

Unconscious 491

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In other romance stories, in order to win the heart of the woman he loved, the hero would either make a homemade gift to send to the female protagonist, or he would cook for her to prove how loving he was. Such methods were just impractical in Theodore's eyes.

If a man truly loved a woman, he would simply spend money on her and give her the best things in the world. There was nothing as romantic as a man willing to share his wealth with his woman.

The author of Things You Do for True Love must be a true romantic in real life. At least when it came to pursuing the ladies, Theodore definitely shared similar views with the author.

Theodore suddenly looked at Horace who was controlling the drone and asked, "How is it going? What was her reaction? Is she happy?"

When Horace saw Ariana's middle finger on the screen, he fell into a short silence. After a while, he said, "It seems that she is very excited."

Just as he said that, the mobile phone in Horace's trouser pocket vibrated, which meant he'd just received a message. He took it out and saw it was a message from Ariana. He hesitated for a moment and finally said, "Mrs. Anderson sent me a message. Do you want to have a look?"

"No! I'll stick to the plan. At this moment, I'm still her pursuer, and I haven't exchanged phone numbers with her yet." Theodore had a bright smile on his face.

Ever since he confessed his love to Ariana, he seemed to be very happy every day.

Hearing what Theodore said, a bitter smile appeared on the corners of Horace's mouth. He finally understood why his boss suddenly deleted his wife from his contacts. It turned out that was some sort of game.

“So what did she say in the message?” Theodore asked curiously. He hadn’t spoken to Ariana for almost a day, and now he really missed her. He wanted to hear her voice. However, since according to the game, he was still just a suitor, he couldn’t call her now.

Horace held the mobile phone tightly and coughed awkwardly. He racked his brains, trying to find a good way to phrase it. He then said cautiously, “Mrs. Anderson thinks you’ve done enough today and should stop now.”

Theodore was satisfied. He would do anything to make his woman happy.

“Well, I think it’s time for the next step.” As if he was negotiating business matters,

Theodore had carefully arranged every detail of his plan.

Horace cheered up and said politely, “Everything has been arranged as you requested. But I’m afraid I can’t go with you later. I have to tend to some private matters. The driver, Jacoby, will take you there.”

“No worries. Your girlfriend’s birthday is actually very important,” Theodore said in earnest, waving casually.

Theodore could now understand how Horace felt whenever he asked for time off to spend time with his girlfriend. If it weren’t for the fact that Ariana was ambitious and wanted to pursue her own career, he would have let her be his personal assistant and follow him around 24/7.

“By the way, take the car I usually use and ask Jacoby to drive out the new car in my garage,” Theodore said suddenly. Since he was trying to recreate a first encounter, there should be something new.

Theodore was in such good spirits that he tipped the novel *Things You Do for True Love* a hundred thousand, encouraging the author to publish more new. After work, Ariana went downstairs to wait for her ride as usual.

But today, passers-by looked at her like something was wrong with her.

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The people entering and exiting the Sj Entertainment building were mostly Ariana's co-workers, so it was highly likely that today's prank story had spread throughout the company. There was a gossip chat group among the employees and Ariana was secretly invited into the chat group by Betsy. Just that afternoon, Ariana had discovered many different versions of her matter.

Some people said she was the mistress of a rich man, and some said she was the one who bought all those things to make herself famous. This whole matter was getting more and more ridiculous.

Seeing the looks her colleagues were giving her and the way they whispered when they saw her, Ariana couldn't help but curse Theodore again in her heart. He was really annoying. Who on earth told him that was the proper way to win a girl's heart?

"Hey, isn't this the lady everyone's been talking about today?"

As Ariana was lost in thought, a strange female voice dripping with sarcasm came from behind her. She turned around and saw several female colleagues. These women had a grudge against Ariana from the first day she joined the company. The one who led the group was called Lyla. Lyla was a mean-looking woman with an oval face.

"No wonder she was able to help Sarah regain popularity. It's not that she's good at her job; she just has a rich boyfriend," Lyla sneered, laughing like she was crazy.

After a short pause, she said directly to Ariana, "Why don't you bring your rich boyfriend here? Or is he so old you're embarrassed to be seen with him?"

Ariana frowned and looked coldly at Lyla. "Are we close to each other? Stop giving orders here. My private life is none of your business. You'd better mind your own business."

Lyla felt terribly embarrassed and annoyed by what Ariana said. She indeed had no right to interfere in Ariana's affairs. The thing was, she couldn't stand the newcomer getting all the attention, so she did her best to suppress Ariana.

“I just want to remind you that as a newcomer in the company, you should know your role and stay in your place. Don’t act in a too high-profile manner. You had flowers and diamonds delivered to you here so everyone would see it! Was it to make sure everyone here knows you have a sugar daddy?” Lyla said coldly, glaring at Ariana. There was a lot of resentment in her voice.

Lyla had money and her uncle was a department director of SJ Entertainment. So usually everyone supported her and listened to her in the office. It annoyed her so much when people didn’t know their status, especially when a newcomer didn’t treat her with respect as a senior employee. Now, Ariana went further and even confronted her directly.

With a smirk, Lyla added, “He’s probably an old man anyways. Who else would use such antiquated tricks to woo a woman? I have to admit, this is the first time I’ve seen a man do so much for his mistress.”

All day, Ariana didn’t say anything about what happened today. She didn’t know why on earth these people kept thinking of her as a mistress.

But it didn’t matter. After all, they were just her colleagues and their opinion didn’t matter at all. With a smile, Ariana nodded and said calmly, “You say he’s old and his dating tricks are outdated, right? I will make sure to let him know.”

She then directly pushed Lyla and other women out of her way and left.

Gritting her teeth in anger, Lyla watched Ariana leave.

“Lyla, did she just threaten you?” a round-faced, younger-looking girl who was standing aside the whole time, asked cautiously.

“I really don’t know why this bitch is so complacent. Even if she got herself a rich lover, there’s no way her lover could interfere in our company’s matters, right?” someone else said.

“Hey, check that out! Look at the luxury car over there.”

The shouts and exclamations of the passers-by drew Lyla's attention. She looked up and saw a Lamborghini parked not far away. It was the latest model, and was a limited edition.

"Wow! Wait, am I dreaming or is Ariana walking toward the luxury car? Did that car come to pick her up?"

"I think so. Speaking of which, I remember I often saw a black Rolls-Royce that came to pick up Ariana after work.

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Lyla was even more upset now and the jealousy in her heart was burning like magma. She motioned to the girls beside her and said angrily, "Let's go and have a look."

Ariana walked toward the main road, pondering about why the driver still wasn't coming, when she saw the luxurious Lamborghini on the side honking at her.

She glanced at the license plate and didn't recognize it. Thinking she was standing in the way of the car, she took two steps away.

After getting away from the car, Ariana looked down to check her phone. She began to think that the driver wouldn't be coming to pick her up. Ever since she officially got into a relationship with Theodore, he always sent a driver to send her to and pick her up after work.

At this moment, Ariana hesitated on whether or not she should call the driver. To her surprise, the Lamborghini followed her and honked again.

Ariana was interrupted in her thinking, which annoyed her. She was about to lose her temper when suddenly the car's rear window lowered a little, revealing Theodore's handsome face.

Holy smokes! What was he doing here?

Ariana's first reaction was to look around like a thief. Then she stepped forward and blocked the window with her petite body so that no one would see the man inside.

She gritted her teeth and said, "You finally appear. What the hell are you thinking?"

Didn't | tell you not to pick me up from work? This is going to get me in trouble!"

Ignoring Ariana's words, Theodore asked flirtatiously, "Beautiful lady, would you join me for dinner?" If it was in the past, Ariana would never believe that Theodore would say such words.

The words were normal but they sounded odd when coming from Theodore.

Theodore had always been a man who spoke little and preferred actions instead. He hadn't always been as frivolous as he was now.

Ariana looked at the man in astonishment for a while. "Cut the crap. Roll up the window now before someone sees your coquettish face."

"will you get in the car?" Theodore asked calmly, staring at her.

At this moment, someone passed by. Ariana became nervous and she immediately covered her face with her bag and leaned closer to the man in the car to hide both their faces. "Tell the driver to open the door," Ariana said in a low voice.

Theodore was satisfied. He rolled up the window and asked Jacoby Wallace to get out of the car and open the door.

Jacoby did as he was instructed and opened the door for Ariana.

Ariana quickly went to the other side and got into the car. What she didn't know was that the entire scene had been secretly filmed by several of her gossipy female colleagues.

Looking at the short, bald Jacoby in the photo, Lyla sneered, "Turns out this is her sugar daddy. It doesn't matter that he drives a Lamborghini. How can Ariana kiss that ugly face? If I had to put up with an old, bald man every day, I would definitely feel nauseous all the time."

"Yes, it seems that Ariana is even taller than him. Worse still, he's bald. He looks like he's in his fifties." The other women agreed with what Lyla said.

Chapter: 494 "But to be honest, what more can a woman ask for when she finds a rich man who treats her well?" someone else commented.

Hearing that, Lyla sneered, "If he really treated her well, he would have married her instead of making her his mistress. It's true that Ariana is pretty, but I think there's nothing as humiliating as being a mistress."

"We'd better not provoke Ariana. Who knows if her sugar daddy is some big shot?" "Kynlee, why are you such a coward? Didn't you see how Ariana despised us just now? Don't you want to get even with her?"

Kynlee Morales, who was the round-faced girl who just spoke, swallowed after hearing what her colleague said. She ultimately gave up the idea of being a good person. Lyla was the niece of the director of the HR department, and as such, she could easily get Kynlee fired. Kynlee decided that she'd better stay out of Lyla's beef with Ariana.

Kynlee asked in a low voice, "Are we going to share these photos?"

Lyla looked at her with a smile. "Well, you just gave me a new idea. Yes, share these photos tonight in the various company groups. I want Ariana to wake up to a nice surprise tomorrow."

When Ariana got in the car, she greeted Jacoby, whom she knew very well. However, she was confused and asked curiously, "Where is Horace?"

"Horace asked for leave," Jacoby answered with a smile. He then pulled the partition separating the front area and the passenger area.

Ariana turned to look at the man beside her and asked, "Where are we going to have dinner?" She didn't expect he'd suddenly come to pick her up. In fact, she thought it might be days before she could talk to him again. It was really hard to figure out what was going through a man's mind.

Theodore turned to look at Ariana and asked with a soft smile, "What would you like to eat? Would you like some traditional food or something exotic?"

"Don't you know what I like to eat? In the past, you'd make reservations in restaurants and just take me there. What's wrong with you today? Have you lost your memory overnight?" With her head tilted to one side, Ariana looked at Theodore intently. This guy really loved acting.

If he set his mind on developing his career in the entertainment industry, he might even become one of the best actors in the industry.

Theodore was silent for a moment. Then, with a mischievous look in his eyes, he cleared his throat and said, "Since you don't know where you want to go, let's go to Aqua Garden. The restaurant is famous for its delicious French cuisine. You should like it there."

"Cut the crap. We go there every time for dinner." Ariana exposed him mercilessly.

Theodore ignored her. He had decided to act as this was their first time meeting. He introduced himself and asked her what her name was.

Ariana smiled and played along. After introducing herself, she added on purpose, "I'm a married woman. I have a family and a man I love. I won't hook up with any other man, no matter how handsome he could be."

"Can you just give me your phone number first?" Theodore ignored what Ariana just said and took out his phone for her to put her number.

Ariana kept silent for a few seconds. She looked at him and asked calmly, "Sir, is there something wrong with your mental health?"

Saying that, she shook her head with a serious look on her face. Before Theodore could say anything, she reached out to touch his forehead. Feeling his delicate skin, she frowned and muttered, "It seems your forehead is a little warm. You are definitely sick! What should I do? Let's turn around and go to the hospital."

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The two of them looked at each other at the same time and their eyes met. They were silent for a while and suddenly burst out laughing.

"Well, I know what you are up to, Mr. Anderson," Ariana said with a lovely smile.

Theodore felt his heart melt by her smile. He wanted to kiss her so badly. He eventually restrained the desire to kiss her and handed her his phone. "Would you mind giving me your number, Miss Edwards? I will definitely call you."

Ariana raised her chin proudly and pushed the phone back with a single finger. "Mr. Anderson, you still have a long way to go. It's the first time we meet and you really expect me to give you my phone number so soon?"

Theodore was stunned. He tried to hold her waist as usual, but Ariana moved away.

"No, Mr. Anderson. It's not appropriate for a man to be intimate with a woman the first time they meet. You better behave yourself or I'm afraid my respect for you will drastically decrease." Ariana hadn't forgotten what Theodore told her last night. She even moved her butt toward the door to keep the distance between the two of them.

Theodore finally realized that he had gotten himself into trouble.

At this moment, the car suddenly stopped. Ariana glanced at the familiar scenery outside the window and then got out of the car. She was so quick that Theodore was slightly stunned.

He felt he had never seen her so happy.

Aqua Garden was located in the busiest place downtown. There was heavy traffic at this time of day. People had just left work or returned from school.

As soon as Ariana got out of the car, she walked quickly toward the restaurant. But after taking a few steps, she stopped to wait for Theodore.

When Theodore approached, Ariana held the handles of his wheelchair and pushed him toward the restaurant.

They used to come to this restaurant often in the past, so the receptionist recognized them right away. She greeted them politely and led them toward a table in a quiet corner.

Ariana and Theodore chatted cheerfully while heading to their table. Soon, a waiter in a neat uniform came over and gave Ariana a red rose. "Miss Edwards, you are more beautiful than the bright moon in the sky tonight," the waiter said with a smile.

Ariana was stunned. It was the first time such a thing had happened to her. She looked at Theodore unconsciously, fearing that there would be a misunderstanding.

But to her surprise, he had a relaxed smile on his face and even motioned her to accept the flower.

Ariana quickly understood what was going on. She smiled and gladly accepted the rose. Soon, every waiter and waitress in the restaurant passed by and offered her a rose and a compliment.

Ariana happily accepted and thanked each of them. By the time she arrived at her seat, she received a total of thirty-three flowers.

Ariana was an avid reader and had read countless web novels. So, she quickly understood what was going on. Theodore took her hand and was about to say something, but she interrupted him.

She asked with a smile, "Are you going to say that, the thirty-three roses in flower language means you want us to spend the rest of our lives together?"

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Theodore was stunned. He had prepared this for a long time and now, he would never be able to speak out his feelings as he'd intended. He was feeling kind of disappointed.

Why did this woman have to be so smart?

Ariana's eyelids fluttered mischievously and she said with a smile, "It seems that I'm right. Indeed, all these do seem to be your style, Mr. Anderson!"

"What is my style then?" Theodore asked curiously.

"probably..." Ariana pretended to think. Finally, her eyes lit up as if she was suddenly enlightened and she said, "You're more of an old man style, rustic and old-fashioned!"

Theodore's face darkened immediately upon hearing that. Seeing this, Ariana quickly added, "That's not me saying it. Your over- the-top romantic gesture today caused gossip about me to spread throughout the company. According to people, I'm probably the mistress of an old man."

Theodore frowned upon hearing that. Who dared to say such mean words to Ariana? He was about to ask a few more questions when the waitress came over with the menu. He ultimately decided to forget that for the time being. He'd inquire more about it when they go home.

Ariana didn't notice Theodore's change in mood. She flipped through the menu innocently and asked, "Mr. Anderson, quick quiz. What do I like to eat?"

Theodore didn't hesitate for a second and answered quickly. Of course, his answer was correct. He looked at her with an air that seemed to expect praise. Seeing this, Ariana couldn't help but think of her landlady's big dog. Whenever it wanted a reward, it had those same shining eyes that Theodore had right now.

Ariana had a hard time holding back her laughter. She did her best to stay calm and said jokingly, "It seems that Mr. Anderson is really serious about winning my heart."

Theodore coughed awkwardly. He felt a bit shy. He stayed up late last night preparing for all this. Ariana's positive comment made him feel that his efforts were worth it.

Ariana smiled and turned to the waitress. She ordered several dishes, but none of them were what Theodore had just said.

Theodore was stunned and didn't know what to say. Ariana casually took a sip of water and said slowly, "I guess Mr. Anderson would enjoy these dishes."

Theodore was slightly taken aback.

In fact, he was not a picky eater. He never showed his preferences when eating out for fear someone would use it against him. He was thus stunned to see that Ariana still knew what his favorite dishes were. Those were the dishes she ordered for him.

The food was served soon. Ariana was about to start eating when a waiter came over with a delicate cake. It wasn't among the dishes she had ordered.

Ariana suddenly thought of something and asked jokingly, "Is there a necklace in the cake? Please, I don't want to choke to death."

"How did you figure it out?" Theodore asked with confusion.

Ariana put the knife and fork down and said sincerely, "Because your way of showing me your love is very similar to scenes from a novel I know."

The two looked at each other in silence for a few seconds and then said in one voice, "Things You Do for True Love!"

When the two uttered the name of the book at the same time, a rare look of embarrassment appeared on Theodore's charming face.

Ariana felt a bit helpless and said, "I should have thought of that from the love gesture with drones. I know the pickup routine well. But why did you choose this book anyway? The main character is very arrogant at first considering the unacceptable way he treats the woman he loves, and then ends up quite miserable."

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"I don't understand. What do you mean?" Theodore wasn't used to reading romance novels, let alone web novels. So the details Ariana pointed out puzzled him.

"He's the kind of person who took the woman he loves for granted at first. When he realizes his mistakes, he strives to win her heart back through fair means or foul.

Alas, he fails in the end." While explaining the plot of the novel to Theodore who seemed more and more puzzled, Ariana picked up her fork to start eating.

Who would have thought that one day, Theodore, who had been a valedictorian in a world-renowned school, would be so perplexed by something so simple one day?

At the thought of this, Ariana's smile broadened.

"Oh... I see." Theodore sighed and explained helplessly, "I picked this book because it was in the top three of the list of most popular novels. As a matter of fact, it's even reached the top of the list today, and I think that's for a reason."

Didn't he know why the book was on the top of the list? It was because of the mind-blowing amount of tips he had given. Hearing Theodore's explanation, Ariana wanted to burst out laughing, but she held it back and didn't speak her thoughts out either.

It was all Sonia's fault. Those novels she had written could only cause embarrassment when others inspired themselves with the plot to pursue the women they loved.

“you don't like it?” Theodore asked Ariana, looking at her with a gloomy face.

He had never put any effort into pursuing a woman before, and while he was a little clumsy, he certainly had no intention of causing Ariana any trouble.

Ariana wanted to answer bluntly, as she really didn't like those methods to pursue a woman. But when she thought about what happened today, she couldn't help but smile. Her heart softened and she felt touched by all his gestures of love. She was overwhelmed with a feeling of warmth and sweetness.

Theodore was a man who believed that time is literally money, yet he was willing to spend time reading novels and doing a lot of silly things for her. There was not much to complain about.

“Well, I love it. Thank you, Mr. Anderson,” Ariana said at last with a huge smile.

Ariana wanted to hold his hand but she restrained her desire. Instead, looking him in the eye, she said seriously, “But there's a difference between the fantasy world in the novels and reality. I think we should go on dates like normal people do.”

“What do you mean?” Theodore asked humbly.

Ariana tilted her head and pondered for a while about how to explain it. Then she said seriously, “I'll arrange the next date, okay?”

After dinner, Theodore did not forget his game and kept his gentlemanly demeanor.

He looked at Ariana and said politely, “I wonder if I'm qualified to drive you home, Miss Edwards.”

Ariana pretended to think for a minute before finally giving him her address.

Although they were both aware that this was all just a game, they just couldn't get enough of this.

When they got to the apartment building, Ariana got out of the car first. She didn't leave immediately, however. She took a few steps leisurely, waiting for the man behind her to follow.

When Theodore caught up with her, Ariana turned to him and said with a frown, "Do you think it's appropriate for you to spend the night at a lady's house after just a first date?"

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Theodore's smile widened and his fingers gently tapped on the armrest of the wheelchair. He seemed to be deep in thought. Finally, he spoke. "But what should I do? I also happen to live in this apartment building."

"All right then." Ariana faked a pitiful sigh, turned around and walked on. Theodore followed.

When they entered the elevator, there were several people who all lived on different floors of the same building. Standing in the corner of the elevator, Ariana acted like she didn't know Theodore.

Theodore, meanwhile, couldn't help but cast several furtive glances at Ariana, who made no response, and didn't even turn to look at him. She was acting like they were total strangers.

Theodore became a little sulky. He wanted to hug her so much.

Finally, they arrived at the floor where they lived. At that moment, there were only the two left in the elevator. Ariana exited the elevator first and walked to her apartment without even looking back at Theodore.

"Are you not going to wish me good night?" Theodore couldn't pretend they were strangers anymore. He seemed on edge judging by the way he was controlling the wheelchair.

“We just met each other, Mr. Anderson. Aren’t you a bit too impatient?” Ariana asked, looking at Theodore with detached expression.

Theodore pursed his lips and did not answer. He felt a little restless and began to regret having started this game. This game was no longer fun at all.

He lowered his head in dismay. He had no other choice but to turn the wheelchair and head toward his apartment.

As he turned around, Theodore heard the sounds of rushing footsteps. He whirled around to find Ariana walking quickly toward him. An irresistible feeling of ecstasy washed over him and a charming smile appeared on his face.

Theodore naturally reached out to hug Ariana. But to his dismay, the latter only put a piece of paper in his hand. Then she leaned over and whispered in his ear, “Good night, Mr. Anderson.”

After Ariana left, Theodore stayed there for a while longer. A long moment passed before he finally opened the paper he had unconsciously crumpled up. On the paper was a phone number he knew just too well.

Beside the number was a small heart.

These few figures and a pencil drawing were enough to melt Theodore’s heart. He was overwhelmed with unspeakable happiness.

He recalled Ariana’s mysterious behavior at the restaurant reception after they finished dinner. It turned out that she was writing this at the time.

Theodore could no longer control his feeling of ecstasy. Staring at the note in his hand, he kept grinning like a fool, his heart throbbing with extreme joy.

Even though Ariana didn't kiss or touch him just now, and instead just whispered very common words in his ear, he was still so excited that his heartbeat was racing. He sensed that she chose not to be too intimate or too distant. Was this the feeling people felt when they finally found their soul

mate?

Theodore finally pushed his wheelchair into the apartment. As soon as he closed the door, he stood up and went to the study. He thought that he would only calm down if he buried himself in work.

However, it didn't work at all. Just thinking about the fact that he and Ariana lived separately with just a wall between them made his heart race. He didn't look like his normal self at all.

Was this love?

Chapter: 499 Theodore felt a little agitated. Love really made people lose control.

Besides Ariana, there was another person he was eager to share his feelings with. It was the first time he felt such a desire. Theodore suddenly pulled out his phone and called Adrian. At this hour, Adrian must have been in one of the many nightclubs where he was very popular.

In fact, Adrian was celebrating with his friends at the time. He swapped his usual formal suit for a leather biker jacket and ripped jeans. His beautiful hair, which even the wind couldn't ruffle, fell over his eyebrows. He looked quite bewitching.

When Adrian saw an incoming call from Theodore, he immediately sobered up and went to a quiet place to answer it.

He thought it was something important. But when Theodore's ecstatic voice came through the phone, Adrian became disillusioned. "Have you heard of dark times in relationships?" Theodore asked.

Adrian could sense Theodore was over the moon just from the way he was talking.

He was confused. Was this Theodore's way of punishing him for sneaking into a bar during his business trip? Otherwise, why was Theodore torturing him with such a boring question?

Meanwhile... As soon as Ariana entered her room, she unloaded her previous charade of handling her conversations with Theodore with ease.

Her face was red and her heart was racing. She was overwhelmed with so many emotions right now that it was impossible for her to calm down.

Never before had she been so emotional. She had never been like this when she was with Jasper.

The relationship between the two was simply flat and tasteless. Besides, it was also a long-distance relationship. Ariana didn't feel her heart pounding when she saw Jasper or long for him while they were apart.

Thinking about her previous relationship now, Ariana realized that it couldn't be considered a real, romantic relationship, since Jasper was scheming and devious, and she seemed far too stupid to be aware of her situation.

Earlier in the elevator with Theodore, Ariana noticed his furtive glances at her and she had a hard time suppressing her smile. Even she herself couldn't understand why she was so excited.

She was desperate to share her feelings with someone, so she checked her contact list and finally decided to call Sonia.

It was very late now, and Ariana thought that only Sonia, who worked as a paparazzo and writer, might still be awake.

Sure enough, Sonia answered the phone in a second. Before Ariana could say anything, Sonia snarled, "Dam it! I'm so pissed!" "Wow! What's wrong?" Ariana was stunned and asked in confusion.

“Damn it!” Sonia swore again, and then complained, “The man | told you about, who gave me tens of thousands of tips this morning, reported my novel to website regulators, and they removed my book! The damn bastard!”

Ariana was stunned for a moment as her mind processed the information. “But for what reason?” she asked Sonia, “Why did they withdraw your book all of a sudden?”

Sonia wiped invisible tears from under her eyes and began to curse violently, “Can you believe it?” She threw her arms in the air with frustration. “The reason he reported is that he felt the novel's contents were unrealistic and misleading for the reader. He thought these factors would result in a negative light on the novel.

What a ridiculous reason for God's sake! He’s definitely not the rich man he tries to act like. In fact, in my opinion, he’s nothing more than a simple bumpkin. Wait a minute. | think I’ve figured it out. All the tips he gave me were just to sabotage the future of my novel! Is my book really only worth about one hundred thousand? It’s an amazing book we are talking about, and it’s gone. This guy better hope | don’t find out who he is, or he will definitely regret his words.”

Chapter: 500 “Can it be posted online again?” Ariana asked with her guilty conscience eating away at her.

“| won't know until | talk to the editor, but either way, all my efforts to gain heat have been in vain.” She croaked, her voice cracking slightly.

Sonia took a deep breath to settle her rising emotions. She was on the verge of having a breakdown. Her voice climbed a few octaves as she whined on the phone, “It’s unbelievable that this kind of person even exists. He did all of this just because he thought the novel was surreal. Surely he isn’t aware that it’s normal for novels to be fantastical! | have a feeling that he failed in pursuing a woman using the lead character's techniques, so he decided to vent out in anger.”

She was right.

Ariana gulped, but instead of confirming Sonia’s theories, she just put on a fake look of frustration. She pretended that she didn’t know who this man was and cursed along with Sonia, “Your novel is a great

success, and that is undeniable to anyone who has read it. | don't think some random report is going to keep your book from being back online. As for that reader, he was probably

so obsessed with the fictional plot you created that he did this..."

Ariana wasn't sure where she was going with that and didn't know how to continue discrediting the reader. After all, Theodore did all of this for her, which made her a part of this whole report situation. Sweat beaded at the nape of her neck as she swallowed her words because she realized that reprimanding him would be the same as reprimanding herself.

Sonia continued with her constant insults and curses targeted at this mysterious man, not noticing that Ariana had suddenly become very still and very quiet. She paused her frantic pacing as a thought occurred to her. "Anyway, why are you calling me in the middle of the night?"

Ariana didn't dare let her tongue get the better of her, knowing that Sonia liked to gossip. She bit her tongue for fear of accidentally revealing something that would make Sonia suspicious and lead her to find out that Theodore was responsible for the report.

The most ridiculous part of all of this was that Theodore reported the novel because of words that had unintentionally slipped from her mouth. She did not need her mouth to get her in trouble again.

"Nothing," Ariana put on her most casual voice at the risk of sounding fake, "I just want to know if you were asleep. Since you're not, I'll leave you to it." After that, she hung up, effectively ending the conversation before Sonia could find out more.

Sonia stared blankly at her phone and scratched her head. What was wrong with Ariana? Did she really call her just to ask if she had gone to sleep?

Ariana sighed in relief as she hung up. She jumped as her phone vibrated in her hand. It was a friend request from Theodore. She accepted it in an instant and then converted his alias into Pursuer #1 after a moment of hesitation. Glancing at the name, she found it fitting for him, which made her giggle. She didn't stop giggling for a while.

The two didn't exchange any trivial conversations over the phone. Instead, they merely texted goodnight to each other. The simple words made Ariana feel all warm and fuzzy inside.

Even though they were not under the same roof, Ariana was unprecedentedly relieved because it felt like he was by her side at the moment.

The next day rolled around and Ariana woke up with a faint smile on her face. The weather had a slight breeze that pleasantly cooled the warm atmosphere. Ariana sighed dreamily from her love bubble. She was in love after all. She combed her hair into a sleek high ponytail, displaying her delicate face and rosy cheeks to the world.

She slipped on a pink woolen skirt with an apple-shaped collar, which complimented her figure, making her look adorable and elegant.

She went to the company with a bounce in her step and a smile that never seemed to fade. However, that all changed when she walked into the company doors. Her bright mood dimmed significantly and her smile was immediately wiped off her face.

Ariana frowned and looked around. Something with wrong.

Normally, the company was bustling with colleagues who were too busy to notice anyone they didn't know. Only in the presence of acquaintances would they pause for a few seconds to utter a greeting,

However, that was not the case today. The moment Ariana entered the company, she felt dozens of eyes tracking her every move. Everyone was staring at her, and not just the people who knew her, but everyone. She wasn't sure if she was imagining it, but she could have sworn that some of the stares were tinged with sympathy.