you." Damien put his phone away and poured a cup of tea for himself.

Understanding finally dawned on Cherise.

"Yeah." He nodded.

"Do you have any leads?" She immediately scooted closer, all thoughts of interrogating him forgotten. All she had in her mind was about Mandy and Danielle.

“Yes, but it’s a mess.” Damien closed his eyes. “Initially, I thought she underwent plastic surgery to seduce me, but after talking to her, everything became even more dubious.” A darker tone seeped into his voice as he continued. “Because she knew everything about us. It has been a long time since she passed. Apart from me, no one else knows about those secrets. No one else but her. So, it’s not as simple as just a doppelganger. The face might not be the only thing she ‘inherited’ from Danielle.”

Cherise was slightly dazed when she heard his words. She pursed her lips as she looked at her, “You’re implying that somehow Mandy also has her thoughts?”

Damien remained silent, but that seemed to be his reply.

Cherise shook her head. “It’s rather impossible...”

As a medical student, she knew that it was impossible for modern medicine to completely replace one’s memories; not even hypnosis could achieve that.

She recalled one of her teacher’s words back in high school. When everything else had been eliminated, the only remaining answer might be the answer, no matter how absurd it might be.

She pressed her lips together. “Dear, do you think it’s possible... that your sister is still alive?”

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Chapter 269 The Mysterious Woman

Still, Mandy’s actions showed that she was clearly interested in Damien. Even though Cherise trusted him, she wanted to know everything to feel reassured.

Daniel smiled and gave her a peck on her cheeks. "Thanks for understanding."

She forced a smile. "I also want to know what exactly is going on."

After all, she could clearly see the impact of Danielle's death on Damien.

His sister must be a lot more important than me, his wife of only two months. Even if I don't allow him to continue the investigation, he'll still continue anyway. In that case, why shouldn't I support him?

Nevertheless, she still felt disappointed and upset.

On the way back, she looked grim and surly. As soon as they reached home, she went to bed. straight away. After tossing and turning around, she was unable to fall asleep, with Mandy's face a constant appearance in her mind.

Her sixth sense told her that Mandy knew Damien's intentions of meeting her, and she was deliberately telling him the secrets between him and Danielle to lure him to investigate her.

After several rounds of turning around in bed, someone knocked on the door – it was Blake, who was still in his school uniform.

He smiled sweetly at Cherise. "Cherry, Dame said you're not in a good mood. Shall we water the plants?"

Cherise gave it a thought and decided to let the matter slide.

Forget it. There's no use brooding on it. I need to keep my spirits up since I'm still recovering.

With that thought in mind, she got out of bed and sprang up in front of Blake. "Let's go!"

The afternoon sun was scorching outside, but Cherise and Blake had a lot of fun watering the garden and playing with each other.

Standing near the window of his study, he watched them as his thoughts flashed back to thirteen years ago.

Back then, Danielle also played with him throughout the entire house, be it inside or outside, by the stairs or in the garden.

Since their parents passed, she had been taking good care of him. Though he was already a teenager back then, he was still naive and innocent, full of love for life.

Yet, the good times did not last.

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If it weren't for Cherise, he could no longer feel any warmth.

He heaved a sigh and caressed the woman in the picture. "Are you... still alive?"

"I transferred you to another university."

A woman threw the transfer letter on the table in a cold manner. "You will be starting a few days later."

Mandy picked it up. "The cardiology department in Adania University?"

She rolled her eyes. "I have no interest in medicine."

“This is where Cherise is studying”

In a wheelchair with her back against Mandy, the woman croaked hoarsely, “You’ve met him. Be it the looks or the family background, he’s the elite in Adania. If you make them divorce, he’s yours.”

Mandy curled her fingers around the letter, pressing her lips into a thin line. “I heard that...” She blanched, weighing her words. “That three of his ex-fiancées had all passed in accidents. Cherise might have escaped the fatal fate because her background doesn’t match him at all. But I don’t want my life to be at stake, though he’s my type.”

“Hah.” The woman in the wheelchair scoffed. “Having me around you, what are you afraid of?”

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## Chapter 270 The Mastermind

Tapping her fingers on the wheelchair, she continued, “Since he dares to show his face in public. now, it means he’s not intimidated by those guys anymore. You shouldn’t be worried about being. threatened- you might be unable to fend off the country bumpkin.”

Mandy smiled icily. “Her? She’s not even on my list of worries.”

Though she put on an indifferent front, the glimmer of anxiety in her eyes betrayed her.

She had her pride, after all. She was disdainful about snatching other people’s belongings.

There are so many men in the world. I don’t have to take away a man with a lover. However, this is an order from S.

Having followed S for many years, she understood the consequences of disobeying her orders.

She took a deep breath to sort out her thoughts. "S," she addressed.

"Yes," the woman replied in a low, husky voice with her back facing Mandy.

"What if my current looks are not enough to entice Damien? What will you do? Will you.... kill her like how you did with the previous three women?"

At that instant, Cherise's full cheeks appeared in Mandy's mind. She was reluctant to see that happen.

"Not for now," S chuckled hoarsely. "She still has some use for me. Just try your best. Even if it fails, I have a plan to separate them."

On the other hand, Cherise had been cooped up in Lenoir Manor for two weeks.

Finally, she had gotten approval from Jacob and put an end to her break from university.

She woke up early that morning and went downstairs energetically with her bag.

"You're up early today, Mrs. Lenoir," Frances commented while preparing breakfast. "Are you getting back to university today?"

Cherise plopped down on the chair, not even removing her bag. "Yup! Mold is almost growing on me after so long!"

"Is that so?" Damien appeared on the stairway, fastening his button as he walked downstairs. "Let me have a whiff if you have a moldy smell."

Cherise rolled her eyes at him and continued her meal.

He sat opposite her with a smile on his face. Looking at the bag behind her, he asked. "Are you that eager to get back?"

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"Yeah!"

Cherise pouted and placed the food on his plate, a habit she had built up over time. "By the way, yesterday I found out that there's road maintenance near our place. The route of the public bus. has moved to somewhere far from here. Can you ask Mr. Kolson to send me there later?"

"Mr. Kolson"

Damien shook his head with a grin. "I'm afraid not."

"Why?" She paused midway taking the food.

"He is busy with other stuff." He placed some bread on her plate. "From today onwards, I'll be your personal driver."

Cherise was stunned to hear that. What?

"Won't it be a lot of trouble?" She thought about it before continuing. "Why don't I take the public. bus? It's only four kilometers from here. I can definitely walk there. It's too much to ask you to fetch me here and there. You're such a busy man."

Damien froze momentarily before smiling wryly.

"It's not a problem at all," he replied after a pause, with a smile on his face. "It's my responsibility to drive my wife wherever she wants. Apart from that, it doesn't take long to take you to the university. I'm not that busy."