

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 111 - Tips

After the man rebuked his companion, the only thing that Ashley could hear was the buzzing sound of the whip as it flew in the air before it landed on her. Once it did, a sharp pain swept through her entire body.

The whip hit her again and again. There was nothing else she could do but grit her teeth and endure the intense pain. After all, she was too weak to move, much less complain. Her once beautiful face now looked miserable and pitiful. A few minutes later, she passed out due to the excruciating pain and lack of strength.

Her hair was all messed up and covering her face. The two men lifted her head and looked at her. One of them finally stopped the recording, and the other put down the whip. Seeing that their task was almost done, they put down the tool, locked the door of the torture chamber, and left.

This was the first time they had tortured a weak woman. In all honesty, they both admired Ashley and sympathized with her, who endured the torture and did not even shout. Since she fainted, they decided not to whip her anymore.

As a matter of fact, Zack, the top leader of their organization, only ordered them to teach Ashley a lesson and not to beat her to death. They were actually specially trained. They made sure that Ashley felt so much pain without making her skin bleed and greatly damaging her clothes. As a result, except for her pale face and a little blood spilling from the corner of her mouth, no other injuries could be seen on her body.

When Ashley woke up, she felt throbbing pain all over her body. The last thing she remembered before she passed out was that two men were whipping her. However, when she opened her eyes, Zack's vile face was the first thing she saw. The hatred in her eyes was apparent as she looked back at him.

"Oh, you finally have other emotions?" For some reason, Zack felt proud of himself when he saw the resentment in her eyes.

"What a pity! Why didn't they treat a woman with such a beautiful face and perfect figure gently?" he asked with a creepy smile tugged at the corners of his mouth. Then, with his right hand, he touched her face down to her neck and heaved a heavy sigh. "I wonder why Jason likes you so much. What's so

special about you anyway?" All of a sudden, he leaned forward and moved close to her so that his face was almost an inch away from hers.

Because Ashley had been tied to the shelf, she could not move. She felt goosebumps all over as she felt his touch against her skin. It was disgusting, yet there was nothing she could do against the pervert.

Despite being violated, she tried her best not to show fear nor contempt. She knew that Zack would get excited if she did.

At that moment, the hatred in her eyes grew stronger. She hated herself for not being able to protect herself, for being hurt, and for being gullible. However, what she hated more was this freak, whose face was slowly getting close to hers.

The silence and resentment in her eyes made Zack feel inexplicably excited. He suddenly reached out and tucked her hair, which was covering her face, behind her ear. As he gazed at her pale yet beautiful face, he lifted her chin with his right index finger and said salaciously, "I'm suddenly interested in your body. I gotta say, this is the first time I've ever been interested in a woman who's no longer a v!rgin."

He stared into her eyes and paused for a moment. "Perhaps it's because you're Jason's woman, or I really find you charming. Whatever it is, you should be happy that I feel this way about you," he whispered.

Ashley felt extremely frightened upon hearing his remark and seeing the lascivious look on his face. Every time he touched her face, the nervousness she felt grew.

Like a viper, Zack gazed at her with icy cold eyes. This was her most frightening and helpless moment these past few days. Nobody knew how scared she was that she could lose her v!rginity, betray Joseph, and destroy the hope that had kept her alive for so long. Most importantly, she was afraid that she would never see the person she loved again.

"What? You're scared? Interesting!" Zack exclaimed.

He felt even more thrilled when he saw the alarm on her face. Destroying people's willpower ever so slowly was his most favorite thing to do. He loved

watching them walk to the edge of despair and lose everything all at once. Because Ashley was the woman of the person whom he loathed all his life, hurting her would definitely give him a sense of accomplishment.

He could not hide his excitement as he savored the fear in her eyes. Because of this, he decided to untie her hands and feet one at a time. He liked seeing other people suffer. Moreover, he wanted to make his enemy regret for the rest of his life.

'Women of your country care about their chastity, don't they? What will Jason feel if he sees his woman being raped and committing suicide because of humiliation? That would be the most fatal blow I could deal to him.' As Zack imagined the gruesome scene he would put Jason into, he suddenly burst into maniacal laughter.

Sooner or later, this woman would be buried with her lover. Zack figured that it would be better for him to enjoy the woman for himself in the meantime. Perhaps he would let this stubborn woman go if he was satisfied.

Zack had a weird fetish. He liked seeing his enemies jump into the abyss of despair because of him. At the thought of this, he suddenly felt an urge to free Ashley and watch her stumble helplessly. The more rebellious she was, the more exciting sex would be.

He was so exhilarated that his face appeared somehow twisted. With a sinister look in his eyes, he leisurely watched Ashley, who had just regained her freedom, run from him in the small place. It felt as though he was a predator who was watching his prey flee desperately to survive.

"Honey, don't run away. You can't go anywhere anyway." Although Ashley tried her best to get away from Zack, he was able to catch her by her wrist with just a stride. The coquettish tone in his voice when he spoke just now caused her hair to stand on its end.

Weak as she was, Ashley tried to break free from his grasp. She then kicked him with all her remaining strength. Unfortunately, he managed to dodge it, so he did not get hurt at all. In fear of his retaliation, she could only retreat in horror. Soon, she was cornered on the wall.

"I've told you to be obedient. Why don't you listen to me?!" Zack shouted angrily and slammed her into the corner. Suddenly, he seemed to realize that he had frightened her, so he immediately changed his enraged voice into a

softer tone. “Honey, haven’t you learned by now that the more you resist, the more excited I’ll be?”

It seemed that Ashley had become numb that she did not get hurt by the impact of the previous wh!pping anymore. Zack’s creepy words terrified her so much that her body turned cold.

She realized that she was completely trapped in this place with nowhere to go. As the pervert’s eyes loomed closer towards her, she quieted down and prepared herself to bite her tongue and commit suicide to hide her boundless despair.

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 112

- Tips

When he noticed that Ashley’s face had suddenly turned as pale as a ghost, Zack paused for a second and figured out what she was thinking. So, he stretched out his big hand and pinched her chin.

“My good girl, you can’t die on me now.” He looked Ashley straight in the eye and warned her while she was backed up against the wall.

Holding her chin with one hand, Zack proceeded to unbutton her coat slowly with his other hand, completely ignoring her struggle to break free from his clutch.

At this moment, Ashley was much like a lamb waiting to be slaughtered. She kept on hitting him with her fists and kicking him with her feet, but it was all for naught, because she didn’t have the strength to fight back at all.

When he saw Ashley struggling to get away from him again, Zack’s eyes lit up in an instant, and he felt more and more thrilled. In his eyes, it seemed as though he was watching Joseph struggling in front of him.

Seeing the arrogant smile that crept onto Zack’s mouth, Ashley felt that her coat had fallen to ground, and she could feel his hands touching her all over. At this point, she felt so helpless that she could no longer hold back her tears from rolling down her cheeks.

Just as Zack was getting off on the rush of pulling down Ashley’s jeans and was about to take off his own pants, the sound of a gunshot startled him and made him tremble all over. When he finally regained his composure, Zack

threw the exhausted woman to the ground, turned around, and quickly walked out to check what just happened.

Just as Zack had anticipated, his sworn enemy, Joseph, came. As he stood outside the door, Zack saw the silhouette of a tall man standing alone in the dark night, with the lifeless bodies of two guards lying under his feet. This was a horrific scene that was made even more terrifying by the darkness.

Although Zack couldn't clearly see Joseph's face, it was clear as day that the man was fuming with anger. The two of them began to stare at each other in the dark night, and slowly, Joseph raised his hand and pointed his gun at Zack.

As he watched Joseph walk closer towards him, Zack didn't seem to be afraid of getting shot whatsoever. Instead, a maniacal laughter came out of his mouth, and he flatly said, "So this is what the famous Jason looks like. You're really handsome! I think you and the woman inside make a great pair.

I've got to hand it to you for breaking into my place and finding it so quickly. However, if you pull that trigger, the three of us are going to die together. I'm not afraid of you." With his eyes glued to Joseph, who was shooting daggers at him, Zack grabbed a small remote control and proudly said to him, "All I have to do is to press this button, and the bomb I have prepared for you will kill us all!"

The moment he saw Joseph purse his lips and pause for a moment with the gun in his hand, Zack understood that his plan had worked. When this thought crossed his mind, he burst into laughter in the cool sea breeze. "Ha-ha... The Grim Reaper in the criminal underworld? I don't think so. You're nothing but a coward who's afraid of death!

Your woman is just behind this door. Throw your gun over to me, and I'll let you in." Zack abruptly stopped laughing and said to Joseph who was standing just a few meters away from him.

Although Joseph was a bit hesitant, he knew that if he wanted to see Ashley, he had no choice but to do as Zack asked. With that, he threw the pistol over to him and quickly strode inside. Seeing this, Zack felt a great sense of accomplishment filling his heart, and he roared into laughter once again.

Right now, Joseph had no time to care about Zack's bizarre laughter. After all, he could no longer wait to see the love of his life, whom he had been longing for day in and day out. For as long as he could confirm that Ashley was all right with his own eyes, his heart would finally be put at ease. Dealing with Zack would have to wait.

After picking up the pistol, Zack slowly walked a few meters away from the entrance to the dark house. From the looks of it, he seemed to have kept his word that he would let Joseph into the house. However, while Joseph was walking towards the door, Zack pulled the trigger without a warning, and a bullet suddenly flew towards him. Fortunately, Joseph had good reflexes, so he managed to react quickly and dodged the bullet.

"Watch out!" As soon as Ashley went upstairs, she saw Joseph dodging the bullet after hearing the gunshot. Although she was glad to finally see her beloved again, she was so overcome by worry that she couldn't help screaming out loud to warn him.

When Joseph heard the hoarse and familiar voice, and then saw Ashley rushing out of the room, looking as if she had seen a ghost, all the restlessness in his heart disappeared in an instant. Right then and there, his cold and dark eyes were suddenly filled with warmth.

While Joseph was caught in a daze, Zack, who was standing outside and watching the two of them, took out a pistol that had a silencer attached to it from his coat pocket, aimed for Joseph's back, and fired again.

This scene was crystal clear in Ashley's eyes. And when she saw the tiny bullet flying towards Joseph, she got too scared that she couldn't say a word. Without hesitation, she ran outside the door like greased lightning to get to Joseph's side and pushed him away. As she took the bullet for him, the two of them lost their footing, and she ended up getting shot on her upper right arm.

"Joseph, be careful..." Even though she got shot, it seemed that Ashley knew she was safe now. Moments later, she passed out in Joseph's arms due to the excruciating pain.

Joseph looked at the blood in Ashley's right arm and noticed that her face had lost its color. Seeing this made him so furious that a murderous glare appeared in his eyes.

It was without question that this was beyond Zack's expectations. He thought that Joseph would be shot to death without knowing what hit him. Feeling the murderous intent coming from Joseph, he suddenly feared for his life.

With a cold look in his eyes, Joseph fiercely glared at Zack, who was standing not far away and was about to shoot him again. Holding Ashley in his arms with one hand, Joseph quickly grabbed another gun from behind him and fired at the same time. The bullets collided in midair, much to Zack's surprise.

Then, Joseph retreated to the room to run for cover while holding the best pistol in the world in his hand and shot at Zack a few times. At that moment, although Zack, who was standing in the open space, managed to swiftly dodge most of the bullets, he couldn't find an opening to shoot back at Joseph. In the end, he had to show Joseph a clean pair of heels after getting shot in the leg.

When he saw Zack running away from the back of the house, Joseph didn't bother trying to go after him. Instead, he quickly ran to the beach hundreds of meters away while carrying Ashley in his arms. As soon as Joseph jumped into the sea with Ashley in his arms, a loud bang was heard coming from behind them. The impact from the explosion was so great that he was sent flying into the sea much faster.

Just as Joseph had expected, the bomb was detonated after Zack escaped. It seemed that Zack didn't want to get caught in the explosion with them. Otherwise, he wouldn't have missed so many opportunities to set it off. It was a good thing that Joseph could run fast enough. If it weren't for that, Zack's plan would have worked and he would have died on this uninhabited island.

As soon as Joseph jumped into the sea with the unconscious woman in his arms, he immediately used his mouth to give her air and covered her wound with his big hand. Moments later, Joseph held Ashley in his arms and entered a submarine that was waiting for them offshore. Without wasting a second, Joseph changed the clothes of Ashley, who looked so pale and weak. After giving her wound some first aid treatment, he started the submarine and left the uninhabited island at once.

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 113 - Tips

Joseph and Ashley sped away safely through the submarine. The plane, which Zack had prepared for his escape, exploded.

Today was the third day of Zack's and Joseph's agreement. The intended result didn't come. Joseph survived instead of dying the horrible death Zack had in store for him. It was fair to say Zack dug his own grave!

The reason for his misfortune was he had overestimated himself and underestimated Joseph's strength and intelligence.

Joseph, on the other hand, devoted to studying the current leader of the Mafia. From his investigations, he gathered that apart from being ruthless, sinister and cunning, Zack was greedy for success. He was thirsty for success, in most cases he wanted them quick. Patience wasn't his best suit. The Mafia's reemergence was solely due to Zack's enthusiasm.

Another thing he gathered during his research was that Zack hated him with a passion. The day he took over the Mafia, he had made it his motto to defeat the Dragon Gang and bring Jason down. Arrogance was Zack's biggest defect. He recruited allies and informed them about the Dragon Gang's domineering and evil behavior. This was done to persuade them to join hands with him. However, once they began their cooperation, his haughtiness would resurface. He could be seen treating his allies as servants rather than partners, constantly bossing them around. Through his arrogance, one could learn that deep down Zack didn't consider them worthy of respect. To him, only he and his gang were great. Everything else, including the Dragon Gang, was inferior in his eyes.

When Joseph received threats from Zack, he asked the Dragon Gang to stop attacking the Mafia. The purpose of his move was to make Zack relax his vigilance. It would give him time to work on his other affairs. That, in consequence, would provide Joseph with some clues. In the end, Zack's desire to awaken the Mafia and bring it back to life was too strong. He was certain that the victory would be his. Slowly, he began to appear from the shadows and began the operation of the Mafia gang.

While he was busy reawakening the Mafia, he didn't forget about the Dragon Gang. He transferred the hostage, time and again. When the Dragon Gang ran a special investigation, they easily received information. After all, they had a strong influence all over the country. It wasn't long before Zack's whereabouts were found out.

Today, along with Zack's whereabouts, the Dragon Gang had found out all the high-grade transportation tools under his name. The information they received led them to this island. They knew the hostage would be hidden here. Prior to this, they had searched several inland places, but their efforts were in vain.

They carefully studied the structure of the uninhabited island. Joseph, who couldn't afford to waste another second, went there alone. The others tried to dissuade him but to no avail. Zack was smug, convinced his plan was flawless. He was eager to watch Joseph enter this place and explode. However, in Zack's arrogance, he didn't think Joseph would work out his plan. He didn't even think Joseph would have a plan of his own!

Zack had been dumb, telling Joseph in advance that the bomb was buried here and would explode any second. This led Joseph to come up with a thorough rescue plan. He instructed the people of the Dragon Gang to install tracing marks on Zack's private vehicles, using all kinds of special means. He then had them set a self-destruct device.

As far as strategies were concerned, Joseph was far too superior to his enemy. Zack, so engrossed in his arrogance, was too blind to see this. In short, Joseph always had an upper hand. Joseph's only regret was he hadn't made Zack suffer as much as he wanted.

In the senior infirmary of the headquarters of the Dragon Gang, a calm man with a handsome face was meticulously inspecting the wounds on the pale-faced woman's body. Standing outside, Joseph was pacing back and forth, lines of worry creasing his face. His deep black eyes constantly observed the progress that was happening inside through the glass window.

He still replayed the scene where Ashley had risked everything to protect him. Now watching her lie still on the bed, his heart ached. He was afraid he wouldn't be able to see her again. The mere thought of living a life without her killed him. She had been the warmest light in his life.

His prayers were answered. The Lord wouldn't take her back and his sunshine was returned. Pure joy washed over him. 'My life is only complete when you are in it,' Joseph thought, his affectionate eyes were fixed on her.

"Sir, you can relax now. She's fine, but the events have made her quite weak. She needs a lot of rest. There are a few minor injuries in her body, but nothing

serious. With sufficient care, she will recover instantly,” the man who had examined Ashley said. His soothing words brought some peace to Joseph’s heart.

This man’s code name was Thunder. He was one of Joseph’s most capable subordinates. They had received training side by side and had been friends for years. He was a well-known senior doctor of the Dragon Gang. Unlike his code name, Thunder didn’t exactly have a thunderous personality. He was a calm, composed and almost indifferent man. He had high medical attainments and constantly put them to use. His ethereal eyes and handsome face somehow gave him the appearance of an otherworldly man.

Joseph turned to Thunder and nodded his head. It was a small nod but his gratitude was evident in it. After that, he rushed to the infirmary to get a better look at his beloved.

Thunder stood outside the ward, watching Joseph. He slowly approached the bed and glanced at Ashley, his eyes glistening with tears. Thunder was surprised to see his leader look so apprehensive. He had taken Joseph for a cold and indifferent man. ‘He has always been indifferent and aloof. I never thought I would see him fall so madly in love. This beautiful and brave woman has changed him beyond recognition. He is now a real person with feelings.’ Thunder, who had detected true love in Joseph’s eyes, gave a sigh. Deep down, he was happy for Joseph. Love and pain were two emotions that every human being should taste.

Finally, he realized standing out and watching them would be indecent. Quietly, he left the lovers to themselves. After all, they had gone through a lot.

Inside the ward, Joseph stood a few minutes gazing at her. And then, his big, strong hands enclosed her cold hands. Ashley was receiving an intravenous vitamin drip treatment. They were seeing each other after a long time. He studied her, noticing her chubby face had turned thin and pale.

“I’m sorry. I failed to protect you. And you are suffering because of me,” he murmured as he bent forward and kissed her soft palm. His eyes expressed deep sorrow.

“I have been reckless and selfish. I kept my true identity from you. I should have given you the chance to choose. If it weren’t for me, you wouldn’t be lying here. Instead, you would be leading a carefree and happy life.

Despite my selfishness, my love has always been true. You need to know that. I couldn't let go of you. You are so beautiful that I wished to have you for the rest of my life. Now I know I was wrong. I not only failed to give you a peaceful life, but I also dragged you into a dangerous world.

Ashley, when you wake up, I will set you free. All I want is for you to be safe. I won't selfishly hold to this sunshine.

Knowing you are out there, happy and safe is enough for me. I will try to be content with your memories."

Sitting on the edge of the bed, Joseph whispered these heart-touching words to the unconscious woman.

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 114 - Tips

After a long time, Joseph finally told the unconscious woman what he had been holding back for days. His voice turned dry as he finished his words, and tears began to fall from his eyes. Miserable, he blamed himself continually when he saw his beloved woman suffer due to his negligence in protecting her.

Ashley was in a night of deep and peaceful sleep after five or six days of intense physical energy consumption and deteriorating mental distress, coupled with the effect of anesthesia during the lengthy procedure of operation.

As if she were an exceptional treasure, Joseph caressed her pale soft skin. He was astounded by the sincere touch at this point.

At last, he didn't have to picture the scene in which the lovely lady showed every day with a charming smile, and he wouldn't have to look at the empty depressing room. He didn't have to shut himself in his room and bury himself under the fleece blanket in search of the exquisite woman's fragrance. He didn't have to be anxious that his perseverance today would be in waste and that he'd receive terrible news the next day... Joseph was entranced by the thought of usurping everything he'd previously lost.

He knelt down and carefully kissed Ashley's pale lips. He closed the infirmary's curtains first, then slowly lifted the quilt and unbuttoned Ashley's shirt, remembering the orders to inspect the wound.

When Joseph first helped Ashley change her clothes on the submarine, he did so promptly in the dim light, ignoring her slender body as he was concerned about her and wanted to get her to the hospital as soon as possible to treat the severe wound. However, at this point, Joseph could see the crisscross of whip marks under Ashley's fair skin, which made him feel even worse.

'How much have you been through over the last few days? I'm so sorry... I'm not going to let go of those that have hurt you! I'm going to make them pay for it.' Joseph's eyes were filled with anger and sorrow, and he felt bad for Ashley. He applied the medication to her wounds all over her body.

Joseph appeared exhausted after three days and nights in a row, remained in the ward almost every second to care for the unconscious woman. He whispered to her in soothing voices, bathed her body clean, and fed her nutritious liquid foods... Every gesture he made was filled with deep love and strong affection to Ashley.

Joseph wishes he could spend the rest of his life with Ashley. But he couldn't be that greedy, and make another mistake. He couldn't put his beloved woman through any more pain.

Joseph realized that he really loved Ashley, and he had acquired a new way of loving her after this life-or-death separation. It was that nothing was more significant than putting her safe.

'There are so many threats all around me, and I can't stand the thought of losing you at any time. Now that your safety is my deepest concern, I'd rather give you peace and freedom than put you in harm with me.'

After kissing Ashley's lips lovingly, Joseph watched her for a moment and left the room firmly and coldly.

Ashley's memories of her flight, abduction, and escape came back to her as soon as she opened her eyes. After being shot, she later remembered falling into a coma in Joseph's tender arms.

Ashley peered around to see the sunshine brilliantly on the white wall, the treatment bottle placed on the top of her head, and the sagging hospital gown she was wearing. She focused her thoughts and realized she had been rescued and was now in a safe location.

On the other hand, Ashley felt heavy as she did not see Joseph, who she had been yearning for all days and nights. “Miss Guzman, are you awake?” a lovely nurse asked as she stood beside the bed, beaming radiantly. “Are you feeling ill?”

Ashley was pleasantly surprised to hear the nurse speak fluent Ob.rarian and thought the nurse was nice. “No, I’m good,” she said, lifting her head with a smile. “How long have I been in a coma?” Carefully, Ashley slowly sat up with the nurse’s assistance.

“It’s been three days. You must take excellent care of yourself, Miss Guzman.” With a lovely smile, the nurse answered her.

‘It’s been three days. It’s no wonderment that I feel like I’ve been sleeping for a long time,’ as she rubbed her temples to mitigate her headache, Ashley pondered. Ashley had a hazy recollection of a soft male voice echoing in her ears for several days, but she couldn’t hear it clearly due to her unconsciousness. Since no one else could give her that sense of comfort, she was confident that the man who had been guarding her the whole time was Joseph. ‘But where has Joseph gone?’

“Miss Guzman, please eat some porridge. You must recharge your energy and warm up your body.” Before Ashley could ask, the nurse placed a piping hot bowl of tasty porridge in front of her and wanted to feed her.

“Let me do it.” Ashley took over the bowl, picked up the spoon, and started eating the porridge with a cheerful expression. She thought everything was fantastic after being starved for so long.

She quickly finished the bowl of porridge. Ashley glanced back at the nurse who took the empty bowl to fill her another. She wiped the side of her mouth and asked plainly, “Are you from Ob.raria? What is your name?”

“Yep. My name is Lydia Garcia.” Ashley seemed to be an absolutely kind person, so the nurse positively replied.

Lydia was the person Joseph had asked to watch after Ashley. She was not only sympathetic and thoughtful, but she was also a trained medical practitioner. She'd been working for Thunder, the Dragon Gang's most exceptional doctor.

Lydia was aware of Ashley's situation. After a few minutes of getting to know Ashley, she was shocked to find that this stunning woman was so likable, and she had a positive perception of her. Ashley was the exact opposite of what she had imagined from the wife of the Dragon Gang's top leader, who she had expected to be stubborn and spoiled.

Her appearance, especially her exquisite grace and sophisticated nature, which not everyone could replicate, could not be concealed by her pale skin. The reality that Ashley was a gorgeous girl could not be denied. Without a doubt, this flawless woman was an exceptional fit for the Dragon Gang's supreme head.

Lydia was assigned by Thunder to keep an eye on Ashley. But she didn't understand why she couldn't reveal the whereabouts of Joseph. Everyone in the Dragon Gang knew that their leader had changed his cold attitude and taken good care of this woman in a coma. They couldn't find out why he avoided her once she was awake.

"I am always delighted to meet people from my own country whenever I travel abroad." Ashley frowned as she fetched another bowl of porridge. Then, she turned her head to look at Lydia, who was standing by the bed. "Do you know where the man who sent me to the hospital has gone?" she asked thoughtfully after a few sips.

Lydia hesitated for a moment, when finding expectation and confusion flash through Ashley's beautiful eyes, and answered, "I think he had something to do, but before he left, he told the official to take good custody of you." Lydia didn't want to break Ashley's heart by telling her that Joseph had decided not to see her any longer, so she changed the subject. "Miss Guzman, you ought to look after yourself. From now on, I'll take care of you."

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 115

- Tips

“Okay.” Lydia’s answer confirmed what was on her mind. Although Joseph was the very first person she wanted to see now that she was awake, she understood that he was always busy because of his special identity.

Since Ashley didn’t know that Lydia was a member of Joseph’s organization, and not just an ordinary nurse who was hired to take care of her, she didn’t ask any more questions.

For the next few minutes, Lydia told her the dos and don’ts for her fast recovery. The two chatted for a while until it was time for Ashley, who was still weak, to go back to rest.

After making sure that she was fast asleep, Lydia picked up the bowls and tools before she cautiously walked out of the ward.

When she went out of the ward, she saw Thunder, who seemed to be lost in his thoughts, standing near the elevator. “What are you thinking?” To get his attention, Lydia waved her hand in front of his face.

“It doesn’t matter. It’s not something a kid should worry about.” Lydia only tilted her head, so he added, “How is Mrs. Jason feeling now?”

From the day everyone in the Dragon Gang found out about Ashley’s existence, they had regarded her as their leader’s future wife. She was the only one who could touch the heart of their cold and arrogant leader after all. Moreover, they had witnessed with their own eyes how she cared about their leader. She even risked her life and took a bullet for him. That was why they started calling her “Mrs. Jason”.

It could be seen from the look on her face that Lydia was dissatisfied with the way Thunder addressed her. He was just ten years older than her, but he always regarded her as a kid just because he was more mature and experienced. But because he was superior to her, she answered truthfully, “She already gained consciousness. Except for being weak, she’s fine. She’s asleep now.

By the way, why didn’t Mr. Jason see her when she was conscious?”

The way Ashley looked at the door a while ago showed how much she looked forward to seeing Joseph, just as how much Lydia hoped that this unworldly man in front of her could understand her feelings she had for him for many years now.

“It’s also something you shouldn’t be concerned about. Just focus on taking good care of her, and let our boss handle the rest.” Unlike her, Thunder didn’t have any suspicions.

“Got it.” As rude as it sounded, Lydia already expected him to say this. Anyway, she was aware of the task assigned to her. Indeed, she couldn’t get involved in their leader’s personal matters.

They both fell silent after that. Then, Thunder walked into the elevator and left Lydia alone. He was once again absorbed in his thoughts. He had to talk to someone who would help with what was on his mind.

This morning, while their leader was looking after his lover in the ward, Thunder told him when she would wake up based on her condition. However, instead of being around when Ashley woke up, Joseph was watching the woman from the monitor room, which confused him as much as it confused Lydia.

‘Hasn’t he been looking forward to seeing Ashley awake? Why wasn’t he there at the critical moment?’

“Sir, won’t you visit Mrs. Jason in person?” The only way for him to know the answer to his question was to ask Joseph, who had been staring at the monitor for a while now.

After a long silence, Joseph said in a low voice, “Zack is still alive. There is always danger around me. I can’t let her risk her life again.” His voice was low but full of grievance as he confided in Thunder. “She’s better off without me.”

It had been two days since the Dragon Gang conducted a full search, but they still hadn’t found Zack’s corpse in the sea, and even the nearby areas. Chances were, this dangerous person was still alive.

Joseph had ordered his men to destroy all the industries and branches Mafia had. This matter had caused a sensation in the entire underground community. Now the Mafia was being reshuffled. This was not only to show off his power and take revenge on the Mafia, but also to make Zack appear and annihilate him in one go.

Knowing Zack's arrogant personality, Joseph knew that he wouldn't be able to take the news that everything he had was destroyed. He would probably call on his remaining subordinates to take revenge on the Dragon Gang. It was a perfect way to lure an enemy out, and to divert all Zack's attention away from harming Ashley.

At first, Joseph was hesitant to carry out his plan, but the phone call he received the day before yesterday strengthened his resolve to push Ashley away from his side and away from danger.

When Ashley's phone rang while she was still in coma, and Joseph saw that it was Mike who was calling, he walked right out of the ward to answer it.

"What's wrong with you, Ashley? I called you every day but couldn't get through. Is there something I should know?" As soon as the phone was connected, Mike's anxious voice came through the speaker.

There was a brief silence before Joseph replied in a low voice, "This is Joseph. Something happened to Ashley, but she's been taken care of."

The moment Mike heard Joseph's voice, he was stunned. But what surprised him more was the news he heard. Just a few days ago, Ashley had happily shared her love life with her brother. Her voice was brimming with happiness then, so he gave her his blessing without hesitation.

As long as she was happy, he thought it was okay to let her have a boyfriend. Besides, Joseph was an excellent man. Mike could also tell that he was not the kind of man fooling around women. More importantly, Ashley was the one who made this choice, and he had to respect whatever it was.

On the very same day, he put his trust on Joseph. Therefore, when he heard that something bad happened to his sister, he was immediately nervous.

"What happened? I need to talk to Ashley. Put her on the phone."

"She can't talk to you now..."

"What happened to her? Joseph, didn't you take good care of my sister? Why did you let something bad happen to her?" In an instant, Mike's tone became sharp when he interrupted Joseph.

"You're right. Because of me, Ashley was injured and in a coma." Looking at Ashley's sleeping face through the window, Joseph felt a sense of guilt.

“Mr. Marshall, why did my sister even get hurt being with you? I thought you could protect her well, so I entrusted her to you. Don’t you love her enough or are you not capable enough to protect her?” Maybe it was because he was so worried about Ashley that Mike couldn’t filter his words anymore.

“No, I love her very much...” No matter how much Joseph loved Ashley, he could only admit that he was not capable enough and failed to protect her this time.

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 116

- Tips

“Mr. Marshall, can I be honest with you? Both my parents and I hoped that Ashley would find a simple man who would accompany her for the rest of her life. That way, she’d live a safe and simple life. But you... you broke into her life for no reason. I couldn’t stop her, so I respected her decision. But, you broke your promise that you’d keep her safe all the time. You failed to protect her. How could we hand her over to you?” Mike saw through Joseph’s remorse. Joseph, who was a cold and arrogant man and had always looked down upon the world, calmly endured Mike’s interrogation and answered it with sincerity. All of this was happening because of Ashley. Nevertheless, Mike believed that Joseph really loved his sister, so he slowly calmed down. After all, he was just telling his side for Joseph to know.

“You’re not a simple man. I don’t want you to put Ashley in danger and destroy her peaceful life again. Mr. Marshall, as her family, this is my concern. I hope you can understand,” Mike confessed. These words were what he genuinely thought and felt.

As far as he was concerned, Joseph’s outstanding appearance, not to mention the shady things behind him, would only put Ashley’s life in danger. She was fortunate that she was only injured this time. However, who knew what would happen next?

Mike was holding an international newspaper in which the recent reshuffle in the gangs in the United States and Mexico were reported. As usual, it revealed the continuous cycle of the law of the jungle but in business. He had a hunch that the recent incident had something to do with Joseph. Even without acknowledging Joseph’s dark aura, the fact that he had been in both places where there had been news coverage said something. Besides, Mike

could not get in touch with his sister recently. Everything happened too coincidentally, so it was not hard to associate the events together.

Hearing that Joseph had not said anything for a long time, Mike persuaded him once again. “Ashley’s world is pure and simple. I don’t want her to be exposed to the darkness and be at risk of unknown danger. I suppose we want the same thing, don’t we?”

Joseph was smart enough to understand what Mike’s sincere reproaches meant—let Ashley go for her safety. It was true, though. Joseph was always surrounded by dangers. That being said, it was impossible for him to give Ashley the peaceful life she deserved.

At the thought of Ashley marrying someone else, Joseph felt a sharp pang in his heart. Even so, he would rather protect her in silence than expose her to risks that could harm her again. He might never see her again, but it was better than her being hurt again because of him.

“I understand what you mean. I think I know what I should do.” Joseph struggled to speak out what he ought to say. It took him a moment to do so. “I will leave her and keep her away from danger. Can you... take good care of her for me?”

Mike could tell the determination and love in Joseph’s tone. Although this was a cruel thing to do, it was undoubtedly the best choice for Ashley.

“Thank you. Anyway, is Ashley seriously injured? When will she recover? I’ll send someone to pick her up when she feels better.” Mike’s tone turned from reproach to gentle inquiry.

In his heart, Mike praised Joseph for his generosity. The hardest thing a person can do is to let go of the person he or she loves. Although it was difficult and painful, Joseph had to let his beloved go for the sake of her peace and safety.

“Nothing serious. She just needs a good rest. I’ll ask someone to send her back to Ariosa safely next week. Is that okay?” In all honesty, Joseph wanted to spend time with Ashley for the last time as much as he could.

However, he still needed to stay in the US to deal with the affairs there, and most importantly, Zack. Once Ashley returned home, the Guzman Group would protect her well. He would not have to worry about her safety at all. The only problem was he would not be able to see her anymore. He would only be able to watch her from a distance. Although it was all he could do, he still felt happy and satisfied.

“Agreed. I’m expecting to see Ashley safe and sound next week. By then, I hope that you’ve already dealt with the matter between you and her,” Mike replied after a short pause.

“Okay,” Joseph promised.

Once the two men had finished discussing the details on how to send Ashley home, they finally ended the call.

Mike and Joseph agreed on sending Ashley home the week after. Time was limited. Joseph spent every second in the monitor room, watching the awake her from another room.

Through the small screen, he saw her look at the door expectantly from time to time. How he wished he could rush in and hug her tightly and say, “I’ve always been by your side,” but he could not. Sadly, he could not let his previous efforts go to waste.

Thunder saw how fearful Joseph seemed while the latter was watching the screen. After asking why he didn’t visit Ashley in person, Thunder decided to leave Joseph, who was clearly in a dilemma, alone.

Joseph’s state at the moment made Thunder shake his head and sigh. Love is indeed a magical thing. It can change anyone, even the most heartless person in the world. Joseph was not an exception. Love made their cold leader as passionate as fire, and at the same time, depressed and miserable.

Wind, Rain, Thunder, and Lightning found out that Joseph had to bid farewell to Ashley. The first thing they thought was that Joseph and Ashley’s relationship should not end like that. As the saying goes, “Onlookers see most of the game.” They could attest that the main reason why their leader decided to give up his love was that he did not want her to suffer the second time because of who he was. Their leader might be right, but he did not ask what Ashley thought. Who knew whether or not his lover wanted to share the joy and sorrow with him?

Wind, Rain, Thunder, and Lightning were Joseph's most senior and closest subordinates. Wind and Rain were the senior helpers that William had specially trained. They were also the ones who had supported Joseph the most. Meanwhile, Thunder and Lightning were Joseph's comrades and they were of the same age. They trained together and formed an inseparable bond while they were in the special training agency. They held the most dominant positions in the Dragon Gang, and their loyalty lay with Joseph.

For many years, these four subordinates had been worried about their leader's love life. Now that they heard that Joseph was going to let the person he loved go, they all expressed their objections. However, none of them had the courage to oppose his wrong decision on the matter.

For several days, they waited for the perfect opportunity that Joseph was not around Ashley. Because of this, they decided to take turns to speak with Ashley in the ward and relieve her boredom. Of course, by doing this, they would be able to defend their leader's actions secretly. This was what happened:

"Mrs... Miss Guzman, I'm here again. How's your recovery going?" With a fruit basket in his hand, Lightning greeted with a smile. At that moment Ashley was awake and was sitting on the bed.

It had been four days since she woke up. Wind, Rain, Thunder and Lightning came to visit her these past few days with a different identity. Ashley and the four were now acquaintances.

Lightning introduced himself as Lydia's boyfriend. According to him, the purpose of his visit was to see his girlfriend. That way, he would be able to befriend Ashley without any suspicion.

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 117 - Tips

"Lydia just went out. You can wait for her here." Assuming that Lightning came here to see Lydia, Ashley let him know where Lydia was.

"Thank you. I'll take a seat. "Miss Guzman, is there anything you want to do while you're here? You can ask Lydia to go out with you, or you can ask us to do something for you."

Four days had already passed, but there was still no sign of Joseph. Every time the door to her ward opened, and it wasn't Joseph who came in, she couldn't help but get more and more disappointed.

It was not a secret to everyone that Ashley badly wanted to see Joseph. That was why even if some of Lydia's family and friends came to visit her, she still felt empty, and thought something unpleasant was about to happen. Every time she dialed Joseph's number and he didn't answer, her anxiety grew stronger and stronger. She kept telling herself that he was just too busy with his business, so he couldn't visit her. This was how she comforted herself whenever fear was beginning to creep into her heart.

Noticing the sadness that crossed her eyes, Lightning thought of something he could do to help. "Miss Guzman, how about I accompany you downstairs for a walk? You know... To breathe some fresh air."

After several days of resting, Ashley had regained sufficient nutrition, and had almost fully recovered. The wound on her arm was not something that could refrain her from going out for a walk anyway. Besides, breathing some fresh air to relieve her agitation was not a bad idea. Therefore, she nodded at Lightning, who had always been sincere and cheerful in front of her.

It just so happened that they bumped into Lydia when they came out of the ward, so the three of them went downstairs together. They took time walking under the warm sunshine while Lightning was trying to lighten the atmosphere by telling funny jokes and stories.

Born and raised in the United States, Lightning had so many things he had shared with the two girls. He talked about American tradition, culture, entertainment, politics, and more. He was full of enthusiasm, and he never ran out of things to talk about, which amused them.

Maybe it was the reason why Ashley felt a little better after they walked around the hospital. When she was alone in the ward again, she picked up her phone to call Joseph. But before she could dial his number, her phone suddenly rang.

"How are you doing, Ashley? You haven't called me for a while now." Yes, Mike was pretending that he hadn't heard about what happened to his sister, but his voice was still full of concern.

There were only two days left before Joseph would bring Ashley back as he promised Mike. He just wanted to know what Ashley was thinking, and if the accident made her eager to come home.

Hearing this, Ashley suddenly realized that she hadn't contacted her family for a long time, so she replied apologetically, "I'm sorry, I wasn't able to call you often, but I'm okay. It was a nice trip."

If Mike didn't know the real situation, he would have believed that Ashley indeed had a nice trip like what she had said. Her voice was so calm as if nothing bad had happened to her. Obviously, she was lying to him. She wanted to hide the truth from her brother and not to worry her family.

Thinking of this, Mike went along with it. "You've been travelling abroad for a month. Dad and Mom will be home in two days. When are you going to come home?"

There was no response from the other line, so he continued, "Ashley, come home in two days. Dad and Mom miss their good daughter very much. It seems like you're the only one they want to see. I'd better stay in the corner silently." Mike couldn't think of any reason to make Ashley come home, so he had to use his parents as an excuse. At the same time, he wanted to tease her.

Since Ashley was born three years after their parents had him, Mike lost the title as the favorite child. They said, "Opposites attract." Maybe it was the reason why their father was displeased with Mike's closeness to his wife. But when they finally had their daughter, Ashley, he cherished her so much.

The Guzman family seemed to prefer girls over boys, which explained why their father always ignored Mike. As a matter of fact, the father even directly told him that he wanted to see his precious daughter as soon as they came back from their trip.

Hearing his complaint, Ashley pictured her tall brother squatting in one corner, facing the wall. She couldn't help but chuckle at her own thought. "Mike, Mom and Dad miss you too. Don't think like that."

After a pause, Ashley made up her mind. "I want to stay here for some more time, and once I get back home, I'll talk to Dad and Mom."

The main reason why Ashley didn't want to go home yet was that she hadn't seen and spoken to Joseph yet. The accident didn't change her mind; she still wanted to go home with him so she could introduce him to her parents. But because he hadn't visited her yet, her plan might be delayed until she figured out what was going on.

"Well, you better come home as soon as possible. Dad and Mom will be waiting for you."

Knowing Ashley, there was nothing he could do to change her mind. Therefore, he didn't refute anymore. He would just wait for Joseph to carry out his plan.

"Okay. Don't tell them about Joseph yet. I want to surprise them." As she imagined the admiration in her parents' eyes when she introduced Joseph to them, Ashley's tone immediately became cheerful.

Left without a choice, Mike only sighed. "Okay." The two of them talked for a bit more. She had so many things to tell, and all of them were good stories.

It could be told from the way she talked about Joseph that she was deeply in love. She had always been indifferent before, but now that she had a boyfriend, she was full of joy. It was supposed to be a good thing, but it troubled Mike.

It turned out that Joseph would leave a permanent scar in his sister's heart once Joseph left. Guilt flooded through Mike's heart. He felt he had been too cruel for what he had requested from Joseph. The two were obviously in love with each other, and they would probably both be affected by the breakup.

After talking to her brother, Ashley called her parents and her friend, Yasmin, whom she hadn't contacted for days. Even though they were far, she felt their concern for her. The conversation she had with her parents and her friend made her feel so much better now.

As usual, Yasmin had shared some good news with Ashley as they spoke. She told her that she had already fallen in love with someone.

It suddenly occurred to Ashley that she hadn't told Yasmin about her relationship with Joseph yet. She thought she should share the good news to her after she was done talking about her love life.

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 118

- Tips

Hearing Yasmin's joyous voice when she announced that she had finally ended her single life, Ashley was ecstatic. As her friend, she confirmed right away who Yasmin's boyfriend was and how they had become an official couple.

"Let me guess. It's Zachary, right?" she asked in high spirits over the phone. With headphones on, she was currently sitting on the edge of the bed and reading a financial book that Lydia had prepared for her.

It was only a hunch when Ashley said that Yasmin's boyfriend was Zachary. After all, Yasmin did not have many male friends, and she always used Zachary as an excuse, so she could not be forced to go on blind dates. Not to mention, they had already met each other's parents. They must be in contact all the time. It was expected that Zackary would succeed in catching Yasmin's heart.

Although Ashley had only seen him on TV, she was impressed by the way he dealt with the reporters. Obviously, he was not only clever but also skilful. There was no doubt that he was an excellent man in all aspects.

Besides, Ashley and Yasmin had talked about that man several times before. Every time they did, Ashley noticed that there was a slight change in Yasmin's reaction. She could not forget how Yasmin had praised Zachary for his handsome face the first time they met. It was as though love at first sight. Finally, Yasmin was happy that she had found a good partner. However, there was a time when she seemed to have a problem with Zachary. At that time, whenever she talked about him, there was a hint of melancholy in her eyes. Ashley had a keen eye for detail. She was observant and was sure that her intuition was correct.

A rumor had circulated on the Internet that said Zachary had a homosexual relationship with Joseph, the CEO of the Empire Group. It was even confirmed by Yasmin herself, but it was fortunately scotched not long after. After falling in love and being with Joseph for nearly a month, Ashley realized that he was not sexually impotent as the rumor had described him. On the contrary, he was just a hungry wolf.

Another thing, Joseph, who was allegedly not interested in women, had displayed a strong desire for Ashley. This proved that the rumor was false and that Zachary was not a homosexual.

“Ashley, you’re so smart! I was just going to surprise you,” Yasmin complained when her plan of keeping her friend in suspense had been thwarted.

Hearing her friend’s unhappy voice, Ashley retorted, “What can I say? I’m a natural. Tell me, how did you two get together?”

“We haven’t seen each other for a long time. Why are you getting so smug?” Yasmin teased. She paused for a moment to think about her response to Ashley’s question. “Well, it was too sudden. He said he liked me, and I liked him as well. That’s it. That’s how we became together.” She deliberately made it vague to make it seem more interesting than it already was.

“Who’s so smug now? He’s not only good-looking but also rich and powerful! I thought you chased him around and forced him to be with you.”

Of course, Ashley would not let herself lose against Yasmin in their little teasing contest.

Hearing her friend’s words, Yasmin immediately defended herself, “Hey! I’m wonderful too. As my friend, you know how beautiful and talented I am. Besides, I came from a respectable family. What else can he ask for?” She paused for a moment and changed her pompous tone into a serious one. “I’m telling the truth, I swear. Zachary was the one who fell in love with me first. I can’t blame him. I’m really charming.”

“Yeah, right. You may be telling the truth, but there’s a problem. You seldom show your feminine charm, don’t you?” Ashley could imagine the complacent look on Yasmin’s face at the moment, so she teased her friend even more. Well, it was hilarious to see this side of Yasmin since she did not usually flaunt her feminine charm.

Yasmin was at a loss for words. As soon as she regained her composure, she protested, “Even if I don’t show my feminine charm often, Zachary still fell in love with me. The fact that he did just proves that I am indeed charming. Ashley, don’t you think so?”

“No comment. Anyway, tell me about what happened between you two. I’m dying to know what’s going on. I’ll tell you the good news about my relationship in exchange.” Ashley had already known that Yasmin sometimes could be complacent and argumentative. As a result, she figured that it would be better to change the topic by mentioning her love life in a subtle manner.

It took Yasmin a while to realize what Ashley meant. Once she did, she became excited and giddy in an instant. “Who is the lucky guy? Is he a handsome foreign man? You’re amazing! You’ve only been out of the country for a month, and you already have a boyfriend. I really admire your charisma!”

Hearing Yasmin compliment her based on her imagination rendered Ashley speechless. At last, Yasmin quieted down and asked calmly, “Who is he?” To which Ashley replied, “You know who he is, but you have to tell me your love story first.”

There was no denying that the temptation Ashley had offered piqued Yasmin’s curiosity, especially when Ashley said, “You know who he is.” Because of this, Yasmin told Ashley the love story between her and Zachary in detail. Of course, she did not include the things that Ashley did not have to know.

Unable to contain the suspense, before Ashley could comment on her story, Yasmin asked at once, “So, who is it?”

She imagined all the men she and Ashley both knew, yet she still could not think of a deserving man for her friend. The men in the company were not good enough for Ashley. Not only that but unlike her, they were not travel enthusiasts. They had no interest in taking a vacation, so Ashley’s boyfriend could not have been her former colleague. Besides, it was impossible for her to know any handsome men Ashley met on her trip. Perhaps it was one of Ashley’s few male friends whom Ashley had introduced to her?

Nevertheless, Yasmin never thought that Ashley, who had always been cold and aloof, would fall in love quickly. She could tell that Ashley had high hopes about this relationship. She figured that the man must be exceptional, or else Ashley would not take fancy on him. Needless to say, she did not think that she would be able to guess the man correctly, so she was going to get the answer from Ashley.

However, instead of answering her friend’s question, Ashley remarked, “By the way, the story between you and Zachary isn’t bad. Blind dates, third party’s involvement, misunderstandings, the silent treatment... It’s a typical

soap opera. Fortunately, like in the movies, the lovers get together in the end. I sincerely wish you a happy marriage in advance, Yasmin.”

Regardless of what Ashley had said, Yasmin did not respond. On the other side, Ashley figured that Yasmin was waiting for her story, so she imagined what Yasmin was thinking of and joked, “Why don’t you take a guess?”

Yasmin sighed in exasperation and complained, “Stop tantalizing me. Just tell me, who is it?”

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 119

- Tips

“Really? Are you in earnest when you tell me you have no idea who he is?” A silence ensued, both of them chose to remain silent. After this short pause, Ashley understood Yasmin wasn’t pretending. She indeed had no idea who it was. She cleared her throat and uncovered the truth. “That person is Joseph. Do you know him?”

When Yasmin heard this, she was too stunned to speak. She can’t believe she had almost forgotten this man. On more than one occasion she had asked Ashley about the relationship between the two of them. She never received a proper response. And now, Ashley had proclaimed they were in love!

Yasmin found Ashley’s question odd. ‘How can I not know Joseph who is the immediate superior of Zachary?’ she thought to herself and shook her head. This was indeed a very small world.

In Yasmin’s mind, Joseph was an icy man, incapable of love. One couldn’t go close to him, he could only be regarded from a distance. And now, this cold man and a beautiful woman were a pair! Yasmin couldn’t help but acknowledge they made a lovely pair.

“Spill it all out! Tell me when did the two of you get together?” After her initial shock faded, Yasmin coaxed Ashley into telling her everything.

Ashley spoke in a calm and composed manner. She said, “We met in Mexico and he told me he was on annual leave. After spending some time with each other, day and night, we fell in love. Now here we are!” As Ashley briefed Yasmin about her love story, a sweet smile crept on her beautiful face.

“I guess that’s not the whole story. I am pretty sure this man, Joseph, has had an eye on you for a while. The encounter in Mexico was planned. It can’t be an accident. Well, our Ashley is so charming that a man like Joseph went all the way across to Mexico for her!” Yasmin exclaimed with genuine delight.

As she was discussing this matter, a part of her thought about Zachary. ‘No wonder Zachary has been too busy these days. That’s why all these misunderstandings happened between us. It turned out his boss was too busy chasing a girl around. As a consequence, he had to shoulder all the responsibilities.’

Ashley didn’t disagree with Yasmin’s theory. On the contrary, she dwelled on what her friend said and realized it was true. Their meeting was definitely not a coincidence. He had chased after her! It turns out she was quite an attractive woman. After all, such a handsome man had fallen for her.

At this realization, she became a narcissist. She smiled heartily and said, “I don’t doubt your theory. My charm finally is capable of attracting anyone. The fact that a cold man has melted for me is all the proof you need.”

The truth was, ever since Ashley began dating Joseph she had been doubting herself. After all, he was a well-loved man with perfect looks. In comparison, she began to feel inferior. People paid him more attention. This thought constantly bothered her. But now, she told herself she had nothing to feel insecure about. The fact he fell for her proved her charm.

Yasmin shook her head and rebuked, “You are right but there is one small fault in you. You are too aloof and people are scared to even approach you. It looks like you found your match. It took a man colder than you to impress you.”

As Yasmin spoke, her thoughts went back to when Ashley was working in the company. ‘When Ashley first entered the company, her pretty face captured almost everybody’s heart. However, the coldness lying underneath it stopped people. And to make things worse, she didn’t wish for a lover. Her male colleagues tried a little in the beginning but later gave up. Ashley has always been charming but she never let people tell her that.’ Yasmin, having known Ashley for a long time, was more aware of Ashley’s charms than she herself was.

“Thank you. If it weren’t for you, I would have been oblivious to the fact that I am so attractive,” Ashley said gratefully but laughing a little in the process. While they spoke, Ashley was interrupted by a call. She stopped talking and said, “I am sorry but I have to answer this call. I promise to call you again soon.”

After saying that, she kept the call.

Yasmin sat lost in thought for a few minutes. She thought back to the emotional fluctuation she detected in Ashley’s voice throughout their conversation. Her indifference had disappeared nor was she calm or passive like she used to be when she was in a relationship with Charlie. Instead, her tone was a mix of anxiety and thrill. Yasmin was sure this woman had certainly fallen in love.

‘That’s wonderful. We have both found love and happiness,’ she thought, her face brightening with a smile.

It was noon break and Yasmin, having almost finished sorting out the documents, was about to go out. Just then, her phone rang. She looked at the screen and caught Zachary’s name.

“I’ll come to your company and pick you up for lunch. Wait for me,” his gentle voice said.

“Okay, sure. Got it,” she responded back.

Zachary had told her yesterday night he wanted to take her for lunch the next day. However, he found the need to call her and remind her again. She couldn’t help but laugh a little.

“Wait for me. I will be there soon,” he repeated, like he was afraid she would run away.

“Yes, I will. I am going to hang up. I have a bit more work to finish,” she said and hung up.

Today would be the third day of their relationship. Every day with him was beautiful. Their intimacy strengthened as the days passed. She was slowly getting accustomed to his presence.

She was glad happiness had come to her life. After they cleared the misunderstandings, their relationship was blissful. She thought back to what Zachary had done to protect her. Happiness washed over her.

The great leap in their relationship owed to what happened two days ago.

Since Jacob declared their acquisition of the Synder Group, the atmosphere in the Synder Group had gotten quite tense. The superiors gave strict orders to the employees. They weren't allowed to resign or ask for leave unless it was an emergency. And even during such emergencies, the employees had to get approval from the general manager. This sent the employees into a panic. However, to their relief, the Empire Group hadn't taken any practical measures in the past month. The atmosphere was slowly beginning to get lax.

The day before yesterday, a female colleague, who happened to be in Yasmin's department, came to work even though her condition wasn't good. In the middle of the work, she almost fainted. Yasmin went to Charlie, the general manager, and asked if he could permit her colleague to leave work early. She accompanied the sick girl to a nearby hospital and took her back to her apartment. Once she was sure her friend was safe and secure, she left.

She looked at her watch and realized it was too late. Her plan was to go back to her apartment after dinner.

She had dinner and stood by the side of the road, waiting to hail a taxi. Bored, she glanced around and her eyes fell on a tall man. She felt a sense of familiarity. After careful consideration, she was certain she knew him. It dawned on her who he was! He was the guy she had a huge crush on during her university days.

"Jeffery, why are you here?" Yasmin greeted him in surprise.

She hadn't seen Jeffery Dean for almost five years. There was a part that regretted she hadn't mustered up the courage to profess her love to this senior. Back then, she mostly watched him from afar. Time had no impact on Jeffery's appearance. He was as handsome and as elegant as she remembered. His mere presence was enough to fill people with warm emotions. The look in his eyes told people he was a gentle and trustworthy man.

Jeffery, who heard a woman address him from behind, turned and caught sight of this beautiful woman. She was clad in a professional outfit and was

staring at him expectantly. There was an undisguised surprise in her eyes. He instantly remembered she was the cheerful young girl he had met in a taekwondo club when he was in university. “Oh, it’s you! Yasmin, it’s been such a long time,” he said delightfully.

Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 120

- Tips

Back when Jeffery was still the president of the collage taekwondo union, he was occasionally invited to coach the members of her club. There he met Yasmin, who had exceptional face and fighting skills. Now that she was standing in front of him, he could say that she had changed a lot.

The cheerful young girl he used to know was totally grown up now. She was wearing light makeup and a business suit, which made her look more mature and elegant.

“Jeffery, I’m so happy to meet you here. When did you come back?”

For Yasmin, the past had become a part of her sweetest memories.

Therefore, she could safely say that she no longer had feelings for him. She didn’t even have to be careful with her words, and pretend to be full of grace when she talked to him. Now she could express her thoughts in front of him freely without getting nervous.

“I’ve been back for nearly half a month. I’m also glad to see an old schoolmate around.”

What were the chances that Jeffery would bump into an old schoolmate in half a month after being away for so long? He felt excited to see a familiar face, so he chatted happily with Yasmin, who was still as talkative as before.

In the bustling downtown, few empty cabs were shuttling through the traffic as they talked on the sidewalk. After a while, they both agreed to continue chatting in the coffee shop at the corner of the nearby street since they still had free time.

The two of them talked for about twenty minutes until Jeffery received a phone call, and told Yasmin he had to leave first. Maybe it was because Jeffery was in a hurry that he forgot his coat in his chair. When Yasmin saw it, she quickly picked it up and followed him outside.

“Jeffery, you forgot to take your coat.” Luckily, she managed to reach him before he got in the taxi.

“Thank you! I totally forgot about this coat...” Jeffery noticed that her face was flushed, and she was catching her breath from running fast. He smiled and reached out to smoothen her messy hair.

“I have to go. I’ll see you next time.” Then he flashed her a smile before getting in the taxi.

“Okay. Be careful on the way.” With a smile, Yasmin waved him goodbye until the taxi disappeared from her sight.

Afterwards, she decided to wait for a taxi, so she could go back to her apartment.

It was true that Yasmin was glad to see and have a long conversation with Jeffery after a long time, but not in the way she used to feel when she was younger. He didn’t make her heart flutter anymore. Instead, she felt relaxed reuniting with an old friend.

Perhaps the feelings she had for Jeffery in the past were only caused by teenage hormones, or perhaps it had faded as time went by. It may also because the man she loved now had replaced him in her heart.

If that’s the case, how long would it take for her to forget the man she loved now? Yasmin watched the people come and go in a daze. She was lost in the lively scene in front of her, so she didn’t notice the person who was looking at her from afar.

Only when a car pulled up in front of her did she come back to her senses.

“Get in the car!”

The driver of the car rolled down the window to meet her eyes. Yasmin was surprised and confused at the same time when she heard what he said.

“Why should I listen to you?” This question came out of Yasmin’s mouth without thinking too much.

Things happened so fast that she wasn't able to struggle when Zachary came to her and pulled her into the car.

"What do you want? Why do you keep doing these ridiculous things?" The annoyance in her voice couldn't be denied as she complained from the backseat.

But no matter what she said, Zachary didn't answer her. He quickly drove off, making Yasmin curse in her mind.

How could he just barge into her life again after he left her hanging for more than half a month?

Looking at Zachary, whose full attention was on the road, Yasmin realized that he didn't have a plan to answer her question. Anger rose in her heart in an instant. "Zachary! Weren't you the one who agreed that we shouldn't get involved in each other's lives? Are you that bored to break your own promise?"

'It wasn't easy for me to get used to your absence. Why did you have to come back?'

Although Zachary wasn't reacting, it could be told from the way he clenched the steering wheel that he was affected by her words. He wasn't saying anything, but his heart was full of bitterness. 'If only you know how hard it is for me to stay away from you. I can't get you out of my head, nor out of my heart... I can't bear to see you happy with another man.'

This afternoon, when Zachary was on his way to his villa, two people laughing on the sidewalk caught his attention. Perhaps it was because both Yasmin and Jeffery were good-looking, or perhaps it was because they looked so happy.

As cliché as it sounded, he also saw them walk into a cafe at the corner when he parked his car in the downtown parking lot.

His very first thought was that this man might be the boyfriend she had mentioned many times before, and he couldn't deny the fact that seeing them together sent a sharp pain in his heart. The hope he had that Yasmin and her boyfriend had broken up when the man in question didn't show up when she was sick immediately vanished. At that time, Zachary even thought that she was just lying to him.

But now, the proof was right in front of him. Yasmin had a bright smile, which reached her eyes as she spoke to the man next to her. It was contrary to her cold expression whenever she was with Zachary. It could only be imagined how painful it was for him.

Zachary had a hard time stopping himself from barging into the cafe. In fact, he wanted to rush out of his car to interrupt their date, but he didn't know how to. He had nothing to do with her now anyway.

Just as when he was about to enter the cafe to pretend that he had come across them coincidentally, the man she was with came out of the cafe alone. The satisfaction Zachary felt didn't last long, because Yasmin quickly followed him out.

From where he was standing, Zachary could only see half of their faces, but he saw that Yasmin handed a coat to him. Then, the man raised his hand and smoothed her hair. They whispered something to each other before finally saying goodbye.

A woman giving a man a coat, and the man stroking her hair. The scene was so romantic that it broke Zachary's heart.

'It looks like you are kind and tender to everyone except me...'

When Yasmin was finally alone, Zachary drove in her direction right away. His emotions overpowered him, so he pushed her into the car with a cold expression and drove away.

The scene he had witnessed made him want to be selfish just this once. He would keep her close to himself, even if that meant he had to tie her up.