

## Still Loving You Nonetheless by Snow de Eira Chapter 371

### Chapter 371 “You...”

“Miss Quinley, it doesn’t matter if you were really drunk or you were faking it, but I am deeply disappointed by your performance tonight. It’s neither interesting nor exciting, it’s just boring.”

“Mister Josial, I...”

“Miss Quinley,” Josiah cut her off and said bluntly, “I need to correct you on one thing. Even if Meredith’s face is scarred, and even if she’s mentally unstable, she is still a hundred times better than you.”

Quinley did not expect that she would be humiliated for offering herself to him. She knew how she would end up if she did what Maeve did back then – insisting on him to leave Meredith and claiming to be much better than Meredith. Hence she tampered down on her urge to defend herself. For the sake of not provoking Josiah further, Quinley decided to continue pretending to be drunk.

Sitting on the ground, she held onto the car door and nodded her head frantically. “You’re absolutely right, Mister Josiah...no matter how Meredith turns out to be, she is still the best. I am supposedly her best friend...how could I possibly have such negative thoughts?”

She lifted her head and stared at the man in front of her. “I’m sorry, Mister Josiah. I should have known better where I stand. It was presumptuous of me to think that you were only using Meredith and that I could be the one to replace her in your heart.

“I am really sorry. I promise that this will never happen again, I promise...”

Josiah loosened the tie around his neck frustratedly and bellowed at Walter who was looking at them, mouth and eyes wide open, “What are you doing standing here? Get in and get the car started!”

“Ah, yes, yes, Sir.” Walter was startled when he saw Josiah pushing Quinley out of the car violently. He jolted back to his senses at Josiah’s angry shouts. Stuffing the box of aspirin and water bottle to Quinley who looked scuffled, Walter removed her hands that were grabbing onto the car door.

He then hurriedly got into the driver’s seat, started the engine, and drove away.

It was until the car was out of her sight that Quinley slowly got herself off the ground.

She was furious, of course, yet at the same time felt small.

After all, Quinley too grew up receiving a lot of love and adoration from others. This was the first time that she made the first move to a guy but she ended up being left on the streets.

It was, of course, humiliating for her.

And Josiah was the only man who could do this to her,

Quinley tried to come up with reasons as to why Josiah would reject her without any hesitation.

The more she thought about it, the more she got enraged. She then reached for her phone and dialed Maeve's number.

After a while of driving, Walter asked carefully, "Sir, are you okay?" "Not really," Josiah replied flatly. Walter suddenly did not know what to say.

He simply murmured under his breath, "I mean, why are all these ladies throwing themselves at you when there are so many other men out there?"

Josiah did not say anything.

Walter then added, "But Sir, is it alright for us to leave Miss Quinley all by herself at the roadside?"

"Why should I care if anything happens to her?"

Indeed, Josiah was the coldest and most ruthless person on earth. Walter finally stopped talking. As soon as the car pulled over at the mansion, Josiah got out of the car and strode up the stairs right away.

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**Chapter 372** He walked into the bedroom to see Meredith who was scrolling on the internet using a tablet. He caught a glimpse of the keyword in the search bar and he realized that Meredith was trying to gather information about her past. "You're home, Joe," Meredith pressed the tablet against her chest, looked at him and asked, "were you drinking? You reek of alcohol."

"Mm, just a little."

Josiah

sat down on the couch, lifted Meredith onto his lap, took the tablet from her hands, put it aside, and started kissing her.

“Did you miss me?” He asked.

Meredith felt confused again. His movements were so natural as if they were a happily married couple.

Meredith wondered if Josiah’s love for her was real.

But at the thought of Yena who was laying in the hospital bed, Meredith shook away her thoughts. “Joe, there’s a strong perfume smell on you,” Meredith said, leaning into his arms.

Josiah kissed the top of her head and said, “I was seduced by a witch in the car earlier. That’s how I got the perfume smell on me. I’ll take a shower to get rid of it.” “Witch? Who is it?” Meredith asked.

“Someone that I know. She wanted to seduce me.”

“Oh.”

Josiah stared at her dazed face and said, “Aren’t you angry that she’s trying to steal your husband?”

“She wants to steal you from me? of course I’ll be mad,” Meredith wrapped her arms around his shoulders and went on, “Joe, you promised that you won’t get close with other women, and I too promised that I’ll do the same.” “I did. And that is why I threw her out of the car.” “Really? So you guys did not get intimate?” “Of course not, but...”

Josiah did not finish his sentence which got Meredith curious. “But what?”

He smiled and said, “But she had incited something in me and I need your help to put out the fire.”

With a dazed and confused look on her face, Meredith was clueless as to what he meant. It was when Josiah placed her hand on ‘that part of his that Meredith finally realized what he meant.

Even though she was mentally unstable, Josiah had been making love to her and Meredith knew that he would have his urges. It was as if when she lost her memories, she had also forgotten the feelings of embarrassment. She climbed onto his body and started to help him relieve his urges.

Josiah thought that the Meredith right now was similar to the Meredith that he knew five years ago and it was her assertiveness that made him attracted to her.

Josiah admitted that he was not some saint and he was trying hard to hold back his urges after being seduced by Quinley.

He was glad that he had someone at home to help him put out the 'fire' in him. Josiah immediately got into the mood and flipped Meredith over on the couch so that he was above her.

Meredith was wide awake after reading the articles online but after being 'tormented' by Josiah, she was knocked out immediately.

Staring at Meredith who was all curled up in his arms, Josiah placed a gentle kiss on her forehead before heading into the shower. It was the weekend the next morning.

Meredith had just woken up and vaguely heard Josiah conversing on the phone at the terrace.

She turned around in bed and tried to make out what Josiah was discussing on the phone. She soon realized that Josiah was making plans for a vacation.

Shortly after, Josiah ended the call and returned to the bedroom.

"You're up?" Josiah's expression softened as he walked toward her, leaned over and kissed her forehead. "Morning."

"Morning, Joe." Meredith placed her hand on his face.

From where he was standing, Meredith thought that Josiah looked more gorgeous and alluring than before. "Joe, you look amazing." Meredith could not help but praise him.

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Chapter 373 "You really think so? Seems like you still like me?" Meredith, before she lost her memories, had lost all of her feelings for him.

Not only did she resent him, she even nearly tried to kill him.

"Of course," Meredith nodded, "who wouldn't like a good man like you? Now I know why the witch wants to snatch you away from me." "So you do remember what happened last night." "Of course." Meredith

nodded. "Was that why you were giving your best last night?" Josiah chuckled. Meredith smiled embarrassedly, "Well who do you think is better? Me or that witch?"

"Hmm...I'm not sure."

Meredith pursed her lips. It was obvious that she was not satisfied with the answer.

"Have you forgotten what I said last night? I left that woman by the roadside. There is no way that I'd compare you to her."

"Oh," Meredith pulled into a wide grin and went on, "so you like me and not that lady?" "Of course," Josiah pressed his lips against hers and added, "let's get ready and have breakfast together?"

"Okay," Meredith nodded, wrapped her hands around his shoulders and said, "wait, Joe."

"What's wrong?" "Are you going away for work again?" Meredith asked.

Ever since she lost her memories, Meredith had gotten used to having him around and she was used to seeing him everyday.

She did not like the feeling of not being able to see him.

Josiah was rather pleased to know that Meredith was clingy with him. At least he knew that he was someone important to Meredith.

"Not really. But the resort developed by the Shelby Group is opening for business soon. They might need me there." Josiah pinched his cheeks gently and added, "But if you don't want me to go, I can stay and have Wesley and Joseph go in my stead." "Is the resort far?" Meredith asked. "Not really. It's in Durham City." "Is it fun?"

"It's a resort by the sea. Should be fun."

"Can I go with you?" Meredith asked with a look of expectancy on her face. "Do you want to?" Josiah was slightly startled.

Meredith nodded. "Can I?"

Josiah did not really want her to leave the house as everytime she left, something would happen.

But upon seeing how Meredith looked excited and expectant, Josiah could not bring himself to reject her.

“Edith, the resort is already open for business and there will be quite a crowd. Will you be alright?” Meredith looked at him and replied, bitterly, “Joe, you’re the one who’s worried, right? You don’t want anyone to come in contact with me because you don’t want me to be reminded of the past. I understand where you’re coming from and I know that you’re only doing this for my sake.

“But, I don’t want to end up like a criminal, locked up in the house. I too want to be like the others, make friends like a normal person and spend my days like a normal person.” Josiah simply looked at her as he felt even more conflicted. He thought that Meredith would not be overthinking things as she was mentally unstable. But he was wrong. It was no wonder that she would secretly run to the hospital to visit Yena. Josiah was relieved that Meredith did not regain her memories, if not things would get risky. “Do you really want to go?” “Yes.” “Okay, we’ll go together.” Josiah agreed. “Really?” Meredith pulled into a wide grin and kissed him on his cheeks. “Thanks, Joe. You’re the best.”

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Chapter 374 Josiah said, “But I need you to promise me that you’d be well-behaved and you won’t run away as you did before.” “Okay, I promise.”

“We’ll leave in a bit then.”

“Mm okay,” Meredith nodded happily and got up from the bed and asked, “Joe, are we going to stay there? How many days will we be staying? Do I need to pack anything?” “It’s up to you.” “I want to spend a few nights there!” Meredith rushed into her walk-in closet and started picking out clothes that she liked. “I should pack several nice outfits!”

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Josiah walked over to her and wrapped his arms around her waist from behind. Staring at the white dress in her hands, he said, “It might get a little cold and the ocean breeze might be strong. This dress might be too thin for you.”

“I can wear a coat,” Meredith pulled out a knitted coat and said, “this will do, right?”

“This one seems better.” Josiah picked out a khaki-colored trench coat. “This should do a better job in keeping you warm.”

Meredith frowned. “I don’t want this. This won’t go well with my white dress.”

“What about this one?” Josiah pointed to another dark-colored trench coat.

“But I still prefer this one.” Meredith insisted on wearing the knitted coat.

Josiah had no other choice but to leave her be.

Durham City was not located too far from the Shelby mansion. It took roughly an hour’s drive to reach. It was not crowded at the resort as it had just recently opened and Josiah had given orders to the servants to keep an eye on Meredith.

Because Jenny had not been taking good care of Meredith, Josiah did not bring Jenny a long for this trip but brought along two young servants instead.

After settling down in the resort, Josiah got ready for a meeting.

Before he left, he looked at Meredith who was on the balcony, and walked toward her. From what she remembered, this was the first time she was on a vacation and the first time she had seen such a picturesque scene. Meredith was in the middle of taking pictures.

Meredith, who wore a long white dress, looked especially like a fairy, glistening under the sun.

“Edith, I’m stepping out for a moment. Be good while I’m gone,” Josiah said to her.

Meredith turned around and said to him, “Are you going to the meeting?”

“Yes and I’ll be back within an hour.”

“If so, can I take a stroll by the beach?” Meredith pointed to the two servants and said, “I’ll

bring Yuna along.”

Josiah hesitated and said, “I’ll go with you once I’m back. You can get something to eat downstairs and take a stroll in the garden.”

“Why?” Meredith was disappointed. “Why can’t I take a walk by the beach?”

“Because I want to go with you.” Josiah walked over to her, pulled her into a hug, and kissed her. “What’s the point of going to the beach with Yuna? It’s not romantic at all.”

Meredith turned to look at the ocean and thought that Josiah was right. “Alright, I’ll wait till you come back then.”

“That’s my girl,” Josiah kissed her forehead and added, “my girl is the best.”

Meredith pushed him away gently. "Go on and get to your meeting. Come back to me as soon as you're done with the meeting."

"Seems like I have to take back what I said."

Josiah chuckled and put his face close to Meredith. "Give me a kiss before I go."

Meredith planted a kiss on his cheeks.

It was only then Josiah was willing to go. After Josiah left, Meredith went downstairs to get some food to eat.

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Chapter 375 Yuna who was following Meredith closely noticed that Meredith could not decide on what to eat and asked politely, "Ma'am, is there nothing that you would like to eat from here? Sir mentioned that we can have the kitchen cook up something else for you if you'd like." "I'm not hungry." Meredith noticed an iced tea shop opposite the street and said to Yuna, "Yuna, can I have some iced tea instead?"

"Iced tea? But Sir mentioned that you'd find it hard to sleep at night if you have iced tea. It's not good for you either." "It's okay. We can drink it and not let Josiah know." Meredith then charged toward the iced tea shop

"But...malam, you're not allowed to leave the resort." Yuna caught up to her urgently.

Meredith put a finger to her lips and made a hush signal and said, "Don't worry, I'll be right back as soon as I get one iced tea. I won't stay out for too long."

"But..."

"Yuna!" Meredith patted Yuna on her shoulders and assured her, "Don't worry. Joe is not here. So just do as I say."

Yuna was put in a very difficult position.

But seeing how Meredith was determined to get the iced tea, Yuna had no other choice but to accompany Meredith to the iced tea shop.

The iced tea shop was a cozy cafe with a lot of drinks to choose from.

Meredith chose an original iced tea and ordered a dessert for Yuna. They then sat at a table until their orders were served.

As soon as their iced tea and dessert were served, Yuna immediately wanted to leave the shop with Meredith.

Because they were in a rush, Meredith nearly bumped into a lady who was entering the shop.

She stood aside to make room. "Sorry."

"It's fine." The lady too stood aside to make room. The lady suddenly let out a soft gasp as she called out to Meredith, "Mrs. Shelby?"

Meredith looked at the lady with a puzzled look on her face. "Have we met before?"

The lady smiled embarrassedly. "I must say that you have a good memory. Sorry to bring this up again but I was the one who accidentally bumped into you the other day at the dinner party.

"Ah, I see," Meredith shrugged, "don't worry about it. It's nothing serious anyway." "Thank you, Mrs. Shelby," Sharon was staring at Meredith, looking a bit hesitant as she went on, "there's something that I'm not sure if I..." "My apologies, Miss," Yuna immediately interrupted Sharon, "Ma'am is feeling a bit tired and we need to head back soon. Please excuse us."

Yuna then said to Meredith, "Ma'am, we should get going now. The dessert and drinks won't taste as nice if we don't finish them soon."

Josiah had given orders and reminded Yuna and the rest of the servants to keep an eye on Meredith so that she would not be in contact with people, especially with people that she knew previously

Meredith ignored

Yuna, looked at Sharon, and asked, "What is it that you wanted to tell me?"

Sharon caught a glimpse of Yuna's expression and quickly swallowed down the words that she wanted to tell Meredith.

Sharon pulled into a wide grin and corrected herself, "Oh, it's nothing. I just wanted to say that you are one of the kindest people that I've ever met. Thank you for taking my side the other night."

Meredith was expecting that Sharon would tell her about her past, just like how Maeve did.

Meredith was slightly disappointed.

"It's really nothing. I'll take my leave now." "Sure, see you around."

On their way back to the resort, Meredith was bothered by what Sharon was actually trying to tell her.

Because Meredith desperately needed someone to tell her about her past.

But for some reason, everyone around her was trying to keep her away from knowing about her past.

While Meredith was sipping on the iced tea, Josiah had returned earlier than expected from his meeting

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Chapter 376

His face darkened a little at the sight of the cup of iced tea in her hands. "Who bought the iced tea?"

The two servants immediately lowered their heads to avoid Josiah's sharp gaze. Neither of them dared to utter a word.

Meredith turned around and stood up for them." Joe, don't be mad at them. I was the one who forced them to buy it for me."

Josiah's expression softened a little. Sitting down next to her, he said, "Didn't I say not to drink so much of these sugary drinks? Why is it that you never listen to me?"

"But it tastes so good," Meredith passed the iced tea to him, "here, try it for yourself."

Josiah shook his head. "I'll pass. I don't like iced tea."

"Try it for me, hmm?" Meredith placed the straw closer to his lips and tried to convince him, "This shop is famous for their iced tea. It tastes really really delicious."

In the end, Josiah took a sip of the iced tea.

"So? How is it?" Meredith asked expectantly.

"Not bad." Josiah was not at all interested in drinks like this but for the sake of Meredith, he nodded and agreed with his wife.

“Told you so,” Meredith then urged him again, “here, try more of this, Joe.”

Josiah took another two sips and put down the cup on the table. “There now. That’s enough tea for today. I’m worried that you won’t be able to sleep tonight.”

Meredith pursed her lips and sulked, “Coffee does the same to you too, isn’t it? And I see that

you still drink coffee every day.”

“I need coffee to concentrate so that I can work better.”

“Coffee is not good for your health either.”

“You really want to finish the iced tea, don’t you?” Josiah smiled helplessly and put the cup back into her hands. “Alright, drink it then. Don’t come complaining to me if you can’t sleep at night.”

“Don’t worry, I won’t.” Meredith took a sip of the iced tea and was back in a good mood.

“You’re so easy to please these days.

“Just one cup of iced tea and look at you, wearing that big smile on your face.” “What do you mean?” “Nothing. I’m just happy to see you this way and I hope that it’ll be like this forever.” Josiah patted her on the top of her head. He hoped that Meredith would be able to stay happy and keep herself away from those feelings of resentment and hatred.

“Aren’t we supposed to take a stroll by the beach? Let’s go.” Josiah changed the subject.

“Now?”

“We’ll eat first before going.”

“Okay, give me a moment then.” Meredith put down the cup of iced tea and walked into the room.

She put on a sun hat and brought along a small basket with her. “What’s the basket for?” Josiah was puzzled. “I heard that there’ll be seashells on the beach. I want to collect some of the sea shells and try to catch a few crabs.” Even though Josiah found those childish, seeing how Meredith was excited, he agreed to her suggestions in the end. “I’ll hold it for you.” He reached out and took the basket in his hand. It was not crowded at the beach. Meredith had her arms linked with Josiah’s as they strolled alongside the beach. Feeling the soft sand underneath her f

et, Meredith felt at ease. Staring at her eyes which were full of smiles, Josiah thought that girls enjoy doing things like this.

Meredith let go of his arms and ran toward a seashell that was laying amongst the sand. She picked it up and showed it to Josiah. "Look at this, Joe." Josiah took a look at the seashell and smiled. "There are a lot prettier seashells in those shops right there. If you want, we could get some." "Really? Do they have a lot?"

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Chapter 377 "Yeah, most of the seashells that they have been from the sea. That's why they have a lot more different types of seashells." "But it's different, isn't it? Buying the seashells and picking them by ourselves? I only like the ones that I collected and..." Meredith raised her arm with the seashell in her hand and smiled while she said, "and the ones that you pick for me."

Josiah too pulled into a smile. "Alright. Forget about buying them, I'll collect the seashells with you."

"Make sure to keep your eyes wide open." "I'll try my best."

"Oh, I see one over there." Meredith started running toward where the seashell was.

The resort was facing the sea and even though Josiah and Meredith looked small from where Maeve was standing, she was able to spot both of them.

Maeve, who was standing on the balcony in one of the rooms of the resort, had her hands gripped tightly around the railing of the balcony till her knuckles turned white. It was as if she wanted to tear the railing into pieces.

Maeve resented the fact that Meredith was still the apple of Josiah's eyes but she fell into the ruts in just one night.

And of course, Maeve refused to accept the reality.

Besides, she was able to earn some quick cash.

Her phone started ringing. Taking a glimpse of the caller ID, Maeve immediately answered the call. "Miss Quinley, I saw Josiah and Meredith. But I don't think that they are only putting on a show as you claimed."

"How would you even know if they are putting on a show or not?" Quinley laughed, "From how I see it, Josiah is simply putting on a show, bringing Meredith on a vacation together so that the paparazzi could take pictures of them."

“Yeah? You can keep thinking that way if that makes you feel better.”

“Maeve, what are you planning to do?”

“Transfer five million dollars to my account and I’ll tell you what’s my plan.”

“You—”

“Miss Quinley, let’s rewind, should we? You’re planning to use me to get rid of Meredith so that you can have Josiah to yourself, am I right?” Maeve scoffed and went on, “But how do you expect Josiah to fall for you – someone who is both arrogant and ignorant? Don’t you think that you need to spend some money to make your dream come true?” Quinley was choking with rage. “Oh Maeve, please. The pot is calling the kettle black. Don’t tell me that you don’t feel the same for Josiah too.”

“Who wouldn’t admire such an extraordinary man like Josiah? Of course, I admire him too. But

I am not as arrogant and ambitious as you.”

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“Pft, you know no one is going to believe what you say, right?” “Whatever you think. But you’re on your own if I don’t get the money by the end of today.” “Didn’t I just transfer you one million last night? And you’re asking for five million now? Do you think that I’m your ATM?” Quinley seethed. Quinley did not expect that Maeve would be this greedy. “Miss Quinley, let me kindly remind you that I only ended up where I am today because of you,” Maeve hissed, “and one more thing, even if you give me another five million, I will never forgive you.” Quinley felt rather guilty. But at the thought that they already had bad blood, Quinley shook off the remaining guilt that she felt for Maeve. “I’ll transfer it to you when you get rid of Meredith.”

“I want it now.”

Even if she was in the ruts, Maeve thought that at least she was able to squeeze money out of Quinley. Both ill-intentioned women were actually on the same frequency.

To provoke Quinley, Maeve purposely sent a video of Josiah and Meredith who was on the beach collecting seashells to her. Indeed, Quinley could not stand it and immediately send a message to Maeve. (I will make the transfer tomorrow. But this will be that last time.) Maeve read the message and suddenly realized that compared to Meredith, Quinley was way more despicable. Maeve then replied, [Fret not. I will not let you nor Meredith off the hook that easily.]

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Chapter 378 Irritation pricked at Quinley so she replied, (Jokes. What can someone like you who is in the ruts do anything to me? Take my advice, won't you? Get the job done, take my money, and go enjoy your life.) After picking up several seashells, Meredith sat down on a rock to take a break. She patted the space next to her, signaling Josiah to sit down next to her.

"Mrs. Shelby, aren't you a little too weak?" Josiah sat down next to her and added, "You should do more exercises."

"Well, you'd need to let me go out of the house for me to do that." Meredith's words pricked at Josiah as he felt a wave of guilt crashing into him.

"Edith, you know I'm only trying to protect you."

"I know, Joe." She leaned in closer to him and kissed him on the cheeks. She then started admiring the seashell collection in her basket.

Seeing how she was careful with the seashells, Josiah was confused. "Are you planning to keep them all?"

"Yeah. I want to pick some of the prettiest ones to make a bracelet," Meredith put a seashell on her hand and showed it to Josiah, asking, "what do you think about this one? Do you think it's pretty?" "It's nice." "I want to string them together into a bracelet." "I saw a shop earlier that offers this service. I'll bring you there later," said Josiah.

"Okay."

As time went by, the temperature at the beach started to drop gradually. Josiah removed his trench coat and put it over Meredith's shoulders. He then took her hands in his and said, "Let's go now. It's time to head in." Meredith took a glance at the navy-colored trench coat on her, frowned and complained, "It's ugly. I don't want to wear it." "Keep it on. I don't want you to catch a cold." "I won't. And I don't feel cold at all."

"Meredith Leighton, do you still want to stay here at the resort? If so, then keep the coat on." Josiah placed a kiss on her pouty lips. "You can't stay here if you catch a cold."

It was only then did Meredith give in. "Come on now. Let's go make the bracelets." Josiah pulled her into his arms. "I want to make two of them."

"You can make three if you want."

It was when they arrived at the accessory shop that Josiah realized why Meredith wanted to make two of the bracelets.

Staring at the bracelet on his wrist, Josiah cleared his throat awkwardly, "Edith, can I not wear this? People are going to laugh at me."

"Who's going to laugh at you?" Meredith adjusted the bracelet around his wrist and scanned their surroundings. "See, no one is laughing at you."

People were simply staring at them with looks of admiration and jealousy.

To the rest, it was a lovely and heart-warming scene, especially when Josiah was so good looking "There now." Meredith raised his hand and asked, "So? It's as pretty as mine, right?" Josiah looked at his wrist then at Meredith's, nodded and said, "Mm, it's nice." "Let's keep it on our wrists, okay?"

"Alright," Josiah responded. Under the numerous jealous stares, Josiah and Meredith left the shop, hand in hand. At night, Meredith was admiring the bracelets. The more she looked at them, the more she liked them.

Josiah had just gotten out of the shower. Seeing how she was still staring at the bracelets, he asked, puzzled, "Do you like them that much?" "Of course," Meredith nodded and explained, "we picked out the seashells together. Of course I'd love them." "Make sure to keep them nicely then." Josiah got into bed, leaned against the headboard and patted the space next to him. "Let's go to bed, shall we? It's getting late." Without even looking at him, Meredith answered, "I'm not sleepy yet. You can sleep first." "You're not sleepy? But it's already so late. You didn't even take a nap at noon." "But I'm not sleepy."

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Chapter 379 Josiah got down from the bed, walked over to her, and said, "That was why I didn't allow you to drink that tea earlier. Look at you, not feeling sleepy at all."

He picked her up in his arms and placed her down on the bed. "Try to get some sleep even if you're not feeling sleepy." Meredith replied with a soft grunt.

"Give me the bracelets." Josiah reached out his hand to her.

"Why?"

"So that I can put them on the desk."

Meredith handed the bracelets to him.

Even without the bracelets, Meredith still did not feel sleepy. She was turning around in his arms.

Josiah, on the other hand, was feeling rather sleepy as he had spent an entire evening collecting seashells with her.

Josiah fell asleep shortly after.

Meredith was bored so she turned to the other side of the bed and stared at the view outside the windows.

It was dark outside but the lights from the light tower lit up the sea. The scenery was like a painting

“It’s so pretty…” Meredith murmured softly under her breath. Looking over at Josiah who was already asleep, she complained, “What a waste, you’re missing out on such a beautiful night scene.”

Meredith then shut her eyes, trying to go to sleep. But she just did not feel sleepy. So she started ‘harassing’ the man sleeping next to her. Poking Josiah’s cheeks with her fingers, she called out to him softly, “Joe, wake up. Talk to me, will you?”

Josiah was in the middle of sleeping. He turned to the other side when Meredith started ‘harassing’ him.

Meredith did not give up and continued calling out to him, “Joe? Joe, wake up.” When he turned in the bed, his night robe came loose slightly, revealing his chest.

The scar on his chest caught Meredith’s attention. She traced her fingers along the scar.

There were two scars and they were close to each other.

She had seen the scars before but she did not think much about it,

Meredith was suddenly reminded of what she read online, about how she and Josiah had a love

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hate relationship. She wondered if the scars had anything to do with her. This was also the first time she was curious about how Josiah ended up with these scars.

Just when she was lost in her own thoughts, her hand was grabbed by Josiah. Meredith was slightly stunned. At the sight that Josiah was now awake, she pulled into a smile, “You’re awake, Joe?”

Josiah pulled her in closer to him, grabbed her chin, and stared at her intently. "You don't feel like sleeping, do you? If that's the case, let's do it then."

"Do what?" Meredith looked dazed.

"Make love."

With a tug, Josiah was now on top of her, staring down at her. "You insisted on drinking tea when I didn't allow you to do so. And now you're harassing me when you can't sleep, hmm?" "It's not like that," Meredith shook her head as she traced her fingers across the scars on his chest, and asked, "Joe, I'm a bit curious as to how you got these scars. They look painful." Josiah looked at the scar he got from the stab wound and glossed over it, "It's nothing. I got it when I was younger."

"But how?"

"Knives."

Meredith inhaled sharply, "It must be really painful then. You should've been more careful, Joe."

"It was a careless mistake," He added.

"But," Meredith studied the scars carefully and added, "why are there two scars then? Seems to me that you got these scars at a different time."

She pointed to one of the scars and said, "It seems like you got this one first." She then pointed to the second scar. "This one seems recent." Frowning, she asked, "How could it be that you got injured at the same place?"

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The tips of her fingers were slightly cold as they moved up and down his chest. Inhaling sharply, a fire lit up in Josiah's chest as he was provoked. Sighing softly, he said, "Yeah, I am that careless. I didn't learn my lesson when I was injured the first time and that was why I was hurt the second time.

ISE

"Mrs. Shelby, are we done now?" His voice turned hoarse and low. But Meredith's thoughts still lingered around how Josiah ended up with the scars. She then said solemnly, "Promise me that you'll be careful next time. I don't want you to get hurt again.

"Mm, I promise." He then pulled her hand away that was on his chest, put it to his lips, and kissed them. "I promise that I won't be that stupid next time..." He would not hurt her anymore. He would not let her hate and despise him to the point that she wanted to stab him.

Again and again. "That's my man," Meredith smiled. Josiah pressed his lips against hers. "Mm, let's start then." Even though Meredith was not sleepy, she did not feel like doing it. They had been going at it every night and Meredith was a little tired. "Why?" Meredith was confused. "Joe, don't you get tired from doing it every night?" "Because you don't feel sleepy," Josiah said as he tried to get her into the mood, "you'll get sleepy once you feel tired." In the end, Meredith gave in to his provocation easily.

Even though they were going at it every night, she was happy. And she enjoyed doing it with him.

Indeed, the plan worked. After an hour, Josiah looked at Meredith who was in his arms and could not keep her eyes open. He leaned into her ear and teased, "Edith, didn't you say that you weren't sleepy? I thought you wanted to talk?" Meredith pushed away his face and grumbled, "Nah. I want to sleep now."

"But I'm wide awake now."

"Joe, stop it..."

Josiah could not help but burst into laughter. She was the one who woke him up earlier, and now their roles had changed. But he could not bring himself to annoy her. He simply kissed her forehead and whispered, "Goodnight. Tomorrow is a brand new day." He hoped that she would never get back her memories.

Forever

Meredith slept in the next day. When she woke up, she felt slightly uncomfortable in the unfamiliar surroundings. But at the smell of the sea, Meredith realized that she was having a vacation at the resort. She turned to look at Josiah to find that he was not in bed. Josiah had always woken up earlier than her.

"Joe..." She called out to him but did not get any response from him. She reached for her phone and called him. Her call was answered very quickly. On the other end of the call was a gentle voice asking, "You're awake?" "Mm, where are you?" "I'm making breakfast downstairs. Come down when you're ready." "You're preparing breakfast?" Meredith found it a bit hard to believe.

"It's nothing big. I'm sure I'm not as good as you." Josiah sounded a bit busy. "Alright, I'll see you in a bit. The toasts are going to get burnt." Meredith could not help but slip out a chuckle.

After ending the call, Meredith did not head downstairs right away. She got off the bed and pulled open the curtains.

The vast and open sea underneath the clear blue skies welcomed her. It was a breathtaking scene.

Closing her eyes, Meredith tried to feel the ocean breeze and warm sunlight on her face. Almost immediately, she felt at ease and at peace. After enjoying her time on the terrace, Meredith took a shower before heading downstairs.