No Remarriage: You Don't Deserve Me (Lenora and Zachary) Stay Away

Stay Away 251

Chapter 251 Do You Want Me To Feed You

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Without delay, Zachary sprang out of bed, grabbed the first aid kit, and pulled out a thermometer to check her temperature.

It was a searing 38.6 degrees Celsius.

Moving swiftly, he scoured the medicine box until he found some fever-reducing pills. He mixed half a cup with hot water, gently coaxing Lenora to drink it.

Afterward, he dampened a towel, carefully wiping her forehead and neck. Setting the towel aside for a moment, he intended to wipe her underarms as well, lifting her thermal underwear to reach.

But the clothing was tight, and he couldn't get access. He paused, contemplating, then decided to remove her thermal underwear entirely, reasoning that he was doing it purely for her well-being. Surely, she wouldn't hold it against me? My intentions were honorable, after all.

With a focused determination, he took up the towel again, tenderly wiping her underarms, arms, chest.

and

His eyes lingered a moment on the delicate hint of her fair skin beneath her clothing and the subtle curve of her slender waist.

Once he finished wiping her down, he pulled the blanket snugly around her, staying beside her bed to monitor her progress. Every twenty minutes, he checked her temperature and reapplied alcohol to her skin

Only past four in the morning did the fever finally break, allowing him to release a heavy sigh of relief.

Exhausted, Zachary climbed into bed beside her, wrapping her in his arms. Yet as he closed his eyes, feeling the warmth of her body pressed close, he found himself wide awake. An unexpected yearning smoldered within him, consuming him with a heat he couldn't ignore.

In her sleep, Lenora shifted restlessly, twisting and turning in his embrace. At times, her rounded hip would brush against him, amplifying the ache within him. As if fate conspired against him, she turned over again, and the single button on the back of her upper undergarment came undone, her shirt slipping

further down.

It was an inexplicable pull that had his hand move of its own accord, reaching out, his head instinctively leaning closer. Just as Harrietta had hinted, Lenora's skin was enticingly soft and faindy fragrant.

Yet, thinking of her frail state, Zachary resisted his impulses. He simply held her closely, enduring the inner conflict until the first light of dawn.

Finally, Lenora stirred, her eyes opening with a groggy disorientation. Her head throbbed, her throat felt raw as if she'd swallowed glass, and her entire body ached.

She stifled a sneeze, feeling miserable.

Great, now I can't even breathe through my nose. Guess I must be caught a cold.

Rolling over, she closed her eyes again, hoping to drift back to sleep.

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Just as she was dozing off, she jolted awake, realizing Harrietta was sharing the bed with her.

No, I can't risk getting her sick. I should send her to Zachary place for the next few days.

"Hattie..." she murmured, rolling over to reach for her. But the bed beside her was empty. Here's Hattie!

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She blinked, glancing around in confusion, only to find that she wasn't in her room. She was in the master bedroom of Galaxy Bay

Alarmed, Lenora sat up quickly, feeling a sudden chill on her upper body. She pulled the blanket to cover her chest, remembering last night's hazy memories.

She had returned to fetch Harrietta from the ward, where the girl lay fast asleep. As she reached to rouse her, there had been a sharp pain at the back of her neck, and then everything had gone dark. She recalled the last thing she saw-Zachary, standing behind her.

Did he knock me out? Why?

Rubbing her sore neck, she scanned the room, realizing with growing frustration that her clothes were howhere to be seen. Wrapping herself in the blanket, she raised her voice toward the door, "Is anyone there! Zachary?"

A few seconds later, Zachary entered, approaching the bedside. He placed a hand on her forehead, then removed it, seemingly content with her temperature. "Nora, you're awake," he said, his expression calm.

Lenora pulled back, eyeing him icily. "Did you knock me out on purpose? And where are my clothes?"

She couldn't hold back the glare as she waited for his response, but he seemed entirely unbothered by her

frustration.

"You must be hungry," he remarked, almost absently as he placed a hand over her forehead.

Lenora narrowed her eyes, irritation sparking.

Is he simply ignoring my question?

She repeated with insistence, "I asked why you knocked me out. And where are my clothes?"

Instead of answering, he said, "Miranda prepared breakfast for you. I'll bring it here. You had a fever last night; are you feeling any better?"

"All I want are my clothes. I'll go eat on my own."

"Stay put, TII go get you breakfast," he responded, leaving without another word.

Lenora nearly screamed in frustration.

As soon as he was gone, she climbed out of bed, still wrapped in the blanket, and hurried to the wardrobe. But it was empty-completely devoid of clothes. Shocked, she rushed to the door, pulling the handle, only to find it locked.

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She scanned the room for a phone or any electronic device but found none. With a heavy sigh, she sat back on the bed, her face ilrawn with anger.

She understood now-Zachary intended to keep her here, as he had threatened the previous day. To make her his canary, forever bound to his side.

Her thoughts drifted to her phone, likely now in Zachary's possession.

Sophia would have noticed her absence by now. Maybe he even used her phone to deceive Sophia. Lenora could only hope her friend would notice something was wrong. Then, Lenora's thoughts drifted back to Connor.

They had only just started dating, so naturally, he would have reached out. If Zachary saw that message...

The door opened again, Zachary stepping inside with a tray carrying a generous breakfast.

Lenora's fingers tightened around the blanket as she glared at him, her voice firm. "Are you planning to keep me here against my will? You know it's illegal to restrict someone's freedom, right?" "Eat something. He set the tray down, his tone nonchalant.

"Zachary! Stop acting like this. We're divorced. Why can't you let me go?" Her voice strained with

frustration

He looked at her and asked calmly, "Do you need me to feed you?"

Lenora could barely contain her irritation. Rolling over in the bed, her back to him, she grumbled, "I'm not eating.

"At least have a little," he persisted. "You're already we

"Well, maybe I'll just starve until you set me free," she muttered, her voice quiet but resolute. "It's not like I have anything holding me here."

Zachary fell silent for a moment, a hint of a smirk breaking through. "Nothing tying you here? What about your little boyfriend?"

Her shoulders stiffened.

Of course he knew about Connor. He must have seen the meage

"Not answering, are you?" His voice dripped with irony as he leaned over, placing a hand on her shoulder to press her back down. His face was inches from hers. "Weren't you the one who agreed to a fair competition between him and me? Is this your idea of fair play?" Lenora's lips tightened, her gaze turning away. "It's not like that.

She hadn't planned it this way, Connor's confession had come so suddenly. Accepting his feelings had seemed like the only choice at the time.

"So, you prefer him?" He confessed his feelings to you and you just naturally accepted?" Zachary questioned with a scoff.

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The chill of Lenora's silence did nothing but fuel Zachary's ire. His eyes darkened as he demanded, "Is

that it?"

Lenora lowered her gaze, her mind racing for an explanation. Her voice, uncertain and a touch resigned, murmured, "It's... not exactly like that."

Zachary's guess had been right, except for the part about her liking him.

"What is it, Lenora?" he repeated, teeth gritted.

Fighting the frustration building within, Lenora met his glare, trying to hide her own unease. She took a defiant breath, "Look, you guessed it. I do like him, and when he confessed, I accepted. I don't owe anyone a reason. Do I really need my ex-husband's permission just to date?" Zachary's face twisted as his frustration peaked, eventually letting out a dark laugh. Without warning, he pulled back the covers, exposing her bare skin to the cool air. His gaze lingered, a sinister grin playing on his lips.

"So beautiful," he murmured. "Tell me, what do you think Connor would do if he saw you like this, right here under me? You think he'd be so eager to stick around?"

Blushing fiercely, Lenora clutched her arm across her chest, her other hand making a frantic grab for the quilt.

"Zachary, that's vile!" she spat, eyes blazing,

He smirked, unfazed. "Vile? Seems like it's only fair to live up to the label."

Before she could even respond, his face was suddenly inches from hers.

She could only stare in shock as his lips came down on hers, biting, consuming with an intensity she wasn't prepared for. His hand held her wrists effortlessly above her head as his other roamed, ignoring her struggles as if they weren't even there. "Mmm...

The air was slipping from her, his hold so tight she was struggling to breathe. She tried inhaling through her nose, but that only left her feeling faint. Her mind grew foggy, the urgency of air overwhelming everything else until her struggles ceased.

It was only then that Zachary pulled back, releasing her lips. As he moved, he noticed her pale face and wide, unseeing eyes. He quickly steadied her jaw and started to administer mouth-to-mouth.

Lenora finally felt her breath returning. She gasped, coughing and clutching her chest, her breaths coming in short, ragged bursts.

Without a word, Zachary propped a cushion behind her, his voice softer now. "Eat something. And remember to take the cold medicine."

Ignoring him, she shook her head, staring down at the untouched tray. "I won't. Either let me go, or I'll starve myself," she said, her voice flat and unwavering.

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She was determined to fight against him to the very end

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Zachary studied her for a moment, a wry smile twisting his lips. "Well done, Lenora. You know I care about you too much to let you starve, don't you?"

Her gaze dropped. "I don't need you to care."

Despite saying that, Lenora was certain he would never actually let her starve to death.

The reason for Zachary's sudden irrational behavior was probably because he had come across Connor's latest post on social media,

But honestly, even if she didn't feel much for Connor, she wouldn't have gone out of her way to reassure Zachary. She was done trying to untangle things between them that only grew more complicated.

If dating Connor meant Zachary might finally come to terms with things and let her go, then that alone would be a relief, a kind of unexpected bonus,

The thought only fueled his rage. His anger rose to such a level that he could barely form wanted to say, almost paralyzed by his own fury.

words he

Here he was, nearly six weeks since their divorce, and she was already seeing someone else-someone she was calling her boyfriend. And yet, no matter how many times he told himself to move on, he still couldn't release her from his mind. He had managed to get her, unconscious, into his bed, even undressed her, but despite everything, he hadn't dared take things further. Some instinct held him back-something in him knew she'd only hate him more deeply if she woke to that. With a sigh, he said, "Fine, Lenora, you win. Eat up, and once you're feeling better. I'll let you go.

She looked at him, incredulous. "And why wait until then? Why not let me go now?"

"I'm worried about you," he replied, the stubborn set of his jaw softening slightly. "I'd rather have you here. with the housekeeper keeping an eye on you."

Lenora barely held back a groan.

"You promised," she said firmly. "Now go get my clothes."

To her surprise, Zachary returned with a set of pajamas. She lifted an eyebrow, noting how flimsy they were for anything other than sitting in a heated mansion. She could practically feel the chill waiting beyond the door. Her glare met his. "Out," she said curtly.

Zachary merely chuckled. "It's not like I haven't seen it all before, he quipped, giving her a lingering look before finally turning to leave.

Dressed in the thin pajamas, Lenora wolfed down breakfast in silence. She had to admit that the food was perfectly prepared and soothing after a night of fitful rest.

After finishing, she brought the tray downstairs to the kitchen, where Harrietta was seated at the dining table, eating breakfast. She turned, her face breaking into a smile. "Aunt Lenoral"

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"Hattie, eat your food properly now," she said, glancing down at the little girl who was eyeing her with a smile. "I've got a cold and can't play with you right now

As she set down the plate, she turned to Miranda with a quick question. "By the way, Miranda, has your grandson recovered from his illness?"

"Yes, he's doing much better now," Miranda replied with a nod. "He should be fully recovered in just a few more days."

That's good to hear," Lenora said. "Well, I'll let you get back to your work, so I'll take my leave."

"Wait-Mrs. Fuller!" Miranda called out, catching her by surprise.

"I'm not "Mrs. Fuller" anymore, Lenora corrected gently.

"To me, you're still the lady of the house," the older woman replied sincerely, eyes glistening. "I don't know if you know this, but last night, you had a very high fever-nearly 39 degree Celsius. Mr. Fuller stayed by your side all night, helping you take medicine,

wiping your forehead, waiting for your fever to go down before he got any rest at all. And he's still not well himself." Miranda's gaze softened. "Sometimes it's the people around you who see things most clearly. Mr. Fuller still has strong feelings for you, Mrs. Fuller. I only hope you'll think about giving him another chance..."

Lenora took a deep breath. "Thank you, Miranda. I do appreciate all he's done, but it doesn't change anything. I already have a boyfriend now."

Miranda's face reflected both surprise and confusion. "Y-You have a boyfriend already?"

Isn't that too fast?

Only a little over a month ago, Lenora had been deeply grieving their lost child, and now, she was with someone else.

"Yes, that's right," Lenora confirmed, her voice softer as she walked out of the dining room.

Her thoughts were distant as she left, the events of the previous night a hazy blur. Little did she know Zachary had kept watch over her, staying up through the night without her ever noticing.

Memories of their marriage flickered in her mind, jumbled fragments that left her feeling unsettled. She could still recall how considerate he had been whenever she had fallen ill, whether it was a cold, fever, or anything else.

Back then, she had truly believed that they shared feelings for each other. Yet, as time went on, those hopes had crumbled under the weight of reality.

"Nora, Zachary called out to her.

Seeing that she didn't respond, he headed straight for the stairs, then called out again, "Nora? Come take your medicine."

She turned to see him leaning over the stairs, his eyes fixed on her with quiet intensity. "What did you just say?" she asked, half-distracted.

"Come and take your medicine. It's for your cold," Zachary replied, setting a cup of water and some medicine on the table in front of her.

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Lenora glanced down at the packets, noting with a touch of nostalgia that they weren't like the typical boxes of cold medicine sold at pharmacies.

Instead, these small paper packets reminded her of the kinds she had seen as a child, back when she stayed with her grandparents. If she caught a cold, her grandfather would take her to the village clinic, where the doctor would carefully mix out doses of medicine just like these. They had been incredibly effective back then, a comforting routine she hadn't thought about in years.

Nowadays, it was nearly impossible to find pharmacies preparing medicine like this. She eyed the carefully arranged packets, realizing Zachary must have had them specially prepared for her.

As Lenora settled onto the couch and unwrapped the first packet, she reached for the cup of water, noticing how it had cooled to the perfect temperature, as if it had been poured some time ago just for her.

A faint stinging sensation rose in her nose, and she blinked rapidly, feeling a touch of emotion that took her by surprise.

"Are you heading to the hospital for your drip?" she asked him, trying to hide the catch in her voice.

"Yeah. I'm heading there now."

She paused, glancing around. "Good. Then give me my phone."

"Forget it. Just stay here and rest.

Lenora muttered a quiet "Bestard."

I shouldn't have felt moved by him.

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Chapter 253 Give Me A Kiss.

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"What did you just say?" Zachary turned his head, giving her an intense look that bordered on suspicion.

Lenora shook her head resolutely. "I didn't say anything. You must've heard wrong. Now, give me my phone!" She stared at him, her expression unwavering, her intent unmistakable.

Her phone held a treasure trove of secrets she had no intention of sharing with him. She couldn't trust Zachary not to tamper with it, and if he somehow managed to send a stray message to Connor, it would undo all the careful planning she'd managed up to this point. Besides, she worned that he'd see her recent conversations with Gordon and might figure out why she'd been cozying up to Connor lately. Knowing she didn't actually have feelings for Connor had only made Zachary bolder and more insistent in his pursuit. "Is your phone really that important? Zachary asked.

Anger surged within her, and she took a deep breath to keep it from boiling over. She glared at him, then exhaled slowly, allowing a touch of resignation to color her tone. "It's not like I can go anywhere at the moment, so having my phone doesn't exactly change anything for me."

An idea flashed in Zachary's eyes, his expression shifting as he gazed at her with an unexpected intensity. Their eyes met, and suddenly Lenora felt uneasy.

"Give me a kiss, and it's yours," he said, his lips curling into a smirk.

Lenora's jaw dropped, stunned. She blinked, then scowled, disbelief turning quickly to disgust. "Zachary, you're shameless!" she spat.

"Are you going to do it or not?" he challenged, his tone almost teasing.

Lenora huffed in frustration, her fists clenched, her gaze as defiant as a kitten's angry glare. But as hard as she tried, she could see no other way out. "Decided yet? I need to get to the hospital," Zachary said, his eyes flicking to the door. With a few long strides, he reached the entrance of the living room. "Wait!" Lenora called, her voice firm, if reluctant.

He stopped and turned to face her, noticing her tense expression and the way her lips pressed into a tight line. "You're agreeing, then?" he asked, raising an eyebrow in amusement.

With a quiet, frustrated exhale, she gave a firm nod, determined to get this over with. She walked over to him, rising on her toes as she reached his side. She cupped his face with her hands and gave him a quick, light kiss on the cheek. "There, satisfied?" Zachary looked at her with a mix of amusement and satisfaction. He was just about to respond when a small voice interrupted them from the stairway. "Aunt Lenora kissed Uncle Zachary all by herself! I want a kiss from Aunt Lenora too!" Lenora froze, feeling like she'd just been caught with her hand in the cookie jar.

Zachary chuckled, thoroughly entertained by Harrietta's reaction. He looked at the little girl with an

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affectionate smile. "Hattie, your Aunt Lenora can't kiss you right now. She has a cold."

Harrietta tilted her head thoughtfully. "But aren't you scared of getting sick too, Uncle Zachary?"

"No, Hattic," he said gently. "I'm an adult, so I'm not scared."

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The little girl nodded, appearing to accept his explanation, though her expression still showed a hint of

curiosity.

Lenora cleared her throat, turning her gaze back to Zachary, "Can I have my phone now?"

Without a word, he pulled it from his pocket and handed it over. She grabbed it quickly and moved toward the couch, clutching it as if she'd just reclaimed a prize.

"Hattic, your Uncle Zachary's heading to the hospital. Do you want to go with him or stay home and play with Ms. Miranda" Lenora asked.

Harrietta paused, considering. "I'll stay home," she said after a moment.

"I'm heading out then," said Zachary

"Okay."

Zachary started to head out when Harrietta's voice called after him again, stopping him in his tracks. "Wait, Uncle Zachary!" "What's the matter?"

"There's a lipstick mark on your face, from Aunt Lenora!"

Lenora flushed instantly, her face warming with embarrassment, but Zachary only grinned, clearly in a good mood.

Once outside the mansion, Zachary looked back at the grand entrance briefly before sliding into the backseat of the waiting car.

The driver glanced at him. "Mr. Fuller, heading to the hospital?"

"Yes," Zachary replied, his gaze already on his phone as he dialed a number.

The call connected quickly, and a woman's respectful voice came over the line. "Mr. Fuller?"

"How are things progressing?" he asked, his voice low and measured.

"We've met several times, but there hasn't been much advancement yet."

A flicker of displeasure passed through Zachary's eyes. "Get things moving in the next few days. Whatever you need, let me know, and I'll make sure you have it." Feeling the edge in his tone, Madison responded quickly. "Understood, Mr. Fuller. I'll take care of it."

After finishing her medicine, Lenora returned to the master bedroom and checked her phone. She found messages from Connor and Sophia from the day before

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It seemed Zachary had taken the liberty of replying on her behalf, even going as far as to offer a plausible excuse to Sophia for her delayed return. Thankfully, he hadn't gone off-script She wasn't entirely sure if he'd snooped through her clits with Gordon, and she hoped he hadn't.

Connor had also sent her two more messages that morning. The first, at seven-thirty in the morning, was a simple sun emoji, followed by a cheerful: Good morning, Lenora. Smiling faintly. Lenora replied with a quick: Morning

Connor answered shortly after, mentioning that he was already at work, whereas Lenora mentioned her bout with a cold.

Their conversation continued for a bit until Sophia showed up at the mansion with a paper bag full of clothes for various types of weather, just as Lenora had requested. Zachary sure is naive! Did he really think I'd stay in the mansion?

Sophia entered the master bedroom, glancing over her shoulder to ensure Harrietta was downstairs, then closed the door and burst out, "Honestly, Tyrant Fuller is devious. I'm telling you, once you're entangled with him, there's no escape. He might've been lenient this time, but next time he might actually try to trap you here!"

She took a breath, her gaze softening a bit. "I know you're fond of Hattie-I am too-but you need to think of yourself. Lenora. Remember, she's not your child. It's not worth it for you to spend your life tied down. here

Lenora paused, Sophia's words weighing on her mind. "Are you working today?" she asked, changing the subject.

In truth, she felt Harrietta had little to do with her connection to Zachary. Without the child, he would still find some way to keep appearing in her life,

Nothing short of leaving the country would sever his persistence. And, in fact, she was considering it- emigrating like Tamara had. But that decision would wait until after she avenged her father.

Sophia checked her watch and sighed. "D"mn it, I'm going to be late. If you're leaving, go now!"

After Sophia departed, Lenora headed out briefly herself. Harrietta, not able to tag along, looked a bit disappointed, so Lenora promised to return for lunch together.

Taking one of Zachary's cars, she drove out to a warehouse in the suburbs. The building was owned by a logistics company Daryl ran, a venture Gordon had investigated thoroughly for her.

Along with researching the Morris family, Gordon had managed to track down Daryl's business details, uncovering that he was now running a small logistics company out here with a large, well-kept warehouse,

The records showed that Daryl had managed to rebrand himself as a modest business owner in the logistics industry. He now owned a large warehouse on the outskirts of town, bustling with a steady flow of goods moving in and out daily.

This warehouse was something he had built shortly after being released from prison, right around the time online shopping and e-commerce were becoming hugely popular.

The timing couldn't have been better-Daryl had quickly turned a profit, and his warehouse only grew larger as business boomed.

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As for the capital he used to launch this logistics business, he'd claimed to have borrowed it from "friends." Yet when Gordon dug into his connections, it turned out that the amount he borrowed from known contacts was far less than what he'd needed to start up. I was widely suspected that most of the initial funding had come from some hidden benefactor, likely money of dubious origin.

Every time Lenora thought about it, her heart churned with bitter frustration-the life of comfort and profit that Daryl was now enjoying had been bought with her father's blood.

Her father had been lying in a grave for years now, while his murderer was thriving, growing richer by the day. The injustice gnawed at her.

That was why she'd driven out to the far edge of town, circling around the warehouse herself, hoping to get a sense of the place and to confirm Gordon's information.

Everything lined up-the information suggested that Daryl stopped by the warehouse daily, and sure enough, her own observations confirmed it. She even caught a glimpse of Daryl's car leaving the site as she arrived, which only reinforced her suspicions, Lenora sat in her car for a long time, weighing her options. She'd finally decided that starting with Daryl might be her best way in.

If she remembered correctly, there was a hot spring resort not far from the warehouse-a perfect place to clear her mind and plan her next steps.

After returning home, she sent Stanley a quick message Hey, Stanley, are you guys doing any team-building events before the holiday?

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Chapter 254 Almighty Zeke Free Coins

After finishing her conversation with Stanley, Lenora sat down at her computer, intent on organizing all the photos she'd taken recently.

She knew she still had a competition to prepare for.

Though she'd always had a natural eye for composition, she also understood that talent alone wouldn't guarantee success. Experience, technique, and collaboration were just as crucial, and she was ready to learn. Once she had all her photos sorted, she bundled them into a zip file and messaged them to Fiona: Fiji, these are my recent shots. Could you look them over when you get a chance and give me some feedback? Fiona: Okay! Have you decided which category to compete in?

Lenora: Not yet.

some

Lenora had joined an online group chat specifically for photographers-some professionals, amateurs-where people regularly shared tips, critiqued each other's work, and exchanged techniques

Occasionally, Lenora would post a photo or two of her own, asking for advice or insights from the group. She'd also gotten into the habit of commenting on others work, which made her feel more connected to the community.

After selecting one of her recent shots that she was particularly proud of, Lenora posted it in the group chat, writing: Hey everyone, any suggestions on how I could improve this?

The group lit up instantly, and responses began pouring in. Some praised the colors and framing, while others offered constructive feedback on elements like composition and color balance.

As Lenora was about to respond, another message popped up in the chat: Is that the new camera you bought?

Before she could reply, the chat exploded with a flurry of messages:

Almighty Zeker

No way! Almighty Zeke is here!

Oh, my goodness. Is that really him?

I love you, Zeke!

The screen filled with excited comments as dozens of messages rolled by in an instant.

Lenora blinked in surprise, glancing at the name of the person who'd mentioned her camera. Sure enough, it was Zeke, the group administrator, whose profile bore a small

green badge. Judging by everyone's reaction, this Zeke character was clearly a big deal in the photography world,

Lenora quickly typed a reply: Yes, the camera is new-how did you know?

To her surprise, Zeke responded amid the busy chat: Foggy scenes can be tricky to capture. You have a good eye

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for composition and grayscale; it's clear you've got a solid aesthetic foundation. But there are a few mistakes- particularly with the exposure adjustments for the fog. And watch the contrast with the background Lenora: I understand now. Thanks so much!

With Zeke's appearance, others in the group started sharing their own photos, hoping to receive feedback from the expert himself.

But Zeke went silent after his comment to Lenora, leaving the group feeling both excited and a bit envious of her luck.

She knew she was still a beginner in this field, picking things up as she went. With so many advanced techniques out there, she figured it was time to start taking her learning more seriously.

After some thought, Lenora decided she should enroll in a photography course to get a better grasp on the technical aspects.

However, given her limited experience, she wasn't quite sure which courses would be worth the investment. Turning to the group chat, she asked: Anyone got recommendations for good photography courses? The group jumped in with enthusiasm:

I took Fitas classes. The classes are rigorous, and the teaching assistants really care about helping students learn.

Micah's course is great! She's a well-respected photographer, and she shot Yara Lindt's latest magazine cover!

Just then, someone suggested: You should look into Almighty Zeke's photography class! His course starts at the end of the month, and there's still time to sign up

Lenora thanked everyone for their suggestions and took some time to explore the recommendations:

Each course had a distinct style and focus. The renowned Vitas was known for encouraging creative

arts, and producing imaginative and skilled photographers.

freedom in the I

Micah specialized in portrait photography, famous for her ability to capture her subjects' unique essence. and had an impressive client list of celebrities.

As for Zeke, whom she'd just looked up on Twitter, his real name was Ezekiel Hoffman. At thirty-one, he was considered part of the new generation of photographers and had even won the prestigious Smada International Photography Competition His work was famous for skillfully blending portraits with landscapes, enhancing both in one frame.

Reviewing all these promising options, Lenora found herself in a dilemma-She glanced at the time and put her phone away for the moment, deciding to think it over later.

It was almost noon, and she'd promised Harrietta she'd join her for lunch. She also needed to return Zachary's car.

After lunch, Lenora took her medicine, which made her feel a bit sleepy, so she went up to the master bedroom for a quick nap.

When she woke up, it was already after two, and she noticed a new message from Connor: Lenora! I have good news and bad News

what do you wanna hear first?

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Lenora had a hunch about the good news: Alright, give the the good news first.

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Connor. The good news is, our department's holding a team-building retreat at a hot spring two days before the New Year's holiday! Everyone's allowed to bring one family member! Lenora could practically hear Connor's excitement and smiled. She replied: Really?

Connor: Yes! Lenora, you should come with me! And don't worry-there'll be other female colleagues there too!

Lenora: Thanks to you. I finally get to visit the hot springs! appreciate it a lot.

Connor: Nothing to thank me for!

Lenora: Did Stanley arrange this for you?

Connor: Yeah, he's the best.

Lenora: He is. So what's the bad news?

Connor: The bad news is that it's going to get pretty hectic in the days before the holiday, so I might not have much free time to spend with you, But once the holiday starts, I'll be there Lenora: No worries; focus on work. You're still young, after all.

She didn't realize that while she was praising Stanley for organizing the event, he was busy forwarding the conversation to Zachary

Reading it, Zachary's expression grew darker by the second, his jaw tightening as the tension in the air intensified. His phone buzzed with a new message from Stanley-a screenshot of his chat with Lenora. In the chat, Lenora had suggested a team-building trip to the hot spring resort, including a space for family members to join.

Stanley then messaged: Why include a spot for family members?

Lenora: Because I want to go.

Stanley continued to prod, pretending he didn't know about her connection with Connor: Why not just ge with the guy? Why does it have to be a team-building event?

Lenora: We're still early in the relationship. I don't want him thinking I'm moving too fast.

She'd intended the whole thing to look like a coincidence, hoping Daryl and Connor wouldn't grow suspicious.

Zachary's hand tightened around his phone as he read his breath growing shallower with anger.

He'd specifically asked Stanley to keep Connor busy, yet Lenora had managed to wrangle this workaround.

A hot spring outing for a new couple? What might happen next was almost too obvious,

Zachary vividly remembered his own last hot spring experience with Lenora

Is she really that into Connor already? They'd only just made things official, and she's eager to spend a romantic trip/4 15:23 Tue, Nov 12

Chapter 254 Almighty Zeke

together.

ex 63%

+5 Free Coins

What frustrated him most was the idea that Connor hadn't even made the first move-it was her idea!

I shouldn't have let her off so easily last night.

Just then. Miles cleared his throat nervously. "Uh, Mr. Fuller?"

Zachary snapped back to the present, his gaze sharpening. "Continue," he said coolly, though a flicker of resolve burned in his eyes.

Lenora wants to go on a trip to the hot spring with Connor, huh? All right, I'll make sure she gets one she won't forget!

Stay Away 255

Chapter 255 The Foolish Zachary

+5 Free Coms

After hesitating for a few moments, Miles gathered his thoughts and his report. "The company

had plans to invest in multiple theme parks across Nusridge this year. During the early planning phase, we didn't anticipate that some Hoffman family members were already negotiating for those parcels of land- Zachary waved him off, disinterested. "Is that all? If there's nothing more, you can head back to work."

Miles was momentarily speechless, fumbling with his words. "Uh, yes... All right, I'll be on my way." Clutching his folder, he exited the room hastily.

Zachary stepped toward the window, retrieving his phone as he dialed Madison's number.

Once he had finished issuing his instructions, he powered off his phone, tucking it neatly back in his pocket. He looked out at the skyline, his eyes carrying an unsettling intensity.

He simply couldn't fathom how, after everything, Lendra could still harbor any feelings for Connor.

Zachary lingered by the window for a few moments longer, then grabbed his coat and left the ward. He'd barely walked a few steps down the hallway when he heard a voice call out behind him. "Mr. Fuller?" Zachary turned. "Dr. Jennings."

"I reviewed your records. It looks like you're cleared for surgery. When do you want to schedule it?" Dexter Jennings asked.

Zachary thought for a moment, then replied, "I've changed my mind. I'll go with a more conservative treatment plan for now."

Originally, Zachary had planned on going through with the surgery, but he hadn't anticipated that Lenora and Connor would suddenly make their relationship official.

If he went under the knife and spent half a month recovering in the hospital, who knows what Lenora and Connor might have done in his absence?

Dexter's eyebrows rose, surprised. "All right, that's definitely an option. You're still quite young, so holding off on something as serious as a gastrectomy could certainly be wise."

When Zachary finally returned to Galaxy Bay, he found that Lenora had already left.

Not only had she left, but she'd also left him a note, which read: Did you really think you could trap me? Fool!

The note was accompanied by a drawing of a round, goofy egg with a bemused expression.

Zachary could just imagine her snug little grin as she sketched her mocking message. A faint smile started. to form on his lips, but as his thoughts returned to Lenora's hot spring plans with Connor, his mood darkened, and his face grew stern again. Lenora was cozily lounging in bed, perusing reviews of various photography courses online.

Fiona had finally responded to her message: Nora, I've looked over your recent work.

After giving her feedback, Fiona recommended: I think you should go for the Man and Nature' category. Your

1/4

Chapter 255 The Foolish Zachary

work really shines in blending people with natural scenery. I remember some of the photos you've taken of your niece- they're particularly beautiful, with a great sense of harmony.

Taking Fiona's advice to heart, Lenora decided to pursue studies in blending human subjects and landscapes. After weighing her options, she chose to enroll in Zeke's photography course.

Following the enrollment process, she added the course assistant on WhatsApp, completed her payment, and was subsequently added to the course's WhatsApp group, where everyone waited for the official start at the end of the month.

Before the live classes began, she received access to a few recorded sessions, which she skimmed and noted were fairly introductory.

In the WhatsApp group, Lenora saw a stream of student messages popping up: I remember last time Almighty Zeke held a class in Jeahron. Why is it online only this time?

Same here! I registered thinking it would be in person-like it was last time-because I'd focus better. I didn't expect the switch to an online format.

Oh, don't kid yourself! It's not focus better in person! You're just crushing on Zeke!

Guilty as charged! But can you blame me? Almighty Zeke is a dream! I'd love it if he'd be my live model!

Hey, are you out of your mind?

Just then, the assistant finally joined the conversation: Unfortunately, this round is online because Almighty Zeke has obligations outside Jeahron. But don't worry, there'll be more in-person classes in the future. The group responded reluctantly: All right then.

Another person bragged: By the way, I already have a picture with Almighty Zeke. I'll admit, last time, I got too distracted by his looks, so this time. I'll be focusing! Show us!

To everyone's excitement, the user did post a photo, though they had edited a cat face over their own image, leaving Zeke's features clearly visible.

Curiosity piqued, Lenora tapped to open the photo and immediately raised her brows. He was indeed attractive, with an air of rugged sharpness about him. But something else struck her. For reasons she couldn't place, his face felt oddly familiar, as though she had seen it somewhere before. She mentally sifted through her memories but couldn't pinpoint the connection.

Suddenly, Cotton hopped up onto her bed, nuzzling against her arm, and the idea struck her like lightning.

I remember now! No wonder he seems familiar-his face bear an uncanny resemblance to Zachary's!

The Fuller family, from Gerald down to Zachary's uncles and cousins, all had a distinct, handsome look about them.

But the common thread that ran through them all was a kind of calm, refined presence. Of all of them,

|||

2/4

Tue, Nov

Chapter 255 The Foolish Zachary

Johanne, with his softer mannerisms, came across as the gentle, warm-hearted type.

Zachary, however, stood out from the family as the one whose looks were undeniably striking, his features captivating and intense.

Lenora had seen a photo of Ronald once and noticed the resemblance to Johanne right away.

As for Zachary, his eyes and eyebrows seemed to take after his mother's, whoever she had been. From what Lenora had heard, Zachary's mother must have been a beautiful woman, one shrouded in mystery. Even Zachary didn't know what his own mother had looked like.

Rumor had it that Ronald had been the one to bring Zachary into the Fuller family from the outside, and neither Gerald nor Nathan had ever laid eyes on his mother. They had no idea if she was alive or gone for good. As for Zeke, he bore a remarkable resemblance to Zachary. Besides the sharp, distinct features that both shared, there was also something in the expression of the eyes and brows that echoed one another.

Meanwhile, the mediation had been a success, but the supplier still hadn't paid up, meaning Connor was still catching the bus to and from work every day.

That evening, at three minutes past six, he stepped off the bus near his neighborhood and started his usual walk along the sidewalk toward home.

The sky was growing dark, and the streets had thinned out; there weren't many people on the sidewalk at that hour.

Suddenly, a frantic cry cut through the quiet. "Help! Help! Someone, please!"

Connor's face tightened, his senses sharpening as he pinpointed the sound-it seemed to be coming from a nearby alley.

He broke into long strides, heading quickly toward the alley entrance. The passageway ahead was pitch. black, impossible to see into.

Only a few vague shapes were visible against the darkness, and somewhere within, he could hear a woman's quiet sobs. Without hesitation, Connor dialed 911, then rushed forward, shouting. "Stop!" As he drew nearer, he could finally make out what was happening. Three scruffy punks were harassing a woman, who cowered to one side, her clothes in disarray as she continued to sob softly.

At the sound of his voice, she lifted her head, her eyes meeting his with a desperate glint that quickly turned to hope.

One of the ruffians, a blond-haired guy, turned and gave Connor a dismissive look, sizing him up with disdain. "Listen here, kid. If you know what's good for you, you'll walk right out of here," he sneered. Connor didn't flinch; he simply raised his phone, his face calm but determined. "If you know what's good for you, you'll take off. I've already called the cops."

At that, the three exchanged glances, smirking. "You hear that? Overconfidence in the flesh. This guy's begging for a beating." one of them said, scoffing.

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Chapter 255 The Foolish Zachary

+5 Free Cons

The trio lunged at Connor together. He did his best to fend them off, but three against one was a losing battle. In seconds, he was overpowered and dropped to the ground, taking hit after hit.

The woman tried to intervene, but the men turned on her, kicking her back as she stumbled and fell.

Finally, the blond-haired guy called out, "Enough, the cops are gonna be here any second. We gotta move!"

"Hurry up, let's go!" the others shouted, and the trio quickly vanished into the darkness.

Lying face-down. Connor let out a heavy sigh of relief, then slowly lifted himself from the ground. He dusted himself off as best he could and rushed to help the young woman up. "Miss, are you all right? Come on, the police will be here any minute..." he began, but before he could finish, the young eyes rolled back, and she collapsed in his arms.

Connor stared at her in exasperation.

With no other choice, he gently picked her up and carried her out of the alley

woman's

As he adjusted his grip and glanced down, he caught sight of her face and froze. He recognized her instantly.

She was the same girl whose milkshake he had accidentally knocked over in the mall. Since then, he had spotted her twice more around his office, both times in passing, but he hadn't forgotten either encounter. What are the odds?

If he hadn't come along, he didn't want to imagine what might have happened.

Stay Away 256

Chapter 256 The Culprit.

Connor had booked a nearby hotel. He ensured Madison was settled in bed before checking his reflection in the bathroom mirror and noticing his face was covered in bruises.

Connor felt somewhat relieved. Thankfully, I'll be busy lately, so my injury should heal when the team-building event comes around. How embarrassing would I be if I were to meet Lenora with this facet

There were no pharmacies around, and the hotel didn't have any ointment for bruises and injuries either.

Connor had ordered a box online and was now waiting for the delivery.

He was seated in a chair, scrolling through his phone.

Suddenly, Madison, on the bed, murmured fearfully as if she were having a nightmare. "S-Stay away. N-

No

Connor hastily put down his phone and sat by the edge of the bed, gently comforting, "It's all right now, The bad guys are gone."

Madison slowly opened her eyes, and suddenly, she threw herself into Connor's arms, sobbing in agony.

Connor paused for a moment, attempting to push Madison away. "You

Madison, however, didn't let go. He held onto Connor even tighter, weeping sorrowfully. "I'm so scared.... I'm really so scared.

Connor hesitated for a moment, then slowly withdrew his hand. She's probably terrified and feels no sense of security. Pushing her away now will be very cruel. Forget it. I'll let her hold on for a bit if that's what she wants. On the day of the team-building event, all the employees, accompanied by a family member, gathered at the company's main entrance.

Sophia parked her car on the side of the road in a temporary parking space and stepped out of the vehicle.

Lenora, wearing a mask, got out of the passenger seat.

She wasn't truly in love with Connor, so she never mentioned it to Sophia. It was only last night that Sophia found out about this. Under intense questioning. Lenora had no choice but to brush that matter off vaguely The two of them walked together toward the entrance of the company.

Several employees and their families were already waiting.

Connor was squatting on the stairs, holding two servings of bread and soy milk.

His eyes darted around the room until they landed on Lenora and Sophia. Immediately, he jumped to his feet and hurried over to them, unable to hide the delight on his face. "Lenora Sophia, you're here too"

Sophia gave Connor a playful punch on his shoulder. "Well done, Connor. You've won over Nora so swiftly. You better treat her right in the future, understand?"

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Chapter 256 The Culprit.

Rest assured, Sophia. I'll definitely treat you well." Commor glanced at Lenora beside him.

A twitch tugged at the corner of Lenora's mouth, but she said nothing

Sophia jingled the keys in her hand. "I'm leaving first, then?"

"Goodbye."

"Take care, Sophia."

+5 Free Coins

Once Sophia had gotten into the car, Connor guided Lenora toward the stone steps, casually handing over the breakfast he held to Lenora.

"Connor, is this your girlfriend?"

All the colleagues had seen Connor's Instagram post that day. One after another, they came over to greet him, taking the opportunity to size up Lenora. "That mask is fooling no one. Just by looking at your eyes, we can tell you're a real beauty With a smile, Lenora said, "My apologies. I've been a bit under the weather these past couple of days."

"Don't worry. Once you take a dip in the hot springs with Connor, I guarantee your cold will be all gone," a Colleague said with a chuckle.

The bus arrived punctually. Lenora and Connor boarded it, choosing seats toward the interior, and sat side by side.

The number of people on the bus kept increasing, and colleagues greeted each other.

Right then, Connor called out, saying, "Mr. Fuller."

Lenora looked up, only to see Stanley boarding the vehicle and making his way down the aisle.

He heard Connor's voice, glanced to the side, and saw Lenora, who was wearing a mask.

Lenora nodded at him.

Stanley also gave a nod, then headed toward the seat at the back.

Once everyone had gathered, the bus headed toward Hot Spring Resort in the suburb.

Lenora had visited that place once but was still looking forward to soaking in the hot springs during

Winter

The bus passed through the highway intersection, drawing ever closer to its destination.

The interior of the bus was filled with the others' cheerful chatter and laughter, but Lenora grew increasingly silent, her hand quietly clutching her backpack tighter.

The warehouse belonging to Daryl was just up ahead.

After rounding a bend, the bus suddenly came to a halt

The other employees curiously craned their necks to see what was happening up ahead.

2/4

Chapter 256 The Culprit

+5 From Coins

A freight truck had come to a halt up ahead, with numerous logistics boxes of various sizes tumbling down on both sides.

The warehouse staff were frantically picking up items.

Daryl stood by the roadside, hands on his hips, impatiently watching the scene. He signaled to the passing bus to wait a moment.

Stanley rose to his feet, walking from the back to the front, as he asked, "What's going on?"

The bus driver opened the door and said, "Seems like a courier truck has tipped over."

Stanley stepped out of the car and went over to converse with Daryl. Roughly two minutes later, he returned to the vehicle. He then said to the bus driver, "Hold on a moment. They'll be done picking up the items shortly" Someone asked, "How could a courier truck just topple over?"

"The truck had a sudden tire blowout as it entered the station," Stanley replied.

Daryl was livid, cursing. "Some moron scattered a handful of hatpins all over the ground!"

When Connor saw Daryl, his eyes lit up, and he was ready to open the window and greet the latter. However, he suddenly noticed Lenora staring intently at Daryl, her lips tightly pressed together, and a profound sadness filled her eyes. Connor whispered, "Lenora, what's the matter?"

"It's nothing" Lenora retracted her gaze, lowered her eyes, and gently shook her head.

She insisted that nothing was wrong, but her expression clearly told a different story.

A few minutes later, the bus resumed its journey.

Afterward, Lenora's expression remained rather solemn, seemingly upset.

She was genuinely unhappy while also putting on a show for Connor to see.

In the morning, there was an event in their department, but Lenora chose not to participate. Instead, she spent the entire morning in her own room, fostering an atmosphere of her discontent.

At lunchtime, Connor came to find her, and they both went to the restaurant to dine together.

Seeing that Lenora barely touched her food, Connor couldn't help but ask, "Lenora, what's wrong? Are you upset or not feeling well?"

Lenora let out a sigh. "I'm not feeling great."

"What happened? Everything was perfectly fine at the start."

Lenora casually popped some pasta into her mouth, licking it with her tongue. "Do you remember the man Stanley was talking to by the roadside when we passed the courier warehouse on our way here?" "I remember." Connor hesitated for a moment. "I know him. He's a good friend of my dad's."

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Chapter 256 The Culprit

+5 Free Coins

Lenora looked at him, taken aback.

Connor continued to ask, "What about him?"

"He is the one responsible for my father's death," Lenora uttered in grief and anger.

Connor was shocked.

He knew that Lenora's father, Fernando, had died in a car accident and that Daryl had apparently spent time in prison for some reason. However, he hadn't expected that the two could be connected in any way.

A flicker of regret passed over his face. "I'm sorry, Lenora. I didn't think.

With a sigh, Lenora muttered, "I didn't expect such a coincidence either, to spot him by the roadside. He must be a warehouse worker."

"No, he's the warehouse owner," Connor said somewhat awkwardly. "He's been running this warehouse for years, and it's doing pretty well. My dad has a good relationship with him. In fact, when my parents returned to the country, he picked them up." Lenora lifted her head in surprise. "Has this place been built for years?"

"Yes."

"Back then, he had lost all his wealth in a civil lawsuit. How could he have possibly afforded to construct this?"

Connor paused, hesitating for a moment. "Could it be borrowed money?"

Lenora casually looked up at Connor and nonchalantly asked, "He just got out of jail and didn't have a penny to his name. Who would lend him such a large amount of money? And where did he meet these wealthy friends?"

Read Stay Away 257

Stay Away 257

Chapter 257 Just A Coincidence.

Upon Lenora's inquiry, Connor couldn't help but start to contemplate that matter seriously. The Morris and Wagner families are indeed just ordinary folks, so there on earth did Daryl find a friend from whom to borrow such much money? I ho would have dared to lend him such a large sum back then? Weren't they afraid he might take the mency and run or be unable to repay it?

Baffled, Connor turned to look at Lenora. "Lenora, are you suspecting that Daryl's money might not have come from legitimate means?"

Lenora gave a faint smile. "Don't blame me for overthinking. I naturally hold a grudge against the person. who killed my father in a drunk-driving accident. It's inevitable that I would suspect him with the worst intentions."

"I understand how you're feeling, Lenora. Regardless of whether Daryl acted unintentionally or even if he was punished, there's no need for you to forgive him. After all, he did cause Mr. Wilkin's death," Connor said. If Mr. Wilkin hadn't passed away, Lenora wouldn't have crossed paths with that jerk, Zachary

"Thank you for understanding, Connor, Lenora said, her eyes brimming with gratitude.

When Connor heard how affectionately Lenora addressed him, his ears turned a shade of red, his heart-stirred, utterly smitten by Lenora's charm. "You're welcome, Lenora. You're my girlfriend, so I would. certainly always consider things from your perspective," "Actually, I don't like to accuse others unjustly. Think about this. Does he really not have any wealthy friends?" Lenora casually asked while eating her meal, feigning indifference.

Connor didn't harbor the slightest suspicion. He rolled his eyes and seriously started to ponder. "It seems there isn't any."

A flicker of disappointment flashed in Lenora's eyes as she took a bite of her pasta..

"Could he have borrowed money from Mr. Morris since they're closely acquainted? Or maybe Mr. Morris, with his wide connection, helped him secure a loan? The person who arranged for Mr. Morris to work. abroad back then must have been pretty well-off, right?" "My dad probably didn't lend him any money, I suppose? As for the person who introduced my dad to opportunities abroad. I met him once as a kid, but I haven't seen him since,"

As Lenora expected, once the mastermind had sent those few kidnappers abroad, he likely severed all ties with them.

"Do you remember what he looked like?" Lenora asked nonchalantly. "There are only so many wealthy people in Jacaster. I might know him."

He probably wasn't a wealthy man."

Why do you say that?"

"I remember he had six fingers on his left hand, with the sixth one growing next to his thumb. Someone from a wealthy family wouldn't have kept it. They would have surely had it surgically removed."

"Six fingers, Lenora repeated in a hushed tone.

1/3

262%

257 Just A Coincidence

A spark of recognition flashed in her mind. She did indeed know someone with six fingers, and the location of the sixth finger was exactly as Connor had described.

That person was Johanne's driver.

Lenora mused. Is Father's death related to Johanne? That's impossible. This must have been just a coincidence.

Suddenly, Connor exclaimed loudly, "I remember now!"

Lenora looked up. "What's that?"

"My dad and Mr. Wagner did know a wealthy man. When we returned to our homeland this time, Mr. Wagner, who hadn't seen my dad in years, came over to our house for a drink. I vaguely recall them nostalgically mentioning a mutual friend." Nostalgically? That's possibly one of the kidnappers from back then. A glimmer of joy flashed in Lenora's eyes, and her heart stirred with excitement. "What's his name?"

Realizing she'd lost her composure. Lenora took a bite of her food before explaining, "I wanted to see if he's wealthy. If he's not, there might be something fishy about the money Daryl has."

Connor frowned, deep in thought. "I think that person's name is Gaston Johnston."

Thud!

The fork slipped from Lenora's grasp, clattering onto the ground. Her body stiffened momentarily, and as she bent over to retrieve the fork, her trembling fingers failed to secure their hold. The fork slipped from her grip once again, coming to rest at Connor's feet. Upon seeing Connor bending over, she immediately straightened up, swiftly drawing in a deep breath.

The information provided to her by Gordon revealed that Gaston was one of the two kidnappers wanted by the public security system.

Lenora thought. However, the police did not discover any connection between Gaston and Richie. Otherwise, they wouldn't have overlooked Richie since they've put Gaston on the wanted list, Clearly, they know each other. However, while Richie can return to his homeland, Gaston dares not Connor kindly picked up the fallen fork, set it aside, and handed Lenora a new one.

Lenora had already calmed down. Thank you."

She flashed a smile at Connor and served him some food. "Gaston? Is he from Jacaster? I don't seem to recall hearing about him."

"No. He's not local. I think he's from Yiefmery."

Yiefmery was the former capital of Mysonna and remained the largest city in the country. It was thriving both in terms of population and economy.

"Oh." Lenora's heart skipped a beat. Subsequently, she subtly changed the subject. "Actually, Soph and I considered traveling to Mysonna last time, but in the end, we chose Nardor."

Gaston was living a carefree life abroad, beyond the reach of domestic law enforcement.

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Chapter 257 Just A Coincidence

Lenora contemplated that since she knew Gaston was in Vielmery now, could she possibly find a way to locate him, bring him back to the country, and hand him over to the police for questioning Will this plan work? Even if it's feasible, implementing it will probably be extremely challenging

"If you were to go to Yiefmery, we wouldn't have met," Connor said with a smile.

"How did Daryl and Mr. Morris come to know Gaston in Yiefmery?" Lenora paid no heed to Connor's sweet nothings: her mind was solely occupied with matters concerning Gaston. Connor shook his head. "I'm not sure about that. Maybe I can go home and ask my dad for you?"

Lenora hesitated for a moment, Connor asking Richie about this poses a significant risk. There's a high chance that Richie will notice something is amiss. Back then, the police had only issued warrants for two individuals. There were certainly other suspects without concrete evidence. Once I ascertain Richie and Gaston's relationship and pursue this lead, coupled with the photographs in my possession and by seeking identification from the victims, I can almost incriminate Richie for sure. After some thought, Lenora said, "I'm planning on investigating the origin of Daryl's wealth. He's a friend of Mr. Morris. If you don't support me, at least don't betray me, all right, Connor?"

"Lenora, you have my full support. Don't worry, Connor said with a smile. Between a girlfriend and a friend of my father, my girlfriend certainly holds more importance. Daryl was indeed the one at fault in the beginning. Hopefully, there's nothing questionable about the source of his wealth. Otherwise, if reported, he would only have himself to blame .

"You can go back and ask Mr. Morris about this, but remember not to mention me, and don't bring up Gaston either. Just talk about how Daryl started building a warehouse after getting out of prison. See what Mr. Morris has to say about that. Lenora's heart began to palpitate.

She had chosen a path that was incredibly risky. Connor is unaware of the fact that Gaston is a wanted man. There are many fugitives on the run, and the average person wouldn't pay much attention to these matters. However, Richie would definitely be aware. If Gaston's name were to come up in his presence, he would undoubtedly be on high alert. If Connor happens to let something slip in front of Richie....

Connor reassured her, "Lenora, don't worry. I promise I won't mention you."

He was already hesitant to mention Lenora in front of his parents. With the added layer of Daryl's involvement, he knew his parents would undoubtedly favor Daryl, thus making him even less likely to bring up Lenora. "Thank you, Connor. Come on, let's eat." Lenora gratefully looked at him, blinked her eyes, and playfully placed a spoonful of greens onto his plate.

Connor has such faith in me, yet all I'm doing is exploiting him. Lenora silently reproached herself.

"Okay

Suddenly, a surprised female voice echoed from the side. "Connor?!"

Lenora turned her head and saw a young, stylishly dressed woman approaching with a smile. "It really is you. I didn't expect to run into you here."

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Chapter 258 I Can Please You Too

Connor looked up, offering her a polite nod and a smile. "Ms. Schmidt, what a coincidence."

Madison returned the nod, deliberately ignoring Lenora seated beside him. In a soft tone, she said. "I didn't expect to see you here. I just came to unwind with a friend." "We're having a team-building event here," Connor said.

"By the way, thank you for sending me back to the hotel the other night. How's your injury? Are you feeling better?"

Connor glanced at Lenora, a slight smile tugging at the corners of his lips. "I'm doing much better now What about you? Have you logged a police report!"

Lenora paused mid-bite, her gaze shifting curiously between Connor and Madison. He tent her back to the hotel

"I've given my statement. I can't thank you enough. You have no idea how scared I was back then. If it weren't for you, I might have... I really don't know how to express my gratitude." Madison's eyes, brimming with emotion, locked onto Connor's. Lenora could tell, Madison was interested in him.

"Don't mention it. It was no trouble at all." Connor gestured toward Lenora, seated across from him. "By the way, let me introduce you. This is my girlfriend, Lenora. Lenora, this is Ms. Schmidt."

Lenora gave Madison a polite nod. "Nice to meet you, Ms. Schmidt."

Madison raised her brows as if just noticing her. "Oh, hello, Ms. Wilkin. So, you're Connor's girlfriend. I thought you were his older sister."

"You're not wrong, Lenora replied calmly. "I'm a few years older than him."

Madison chuckled: "A more mature partner only makes the relationship better." With a playful wave at Connor, she added, "Well, I'd better get going. Enjoy your meal."

As Madison walked away, she mused to herself that even though Lenora was not particularly photogenic. she was far more beautiful in person. No wonder Mr. Fuller is so reluctant to let her go that he'd resort to underhanded tactics. Lenora watched Madison's retreating figure and then shifted her attention back to her meal.

As she ate, a thought occurred to her that she was being too composed. Even if Madison's presence did not make her jealous, she should at least show some concern for Connor. After a moment, she asked gently, "Were you injured a few days ago?"

As expected, Connor appreciated the gesture, smiling warmly. "Getting punched a couple of times by some punks isn't a big deal."

Lenora pieced together the truth and advised, "Be careful the next time you play the hero. I'll worry about you."

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Chapter 258 I Can Please You Too

Her words filled Connor with warmth. He nodded quickly. "Don't worry. I know my limits.

62%

After they finished their meal, they strolled along the hill behind the resort. Connor took the initiative and gently held Lenora's hand.

The holiday resort, in addition to its hot springs, offered unparalleled scenic beauty.

Ahead, they spotted a pavilion and, hand in hand, walked toward it.

Connor glanced at the blooming wintersweet, then let his gaze settle on Lenora's face.

He was taken aback by her beauty, a wave of fondness washing over him and leaving him captivated.

A hopeful glint flickered in his eyes as he asked softly, Lenora, may I kiss you?"

Startled, Lenora snapped back to reality, momentarily frozen.

Upon seeing her reaction, Connor became somewhat flustered. "I was just speaking hypothetically. I know I sounded impulsive. Fm willing to wait whenever you're ready...

"Sure, you can kiss me," Lenora suddenly cut him off, her expression calm, like someone ready to meet an inevitable fate. It's just a kiss on the cheek or a peck on the lips, right? She was willing to make this small sacrifice if it meant seeking justice for her father.

Besides, Connor was handsome and caring, not to mention younger than her. She really had nothing to love.

A flicker of surprise flashed in Connor's eyes. He closed them and slowly leaned toward Lenora's cool lips.

Lenora followed suit, closing her eyes as a shadow fell over her.

Connor's breath drew closer, brushing lightly against her skin.

Suddenly, a powerful urge to escape surged within her

Just then, Connor's phone rang, breaking the moment.

Both of them opened their eyes at the same time, their gazes meeting in an awkward silence.

Lenora looked away first. "You should answer your phone."

Connor cleared his throat and pulled the phone from his pocket. Stepping back, he answered, "Hello, Mr. Fuller..."

"Oli, okay, got it. I'll be right there." He ended the call and turned to Lenora with an apologetic smile. "Im sorry. There's a bit of a work situation...

"It's all right," Lenora responded calmly. "It's clear that Stanley holds you in high regard. This is your chance to shine. You should get going."

Connor had seen his share of roommates girlfriends causing a fuss over their boyfriends' lack of time. In contrast, Lenora's support for his work was rare and invaluable.

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"Thanks, Lenora! I'll take you to the hot springs first, okay?" He looked at her with gratitude, growing more confident in his choice. Lenora wasn't just young and beautifulshe was mature, composed, and full of understanding. She could assist him in ways that mattered. "I would like to sit here for a bit longer."

"All right then, I'll gonna go now."

Connor then left the pavilion.

Lenora remained still, her gaze fixed on the wintersweet blossoms in front of her. She lifted her phone and snapped a photo of them.

Suddenly, the sound of footsteps echoed from behind

Without turning around, Lenora asked, "Why did you come back?"

There was no response, but the footsteps drew closer.

Lenora sensed something was off. Just as she began to turn, someone suddenly wrapped their arms around her from behind.

A pair of strong hands encircled her waist, locking tightly.

"Let go of me!" she cried, startled, her heart hammering in her chest. She jabbed her elbow backward and struggled frantically.

The man behind her grunted softly but quickly seized control of her wrists. With a swift movement, he stepped forward, pressing her firmly against the railing Stop moving"

"Zachary

"Are you disappointed that it's not Connor holding you? Zachary's deep voice rumbled close to her ear

Whenever he thought about her reason for coming here, a surge of anger welled up inside him, especially after witnessing the scene that had just unfolded. If it hadn't been for Stanley's call, she and Connor might have already kissed! Dmn it, this woman! Instead of answering, Lenora asked indifferently. "What are you doing here? Did Stanley tell you I'm here

Zachary snorted. "What are you doing here?"

"I'm here to enjoy a hot spring bath. What else?"

"A hot spring bath? With Connor?" Zachary's voice darkened. "You even got Stanley to arrange an extra spot in his department's team-building event. How clever of you. Are you really that desperate, even though you just confirmed your relationship a few days ago?" Lenora instantly knew that Stanley had betrayed her.

The timing of Zachary's arrival, right after Connor left following Stanley's call, was no coincidence.

"So what if we just confirmed our relationship recently? Does it matter?" Lenora shot back. "He's my

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boyfriend, and we'll do as we please!"

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Fuming, Zachary let out a bitter laugh, his head slightly bowed. He leaned closer, his warm breath brushing against her car. "If you're feeling so lonely, why didn't you come to me? I can please you too. Or have you forgotten our time in the hot spring.. "Shut up!" Lenora snapped, tilting her head slightly as her earlobes flushed red.

Zachary's gaze lingered on her flushed ears. Then, almost as if to punish her, he unexpectedly took her soft, rosy carlobe into his mouth.

He knew this was her sensitive spot.

Caught off guard, Lenora felt a tingling

her spine, and a soft gasp escaped hensation wash over her, like an electric shock. A shiver ran down

Her legs weakened beneath her, and she struggled to stay upright.

Squaring her shoulders, she drew in her neck, her voice trembling "Z-Zachary, let me go!"

Zachary didn't let go. Instead, he inhaled deeply, savoring the moment...

Lenora shivered uncontrollably, unconsciously leaning into his embrace.

His broad, sturdy chest enveloped her entirely.

A soft, irresistible moan slipped from her lips, sending a surge of warmth through Zachary's body.

She clung to her sanity, even though a sense of powerlessness crept over her. "Let me go. Stop it," she protested. "I have a boyfriend now!" Zachary's gaze darkened at the word boyfriend. He pressed a searing kiss to her neck and whispered in a low voice. "Don't worry, he won't find out." To her own bewilderment, Lenora exhaled a quiet sigh of relief.

It felt disturbingly like the kind of rationalization one might make, believing everything would be fine as long as their partner didn't catch them cheating. However, as the thought sank in, she immediately recognized how inappropriate it was. "Let me go. We cannot do this...."

Suddenly, Lenora's entire body stiffened.

She felt something pressing against her beneath.

Her delicate face flushed beet red. "Zachary Fuller! You pervert!"

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"Are you the reincarnation of a poodle?"

+5 Free Cons

Lenora shifted her toes forward slightly, struggling to put some distance between him and her lower body.

Zachary immediately moved closer, his breath gently caressing her ear. "You're turned on too, aren't you?" et of me now."

"No" Lenora's eyes flashed as she immediately denied. Let go of me

"No!" Zachary questioned in a hushed tone, his magnetic voice struck against Lenora's eardrums, almost bewitching her. Lenora held her ground, shaking her head stubbornly. "No."

Behind her, Zachary fell silent.

His silence caused Lenora to tense up. She made a tentative attempt to struggle.

Suddenly, Zachary said, "Let me take a look then."

Lenora's eyes widened, fuming with anger. "How are you going to do that?"

"Let's make a bet," he proposed, "we'll wager on whether or not you're turned on. If I lose, I promise I'll never bother you again"

Zachary continued, "Of course, if I win, I'll take the lead tonight. What do you think?"

"Why on earth would I want to bet with you?"

"You wouldn't dare, because you've fallen for me, haven't you?"

"No, I simply didn't want to bet with you!"

"Coward," he taunted, "Such a golden opportunity to get rid of me, are you sure you don't want to take it?

"You've told me countless times that you wouldn't bother me anymore, but you've always gone back on your word. I don't trust you." Zachary paused.

All right, the terms he proposed no longer held any appeal for her.

"Let's make a switch. If I lose, you'll be in charge tonight, and I won't interfere. How does that sound?"

Lenora's breath hitched.

In truth, throughout their three years of marriage, Zachary had always been the dominant one in the bedroom.

She couldn't help but imagine Zachary lying in bed, at her mercy.

Lenora suddenly shook his head, narrowly avoiding a trap!

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"No, I won't gamble with you, no matter what you say. Let go of me now, you've made me angry!"

Zachary let out a sigh, seeing that Lenora was not falling for his trap, he had no choice but to let her go "Hattie is here too, she wants to join you for the hot spring." Pulling away from Zachary's embrace, Lenora instantly took two steps back, eyeing Zachary warily. "Really? You're not lying to me?"

"Dare you to make a call."

"Bring her to me, I'll take her from there."

"Ive already booked the room."

Lenora was staying in a room assigned for team building, sharing it with a female colleague. If they wanted to enjoy the hot springs, they had to go to the public pool. Zachary had booked a luxurious suite with a private spring pool.

Lenora hadn't forgotten, the last time she had been lured by the promise of a private hot spring, she had fallen for Zachary's trick.

"No need for your help. I'll book it myself."

Zachary gave a slight chuckle, a profound glint flickering in his eyes. .

Lenora strode out of the pavilion, while Zachary casually followed behind her, maintaining a distance that was neither too far nor too close.

She arrived at the main building's lobby and spoke to the receptionist. "I'd like to book a suite with a private hot spring, for two people."

The receptionist offered her a small smile. "I'm sorry, but it's peak season at the resort right now. All of our suites with private hot springs are currently occupied. My apologies for the inconvenience." Lenora was speechless.

During winter, just before the end of the year and right when holidays were about to start, it was indeed common for many people to come here for leisure. She noticed the crowd in the restaurant was slightly larger than usual. She just hadn't expected for all the rooms hot springs to be taken up.

Lenora was somewhat unwilling to ac today?"

1. it. "Are you sure? Not even one room? Did anyone check out

The receptionist glanced at her, shook her head and said, "I'm sorry, but no."

"All right then."

As Lenora turned around, she saw Zachary, his arms crossed, leaning lazily against the door. He was watching her with a calm and composed demeanor, a smirk playing on his face.

Her face darkened. As she passed by Zachary, she huffed and walked away.

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Zachary raised an eyebrow and asked, "Where are you going?"

"Back to my room to get some clothes."

"No need. I've prepared a swimsuit and bathrobe for you. Just head on over"

Lenora halted in her tracks.

Fine

"Come with me," he said.

Zachary strode past Lenora, leading the way.

With a silent roll of her eyes, Lenora followed along.

-5 Free Coins

As Zachary opened the door, he heard Harrietta's voice from inside, accompanied by the sounds of a cartoon playing in the background. "Uncle Zachary, you're back! Where's Aunt Lenora?" "Aunt Lenora is behind"

Zachary stood at the doorway, his features relaxed as he turned his gaze toward Lenora.

Lenora shot him a glance before stepping forward. Her face instantly lit up with a smile. "Hattie, your Aunt Lenora is here!"

"Aunt Lenora! I want to soak in the hot springs with you!"

a playful glint in her eyes, Harrietta ran up to Lenora in her socks.

"All right, let's enjoy the hot spring together." Lenora accepted with a smile. She took off her coat and hung it on the rack, then turned her cool gaze to Zachary. "Where are my clothes?" With Harrietta around, it was unlikely that Zachary would dare to do anything to her.

Zachary picked up the paper bag from the couch and placed it into Lenora's arms. "Lenora. I've just realized, you sure know how to switch modes in an instant. I think you can perform on stage with that skill" What do you mean by switching modes? Aunt Lenora, can you switch modes?" Harrietta tilted her head. asking curiously. Lenora discerned the subtle mockery in Zachary's words and snorted lightly. "Nonsense, your uncle is just rambling, don't pay him any mind. Come, let's go soak in the hot springs," she said.

"All right." Harrietta happily grabbed her swimsuit, then turned to Zachary and said. "Uncle Zachary, you go have fun on your own, we're off to the hot springs!"

Lenora led Harrietta through the living room, opened the back door, revealing a meticulously decorated hot spring room and pool.

A wave of warmth hit her as soon as she entered the room. Lenora quickly locked the door behind her and proceeded to help Harrietta change.

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Slipping into her one-piece swimsuit, Harrietta quickly sat by the edge of the hot spring pool. She tentatively dipped a foot in, only to hastily withdraw in Ouch... it's so hot, Aunt Lenora!" Lenora grabbed a swim ring and slipped it over Harrietta, advising. "It always feels warm at the start. Dip. your feet in first and take your time to adjust. Be careful, okay?

"All right."

Lenora undressed, pulling out the swimsuit that was hidden beneath her bathrobe in the paper bag.

In that moment, she fell silent.

Ah! That detestable Zachary!

She knew it, there was no way Zachary could have kindly prepared a swimsuit for her!

The so-called swimsuit looked more like a set of provocative lingerie to her. It was a thong paired with a tie-up top that seemed like it would fall off with a single tug!

It seemed as if Harrietta hadn't noticed Lenora's speechlessness, and asked, "Aunt Lenora, why aren't you changing?"

Right now, Lenora really wanted to go out and throw these two pieces of clothing right in Zachary's face.

After some thought, she decided against it. Having already undressed, Lenora didn't want to go through. the process again. With a determined grit of her teeth, she slipped into her swimsuit and cautiously stepped into the hot spring pool. Harrietta had also grown accustomed to the heat of the hot spring water, and she was floating around in the pool with her swim ring.

Suddenly, Harrietta scooped up a small handful of water and splashed it onto Lenora's body.

Upon receiving Lenora's threatening gaze, she chuckled playfully, paddling her legs to put some distance

between them.

Lenora scooped up a large handful of water, splashing it toward Harrietta..

The two of them began to frolic.

After a while of commotion, both of them grew tired and rested by the poolside.

After getting out of the hot spring, Lenora dried her hands, took out her mobile phone, and then settled. hack into the warm waters.

Presumably, Connor had returned from Stanley's place. He messaged her, asking if she was soaking in a hot spring Lenora simply responded with a "Yes."

She was indeed soaking in a hot spring, just not in the public pool.

Connor replied, "Lenora, I can't join you for dinner tonight. We have a department gathering at work."

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+5 Free Coins

"It's all right, I can eat on my own. You should focus on building good relationships with your colleagues."

"Thank you, Lenora!"

Lenora put down her phone. Beside her, Harrietta wrapped her arms around hers and shook it gently. "Aunt Lenora," she pleaded, "I want to play on the iPad and have some snacks. Could you please get them for me?"

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Lenora turned to Harrietta, falling silent for a few seconds before asking. "Can you go without?"

Harrietta shook her head, blinked, and said, "I'm hungry."

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5 Free Coins

Left with no other choice, Lenora gently pinched her chubby belly, then stood up and exited the hot spring pool.

She first dried herself off with a towel, slipped into her bathrobe and secured the belt tightly. After a moment of hesitation, she opened the door and stepped out.

Zachary was seated in the living room, engrossed in the notebook before him. He appeared to be working diligently as he hadn't even looked up.

Lenora noticed the snacks on the sofa, strolled over to pick them up, and casually inquired, "Where's the

iPad?"

Zachary continued to gaze at the screen, paying her no mind.

Lenora frowned, stepping forward and waving her hand in front of Zachary. "Wake up, Zachary, where's the iPad? Hattie wants to play."

Zachary looked up. "The iPad is in the briefcase on my coat rack."

Lenora walked over and pulled out an iPad from his briefcase. Just then, he heard Zachary's voice from behind. "I apologize, my little niece can be quite mischievous...

She raised an eyebrow, iPad in hand, as she walked away. Over her shoulder, she casually remarked, "Zachary, you apologizing to me? That doesn't sound like you at all, does it?" Zachary looked at her and said, "I'm in the middle of a video conference."

Lenora's steps faltered, and her face froze.

Her lips moved, forming silent words. "Is that so?"

"Why would I deceive you?"

With a hint of doubt, Lenora walked over to take a look. Turned out, he really was in the middle of a video conference.

So, her hand-waving in front of Zachary earlier, as well as everything she said, had all been overheard?

Lenora's face flushed with embarrassment, the awkwardness was beyond measure. She quickly turned around and slipped away.

Unbeknownst to her, the corner of the table had snagged the sash of her bathrobe..

In her haste, her sash slipped to the floor, leaving her bathrobe wide open.

The stunning view was fully revealed, laid bare before Zachary's eyes.

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+5 Free Cons

Lenora paused, glancing down at the sash on the ground. When she looked up, she found herself meeting Zachary's deep, unblinking gaze, fixed intently on her.

"Ah!" She exclaimed, her thoughts abruptly shifting to the video conference. She quickly clamped her mouth shut, silently pleading. "Zachary, don't look!"

The snacks in her hand fell to the floor. In a flustered rush, Lenora clutched her chest, placed the iPad on the table, and bent over to pick up the fallen sash

Unexpectedly, Zachary had swiftly picked up the sash before anyone else could. He twirled it around his fingers nonchalantly, his gaze on Lenora profound and meaningful. He opened his mouth as if to speak, but no words came out. "You look stunning, this outfit really suits you!"

Lenora could make out his lip movements, she clutched the sides of her bathrobe, barely covering herself. She glared at Zachary, her mouth exaggeratedly forming the words. "Give me the sash."

Zachary shook his head, rising from the sofa, and quietly offered. "Let me do it for you."

Lenora took a step back, waving her hand. "No need! I'll do it myself!"

I'll help you." Zachary advanced, closing the distance between them.

The two communicated silently.

Lenora didn't want to continue this standoff with him. She glanced at him irritably, her hands crossed as she held onto her clothes. "Hurry up!" she commanded

Zachary's lips curled up into a smirk as he advanced with the sash in hand. Leaning forward, his lips brushed against Lenora's cool ear, both intentionally and unintentionally. His hands encircled Lenora's waist, threading the sash from behind and tying it into a bow at the front. As he was fastening the sash, he softly said, "The moment I laid eyes on this outfit, I immediately pictured how it would look on you...

"Freak!" Lenora muttered under her breath.

She took two steps back, creating some distance. With snacks and iPad in hand, she promptly dashed off toward the hot spring pool.

Watching her flee in disarray, Zachary couldn't help but let out a soft chuckle.

He settled back onto the couch, having already shut down the video conference on his computer.

When Harrietta saw Lenora return, she clambered up, humming. Wrapping herself in a bath towel, she asked, "Aunt Lenora, why did you only just get back?"

"I couldn't find the iPad earlier," Lenora said nonchalantly.

Harrietta settled herself by the poolside, her feet dipping into the water. She was engrossed in an animated show on her iPad, munching on snacks placed beside her. She was in a state of utter contentment.

After spending half the afternoon soaking in the hot springs, Harrietta had had enough. Wrapped in a bath

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towel with a tablet in hand, she walked out.

Lenora was left standing by the pool, torn between decisions.

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Fresh from a soak in the hot spring, she felt utterly refreshed and didn't really want to put her clothes back on right away.

However, if she were to venture out in her bathrobe, she was worried that Zachary, the deviant, might be scheming to tease her again. Lenora had changed her clothes, only to realize upon leaving that Zachary was not in the living room. It appeared that he had stepped out All right then.

Lenora tossed her bathrobe into the laundry bin, knowing that the housekeeping staff would collect it for cleaning and disinfection.

As for the swimsuit. Lenora gave it a disdainful glance before tossing it directly into the trash bin.

When it was time for dinner, Zachary returned from outside, carrying dinner for three in his hands.

He noticed that Lenora had already changed back into her own clothes, but he didn't say anything

The trio managed to finish their dinner in relative harmony.

Harrietta was starting to feel drowsy, her eyelids were fighting to stay open. She nestled her head into Lenora's comforting embrace and mumbled, "Aunt Lenora, I want to sleep with you." Zachary suggested, "Why don't you sleep with Hattie tonight?"

The suite consisted of two bedrooms and a living room, with each bedroom having its own entrance and the option to lock from the inside.

With Harrietta around, Lenora wasn't worried about what Zachary might do.

She agreed.

After coaxing Harrietta to wash up, Lenora accompanied her back to the bedroom.

Once Harrietta had fallen asleep, she sat up, leaning against the headboard and began to play on her phone.

Connor asked her if she had eaten, to which Lenora replied: I have. What about you guys?

Connor sent an emoji with a wry smile: They're eating. But I noticed they're not using their fork, just drinking. I feel like I can't escape.... Lenora: Drink less, it's not good for your health. If you can't, just find an excuse to sneak away.

Connor: Okay.

About an hour had passed when Lenora sent another message to Connor: Have you finished eating?

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Connor: I'm not done yet... There's still a game later, and I'm not sure when it'll end Lenora, you go ahead and sleep first, see you tomorrow. Lenora: All right, see you tomorrote",

Lenora made a brief appearance in the photography class group chat before setting her phone aside to sleep.

She had a dreamless night.

The following morning, after freshening up, she returned to her room.

Connor would probably invite her for breakfast, she couldn't let him know she was at Zachary's place.

As she was about to leave, for some inexplicable reason, she glanced at the trash bin.

The inside was completely empty.

It must have been the cleaning staff who emptied the trash can

Lenora returned to her room and was just about to push the door open when it swung open from the inside, revealing a man and a woman.

F YOU

The woman was Connor's female colleague. She greeted Lenora with a warm and casual smile. "Have had breakfast yet?"

The man must be her boyfriend. Seeing that Lenora wasn't around last night, he took the opportunity to come over and spend the night with her. "Not yet."

"Shall we go together?"

Lenora knew she was just being polite, so she declined with a smile. "No need, I'll be with Connor."

"Then we'll be going first."

After the two had left, Lenora returned to her room and changed. She then sent a message to Connor: Are you up yet?

For a long while, there was no response.

Lenora tried calling Connor, but no one answered.

Could it be that he drank too much last night and hadn't fully woken up yet?

Lenora personally went to Connor's room, knocked on the door a few times, but there was no response from inside.

She tried knocking few more times. "Connor? Connor

There was still no response,

Lenora dialed Connor's number again, and just when she thought the call was about to disconnect

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automatically, it finally got through.

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The voice of Connor from the other end of the line was hoarse and drowsy, as if he had just woken up. "Hello, Lenora?" Lenora was just about to speak when suddenly, a woman's shrill scream echoed from the receiver. "Ah!"

Suddenly, chaos erupted on the other end of the phone line.

Lenora vaguely heard the woman say, "Connor, what are you doing in my room..."

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