

## **Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 141 - Tips**

“Sir, this is the invoice. Please keep it.” The saleslady handed the invoice to Zaiden, who thanked her as he took it from her hand.

“Let’s check some furniture in other shops too.” From the saleslady’s face, Zaiden turned to his side where Ashley was standing.

Without a word, she nodded to agree to what he had said.

“Goodbye, sir, ma’am. Please come again next time. I wish you two a happy and healthy life together.” What the saleslady said made them pause for a second, and then they left as if nothing happened.

Having been misunderstood by the saleslady once again they showed different expressions on their faces.

Ashley, who didn’t care much about other people’s opinions, turned a blind eye to it.

On the contrary, Zaiden smiled at these pleasant words.

The whole time they were together, Zaiden had been thinking about how he would express his feelings for Ashley, which was why he seemed to be lost in a daze. Meanwhile, Ashley’s full attention was on the furniture in front of her. She would ask for Zaiden’s attention from time to time, but he would only nod absentmindedly.

As a result, she was the one who chose most of the furniture including sofa, tables, bookshelves, and lights. Zaiden paid for everything without questioning her choices.

It was like a scene where a husband agreed to whatever his wife said. The shop owners and saleswomen who thought they were a young couple sent their blessings to them, not only because they looked good together, but also because they paid without hesitation.

At first, Ashley tried to correct this misunderstanding, but it went on and on that she got tired of explaining, so she just let it be.

The more people mistook them for a couple, the more Zaiden's fear was swept away. He finally made up his mind on when he was going to confess to her.

"Let's go." Finally, Joseph had come back to his senses.

What they didn't know was that Joseph saw them through the window of his luxury car. Seeing the woman he loved with another man was just so painful, and it kept flashing through his mind.

Just as when they were almost done, Zaiden received a call. It was an emergency, so he couldn't take Ashley out for dinner like he originally planned.

Therefore, he drove her home and went straight to the law firm after.

As soon as Ashley entered the house, she noticed that no one was around except for the servants. When they told her that her parents were in their room, she decided to go to her own room too.

Not long after she entered the room, her phone rang. Yasmin's high-pitched voice came to her ear when she answered the call. "Ashley! There's something you should know. Joseph is back."

"Okay," after a moment of silence, Ashley said in an indifferent tone.

"Ashley, I told you this because I wanted you to be mentally prepared. Don't waste your time crying over him. He doesn't deserve you."

"Yes, I know. Yasmin, I have to go. I have something else to do. Bye." Not wanting to hear more, Ashley quickly hung up the phone.

'You're back. You're finally back. Did you bring your girl with you?'

Ashley took out the booklet under the pillow, and tears immediately welled up in her eyes as she looked through the pictures of her most beautiful memories.

These photos were stained, indicating that she had been crying over them almost every night when she was alone.

It was true that she was deeply hurt by Joseph, but she couldn't help but recall their wonderful past, and hope all the love and betrayal thing had never even happened.

'If I had a choice, I would rather not fall in love with you. Unfortunately, the past cannot be undone. You have already left a scar in my heart that even time cannot erase.'

It had always been like this. Her facade automatically disappeared when no one was around, and bitterness filled her heart.

After she had calmed down, Ashley put the booklet back under the pillow, and called Leonard. "Leonard, I won't visit you today."

"Why? What happened?" The old man immediately felt disappointed when he heard what she had said.

"I have something to do today, and besides... he's back." Lying was never easy for Ashley, so she decided to tell the truth.

How could she go to the Marshall's residence if it meant she would see Joseph holding his new girl's hand there? This scene had appeared in her nightmares numerous times, and it always broke her heart.

In the end, Leonard could only sigh. "Well, I can't force you to come if you don't want to. I really hope you'd find your happiness soon."

Smart as he was, Leonard had figured who Ashley was referring to, even if she didn't mention a name. It seemed like he couldn't do anything, since he had no right to interfere in other people's relationship.

"I know. Thank you, Grandpa," said Ashley sincerely.

The way she called him Grandpa sent bitterness to his heart.

When the call ended, Leonard's phone rang again. This time, it was Joseph who called him. "Grandpa, I'm going home today."

"How many people? Who are you with?"

If Joseph had brought another woman with him, Leonard wouldn't let them take even a single step in his house.

“Just me...” Everyone asked this question, making Joseph feel powerless.

“Okay, come home quickly.”

Since Leonard was in a bad mood, he hung up the phone on him.

Soon enough, a car pulled over in the courtyard of the Marshall’s house. Joseph leisurely got off the car and walked straight into the house.

“Grandpa, I’m here.” In the living room, Joseph saw Leonard reading some newspaper, so he put down his luggage to greet him.

“Okay.” However, the latter didn’t even raise his head to look at him.

Noticing that his grandfather didn’t want to talk to him, Joseph didn’t insist anymore and thought it was better to go to his room. But when he was about to go upstairs, he heard a familiar name.

“Mr. Marshall, dinner is ready. Has Ashley come yet?” Coming out of the kitchen, John asked Leonard about Ashley, not knowing that Joseph was there too.

Only when he reached the living room did he see Joseph standing in the middle of the stairs. “Mr. Marshall, you’re back. It’s time for dinner, you too should eat.”

Not trying to give Joseph a chance to respond, Leonard looked up at John. “Ashley won’t come today. Let’s eat by ourselves.”

After saying that, Leonard put down the newspaper he was holding, and walked towards the dining table without throwing a single glance at Joseph.

Knowing the reason why Leonard was acting that way, John looked at Joseph with concerned eyes before he followed the former in the dining area.

“Mr. Lee, you and grandpa eat first. I’ll come down to eat later.” Without waiting for his reply, Joseph continued to walk upstairs.

“Okay, Mr. Marshall.” Right after Joseph’s figure disappeared from his sight, John turned to Leonard.

“Mr. Marshall, Ashley knows that Joseph is back, right?” There were only two of them at the table, so John didn’t hold back anymore.

“Yes.” This was all Leonard’s answer.

“She’s a good woman! What a pity...” With a sigh, John watched Leonard ate like a robot.

“It’s Joseph’s fault.”

Every time Leonard had a problem with his grandson, he would call his name directly.

“It looks like you’re starting a cold war against your grandson, Mr. Marshall.” Confusion was written all over John’s face. Why did he seem so uninterested when his grandson was finally home?

“Leave him alone. I have no time to talk to him. Stop mentioning his name. It only upsets me. Go on and eat.”

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By the time Joseph joined the table for dinner, Leonard had already finished his meal and left Joseph alone.

Obviously, the two didn’t want to talk to each other. John could only shake his head as he watched them avoid one another.

Meanwhile, Ashley spent the rest of the day in her room, thinking about Joseph. She didn’t go downstairs until Simone asked her to come down for dinner. As usual, she pretended to be okay in front of her parents.

It was already time for dinner, but Mike still hadn’t come home. They tried to call him, but his phone was powered off.

“Why is Mike so irresponsible? Why didn’t he tell us ahead of time that he wouldn’t come home for dinner?” Disappointment was evident in Jack’s voice when he commented on Mike’s behavior.

Hearing this, Simone tried to defend her son. “Don’t worry. Mike is old enough to know what he’s doing. Maybe he will come home later.”

Of course, Ashley would also side with her brother. “Mike told me he was going to play bowling with a client. Maybe we couldn’t reach his phone because his battery was dead?”

“Alright, let’s not worry about him anymore. Let’s have dinner first. But I still need to teach him a lesson when he comes home.”

It was the master of the family who gave an order, so Simone and Ashley could only stay silent.

Besides, it was really Mike’s fault for breaking the family rule, even if he knew that every family member had to call in case they couldn’t come home in time.

As expected, it was already late at night when Mike came home. Seeing the different expressions on his sister’s and his parents’ faces, he couldn’t help but feel a little scared.

“Where have you been?” The first one to ask was Jack, who looked at him indifferently.

“I was just outside. Dad, look, I’m sorry. I know it’s my fault that I didn’t call. But it’s only because my battery’s dead. Otherwise, why would I put myself in trouble?”

“What did you do?” This time, it was Simone who asked with concern.

“Uh, I played bowling with a client.” As he explained, Mike glanced at Ashley, who was sitting alone on the sofa, as if he was asking for help.

“Mike, tell me the truth. What did you do? Or tell us which client has kept you company for so long?” Apparently, Simone didn’t buy his excuse, so she kept asking. “Can you play bowling at this time?”

His mother had already seen through him, making him speechless for a moment. He walked over to his mother and asked in a low voice, “Mom, can I just keep it to myself?”

“No way!” both Jack and Simone said in unison.

Under the sharp gaze of his parents and the curious gaze of his sister, Mike felt cornered. It seemed like he had no other choice but to tell them the truth

tonight. Now he could only blame himself for forgetting the fact that his parents knew all the big clients of the Guzman Group, which was why they figured he was lying. His whole family had surrounded him, and it looked like they wouldn't give up until he told them the truth.

Therefore, he looked at them helplessly before he spoke. "I was looking for your future daughter-in-law."

"Come on, you're bluffing!"

"Really?"

"Who is it?"

This announcement surely shocked everyone. They all spoke at the same time, showing different reactions. Nevertheless, none of them expected him to say those words.

And only his sister trusted him the most.

"I'm telling the truth. It's your choice whether you believe it or not." Looking at the astonishment in their eyes, Mike suddenly felt proud.

At the same time, he was confused. Why didn't any of them believe in what he had confessed?

Silence filled the room. It was as if everyone was lost in their thoughts.

A few seconds later, Simone carefully examined the look on her son's face.

"Mike, tell me, who's this girl?"

"Mom, I'll tell you when I get her." For the meantime, Mike chose to keep it to himself.

However, this only made Jack doubt again. "Are you not confident of getting her or are you just really fooling us?"

The truth was, Jack had seen the determination in his son's eyes. Although he didn't really have a plan to meddle with his son's love affairs, now Mike had finally found someone he liked, he couldn't help getting curious and concerned.

“Dad, your provocation won’t work on me anymore. Everyone, don’t be too excited. I will take her home when the time is right. I’m going to take a shower. Good night!”

With that, he left the three people in the living room in awe.

“Look at his smug face. I don’t want to know anyway.” When Mike’s figure disappeared from their sight, Jack didn’t bother to hide his dissatisfaction.

“I think you are the one who is bragging. You are so curious, but you refuse to admit it.” At that moment, Simone thought her husband was being unreasonably rude.

Before Jack could say anything, she added, “Time flies so fast. Our children are going to get married soon, and then we’re going to have our grandchildren.”

There was a hint of sadness in her voice when she said this, so Jack patted the back of her hand to comfort her. “Our children have to find their own happiness. We just need to enjoy our lives.”

Then, they both gave Ashley a meaningful glance. In a hurry, she stood up from the sofa. “Dad, Mom, it’s getting late already. You two should go to bed. I’m going back to my room. Good night!”

“Go ahead. Good night!” Contrary to the tone he used when talking to Mike, Jack spoke softly to her.

Soon, her parents walked back to their room hand in hand, while talking about random things.

Since the day Ashley heard that Joseph had returned, she chose to divert all her attention on work to avoid bumping into him in the city.

Maybe it was because everyone was too busy that only a few people noticed the change in Ashley’s behavior.

It was almost the end of the year, so Zaiden had plenty of things to deal with in the law firm as well. Even so, he tried his best to make time to have dinner with Ashley. However, most of the time, she would say no. As a gentleman, he couldn’t force her if she didn’t want to.

The week had passed in the blink of an eye for Ashley. One day, the news about the upcoming wedding of the heir of Synder Group had spread throughout the Ariosia. It turned out that their Cinderella-like story would also come to a happy ending.

According to the news, Charlie's and Lina's wedding was set on Sunday. The Synder Group had held several press conferences to announce it, as well as to let everyone know how a rich young man met an ordinary woman and eventually fell in love with her.

When they had an interview, the couple shamelessly showed their love for each other, and announced that they would well run the Synder Group in the future. Moved by the love story, people gave their blessing to the couple, helping the Synder Group restore its reputation and stock price.

Everyone around her had been talking about the said event, but Ashley didn't really care since she had nothing to do with the Synder Group. She didn't expect that Charlie and Lina would personally invite her to attend the wedding.

"Manager Guzman, oh, no, Miss Guzman, how have you been doing?" Although Ashley hadn't seen this woman for a long time, Lina's voice sounded awfully familiar to her.

"What do you want to say?" Just as when she was about to open the door of her car so she could go home, she received a call from Lina.

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'Tomorrow, Lina will officially become a member of a rich and powerful family. What else does she want from me?'

"Miss Guzman, I really want you to be there on my wedding tomorrow." Despite the indifference in Ashley's voice, Lina expressed her sincerity.

"Sorry, I'm not available tomorrow." It was not as if Ashley cared whether she offended Lina or not by directly turning down her invitation.

Their wedding was the least of her concern now. She was neither close to Lina nor Charlie anyway. Why would she waste time on them, let alone attend their big day tomorrow?

There was a brief silence on the other end of the line, so Ashley almost dropped the call. “Well, since Miss Guzman doesn’t have time, we won’t force you. But would you at least accept my invitation to dinner? It’s my way of apologizing for slandering you and causing you to be fired.”

“No need.” As she started the car, Ashley rejected Lina’s invitation once again.

Back then, when the self-righteous CEO of Synder Group came to apologize to her in person, he didn’t really show much sincerity. Therefore, she thought that there was no point for her to accept Lina’s invitation at all.

Strangely, the arrogant Lina didn’t even show a hint of annoyance even if she had been rejected twice already. Instead, she sounded even more patient. “Miss Guzman, I’m getting married tomorrow. I’m supposed to hold a bachelorette party tonight, but now I just realized that I don’t have a friend to invite...

I know that we are not really friends and I used to target you, but believe me, I realize how wonderful you are as a person so I want to be close with you. And besides, you have witnessed my relationship with Charlie.”

“Miss Graham, I have something else to do, so I...” Not wanting to hear anything from her anymore, Ashley quickly interrupted her.

To her surprise, a car had stopped in front of her when she drove out of the parking lot of the Guzman Group. Her words of refusal hung in her throat as she tried to see the face of the driver of the car.

Soon, the owner of the car came out from the driver’s seat and walked towards Ashley’s car.

When she realized who the person was, Ashley couldn’t help but frown in confusion. ‘Wasn’t I just talking to Lina on the phone? What was she doing here?’

Lina knocked on the car window, motioning for Ashley to roll it down.

“Ashley, can you have dinner with me and let me apologize for what I did before I enter a new chapter in my life? Don’t worry. I’m pregnant. I can’t do anything to you. I just want to spend my last night of being single with someone I know.” The way Lina said this was as if she was begging.

However, she still didn't get a response from Ashley, who seemed to be lost in a thought. "I guess I have no choice but to tell you the truth. I... I'm not living a good life. The covert struggles in the rich and powerful clan make me feel depressed. I want to find someone to talk to and relieve the depression in my heart. Can you fulfill this small request of mine, Ashley?"

"All right. I'll leave after dinner." Finally, her persuasion had worked on Ashley.

The two of them hadn't seen each other for a long time. Lina's belly was so much bigger compared to the last time they had met. She was getting married tomorrow, but there was a ghost of sadness and exhaustion in her eyes, which softened Ashley's heart.

"Thank you, Ashley! I appreciate your kindness to me. I'm really happy that I get to spend this night with you."

"You lead the way. I'll follow you." Although Ashley had agreed to join her, she still sounded indifferent.

"Okay." With a smile, Lina nodded at her and walked back to her own car.

What Ashley didn't know was that the moment Lina turned around, her smile disappeared and the purity in her eyes was replaced with cruelty.

Not long after, the two had arrived at a well-known hotel. Lina talked to the lobby manager for a short while, and then they were escorted to a luxurious suite.

During those times when she was still working in the Synder Group, Ashley had done a marketing plan for this hotel, so she knew that this belonged to them. For this reason, Lina was able to book a room without any problem.

A variety of dishes were served one after another while Lina was telling Ashley about her current situation which was making her feel depressed.

Among everything she had said, what caught Ashley's attention was when Lina admitted that she was hesitating to continue the wedding tomorrow. It was mainly because the Synder family was too strict, and also because Charlie was becoming more and more distant. She was afraid about the future of the baby in her womb.

It was very unlikely of her to admit her worries instead of showing off, but today, she was telling everything to Ashley.

From the beginning to the end, Ashley just listened quietly to her. If Lina asked her a question, she would only respond with one or two words.

At first, Ashley stayed vigilant, thinking that Lina must have something under her sleeves. But when she heard her bitter stories, she let her guard down.

“I’m sorry, I must be talking too much.” After talking endlessly, Lina smiled at her apologetically.

As she spoke, she caressed her bulging belly from time to time. Ashley didn’t know if Lina was aware that she was glowing differently whenever she did that. ‘Maybe the child in her belly had changed her bad character.’

“It doesn’t matter. I’m already here, so I might as well listen. But don’t just talk. You should also eat for the baby.” Nodding her head, Lina smiled.

“Yes! Thank you, Ashley!” Then, Lina started putting food in her plate.

For some reason, tears welled up in her eyes. “It’s been a long time since I felt that someone cared for me. Thank you so much, Ashley. Come on, let me propose a toast to you with water instead of wine since I can’t drink. I sincerely apologize for what I’ve done in the past, and I hope we could get along well from now on.”

Raising the glass of water, Lina encouraged Ashley to clink their glasses.

Even though Ashley was a little hesitant, she raised her glass and did what Lina wanted.

After taking a few sips of her wine, Ashley put down her glass on the table. “Let’s forget about the past. You should pay more attention to your health now that you’re having a baby. I wish you a happy life.”

“Thank you! Ashley, can you stay with me for a little longer? I don’t want to go home yet. It’s cold out there.” They were done with dinner, so Lina had to stop Ashley from leaving.

“Okay. I’ll sit with you for a while.” Wiping her mouth with the napkin, Ashley nodded.

“Thank you. I’d like to propose another toast to you. Thank you for accompanying me.” Once again, Ashley was forced to drink out of courtesy.

All of a sudden, Lina let out a heavy sigh. “I really envy you. You’re good-looking, and you’re from a rich family.”

Not knowing what to say, Ashley only stared at her.

The jealousy Lina was trying to hide was now evident in her eyes. Ashley didn’t know how to react. ‘Was I seeing things because of the alcohol?’

But I only took a few sips. It was impossible that I was drunk.’

None of them spoke for a while, as if they were weighing the current situation.

Seconds had passed, and Ashley’s eyelids felt heavier. She saw Lina smirked before everything turned black.

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Upon making sure that Ashley was really unconscious, Lina stood up and said in a loud voice, “Come out now.”

Soon, a tall figure came out from the secret door in the private room.

“Charlie, I have already done my part. Make sure that you will do yours.” Lina cast a disdainful glance at Charlie, who was swaying a little as he walked his way to Ashley. He reeked of alcohol, because he had been drinking earlier as he waited for this moment.

Because of this, Lina had to cover her nose with her one hand, and support her belly with the other one when she walked out of the room.

Bitterness filled her heart. At the same time, she felt satisfied because she was one step closer to achieving the revenge and wealth she had dreamed for so long.

The main reason why Charlie and Lina were getting married was not to be together forever, but to retrieve the Synder Group’s reputation. They might look like a couple who were deeply in love with each other in public, but the

truth was, they despised each other. They just stuck together for the sake of their own interests.

For instance, Charlie needed the child in Lina's belly to protect his position as the heir of the Synder Group, while she needed him for the wealth and status she had longed for since time immemorial.

The two had an agreement this morning to help each other do something before their wedding.

To be more specific, Charlie asked Lina to create an opportunity for him to have a private moment with Ashley.

Maybe it was because he couldn't forget about Ashley that he had become so desperate. His desire for her only got stronger when he found out who she really was. The more he saw her, the more he wanted her.

As a matter of fact, he had even thought that this could've been so much better if he hadn't broken up with her. Maybe the Synder Group would not be in trouble, and he would not have been forced to get married. Moreover, with Ashley by his side, he would have more chances to get to a higher position.

Given Ashley's identity now, Charlie dared not act rashly. However, it was impossible to suppress the obsession he had in his heart for Ashley. He wanted to see her again, and more.

So many things had already happened, so Charlie knew that Ashley must have hated him. If it was just him, she wouldn't come to see him, nor talk to him at all. Therefore, in order to fulfill his wish, he turned to Lina for help.

As soon as Charlie told Lina about it, she immediately understood the evil intention hidden behind his request. Even so, she agreed without hesitation, and even offered to do more.

In exchange, Lina requested for an executive position, some shares in the company, two million dollars for her pregnancy, and a promise that they wouldn't interfere with each other's personal lives in the future.

It was easy for Lina to agree, because she had already lost her affection for Charlie as time went by, knowing that he would never love her. She even knew that he would kick her out once the baby was born.

That was why Lina had been planning for that day long before. And Charlie, asking her for a favor, was a perfect opportunity for her. She asked for money and power, because she knew these were the only things that would never betray her. If her plan to bleed the Synder Group dry wouldn't work, at least she still had shares aside from the two million compensation.

It could only be imagined how happy she was when Charlie agreed. Long story short, the two of them conspired to bring Ashley to this private room.

As planned, Lina tricked Ashley into drinking the red wine with a strong aphrodisiac, and some knock-out drug.

How ironic it was to help her own future husband to fulfill his sexual desire for another woman. With this thought, Lina's eyes were filled with resentment and humiliation.

'Ashley, even if you are from the Guzman family, no one can save you from being raped tonight. God is indeed fair. He might have given you a pretty face, and significant status, but soon you'll have an indelible humiliation. It will be a scar that you'll have to wear all your life.'

By just thinking that Ashley's life would soon be destroyed, Lina flashed a morbid smile.

It was enough to console her, so she strode away full of determination.

'Charlie, you have completely broken my expectation of you. If you fail to give me what I asked for, I will ruin your reputation at all costs.' All throughout her ride back to the Synder's residence, Lina was clenching her fists, and her eyes were full of viciousness.

Lina was smart enough to install a hidden camera in the corner of the room to record everything that was going to happen between the two. Knowing Ashley, Lina was certain that she wouldn't let the public know that she had been raped. If Charlie dared to go back on his word, she would threaten him to give a copy of the video to the Guzman family, even if it would cost her own life.

Now, Ashley was left alone in the hands of Charlie, who mustered up his courage from drinking too much alcohol. He slowly walked up to her, and a complacent smile appeared on his lips as he stared at her beautiful face.

“You are finally mine.” As he spoke, he reached out his hand to touch her. The smell of alcohol gushed out, and sprayed on Ashley’s face.

It was then that Ashley opened her eyes. She felt light-headed, but she could clearly see Charlie’s evil grin.

Remembering the morbid look in Lina’s eyes before she passed out, and the words she said while she was in a daze, Ashley realized that it was not just a coincidence that Charlie was here.

The heat that gradually spread through her body confirmed her doubt. The feeling was exactly the same as when she had a one night stand.

“Ashley, you just woke up in time.” Perhaps it was because Charlie was intoxicated with alcohol that he didn’t feel afraid even though Ashley had awoken. “Let us finish what we should have done a long time ago.”

“Charlie, you are so despicable!” There was unconcealed disgust in Ashley’s voice.

What she said only made Charlie burst into laughter. “It’s so ridiculous! Why are you acting like a chaste woman now? Don’t pretend to be innocent. I know that you already had sex with countless men! You can’t fool me.”

The idea of Ashley dating different men after they broke up made him angry in an instant. Thus, his words and actions became even worse.

Ashley tried her best to have a clear mind. Then, she stood up and kicked him, which took Charlie by surprise.

While Charlie was whimpering in pain, Ashley staggered to the door, but it was locked.

Her pupils dilated as she looked back at Charlie, whose smile grew wider because of seeing her helpless.

“This is my place. You can’t run away!” At that moment, Ashley could do nothing but curse him in her head.

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Minutes had passed and Ashley became more and more disoriented. She began to remove her coat, which made Charlie assume that the drug was already taking its effect. “Aren’t you running away just now? I can’t wait to see you beneath me, begging to make love with me.”

After saying that, he blew the whistle, followed by a hiccup.

Ashley also knew that the drug was slowly taking effect on her body. Therefore, she kept pinching her palms, trying to stay awake as she thought of a way to escape the situation she was in.

There was no other place for her to go, so the only thing she could do now was to find someone who could help her.

As long as she was conscious, she could still find a way to contact someone. Charlie’s words were insulting, but she kept a deaf ear and continued to take off her coat. At the same time, she stood on the hallway to the bathroom and said in a weak voice, “Charlie, I need to prepare myself before we do what you want to do. Please, let me go to the bathroom first.”

Confident that he would still get what he wanted in the end, Charlie agreed without hesitation. Besides, he liked how vulnerable Ashley looked like as she begged him. It boosted his ego. “Go ahead. I don’t think you can escape anyway.”

The next second, he was already down on his knees, supporting his private part. Pain was written all over his face.

It was because Ashley kicked him hard in his groin area while he was unguarded. The pain was excruciating, and the effect of alcohol hadn’t dispelled yet; so he wasn’t able to stand up right away.

Meanwhile, Ashley used up all her remaining strength to go to the narrow bathroom. She couldn’t walk straight, because she was already on the verge of collapsing. Her heart was hammering in her chest, and beads of sweat formed on her forehead.

With her trembling hand, Ashley took out her phone from the pocket of her coat and dialed the number of the first person that crossed her mind.

“Joseph, help...me...” The call was answered the moment it rang, as if the person on the other end had been waiting for his phone to ring.

“Ashley? What’s wrong? What happened to you?”

The moment he heard her weak cry, Joseph immediately dropped everything he was dealing with and left the office. He suddenly forgot that he was supposed to act indifferent towards her.

Just as when Ashley was about to tell him the address, the bathroom door burst open and Charlie appeared in front of her. His face was gloomy, as if he was going to attack her any moment.

The fire in his eyes flared up when he realized that Ashley was talking to someone on the phone, obviously asking for help. She flinched when he strode closer, but he didn’t care. “Ashley, you bltch! Who are you asking for help? Your lover? Tell me!”

Since Charlie and Lina had planned out everything, the room was prepared beforehand. Hence, the lock on the bathroom door was destroyed. Therefore, as soon as he realized that Ashley might ask for help, Charlie came in quickly.

For some reason, Charlie seemed to regard himself as Ashley’s boyfriend. His tone was sharp, and his eyes looked terrifying.

He was like a horrible demon standing in front of Ashley. The jealousy and madness in his eyes completely distorted his handsome face. Out of fear, Ashley accidentally dropped the phone on the floor.

“Charlie, stay away from me! My family won’t let you get away so easily if you do something bad to me!” No matter how frightened she was, Ashley tried her best to stay calm.

However, her warning didn’t seem to scare Charlie at all. In fact, it only made him burst into laughter. He didn’t stop laughing until he was out of breath. “That’s ridiculous! I didn’t think that a woman like you, who belongs to a rich family, could be this naive.”

At this moment, Charlie's desire had triumphed over his reason. He didn't care about anything else except fulfilling his need to consume Ashley tonight like he had always imagined.

"Charlie, you are getting married tomorrow. Why are you doing this?" Every time he took a step forward, Ashley would take a step back.

For now, what Ashley could do was buy herself some time. She had already called for help, and she believed that Joseph would come any time soon. She just had to wait a little longer.

If only this shameless and drunken man didn't drug her, which caused her limbs to be weak and her body in heat, she would've already fought him. But because of the drug, she couldn't do anything but hide the hatred in her eyes and wait for someone to rescue her from the hands of this crazy man.

Soon enough, Charlie had already cornered her. He raised her chin and stared at her for a few seconds before replying, "To be honest, Ashley, I have always been in love with you. What happened to me and Lina was just a mistake."

The more Charlie showed affection towards her, the angrier Ashley became. But she didn't dare to show it, nor did she try to remove his hand from her chin even though she felt disgusted with his touch. After all, she needed to stabilize his mood in order to prevent him assaulting her like a beast.

"Charlie, don't forget that you're having a child soon." That was it! Ashley needed to distract him for as long as she could until someone came to save her.

"No! I just need that child for me to inherit the Synder Group. Ashley, he won't be a hindrance to us. Trust me..."

Perhaps it was because Charlie was intoxicated with alcohol, he had mistaken the look in her eyes as longing for them to get back together. Therefore, he held both of her shoulders and patiently explained his plan to her.

But Ashley only felt more disdainful when she heard these words. It was said that even a vicious tiger would not eat its cubs. Charlie didn't seem to have the slightest affection for his child. Who would believe that such a man like him existed?

“Charlie, Lina loves you so much. I can’t ruin your relationship.”

The burning desire in Charlie’s eyes fueled the surging lust in her body that was caused by the drug. It was urging her to get closer to his body, so Ashley pinched her thighs hard from the back to keep her senses awake. She kept the conversation going to keep him distracted for the time being.

“Ashley, let’s stop talking about Lina. She’s the one who ruined our relationship.” Slowly, Charlie leaned over to level Ashley’s face.

“You are so beautiful, Ashley!” Looking at her beautiful face, Charlie couldn’t help but admire her even more. He raised his hand to caress her cheek, then he said possessively, “You’re finally mine tonight.”

“Charlie, please don’t do this. You have a wife and a child. This isn’t fair for them.” As she spoke, Ashley tried to stop Charlie from coming closer by pressing her hands against his chest, and looked the other way to avoid inhaling the smell of alcohol coming out of his mouth.

What she didn’t know was, it was a wrong move. Because when she moved, her fragrance lingered in Charlie’s nose, which aroused his desire more. Moreover, the warmth of her palms on his chest passed through his clothes. It gradually spread to every inch of his body, making him more excited to devour her.

## **Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 146 - Tips**

“Honey, stop talking. Let me kiss you...” Charlie grabbed both of Ashley’s wrists, and bent down to give her a kiss.

Charlie’s face was drawing nearer, but she couldn’t do anything since he was restricting her hands. His natural scent mixed with the smell of alcohol sprayed on her face. Before his lips landed on hers, Ashley lowered her body, and then put one of her knees up, trying to resist forcefully.

Under the influence of the drug, Ashley’s movements were relatively slow and powerless. Therefore, Charlie easily dodged her attacks.

The more she resisted, the angrier Charlie became. He tightened his grip on Ashley’s wrists and slapped her in the face. “I’ve been very patient to you. Why the fuck are you still resisting? What do you want?”

Not waiting for her reply, Charlie carried the wobbly Ashley on his shoulder back to the room, and threw her on the bed.

“Ashley, I’ve told you that you’re mine now. What’s the point of resisting, huh? I had intended to taste you slowly, but you couldn’t wait...”

As he took off his clothes one by one, Charlie stared fiercely at Ashley, who was helplessly moving back until her back touched the headrest.

“Charlie, I swear, you will regret it!” In Ashley’s eyes, the man standing at the edge of the bed could already be compared to a demon.

“Like what I’ve said, I am not afraid.” The woman in front of him now was far different from the elegant woman he knew, who was always indifferent towards him. Charlie’s heart was filled with satisfaction as he watched her helplessly move to the corner of the bed.

When he only had his underwear left, he pounced on the bed with a devious smile on his face.

Therefore, even if her whole body was shaking from fear, Ashley still tried her best to stand up in order to avoid Charlie, who was slowly getting closer to her.

However, before she could jump out of the bed, Charlie pulled her by the ankle, causing her to fall back down on the bed. Her scream echoed in the room along with his evil laugh.

Slowly, Charlie pressed his n.aked body against hers. Ashley ignored the dizziness she felt from being pulled forcibly and falling down, and began to move closer to the man unconsciously under the influence of the drug.

“This lewd side of yours makes me love you even more.” Face flushed, she almost couldn’t think straight. But it only satisfied him more.

To his surprise, just as when he was about to untie the unconscious Ashley’s coat, a loud bang resounded in his ears.

Charlie felt a cold and terrifying gaze coming from his side. But before he could even see the man's face, he was kicked hard, making him fall out of the bed.

But it wasn't enough for Joseph. He punched and kicked him a few more times, leaving wounds and bruises all over his body. Charlie struggled, but his strength was nothing compared to his. Hence, he soon passed out on the floor.

Upon making sure that Charlie couldn't get up, he picked up Ashley, who was lying unconscious on the bed, and left the room.

Along the way, the drug had almost completely taken over Ashley's mind. She kept squirming in his arms, and she even unconsciously pulled her clothes using her little hands.

The discomfort on her face made Joseph realize that she had been drugged. Otherwise, she wouldn't act so liberated. "Ashley, hold on a little longer. I'll take you to the doctor."

A soft moan was her only response.

Maybe it was because Ashley recognized his familiar smell, she pressed herself harder against his chest as she tried to touch him under his coat.

These small but seductive movements had instantly aroused Joseph's desire. How could he not be moved when the person he loved and missed was warmly inviting? He was on the verge of giving in, but he tried his best to resist the temptation.

After all, he had already lost his right to touch her the moment he broke up with her.

Besides, Joseph didn't want to take advantage of her since he knew that she was only like this because of the drug. They might have broken up, but his respect for her remained. For this reason, he put all his feelings aside, and focused on helping Ashley.

"Honey, sit down. You will feel better soon,"

Joseph whispered to Ashley's ear while he gently fastened the seat belt for her as soon as they got in the car.

Unexpectedly, Ashley snaked her arms around his neck when he was about to withdraw. "It's so hot..."

"Ashley, be a good girl. Just hold on." Although her hot breath sent a different sensation to him, Joseph tried his best to resist it.

Therefore, he slowly tried to remove her hands from his neck, so that he could sit properly and drive to his villa.

When Ashley felt his resistance, she abruptly locked his head in her arms and leaned over to reach Joseph's face. It only took a few seconds for her to accurately cover his luscious mouth with hers.

It was just a soft kiss, but it was enough to make Joseph's heart hammer inside his chest. He was too stunned to kiss back or even pull away.

Before he could react, Ashley, who seemed unsatisfied, deepened the kiss and expertly swirled her tongue inside his mouth. It felt so good that Joseph almost lost control.

"Joseph, don't go... Don't leave me..." Even when Ashley was not in the right mind as of the moment, her fear of losing Joseph couldn't be denied. Therefore, when he tried to move away, she automatically thought he was going to leave.

The insecurity in her voice completely broke his defense. He wasn't sure where it would lead the both of them, but Joseph had already made up his mind. By just thinking that he would always have her by his side again, his empty heart was instantly filled with joy.

Looking at her flickering eyes, Joseph felt even more determined. 'No matter what happens, I will protect you, and I will never leave you again.'

It was as if Ashley had read his mind, her hand ran down from his cool neck to his back, trying to relieve the unbearable heat.

All hesitations Joseph had in his head flew out of the window. He took control of the kiss, and moved his lips fervently. At the same time, his big hands began to wander up and down her body, which made Ashley moan.

Since the space was too narrow, Joseph supported Ashley's back with his one hand and pushed the control button of the front seat using the other. Then they slowly moved to the back seat, which was more spacious.

Things happened so fast. They didn't even remember how they took off their clothes, but soon their bodies integrated into one...

After an extremely ecstatic experience, Joseph felt that the effect of the drug on Ashley was alleviated. He murmured sweet things in her ear, before he put on his clothes and returned to the driver's seat.

As soon as they arrived at his villa, Joseph wrapped her up with his coat and carried her straight to his bedroom.

Tonight was relatively better than the other nights.

It was beautiful, and peaceful.

Perhaps it was because Joseph hadn't had sex for nearly thirty years, he devoured her like a hungry wolf. He made love with her several more times, in every corner of his room.

It was almost midnight when the two stopped. Joseph stroked Ashley's hair until they both fell asleep.

'Fortunately, even when we've been apart, you still have me in your heart.

I'm glad that I didn't lose you completely, my love.'

## **Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 147 - Tips**

It was already noon when Ashley woke up the next day. The first thing she noticed was that she was naked under the warm quilt, which made her remember all the memories of last night.

Everything was clear to her. She remembered how Joseph appeared like a hero just as when she was so close to losing hope. He had beaten up Charlie until he passed out, and then carried her out of that hell.

Due to the influence of the drug Lina put on her wine, she almost lost consciousness, and her body was in unbearable heat.

It took a few hours before she felt that the effect of the drug finally dissipated. Slowly, she had come back to her senses.

Ashley also remembered seeing Jacob's perfect face the moment she opened her eyes. His eyes were her light in the darkness. When she thought of what happened next, her heartbeat suddenly increased. Her body felt sore, but she didn't regret anything at all. In fact, she was even satisfied.

The very first person that crossed her mind when she found out that she had been drugged was Joseph. She hoped he could save her from the danger she was in.

Whether it was because she was used to relying on this powerful man, or it was because she thought it was better to give herself to the man she loved instead of getting r.aped, all her love for Joseph she was trying to bury surged up.

Regardless of the fact that she was not his only woman, she let herself cherish the night she had with Joseph. Even if it was just a one-night stand, she wouldn't complain.

Hence, even when the influence of drug had already subsided, she still reciprocated his passion and had se.x with him.

What made her heart flutter was the memory of Joseph taking her into the bathroom to help clean her body. He was gentle, and thoughtful. Soon she fell asleep because she was too tired.

Now she found herself alone in a strange luxurious room. The man she was expecting to see wasn't around, so she couldn't help but feel bitter.

Maybe it was their fate. Their relationship started with a one-night stand, and it ended in the same way. The only difference was that she was the first one to wake up that day. She left before he could see her because she didn't want to keep in touch with him. This time, it was Joseph who woke up and left first.

With a heavy heart, she got out of the bed and looked for clothes. She searched every wardrobe but she didn't find any women's clothes. How could she leave if she was n.aked?

While she was staring at the designer clothes inside the wardrobe, which she was sure belonged to Joseph, someone picked her up from the floor. If it weren't for the familiar faint smell of tobacco, she would've panicked in his arms.

"The floor is cold."

When she heard Joseph's warm voice, Ashley automatically raised her head.

'I was wrong. He didn't leave like what I've thought. It looks like he still cares about me.' With this thought, Ashley's heart was filled with so much joy. She felt as if they had gone back to the day they first fell in love with each other.

Staring at Joseph's handsome face, Ashley suddenly burst into tears.

Her shoulders shook, and a faint sob came out from her mouth, so Joseph immediately noticed that she was crying.

"What's wrong, Ashley? Don't cry." Worry was evident in Joseph's voice. He gently put her down on the soft bed, and caressed the side of her face.

But Ashley was too unstable to give him answers. The moment she felt his grip on her loosened when her body touched the bed, she raised her arms and held on to his waist. Tears fell down her face like a waterfall.

The quilt that covered her body fell down, revealing the red marks on her soft and silky skin that Joseph put on her last night.

Listening to her soft sobs, Joseph picked up the quilt to cover her body so she wouldn't catch a cold. Then he gently patted her back to comfort her.

"Ashley, tell me, why are you crying?" Her face was buried in his chest, so he couldn't see her face. But he could feel that his shirt was wet from tears.

Still, he didn't get any reply from Ashley. She just kept crying.

"I'm sorry. Don't worry. I won't let the people who hurt you get away." As he spoke, Joseph hugged her tight, determined to make the people behind what happened yesterday suffer.

At that moment, Joseph was thankful that he asked the doctor Thunder to put the latest tracking chip into Ashley's fingernail when she had undergone a

surgery to remove the bullet in her body. If it wasn't for this, he wouldn't be able to rescue her as fast as he did.

Within a month after Ashley left, Joseph had thoroughly reorganized the remaining members of the Mafia and some other gangs with evil intentions. In a short period of time, he was able to achieve this goal, which shocked all the big gangs. Therefore, they all regarded Jason as a new leader, and he had become a legend once again in the underground society. Due to this, Joseph greatly eliminated the potential danger around him.

The problem was that Zack was still on the loose. The Dragon Gang had already issued an order to kill him, so it was only a matter of time to find him. But Joseph was still worried about Ashley's safety.

Only a few people knew his phone number. Besides, Joseph had set a unique ringtone for Ashley's number, so he could answer her call at the first ring. If truth be told, he had been looking forward to her phone call, even if he was the one who ended their relationship.

At first, when he heard Ashley asking for help, Joseph thought that the ferocious Zack had sneaked in to Ob.raria and held her captive again. But then again, he realized that he hadn't received any news about Zack yet. So, he calmed himself down and rushed to the place reported by the tracking chip planted in Ashley's fingernail.

Fear crept into his heart at the thought of his beloved woman getting hurt again. Fortunately, he arrived in time, or the consequences would be dire.

"I won't let go of anyone who tries to hurt you!" A hint of cruelty flashed through his eyes. There was no way he would leave those people unscathed after what they had done to Ashley.

For a few seconds, Ashley stopped crying, and then she cried harder.

'It's so ironic for you to say these words. You were the one who hurt me the most. What are you going to do about that?'

Back when she was rescued after she had gone through so much hardship in the hands of Zack, she thought she would finally have a happy life with Joseph. She didn't expect that in the end, the man she loved the most would betray her. The photos he sent flashed through her mind, and the pain and sadness she had been suppressing for a long time, flooded her.

Looking up at his eyes full of concern, Ashley cried more, venting her grievance and longing for the days she wished he was with her but he wasn't. She didn't think too much. For now, all she wanted to do was enjoy the warmth of his arms wrapped around her.

## **Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 148**

### **- Tips**

Several minutes had passed, yet Ashley was still crying. Joseph became more and more nervous. He didn't know what to do, nor what to say to make her feel better.

This man, who was known to be the most powerful in the business and underground society, was at a loss seeing his beloved woman cry. What was he supposed to do if he didn't even know why she was crying?

A sudden realization came up in his mind. His black orbs were filled with horror. "Ashley, are you upset because I slept with you last night?"

If she wasn't crying because of fear, then the reason must be because of what happened between them last night. If he would come to think of it, she must have felt offended that they had se.x after being separated for a long time.

Thinking of this, Joseph panicked a little. The idea of Ashley thinking that he had taken advantage of her made his heart twitch in pain.

It didn't even cross his mind that if Ashley didn't want to give herself to him, she should've resisted the way he treated her. She shouldn't have called his name and k!ssed him back if she didn't feel the same way Joseph felt. Most importantly, she shouldn't have cried in his arms when she woke up and found that he didn't leave her.

Hearing his question, Ashley paused again. Then she slowly pulled away from Joseph's arms and looked up at him. Her brows furrowed when she saw the worry and uncertainty in his eyes.

'He looks so clueless about my feelings for him. Have he lost confidence in himself?' These were the words that were in Ashley's mind as she stared at him.

At the same time, Joseph stared back into her eyes that were red from tears, patiently waiting for her to tell him what was bothering her. "Ashley, don't cry. It makes my heart ache. If you are really crying because of what I did, then..."

Ashley raised her eyebrows at him, motioning him to go on. No words came out from her mouth, but Joseph immediately understood what she meant.

After thinking for a while, he continued, "... I will let you do the same to me!"

Yesterday, when Joseph came to save Ashley, he had made up his mind not to let her go again. Whether she felt disgusted or angry, he would stay by her side, especially now that they already had se.x.

As soon as Joseph finished his words, the two fell silent. Ashley, who was sobbing suddenly quieted down, and gave him a confused look.

What he said was far from what Ashley had imagined he would say. She thought he would say something constructive, but it turned out that Joseph could also be silly sometimes. Therefore, she was so shocked that she didn't know how to react, especially when she saw the righteous expression on his face as he spoke. He sounded so serious with what he had said, as if he was convincing her that it was a fair deal. All the sadness she felt was swept away, and she suddenly had an urge to laugh even though they were in the middle of a serious conversation.

Trying not to laugh, Ashley pounced on him and nestled in his arms again. Her body was slightly trembling, but her cry almost stopped.

If truth be told, Ashley had been wanting to ask about the woman Joseph was with in the photos, but she was scared to get answers like 'It's not that I don't love you, but I love her more.' No, she couldn't bear to hear those words from him.

For some reason, Joseph seemed to read what was on her mind. He kept rubbing her back until he felt that she had already calmed down, and then he said, "Ashley, as you know, the life I have is not as simple as it seems. The last thing I want to happen is to drag you into darkness and see you get hurt because of me. That's why I chose to let you go, no matter how much I love you. Will you forgive me?"

Now that he had decided not to let her go again, Joseph figured that he had to tell her the truth. They had to be transparent to each other if they wanted to be together forever.

“Are you really with that woman?” Regardless of Joseph’s explanation, Ashley didn’t mention anything about forgiving him. Instead, she asked him the question that she had always wanted to ask.

Looking straight into her eyes, Joseph replied without hesitation, “No! I only love you.”

Even so, Ashley remained silent, as if she was weighing his words.

In the end, she was relieved because she could tell from the look in Joseph’s eyes that he was telling her the truth.

There was no further explanation needed for Ashley to understand the reason why Joseph made it look like he had cheated on her before.

In a relationship, trust was the most important foundation, and Ashley knew that very well.

Without saying anything, Ashley reached out her hand and touched the side of his face. ‘How silly you are! I don’t care about your identity at all. What I wanted was to stay by your side through thick and thin, but you didn’t give me a chance to do so. Instead, you let me suffer from pain for so long.

Therefore, you still deserve to be punished. I won’t forgive you so easily, but I will give you a chance to prove your love.’

At that moment, Joseph was waiting for Ashley to tell him that she had already forgiven him, or directly give him a kiss.

But instead, Ashley ignored the expectation in his eyes and withdrew her hands. “I’m hungry, and I want to get dressed.”

Watching her slowly pull away from his arms without any hint of emotion, Joseph was stunned for a while.

As soon as he came back to his senses, Joseph stretched out his long arm to get the clothes from the end of the bed, which he brought in for Ashley to

wear. “Here, put on your clothes first. I’ll just heat up the food for you while waiting.”

After handing her the neatly folded clothes, Joseph stood up and walked towards the door to leave. Ashley held on to the quilt, which was the only thing that was covering her body and smiled evilly when an idea suddenly popped up in her head.

“Joseph, my whole body is sore. I feel too weak to move. Can you help me put on my clothes?”

Ashley’s seductive voice made Joseph stop walking.

Upon making sure that what he heard was right, and that his ears weren’t just playing with him, Joseph slowly turned around. Seeing Ashley sitting on the bed, looking at him with a smile on her face, he was enticed. It was as if his feet had a mind of their own that he automatically walked towards the beautiful woman in front of him. His heart was pounding in his chest, but he ignored it.

As he walked, he thought to himself, ‘Maybe I have been too rough on her last night. Otherwise, Ashley wouldn’t risk to be embarrassed by making this request.’ No matter what, a man who was deeply apologetic and compassionate was happy to adhere to her request.

What he didn’t know was that Ashley’s purpose for making this request was to punish him. Joseph had already seen her body, so she didn’t mind him seeing her naked again. This time, he could only look at her body, and not be allowed to do anything else. She thought it was a perfect punishment for a man like him.

“Joseph, how did you know the exact size of my underwear?” While he was focused on helping her put on her underwear, Ashley raised her head and looked at him with curiosity.

The moment he met her innocent eyes and felt her smooth skin, Joseph almost lost control. The way she tantalized him was giving him the urge to immediately make love to her again.

## **Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 149 - Tips**

'Didn't she know that I want more from her?' With a slight frown, he hurriedly put on Ashley's bra for her. If it were not for the fact that she was weak and that they were not in a relationship yet, he would have done the opposite. He would have taken it off!

"Joseph, you haven't answered me yet," Ashley said in a soft tone. Joseph did not respond, so she decided to add fuel to the fire of his desire.

"We've had sex so many times. It's impossible I still don't know the size of your underwear." Joseph finally spoke after being silent for a moment.

As soon as he finished speaking, he suddenly cupped her abundant bosom, and Ashley trembled. Her fair face flushed in embarrassment.

Sure enough, she was not evil compared to him! Little did everyone know, hidden beneath Joseph's handsome face and extraordinary abilities was a strong stamina and sexual vigor.

"I'll get dressed myself. Could you heat the dishes for me? I'm so hungry."

Joseph was getting closer to her and was about to help her put on her panty. Seeing his tantalizing grin, Ashley could not stay calm anymore. It seemed that the one who got the punishment at the end of the game was her. Because of this, she decided to give up decisively.

"Sure," Joseph responded calmly. Now that Ashley had changed her mind, he felt relieved.

His lover's once fair skin was full of hickeys. It felt wonderful whenever he touched her bare skin. Until now, he was still turned on. He was actually worried that he would not be able to control himself if he stayed in the room any longer. However, he had to go. Ashley was already crying out that she was hungry. There was nothing else he could do. Before he walked out of the door, he fondled her head affectionately and left.

Ashley watched him leave until his tall and strong back disappeared out of sight. With that, she endured her tired and aching limbs and continued putting on her clothes one by one. At the thought that she could enjoy Joseph's love and tenderness exclusively at any time, her eyes lit up in delight.

It took her a while to get dressed. Once done, she inadvertently caught a glimpse of the time on the clock. It was already ten o'clock in the morning! In

an instant, she seemed to have forgotten that her limbs hurt. She jumped out of bed and ran out anxiously.

“Why did you run barefoot again?” Joseph asked with a slight frown. He was currently preparing the dishes on the table. To his surprise, Ashley suddenly came out of the room with a flustered expression.

Joseph pulled a chair for her, but she raised her hand and said in a panic-stricken tone, “There’s no point! I have to call home and assure them that I’m safe. Give me your phone.”

Staying out all night for no reason was a capital crime in her household. Even Mike, who was now a grown man, was not an exception. He was reprimanded for going home late, even though he had a good reason. At the thought of this, Ashley frantically thought of an excuse to save her a.ss.

Staying out all night for no reason was a capital crime in her household. Even Mike, who was now a grown man, was not an exception. He was reprimanded for going home late, even though he had a good reason. At the thought of this, Ashley frantically thought of an excuse to save her a.ss.

Joseph understood how she must be feeling, so he took out his mobile phone from his coat pocket and handed it to her. “Just tell them the truth. That’s what I would tell Grandpa.”

To his surprise, Ashley did not do as he said. Instead, she stared at the screen for a while and lifted her gaze from time to time as she thought of a good excuse.

‘That’s ridiculous! If I tell my parents the truth, they will destroy both the Synder Group, and of course, Joseph.’ That was what Ashley had in mind when she imagined the consequences if she followed Joseph’s suggestion.

Jack would never forgive the man who stole his precious daughter’s v!rginity. To make things worse, that man was also the one who had made his daughter heartbroken. For sure, he would make Joseph’s life a living hell.

Needless to say, Ashley could not say the truth. Besides, she did not plan to take Joseph home this early. His method would definitely not work.

Joseph looked at Ashley. Hesitation was written all over her face. Upon seeing her like that, he felt frustrated about his situation. Little did he know he would be kicked out of the Guzman family if she told the truth.

After a moment of silence, Joseph finally announced, "Don't worry. I've already asked Zachary to help you with this problem."

"Really? Is everything okay now?" Ashley looked up and asked in surprise.

"Yes," Joseph replied indifferently.

In all honesty, he did not know if the matter had indeed been resolved. He had just made a lot of arrangements this morning. Among them was asking Zachary to make up an excuse to cover up the reason why Ashley was unable to go home last night. However, Zachary had not replied yet, so Joseph was unsure if Zachary had done it already.

In Ashley's mind, Joseph was an omnipotent. He was reliable and capable of solving any problem, no matter how hard it was. "How did you cover me up? Did you really tell them that I had spent the whole night with you?"

She looked as though she was facing an imminent disaster. Seeing her so flustered, Joseph could not help but ask, "Can't I?"

Ashley was stunned. If he really wanted to do that, she would not stop him. Besides, he was the only one who would get in trouble. For sure, her father would give Joseph the cold shoulder. At that moment, a scene flashed in her mind. She imagined Joseph and Jack facing each other, an intense and suffocating atmosphere around them.

"Forget it. Let's just eat." Although Joseph was looking at Ashley expectantly, she did not answer. Instead, she put the phone down and began to eat as told.

Joseph would have to meet her parents one day. Her parents would know about him sooner or later. However, there was a pressing problem that they had to solve first—filling their empty stomach.

Since they went all the way last night, Ashley used up all her energy. She was so hungry that she did not hold back from eating. Meanwhile, Joseph watched her eat dotingly and added food to her plate from time to time.

Truth be told, he did not ask Zachary to tell the Guzman family that Ashley had stayed with him all night.

As a smart and experienced businessman, Joseph sized up the situation thoroughly. He figured that it was not the right time to do that. If he wanted to marry their beloved daughter, he had to be patient so as not to make a bad first impression on them.

Little did he know, the elders of the Guzman family already had a bad impression of the man who had betrayed their daughter.

For some reason, Joseph was somehow relieved that Ashley did not answer 'no' to his question. He believed Ashley had already regarded him as her boyfriend. He just enjoyed the quiet and warm moment that they were sharing together.

Once Ashley had finished eating, she cleared her throat. "I want to go home now," she said solemnly to the seemingly complacent man in front of her.

"And then?" Joseph replied.

Actually, what he meant was: "Have you forgiven me already or acknowledged our relationship after everything that has happened?"

"Uh, good bye?" Ashley answered in confusion after pondering what he was trying to say.

As soon as she said that, Ashley, who was now full of energy, walked into the room and put on her shoes, leaving Joseph at the dining table. He was taken aback by the sudden change in her attitude.

'What did she mean by that?' Joseph, who had always been domineering, was lost as well. 'Does her goodbye mean that she still doesn't want to get back together with me? Does she need more time to think about it?'

He could only come to the conclusion that a woman's mind is an enigma. How could Ashley's attitude change after a single meal?

## **Perfect Match: Irresistible Desire For You – Chapter 150 - Tips**

“Let me drive you home.” Noticing Ashley was about to leave, Joseph stood up and quickly offered to ride her home. He spoke in a gentle voice.

Ignoring his question, she asked, “Where is my car?” Ashley had no intention of making him keep her company.

The phone dropped yesterday in the hotel was in Joseph’s hand. She figured the car would be nearby and Joseph would know it. She was determined to drive home alone.

“Downstairs,” he said. She had ignored his question and he felt a sharp pang of disappointment.

She looked at him and said, “Okay, I can drive alone. There is no need for you to accompany me. After all, you have to go to work.”

Once she was done talking, she clicked on the elevator button and the door opened. Quickly, she rushed inside. Joseph silently followed her.

Ashley, however, paid no heed to him. She extracted the car key from her purse, opened the door and set forth to enter it.

Before she could enter the car, strong arms pulled her gently from behind. She gave herself to this familiar embrace. Joseph’s mouth was close to her ears. In his enchanting voice, he whispered, “Honey, aren’t you forgetting something? Where is my goodbye?”

She felt warmth from his breath against her cheek. She looked stunned for a moment but soon pulled herself together. “Okay G-g-g-goodbye,” she stammered.

“What? That’s all? Aren’t you going to take any responsibility?” Joseph asked as he continued to take her into his arms.

His question had rendered her speechless.

The corners of her mouth twitched. ‘I am the one who suffered! And he has the audacity to say such a thing. What a cheeky man!’ Ashley thought to herself but didn’t utter a word.

“I mean think about it. You left 250 dollars for the first time. And this time after having se.x, you decided to flee. Let’s not forget your tears ruined one of my

expensive clothes. I can't let you go without settling accounts." This time, when he spoke he had a serious face. Ashley thought he was accusing her of trying to escape.

"But I..." she faltered. She didn't know what to say.

He did the talking. "Don't worry, I will let you pay back slowly. Now let's settle some interest."

Before she could react, Joseph had already bent down and linked his lips to hers.

He acted like he had all the time in the world, slowly licking her red and swollen lips. After what felt like hours, he set her free and announced the interests had been settled. She was stunned. He nudged her slightly and said, "Honey, it doesn't look like you have the strength to drive. I am taking you home."

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After locking her car, he took Ashley to his spacious and luxurious car which was parked right behind.

Ashley had a faraway look as she buckled her seat belt. Joseph snapped his fingers and said, "Do you recollect the crazy night we had inside this car last night?"

Ashley was appalled.

Her face flushed red with embarrassment. She wanted to say it was a lie. But when she turned her head and looked at the backseat, her face was drained of all color and animation. Fragments of torn clothes were scattered. It implied last night had indeed been crazy.

This meant this lecher had been too barbaric. The truth was, she wasn't afraid of his barbarous behavior. Instead, she was afraid of his intelligence and his hypnotizing eyes. It made her feel apprehensive.

From the corner of his eye, he looked at her cheeks. They had turned red like a tomato. It made him smile.

Joseph was extremely smart. He guessed Ashley was still testing him before officially accepting him as her boyfriend. Then, he decided to launch another plan which he was certain would succeed.

This was the reason why he had abandoned his usual coldness. He had deviously set up a trap to make the two of them alone. And he succeeded.

Time continued to pass but both of their hearts were longing for one another.

"I am going to be staying at my friend's house. Take me there." It was Ashley who finally broke the silence. She then began to tell him her friend's address.

Ashley couldn't afford to take risks. If he dropped her home, things might get chaotic. Under the circumstance, Yasmin was her only choice. If she went there, they could wrap things up easily.

"Okay," Joseph said briskly.

After some time, Ashley glanced out of the window and noted Joseph had chosen the long route. A little surprised, she said, "You shouldn't have chosen this road. It's going to take long and might even be blocked!"

"Is that so? I had no idea," Joseph asked, feigning innocence.

Ashley's eyes ran through his handsome face. He seemed genuinely surprised. She was convinced of what he had said. "It's no problem. You can continue," she replied.

There was a sly look underneath Joseph's innocence. This escaped her notice. Joseph was a man who possessed great memory. He would never accidentally take the wrong route. In fact, he was so familiar with this area that he knew it like the back of his hand. In short, it was yet another trick to spend more time with her.

“Who is this friend?” Looking at the red light ahead, Joseph turned his head and decided to strike up a conversation with Ashley.

She couldn't understand why he wanted to know this. However, she responded frankly, “I have mentioned this friend several times while we were abroad.”

“Okay,” replied Joseph indifferently.

‘It's the friend who wanted photos of handsome foreign men. When Ashley becomes mine, I will isolate her from this friend and keep her to myself,’ Joseph thought to himself with a smile.

“By the way, there is something I want to mention. Zachary and the friend I am talking about are dating,” Ashley said with sudden enthusiasm.

Joseph had to admit this was news to him. “This is fate,” he muttered under his breath.

He knew his friend Zachary was madly in love with a girl and suffered a lot from this relationship. But recently, things had become good for them. These days, Zachary was always vibrant. He was constantly looking for opportunities to go on a vacation with her. And now, he learned Zachary's lover was Ashley's good friend. He smiled inwardly. He considered it a good sign.

Ashley never expected that the attempt to pique Joseph's interest in his friend's love affair failed. The man seemed unfazed by his friend's story.

“Just say what you want to say. I will be pleased to listen to you,” Joseph said, noticing from the corner of his eye that Ashley was looking at him unhappily.

“I have nothing to say. You better focus on your driving,”

she retorted back, a little angrily. She realized her plan to test him was going to fail since she seemed to have been controlled by the man instead, so she convinced that she'd better watch out while speaking. ‘He that talks much errs much,’ she thought to herself.

Ashley had fallen in love unconsciously, and now there was no going back. She was stripped of her usual indifference and eagerly wished to be pampered by her lover.

After encountering almost every red traffic light along this route, Joseph finally sent Ashley to her destination.

Before Ashley could get off the car, Joseph got off and opened the door for her like a gentleman. Then he placed a soft kiss on his lover's lips. "I wish I could keep you with me. And don't forget to miss me."

"Ahem, Joseph, you are quite a cheeky guy," said a man's voice from behind.

The couple was instantly interrupted. This man's teasing eyes bore into them.