

Marrying 561

Chapter 561 Still The Same

Shortly after settling down, a waiter served their dishes.

Damien reclined comfortably in his plush chair, a smile playing on his lips as he surveyed the spread before him.

It was evident that Syatt had gone to great lengths to cater to Cherise's preferences. Otherwise, the table's array of dishes wouldn't have perfectly aligned with her taste.

This realization prompted Damien to glance at Cherise with a subtle smile. He asked Syatt, "Did you prepare all of Cherise's favorite dishes?"

"Absolutely!"

Syatt looked very pleased with himself. "I've even bribed the hospital staff to slowly discover Dr. Shaw's favorite food."

Damien nodded. He shifted his gaze to Cherise and remarked, "I'm surprised your preferences are still the same after all these years, Dr. Shaw."

The underlying implication in his words wasn't lost on Cherise.

Her face paled.

She understood that Damien had intentionally said it to ridicule her previous assertion at the Mexican restaurant that he didn't know her.

She conceded that she hadn't changed much in the past five years and hadn't put on a facade in front of Damien in the past.

She had only made that statement to put some distance between them.

It unexpectedly became a tool for Damien to taunt her.

The woman coughed lightly. "I'm quite hungry. I'll start eating."

With her ex-husband and current suitor seated across from her, it would be a lie if Cherise said she didn't feel uncomfortable.

The most effective way to mask her discomfort was to focus on her meal.

She began eating, disregarding any pretense of decorum.

Syatt watched Cherise eat with an adoring gaze. He sighed softly, "You look so attractive even when you're eating, Dr. Shaw."

Damien was dumbstruck.

He frowned and glanced at the man beside him.

Syatt seemed to look at Cherise with rose-tinted glasses. Despite Damien being Cherise's ex-husband, Syatt seemed more infatuated with Cherise.

Damien cleared his throat and began eating. He casually asked, "How did you get to know Dr. Shaw?"

ther hospital, of course?”

Wart watched Cherise eat with a smile on his face. He said beamingly. Tve had a weak heart since I was young I underwent a heart transplant surgery six months ago, personally led by Dr Shaw, and she took care of me post-operation”

“I was hospitalized for over five months and was only discharged just two weeks ago.”

Throughout those five months. Dr. Shaw was my primary physician.”

With that, he looked at Damien smugly. “Dr. Shaw and I spent a lot of time together for more than five months. You wouldn’t understand our bond?”

“Cough, cough?”

Across from them. Cherise nearly choked on her food.

Damien merely smiled faintly and slid a napkin towards Cherise. “So, are you aware of my history with Dr. Shaw?

Syatt shook his head. “No”

With that, he flattened his lips, “Didn’t you join us for lunch to tell me about your past with her!

“I did

Damien responded with an indifferent smile. He looked up at Cherise, who was slightly pale but still

ating earnestly. “But why don’t we go somewhere else?”

Firstly, it's not nice for me to discuss my past with Dr Shaw in front of her. I'm afraid I might stir up painful memories for her

"Secondly, Dr. Shaw hasn't finished her meal yet. We can't disturb her meal, can we

Syatt thought about it and agreed. He stood and addressed Cherise. "Dr. Shaw, enjoy your meal and take your time. We'll step outside for a chat

Before Cherise could respond, the two men had already risen and departed together in the elevator

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Chapter 562 You’re Not Worth It

She stood up and was about to follow, but stopped after a few steps.

Never mind.

Let them do as they please.

She had considered getting rid of them, so their departure was rather convenient.

Therefore, she resumed eating with a clear conscience. Once she finished, she even settled the bill at the

restaurant.

Ten minutes later, she gracefully descended from the elevator to the hotel lobby on the ground floor. She overheard the panicked voice of the hotel receptionist. "Hello, is this Adania Hospital?"

"Please dispatch an ambulance quickly. Mr. Posten has collapsed..."

I'm not sure of the cause. It seems he got into a fight..."

Cherise froze in her tracks.

She hurried towards the reception. "Did you say Syatt Posten collapsed?"

Upon recognizing Cherise, the receptionist nodded quickly. "Dr. Shaw, please check on him! Mr. Posten seems to have had a fight and collapsed..."

You're aware of his heart condition, right?!"

Cherise narrowed her eyes. After confirming Syatt's room number, she dashed towards the elevator.

Syatt was on the twenty-third floor.

Just as Cherise stepped out of the elevator on the twenty-third floor, she bumped into Damien, who was about to go down.

He clearly hadn't expected to run into Cherise here. Therefore, a surprised smile appeared on his lips.
"What brings you here?"

"What brings me here?!"

Cherise clenched her fists at her sides.

I should have known!

Damien is so possessive. I experienced this firsthand five years ago!

With his almost obsessive possessiveness, how can he peacefully get along with Syatt, who has always been infatuated

with me?!

I shouldn't have trusted his lie about discussing our past with Syatt!

The woman gritted her teeth. Looking up, she glared icily at Damien, "Don't you know why I'm here?"

"You were just with Syatt, weren't you?"

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"What did you do to him?"

Damien furrowed his brows fiercely. He sensed that the woman in front of him was in a bad mood.

But he couldn't understand why she felt that way.

"I didn't do anything to him."

He had simply told Syatt about his past with Cherise.

"Heh. If you didn't do anything to Syatt, why did he collapse?"

Cherise took a deep breath, looked up, and glared icily at Damien. "Remember that I'm no longer the Cherise I used to be. I'm not your woman anymore."

"Syatt's pursuit and affection for me is between me and him. You have no right to interfere!"

Damien frowned. He looked at her with his deep eyes and spoke in a low voice. "You're my wife. Why can't I interfere?"

"I'm not your wife!"

"We've been divorced for a long time!"

Cherise shook off Damien's hand. "I actually considered giving you a second chance."

"But after some thought, I changed my mind. You're not worth it!"

With that, the woman shrugged off Damien's hand and sprinted towards Syatt's room.

Damien stood still. His eyes narrowed fiercely.

Shortly after, the hospital ambulance arrived.

Cherise and the hotel staff lifted Syatt onto the stretcher and left in the ambulance.

As she climbed into the ambulance outside the hotel, she saw Damien standing at the entrance. He watched her board the ambulance with a serious expression.

The woman gritted her teeth and slammed the ambulance door.

He's not worth it!

Their relationship clearly wasn't the same as it was five years ago. Damien would still need time to win Cherise over again.

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Chapter 563 Damien Isn't Like That

They had a strained relationship, yet he dared to behave so boldly towards a man who was courting her.

Moreover, Syatt was her patient!

He had already informed Damien about his heart condition as well!

But Damien still got into a fight with Syatt, causing Syatt to faint!

She hadn't seen Damien for five years, and he had changed beyond recognition!

On the way from the hotel to the hospital, Cherise was worried about Syatt and disappointed in Damien.

Damien had completely let her down.

She knew he would never have assaulted a patient five years ago, even if he wasn't very compassionate.

But now...

The woman closed her eyes. Has he really become so ruthless just to win me back?

Perhaps a man like him... truly doesn't deserve another chance.

The ambulance arrived at the hospital shortly after.

Syatt was immediately rushed into the emergency room.

Lucy hurried over. "What happened?"

"Hasn't Syatt Posten's heart been stable recently? I repeatedly warned his family not to upset him. Why

did..."

Cherise sat on a bench with her head in her hands. She felt guilty. "It's my fault."

She was solely focused on getting rid of Damien and Syatt. However, she overlooked the fact that the current Damien was a different man from five years ago.

"Are you sure?"

Upon hearing Cherise's explanation, Lucy was so shocked that it took her a moment to compose herself.

"Cherise."

The woman took a deep breath. "I don't like Damien and have always had a dislike for him."

"But it might not be what it seems. Damien isn't that kind of person."

Cherise closed her eyes. "I don't want to believe that he's someone who would assault a sick person either."

"But if it wasn't him, how did the handprint appear on Syatt's face?"

"Besides him, who else in Syatt Hotel would dare to slap Syatt Posten?"

Lucy was surprised. She fell silent.

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After a while, she still shook her head. "I still can't believe Damien would do such a thing.

"His flaw is wavering between you and his family, but he wouldn't do something so immoral."

Cherise looked up at Lucy, "Are you sure?"

Lucy nodded. "Absolutely."

"I don't believe a person's character changes so easily."

After that, she looked directly at Cherise. "In any case, you used to have feelings for him. Don't you... trust.

him?"

Cherise shook her head, I'm not sure."

Five years was more than enough time for someone to change.

After working in the hospital for the past few years, she had witnessed countless goodbyes and too many people changing their minds.

Five years. Cherise hadn't seen Damien for five

years.

He was now the ruthless head of the Lenoir household.

She couldn't believe it. She didn't want to believe it...

Perhaps she had lost faith in him when he chose Maeve over her five years ago...

Lucy sighed. She reached out to pat Cherise's head. "We'll know when Syatt regains consciousness."

Cherise nodded.

The two women waited outside the emergency room for over half an hour.

Half an hour later, the emergency room door opened, and the nurse wheeled Syatt to a nearby ward.

The doctor who had performed emergency treatment on Syatt came out and patted Cherise's shoulder. "The patient specifically requested to see you.

Cherise quickly stood up and rushed into the ward.

Inside the room, Syatt was leaning against the headboard with a pale expression. He looked at Cherise tearfully. "Dr. Shaw..."

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Chapter 564 I Hit Myself

Upon seeing his tear-streaked face, Cherise felt overwhelming sympathy. She approached him, pursing her lips, and handed him a tissue while reassuring him. "I'm here."

Syatt took a deep breath and accepted the tissue with a pitiful expression, wiping away his tears. "Dr. Shaw, I'm distraught."

Cherise sat by his bedside, her lips still pursed, and gently comforted him. "It's alright. It's all in the now."

"I assure you that Damien will never appear before you again."

Syatt's hand froze as he wiped his tears.

He looked up at Cherise tearfully. "Why?"

Why?

It's obviously to protect you from harm!

Cherise took a deep breath. "It's for your safety. Moving forward..."

"For my safety?"

Syatt was taken aback. "Dr. Shaw, have you misunderstood something?"

"Where's Mr. Lenoir?"

Cherise was dumbstruck.

"Mr. Lenoir?"

"Yes."

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Syatt's tearful eyes blinked. "Damien and I are now as close as brothers. From now on, I'll refer to him as Mr. Lenoir out of respect."

Cherise was so taken aback that she was momentarily speechless.

"Didn't you... have a fight with Damien?"

“A fight?”

Now it was Syatt’s turn to be surprised. “Why would I have a fight with him?”

Cherise pursed her lips. “What about the handprint on your face...

“This?”

Syatt touched the swollen handprint mark on his face. “I hit myself.”

Cherise was dumbfounded.

She had previously assured Lucy that no one else in Syatt Hotel, apart from Damien, would dare to slap Syatt.

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She now stood corrected.

Because, other than Damien, Syatt could also slap himself....

She looked somewhat upset. “Why did you slap yourself?”

“Because I shouldn’t have pursued you, Mrs. Lenoir...”

Syatt looked up at Cherise with a pitiful expression. “Dr. Shaw, no, Mrs. Lenoir. You’ll be Mrs. Lenoir to me from now on.”

Cherise was dumbfounded.

What an unexpected turn of events!

“You slapped yourself and passed out?”

“Why were you so worked up that you slapped yourself and passed out?”

Faced with Cherise’s barrage of angry questions, Syatt pursed his lips, looking like a child caught red-handed. “Well, after we entered that room, Mr. Lenoir told me about your past with him, Dr. Shaw,”

“He also told me how he searched for you in the past five years.”

“I was so overwhelmed with emotion and felt a great deal of respect for Mr. Lenoir.”

“After he left, I thought about how I had pursued you when Mr. Lenoir was away and felt very upset with myself, so I slapped myself twice out of anger. Then, I felt dizzy...”

Cherise was stupefied.

“Didn’t I tell you Damien isn’t like that?”

As they sat in the office, Lucy poured Cherise a cup of tea before shaking her head lightly. “Syatt has always been unpredictable. A stray animal is more trustworthy than him.”

Cherise slumped over the desk. “I really misunderstood Damien.”

She closed her eyes. The image of the man standing alone at the hotel entrance, looking so lonely and desolate, still haunted her.

He hadn't done anything wrong to her patient.

Yet she had berated and accused him of doing so.

She sighed helplessly, covering her face with her hands. "What should I do?"

Damien must think I'm unreasonable, overly aggressive, and irrational.

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Chapter 565 Another Chance

It's Syatt's fault!

"Maybe I should apologize," Lucy suggested.

She casually sipped her coffee and flipped through a magazine across the table. "What other options do you have?"

"He came all this way to pursue you, only to be scared off on the first day. That's not fair."

Cherise remained silent.

Her eyes were fixed on Lucy. "Lulu, do you think I should give him a chance?"

"I can't say for sure, but your words and actions suggest that he still holds a place in your heart."

"If you truly didn't care for him as you claimed, you wouldn't be concerned about how you treated him."

"If he's someone you don't care for, why should his opinion of you matter?"

Cherise was left speechless. She couldn't argue with Lucy's words.

Lucy is right... She couldn't help but care.

Cherise bit her lip. "Damien should have a positive impression of me, right?"

"So why not give him another chance?"

Lucy yawned. "You're so stubborn."

"Haven't Mr. Carlos and the hospital director introduced you to numerous promising young men over the years?"

"Zachary even introduced you to a few men. Have any of them caught your eye?"

"You've shown no interest in any of these men. But when Damien shows up, you're all over the place."

"If you can't let go, why not give it another shot?"

Cherise's hands clenched tightly. "I..."

Even though five years had passed, she couldn't easily forgive Damien for the pain he had caused her back then...

"Absolutely not."

Lucy rolled her eyes. "Cherise, stop being so stubborn. When I suggested giving him a chance, I meant allowing him to pursue you like Syatt and the others."

"Are you going to be won over so easily?"

"Don't be too grateful for every little thing he does for you. Make him work for it and pursue you for a year or two as compensation for the pain he caused you back then before you make any decisions!"

"Oh."

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Cherise nodded. She gently sipped her drink. "I understand."

After a moment, she looked up at Lucy again. "Should I apologize for my behavior today?"

"Apologize?"

Lucy frowned. "If he's serious about pursuing you, would a minor misunderstanding discourage him?"

"If this small incident is enough to make him back off, don't bother giving him a chance. Let him go his own way!"

"Ah."

Cherise pursed her lips and nodded lightly.

Upon seeing the naive girl before her, Lucy sighed in exasperation..

Others saw Cherise as a mature, composed, experienced, and restrained female doctor.

But in Lucy's presence, Cherise was still an innocent girl who needed protection. Cherise liked to share. and discuss everything with Lucy.

With this in mind, Lucy asked Cherise, "Can't you figure these things out on your own without me spelling. it out for you?"

Cherise looked up at Lucy and shook her head.

She had her own plans for Damien and would have figured it out without Lucy's advice.

But her past with Damien still haunted her, and she couldn't fully move on.

Lucy's words encouraged her and provided her with a way forward.

As it turned out, she wasn't alone in her thinking. She had people around her who supported her as well.

"Cherise."

Lucy reached out and tousled Cherise's hair. "Your mom passed away a long time ago. It's time to let go."

Chapter 566 Damien's Search

"He didn't choose to have such a father or family either."

"It's just like how you couldn't believe that your uncle would commit arson and murder. Understandably, he didn't believe his father was a rapist."

"If you have feelings for him, don't overthink it."

Cherise sighed and rested her weight on the table, exhaling softly.

After lunch, Cherise made her rounds and checked on her patients in their rooms.

Syatt was the last patient she visited.

"Mrs. Lenoir."

Cherise frowned. "Please don't call me that."

"Alright, alright."

Syatt nodded and eagerly took Cherise's hand. "Mrs. Lenoir, when will you reconcile with Mr. Lenoir?"

Cherise was flabbergasted.

She found it somewhat amusing. "Did Damien drug you? Why have you suddenly started defending him?"

"He didn't drug me."

Syatt took a deep breath and pulled out his cell phone. "Mr. Lenoir showed me a video."

"Take a look."

Cherise furrowed her brows and leaned in.

His phone screen played scenes captured with a handheld video camcorder. The footage showcased Shaw's village.

"Cherise, this is Shaw's village. You probably don't recognize it anymore, do you?"

"It's because of the money I invested with Jack last time. He really did lead the village to prosperity."

"Uncle Shaw and Aunt Wanda moved back while Sky and Tay got into college,"

The scene shifted to a small bridge and river in the village. "You and Blake used to catch fish here, and I could only watch from the side."

"Cherise, many fish are in the river now, and I'd love to catch fish with you. Would you come back to me again?"

Cherise's college campus was shown next. "I asked the dean and your classmates. They said you like to study at this spot in the square every morning."

"You previously said you wanted me to eat in the cafeteria and study with you."

"If you come back to me, I'll do these things with you."

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Finally, the scene switched to Damien's stubbled face. "Cherise, this is the thirty-fifth day since I'm remorseful and want to find you, but you won't see me."

The scenes kept changing.

"Cherise, this is the sixtieth day I've been looking for you."

"It's been 120 days."

"365 days have passed."

"I've been looking for you for 1099 days."

Damien's cold face appeared each time. "I'm waiting for you to come back."

The video editing wasn't perfect, but each scene was enough to bring tears to Cherise's eyes.

you left.

Syatt sighed lightly. "Mr. Lenoir said he started broadcasting this video on advertising screens in major cities around the world two years ago, hoping you would know he's waiting for you."

"But... it seems like you've never seen it."

Cherise stared blankly at the video on Syatt's phone as she wiped her eyes. The corners of her eyes were filled with tears.

The woman sniffled. "Can you send me a copy of this video?"

"Of course!"

Syatt nodded and quickly emailed the video to Cherise. "Speaking of which, Dr. Shaw, aren't you moved. by everything Mr. Lenoir has done for you?"

Cherise nodded as she saw the video file in her inbox. "Of course, I'm moved."

"So, will you two reconcile?"

Syatt still looked at Cherise with the same adoring gaze as before. "Does it mean you're close to forgiving him if you're moved?"

He looked at Cherise seriously. "Mr. Lenoir is sincere about you, Dr. Shaw."

"He told me a lot about what happened when he was looking for you all these years when he showed me this video earlier this afternoon."

Chapter 567 Is He Giving Up?

"I have come to understand the difference between him and me."

"I confessed my love for you, but unlike him, I cannot abandon almost everything in my pursuit to find you."

"I questioned myself. If you were to leave me one day, would I be determined to search relentlessly for you for five years?"

As he spoke, the man bowed his head in silence. "Therefore, I slapped myself."

“Perhaps, compared to Mr. Lenoir, I lack a true understanding of what love truly entails.”

Cherise was left speechless with surprise as she gazed at Syatt before her.

Eventually, she let out a light sigh and gently moved Syatt onto the bed. “Alright. I understand.”

“But Syatt, you must prioritize your health no matter what.”

“Whatever happens between Damien and me is our own business. You have heart problems, so avoid getting overly agitated and refrain from self-harm without reason. Take responsibility for your own well-being, alright?”

After that, she didn’t wait for Syatt to respond and promptly left the ward.

Cherise let out a long sigh as she left and glanced at her cell phone.

She put her phone on silent mode and repeatedly watched the scenes that Damien had personally documented.

He went to Adania, Tanner Residence in Europe, Miles Manor in Ziphon, Shaw’s village, and Adania University. He even visited the locations she had written about in her diary, like South America and Peru, where she had longed to visit and explore.

He would record himself searching for any traces of her at each location and annotate it with how many days he had been searching.

As she scrutinized these scenes, Cherise’s emotions were in turmoil.

It would be a blatant lie to claim she wasn’t moved.

But she didn't necessarily want to forgive him just because she was stirred...

She lay in her office and watched the video for the entire afternoon.

When it was time to clock out in the evening, Lucy asked curiously while changing, "Did Damien come to see you in the afternoon?"

Cherise, who was buttoning her clothes, paused momentarily. "No."

"How strange."

Lucy raised her eyebrows. "Don't tell me I hit the nail on the head? Is he giving up so easily?"

"I assumed he would pursue you relentlessly. Turns out, it seems he values his pride more. You rebuked

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him at noon, and he's nowhere to be seen by evening?"

Cherise pursed her lips and remained silent.

She deliberately strolled from the hospital to the parking lot.

Dr. Shaw, are you waiting for someone?"

Doctors and nurses walked past her continuously.

Cherise shook her head. “No...”

“Oh, you’re walking so slowly. I thought you had plans and were waiting for someone.”

“I don’t.”

“Do you want to come with us? We’re going out for drinks later!”

“Yeah, Dr. Shaw, would you like to join us? We’ve never had drinks with you.”

Cherise waved awkwardly. She turned to unlock the car door with her car keys. “Not today. I need to pick. my children up from kindergarten.”

“Ah. I see. What a shame...”

The doctors and nurses walked away dejectedly. Cherise let out a long sigh and finally settled into the driver’s seat.

Forget it.

I should be happy since Damien no longer wants to bother me. Why should I feel disappointed?

He loves me deeply? So what if he broadcasted the video of his search for me on screens in major cities globally and searched for me relentlessly for five long years...

It’s all a lie!

A charade!

I only rebuked him impulsively before getting to the bottom of things!

But he quickly backed away and was nowhere to be seen for the entire afternoon. He completely stopped pestering and disturbing me!

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Chapter 568 Cherise's Solace

Why would he portray himself as someone who searched for me relentlessly over five years if he's unsure of his feelings for me?

What a jerk!

She silently berated him as she started the car before speeding off towards the kindergarten.

"Mommy!"

When the car stopped in front of the kindergarten, Serafina sprinted towards Cherise with her arms wide open. "Mommy, I missed you so much!"

"Mommy, your eyes are so pretty. They're like stars in the sky!"

Behind her, Soren curled his lips in disdain. His backpack was slung over his shoulder, and he seemed wise beyond his years. "She just picked up that line from a cartoon earlier today, and she's already repeating it. You're like a parrot!"

Serafina looked aggrieved as she nestled in Cherise's arms. "Mommy, Mommy! Ren is being mean!"

Cherise smiled in exasperation and turned to look at Soren. "Don't bully your sister."

"I didn't!"

Soren opened the car door somewhat grumpily. Despite his squabble with Serafina, he still behaved in a dignified manner as he pouted at his sister. "Get in the car."

Serafina snorted, She let go of Cherise and clambered into the back seat awkwardly.

She didn't have to struggle so much in the past!

She was pretty spoiled. Cherise would always carry her into the car whenever she threw a tantrum. She never had to scramble in herself.

But Soren insisted they should be more considerate of Cherise as her children. He said she must have been exhausted after a day's work, so they shouldn't burden her by asking her to carry them. Otherwise, he would tattle to the kindergarten teachers about the comic books stashed in Serafina's desk.

Therefore, Serafina had to clumsily obey Soren's instructions daily.

Cherise watched the two children clamber into the car with a warm smile on her face.

Her annoyance at Damien instantly vanished at the sight of her two adorable children.

They were her solace.

When Charisa passed away... Cherise was devastated for a long time. She even felt that her life had lost its meaning. She barely ate and eventually ended up in the hospital due to malnutrition.

It was revealed that she was pregnant with twins at the hospital.

Cherise had no choice but to gather her strength, work diligently, and continue to strive to live for the sake of the two tiny lives growing inside her.

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And just like that, five years had flown by.

“Mommy.”

Seated in the backseat, Soren frowned as he picked up a cufflink that had fallen onto the seat. “What is this?”

Cherise was slightly taken aback. This cufflink...

“Um, that’s a button that fell off my clothes a few days ago.

“Really?”

He frowned skeptically, scrutinizing the cufflink.

It was clearly a man’s large cufflink.

Soren scoffed. He recalled the WhatsApp message from this morning. ‘Let’s see who will win.’”

Heh. Soren scoffed and pocketed the cufflink.

Did that man deliberately leave the cufflink to taunt me?

Cherise returned to the modest apartment where she resided with her two children.

The woman parked her car and opened the car door. "Ren, Sera, you can get out of the car!"

The little girl in a pristine, white princess dress slowly exited the car.

Behind her, Soren carefully stepped out of the car with his backpack.

"What should we have for dinner tonight?"

Cherise asked casually as she locked the car.

"We still have tomatoes at home. Let's make tomato sandwiches."

Soren was mature beyond his years. He carried his sister's backpack in one hand and held his sister's hand in the other. "Serafina had many tomato sandwiches at kindergarten today. I guess she's craving it."

Chapter 569 What Brings You Here?

Serafina was surprised, her eyes widening. I'm not!"

It was because all the other dishes prepared by the lunch lady were salty. Only the tomato sandwiches were sweet. That was why she had eaten so many tomato sandwiches!

She didn't have a craving for them!

Soren glared at her and whispered. "Mommy isn't in the best mood today. Just eat something simple."

"When she's feeling better, we'll ask her to treat us to a fancy meal."

Serafina nodded, reassured by Soren. She looked up at Cherise and smiled, "Mommy, can I have tomato sandwiches tonight?"

"Sure."

Cherise smiled and pressed the elevator button in front of the two children.

The elevator arrived at their floor quickly.

"Mrs..."

The elevator door opened, and Mr. Hampson looked at Cherise, somewhat flustered. "Did... did you just finish work?"

As he spoke, he involuntarily glanced at the two children beside Cherise.

The two toddlers, especially the older boy...

He bore a striking resemblance to Mr. Lenoir as a child!

Mr. Hampson was very excited. He finally understood why Mr. Lenoir was certain that Cherise's children were his.

It was evident from the boy's appearance and demeanor. There was no need for a DNA test to confirm that this was Mr. Lenoir's son!

But he remembered Mr. Lenoir's instructions and dared not express his excitement.

"Mm..."

Cherise instinctively shielded the two children behind her. "What brings you here?"

"I came..."

Mr. Hampson coughed lightly. "I came to visit my relatives!"

"Yes, that's right. I have relatives living here!"

Cherise nodded. "What a coincidence."

"Mm-hmm!"

Afraid of revealing too much, Mr. Hampson quickly smiled at Cherise. "Please go ahead. I have some

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business to attend to."

"I'll be leaving!"

After responding and watching Mr. Hampson leave, she furrowed her brows and ushered the two children into the elevator.

"Mommy, is that man one of your patients?"

Cherise was taken aback. She nodded, "Sort of."

“Oh.”

The child looked meaningfully in Mr. Hampson’s direction.

After the three returned home, Cherise changed the children’s outfits. After changing her own clothes, she put on an apron and headed to the kitchen.

Soren and Serafina had requested tomato sandwiches for dinner.

She opened the fridge and found tomatoes and eggs but realized she was out of salt.

“Ren and Sera, behave at home. Mommy is going out to buy salt.”

“Mommy!”

Soren, who had just changed, quickly ran over. “Let me buy it!”

As he spoke, he stretched out his hand to Cherise. “Give me the money, please!”

Cherise took money out of her pocket. “Buy two jars.”

Although Soren was only five years old, he was very clever. It wasn’t his first time running errands. Cherise had been worried at first but now felt completely at ease.

“This isn’t enough, Mommy.”,

Soren blinked at Cherise. “I need an ice cream to make up for the calories burned from going downstairs.”

“And I can’t eat an ice cream alone with Sera watching, So, Mommy, you must give me enough money for two ice creams!”

Cherise looked at her intelligent, five-year-old son in exasperation. “Mr. Know-It-All.”

With that, she took out more money from her pocket and gave it to him. “You can buy nicer ice creams today.”

“Yay!”

Serafina, dressed in pink bunny pajamas, clapped happily. “You’re the best, Mommy!”

2/2

Chapter 570 Strawberries

Cherise glanced at Soren with frustration. “Please hurry back.”

“Alright!”

After hearing her son’s response, Cherise turned and headed towards the kitchen.

Before Soren left, he reminded Serafina, “Wait at home. I’ll be back with ice cream shortly!”

“Mm!”

The girl nodded, her round head bobbing. “I want strawberry ice cream!”

Once Soren had departed, she settled on the sofa to watch cartoons, but her thoughts were already drifting towards him.

Did Ren hear me ask for strawberry ice cream?

If he gets the wrong one, can he exchange it?

She grew more anxious as she pondered. When Cherise was preoccupied, Serafina opened the door and stood in the hallway, awaiting Soren's return.

Ren told me not to wander off, but waiting for him at the elevator wouldn't count as wandering, right?

Just as the little girl was eagerly anticipating her brother's return, the door of the house opposite theirs. opened with a click.

The scent of strawberries wafted out from the door!

Serafina's eyes widened in surprise. She curiously peered towards the house.

The house next door had been vacant since they moved in. When did someone move in?

Her eyes widened with curiosity, and she stealthily peeked at that house...

Strawberries!

An abundance of strawberries!

The coffee table in the living room of that house was laden with bright red strawberries!

Serafina gulped. She cautiously walked towards the door of that house.

Just as she was about to enter, she suddenly remembered something and stepped back.

No. I can't eat other people's food or enter their houses!

She averted her gaze and refused to look at the crimson strawberries. She began to earnestly count the numbers on the elevator instead.

Hurry back, Ren!

"Hello."

1/2

A deep voice suddenly echoed in her ear.

Serafina was startled and quickly looked up.

Standing at the door of that house was a tall and lanky man.

The man bore a striking resemblance to Soren!

Upon seeing his daughter's shocked expression, Damien smiled faintly and crouched down to meet her gaze. "I'm having a problem. Can you help me?"

Serafina instinctively retreated. Her childlike voice timidly echoed. "How can I help you, mister?"

The man pointed at the pile of strawberries on his sofa in his house, looking somewhat distressed. "I can't possibly finish all these strawberries."

"They'll go bad if I keep them for another day. What should I do?"

Serafina looked where his finger was pointing and glanced at the strawberries. She unconsciously gulped. "Then you... should quickly finish them."

"But I don't like strawberries."

"Can you help me?"

"Mommy said not to eat food from strangers."

"But we're not strangers. We're neighbors."

"Mommy said not to eat food from unfamiliar neighbors either."

"Mister, why don't you like strawberries?"

Sitting on the sofa in her pink bunny pajamas, Serafina munched on strawberries while looking up at Damien with her big eyes. "Strawberries are so tasty. Why don't you like them?"

"I just don't."

Damien sat beside her, smiling as he observed her. "Do you like strawberries?"

"I do!"

Serafina nodded vigorously. "But my brother said strawberries are expensive. Mommy can't buy them all

the time."

“Mommy works very hard!”

Damien’s gaze dimmed.

“Did your mommy or your brother tell you this?”

“My brother!”