

The Mbahsb 241

[Chapter 241](#)

However, even though she disliked them, Charis knew she had to give Fiona and Jocelyn some hope.

Fiona rubbed her fingers awkwardly and said, "I'm sorry, Miss Turner. Ignore my words."

"Mrs. Lind, please? I didn't mean that I don't like Jocelyn. To be honest, my father has dated a lot of women in the past. But they were all gold-diggers. However, Jocelyn is the only one I liked. She is genuine and likes my dad for who he is and not his money." Charis continued to flatter them, hoping they would take the bait.

Her words ignited a spark of hope in Fiona's heart.

"What do you mean, Miss Turner?" Fiona and Jocelyn exchanged glances. They were on an emotional rollercoaster.

"My father had stopped loving my mother a long time ago; their marriage is already dead. In fact, I'd be doing them a favor by helping them find true love." Charis sighed dramatically. She knew this was what Fiona hoped to hear from her.

"My father likes you a lot." She smiled at Jocelyn. "You have been with him for a while, right? I have never seen him be this happy with any woman before. It was he who asked me to visit you and see if you were okay."

Both Fiona and Jocelyn couldn't contain their excitement. They looked at each other, grinning.

"Mr. Turner has seldom mentioned his family to me. He would always avoid the topic every time I asked about it. After a while, he grew impatient. Besides, he never takes me to important occasions. It made me think he doesn't like me." A smile finally appeared on Jocelyn's face.

Luke had been an enigma, and she had always struggled to find out what was going on in his mind. However, Charis's words gave her a sense of assurance. She had been with Luke for a long time.

Every time they met, Luke would take her to some fancy restaurant and then to a hotel as if it were a mandatory procedure.

The two had been dating for months now. But Jocelyn still knew nothing about the Turner family. She had concluded that Luke regarded her as a plaything to satisfy his needs.

"My father is a reserved man. He doesn't like people questioning him and never expresses his feelings. Only his actions prove how much he likes someone. He has been doing business for years. You know how businessmen are; they are used to masking their true emotions. If someone finds out how much he cares about you, they might use that to hurt him, right?" Charis exaggerated to convince the two.

She was as cunning as her father and was good at making up stories.

"I think you have a point." Jocelyn lowered her head, trying to suppress her smile. She believed Charis's words and began fantasizing about becoming the new Mrs. Turner.

Fiona seemed equally happy. She held Charis's hand, her face bright with delight. "That's great. When Jocelyn marries your father someday, you two can look out for each other."

Fiona herself used to be the other woman. She believed that all men were weak, and it was easy to seduce them.

"Mrs. Lind, there is no rush. Marriage is a long-term commitment. It requires a lot of planning." Charis forced a smile. But deep down, she was disgusted by their greed.

"I agree." Fiona nodded in understanding. There was indeed no rush. They had to take it slow.

She felt a rush of anger at the miserable sight of her daughter lying on the bed. "I want to take revenge on Janet. She has to pay the price for hurting Jocelyn."

[Chapter 242](#)

Seeing that Fiona was agitated, Charis thought for a while and said, "Janet is a cunning woman. You must be careful, or she will hurt you instead."

"My daughter is just a rookie when it comes to all these. She didn't know what Janet was capable of doing. But don't worry, Miss Turner. We will chart a perfect plan before taking action. We won't fail this time." Fiona's eyes glinted with malice.

After a moment's pause, she looked at Charis. The anger on her face disappeared in an instant. "Miss Turner, Janet also works in the Larson Group." She smiled. "You are in a higher position than her. I wonder if you could help us out when the day comes?"

Fiona could tell that Charis didn't like Janet either.

Charis pursed her lips and mulled it over.

She wanted to use Jocelyn and Fiona to fulfill her plan so that she didn't have to get directly involved in it. Therefore, she didn't mind helping them as long as it didn't cause her trouble.

"Hmm... I'll see if I can do something." Charis shook her head without giving a proper answer.

She felt it would be best to leave room for negotiation. Considering her work was done, she stood up.

"Mrs. Lind, I need to go back to work now. It was nice meeting you." Charis walked out without looking back.

Meanwhile, Janet stared at the rising sun, holding the toothpaste in her hand. She seemed absentminded.

Seeing that the toothpaste in her hand was about to drop on the floor, Ethan grabbed her wrist. "You've been this way ever since you came back yesterday."

Hearing his voice, Janet blinked and snapped back to reality. "Ethan, how do you think Jocelyn is doing now?" she asked in a daze.

She wasn't used to harming people and couldn't stop thinking about Jocelyn.

“If you want to know about it, I’ll find out in the afternoon.” Ethan squirted the toothpaste on Janet’s brush and ruffled her hair.

“How will you find out? I don’t want others to know about it.” Janet frowned.

The guilt was slowly eating her.

“I have my ways. I’ll tell you about it when I return home tonight,” Ethan said, staring into her eyes.

That evening, Ethan thoroughly investigated what had happened to Jocelyn before going back home and told Janet all about it.

Janet was cooking dinner at the kitchen. She looked up at Ethan and breathed a sigh of relief. “Thank God she is still alive.” Fortunately, things didn’t end too badly for Jocelyn, even though she deserved to be punished for plotting against Janet.

However, Ethan didn’t seem relieved. Both Jocelyn and her mother were vindictive people. He knew they would undoubtedly wreak havoc in their lives.

“You have to be careful, Janet. This is only the beginning.” Ethan’s eyes narrowed as he looked at her.

“That’s what I’m worried about.” Janet frowned. “I’m her sworn enemy now. She will undoubtedly seek revenge.”

[Chapter 243](#)

The moment Ethan noticed the panic in Janet’s eyes, he wrapped his arms around her waist from behind and rested his chin on her collarbone. His voice rang in her ears, “It’s nothing to be afraid of. I’m here with you. Please calm down.”

Janet closed her eyes and took a deep breath when he finished speaking. She then turned around and hugged him tightly. With tears welling up in her eyes, she said, “I really wish I could calm down. However, I can’t help but think that I have caused a lot of trouble.”

Now, Janet wished she could turn back the hands of time. She hadn’t expected things to turn out like this.

Stroking her hair to comfort her, Ethan sealed her lips with a kiss. She was forced to swallow the words she wanted to say.

The topmost agenda on Ethan’s list was to get rid of Jocelyn and Fiona once and for all.

But before he could come up with a good plan, he received a call from Garrett.

“Hey, buddy. I just found out something. You need to stop whatever you have planned. Did you know that Jocelyn is Luke’s new mistress?”

Ethan’s eyes darkened immediately. He had heard that Luke had a lot of girlfriends, but he didn’t expect that Jocelyn would be one of them.

“So what? How is that a big deal? Isn’t he fond of changing mistresses as if he’s changing clothes? Or is he very serious with Jocelyn?” He sneered.

“Yes, he changes mistresses every now and then. But I don’t know if he’s serious with Jocelyn or not. I honestly don’t think he would be with her for long. But that doesn’t change the fact that she’s currently affiliated with him. You have to be very careful. I heard that Luke pulled some strings to have Fiona released from prison. That means he can do anything for them because he likes Jocelyn, at least for now. If you must do something to them, you have to tread with caution. That’s all I can say,” Garrett said seriously.

Ethan’s lips thinned into a grim line as he listened to this advice. As much as he hated to admit it, Garrett was right. There was no mistaking that Luke was a formidable opponent. His powerful family background and connections had been built decades ago. Ethan doubted if even Brandon’s identity could stand a chance against such a man.

“Okay, I have heard all that you said. Now assign a skilled bodyguard to secretly follow Janet everywhere she goes.” Ethan’s fingers tightened until his entire arm ached due to the force. “Make it a female bodyguard.”

“Ha-ha! I have to say that I got more and more to take care of since you got married. Better give me a raise, bro,” Garrett commented jokingly.

Immediately after the call ended, he started searching for a skilled female bodyguard just as Ethan had ordered. Although there was a battalion of excellent bodyguards, only a few of them were women.

It was extremely hard to find the perfect one. But in the end, a female bodyguard was recommended to him by a professional security organization called Shadow, which specialized in the training of assassins and bodyguards.

Garrett personally went to the provided address to meet her.

Some people were on the training ground at this time. The place was brightly lit and equipped with different training objects. About twenty men were sparring with a woman. They were in a stalemate.

Garrett’s full attention was on the woman in dark purple tight clothes. She looked very young and thin. Her waist was slender and she had a delicate appearance. She looked like one of those women that any man would want to protect at first glance. None of her features indicated that she was a good fighter.

With a slight frown, Garrett tore off his gaze and looked at the man beside him. “I find it rather appalling that you have sunk this low. Don’t you have a heart? How can you allow twenty men to fight such a delicate woman?”

The man smiled and replied, “Mr. Harding, please don’t let her looks deceive you. This woman is Laney Garcia, the female bodyguard we recommended you on the phone. And the men are her students. Although she looks delicate, she’s more experienced and stronger than many male bodyguards in the industry. You should watch her in action.”

Staring at the bare-faced woman, Garrett laughed and uttered, “I should watch her in action? Are you kidding me? What’s there to watch? She’s too thin to be a qualified bodyguard. Those men can break her bones with just a punch!”

All of a sudden, Laney turned around and quit the training. She left the training area and walked towards Garrett.

“Hey, did I offend you?” Garrett looked at her teasingly.

Laney, who had one hand at her back, signaled for Garrett to come forward with her other hand.

But before he could say or move an inch, she moved to him like lightning. Everything happened so fast. The next thing Garrett knew was that his back hit the ground with a thud. The supposedly delicate woman had knocked down a six-foot-tall man in a split second!

“Ouch!” A cry of pain escaped Garrett’s lips as he lay on the ground.

Laney dusted her hands and said, “For your information, I can deal with twenty more men like you using just one hand. Let’s just say you weren’t prepared. Do you want to go again?”

The pain was too much that it seemed Garrett’s spinal cord was broken. Biting his lips, he struggled to get up. He then waved his hand and said, “No need. I will take you.”

[Chapter 244](#)

Ever since the incident that happened in the cafe, Janet had never seen Kent again.

And just when she thought that her life was starting to get peaceful again, she received a call from him.

Janet was still at work, so she didn’t want to answer the call. However, it was hard to ignore his incessant calls, so in the end, she relented and answered it.

“Aren’t you going to thank me for saving your life last time, Miss Lind?” Janet could hear Kent chuckling as he said those words.

Originally, she just didn’t like him, and after all he had done to pester her, she even started to hate his guts. However, it was also true that he had indeed impressed her by doing something heroic as saving her life and she now owed him a big favor. If he hadn’t stopped her from drinking the coffee, she might’ve been the one who got raped.

“Fine. I hear you. What do you want, Mr. Perkins?” Janet asked after glancing around vigilantly.

“Hmm... What do I want? Would you like to drop by my house tomorrow night?” Kent bantered.

“Mr. Perkins, please don’t poke fun at me. Otherwise, I’m going to hang up on you.” Because of his senseless joke, Janet got impatient.

Upon hearing that she was about to hang up, Kent had to get serious. “Sorry, I was just kidding. Don’t be mad. Well, how about having dinner with me instead?”

Naturally, Janet didn’t want to see Kent on her own. She figured it would be best to ask Ethan to tag along.

“Alright, I’ll treat you to dinner, but I’ll decide the time and location,” she answered.

“Sure. Just send me the address once you’ve decided.” A smile appeared on Kent’s face.

That evening, after work, Janet and Ethan went to see Kent.

She booked a table in a Japanese restaurant, which was famous for their crabs. When they entered the restaurant, they saw the Japanese-themed ambiance of the establishment. There were small bridges, a pond and rockeries, and some koi in the pond. It was tranquil inside.

The moment the door behind Kent opened up, he sat up straight and turned about. "Miss Lind, you're —"

But before he could finish his sentence, his face dimmed.

Behind Janet, there was a tall man. Ethan was wearing all black; his eyes could barely be seen beneath the baseball cap he was wearing. All Kent could see was his aquiline nose and jaw.

"My husband wanted to thank you in person," Janet said with a smile. She had already expected this outcome.

While she was speaking, she urged Ethan to sit down.

"Oh... it's no big deal!" Kent pretended to be okay with it, albeit he was actually reluctant of the man's presence.

Ethan, on the other hand, had worn a stern expression since the moment he entered the room. He didn't look grateful to Kent at all. Upon noticing the look on his face, Janet pinched his arm. It was only then that Ethan spoke. "My wife is right. We do thank you for your help," he said politely.

Then, he picked up the teacup on the table and took a sip. All of a sudden, he cast Kent a sharp gaze. "But if you dare touch my wife again, I will not spare you, Mr. Perkins."

Kent just raised his eyebrows at Ethan and said nothing.

He had already inquired about Janet's husband before. In his eyes, Ethan was nothing but the embarrassing bastard son of the Lester family. He believed that there was nothing Ethan could do to him. Because if that weren't the case, he would've already stayed away from Janet.

That being said, Kent didn't take his warning seriously. He just put on a smile and raised his glass. "Don't get me wrong. Janet and I are just friends. No more, no less."

[Chapter 245](#)

Ethan sipped his tea and didn't utter a single word. He knew full well what was going through Kent's mind. Kent had been playing the field, and he was certain that he wouldn't give up on Janet so easily.

However, inherently, Keny wasn't a bad person. Besides, Janet didn't like him in any event, so Ethan wasn't worried in the least bit. Since Kent had saved Janet once before, Ethan decided it best not to do anything about him at this juncture.

The expression on Ethan's face made Kent's hair stand on end. For the life of him, he couldn't even begin to fathom what Ethan was thinking.

Just then, the waiter served the crab dish. Ethan picked up a crab leg.

“Have a taste of this,” Ethan said, placing the crab leg into Janet’s plate while glancing at Kent with an air of indifference. “Please help yourself, Mr. Perkins.”

With a fake, forced smile, Kent nodded.

He didn’t enjoy the meal at all. To be honest, he had even purchased a box of condoms before he had come here tonight. Now, however, it was clear that it wouldn’t be put to its intended use tonight.

The three of them parted ways after dinner.

Janet and Ethan were just about to go home together. The Japanese restaurant was located in a high-end shopping mall which sold a range of luxury, designer items.

When they passed by a jewelry store, the glass display of the season’s new arrivals in the window caught her eye. There were fiery red rubies on display. The dazzling rubies were expertly imbedded in white gold. It was simply breathtaking. There was a sense of wildness in the design and color choices.

Janet was a designer herself, so naturally she was drawn to the display like a bee to have a closer look. She wondered whether she could translate this design for an application to a clothes line. Clothing would be stunning with this kind of design.

When Ethan noticed Janet had stopped, he peered in the direction of her gaze. The ruby necklace in the window was work of art and eye-catching.

“Do you like it?” he asked, walking up to join her beside the window.

The soft, warm light fell on Janet’s face, making her smile look even more beautiful than usual. Her eyes were sparkling with admiration. It was quite apparent that she was impressed. She said, “Don’t you think it’s very beautiful? This designer really is nothing short of a genius.”

However, Janet was just appreciating the designer and this outstanding work. She didn’t want the jewelry as much as she appreciated its design. Besides, she couldn’t afford it anyway.

It was too luxurious for her. Only the exceptionally wealthy could buy it if they took a liking to it.

It occurred to Ethan that Garrett often gave jewelry as gifts to women, and reasoned that women were probably quite attracted to sparkly, shiny things. On that basis, he came to the conclusion that Janet must want it. She didn’t admit it because she probably thought that it was way out of their affordability range.

Ethan kept his poker face on and began to devise a plan to buy the necklace for her without her suspecting him.

Janet didn’t have the foggiest idea about what was going through his mind. She took out her phone and hesitated in taking pictures of the necklace. After all, most of the stores here didn’t allow others to take photos of their exclusive products.

Just then, a condescending voice was heard coming just inside the store. “Miss Lind, you have been standing there for a long time. Do you need me to ask for the manager’s permission for you to take photos?”

[Chapter 246](#)

The female voice sounded familiar.

Janet looked back to see who it was.

Behind her stood Emani, who was wearing a gorgeous navy blue dress and sunglasses. She was standing at the door of the shop. She took off her sunglasses and smiled brightly.

Her assistant was standing behind her with a lot of shopping bags in both hands. It seemed like Emani had just finished shopping and was about to leave.

“No, thank you, Miss Gomez.” Janet shook her head and frowned.

She and Emani hadn't been on good terms since the party. Hence, she wanted to avoid her more than anything.

At first, Emani hadn't intended to pick on Janet. She thought she was out of bounds because Garrett was dating her. But when she found out that Garrett was dating someone else, she felt that he had dumped Janet. It was common knowledge that Garrett never dated more than one woman at a time even though he was a playboy.

This was why Emani had concluded that Janet had gotten dumped and she could trample on her now.

She sneered and flipped her hair back when she saw the frown on Janet's face. It was then her eyes advertently fell on the man standing beside Janet.

Emani stared at him, goggle-eyed. The man wasn't girlish handsome like some of the men she usually met. This one was masculine and his face was excellently sculpted. He looked cold and distant, but she could see that he was a reserved man from the glint in his eyes.

‘Wow! Who would have thought that such a plain Jane could have such great taste in men? Garrett and this man are both hunks. I wonder how she managed to get them. Humph! Someone like her doesn't deserve such a prince charming!’

Emani was bedazzled by the man's handsomeness, but that didn't stop her from noticing that he was poorly dressed. To her, this meant that he wasn't a big shot.

‘Wow! Janet got a handsome man with empty pockets. Serves her right!’ Thinking of this, a mocking smile appeared on her face. She felt that bullying Janet would be easy since no one could stand up to her now.

“Oh, Miss Lind. Why leave in such a hurry?” Putting on a patronizing expression, she briskly walked up to Janet in her heels.

How Janet humiliated her at the ball was still fresh in her memory.

Janet didn't want to offend Emani because she was an influencer for the Larson Group. She knew that it would be unwise to bring their beef to work. As a result, she asked calmly, “Is there anything you would like me to do, Miss Gomez?”

Feigning good intentions and friendliness, Emani held Janet's arm to prevent her from leaving. "Actually, I don't need anything from you. I just thought I should be of help to you since you like the jewelry here. Come and have a look at some of them. I'm a VIP customer here, don't worry. You haven't visited a store as luxurious as this in your entire life, right? Well, that will change today. I'll be your guide in this store."

"Thank you for the kind offer, Miss Gomez. But I have to decline. You know, it's late now. I'm sure you are tired after your shopping. You need to rest." Janet wasn't deceived by the smile on Emani's face.

She could deduce the underlying insults in her words. She also didn't want to have anything to do with her.

"Oh, no! I'm not tired at all. Is your concern for me the only reason for your refusal? Or are you afraid that the attendants here will look down on you? Not to worry. I'm here with you. None of them would dare to say a word about you. Let's go!" Emani knew that Janet wanted to escape. Like the dubious woman that she was, she longed to see the embarrassed expression on her face after getting humiliated.

Throughout the eight years that she had been working in the entertainment industry, she had never been so humiliated as she was at the ball. She still hadn't gotten over it. Now that she had bumped into Janet today, she wanted to get her revenge. Emani wanted Janet to taste the same humiliation in ten folds.

The smile on her face and her words were just means to deceive Janet. She was already concocting a plan in her head without letting go of Janet's hand.

Both women argued back and forth until Janet couldn't take it anymore. She didn't like arguing with anyone, but she never allowed them to trample on her.

"Okay, you win. Let's do this, Miss Gomez." Forcing a smile, she held Emani's arm and walked into the store.

[Chapter 247](#)

"What?" Before Emani could figure out what Janet meant, the latter had already dragged her into the shop.

The shop's decoration was bedazzling. It was already dark outside, but inside the store, it was bright as day.

When the shop clerks saw them come in, they surrounded the two and greeted them.

Janet let go of Emani's arm, looking around while holding her phone. She then intentionally raised her voice and said, "Miss Gomez, now that you're here, I can take as many photos as I want!"

Having said that, she began taking photos of the jewelry inside the store.

The look on the faces of the shop clerks changed. One of them hurried to stop her. She blocked Janet's camera phone using her hand and said with a professional smile, "Sorry, ma'am, but taking photos of our products is prohibited. Please put your phone away."

Pretending as though she was surprised, Janet covered her mouth and glanced at Emani. The latter stood rooted to her spot, dumbstruck. "But Miss Gomez said that she's a VIP customer here. She must've told you that she allowed me to take photos here in advance, right? She's a celebrity. Is she not allowed to do that?"

The shop clerk glanced at Emani and said, "As I recall, Miss Gomez has never even shopped here. How could she be one of our VIP customers?"

All of the shop clerks here were smart, and they remembered who their regulars were.

Emani was so embarrassed that she just wanted to run away. As a matter of fact, the shop assistant was telling the truth. She never shopped here even once, and was in fact, not a VIP.

Besides, this was an international luxury jewelry brand, and it had incredibly famous stars endorsing it. None of these people would take her seriously.

Emani only said those words earlier to mock Janet. She didn't expect that Janet would actually come in here and take photos.

Awkwardly, the shop clerk glanced at Emani once more. "That said, our store policy dictates that it is prohibited to take photos of our products. Miss Gomez, if you like any jewelry from our selection, you can make a purchase."

"No, it's okay. I have more than enough jewelry at home already," Emani replied shaking her head. She tried to stay as calm as possible. All she wanted to do now was to get away from here.

She knew that she wouldn't be able to afford any of the jewelry here, considering how all of them were too expensive for her. Her salary was high, but she didn't have that much savings because of her extravagant lifestyle. Buying even one piece in this store could bankrupt her.

On occasion, she would come here just to window-shop, but that was all.

Seeing that Emani didn't seem like she could afford any of the items here, Janet put her phone away and nodded. She then looked at Emani while wearing a sardonic smile. "Oh? In that case, why did you ask me to come in here and take photos? Why'd you have to embarrass yourself like that, Miss Gomez?"

By this point, Emani was too ashamed to speak. She just gritted her teeth, loathing Janet to her core.

This was an eye-opener for Emani. She couldn't tell from Janet's looks that the latter actually had a sharp tongue.

Now that things had come to this, Janet no longer cared about the way Emani was looking at her. Just as she was about to leave, she saw that Ethan had walked into the store. He was standing in front of the showcase, staring at fine ruby necklace.

"Do you like it too? Why are you staring at it?" Janet asked, holding his hand.

"I think it would look great on you," Ethan replied, staring at her affectionately.

"I don't really want it. With that kind of money, we can buy several houses. Let's go home. I'm done here." Janet smiled at him. His words were a delight to hear.

Just before they could leave the store, one of the shop clerks suddenly stopped them.

“Ma’am, hold on.”

[Chapter 248](#)

In utter confusion, Janet looked back at the shop attendant and asked calmly, “Is there anything else?”

A polite smile was on the attendant’s face at this time. Her attitude towards Janet had changed drastically. Bowing to the two, she replied respectfully, “Miss, you can take as many photos as you want. We also have lots of classics here. If you want to have a look at them, we will gladly show them to you.”

Janet was taken aback by these words.

Emani, whose blood was boiling, became confused.

Janet pursed her lips and took a look at Ethan. The shop attendant’s sudden change of attitude was not only surprising, but also confusing. She found it hard to believe. With a frown, she asked, “I thought it wasn’t allowed. Why the sudden change of rules?”

‘Is this shop attendant trying to land me in trouble? Could it be a new way of hooking people to pay for the goods here?’ she pondered.

The shop attendant’s smile widened. She responded politely, “Exceptions are made for every rule. Since you are a distinguished guest, we can make an exception for you.”

This explanation heightened Janet’s confusion. She thought, ‘Me? A distinguished guest? When did I become one? Weren’t they treating me like a pauper just now?’

Several doubtful thoughts also filled Emani’s mind. She didn’t believe the attendant’s words one bit. In her mind, she concluded, ‘This is probably a joke or a misunderstanding. Janet is just an ordinary employee of the Larson Group. She can’t possibly be a distinguished guest!’

“What do you mean by that? Has there been a misunderstanding or what? How did she become your distinguished guest? Are you sure of what you are saying?” Emani blurted out when she couldn’t keep calm anymore.

Completely ignoring Emani, the shop attendant walked to Janet and reverentially motioned for her to come along to the exclusive VIP reception area. “Welcome to the VIP reception area, Miss Lind. Please have a seat. After we sort out the best classics for you, you will be served some refreshments.”

The other employees immediately went about their duties, paying no heed to Emani no matter what she said.

Some of them put on black gloves and began to take out the jewelry classics that had been kept in the topmost sections of the glass display shelves. They carefully displayed them in front of Janet and Ethan.

These pieces of jewelry were a sight to behold. They ranged from gold, silver, diamond, sapphires, and a host of others. They were so beautiful that Janet was speechless.

When Ethan glanced at Janet, he saw that she stretched out her hand to touch them, but she drew it back the next second. He could see that she was amazed by the jewelry but a bit scared to touch them. He found her behavior so lovely and funny.

“Are you sure you can see them clearly from a distance?” In a bid to put Janet out of her misery, Ethan picked up the box of jewelry she had been staring at and moved it closer to her.

Janet leaned close to him and whispered in his ear, “I just secretly checked the prices of these pieces of jewelry. They are so expensive. It’s not wise to touch them. What if I accidentally break them?”

A lot of worries ran through Janet’s mind. She didn’t trust the employees here. She smelled something fishy because of their strange behaviors. As far as she was concerned, this might be a trap. She felt that they would force her to buy it if she broke anything.

Ethan lowered his head and snickered. He then leaned against the sofa and threw his head back, laughing. After having a good laugh, he looked at his wife with warmth in his eyes. “Don’t worry. If you break anything, I will pay for it.”

Janet felt butterflies in her stomach when she saw the warmth in Ethan’s eyes just now. It made her feel relieved some type of way.

‘Jeez! He’s so handsome!’ Janet’s cheeks turned red as she glanced at him.

With her husband’s assurance, she didn’t hesitate anymore. She picked up a piece of jewelry and took a close look at it.

It was at this time that a shop attendant came in with a tray filled with sliced fruits and delicate desserts.

“Miss, have you seen any one you like here? If none of the pieces here catches your fancy, you can check out our exclusive pieces. They haven’t been made for sale to the public yet. Since they are custom made, they will take some time to be delivered after the order is made,” the shop attendant explained as she poured tea for Janet and Ethan.

For the umpteenth time in the last half an hour, Janet was shocked. She pinched her thigh to make sure she wasn’t dreaming or imagining things. ‘What’s going on? I’m dressed in cheap clothes, so I look nothing like a wealthy woman. How come this shop attendant thinks I can afford custom-made jewelry?’

Just when Janet was lost in thought, she noticed something. The shop assistant kept looking at the wedding ring on her finger. It was then she realized why the employees treated her so reverentially. She touched her ring and circled it with her finger. “Ahem... You keep staring at my ring. Is anything the matter?”

[Chapter 249](#)

“Oh, there’s nothing wrong with it.” The shop attendant was puzzled by Janet’s question.

Perhaps sensing that she had been a bit impolite just now by staring at Janet’s ring, she waved her hands in dismissal and put on a smile. “I’m really sorry for staring at your ring just now, ma’am. I shouldn’t have done that. I’ve only seen photos of that ring before. This is the first time I’ve seen it in real life. It is indeed mesmerizing.”

Janet frowned. She couldn't understand what the shop attendant was talking about.

'This is just a fake blue diamond ring. Why is she so curious about it?' she wondered.

Upon noticing the confusion on Janet's face, the shop attendant asked hesitantly, "Don't you know the origin of that ring, ma'am?"

Janet glanced at Ethan subconsciously.

He was the one who gave her the ring. She didn't think that there was any interesting background story about a fake ring.

Thus, she shook her head and said, "I don't."

Suddenly, Ethan faked coughing.

"Ethan, are you okay? Is your throat sore?" Janet was worried about him, so she patted him on the back and handed him a glass of water. "Why are you suddenly coughing?" she asked.

'He was fine just now,' she thought.

The shop attendant noticed that Ethan had been coughing ever since she started talking. She wanted to ingratiate herself with him, so she said, "We have some cough medicine in the store. Would you like some, sir?"

Ethan waved his hand, picked up the glass of water on the table, and took a sip.

He had been winking at the shop attendant, and he even faked several coughs, yet she still didn't seem to understand his hint.

The woman wasn't Ethan's employee, so she probably couldn't understand his hints.

Moreover, Ethan couldn't say anything to her in front of Janet, so he was getting more and more anxious.

The shop attendant took a look at Janet's ring again and adjusted her tone. "The blue diamond on your ring is called the 'Ocean'. It's the most expensive and most famous jewelry in our brand's history. It has an extensive history and high value. I heard that someone bought it at a high price a long time ago. Never did I imagine that I'd see the ring's owner here today. Since you have it, you must be a very important customer," the shop attendant explained respectfully.

Upon hearing that, Janet was stunned. After a moment of hesitation, she asked tentatively, "Are you sure this isn't just a fake?"

She couldn't believe that the blue diamond on her ring was the real "Ocean" that the shop attendant just told her about. 'How could Ethan afford the real one? We're poor!' she thought to herself.

Aside from that, Janet had seen several fakes that Ethan had gotten from his friends. Because of the development of counterfeiting technology, it was hard to tell that they were fakes.

But to her surprise, the shop attendant shook her head and smiled. "Ma'am, you must be kidding. I've been at this job for years, and I know our brand's most famous product all too well. I'm more than

certain that your ring is the real deal. If you don't believe me, go ahead and find a professional jewelry appraiser to check it for you."

After hearing the explanation, Janet was stunned. The shop attendant sounded so sure that the blue diamond on her ring was real.

Thinking back on Ethan's weird behavior; his odd winking and sudden burst of coughs; her eyes widened in shock. She whipped her head to stare at Ethan as a mountain of questions built up in her head.

[Chapter 250](#)

Suddenly, Janet sprang to her feet. She felt a burning anger rising from her chest. Slowly, she walked out of the shop and said, "Ethan, let's go home."

Ethan closed his eyes and stood up like he was told to. He knew that she was angry, so he just followed Janet obediently.

All the while, Emani had heard what the shop attendant had said.

"How is that possible? How could Janet afford a ring that expensive?" Emani was indignant. She crossed her arms, looking at her assistant.

"Is she really that rich?" she asked. The assistant was fearful at this point. "Emani, do you think we just offended a big shot?"

"Don't jump to conclusions so soon. But I gotta say, I am flummoxed." Conflicted, Emani walked out of the store and found that Janet and Ethan were nowhere to be found.

'Who the hell is Janet? How did she manage to get her hands on a ring that expensive?' she wondered.

At night.

It was already 10 o'clock.

Janet hadn't said a word to Ethan during their trip back home.

After walking into the room, she leaned against the shoe cabinet at the door and looked Ethan dead in the eye. Based on the look on her face, she was furious. "Ethan, do you have something to tell me?"

Ethan was caught off-guard by the question. Despite how plain the question sounded, it was still daunting.

He then looked back at her, trying his best to stay composed.

Ethan had long known that Janet was much tougher than she appeared to be.

A smile appeared on his lips. He'd be lying if he said that he didn't like it whenever she was like this.

Fortunately for him, he had been preparing an explanation along the way.

"My mother passed that ring down to me, so I gave it to you as our wedding ring," Ethan explained. He didn't look like he felt guilty at all. He even took a few steps forward, leaned his elbows against the cabinet beside Janet, and made eye contact.

“Is that so?” Janet didn’t seem like she bought it. “But you told me that you asked your friend to buy this ring for you and that it was a cheap knock-off?”

Back when Ethan bought the wedding ring, he just picked the most valuable one without giving it much thought. He was glad to know that the ring actually had a long history, or else he wouldn’t have been able to make up the perfect excuse.

He wasn’t lying when he said that his friend bought it for him. He did ask Garrett to buy the ring for him, and it was honestly a cheap gift by his standards.

“Before the Larson family went down in the world, we were a reputable family in Seacisco.” Ethan brushed the tip of his nose against hers, stroking Janet’s cheek with his finger. “Why would I lie to you, honey? Do you think I have money to buy a ring that expensive?”

Janet was aware that Ethan’s mother was indeed the daughter of the Larson family. However, he had given Janet a platinum emerald ring and told her that it had been passed down as a family heirloom for generations, so she couldn’t bring herself to believe that there was suddenly another heirloom, another invaluable ring, in existence.

It worried Janet that Ethan might’ve acquired the ring through illegal means.

“It’s true that you don’t have the money to buy the ring, but that doesn’t mean you wouldn’t have been able to get it through other means.” She cast him a sharp gaze, avoiding his touch. She was really scared that her husband might’ve committed a crime.

“You’re overthinking it, honey,” Ethan replied in a patient voice. He could tell that it wouldn’t be easy to fool her this time.

“Your family has been passing down an awful lot of jewelry for generations, hasn’t it?” Janet snorted.