

## **The Mbahsb 431**

### [Chapter 431](#)

The sight of tears in Janet's eyes made Ethan panic.

The whole world knew him for his decisiveness, but when he saw Janet's tears, he didn't know what to do.

Ethan pulled a tissue from a box on the top of the dashboard and wiped the tears from her face. Then, in a soft voice, he said, "When did I ever say that I didn't want you to be Brandon's wife? I told you that I didn't say anything in the beginning because I was afraid it would put you in danger. Later on, as time went by, I couldn't tell you because I thought you would be angry at me."

Janet took the tissue from Ethan's hand and sniffled slightly, raising her tearful eyes before she replied, "I'm not worthy to be Brandon's wife."

A gust of cold wind blew through the window, driving chills down Janet's body.

Ethan closed the window, took off his coat, and wrapped it around her body before sitting back on the driver's seat.

He held the steering wheel with one hand and sat there silently for a moment as if he was thinking before he said, "Who told you that?"

Finally, at long last, he knew what was troubling Janet.

She looked down to avert his eyes and said nothing.

Ethan rested his face in the palm of his hand and sighed exasperatedly. He glared down at her, shaking his head in frustration.

Unfortunately, he had no choice but to patch things up with his wife.

After all, he didn't want to have a fight with Janet. Deep down inside, he truly felt sorry for her.

All of a sudden, Ethan couldn't help but recall the days they had spent living in a small apartment, like any other ordinary couple.

Janet would always have to track their living expenses.

In truth, he enjoyed her nagging and didn't mind being yelled at by her because no one else would dare to treat him like that.

Ethan suddenly came to the realization that he was nothing but a puppet whose strings were being pulled by Janet.

He leaned over, gazing her deeply, and said, "Why do you have to think of our relationship in such a superficial way? I'll admit, at first, I married you just to fulfill my mother's dying wish, but then I truly fell in love with you. And since then, I've loved you unconditionally. If I wanted to marry the daughter of a rich and powerful family, I could've gotten married before I met you. Why do I have to put so much

effort to keep you by my side if I don't have feelings for you? No matter what happens, you will always be my wife."

Janet's heart skipped a beat when she heard Ethan's words.

She used to think that Ethan was a frivolous man who never took anything seriously in his life.

However, when she looked into his eyes now, she could see that he was speaking the truth.

When she locked eyes with him, her breathing became erratic and her heart started beating faster.

She looked away, not knowing how to respond to the intensity of Ethan's gaze.

She lowered her head, knowing that Ethan was still staring at her, and faintly said, "Why are you looking at me like that? I've already told you what I want. Please just let me go."

With tenderness in his eyes, Ethan raised his hand and stroked her hair. "It's okay. I have plenty of time. I'll wait for you to change your mind. But, you wouldn't have brought it up for no reason. Janet, please tell me who have you been talked to?"

he said in a gentle tone. "Please?"

Janet thought that Ethan should know the truth, so she raised her head to look at him and said, "Miss Turner came to see me and she told me some things that sounded very reasonable."

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"How could you believe a word of what Charis says?"

Ethan shook his head in disappointment.

Sometimes he wished Janet wasn't so easily manipulated.

"I knew she was up to no good, but what she said was true." Janet's eyes darkened.

Ethan squeezed her cheeks and looked at her sullen face carefully. As his eyes fell on her pink lips, he said, "Can't you tell that she desperately wants you to leave me?"

Janet turned her head away, pouting her lips.

"Don't touch me, Mr. Larson. I'm a married woman. I should warn you that my husband is very good at fighting. If he finds out about this, he's going to pin you against the wall and teach you a lesson." Clearly, Janet was still mad at him.

Ethan turned a deaf ear to her words. He grabbed her leg and slowly moved to the gap between her thighs.

Although Janet was wearing jeans, she could still feel the warmth of his hand.

With his strong arms, Ethan put down the passenger seat and pressed his body against hers.

"Ethan!" Shocked, Janet clamped her legs and propped up her elbow on each knee.

“I’m the only one who gets to spoil you.” Ethan pinched Janet’s legs and then moved his hands to her waist. He leaned down and rubbed his nose against Janet’s. “What are you afraid of? Have I ever forced you? If I had known earlier, I would have made love to you already. If I can’t have your heart, then at least, I could have had your body.”

“Don’t say that,” Janet scolded him in a low voice. It was as though Ethan’s old roguish self had returned.

She knew she shouldn’t care about what Charis said either, but she couldn’t help it. After all, Charis sounded very convincing.

Like a magic spell, her words kept repeating in Janet’s mind.

Looking closely at her fluttering eyelashes, Ethan raised his hand and gently smoothed her knitted brows.

“I know you still have doubts, but you can go back with me first. It’s okay if you don’t want to work in the Larson Group, but you have to stay with me.”

Ethan’s words softened her heart.

Maybe she just couldn’t say no to this man.

Now that this man had come all the way here chasing after her, she could never escape him.

After tidying up her messy clothes, Ethan took Janet back into the airport.

His private plane had been waiting there for a long time.

It was the first time Janet had ever been on a private plane and she was nervous. Ethan put his arms around her and said, “You’ll be taking private planes more often in the future.”

Pretending as though she didn’t hear him, Janet kept silent. In truth, she didn’t want to be so close to Ethan.

Although she had no choice but to play along and go back with him, she panicked at the thought of what she would do later.

It was already eleven o’clock in the evening when they arrived in Seacisco.

Ethan dropped Janet off in front of the villa. Having no intention to go inside, he simply said, “You can either wait for me or get some sleep. There’s something I have to take care of at the company.” Ethan’s face darkened at the thought of who he would have to face later.

Biting her lips nervously, Janet looked down in disappointment, but she nodded her assent in response.

She wasn’t used to the fact that Ethan was actually Brandon, but she was willing to try and understand him from another perspective.

After all, the Larson Group was one of the fastest-growing companies in the country. The pressure of having to hold such a high standard must have been exhausting.

“Be good and I’ll be back soon, okay?” Ethan rubbed Janet’s ear gently and winked at her before he got in the Maybach.

### [Chapter 433](#)

Ethan returned to the Larson Group and made his way over to Charis’ office. He pushed her door open and entered, wearing a stone-cold expression. “Where can I find Charis Turner?”

The assistant had never seen her boss like this. She had also never heard him call Charis by her full name. Did this mean the company was going through a financial crisis? The assistant battled with so many feelings.

“Miss Turner is currently in a meeting with a foreign group, which should be concluded in a few minutes.” Charis’ assistant glanced at her watch and surreptitiously looked at Ethan who was still sporting his cold expression. Her nervousness at his presence increased as her heart beat wildly.

A few minutes later, Charis stepped out of the meeting room, looking worn out. “Get my things. Do you know if the driver has arrived for me yet?” The assistant pointed in Ethan’s direction with shaky fingers, unable to utter a word. Charis looked in the direction she was pointing and saw Ethan sitting cross-legged, on a black leather sofa. He stared at her with sharp eyes.

Charis suddenly had a recollection of a young man in a white shirt, constantly standing in front of a window, looking preoccupied with his thoughts.

“You can go now,” Charis said, signaling for her assistant to leave.

After she left, it was just the two of them in the office.

“I believe I’ve warned you never to play any of your mind games on Janet, but you have refused to listen, and now you’ve crossed the line.” Ethan stood up before Charis could utter a word and looked down at her.

His eyes were frosted over in anger. Charis had thought that she was ready for whatever consequences her actions brought. Now, however, as she stood with Ethan alone in the office, she realized she was very afraid.

Ethan moved in an unhurried pace and stopped right in front of Charis. “Since we were once friends, I will not punish you for your actions, but if you wish to keep your dignity, you will leave Larson Group. We can no longer be colleagues.”

Charis latched onto Ethan’s arm as soon as she heard what he said. Her face had crumpled dramatically. “No, please don’t do this, Brandon.” Charis was not one to ever show weakness, but now she could not help it, not with what was happening and the heartache it was causing her. “What I told Janet was the truth. You are each on different levels. It will not be beneficial to you in any way to marry her. You should marry someone you can consider an equal. I promise I was simply looking out for your future.”

Ethan shook her off and said, “I do not care about what you nobles deem marriage of equal status. I am not one of you. For me, the only reason to marry a woman is because of love. To protect the one I love and give her a happy life. That is my opinion and it will never change. I do not want or care for whatever

benefits she brings. A marriage that is focused only on what you can gain from your spouse is not a true marriage, and it sickens me.”

“Your mindset will change sometime in the future! Our family can help you get Larson Group to a greater height!” Charis wiped her eyes of any evidence of tears. She was the daughter of the Turner family and right now she had to act like one.

Ethan stared deep into her eyes with so much cruelty. “It is none of your business who I marry, for it certainly will never be you.”

Charis’ pupils shrank in fury. “Ethan! Why do you think I do not deserve to be with you?” Charis asked. She was devastated by how blunt and hurtful his words were.

Ethan did not deem it worthy to give her a reply.

Embarrassment slowly seeped into her at his silence as her heart raced uncontrollably. Charis stared at Ethan’s cold and calm face with resentment and turned on her heels, running out of the office in tears.

#### [Chapter 434](#)

With a large pile of files in his hands, Garrett made his way toward Charis’ office in good spirits. “I heard that I could find Mr. Larson here.” When he caught sight of Charis’ assistant standing outside the office, he paused for a few seconds.

He had just finished meeting up with some business partners. At this time, Seacisco was going to develop a new plot of land. He was planning to talk it over with Brandon first.

Before Charis’ assistant could say a word, the door was opened from the inside.

Charis probably didn’t expect Garrett to be standing outside. Embarrassed, she was startled for a few seconds. After that, she chose to ignore him and ran away.

“Did the two quarrel inside the office?” Garrett pointed his finger at the door and asked the assistant.

“I have no idea, Mr. Harding. If you don’t need anything else, I’ll be on my way now.” The office just so happened to be soundproof. The assistant didn’t hear a word.

Staring at Charis’ back which soon disappeared around the corner, Garrett could guess what was going on. He let out a long sigh and thought that Brandon’s guess should be right at this time.

He knocked on the door and proceeded to go inside.

“You’re really heartless! You’ve been friends with Charis for so long. Are you going to really punish her regardless of your friendship? What are you going to do about her?”

He knew that Brandon was always decisive, especially when it came to his own personal interests. When his interests happened to be threatened, he would turn into a ruthless person.

Janet should also be a part of his personal interests.

With a very unhappy look on his face, Brandon made his way out of Charis’ office and said, “I asked her to resign from the Larson Group.”

Garrett followed him closely behind. After hesitating for a bit, he said, "That might be a good idea. After she's gone, she may give up on you entirely. I've already reminded Charis before, but she's way too stubborn. Don't take this matter too seriously. She's just a girl anyway."

Brandon shot Garrett a cold glance. "Janet is also just a girl, and Charis shouldn't have bullied her like that."

Garrett rolled his eyes at him and pouted.

Fine, Brandon always protected his beloved no matter what.

"How are you and your wife doing? You've come to settle things with Charis. I'm guessing you must've reconciled with Janet, is that right?" When Garrett heard that Janet had left Seacisco, he became even more worried about the relationship between the two of them.

After all, Brandon had been in bad spirits the past few days. His face was so overcast that the senior executives were too frightened to even speak up during the daily meetings.

Brandon suddenly stopped in his tracks and said, "I wanted to discuss this matter with you. Janet has returned, but she still doesn't believe me."

Garrett put a finger to his chin and said, "The trust issue can't be solved in such a short amount of time. What are you going to do next?"

Simply peering down at the leather shoes on his feet, Brandon mulled it over in his head for a while and suddenly smiled. "I think at least there is one thing I can do."

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Ever since Janet had returned, she had been sitting on the sofa in a complete daze. She really had no idea what to do.

She had already let Tiffany know about her resignation from Larson Group. Now she was just a jobless vagabond who didn't have a lot of savings in her bank account.

After watching TV for a bit, she began to swipe through her cell phone. Soon after, she felt bored again, so she went to cook something.

But for whom?

Who else could it be other than for the master of this house?

Thinking about Brandon, Janet proceeded to put down the cooking utensils in silence.

She didn't want to cook for that lying man!

She angrily stormed back to the living room and then idly flipped through some fashion magazines, thinking about where she should go in the future and what she should do about her relationship with Ethan.

Janet had no idea when Ethan came back because she soon had fallen asleep.

When the smell of delicious food came to her nose, she woke up in a daze and could make out Ethan in the kitchen.

He had tucked in his shirt casually and his tie had not been taken off. Right then, he was wearing a pink floral apron around his waist.

That damn contradictory charm.

Ethan heard her stirring in the living room and guessed that the sleeping beauty on the sofa had just woken up.

He walked out with the steaming seafood risotto, pulled off his apron, squatted in front of Janet, and asked her, "How about we go for wedding dress shop tomorrow? My little lazy princess."

### [Chapter 435](#)

Janet blinked several times, thinking that she had misheard him.

She awkwardly ran her fingers through her hair and clutched the blanket that was draped around her body. "What—" she choked, then had to clear her throat. "What wedding dress?"

Ethan smiled at her patiently and spoke slowly, as one would with a child. "We married in a rather shabby ceremony. You wore a simple white dress, and not much happened besides us exchanging vows. I always thought you may not have a good memory of our wedding day."

Janet didn't expect Ethan to still remember these trivial things, much less care about them. Her heart softened despite herself.

She could be so easy sometimes.

Luckily, she snapped back to her senses a moment later. "Forget it, Ethan. That would be too much trouble."

He insisted, of course. "The wedding day is one of the most important events in a woman's life, this much I know. And it is important to me. Now that you know my other identity, I want to pledge myself to you again, this time as Brandon Larson."

Janet was stunned speechless at his smooth declaration. In the end, she could only nod in agreement.

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South Pole was the most expensive wedding gown shop in Seacisco, catering mostly to custom-made orders for the upper society.

They were proud of their clientele, too, as evidenced by an advertisement they had once run on TV. Hence, it was known as a luxury brand that only serviced the wealthiest ladies the city could offer.

And today, Janet was going to get that full, exclusive experience.

Ethan and Janet walked into the store hand in hand.

She was still opposed to the whole idea, especially since she was still mad at him.

But now that they were here, she couldn't just flee and make Ethan lose face in public.

"Mr. Larson! Why have you come so early? Isn't your appointment for three o'clock this afternoon?" A woman who looked to be in her forties greeted them at the door, wearing heavy makeup and chunky jewelry. As she drew closer, however, Janet realized that it was actually a man. She tried not to stare at his fake lashes and his Adam's apple.

"This is Mr. Jarvis," Ethan introduced the man. "He is the chief wedding gown designer of South Pole. He'll take you to get your measurements, and then browse around the shop. If you encounter any problems, just let him know. He'll take care of everything."

Janet barely nodded before she was whisked away by the zealous designer.

"I never imagined that Brandon was really married! I thought he was just kidding when he called me." Mr. Jarvis put a hand over his mouth and chuckled demurely. His gestures were more coquettish than most ladies Janet had met. He narrowed his eyes and peered at her.

"You have a small face and such dainty features. Do you want to try a sexy, backless dress? Or would you like an evening gown style that shows off your cleavage? What color are we thinking, by the way? White is too common in this day and age. How about champagne or rose pink?" He chattered on as he rounded Janet and looked her up and down. She had a slender waist and all the right curves. She would probably look splendid in any type of dress.

Janet, on the other hand, was in a daze. The rows of dazzling dresses overwhelmed her. It was like she had stepped into designer heaven.

It was obvious that each garment had been crafted carefully, with their exquisite details and all kinds of jewels inlaid in the fabric. One corner seemed to be dedicated to the simpler, sweeter styles, while another corner burst with shades of pink. The first one boasted of satin and lace dresses with pearls and sewn flowerettes as accents. The second one had massive dresses with layers of tulle and ruffles. But the most remarkable of all was the line-up of traditional wedding dresses from different countries. This shop truly had it all; they had even thought about the possibility of having foreign customers.

"Are those displayed behind the glass for sale?" Janet nodded at a long cabinet lining an entire wall. "Or are they off-limits?" The dress in the center had caught her eye. It had an intricately embroidered bodice that tapered down to a full skirt peppered with tiny tulips.

Mr. Jarvis giggled meaningfully. "Nothing is off-limits when it comes to Brandon. Those dresses are from the "True Love" series that was released earlier this year. Each element was handmade by professional craftsmen."

Hearing that, Janet surmised that the price they fetched must be over the roof.

Her frugal nature kicked in, and she immediately looked away.

There were a lot of other amazing dresses to choose from anyway. Soon enough, she began to wish that they weren't all so gorgeous, since it made for a very difficult choice.

Four hours later, Ethan knocked on the door to the fitting lounge and let himself in.

"So impatient!" Mr. Jarvis chided good-naturedly. He could tell what Ethan was thinking at a glance.



“You were taking so long that I started to worry you might have done something to my precious lady.” There was a long corridor connecting the female dressing room and the male dressing room here.

Ethan leaned against the door frame and quietly watched Janet. The black suit he was wearing was pretty simple, albeit finely tailored to his figure. Even so, he made it look like a million bucks, Janet tried on a few more dresses, only to realize that she liked everything so far. Eventually, even she thought that she was taking too long. She helplessly turned to Ethan and gave him a pleading look.

In response, he stared at the cabinet display and settled for the dress encrusted with diamonds. “Jarvis, take that one out and box it up. Send it to my villa along with every dress my wife has tried on.”

He was a man of action, after all. He strode over and put an arm around Janet’s shoulders. “From now on, you don’t have to push yourself to choose one over the other. If you like something, just buy it. You can get whatever you want.”

Mr. Jarvis clapped his hands with glee. “Oh my, how generous of you, Mr. Larson.”

He then turned to a panic-stricken Janet and said, “Miss, you definitely made the right decision marrying this man!”

### [Chapter 436](#)

By the time they arrived home, a delivery truck was parked in the driveway, and staff from South Pole were carefully transporting one exquisite dress after another into the villa. Any woman would be quite overwhelmed to see so many gorgeous dresses at the same time, let alone own them.

Still, Janet couldn’t help but frown and scold her overly indulgent husband. “Ethan, you don’t have to spend so much money on me. We’d better save for the future, just in case. Stop squandering your wealth like this. I know you’re filthy rich, but...”

She unconsciously drifted into silence, thinking she might have said too much. She hadn’t completely reconciled with Ethan yet, and besides, it was his own money. By all rights, she wasn’t in a position to interfere with his finances.

“Forget it,” Janet muttered angrily and stomped over to the sofa.

Ethan chuckled at the grumpy look on her face.

He knew he should coax her and bring her over back to his side. If he let this selfless woman go, she would only end up getting bullied by other people.

“How about this, then—what if I surrender all my assets to you? You can take charge of my finances from now on.” Ethan plopped down next to Janet, rather surprised at himself. It seemed that he had taken well to getting tied down and submitting to his dear wife.

Janet gaped at him, just as shocked by his proposal, maybe even more.

Ethan had an obscene amount of money, and they both knew it. Was he even aware of what he was saying?

He cleared his throat and chuckled again, a mild attempt to lighten things up. "Take your time and think it over. There's no rush. For now, just stay at home and get some rest. I'll take care of everything else."

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Sure enough, Ethan was so busy in the next three days that he barely spent any time at home.

They had been sleeping in separate rooms ever since their fight, which only made it all the more difficult for Janet to see him. He'd be gone long before she woke up in the morning, and when he returned, she'd already be fast asleep.

Janet found herself overthinking the possibilities, especially since she was in the dark about whatever was keeping Ethan so busy. She tried to find things to do at home, if only to distract herself from her budding expectations and anxiety.

Finally, on the third day, their doorbell rang.

Janet opened the door to find a young man with short, curly hair and a bright smile.

"Good morning, Miss Lind. I've brought the stylists."

Janet tilted her head to the side and narrowed her eyes. This man looked familiar for some reason.

Noticing her confusion, Sean promptly introduced himself. "Ah, pardon me. My name is Sean Johnson, and I'm Mr. Larson's personal assistant. We have met once, a long time ago."

Janet gasped and exclaimed, "Oh, so it's you! Do come in and make yourself at home."

Sean stepped into the foyer followed by several other people that included of a makeup artist, a hairdresser, and an employee from South Pole.

Janet instantly recognized them. For one thing, the makeup artist was renowned in the entertainment industry for having done international stars and supermodels.

Briefly, she wondered how Ethan had managed to book such a high-profile team.

This time, however, Sean ignored her puzzlement and proceeded to direct everyone to their respective duties.

"Al right, you guys, let's get to work! We only have three hours to get everything ready!"

The team sprang into action at once and got busy.

Janet found herself feeling intimidated by the sharp and efficient atmosphere that Sean commanded. Nonetheless, she let herself be swept away by the motion of things.

True to their reputations, the makeup artist and the hairdresser handled her appearance like they were crafting a masterpiece. Janet was stunned when she looked in the mirror afterward; she hardly recognized herself.

Her hair was braided intricately and coiled on top of her head, highlighting her delicate features. Her eyes glimmered under her curly lashes and the soft blush on her lids. The stylists opted for minimal

makeup, but it never diminished Janet's beauty. She looked far more elegant, more dazzling, than most socialites in Seacisco.

She certainly looked different compared to how she looked on her first wedding ceremony.

Sean watched the final product of their combined efforts and nodded approvingly. He glanced at his wristwatch and checked the time.

"You may go out now, Miss Lind. Mr. Larson is waiting for you outside."

Right on cue, the servants opened the door of the villa.

Ethan stood at the driveway, clad in a silver gray suit and holding a bouquet of tulips and lilies of the valley. He looked just as dashing as ever, but there was a more mature and steadfast quality in the way that he held himself.

He watched the love of his life emerge from the villa, the sunlight pouring over her lovely face. A wave of awe washed over him as he drank in the sight.

He offered his arm as Janet drew close, and when she took it, he murmured, "Only you could give this dress justice."

Janet curled her gloved fingers around his bicep and grinned as he ushered her into the car.

The sound of salutes rang around just as the car door slammed shut, and then they were off to the wedding venue. The Bugatti Veyron cruised out of the villa grounds with dozens of luxury cars in its trail.

### [Chapter 437](#)

The wedding was being held outside on the lawn of a manor that Ethan happened to own.

It might be because Ethan had prevented the other cars from entering this area ahead of time that they could drive unimpededly.

Janet was so anxious that her palms were pouring out sweat. Looking at the scenery passing by outside the car window, she kept taking deep breaths in order to calm her nerves.

"Relax, you're making me nervous, Mrs. Larson." Ethan held Janet's quivering hand, his eyes full of tenderness for her.

Turning to give him a look, Janet asked in a solemn voice, "If you do this, will your true identity as Brandon Larson be revealed?"

"It's not too much of a big deal compared to getting married to you." Ethan was concerned that Janet might overthink things, so he looked at her to see how she was doing.

The woman's face was a little flustered, her drooping eyelashes shaking ever so slightly, and her soft and slender fingers were fiddling with the hemline of her wedding dress.

Ethan knew that Janet was very nervous today.

She didn't like to stir up trouble for others. She was always afraid of becoming a burden to others.

But she and he had been married, and it was only right that they took care of each other.

“Janet.” Clenching Janet’s hand, Ethan looked expectant right then. “From now on, the person next to you is Brandon Larson. Do you have any objections to starting a new life with him as the wife of Brandon?”

Janet’s heart skipped a beat and her face reddened unnaturally.

In fact, she was willing to right then.

But Ethan still had the feeling that Janet was still rejecting him since she didn’t say anything. He looked down at her gently and then said, “There’s absolutely no rush. I didn’t ask you to give me an answer right away.”

Their car made its way into the manor.

The whole white villa was overflowing with guests.

Seeing the luxury car coming in, everyone started to clap their hands.

Janet was shocked by the grandness of the wedding. On the road just outside the mansion, all types of luxury cars lined up and the queue was about several miles.

It looked like the lawn in the manor could hold thousands of people. Those who attended included celebrities from various fields and rich families, as well as those in the media, came to witness the joyous occasion.

“Ethan, you should at least put a mask on. If you expose yourself, the Lester family will come right away to cause trouble for you, won’t they?” In addition to being shocked by this scene, Janet was worried about Ethan revealing his current identity.

“There must be other reasons why you’re hiding your true identity. Even though I have no idea what the specific situation is, I don’t want you to fall short of success just because of me.” As Janet said this, her nose started to twitch.

Ethan was startled for a few seconds. It looked like Janet had already guessed it.

His wife was really so smart.

Ethan placed his arm around Janet’s shaking shoulder and whispered in her ear, “I just want to make it public that Brandon and Janet are married. In this way, it will be common knowledge that you’re Mrs. Larson. Then you’ll feel at ease and won’t feel that I’m not being sincere enough. As for what you’re worried about, I’m going to handle it.”

Janet’s moist eyes widened. Tears wet her curled eyelashes, which gave a charming and enchanting look.

Janet cried even harder and a hint of bitterness surged up in her heart.

Ethan hurried to take out a square handkerchief from his suit pocket and proceeded to wipe the tears off Janet’s face. He was too anxious to say a coherent sentence for a moment there. While wiping the

tears off her face, he tried to comfort her, "Please stop your tears now, babe. You'll need to fix your makeup if you keep crying like that."

Janet smiled through her tears. The man before her was the decisive and ruthless CEO of the Larson Group. But now he was acting so cautious in front of her.

She was feeling moved and she didn't know if she should cry or laugh for a moment there.

"Ethan, since you're willing to marry me, of course, I won't be giving up on you so easily. Even though being Brandon Larson's wife is no easy thing, and I may be too young and not qualified enough, I'll definitely try my best to be stronger and make you proud of me. If you feel worn out and want to go home one day, I'll always be by your side the whole entire way."

The two embraced each other.

All sorts of feelings welled up in Ethan's heart right then. "Janet..."

Ethan could tell that underneath Janet's gentle and calm appearance, there was an incomparably strong, unyielding heart and that she would always stand by her man. She was obviously a very good woman.

The wedding music sounded out at that time.

Ethan led Janet out of the car, interlocked ten fingers with hers, and they both walked into the wedding site.

#### [Chapter 438](#)

It had been snowing in Seacisco the past few months. Today, however, was a rare sunny day.

Hand in hand, Janet and Brandon made their way down the carpet covered with white rose petals. The whole wedding venue was decorated with white roses and lilies of the valley. As soon as they got out of the car, they felt as though they had stepped foot inside a sea of flowers. The whole place was filled with the sweet floral fragrance.

With her head slightly lowered, Janet held Brandon's hand tightly. Everyone immediately turned to look in her direction, as they were curious to see who had won the heart of Brandon, one of the richest golden bachelors of Seacisco.

"Who is she? She's gorgeous!"

"I feel like I've seen her somewhere, but I can't remember exactly."

"I think she hit the headlines recently. Isn't she an Internet influencer or something like that?"

All the guests discussed their theories amongst themselves, curious about Brandon's bride.

The Lind family was by no means prominent in Seacisco. It was normal that the upper class had no idea who Janet was.

They only knew the successful Brandon Larson—not Ethan Lester, an illegitimate child who had once made his vows in a church wearing a cheap suit.

Brandon, on the other hand, led Janet to the priest, with their friends standing beside them.

Laney, Tiffany, and Gerda were Janet's bridesmaids.

Laney in a dress was a rare sight. She was a petite girl, and the light blue bridesmaid's dress made her look gentle and lovely.

Tiffany, on the other hand, was like a wild rose on the steep cliff. Even the elegant light blue long dress couldn't dampen her charm. Many of the male guests couldn't take their eyes off of her.

Lastly, there was Gerda. She held the bridesmaid's bouquet happily, grinning from ear to ear. The only problem was that she had been eating a lot lately. After gaining an extra ten pounds, her bridesmaid dress was nearly ripping at the seams.

On the other side of the priest was the groom's wedding party: Garrett, Frank, and Sean.

Sean had burst into tears. He felt so lucky to be Brandon's best man. He could boast about it for the rest of his life.

Then, the priest began the ceremony.

When Janet said "I do", Brandon's heart skipped a beat.

He took out the ring he had prepared.

"Is that the ring I bought in the department store before? When did you take it off my finger?" When Janet first saw the two simple wedding rings in the counter in the department store, she had taken a liking to them. Seeing it in Brandon's hand now, she felt moved. She had thought that he would dislike them since they were two ordinary rings.

"Let me put it on you," Brandon said softly. A gentle smile tugged at the corners of his lips.

Last night, he had secretly taken it off Janet's finger when she was fast asleep. Today, she was probably too nervous to notice it was missing.

Brandon carefully slipped the diamond ring on her finger again. He swore to himself that he would never let Janet leave him again.

After they recited their vows, the crowd burst into thunderous applause.

The sudden marriage of the Larson Group's CEO had caused a sensation in the upper-class circle of Seacisco. All the major media outlets were there and snapped countless photos of the newly-weds.

Except for the notorious Lind family and the Lester family, the vast majority of the nobles in Seacisco had come, whereas the Turner family had declined the wedding invitation.

During the wedding, many guests approached to give gifts and congratulations.

Most of them were strangers to Janet. Talking to them tuckered her out. Her weary eyes looked around the venue and finally, she saw a familiar figure in the distance.

With a gift in his hand, Kent was leaning against a table, sipping some champagne leisurely. His cheeks were slightly flushed from the alcohol.

He was looking back at Janet with mixed feelings. He wanted to say something, but stopped on second thought.

### [Chapter 439](#)

It had been a long time since Kent tried pursuing pretty women.

A few days ago, he and his old friends got together at a nightclub. When he mentioned his plight, they recommended that he see a doctor.

Only Kent knew that his lost sexual drive was because of his anxiety.

Today, he had been to represent his family at the wedding.

The wedding of the Larson Group's CEO was by no means a small event and had caused quite the sensation in Seacisco.

That was to be expected. After all, given Brandon's wealth, it was only natural that countless rich people wanted their daughter to marry him.

Kent had no idea what Brandon looked like. He came here today to socialize with other wealthy families and to satisfy his curiosity about this man. He had even prepared an excellent jade antique as a wedding present.

When he saw the groom clearly, he was shocked. It turned out that Brandon Larson was Janet's poor husband Ethan.

And the bride was none other than Janet herself. Seeing this, Kent grew depressed and was in no mood to socialize.

He drank glass after glass of champagne, trying to swallow his anger.

During the whole ceremony, he was in a bad mood.

He knew that after today, it'd be even more difficult for him to alleviate his anxiety.

"Mr. Larson, congratulations!" When Janet and Brandon came over to thank the guests for coming, Kent forced a faint smile.

Brandon nodded, looking at Kent calmly. He clinked glasses with him and said with a somewhat smug smile, "Thank you, Mr. Perkins."

Janet, on the other hand, stood beside him quietly and took a sip of her wine. Given the occasion, she didn't have anything else to say to Kent anyway.

Just then, Garrett dragged Laney over to propose a toast to the couple. Laney was not a talkative person, nor did she have many girl-friends. When she approached Janet, she simply lowered her head apologetically. "I'm sorry again for lying to you. What can I do to make things up to you?"

Seeing the desperate look on Laney's face, Janet chuckled gently.

Last time, she was so angry that she had lost her mind.

But now, she had obviously already forgiven Ethan. As a result, her anger towards Laney had also diminished.

“Oh, just let bygones be bygones. You work for my husband; you were just doing your job. I should be the one saying sorry. I was angry at the time and I said some hurtful things. Please don’t take it to heart.” With a bright smile, Janet whispered, “Friends?”

Laney’s eyes lit up instantly. The two clinked glasses and downed their drinks. At this moment, silence was better than speech.

After mingling for a while, Janet caught a glimpse of an old woman with grey hair sitting at a table.

“Ethan, why didn’t you tell me that Hannah was here?” Janet scolded, making a beeline for the old woman.

It was the first time that Hannah had been to such a luxurious and extravagant place. She was even amazed by the tall hedges which were taller than her.

She had never seen such a grand scene in all her years. She didn’t know much about Ethan’s true identity. She only overheard the guests saying the groom was the CEO of the Larson Group.

Hannah didn’t know what that meant, but she could tell that Janet had married a very rich and powerful man.

“Janet, did Ethan win the lottery? Why does he suddenly own a mansion? And the car by the gate looks so expensive!” Hannah reached for Janet’s hand nervously.

Her confusion was warranted. After all, how could an ordinary young man become rich and powerful overnight?

Janet was at a loss as to how she should answer Hannah’s questions. “I’ll explain everything later,” she said helplessly.

Tears welled up in Hannah’s eyes and she smiled wistfully. “All sufferings end in rewards.”

Then she sighed again, murmuring, “But rich families are trouble. Be careful, Janet.”

On the one hand, she was happy for Janet, and on the other hand, she was worried about her.

Hannah used to work as a servant for those wealthy families. As an outsider in the background, she could see the conflicts, deceptions, and entanglements in those families.

“Hannah, don’t worry. I’ll be fine,” Janet said with a reassuring smile.

#### [Chapter 440](#)

After the wedding ceremony came the reception, which was a dinner party and a ball.

Garrett was no stranger to such an occasion. From groomsman, he transformed into a wedding DJ and dragged Laney to join him onstage.

Everyone was having a good time. The music was deafening and lively, and the guests flocked to the dance floor.



The party lasted until well past midnight.

“Everyone, if you’re too tired to go home, you can stay the night in Brandon’s manor. There’re dozens of vacant rooms here,” Garrett announced to the guests as he closed the event.

Garrett himself was still bouncing with energy. He often stayed up late in night clubs, so he was used to such a scene.

Ethan had spent the whole night chatting and drinking with Janet. He usually worked until two or three o’clock in the morning, so he too was still sober and fully awake.

On the other hand, Janet’s face was flushed, but she wasn’t drunk just yet.

“Janet, look at you! Drunk already?” Garrett chuckled. He patted the shoulders of the couple with a huge grin plastered on his face. “The room is ready for you.”

Janet looked up at Ethan questioningly. “I thought we’re going home today?”

Garrett spoke on Ethan’s behalf. “This is your home too, silly. I mean, it’s one of Ethan’s houses. Come on; what’s his is also yours. Don’t you know that every second of a wedding night is precious? Why are you still standing here?!”

As Garrett kept pushing them towards the room, Janet’s face turned redder and redder.

Ethan cast a cold glance at Garrett to silence him and patted Janet on the shoulder reassuringly. “It’s late so we’ll stay here tonight. And don’t worry about it. If you don’t want to consummate our marriage tonight, I won’t force you.”

Janet was stunned for a moment. After a short pause, she covered her mouth and tried to stifle her giggles.

“Take it easy. I’ll wait for you. I won’t force you.” These phrases made Ethan sound like a broken record these days.

When she first met Ethan, he was such a flirt and always said and did inappropriate things.

Now that he took her so seriously, Janet didn’t know how to react.

“Don’t ask me...” Janet’s ears turned red. She lowered her head and retreated into the room quickly.

Ethan frowned and scratched the back of his head awkwardly.

It seemed that he still couldn’t have sex with her.

At this rate, he was going to go crazy. Today was their wedding night after all.

Garrett was quite amused. He approached Ethan and whispered in his ear, “What are you waiting for? Bro, she’s waiting for you inside! Go!”

“She doesn’t want me yet...” Ethan’s expression darkened.

“Are you dumb? Janet meant that she’d do whatever you want! It’ll be too late if you keep waiting here like a fool.” Garrett was at a loss for words and shook his head helplessly.

“Really?” Ethan was dubious. He clenched his fists, suppressed the turmoil in his heart, and followed Janet into the room.

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The room was covered with a sea of gorgeous flowers.

Standing at the door, Janet picked up a few rose petals on the floor and rubbed them between her fingers subconsciously.

“Are you going to say I spent too much money again? Do I have to return these flowers?” Ethan asked playfully as he closed the door behind him. He slipped his arms around her waist from behind and rested his chin on her shoulder.

Janet couldn’t help but giggle when she recalled how angry she had gotten when Ethan bought a room of flowers to woo her not long after they first got married.

She turned around, cupped Ethan’s cheeks, and chuckled. “I still think you spent too much.”

Her eyes lingered on the man’s face. He was still as handsome as the day they first met, perhaps even more so now.

She pursed her lips and wanted to say something, but stopped when her eyes met Ethan’s.

With his hands on her waist, Ethan’s eyes clouded over. He lowered his head and kissed her on the lips. His hands reached up and tucked her long hair behind her ears. “I want you now, Janet,” he murmured.

His words made Janet’s heart skip a beat. Without thinking, she threw her arms around Ethan’s neck, stood on tiptoe, and kissed him back. Her actions spoke louder than words.