

# Mr. Edwards' Unraveled Life chapter 81

**Mr. Edwards' Unraveled Life chapter 81** – Alma didn't call him "Mr. Edwards" politely this time. Instead, she used his name.

She stood in front of Kevin, blocking his path. Kevin coldly asked, "What do you want, Ms. Norman?"

Alma looked at him, her arrogance showing, still in disbelief. "Is what you said true? Are you really married?"

She had never heard about his marriage and thought he was making it up to avoid her.

Kevin's expression remained indifferent. "Why would I lie?"

"I've never heard about it. No one knows who your wife is. I think you're just making excuses," Alma replied.

Kevin said, "It's none of your business."

The more distant he was, the more Alma was drawn to him. Like a predator eyeing its prey, she wanted to win him over.

With a bold smirk, Alma stepped closer. "So what if you're married? You can always get divorced. I don't care whether you're married or not."

Norah overheard, her face darkening.

Kevin disliked people who were pushy and arrogant. Alma crossed the line.

Still, out of respect for Principal Norman, Kevin didn't react to Alma's bold behavior.

Alma moved even closer, her hand almost brushing against him, her eyes showing interest.

Kevin's expression turned dark, ready to push her away, but Norah stepped in and grabbed Alma's arm.

"Ms. Norman!"

Kevin was surprised, his eyes showing a hint of change.

Alma turned to Norah and asked, "Aren't you Kevin's secretary?"

Norah's eyes were cold. "This is a hospital. There are people watching. Aren't you worried about being embarrassed by touching Mr. Edwards?"

Alma shrugged off the comment. "People will just think Kevin and I make a good pair. Why do you care?"

"Mr. Edwards is my boss, and it's my duty to look out for him!" Norah said sharply, still staring at Alma. "Ms. Norman, you've only met Mr. Edwards once, and now you want to move up so quickly? Don't forget the values we were raised with. Dignity matters. You've been abroad so long, you've forgotten about respect and proper conduct. Principal Norman is a respected figure. If he knew you were disgracing yourself like this for a man, he'd be heartbroken."

Norah's harsh words made Alma's face darken.

People passing by began to glance at Alma, as if they agreed she was acting shamelessly.

Alma pulled her arm back and defended herself, "I'm not like that."

"Good to hear, Ms. Norman. You still know the meaning of self-respect," Norah said with a polite smile.

Alma shot an angry glare at Norah.

Kevin, now in a better mood, slightly smiled. "Let's go."

He grabbed Norah's hand, not caring who saw them.

Norah felt uneasy and tried to pull her hand away, but when she looked up at Kevin, she saw him smiling. She couldn't figure out what made him happy.

She asked again, "You never mentioned Old Mr. Godin and my grandpa were comrades-in-arms. It's surprising to see you here today. I didn't expect to meet someone from the Norman family."

Kevin replied in a low voice, "Old Mr. Godin and my grandpa were close. He's always been kind to me. You've met him now. He's someone I deeply respect, and he seems to like you as well."

"Why haven't I met him before?" Norah asked.

"To avoid suspicion."

Avoid suspicion?

She wondered why there would be a need to avoid suspicion for just a visit.

Kevin smiled slightly. "You handled Alma well earlier."

Norah thought he was referring to how she put Alma in her place.

After the last incident, he had scolded her for not knowing her responsibilities. So, this time she acted quickly to keep him from getting upset.

Kevin said again, "Let's go to the gynecology department."

Norah froze, her heart racing, and she stopped walking.

Kevin turned and asked, "What's wrong?"

Norah replied, "Aren't you busy? You should go and take care of your work."

Kevin casually put his hand in his pocket and said, "I'm not busy."

With no other excuse, Norah said, "It's not the right time. I'm a bit tired. Let's go another time."

"You didn't come here for nothing. Why wait until next time?" Kevin asked, confused.

Trying to think of a reason, Norah blurted out, "Because I think I'm on my period. There's no point in doing these tests now."

Kevin asked, "Really?"

"Yes, the tests won't be accurate during my period, so there's no need to check right now."

Respecting her choice, Kevin said, "Alright, just let me know next time you come to the hospital."

"Yeah." Norah was relieved she dodged the situation. From Kevin, she learned that the Godin and Edwards families hadn't kept in touch for a long time.

But there didn't seem to be any conflicts between them.

Maybe it had something to do with politics, and it was too risky to mix business with that?

However, Mr. Godin had retired and was very down-to-earth, like any ordinary elderly man.

Kevin and Norah returned home.

Back in their bedroom, Norah put on comfortable pajamas and lay down on the bed to make her act more convincing.

Whenever she had her period, she usually came home and collapsed on the bed, exhausted.

She didn't want Kevin to suspect anything, so she had to rest.

Hearing footsteps, the door opened, and Norah saw Kevin walk in. She quickly closed her eyes, pretending to be asleep.

Kevin walked to her bedside and saw how pale and weak she looked, as if the period was really taking its toll.

He sat down on the bed and whispered, "Get some rest and drink some ginger tea later."

Hearing this, Norah opened her eyes and saw Kevin sitting beside her, watching her closely.

On the bedside table was a cup of brown sugar ginger tea.

Norah slowly sat up.

Kevin adjusted her pillow and asked, "Is this comfortable?"

Norah nodded, "Yes."

"Drink it." Kevin handed her the ginger tea.

Norah took the cup and asked, "Why did you make ginger tea for me?"

"You're on your period, aren't you?" Kevin said. "Girls often feel uncomfortable during that time, and every time you have yours, you seem weak and tired. Ginger tea helps warm you up and ease the pain."

## **Mr. Edwards' Unraveled Life chapter 82**

**Mr. Edwards' Unraveled Life chapter 82** – Kevin was so attentive that he even noticed Norah had stomach pains during her period.

This surprised Norah. She used to think that even after a lifetime together, he wouldn't know what she liked or how she was feeling. If she got sick and died, he'd probably be the last to find out. But now, after all this time, she found herself remembering these little things.

Norah cooled her ginger tea and drank it quickly.

"Get some rest." Kevin gently covered her with a blanket.

Norah looked at him and asked, "Where are you going later?"

"I'm staying home, not going anywhere," Kevin replied.

A few days ago, Norah would've wondered where Kevin went when he wasn't home. With so many beautiful women around, there was always a place for them to stay.

Kevin noticed the disappointment on her face and, without hesitation, lay down beside her, slipping his hand over her lower abdomen. "Is it still hurting?" he asked.

Norah tensed up and stared at him. "Why are you lying down?"

"I'll stay with you for a while," Kevin said, gently rubbing her belly to ease the pain. "Does this help?"

Norah bit her lip, feeling guilty. She was about to lie. "It's better."

“Don’t stay up late,” Kevin softly reminded her. “It can mess with your hormones and make the pain worse. You need to take care of yourself.”

His concern made Norah feel sad. She hadn’t realized this caring side of him existed.

Norah added, “I was surprised you introduced me as your wife to Old Mr. Godin today.”

Kevin paused for a moment. “Does that bother you?”

Norah shook her head. “Not really.”

“As long as you don’t mind.”

Kevin had worried that deciding to call her his wife without asking might upset her. He also feared she might not want that title.

Norah stayed silent, but she noticed Kevin had become more considerate and respectful. Still, when she remembered that he married her just for his own benefit, any warm thoughts quickly faded.

“Old Mr. Godin’s son died unexpectedly while on a mission,” Kevin whispered. “The old man is all alone now, and when he gets sick, he delays treatment. He used to love the company, but now he’s alone. I’m busy with work, so I can’t visit him much. It would be good if you could check in on him.”

Norah was shocked. “His son is dead? Does he have no other family?”

“He has a granddaughter,” Kevin replied.

“That’s so sad,” Norah murmured, thinking about the kind old man.

“Yeah,” Kevin agreed. “You look tired too. Get some sleep.”

Kevin’s warmth made her feel comfortable, and she quickly fell asleep in his arms.

Norah was woken up by a phone call.

When she answered, Gwen’s panicked voice came through, “Norah, come to the hospital—your dad fell!”

“What?” Norah, still groggy, snapped awake. “Mom, I’m coming right now!”

She quickly gathered her things and rushed to the hospital.

As she approached the ward, she could hear an argument inside. Her aunt, Linda, was saying, “Brother, I just need your help. Did you have to go and fall like this? I’m begging you, not for me, but for James. He’s your only brother.”

Gwen, still worried about Jack, frowned. “Linda, stop saying that Jack isn’t helping James. He’s always supported him, even when it wasn’t easy. He’s cleaned up all his messes, but you can’t just expect him to fix everything. What are you doing?”

Linda replied, “I’m at my wit’s end! If I could solve this, I wouldn’t have come to ask for help!”

She started to cry.

“Mom, don’t cry. We’ll figure something out,” Sierra White, Linda’s daughter, tried to comfort Linda.

Gwen hadn’t cried, but now, seeing Linda in tears, she felt the weight of it all.

Over the years, their family had been dragged down by problems caused by James. Whenever things went wrong, they turned to Jack for help. They never brought anything good to the table. Being relatives, Gwen rarely spoke out about it, though she had many frustrations.

She knew Jack was too soft-hearted to ignore James, his younger brother, but it had cost their family a lot. Linda, like a leech, always counted on them for support. Even when Jack lost 10 million because of James’s bad investment advice, he never held him accountable.

This issue had even caused Gwen and Jack to argue, nearly ending in divorce. Norah had to step in to calm things down. Now, Linda was asking for help again, and Jack was so stressed that he fell and hurt his hand.

But even now, Linda didn’t care about Jack’s condition. She was still focused on her own problems.

Gwen asked, “Where’s James? Why are you here instead of him?”

“He’s hiding. If he shows up, people will beat him up,” Linda said with red eyes. “James feels awful. He knows his brother’s done so much for him, but he wants to make things right, to pay back the money. Who knew things would get so bad...”

Jack, lying on the hospital bed, listened to Linda’s complaints. He felt exhausted. He had always done his best for James, but helping him had caused many problems in his own life. He’d even lost a promotion once because of James’s troubles.

He was determined this time: “I told James to stop messing with things and losing everything. I’ve done enough. I won’t keep cleaning up after him. He needs to fix his own mistakes. He can earn back the money, but he’ll never get back his dignity.”

Jack had always given in, but this time he was firm. Linda looked at him, tears streaming down her face. “Are you really going to let him die?”

Jack replied, “I’m old, Linda. James is younger than me. I can’t keep fixing his messes. He’s got to take care of himself.”

At his age, one bad fall could be fatal. He didn’t have the strength to keep carrying this burden.

Linda wiped her tears, not believing Jack could be so cold. “Is it Sister-in-law’s doing? Did she tell you to stop caring about James? He’s your only brother!”

## **Mr. Edwards’ Unraveled Life chapter 83**

**Mr. Edwards’ Unraveled Life chapter 83** – “Linda, show some respect. When did I ever say anything? You’ve already hurt Jack. What more do you want?” Gwen couldn’t hold back her temper.

“Fine, I’ll be straight,” Linda replied. “How did you manage to pay off that last 10 million debt? You said you had no money and that everyone had to work together to figure it out. James was desperate, even thinking about selling his kidney. But in the end, everything was resolved. You claimed it was paid back, and we didn’t need to worry.”

They had always been suspicious about how easily the 10 million was paid off. They thought the family still had money.

“Brother, where did you get so much money? Did you take all of your parents’ money? You must have stolen it!” Linda accused.

Linda had always been concerned about their family hiding money from them. She suspected there was more left over after the inheritance was split.

Jack was furious, coughing uncontrollably. He pointed at Linda and said, “How could you doubt me? After everything I’ve done for this family!”

Gwen quickly tried to calm Jack. “Don’t get so worked up, you’re still recovering.”

Seeing Jack so upset, Linda softened a bit. “I’m just asking, brother. I don’t mean to accuse you. Don’t be mad.”

But Jack felt deeply hurt. He had to sacrifice his daughter, Norah, for the family. It was the only regret in his life. He felt he owed her.

Norah had been listening to the argument, and from Linda’s expression, she could tell what was going on. She never liked her aunt. Linda was too petty, jealous, and always stirring up trouble. Yet, when she needed help, she’d put her pride aside.

Gwen had once told Norah that Jack and his brother James used to be close. But after James got married, Linda started whispering in his ear and throwing tantrums, which pushed the two families apart.

Jack valued family, so he tolerated Linda’s behavior for James’ sake, but things kept getting worse.

Norah always believed the 10 million debt was Jack’s responsibility due to his failed business. Now she realized her family had contributed to it as well.

She opened the door, drawing everyone’s attention.

Linda quickly wiped her tears and smiled. “Norah, you’re here.”

Norah’s expression was stern. She looked at her father, lying in bed. “Dad, how are you?”

Jack tried to stay calm to avoid worrying her. “It’s just a small fracture. I’ll be fine after some rest. I told your mother not to bother you, but she called anyway. You should get back to work.”

He didn’t want to burden Norah.

“Dad, why are you worried about my job when you’re like this?” Norah replied. “You’re not young anymore, and your bones will heal slowly. Please take care of yourself and don’t make me worry.”

“I know, I’ll be more careful,” Jack assured her.

Linda, seeing how well Norah was doing in her career, decided to push her luck. “Norah, you’ve been working for a big company for seven or eight years now. Your sister is about to graduate and needs an internship. Can’t you help her?”

Sierra, Norah’s cousin, was also aware of Norah’s success. She hadn’t cared much before, but now that she was struggling to find an internship, she was eager for help.

“Cousin, I’ll be doing my internship in a month. Can I work at your company? Even if it’s just small tasks, I don’t mind,” Sierra asked.

Norah responded, “What’s your degree?”

Sierra proudly said, “First-class.”

“Our company only hires graduates from top universities. That’s not enough,” Norah said flatly.

Sierra was disappointed but forced a smile. “But with you working there, surely it doesn’t matter which school I went to?”

Norah, in a cold tone, replied, “A good company follows rules. If they take shortcuts, it won’t survive for long, and neither will you.”

Feeling insulted, Sierra shot back, “You’re just saying that because you don’t want to help me.”

“You’re right. If you keep relying on others for everything, you’ll end up worse off than a beggar if no one helps,” Norah snapped.

Sierra, angry and tearful, turned to her mother. “Mom, look at how she’s treating me!”

Linda was furious, defending her daughter. “Norah, how can you talk to your sister like that? You should show her some respect. It’s just a favor, but you’re acting high and mighty. Families are supposed to help each other.”

Norah’s expression didn’t change. “I’m not being arrogant. We’re supposed to love each other, but instead, you’re all making my dad so upset that he’s lying in a hospital bed.”

Linda was stunned but kept complaining, “You don’t even respect me as your aunt. How can I live like this?”

Jack had had enough. “That’s enough. Let James handle his own problems.”

“But if you don’t help, James will be ruined!” Linda cried.

Jack, now unmoved, remained firm.

“You’re heartless! How can you let your own brother suffer? You must’ve taken all the family money. I’ll never forgive you if something happens to James!” Linda screamed.

“Mom, stop! Uncle’s not going to help, and you’re making yourself sick,” Sierra begged as her mother cried.

They were causing a scene at the hospital, blaming everyone but themselves.

Jack saw them for who they really were—bottomless pits with no gratitude.

Gwen, tired of their accusations, snapped, “I can’t believe this is how you’ve thought of us all these years. Fine, have it your way.”

“Everyone, look at how rude my sister-in-law is!” Linda wailed, sitting on the floor.

“Enough! This is a hospital, not a market. If you want to cry, go home and do it,” Norah said, fed up.

She had seen them act this way her whole life. If they didn’t get what they wanted, they threw tantrums.

Linda, showing no shame, cried louder. “Oh, look at my niece! If you don’t respect me, I might as well die! It’s better than being treated like this by the White family.”

She dramatically moved towards the wall as if to hurt herself.

Sierra, in tears, tried to stop her. “Mom, don’t do this! Dad needs you. Don’t leave me!”

Jack, still coughing, watched helplessly.

The door was open, and people started whispering, watching the scene unfold.

Just as things were getting out of hand, a tall figure appeared at the door. In a deep voice, he asked, “What’s going on here?”

## **Mr. Edwards’ Unraveled Life chapter 84**

**Mr. Edwards’ Unraveled Life chapter 84** – Kevin stood at the door, disliking the noise, especially around his father-in-law’s bed.

Hearing the sound, Linda and Sierra stopped crying and turned to face him.

Norah was surprised to see Kevin. She hadn’t told him anything and asked, “Why are you here?”

“The dean called me,” Kevin replied, “and told me my father was sick, so I rushed over from work.”

He greeted his in-laws, “Dad, Mom,” then noticed Jack’s hand in a cast and asked, “How is it?”

Norah explained, “He broke a bone and needs a few days to rest.”

Seeing the crowd and noise, Kevin frowned. “It’s too loud here for Dad to rest. I’ll arrange for him to be moved to a VIP room.”

“No need,” Jack said. “I’m not that important, Kevin. Don’t trouble yourself.”

Despite his dissatisfaction with Kevin, Jack appreciated his concern. "It's just a minor fracture. You've all come. Go back. It's enough that your mother stays with me."

"We know what we're doing," Norah said, worried. "Don't delay things."

Kevin respected Jack's wishes, but still asked, "Are you sure it's okay with all these people here?"

Jack smiled, "Yes, the old men next door keep me company. It's boring to be alone."

Kevin understood and didn't push further.

Linda sensed something strange. Jack only had a daughter, but this man was so attentive to him, calling him "Dad." Could this be their son-in-law?

She stood up and asked, "Norah, who's this man next to you? Is he your husband?"

Linda, confident in her assumption, smiled. "You got married and didn't tell us? As my niece, you should've given us a red envelope!"

She looked at Jack and Gwen. "Brother, sister-in-law, why didn't you let us know about Norah's marriage?"

Kevin had minimal contact with Norah's extended family, only interacting with her parents a few times a year. But he always helped them when needed. He'd never met the rest of the family.

Norah saw Linda's eagerness and knew she was trying to get on Kevin's good side again.

Since Kevin had already called Jack "Dad," Norah couldn't lie. She introduced them, "Kevin, this is my aunt and cousin."

"I'm Linda," her aunt said with a smile.

"And I'm Sierra," her cousin added, immediately calling him "brother-in-law."

Kevin was polite and nodded.

Sierra suddenly recognized him. “Wait! My brother-in-law is my boss, the president of Edwards Group!”

Her eyes lit up. “Sister, you married into a wealthy family and didn’t tell us? That’s great news!”

Linda, noticing Kevin’s elegant attire, realized he was indeed wealthy.

“No wonder Norah changed after starting work,” she thought. “Of course, she’d change after marrying a rich man.”

Linda smiled brightly. “So, you’re my niece’s husband. I’m sorry I didn’t bring a gift.”

The sudden shift in her attitude made Norah’s family fall silent.

Sierra, sensing an opportunity, spoke up again. “Brother-in-law, I’m starting an internship next month. Could I work at your company? I just need an internship certificate. It won’t interfere with your business.”

Linda chimed in, “We’re Norah’s real family—her aunt and sister. Please help Sierra get a good job for her future.”

Norah frowned, frustrated. They were now trying to take advantage of Kevin. She had dealt with her family’s demands before, but this time it involved her husband.

Worried that Kevin would form a negative opinion of her family, Norah realized she couldn’t let them continue. “Aunt, this isn’t right. Kevin doesn’t owe you anything. You need to stop asking for favors and not make things hard for him.”

Linda responded, “We didn’t ask you—we asked your husband. You married him to pay off that 10 million debt, right?”

She turned to Jack. “Brother, you should’ve told us! You’ve got such a great son-in-law. We wouldn’t have worried so much if we’d known.”

Jack, embarrassed, didn’t know what to say. “Linda, don’t go overboard. Don’t think about taking advantage of Kevin!”

Linda tried to smooth things over. “Oh, we’re family. It’s no big deal to help each other in tough times. It’s like plucking a hair—it’s not too much to ask for a little money, right?” She looked at Kevin. “Am I right, nephew-in-law?”

Kevin stayed silent and looked at Norah. He was willing to help, but only if Norah wanted it.

Norah didn’t want Kevin to hear any more family drama and said firmly, “Aunt, you’re not welcome here. Please leave.”

She tried to pull Linda out, but Linda resisted. “Norah, don’t be rude!”

Sierra added, “I haven’t even talked to my brother-in-law yet! Don’t rush us.”

Gwen, Jack’s wife, joined in, urging them to leave. “Let’s go! Jack needs rest. If he doesn’t rest, he’ll get angry.”

Linda, still stubborn, looked at Kevin. “Just pay off the money her uncle owes, and we’ll go...”

The door finally closed, silencing their voices.

Jack sighed, his head aching. He turned to Kevin and whispered, “I’m sorry, Kevin. This is humiliating.”

He knew that relying too much on Kevin could eventually become a burden.

Kevin reassured him, “Dad, don’t worry. If you ever need help, I’m here.”

Norah, still upset, said firmly, “Don’t get involved with my aunt’s family!”

Kevin smiled at her softly. “Okay, I’ll listen to you, wife.”

His gentle words left Norah feeling awkward in front of her parents.

## **Mr. Edwards’ Unraveled Life chapter 85**

**Mr. Edwards’ Unraveled Life chapter 85** – Gwen was almost driven to the edge by Linda. The relationship between Norah and Kevin seemed strong, and she was in a good mood. As long as her daughter was happy, nothing else mattered.

Gwen wanted to keep that harmony: “Norah, Kevin helps out because of you. He treats you well, so you should appreciate him more.”

Norah glanced at Kevin. Since when did he start trying to win over her mother?

Kevin, looking pleased, responded to Gwen: “Mom, thank you for your kind words.”

Gwen smiled back: “I’m not blind. I can see you’re a good man.”

She then looked at Jack. Jack seemed both happy and worried. He was glad Norah wasn’t facing too many struggles in her marriage but was also concerned about how long this would last and if Norah was truly happy.

After completing the paperwork, they learned Jack only needed to stay in the hospital for a week. He wasn’t seriously hurt.

They chatted for a bit before leaving. Jack didn’t want to keep them, urging them to go so they wouldn’t waste their time.

As they left, Norah felt a pang of sadness: “Dad always hides his struggles from me. If I hadn’t found out, I wouldn’t have known he was going through so much.”

Kevin placed a comforting hand on her shoulder: “Now that I’m here, I’ll make sure Dad doesn’t suffer again.”

Norah looked at him, feeling a little ashamed. Linda’s behavior made her hesitant to expose her family’s problems to Kevin. She didn’t want him to get too involved, even though he was already in the middle of it. She sighed: “You don’t need to take on every problem. If my dad were just a bit tougher, no one could take advantage of him. He’s too soft-hearted.”

Kevin hesitated for a moment, then said: “As long as I’m still your husband in name, I won’t stand by and do nothing when it comes to your family.”

He added, “But I’ll also respect your wishes, like with your aunt.”

Norah knew he was trying to make up for past wrongs, solving problems in her life out of care. But she couldn’t help but joke: “Since when did you team up with my mom?”

Kevin smiled: "If I don't win over your mom, I'll never fit in with your family."

He was well aware that Jack had reservations about him, but by pleasing her mother, he could earn a place in the family.

Norah could see how much thought he put into it.

Back at the company, rumors had been swirling. Everyone knew Kevin was married, but some said he had a new lover. His private life was the talk of the office.

Tessa, Norah's coworker, confided in her that people at the company were curious about Mr. Edwards' wife and were even thinking about staking out his house to catch a glimpse of her.

This shocked Norah. Could their marriage become public knowledge before their divorce?

Kevin's family was very private, and anyone who got too close to them would be turned away. Nobody knew much about Mrs. Edwards.

Norah also heard that Bianca, Kevin's ex, had started acting. Her singing career had stalled, so she was transitioning into film. Although Kevin had distanced himself from her publicly, Bianca was determined to stay relevant and had secured more resources for her career.

Bianca was too busy to stir up trouble with Norah, so things had quieted down for a while. Norah didn't want to dwell on petty matters.

Tessa leaned in, speaking quietly: "Ms. White, I made a mistake. I shouldn't have gossiped about you and Mr. Edwards. I won't do it again."

Norah looked at her: "What do you mean?"

Tessa frowned: "Mr. Edwards is married but still has a mistress. It just shows he's not trustworthy. I thought he liked you, but now I see he's not reliable. I wouldn't want that life for you, no matter how impressive he is."

She shook her head, hoping Norah would find someone better.

Norah, confused, asked: "Where did you hear this?"

Tessa replied, "I saw it with my own eyes. That woman, you saw her too. She comes here every day. She was here again at noon."

Suddenly, Norah remembered Lola, the woman living in the villa.

"Mr. Edwards has a wife, but she doesn't keep an eye on him. It's unfair to her. If it were me, I wouldn't accept this," Tessa added. "I'd rather have a loyal partner."

Lola had been visiting the office regularly, and the staff noticed. Tessa continued: "She says she's just bringing lunch for Mr. Edwards, but he hasn't been here at noon recently, so she hasn't seen him."

Tessa scratched her chin, adding: "Everyone's talking. They say Mr. Edwards has a type, and she looks like Bianca."

Norah was puzzled.

"They're saying Lola is just a replacement for Bianca since she's been too busy to see Mr. Edwards," Tessa explained.

Norah thought for a moment, then said, "If she comes by again, let me know."

At noon, Lola showed up right on time, looking nervous. Though she had everything she needed, including a place to live, the house felt empty, and she hadn't seen Kevin in a long time.

The nightclub owner had warned her that men lose interest if they stay away too long, and Lola didn't want that to happen. She walked up to the reception desk with a cooler bag, asking, "Is Mr. Edwards in today?"