

Chapter 104: Taking Care of Liam

"What?" Suzy still looked perplexed, completely out of the loop.

To be honest, she even wondered if Liam had hit his head during the accident because he was saying things she couldn't understand.

"I'll give you some more time. Let's head back to the hotel," Liam replied, his words laden with a sense of resignation.

Suzy blinked, noticing his hesitation.

Finally, mustering her courage, she asked directly, "Mr. Park, are you... planning to terminate the contract? You can tell me frankly; I won't object."

She was absolutely willing to step aside for him and Sophia!

Liam rubbed his brow, feeling the weight of uncertainty.

Clive was right; he didn't know how he got himself into this mess.

Even he couldn't fathom why he insisted on tasting this bitterness.

...

The car arrived at the hotel.

Alec and several assistants were already there to greet them.

Seeing Liam stepping out from the driver's seat, they were quite surprised.

"Suzy, weren't you supposed to... pick up Mr. Park?"

How did Liam end up being her chauffeur?

Suzy awkwardly chuckled. "Mr. Park probably didn't want me to damage his car."

Everyone was speechless.

Liam took out the luggage from the car's trunk, then walked over to Alec, saying, "It's already very late now. Let's meet tomorrow morning for a meeting. Everyone, go rest."

"Alright, Mr. Park."

Alec nodded and gave Suzy a knowing look, indicating that she could leave.

However, Liam suddenly handed the luggage to her.

"Suzy, come with me and bring the luggage upstairs."

"...Okay."

She reluctantly followed behind Liam, already anticipating how surprised Alec would be at this moment.

Why did Liam choose not to speak in the car and instead

lead her to his room in front of everyone?

Fortunately, Alec was discreet, or else there might be rumors circulating around the company tomorrow.

Suzy carried the luggage into his reserved room, but before she could say anything, he suddenly handed her a bottle of ointment.

"After my shower, you can apply the medicine for me."

After saying that, he took his bathrobe and entered the bathroom.

Suzy was still confused as she listened to the sound of running water.

What was happening now? Why was it completely different from what she had expected?

Liam hadn't mentioned anything about terminating their agreement, nor had he severely reprimanded her for taking the initiative to take Jeffrey to the hospital on her own.

Just a while ago at the airport, she could still sense his considerable anger!

After a while, Liam came out of the bathroom.

His bathrobe was loosely tied around his waist, and then he took long strides to the bed and lay down.

Seeing Suzy not moving, he frowned.

"Aren't you coming over?"

"I'm coming."

She walked quickly to the bed, and only then did she see a large wound on Liam's leg, surrounded by skin that had turned purplish-black, looking shockingly painful.

"Should I call a doctor for you? I'm afraid I might not do a good job and cause you more pain!"

"No need, I don't like others touching me."

With that, he pulled up his bathrobe a little higher, exposing his snug black boxer briefs. The outlines of the object within were clearly visible, bulging.

Liam was not the least bit uncomfortable with this.

However, Suzy was so shocked that she quickly looked away, her cheeks burning hot as she began applying the medicine.

While applying the medicine, she suddenly remembered the text message Sophia had sent her.

She hadn't seen this pair of black briefs in his wardrobe when she packed his luggage last time. They must have been bought by Sophia for him during his business trip!

Chapter 105: Breach of Contract

"Argh..."

Suzy was lost in thought and ended up pressing too hard while putting on the medicine.

Instead of aiding the healing process, she inadvertently caused Liam's nearly healed wound to bleed again!

"You're bleeding! I'll go find a doctor for you!"

Suzy was about to rush off in panic, but Liam quickly grasped her wrist and pulled her close with his other arm.

"I'm fine."

"You're not fine! Your wound has reopened! I'm so sorry, so sorry... It wasn't on purpose!" She whirled around frantically, like a child who had done something wrong.

Liam smiled helplessly, always at a loss when it came to her.

"It's just a small wound, don't worry."

"But I—"

"Haven't you had dinner yet? I'll have the hotel send something up." He gently interrupted her, then suddenly coughed a bit awkwardly.

"You should take a shower first."

Suddenly, Suzy realized their close proximity could easily lead to... complications.

And indeed, she noticed that his private part had turned hard...

"Okay! I, I'll take a shower!"

Without a second thought, she dashed into the bathroom, not even bothering to grab a change of clothes.

Watching Suzy's retreating figure, Liam's lips curved into a slight smile.

She really was special.

...

Inside the bathroom, Suzy truly wished she had the ability to shrink herself and escape through the drain!

The way things unfolded was totally unexpected! How did it go from him finishing his shower to her going in next?

Shouldn't they have sat down to seriously discuss the termination of their contract, and when they should get divorced?

While on Liam and Sophia's business trip, it had gotten to the point where Sophia even brought Liam underwear. She didn't doubt for a moment that they hadn't reconciled!

Suzy paced back and forth in the bathroom, fully dressed,

until she heard Liam's voice from outside the door.

"Dinner is here."

"Oh, okay, I'll be right out."

She clenched her fists, opened the bathroom door, and saw Liam standing at the doorway, his dark eyes sizing her up.

"You didn't shower?"

"Mr. Park, I think we should have a serious talk, don't you think?"

Liam nodded, his expression calm. "Sure, we can talk over dinner."

He walked to the dining room, even thoughtfully pulling out a chair for her.

Taking a deep breath, Suzy sat down and said, "About our agreement, I think you should reconsider!"

Liam, who was cutting his steak, paused momentarily, and his eyebrows lifted, "Now that the surgery is done, you don't need me anymore?"

"No, no, that's not what I meant!"

"Miss Chase, you should realize that since the agreement was signed, it's important to honor it."

Since she wanted to talk formally, he was willing to accompany her in the discussion.

"Of course, if you insist on terminating the contract, then I'll have my lawyer contact you tomorrow to discuss the details of the penalty for breach of contract."

Penalty for breach of contract?

Suzy was stunned. "Aren't you the one who wants to terminate the contract?"

Why did she have to pay a penalty for breaking the contract? She hadn't even begun to ask for compensation from him!

"Did I ever say such a thing?"

Suzy was speechless because she realized he hadn't.

However, Liam had already reconciled with Sophia, did he still plan to keep her around as a substitute?!

"So, is there anything else you want to talk about?" Liam pushed the cut steak in front of her.

He looked up at her.

"...No."

"Then have something to eat and rest early, I'm very tired today."

Chapter 106: Only Moved By One Person

They both lay in bed, with her feeling his large hand on her waist and listening to his steady breathing.

Did this mean that the contract was still in effect?

Tossing and turning for almost the entire night, Suzy finally drifted off to sleep, exhausted.

The next day when she woke up, the man beside her was gone.

Suzy walked out of the bedroom in her pajamas, and the breakfast left by Liam in the dining room seemed to suggest that the unpleasantness between them had never happened!

Suddenly, her phone, which was placed beside the bed, rang.

She hurried over to check, and it was Wendy.

"Did you see the message I sent you yesterday?"

"Ah... I was too busy yesterday. Lots of things came up on the business trip."

"I'm asking if the man you mentioned is Mr. Park." Wendy had been waiting for her reply the whole time!

Suzy felt a pang of anxiety, "You're quite daring to think that."

"So, it's not Mr. Park then?" Wendy visibly relaxed.

"You really scared me! I thought you didn't reply because I hit the nail on the head! Mr. Park is indeed an exceptional man, top-notch in everything, but his relationship with Miss Burns has long been an open secret within the Park Group.

"Everyone in the Park family knows about it. Their marriage is just a matter of time. If you have any interest in him, I can only advise you to turn back while you still can!"

Sure enough, even Wendy thought Sophia and Liam were a perfect match.

"Don't worry, I know how to handle my affairs."

"You're definitely worthy, so don't sell yourself short. It's just that Mr. Park's heart belongs to someone else. He mentioned in an interview that he's only been truly moved by one person.

"Remember that video where he looked so handsome? I still have it saved on my USB drive. I'll send it to you later so you can see for yourself."

Suzy pursed her lips. "I think I'll pass."

"Come on! It's fine to daydream sometimes. But if you're serious about finding a boyfriend, I still suggest you consider my cousin!"

Wendy was making every effort possible, almost wishing she could bundle up her best friend and deliver her directly to her cousin's bed.

"Alright, let's talk about this when I've earned enough money," Suzy said as she hung up the phone.

Sitting in her chair, Suzy picked up a piece of toast, but before she could take a bite, she received a video from Wendy.

After hesitating for a moment, she decided to watch it.

On the screen, Liam was dressed in a dark suit, with a black shirt underneath, giving him a distant and cold aura. His refined face remained composed as he faced the interviewer's questions.

"Mr. Park, do you have any plans to get married in the near future?"

"No."

"Do you have a preferred type? Someone gentle, or someone focused on their career?"

"Career-focused, I suppose."

The reporter chuckled. "So Mr. Park, your precise answers suggest there's someone you're interested in, right?"

Liam paused for a moment, then nodded, "Yes, there is, and I'm only moved by one person."

The reporter continued to ask Liam many more questions, and he responded to each one professionally.

However, Suzy didn't continue listening. She closed her phone and slowly chewed her toast, finding it suddenly tasteless.

For some reason, today's toast didn't taste good at all.

After finishing breakfast, she tidied up the table and went to ask Alec about her schedule for the day.

While waiting for the elevator, Suzy took out her phone and deleted the video from her WhatsApp.

She probably wouldn't watch it again anyway.

Chapter 107: Impossible

Below the building of Park Group in Northorn City.

Sophia's wound hadn't been healing well because she went on a business trip shortly after her surgery.

As a result, Clive immediately took her to the hospital for a dressing change and thorough examination after picking her up from the airport. They then returned to the office once it was confirmed that there were no major issues.

"Park Group won't go bankrupt just because you're away for a day," Clive couldn't help but tease as he saw her rushing back to the office.

Sophia smiled. "Liam established numerous connections with overseas executives during this trip.

"They place high value on the strict adherence to contracts, and they also prioritize evaluating the legal department's capabilities during due diligence. I can't prevent him from pursuing these opportunities."

"Does Park Group still need recognition from overseas partners for its current achievements?"

"Those who are eager to collaborate naturally don't need to, but if we encounter conditions equal to Park Group's strength, we naturally have to strive to be the best."

Seeing her meticulous planning, Clive couldn't help but feel uncomfortable seeing Sophia acting like she wanted to pour all her efforts into Park Group.

In fact, he didn't even understand why he felt so uneasy!

Didn't Sophia notice that Liam hadn't even spared a thought for her?

"You're swamped with work here, and he's happily taking his favorite employee around New Valley," Clive muttered, and Sophia heard it.

She suddenly furrowed her brows. "What did you say?"

"Nothing."

"Liam... he took Suzy to New Valley for the business trip?"

Sophia didn't know the specific arrangements of the company, as they hadn't been finalized yet, and the legal department couldn't intervene at the moment.

However, for this trip, she knew that Liam's first task upon returning to the country was to attend to the core project of technology development in New Valley.

"Yes, and he even took her along in the form of a work-related trip. Perhaps Suzy might receive credit from the research and development initiated by GrowthTech."

Clive also felt that Liam was being biased. Liam had always talked about letting Suzy grow on her own and giving her

opportunities when appropriate!

But now, if Suzy had the capability to support the project independently, Liam would likely have allowed her to lead a team on her own!

Sophia's expression was extremely ugly at the moment.

Previously, she didn't want to bother with these trivial matters, thinking that with Suzy's limited abilities, there wouldn't be much development at Park Group.

However, if Liam continued promoting Suzy at this rate, and if Sophia didn't intervene, Suzy would eventually climb the ladder.

Sophia would definitely not allow this to happen.

"Liam is being so obvious about this. Don't the shareholders have any objections?"

Clive shrugged. "What objections could they have? He's the CEO. If he wants to bring along an employee, does he need anyone's approval?"

Sophia was speechless.

"And speaking of Suzy, she has surprised me as well. I reviewed the projects she worked on before, and to my surprise, there were hardly any issues."

"Is that so?"

Sophia suddenly smiled, her red lips curling slightly, but her

eyes held no trace of amusement. "She'd better not make any mistakes."

Clive glanced at Sophia without realizing it.

It felt like a chill was creeping in from somewhere.

...

Because this business trip was heavy in workload, Alec could only choose to hand over some relatively unimportant documents to Suzy for verification.

One reason was Alec's belief in her consistent performance, while the other was his intention to include her in the project to justify her name being credited.

Chapter 108: Still a Substitute

When the thick stack of brown paper bags was handed to her, Suzy had already sensed that she would need to visit the ophthalmologist upon returning to back to the country.

"You must check carefully, don't make any mistakes! If I have time after I finish my work, I might be able to help you double-check. If not, you'll have to submit this directly."

"I understand."

Suzy took a deep breath, put on her glasses, and began cross-checking the market research data from the first section.

She remained focused for several hours, with her head down.

Only when Liam, Alec, and their team concluded their meeting and arrived at her room did she finally get a brief break.

Suddenly, several unfamiliar colleagues entered Suzy's room, making her feel a bit uneasy. She was also worried that sharp-eyed individuals might notice she hadn't slept over last night.

But Liam seemed completely unconcerned about such matters. He walked over to her directly, his gaze falling on the pile of documents.

"Just do your best," he said.

Projects like this had a lot of documents, and relying on just one person would be exhausting.

"Okay." Suzy nodded, deliberately trying to create some distance between them.

Initially, no one thought much of it, but then he unexpectedly spoke in a low voice.

"Have you had breakfast?"

Suzy was taken aback, and Alec's gaze turned towards them. The leaders and employees behind them also looked over.

"Having gastric pain will affect your work," Liam said naturally, as if it was only natural for him to care about Suzy, while everyone else was making a fuss over nothing.

"I'll be fine, it won't delay the progress."

"Okay." He nodded, then pointed to a section in the documents with his long fingers.

"Here, the research and development funding from GrowthTech is quite ambiguous. Many of these reports have underlying issues like this."

Suzy nodded and made a mark there with a pencil.

Alec glanced over and cleared his throat. "Mr. Park, I'll take

the team leaders to my room to summarize the due diligence. If you need anything, feel free to call me."

"Alright."

With that assurance, Alec quickly led the others out.

As the door closed, Suzy finally breathed a sigh of relief.

Liam looked at her and smiled. "What are you nervous about?"

"What else?" Suzy thought.

She smirked. "Mr. Lincoln has the impression that you keep a professional distance from the opposite sex, but now you're often close to me. I'm afraid they might get the wrong idea."

"There's nothing to worry about."

Suzy watched him calmly unbutton his shirt, one by one, revealing his chest of pale white skin in no time.

Hastily averting her gaze, her voice tinged with panic, she stammered, "What, what are you doing?"

"I spilled tea on my sleeve during the meeting, so I'm changing," Liam replied nonchalantly, as he began to undress, making Suzy appear as if she were feigning shyness.

She could only lower her head, wishing she could bury herself in the documents.

Thankfully, Liam promptly went to the bathroom to change his clothes, otherwise, Suzy would have ended up with a sore neck today!

Listening to the rushing water from inside, Suzy rubbed her temples, feeling a headache coming on.

After Liam's accident, he went abroad on a business trip, clearly intending to distance himself. It seemed like a prelude to termination. But now that he's back, why didn't he mention it at all?

Could it be that he had another argument with Sophia?

Was that why he returned to New Valley alone from Ashington?

These questions were more perplexing than checking the documents! Every time she brought them up, he deflected them, even mentioning breach of contract!

She couldn't understand what the situation was now. Was she still his stand-in, or was she about to be replaced?

Chapter 109: You're Blessed

Liam came out after showering and saw her looking perplexed.

He walked over, using a towel to dry his still-dripping hair.

"Could you go to my room and get the medicine from the table? The room password is 0825."

Hearing his voice, Suzy quickly nodded, "Sure, Mr. Park."

Since the Park Group had invested in this hotel, Liam had his own exclusive suite, also known as the Presidential Suite, which was not open for rental to other guests. Naturally, he personally set the password for it.

As Suzy went to fetch the medicine, she couldn't help but think.

The fact that his password hadn't changed meant Liam's feelings towards Sophia probably hadn't changed either. Most likely, they had just had another disagreement!

Although... her plan to terminate the contract might have fallen through, she couldn't help but feel a sense of relief in her heart.

Suzy was getting confused.

On one hand, she wanted to leave Liam and Sophia's

complicated relationship world as soon as possible and no longer be anyone's substitute.

On the other hand, the thought of no longer having any interaction with Liam after the contract ended made her feel a bit lost!

Yes, that feeling was crystal clear— it was a sense of loss.

She could fool others, but she couldn't fool herself.

Back in the room, Liam had already changed his clothes and was sitting on the edge of the bed, waiting for Suzy to bring the medicine.

She walked over slowly, trying not to let her gaze wander to his towering figure.

"Did the doctor mention if there would be a scar?" Suzy brought up a topic to avoid awkwardness.

"I didn't ask," Liam replied, "Do you mind?"

Suzy did not understand. What did it have to do with her?

"If you think it looks bad, I should be able to remove the scar."
"

Liam had been preoccupied with displeasure and anger when he was in the hospital, so he naturally hadn't thought about the wound.

Especially since he didn't receive a single call or message from Suzy after he woke up!

"Did you have the accident because you rushed to the hospital to find me?" Suzy hesitated for a moment before asking.

Liam's gaze fell on her face.

Originally, Liam hadn't intended to bring it up, wanting to let the matter pass! After all, when he decided to reunite with Suzy, he had already anticipated that this path wouldn't be easy. It would require countless patience and time.

But now that she had mentioned it, Liam straightened up in his seat. "Why did you decide to have Mr. Palmer pretend to be your boyfriend without even asking me once?"

"...You're so busy, how could I bother you with such a trivial matter!"

"Suzy! I've reminded you several times before to tell me if you have any troubles."

"But this trouble, it's... not easy to solve! If I took you with me, I'd have to explain to my mom why your role changed from being my boss to being my boyfriend, and..."

And facing her mother's sharp and sarcastic interrogations, how could she let Liam deal with it?

Even towards Jeffrey, Suzy felt ashamed to ask for his help.

"You've never believed that I could face anything together with you, have you?"

She blinked, meeting his gaze.

After a long silence, she finally nodded.

"Yeah, I didn't believe."

Suzy bit her lip.

"You've been blessed, growing up in the spotlight and adored by many. We come from different worlds!

"Your time is consumed by the high-stakes decisions of the conglomerate, while I'm left to handle mundane and messy affairs due to my financial issues."

How could they face it together?

Chapter 110: Liam's Decision

"I can't, but Mr. Palmer can?" Liam furrowed his thick brows, his dark eyes unwilling to miss any subtle change in her emotions.

After a few seconds of contemplation, she didn't respond directly, but instead countered, "This time, my mother insisted I bring my boyfriend to meet her, or else she wouldn't proceed with the surgery.

"I brought Jeffrey along, thinking it would be enough. But then, out of the blue, my mother insisted that Jeffrey's parents join us in the hospital room, and they had to come right away! If I had brought you instead, could your parents have come?"

Liam was speechless because clearly, the answer was no.

Both Liam and Suzy were well aware of it.

After all, his parents had a noble status.

"So, do you understand?" Suzy cautiously asked.

However, Liam remained silent.

He tightened his lips, his expression growing tense as he quickly dressed without bothering with the medicine, then promptly left the room!

Suzy watched his retreating figure, sighing softly in the end.

She hoped that in the future, Liam's possessiveness towards Sophia wouldn't extend to her! She also hoped that he could distinguish that she wasn't Sophia, but simply a humble substitute.

...

Liam didn't return after leaving, so Suzy washed her face and resumed working at the desk.

At six in the evening, Alec knocked on the door.

"You can give me the sections you've reviewed, and you still have three days for the rest! Since you don't have to leave the hotel, try to do as much as you can. I'll talk to Mr. Park about the credit attribution when the time comes."

Suzy gestured okay, but she had one thing she didn't understand.

"Mr. Lincoln, if you don't need me to accompany you for meetings or evaluations, why did you bring me to New Valley?"

"Mr. Park wanted you to come along," Alec replied, "I don't know the specifics, but he might have other plans for you."

"It was Mr. Park's decision?"

"Yeah! Even though I'm his secretary, I don't have the power to decide who should be responsible for the projects."

Suzy frowned slightly. "He specifically asked for me?"

"Yes." Alec nodded, revealing his own doubts about the matter.

"But I believe he might also sympathize with your background, understanding how challenging it can be to succeed in the investment banking industry.

"He likely wants to offer you more support! If you were to come to New Valley, it would make it easier to justify giving you credit for your work."

So, it was out of sympathy that he wanted her there.

"Miss Chase, don't overthink it. In our line of work, performance is what matters in the end. Your background doesn't matter. Our business doesn't revolve around the royalty.

"Mr. Park has always appreciated those who are serious and responsible about their work. If he's looking out for you, it's probably because he sees potential in you."

She smiled. "We were classmates. He knew everything about my family situation back in junior high. I'm not worried. If anything, I should show more appreciation to Mr. Park."

After Alec left, Suzy returned to her room, feeling strangely empty inside.

It was hard to explain.

She picked up her phone, contemplated for a moment, and sent a message to Wendy.

"Do you think the more a man loves a woman, the more possessive he gets?"

Just like Liam now, who seemed to be showing jealousy even though she was just a substitute for Sophia.

Wendy replied almost instantly, "Of course! Isn't that obvious? Possessiveness and love go hand in hand! He's absolutely madly in love!"

Chapter 111: Sophia Will Accompany Mrs. Park

Suzy hadn't replied yet when Wendy quickly sent another message.

"I sense something's wrong with you, Suzy. Aren't I your closest friend?"

"Of course you are."

"Then tell me, who's this guy you've been troubled by? Don't play innocent; your recent actions make it pretty clear you've got a crush."

A crush? She had a crush on Liam?

However, Suzy's initial reaction was, would she dare to have a crush on him?

She felt like whenever she looked at Liam, it was akin to a devotee's reverence towards a deity; how could she dare to entertain romantic thoughts?

"I'm just interested in how guys act in relationships, don't take it so personally."

Wendy persisted, "I knew you wouldn't admit it. Anyway, let me remind you, don't get too involved with men, and don't lose yourself because they show you temporary tenderness and care!"

"You might think the guy is being nice to you, but he might treat another girl better! Those men who are overly nice to you from the start usually have ulterior motives, it won't last."

Suzy really wanted to tell Wendy about her current situation with Liam and ask for her analysis.

But after reading this message, she felt there was no need.

Because Wendy had practically answered all of Suzy's doubts! What more was there to ask?

It appeared that wealthy individuals behaved similarly, and it seemed like all men had similar tendencies. This was why Wendy accurately guessed that Suzy was conflicted because Liam was overly kind and caring.

Suzy thought to herself that she needed to stay prepared at all times, in case Liam unexpectedly stopped being kind, catching her off guard.

...

After leaving Suzy's place, Liam went straight back to his own room.

Suddenly, he realized that what stood between him and Suzy wasn't just her reserved personality, but also the vast difference in their social statuses.

Suzy's earlier question was probably meant to explain why she chose to take Jeffrey to visit his mother.

But for Liam, it appeared like the most difficult problem he couldn't solve.

He couldn't let his parents know about Suzy's existence for the time being, let alone take them to the hospital to see her mother.

However, Jeffrey could.

Liam furrowed his brows as he took out a bottle of wine from the liquor cabinet, taking a few sips, just as his mother's call came in.

"I've arrived in Northorn City. Sophia is picking me up, so don't worry, she'll take care of me."

He frowned. "I told my assistant to go and look after you. Miss Burns had something else to attend to."

"Don't! I'm not familiar with your assistant. Why would you have him come?" His mother's tone was slightly displeased and resentful.

"I finally come back to the country for a visit, but you're away on a business trip. I haven't even scolded you yet, and now you want to drag Sophia back to work! Then who will accompany me?"

Before Liam could even speak, he heard Sophia's gentle voice on the other end.

"Mrs. Park, I'll accompany you! You can let Liam know that

he need not worry. I won't let this affect my work."

Grace had always been fond of Sophia, praising her repeatedly, "You're so considerate! I'm lucky to have you here; otherwise, I'd be all alone when I return to the country.

"What's the point of raising a son? You two should have a bunch of daughters in the future, don't even think about having a son!"

Listening to their conversation, Liam felt a headache coming on.

"Mom, I and Miss Burns—"

"I understand! You prioritize work, that's fine. I didn't say anything." His mother chuckled. "Alright, go about your business! We'll talk more when you're back from your business trip."

She hung up directly, not even giving Liam a chance to explain.

A few seconds later, a text message from Sophia came through, saying, "Don't worry, Liam. I'll accompany Mrs. Park; you can focus on your business trip."