The Untouchable Ex-Wife

Chapter 791

The current Renee was no longer someone he could control. She had no intention of joining the Hunt family. This made him very frustrated.

"I'm asking who the children's mother is. Why won't you answer the question?"

Francine started speculating, "Let me guess which family she's from. She must be from one of the eight major families, right?"

"Is it Seraphina? You two have been close since you were young. I knew it was only a matter of time before you two got together. That's great news! Both our families have been waiting for this day for a long time!"

"It's not her!"

Stefan denied it. "Seraphina and I are just buddies."

"Then it must be your first love. What's her name again?... Cecilia Smith, right? She comes from a rather average background, but at least her family isn't a shady family. She's acceptable as your match."

Stefan couldn't help but chuckle. "Mom, you're so picky..."

"Who else can it be? I can count on one hand the number of women you have a relationship with. It can't be Briar Desrosiers, right? I thought she's infertile."

When Francine arrived at a certain assumption, her eyes suddenly widened. She visibly jolted and exclaimed, "Oh, I'm so silly! So it's her! The legal daughter-in-law of the Hunt family... To think that I searched far and wide but the person I was looking for was right next to me all along!"

Stefan did not deny it. He merely replied with a voice filled with disappointment, "Wrong. You mean the former daughter-in-law. She's single now."

"Oh, thank the Lord. It's just one pleasant surprise after another. I'm so happy that I'm going to pass out!"

Francine covered her mouth with her hands. She was overjoyed and excited. She then gave Stefan a hard slap. "Way to go, brat. As expected of my son. Now that I have a daughter-in-law, a grandson, and a granddaughter, I can finally stop worrying about you."

In recent years, she had suggested many wealthy and famous women for Stefan, but to be honest, she was not satisfied with any of them. They simply could not match up to her former daughter-in-law, Renee.

She used to be dissatisfied with Renee too, but her admiration for Renee gradually grew with time. After Renee left her son, she had been living a wonderful life. Renee founded the "Azure Group" and had the guts to compete with men in a field traditionally dominated by men. Francine now admired Renee from the bottom of her heart.

She was even starting to feel like her boring son was no longer worthy of Renee. She had already given up hope on Renee ever becoming her daughter-in-law again.

But now, her good daughter-in-law had actually given birth to two adorable kids for the Hunt family! Oh, God is good!

"What are you talking about? She won't give me the time of day and has no intention of giving me Adie and Abby. I'm still trying to solve the problem here."

Stefan sighed and showed his helpless side to Francine for the first time ever.

This was also the first time in his life he had felt so powerless.

He had always been able to deal with women easily, but he was powerless against Renee!

"Isn't that to be expected? Think of all the things you did to her. If I were her, I wouldn't give you the time of day

either." The thought of that made Francine give Stefan another whip of the cane.

Stefan said pitifully, "Mom, you too?..."

"What? I'm on the side of justice. Bad guys like you need to be taught a lesson!"

Francine turned around and told the two kids, "Watch me, kids, I'm going to give him pain!"

At the same time, she lowered her voice and told Stefan, "Don't worry, I'll find a way to help you win her back. I'm your mother after all, so I have to help you."

This time, Francine was not faking it. The cane struck Stefan with a loud crack.

"Ouch!"

Stefan could not remain stoic anymore. He complained, "You're doing it for real?! Stop!"

"Of course I'm doing it for real. If I don't teach you a tough lesson, you'll make the same mistakes again in the future. My precious grandchildren won't be able to see our sincerity either... So just grit your teeth and endure it. Also, you should groan once in a while to make the kids sympathize with you."

Francine gave out thoughtful advice while whipping Stefan.

"Makes sense."

Stefan agreed with Francine's plan. He started groaning and

screaming. "Ah, it hurts!"

"Ah, I've learned my lesson!"

"Ah, I'm gonna die if you keep hitting me!"

Children were naive and innocent, so as long as he kept acting pitiful, they would forgive him in no time.

However... Renee was not a child and she was extremely clever, so this trick would definitely not work on her!

Renee finished making lunch and brought the delicious dishes to the dining table. She then heard the groaning and screaming from outside the villa.

It sounded like Stefan's voice, but how could the Great Demon King make that kind of sound?!

Renee walked out of the villa with much curiosity.

She immediately saw Francine whipping Stefan with a cane while Stefan pleaded for

mercy. Umm..... It was not a pretty sight.

Adie and Abby watched on with great interest, They had clearly fallen for the superb acting skills of Francine and

Stefan. When they noticed Renee, they beckoned to her excitedly.

"Mommy, come here! Come here! The fairy godmother is going ham! Finally, someone's teaching Bad Daddy a

lesson!" Abby grabbed Renee's hand and dragged her over, worried that she might miss out on the show.

"Uhhh..."

Renee felt a little awkward. She did not know how to deal with the situation.

Her former mother-in-law was beating up her ex-husband, while her son and her daughter were enjoying the show?!

Should she pretend to be concerned and talk Francine out of it or should she join in and watch the show together with her children?

"Ren, my good daughter-in-law! Long time no see!"

Francine smiled from ear to ear as she greeted Renee while hitting Stefan.

Stefan was pretty immersed in the act, but when he saw Renee, he immediately reverted back into an iceberg.

No matter how hard Francine's cane hit him, his face remained cold and indifferent. He did not even let out so much as a groan, as if he felt nothing.

"Brat, you were doing so well, why did you stop? Keep acting miserable or your wife won't sympathize with you!" Francine lowered her voice and growled at Stefan.

"…"

Stefan pursed his lips and kept as quiet as a statue.

He could bleed and he could break a bone, but he could not lose the image of a dignified man in front of Renee!

Renee stood next to Adie and Abby. She stared at Stefan and Francine with a puzzled expression for a while before asking weakly, "What are you doing?"

"The bad guy's mommy is teaching him a lesson so that he wouldn't bully you again. I think... she wasn't hitting him hard enough. They look a bit like they're acting."

Adie remarked expressionlessly.

"No way! Bad Daddy cried really miserably just now. He seemed to be in real pain. It didn't look like an act to

me." Abby pouted and retorted foolishly.

Seeing his proud son stop cooperating even when she kept hitting him, Francine could only give up and think of another solution.

"My dear daughter-in-law, I heard this brat bullied you so I gave him a hard beating, but I don't think it's enough punishment, so take this cane and let out any anger or resentment you have. I promise he won't dodge or retaliate!"

She stuffed the cane in Renee's hand.

"Isn't this... a little inappropriate?"

Renee looked at the thick cane in her hand, then at the tall and handsome man standing in front of her, unsure of what to do.

"Why would it be inappropriate? You're my rebellious son's wife, so if you see him with any bad habits or if he makes any mistake, don't hesitate to give him a tough beating to educate him. That'll teach him a lesson so that he'll be good and won't make you mad again."

Francine said righteously.

"No, thanks. I don't have the ability nor the obligation to educate him. I'll just educate my own children. I want to have nothing to do with him ever again."

Renee guessed that Francine must have figured out the identities of Adie and Abby by now, or she would not have chastised her precious son like this to try and soften Renee's heart.

Unfortunately, when it came to the children, it did not matter whether they used a soft or hard approach, the matter was non-negotiable!

"I've made lunch. You guys can stay for lunch if you want."

Renee did not want to be too impolite, so she invited Francine to have lunch with them.

After all, Francine was still the children's grandmother. If she showed Renee enough respect, Renee would also show her respect and would not deprive her of the right to interact with the children.

"Sure! To be honest with you, I've missed your cooking dearly. Looks like I came at the right time. My mouth is

watering!" Francine praised Renee non-stop.

Stefan was flabbergasted. "Mom, can you please behave normally?"

He knew better than anyone how proud and arrogant Francine usually was. Now, in order to help him and Renee reconcile, she was being so humble. It made him feel uncomfortable.

"What are you talking about? I am behaving normally. It's a fact that I've missed Renee's cooking dearly. Why can't I say it?"

Francine glared at Stefan, then quickly walked forward and held Renee's arm affectionately, like a mother holding her daughter's hand. She made it look so natural.

"My good daughter-in-law, tell me when you got pregnant with the kids. You sure know how to keep a secret. How could you not tell us about something so big? Aren't you worried that your father-in-law and I would get a heart attack from the surprise? We now suddenly have two grandchildren!"

Francine talked non-stop like a chatterbox, asking Renee about the details of the two children.

Renee was emotionless. She said flatly, "I think you must have misunderstood something, Miss Francine. These two children are mine and mine alone. They have nothing to do with the Hunt family. Please stop trying to drag us into the Hunt family."

As soon as she said that, the air immediately chilled to a freezing point.

Being the lady of the number one family in Beach City, people showed Francine respect wherever she went. She had never been rejected like this before. She immediately had the urge to throw a fit.

But for the sake of her son's lifelong happiness and her precious grandchildren, she endured it!

"Hahaha, my dear daughter-in-law, I know you're still angry. The Hunt family has indeed made some mistakes that caused you and the children a lot of hardship. How about this... Tell us what we have to do so that you'll forgive us. If it's within my capability, I'll definitely satisfy your request without batting an eye."

Francine said with a sincere expression on her face.

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....

They sat at the dining table, waiting for Renee's answer.

Stefan did not stop Francine, which was as good as agreeing to Francine's proposal. As long

as Renee was willing to reconcile, he was willing to pay any price.

"I don't have any requests. Well, maybe just one..."

Renee paused for a second before continuing with determination in her eyes, "I hope you can clearly recognize that the two children belong to me alone. Their family name is Everheart and they have nothing to do with the Hunt family. Don't even think of touching them or I'll fight you to the death!"

Her stance was still the same as before. It was firm, with no room for negotiation. "In your

dreams!"

Stefan pursed his thin lips, his handsome face filled with uncontrollable anger.

This woman was so obstinate and unreasonable. He really wanted to tie her up and tamed away her stubbornness like she's a wild cat.

In contrast, Francine was calm.

After a moment of silence, she slapped the table and said, "I understand what you mean. This isn't a hard request to fulfill at all." Renee and

Stefan were both stunned to hear that.

"Are you sure?"

Renee could not understand what Francine was thinking.

She thought that Francine, like Stefan, only pretended to be "friendly" with her and maintained a superficial civility because she wanted to take the two children away.

But after Renee told Francine that she would never let them have the children, based on Francine's personality, shouldn't she lose her temper immediately? Why was she still being so polite?

"Of course. That's easy enough to do. Times have changed. Stefan's father and I aren't that stubborn, nor are we stuck in the old ways. As long as the children are happy, we don't care what family name they take..."

"It's not a problem of the children's family name, it's..."

"How about this? I'll let my son marry into your family. He'll become the Everheart family's son-in-law and will serve the Everheart family from now on. He'll be yours to command!"

Francine said with a pained expression. She just made the greatest concession she could make. Stefan: "???"

Renee: "!!!"

"My dear daughter-in-law, you have no idea how obsessed my son is with you. Like I told you before, in the four years while you were gone, he behaved like a normal person during the day, but he would cry every night. He cried so hard that all the servants could hear him. They thought there was a ghost in the house!"

Ahem!

Stefan coughed hard, trying to stop Francine from continuing.

He was a proud man. He especially liked to appear high-and-mighty in front of Renee. But now, his mother was exposing his most embarrassing and vulnerable moments... How was that different from asking him to take a dump in front of Renee? How could he still face her?

"Why are you coughing so much? If you have an itchy throat, drink some water."

Francine gave Stefan a look of displeasure, took Renee's hand, and continued, "My dear child, I don't want my house to be haunted anymore. It's too embarrassing. Please do me a favor and accept this brat. As long as you two reconcile, I don't care if the children take your family's name. Even if you want Stefan to take your family name, I would agree to it."

"You've gotta be kidding me!"

Renee had considered a thousand possibilities and was ready for the feud that would arise between her and the Hunt family for the custody of the children, but something like this had never crossed her mind... She was a bit overwhelmed!

"There's nothing wrong with that. It's pretty common to see a husband take the wife's surname abroad. As long as you're a family and live happily together, it doesn't matter what surname you take..."

Francine kicked Stefan under the table and asked, "Isn't that right, son? You agree with me too, don't you? Hurry up and tell her."

Stefan's handsome face seemed to be covered in a layer of frost. His eyes were even colder than usual. "Mom, can you stop causing trouble for me? I have enough to worry about as it is."

"How am I causing trouble? I'm..."

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"That's enough!"

Stefan stood up coldly, turned to Renee, and threw out these threatening words, "If you want to come back, bring the children with you. The Hunt family will treat you well. If you insist on going against the Hunt family, I'll do everything in my power to stop you!"

After that, he went upstairs expressionlessly.

Obviously, Francine was open-minded, but Stefan was still a very arrogant man.

How could he accept marrying into a woman's family? How could he let his children take another family name? Renee

actually heaved a sigh of relief when she saw Stefan lose his temper.

If Stefan had actually agreed to Francine's proposal, Renee would have no idea what she should do. It's not

like she could lash out at them for being considerate to her!

She would much rather fight him fair and square. At least, if she lost, she would be able to accept it.

"See how upset your son is? I don't think he wants to be with me at all. Please stop it with the pointless matchmaking..." Renee said to

Francine while holding her chin, pretending to be disappointed.

"He's not being honest with himself!"

Francine was furious with her dumb and stubborn son. She asked Renee, "What I want to know is if you're willing to reconcile with Stefan. You can see for yourself how happy it is when the four of you live together. There's no need to make things ugly."

"If he agrees to do what you said – marry into my family, let me have the final say in everything, and let the children take my surname – of course I'm okay with it."

Renee agreed without hesitation.

First, knowing Stefan's personality, she knew that there was no way he would humble himself and accept all those conditions. This outcome was impossible from the start.

Second, if Stefan actually agreed to it for some unfathomable reason, having a handsome, capable, and obedient husband like that would not actually be that bad.

It was at times like this that Renee felt envious of men. They gained so much from marrying a wife!

They did not have to bear children, they did not have to handle household chores, and the children would take their surname. Their life would not be affected at all. It was all reward and no risk!

Francine's eyes lit up. She grabbed Renee's hand and confirmed it again with great excitement, "My good daughter-in-law, are you serious? As long as my son is willing to marry into your family, you'll reconcile with him?"

Renee nodded and said, "Of course I'm serious!" There

was no way it would happen anyway!

"Great! Wait for my good news. I'll go persuade that brat right now. If he doesn't agree, I'll beat him up!" With that bold

statement, Francine went upstairs in high spirits.

Renee was not worried at all. She calmly ate with the children. "Mommy,

will you really marry Bad Daddy?"

Adie had a very strong comprehension ability. During the meal, he had already figured out what the adults were talking about. He now asked Renee curiously.

"Do you want me to marry him?" Renee asked

playfully.

"If that bad man is willing to marry into our house and listen to everything you say, I think we should consider it... After all, he seems very capable. He can definitely help you in many things."

Adie's view on the matter was very pragmatic. "Hahaha!"

Adie's pragmatism made Renee laugh. That part of him was very similar to Stefan. She asked again, "In that case, between him and Mr. Q, who would you choose?"

"Well..."

Adie rubbed his chin and seemed to be in a dilemma. "Q has his strong points, but Bad Daddy has his values too. It's such a difficult choice."

"I know!"

Abby raised her hands high and said with sparkling eyes, "Since Q Daddy and Bad Daddy are both pretty good, why not just accept both of them, Mommy? One can take care of the cooking and household chores for you, while the other can take care of your business. You can marry Bad Daddy first, then marry Q Daddy, and then you'll have both!"

"That's right. Abby's proposal is very good. I agree with what she

said." Adie also raised his hands high in support.

He was very pleased to hear his sweet, foolish little sister finally say something clever for

once.. "Ugh. You two have such daring thoughts..."

Realizing that the two children were serious, Renee did not know whether to laugh or cry.

Neither Mr. Q nor Stefan was an easy opponent to deal with. One was enough of a headache for her. Both of them? She might not get to live long enough to "enjoy" them!

Moreover, Mr. Q and Stefan were mortal enemies. If the two of them met... Renee did not even dare to imagine how that would go down.

"If you really have to choose one between the two of them, who would you choose,

Mommy?" Adie threw the question back at Renee.

"[…"

Renee realized that the one week time limit was fast approaching. She would have to make a decision

soon. "Don't worry, you'll find out soon enough."

She looked upstairs to where Stefan was while touching her ring finger. There was no longer a ring there to restrain her. It meant that she was free to live her life however she wanted.

She could follow her heart and choose anyone she wanted!

Stefan and Francine were arguing in the bedroom on the second floor.

"I can deal with Renee myself. I don't need you to get involved. If you really want what's good for me, please leave immediately!"

He stood in front of the French window, looking out at the lush plants in the garden. His face was icy and he was very annoyed. Yes, he had feelings for Renee, but not enough to make him humble himself to that extent, and definitely not enough to let

Francine and the entire Hunt family humble themselves.

Francine could not help feeling angry. She snorted coldly. "You think I want to get involved? The problem is, if I don't, you can't handle it! Can you make her name reappear in our household registration book?"

"With your iceberg-like personality and rigid brain, I might have to wait until my next life to see you change her mind!"

"I know asking you to marry into the Everheart family is a big blow to your ego, but as long as you and Renee become husband and wife and your children carry the Hunt bloodline, what does it matter? It's the 21st century. Stop being so hung up on tradition."

Stefan looked at Francine incredulously. "Mom, are you for real? Do you really want me to marry into the Everheart family and take their family name?"

"Of course! As long as you and Renee get married again, everything else doesn't matter."

Francine said generously.

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Stefan could not accept it. "I thought you were just putting on an act. Are you really gonna "cast out" your only son? If Dad and Grandpa find out about this, they'll break my leg."

Francine patted Stefan on the shoulder and said, "Don't worry, son. Your father and grandfather will do no such thing because they were actually the ones who proposed it. I couldn't accept it at first, but they convinced me that as long as you can reconcile with Renee and live a happy life, everything else isn't as important."

Stefan: "....."

"Son, listen to me, you don't have to feel any mental burden. Renee will definitely take good care of you after you marry into the Everheart family. She won't abandon you ever again. Isn't that what you've always dreamed of? As long as you can make peace with yourself, your dreams will come true."

Stefan: "....."

"Say no more. Come downstairs with me and tell Renee that you're willing to marry into the Everheart family and make her take responsibility for you. After years of ups and downs, it's finally time for the two of you to have a happy ending."

Stefan facepalmed and said, "You've all gone mad!"

"Son, times have changed. Stop hesitating. When you meet someone good, give it your all to fight for them. You've already lost her for four years. Think back on how you've lived in those four years, how much pain you've been through. Do you really want to keep suffering?"

Francine let out a long sigh, her eyes filled with pain.

She was a proud person, and the Hunt family was a prestigious family. Of course she did not want her only son to marry into another house or her grandchildren to take another surname.

But she saw how much her son had suffered for the past four years. He was like a walking corpse. She no longer wanted to see him go through that kind of pain.

Ego and family pride were nothing in front of her son's happiness. She, and everyone in the Hunt family, wanted nothing more than to see Stefan happy!

"Mom, you're overthinking it. Renee Everheart isn't that important to me. Who said I must reconcile with her? The reason I'm treating her politely is purely because she's the mother of my children. If she doesn't know what's good for her, then we'll flip the table and show her the might of the Hunt family!"

Stefan pretended to be nonchalant. He even said some ruthless

words. "You damn brat, still lying to yourself. You..."

Before Francine could finish speaking, Renee knocked on the door and walked in. "Sorry, the door wasn't closed, so I just walked in."

She had obviously caught the conversation between the mother and son just now and had heard how Stefan truly felt about her

Francine smiled awkwardly and gave Stefan a punch on the arm. "My good daughter-in-law, you know how he is. That was just his pride talking. Please don't believe him or be mad at him."

Renee gave her a little smile and said, "Don't worry, I'm not mad. I actually feel the same way. The only reason we remain polite with each other is because of the children. It would be great if we can find a peaceful resolution, but if that's not possible, then we'll go to war. It makes sense to me."

"There's no need to go that far."

Francine was really anxious.

They were so close to reconciling just now. Why did the atmosphere become so tense again?

"You said that as long as he's willing to marry into the Everheart family, you'll reconcile with him. Does your word still count?" Francine asked Renee.

Renee knew that Stefan would never agree, so she laughed and said, "Of course. I would be lucky to gain such a good househusband."

"That's great."

Francine glared at Stefan and urged, "You fool, what are you waiting for? Hurry up and agree!"

"That's right. Although the Everheart family is in ruins, we can still afford to feed you. As long as you say yes, I'll definitely welcome you into the Everheart family with a grand wedding!"

Renee fought back a smile and joked with him.

She was certain that the egoistic Stefan would never agree. He might even get so mad that he'd beat her up on the spot.

That way, she could claim to be the victim and prevent the Hunt family from claiming that she was cold-blooded and refused to give them a chance!

"Are you sure you're willing to marry me?"

Stefan raised his head and looked straight into Renee's eyes. He asked softly. "Uhh... S-

Sure!"

Renee could not figure out what he was thinking, so she could only nod guiltily. "Okay, I

agree."

Stefan agreed without hesitation.

Ahem!

Renee and Francine were both shocked. They could not believe what they were hearing. "What... What

did you say?"

Renee carefully verified. Impossible,

absolutely impossible! She must be hearing

things!

"I said, I agree to marry into the Everheart family. When will you propose to me? When will we register? When will we hold the wedding?"

Stefan approached Renee step by step and asked her one question after another. "I... I..."

Renee gulped and retreated, unable to answer.

Francine was amazed to see that her dumb son had finally grown up. In order to regain his true love, he was willing to humble himself. His confidence and bravery amazed her. He was truly worthy of being her son!

"Son, that's very brave of you. You have my full support. Do your best to win Renee back as soon as possible!"

Francine gave Stefan a thumbs up. After giving him some words of encouragement, she left to give the two of them some space.

Renee also wanted to run away, but Stefan locked the door behind her and stood close to her, trapping her between himself and the door!

"You haven't answered me yet, my dear wife."

The corners of Stefan's lips curled into a smile. His long fingers lifted Renee's delicate chin as he asked in a mischievous tone.

Renee's face abruptly turned red. Her heart pounded rapidly. She said nervously, "Stefan, your mother's gone. You... can stop acting now. This isn't funny!"

"I'm not trying to be funny. I'm serious. I don't feel like working hard anymore, so I'll marry a female boss like you and be a good househusband, cooking and taking care of the children at home. That's the dream life right there..."

"Why would you want to be a househusband? There's no dignity or sense of achievement. If I abandon you, you would have nothing left. The risk is too high. Don't be rash!"

"It's okay, I'll take good care of you and treat it as my job. I won't give you the opportunity to abandon me."

"That's not the point. Don't you think it's humiliating to marry into a woman's family? Don't go crazy with your family!"

"Times have changed. The wife doesn't necessarily have to take the husband's family name now. In some tribes, a woman can even have multiple husbands. I'm very open-minded. If you're fine with it, I'm fine with it."

Stefan leaned close, pressed his thin lips against her ear, and teased, "And as your husband, I'll also fulfill my duty to you in bed and serve you well so that you'll be happy every night."

"Enough with this madness! I'm scared..."

Renee felt extremely uneasy. She struggled to escape from his arms.

That was because, if she did not escape soon, she might actually be tempted to accept his offer...

Especially the last promise. No woman could resist that.

Think about it. After coming home from a tiring day of work, there's a stunning beauty waiting for you at home. He would make your stomach, mood, and body feel great. It would be better than winning the lottery!

"Stefan, let's be honest with each other. What's your goal? If it's the children, I advise you not to waste your time. Just file a custody lawsuit and let the judge decide."

With the last trace of reason in her mind, Renee pushed the man away and calmly asked him.

"No, my goal has never been the children," he said, half-jokingly and half-seriously, as his eyes bore into

Renee's. "Then what's your goal? To torture me, get revenge on me, and finally destroy me?"

"Am I so heinous in your eyes?"

"Of course you are. Other than that, I can think of no other reason why you would lower yourself to this level."

Renee looked up at him. The man in front of her felt so familiar and yet so strange. She had no idea what kind of person he truly was.

"My mother already told you..."

Stefan said slowly, "I want my name and your name to appear on the same marriage certificate."

After a momentary stun, Renee felt disgusted. He glared at him and said, "I'm afraid you'll be disappointed. Unless the apocalypse arrives, that day will never come."

"Why?"

"No reason. But if you need a reason before you'll stop this madness, I don't mind giving you one..."

Renee paused for a moment, then told him honestly, "Because my name will be on another man's marriage certificate. This person is a hundred times more suitable for me than you are!"

"Really?"

Stefan's eyes turned a little dark. An anger was clearly rising inside them, but he suppressed it. He said only one thing before he left: "We'll see about that."

Since then, they had not communicated much. Even though they lived under the same roof, they were like strangers. Even when they ran into each other, they would not even make eye contact. They completely ignored each other.

On the day she agreed to meet with Mr. Q, Renee sent the children to the kindergarten early, then brought the necessary documents to the Civil Affairs Bureau.

"Are you sure you're willing to be my wife?"

Mr. Q was there on time. He was clearly a bit surprised to see

Renee. "I'm sure!"

Renee nodded without hesitation.

"Have you taken care of all your relationship matters? You won't have any regrets if you become my

wife?" Mr. Q could hardly believe that Renee had actually chosen him.

Although getting married was no longer a big deal these days as you could always get a divorce if you regretted it, Renee had already been married once, so if she divorced again, it would have a significant impact on her.

"Although I admire you and want to form a family with you... I don't want to cause you more

pain." Mr. Q held her shoulders and said sincerely.

"Don't worry, you're not causing me more pain. In fact, you're saving me. Thank you... for saving

me!" Renee took a deep breath and embraced the man.

It was not easy for her to make this decision, but now that she had, she would not regret it!

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"I'm glad to hear that."

From behind his unique mask, Mr. Q looked at Renee with complicated eyes. He said meaningfully, "Remember, you made this choice yourself, so you can't regret it no matter what, okay?"

"No regrets."

Renee nodded again to assure him. She left herself no way back and bet everything she had on this decision so that she could have a fresh start.

Regardless of whether the ending would be a happy one or a terrible one, she would have no regrets!

"You're aware of my situation, I presume? I've sworn to never take off the mask, so the way we obtain the certificate will be a little different."

"How so?"

"Give me your documents. I have special connections that will let us obtain a marriage certificate directly."

"But…"

Renee was a bit dumbfounded. "Are you really gonna wear this mask forever? Even after we get married? Even when... even when we sleep together?"

"My face is disfigured. It's a humiliation for me. I won't let anyone see it. If you mind, we can end the relationship right now."

 $\mbox{Mr.}\ \mbox{Q}\ \mbox{was}\ \mbox{adamant}.$ There was no room for negotiation.

Renee knew how important the mask was to him. He would not let anyone touch it. Therefore, she was not that insistent. She said casually, "It's fine if you don't want to take it off. I'm not marrying you for your face anyway."

If it was a handsome face she was after, she would have married Stefan. He was probably the most handsome man in the entire Beach City.

"How surprising. You're that tolerant of your man's behavior?"

Mr. Q responded to Renee's open-mindedness with a weird question.

The atmosphere in the car became a bit strange.

Mr. Q moved closer. His thin lips curled into a strange smile as he asked, "Are you sure you're willing to sleep with me, a man whose face is ruined?"

"1…"

Renee was a bit embarrassed and a bit uncomfortable. She kept moving back, clearly resisting Mr. Q's approach.

In fact, she did not like it when any man got close to her. Like a hedgehog, she had a natural defense against men, even if the man was the "husband" she was about to marry.

This may have to do with the way she was brought up. Her grandfather's training meant that the wall she put up around herself would always be thicker than what ordinary people had. It was difficult for a man to breach.

Except for... Stefan, that bastard!

Damn it, why was she thinking of that guy again?!

Today was the day she would get married again. Why was she thinking of her scumbag ex-husband? Something must be wrong with her brain!

"See? You resist me so much, but you still want to marry me. You're such a contradictory woman."

Mr. Q stopped teasing her and returned to his original position, maintaining a "safe" distance between them.

Renee heaved a sigh of relief. She disguised her embarrassment by tidying up her clothes and hair. She explained, "I'm a shy person. You need to give me some time to get to know you better. Once I get to know you, I won't resist you anymore."

"Shy?"

Mr. Q sneered and said, "But I heard you fell in love with my sworn enemy, your ex-husband, at first sight."

"Nonsense. Who told you that?"

Renee denied it without any confidence.

"Forget it. I won't tease you anymore. Since you've made up your mind, please give me your documents so that we can go through the marriage registration process without showing up."