

The Mysterious Billionaire and His Substitute Bride

Read Free – chapter 28

“Did I disturb you? I’ll try to keep my voice down.” Startled, Janet clamped her mouth with her hand and looked at him apologetically.

Ethan shook his head and walked to her bed. Then, he slumped onto it and inhaled her sweet fragrance.

Propping his head on his arm, Ethan closed his eyes. “What happened? Why are you so happy?” he asked casually.

“Don’t lie on my bed, Ethan.” Janet’s cheeks puffed as she tried to pull his arm.

He was tall and heavy. Finally, she gave up and sat on the chair beside the desk.

“I met a wealthy and generous client who asked me to design for him. I just submitted my draft and got paid.”

Ethan opened his eyes and saw Janet grinning with joy. “Then, you don’t have to go for the drug trial. That’s good.”

Janet smiled. She rested her chin on the palm of her hand and poked the lamp on the desk with one finger. “Why don’t you ask me how much I’ve earned?”

“It’s all your money and is none of my business. I only wish for you not to go for the drug trial.” Ethan smiled at her.

Janet didn’t expect him to care so much about her.

A smile tugged at the corners of her lips as she leaned on the desk.

The next day, after work, Janet went to the hospital to pay Hannah’s medical fee. She still had three thousand dollars left in her bank account even after that.

When she got home, Janet wondered if she could take Ethan out for dinner. She would still earn in the future. Moreover, she would get her salary in two weeks.

“Ethan, let’s go out for dinner tonight. It’s my treat! I’m going to buy you a big sumptuous meal,” Janet said, raising her wallet. She looked like she had just won the lottery.

Ethan was lying on the sofa. He looked at her tattered wallet and stood up. “Okay, I know a nice place.”

When they arrived at the door of a magnificent restaurant, Janet stiffened. She pursed her lips and pulled Ethan's arm, who was just about to enter the restaurant. Her eyes widened in horror. "Ethan, this is the best restaurant in the city."

The restaurant belonged to the Larson Group and was one of the most famous restaurants in the city. It would cost all her savings to eat here.

"Didn't you want to treat me to a big dinner?" Ethan arched his brows, pretending to be confused.

Janet gritted her teeth and forced a smile. "Yeah. Nothing. Let's go inside."

When Janet checked the menu, she felt she couldn't afford any of the dishes here. Her heart sank as she skimmed through the menu card

Not even one dish was affordable here. Biting her lower lip, Janet continued to look at the menu.

"Miss, could you please hurry up? We still have to serve other guests," one of the waiters said impatiently, casting a disdainful look at her.

Two waitresses nearby cast a scornful look at Janet. "They shouldn't have come here if they can't afford it," one of them whispered to the other.

"I haven't seen them before. They don't look like regular customers. They've been looking at the menu for ten minutes. Don't they feel ashamed?"

Janet put down the menu card as the blood drained from her face.

She stood up and looked at the two noisy waitresses. "What are you talking about? There is no time limit for ordering in your restaurant. Can't we check the menu for a while before ordering?"

The two waitresses examined Janet's and Ethan's clothes and assumed the two were poor people. They didn't think offending the two would cause them any trouble.

"We didn't say anything. I guess you are mistaken," one of the waitresses said confidently.

"That's right. We were just discussing what to eat tonight," the other waitress chimed in.

Ethan poured a glass of water for Janet and stood up. "I, too, heard what you were talking," he said, glaring at them.

The waitresses looked startled. "Are you two here to make trouble on purpose?" one of them asked in a sobbing tone.

Just then, the restaurant manager heard the commotion and approached their table.

The manager looked at Janet and Ethan and back at the waitresses. “Enough! Stop fighting!” He waved his hand. “Don’t disturb the other diners. What’s going on here?”

The waitress pointed at Ethan. “These two have been looking at the menu without ordering anything. We didn’t say anything. I only reminded them to order, but they got offended and started fighting with us.”

The manager’s face darkened as he believed her. This was one of the most popular restaurants in the city. Many diners came to hang out without ordering food and sometimes ordered only the least expensive dish. These people came to the restaurant just to click fancy pictures.

The restaurant manager hated such people and assumed Janet and Ethan were here for the same reason. “All right. I understand what’s going on.”

The restaurant manager straightened his suit and walked to Janet. “Sir, miss, please leave. Other diners are waiting for a table. If you don’t intend to order, please allow the other diners to occupy the table.”

Ethan’s face darkened. He didn’t expect the restaurant that belonged to Larson Group would have such poor service. The workers disrespected the diners. He wondered how Garrett managed his subordinates.

He crossed his arms over his chest and looked at the manager. “What makes you think we aren’t going to order food? You blindly believe their words without listening to us.”

The argument caught everyone’s attention. They stopped eating and gawked at them.

Several passersby outside were also peeking into the restaurant through the glass door.

The manager broke out in a cold sweat. After all, the quarrel would affect the restaurant’s reputation. If the media covered the news, people would stop coming to the restaurant.

“I’ve already inquired the waiter and waitresses. You two were making trouble out of nothing. How dare you question me?”

The restaurant manager grew anxious and was desperate to solve the problem as soon as possible. He picked up the walkie-talkie on his chest and said, “Security, come to the second floor. A couple is making trouble here. Hurry up and drive these two people out.”

Janet became furious when the manager called the security guards.

She walked to the manager and glared at him. “Yours is a high-end restaurant. How could you insult your diners like this? Your service is poor, and your workers are impolite. And you drive us out of the restaurant if we point it out? My husband didn’t say anything wrong. How could you disrespect him? You’ve gone too far!”

The manager frowned and glanced around the guests who were already whispering about the issue. “What are you talking about?” he shouted. “Don’t spread nonsense to ruin the reputation of our restaurant. Our restaurant is known for our exceptional service.”

Ethan pursed his lips, trying to suppress his smile. He was happy to see his wife defend him.

