

## **Wedded Bride 311**

### Chapter 311 Don't Make Any Trouble

Bette decided to adopt Mandy and John soon after their mother's death. From then on, Bette treated both of them as her own children.

In return, John and Mandy treated Bette as their mother as well.

"Mom, " Mandy whined as if she was asking for Bette to defend her from Jina.

"Mom, " Jina called furiously not long after.

"Did you just come here to argue?" Bette responded in dismay.

"Might as well go if you'll just be arguing the entire time. Both of you are not welcome here, " she added.

Mandy reached for her hand, trying to calm her down. "Mom, I gave some clothes to my sister-in-law to show my kindness to her, " she added, trying to change the topic. "She refused to accept them though."

Mandy had always complained that her sister-in-law refused to accept the things she was giving.

"Mandy, you have so much money. But do you know what you're bringing to this family every time you come back? All of your trash!" Bette exclaimed, looking at her daughter.

"That's the reason why your sister-in-law refused to accept all of the things you give!

Are you looking down on us?"

"Of course not!"

Confused, Mandy stared at her in return.

She suddenly felt embarrassed to hear Bette's accusations. She never knew that she would actually express her dissatisfaction in receiving second-hand items. She had always believed that her family simply didn't have the right to use the same things that she did.

"Jina, why don't you go to the kitchen and help them prepare dinner for our guests? More people will come over tonight, "

Bette said, shifting her attention to Jina.

"Okay, Mom, " Jina responded, heading straight to the kitchen.

"You, " Bette said, pointing at Mandy, "come with me."

"Is there something you want to tell me?" Mandy asked, following her to the room.

Bette's hand shot out even before Mandy could see it, slapping her right across the face.

"What was that for?!"

Mandy exclaimed, touching her cheek.

This made Mandy even more furious with Bette. Besides, she never really cared about her seeing as she's not her real mother. She just paid a visit to prevent their neighbors from speaking ill of her.

"Why are you looking at me like that?

Do you want to hit me back?!"

Bette shouted at Mandy.

"Why did you do that?!" Mandy asked, trying to control her temper.

She desperately wanted to know what was going on between them.

"Aren't you aware of what you've done?!" Bette asked, furrowing her eyebrows.

Bette stood still, feeling heartbroken to see her daughter become so selfish. If she only knew that this would happen, she wouldn't have sent Mandy abroad for her education.

"Did I do something wrong?"

She asked, covering the area of her face where she was slapped.

"Tell me. Why did you help Becky stole Isla's boyfriend?" Bette asked.

"Poor Isla. I've seen her distraught the entire time. She gave up her boyfriend so selflessly just to avoid

trouble."

Surprised to know what she did, Bette wasn't able to contain her anger any longer when she finally saw

Mandy.

"Have you ever thought of Isla? She took all of the blame for you. And yet, you never treated her fairly.

How could you be so evil and selfish?!" she said, clearly exasperated.

"Think about how your brother and his wife treated you when you were young. Is that how you're going

to return their kindness? By treating their daughter badly?" she went on.

"Did Jina tell you this?

I know she's been telling you how evil I am. But do you trust her this much?" she asked, looking at her

straight in the eye.

"Aron's parents have promised me they will not require Isla to take responsibility, so what else can I

do?"

Bette then wondered. Why would Isla take responsibility for the something she didn't do?

She suddenly felt regretful for spoiling Mandy so much that she turned into a selfish woman. This

wouldn't have happened if she'd been really strict in raising Mandy.

"What's done is done. There's nothing else I can do, " Mandy said, growing impatient.

"You can't change things even if you hurt me."

"I did that so you'll remember what you did!" Bette exclaimed in defense.

Bette felt really bad for Isla after knowing what happened between her and Aron. At the same time,

she's worried that Mandy would cause another trouble.

"You and Becky owe Isla a lot. From now on, you have no right to say no to Isla no matter what

happens, " she asserted, knowing that this was the only way to scare Mandy.

"Are you being like this to me because I'm a girl? Is that it?!" Mandy whined, her voice rising to a shrill.

"I don't care how you think of me. As soon as I find out that you're bullying Isla again, I'll make sure

you'll regret it, " Bette said, her words filled with threat.

"Now go to the kitchen and help your sister-in-law. Marrying someone rich does not exempt you from

doing household chores!" Bette said, pushing Mandy out of the room. "Unless you decide not to come

back here anymore."

Mandy had always thought of leaving for so many times, but she was afraid of what others would say.

This left her with no choice but to follow Bette's orders.

"Light the fires and cook the food!"

Bette yelled at Mandy.

"Let me do it, Mom, " Jina said, frowning as she saw Mandy cooking with her expensive clothes on.

"No! Let her do it!" Bette replied aggressively.

"You might be living in the city now, but being a countryman is ingrained in you. This is your home. You were born and raised here. So why couldn't you do the same things you did when you were young?!"

Bette exclaimed in frustration.

"Your sister-in-law has done this for so many years without any complaints. I think it's time for you to share some of the load. What do you think?" she added.

Mandy remained silent as she started to light the fire, left with no choice but to follow Bette's orders.

Jina let out a sigh. She chose not to help Mandy despite wanting to, knowing full well that this was all her fault.

Apart from their relatives, several neighbors were also invited to join the banquet including Kay. Bette

even hired a chef to cook for the occasion. Ten tables with various dishes were set up outside along with two other tables on the hall. They even borrowed benches and chairs from their neighbors to accommodate more people. Indeed, their place hadn't been so busy for a long time. As their family conflict spread in the whole town, a lot of people came just to see what would happen at the wedding.

#### Chapter 312 Stop At The Impossible

Kay was among the matrons at the party.

Mandy was busy preparing a sumptuous meal in the kitchen, completely unaware of Isla bringing Aron home. But close to dinner time, Mandy walked out of the kitchen to find Aron and Isla affectionately sitting beside each other. Taken aback, she ran screaming towards Isla, "You damn bitch! You have the face to show yourself here after what you did to my daughter! Not only did you steal her man, you caused us a huge embarrassment when the wedding was cancelled. I can beat you to death and it still won't be enough!"

Aron lost no time getting in between the two women to protect his fiancée, as Mandy tried to claw out towards Isla.

Instead, Mandy's hand hit Aron with burning hatred. Aron groaned in pain but was intent on protecting Isla.

Kay along with the rest of the matrons watched the drama with pleasure while eating melon seeds.

Mandy, seeing Aron who came to Isla's rescue, got angrier and grabbed a nearby broom and took it all out on Aron. "You are nothing but a faithless ingrate. Four years, Aron! My daughter devoted four years of her youth to you, only to be betrayed by you here. This is an injustice to Becky and I will not take this sitting down!"

"Auntie, please stop!" Isla while being shielded by Aron was in tears, pleading. "Stop it, You are hurting Aron." Isla couldn't bear to see her aunt beating Aron beyond measure.

Bette and Jina heard the commotion outside and ran out to see what was going on. Jina, at the sight of Mandy attacking Aron and Isla, joined in the rumble and wrestled the broom from Mandy's hand. She had developed much more physical strength, spending a lot of time in the farm.

"What the hell are you doing? You are going too far, Mandy!" Jina threw the broom aside.

Mandy paused to catch her breath, as she had not been doing any exercise.

Isla quickly checked Aron's condition. "Are you ok? Do you have any wounds?"

"Nothing serious...." Aron replied gently and calmly. He suffered a few blows but the pain was bearable.



"Auntie, do whatever you want to me! But you cannot treat Aron like this!" Isla protested, standing up to

Mandy.

"Deal with you?" Mandy's anger had not been appeased. "What gave you the right to steal my daughter's love away from her?"

Let's settle this... once and for all."

Mandy didn't hold back her fury. "Their wedding plans were final. All the wedding invitations were sent to relatives and friends. But because of you, everything was ruined. How can you defend yourself with reason and sense?"

"I...." Isla was rendered speechless.

Jina, at that moment, instinctively spoke for her daughter. "How ignorant you are! First and foremost, you seem to have no clue as to who came into Aron's life first. I know that you knew about it, but you are hiding this fact to justify yourself."

Jina was determined to defend her daughter. A mother is known for her unequalled courage when it comes to safeguarding her own children.

Mandy, though feeling guilty, faced Jina with disdain. "My sister-in-law, this relationship between Becky and Aron would have been legalized had Isla not spoiled it. Your gold-digging daughter wants a rich man for herself. And it appears that you consent to this dishonorable behavior. Everybody knows about this now."

"You and your petty lies. Remember, it was my daughter and Aron who nearly got married four years ago, only to break up because your sluttish daughter got Aron drunk and slept with him. Thus in truth..."

Jina had to be vulgar in order to tell what truly happened. For Mandy, this was beyond embarrassing.

"That was in the past." Mandy was sticking to her accusation, "Anyway, Becky's company and devotion that lasted four years could not have gone nowhere if not for Isla coming back into Aron's life. And to rub salt on our wounds, your daughter brought her stolen man here without any consideration of the pain and the shame she brings along. I'm going to teach you a lesson."

Mandy was about to take the broom while cursing, when Bette came out to rebuke Mandy again. "No more of your tirades! You are making a fool of yourself in front of our guests."

Mandy would have calmed down but she was fighting for... Becky's future happiness. She had to do whatever it took to avenge her.

"We are not done here. If this is not settled, I promise that there will be no peace among us." Mandy threatened.

"You...." Isla was about to approach her aunt, but Aron pulled her back.

Aron then stood up to face Mandy. "Do you really want to be given an explanation?"

"Of course." Mandy sneered, "Aron, you bastard! Your divided loyalty between Isla and Becky doesn't make you a man. You are far from being one."

Aron remained well poised at Mandy's verbal abuse. It was time for him to tell the truth and conclude this scandal. Aron replied with a calm smile, "Are you sure to make it known to everyone present here?"

"I don't see why not!" Mandy said with conviction. "It is best to clear up this matter in the presence of our relatives and friends. Once the truth is exposed, you will be found guilty and shameful."

Isla wanted to stop Aron from disclosing the whole thing, considering that it was Bette's birthday party.

But Bette assured Isla, "Isla, I am fully aware of your untold grievances. Now that Mandy demands an explanation, it will prove that you are innocent. You don't have to live with the lies and the gossip

anymore."

Bette expressed her disdain toward Mandy, "Mandy, as I fully understand, would only stop at the impossible. Now that she wants to make a stir, we should let her run amuck. She will realize later that she made herself a complete idiot!"

Chapter 313 Did You Think I'm Not Humiliated Enough

Aron had thought about what would happen here before he came, so he brought all the evidence he had. He was really tired of Mandy and Becky relentlessly troubling him and Isla.

"Let me make it clear from the beginning to the end. Four years ago, I was about to get married.

However, after attending a wedding, Becky and I got drunk and slept together. We thought I was so drunk and that was the reason we had sex. But later I went to the hospital to get tested. It showed that my blood contained doses of ecstasy. These are the test results and I still keep them." Aron threw the test report on the table. A neighbor came up and looked at it. People gathered around to look at it as well. They pointed at Mandy who felt embarrassed.

"So what?" Mandy was defiant. "Becky loves you so much, She stayed with you for the last four years and took good care of your grandparents. Was that not enough to make up for this little mistake?"

Aron sneered, "There is only one person whom I have loved since the beginning and until now. That

woman is Isla. Back then, I was going to ask for her forgiveness and get back together with her. But your conniving little daughter lied to me, telling everyone that she was pregnant, so even though it was against my will, I had to be with her for the sake of the baby. But then, I found out from the doctor who examined her that she was never pregnant. She just bribed the doctor. If you need any evidence, I have the recording here. Would you like to listen to it?"

Although Aron did not have to play the recording, everyone knew what he was telling the truth. They started to talk about it. Some were whispering while looking at Mandy. The chattering noise of gossip filled the air.

Mandy couldn't stand it, so she shouted at Aron, "That doesn't matter. You decided to marry Becky anyway, didn't you? I got the invitations all written and the hotel rooms booked. But you broke off the engagement without any consideration. After all this, how could Becky rebound from this and meet someone else?"

"Am I that stupid to make a promise like that? You know it better than I do. At first, Becky sent my grandmother into a coma by pushing her. We didn't think my poor grandmother would make it out alive!"

Then, she made it look like Isla did it, to keep us further apart. During that time, Isla did not even

defend herself. Fortunately, my grandmother survived the coma. Come to think of it, your daughter tried

to kill my grandmother! So do you really believe that I would want to be with such an evil woman? I am

not out of my mind to do that." Aron's voice was booming and his eyes had gotten red in anger. "I say

this here once and for all, and I hope I won't need to say it again."

Aron paused a moment, then he continued, "Isla is the only person I have loved. I had never admitted

that Becky was my girlfriend during last four years, so..... No matter what happens in the future, I will

never break up with Isla. You can write that in stone."

Jina was satisfied with what just happened. She now wondered who would dare say that her daughter

was no better than Mandy's daughter.

Everyone was awestruck at Aron's revelation. No one could imagine that a quiet girl like Becky would

do so many despicable things. It reminded them of the saying, "Never judge a book by its cover."

After listening to Aron, some people who had been fawning on Mandy turned to fawn on Jina. As it

turned out, she was so lucky to have such a rich son-in-law after all and he might be able to help them

in the future.

Many of those who heard Aron's story felt sorry for Mandy. But some started rebuking her. "Mandy, this is all your fault. Your brother and sister-in-law helped so much in your difficult schooling times. You would never live a comfortable life now, without them. Don't you remember that your sister-in-law even had a miscarriage because of you? Though things got better and you got married, it was still your sister-in-law who took care of the whole family for you. How could you be so ungrateful?"

Everyone turned to agree with it as if they were also involved, Mandy had never looked so terrible.

She suddenly felt ill with regret, realizing her whole plan was crumbling down on her. She could no longer use public opinion and pressure to force Aron and Becky together. She found that Aron had prevailed from the beginning to the end. Unexpectedly Aron let everyone know the evil side of Becky.

Even worse, This would help Isla and Aron be together naturally.

She looked around the crowd helplessly, finding herself to be the sole target of criticism.

The more she thought about it, the angrier she got. Suddenly she grabbed the broom nearby and stepped forward. But the next second she felt Jina grab her. "What do you want to do? You are angry

for embarrassing yourself?"

"Get away from me, I'm gonna kill him!" Mandy was flustered and exasperated. She said, "He cheated on my daughter and broke her heart. He cannot treat my daughter like this. I swear I'll make him pay!"

"Stop it!" Mandy was desperate and out of tricks. She felt totally helpless and humiliated. What's worse was that she would also be too ashamed to come back to this family.

Mandy thought she could make everyone think that it was Aron who betrayed Becky, but..... No one would believe it now. She looked into their eyes, there was only the look of pity that they cast on her.

She couldn't believe how quickly things turned around like this.

Becky who at first, stayed home, felt bored so she went out for a walk. But when she returned, she

happened to witness Aron's revelation which drove Mandy crazy. So she made herself appear tough on novelbin

the outside. "You all stop it. Can't you hear me?"

"Becky....." When she saw Becky appear by the door, Mandy finally calmed down. She threw away the broom, wrapped Becky in her arms and then cried aloud, " My poor girl, you made so much sacrifice for

him but only to get dumped in the end, I am so heartbroken....."



Losing a super rich son-in-law and wasting four years' effort was what Mandy weeping about. Now she and her daughter would have to go back to square one and start all over again.

"Are you finished?" Surprisingly, Becky did not play along to Mandy's performance. The mocking eyes of the people around her made her realize something that had happened before.

She pushed Mandy away, sneered and said, "Didn't you think I'm humiliated enough?"

"Becky, what's wrong with you?" Confused, Mandy looked at Becky and said, "I did this all for you. Why would you say that....."

"That's enough, mother! You didn't do this for me. You did this for yourself. I'm humiliated enough. What

else do you want from me? Did you want me to die for this?"

Becky thought a lot during this time. She admitted that she had done a lot wrong, but Aron also gave her a lot of hope. In this matter, he was also wrong.

Chapter 314 What's Wrong With You Two

She wasn't surprised to see Isla and Aron here together. She didn't want to stay at home and didn't want to be in conflict with anyone. But Mandy just ruined everything, and ruined every piece of her fairy tale.

Of course Becky would not give up so easily; she was just looking for a better chance to take her revenge.

"Becky, why do you say that? I am doing this all for you." Mandy asked in disbelief at her daughter's reaction.

Becky sneered, "Oh, come on, you are acting like that because you have just been humiliated."

She shook off Mandy's hands, "I cannot stand being humiliated anymore. You can stay here as long as you want. But I'm leaving now."

"Where are you going?" Mandy asked.

"I'm going home!"

Mandy caught up with Becky. With some hesitation, she decided to go as well. "Wait for me, I'll go with you."

With what just happened, there was no more reason for them to stay any longer. The obvious choice was to leave to save face. Mandy knew it already, but was just looking for the chance to go.

Kay wanted to stir up more trouble and shouted at Mandy who was about to step out the door, "Where are you going? It's your mother's birthday. Are you going to leave like that?"

Mandy staggered and almost fell down, but then she tried to keep her composure and left with Becky.

Seeing them leave, Jina went up to check on Aron. "How are you feeling? A lot has happened to you today."

"I'm fine, Aunt Jina." Aron was kicked several times and got scratched when Mandy was going ballistic.

But it was no big deal for him.

"I knew it was going to be hard for you today, but you know, it's a small village. If things were not cleared up between you and Becky, Isla would always be humiliated whenever she walks the streets here. I can't let her suffer like that. She is my beloved daughter." She smiled bitterly at Aron.

"Isla, there is some ointment in the room. Could you get some for Aron? Afterwards, come to the dining room. It is time for us to have dinner together." Jina told her daughter.

Isla was quiet, taking Aron into the room. She watched him take his shirt off. When she saw the large bruises on his back, she burst out crying, "Why are you so silly? Why didn't you protect yourself from Aunt Mandy?"

"Don't worry. I'm fine." Aron laughed and said, "What's the big deal with these?"

"But....." Isla frowned, "But I..... worry about you so much."

"My silly girl." Aron laughed. "If this is what it takes so that those two evil women would never bother us again..."

"Please don't cry and give me some of that cream. People outside are waiting for us." Aron comforted his fiancée.

Without Mandy and Becky, dinner was peaceful. The neighbors all congratulated Jina, saying Isla and Aron were made for each other. They had forgotten that they were the same people who said Isla was nothing compared to Becky.

Jina could not help laughing, seeing how everything was now. Isla suddenly could understand why Jina insisted in bringing Aron along.

She even felt relieved massively, after what happened.

Isla and Aron stayed in their hometown for one night. In the morning of the next day, Isla got up early to prepare breakfast for the family. They were going back to the city today, so Isla urged John and Jina to start packing again.

"Mom, please hurry up. You are moving as slowly as when we came here." Isla looked at them with

much frustration.

"Isla....." John stood in front of Isla and said, "I talked with your mom last night. We are not going back to the city."

"What?" Isla was stunned for a bit and frowned slightly, "Why?"

"Too many things had happened, and we came to spend more time with you and take care of your diet and living, but....." Jina paused for a moment and said to Isla, "Now since you have Aron to take care of you, we don't have to worry. So we discussed it and decided not to go back."

No wonder they packed so many things coming here. They had already made up their minds to just stay here indefinitely.

She blamed herself for not realizing it soon enough.

"But, mother....." Isla was trying to say something else but was interrupted by Jina. She smiled and said to Isla, "Just go back with Aron. Your father and I could not get used to life there in the city. We are more comfortable living here in the village. And your grandmother still needs care. Hurry up."

Jina urged her to go back to the city. Isla had nothing else to say. She left with Aron.

Autumn was bored as Isla was not at the office.

Charles was still busy with his own work and Chris stayed with Sam all the time since they confirmed their relationship. The only thing left for Autumn to do, besides visiting grandmother, was to stay at home.

Charles came out early and returned late every day. She could not see him at all.

As the day was almost over, Autumn could not help calling him to have dinner together.

After he picked up the phone, Charles said that he would try his best to come back for dinner. So

Autumn was very excited. She went to the market herself and came back to prepare dinner. She was busy all afternoon, but she did n't see Charles even after end of the dinner time.

No one answered the phone when she called again. Looking at the table with all dishes, Autumn was not interested at all.

"Autumn, has Charles come back?" Gary was watching Autumn get busy all afternoon, but not a catch for Charles after this long. He also felt Charles went a bit far.

"Not yet." Autumn laughed and said to Gary, "Grandpa, wait for me. It won't take a second. I'm going to heat up the meal. Let's eat it instead of waiting for him."

Although Autumn tried her best to be happy, Gary still could tell that she was not. She was very depressed, and it showed in her eyes.

Autumn went to heat up the meal without another word. She fell into silence as they had dinner together. Gary could no longer stand it, so he asked, "Autumn, what's wrong with you and Charles recently? I have not seen him in a long time. Are you two fighting?"

"No, grandpa. We are not." Autumn frowned. It would be much simpler if it was just an argument.

Unfortunately, there hadn't been a chance to even quarrel now. "Charles has been very busy. He always gets up early and returns late. We are both fine, though. Don't worry about it, grandpa."

Chapter 315 Another Business Trip

"Really?" Gary was still worried about her, but Autumn nodded her head with finality. "Yes, it's true.

Now, it's almost the end of the year and we have nothing but loads of work to deal with."

Gary gave Autumn a nod, but added, "If he does something stupid, do remember to tell me. I will help you deal with him."

"OK, grandpa. I will. And thanks, " Autumn answered. After they finished eating, Autumn tidied up the table and then went upstairs. She couldn't explain why she was feeling worried somehow.

Charles arrived home close to midnight. That time, Gary wasn't asleep yet. He was waiting for Charles to have a word with him. He motioned for Charles to follow him. "Let's go upstairs."

Gary led Charles to the dining room. He pointed to the remaining food on the table. "You see? Today, Autumn prepared so many dishes because you told her that you would come home for dinner. But what's wrong with you? You didn't return until now. Is that worthy of Autumn's efforts?"

On seeing the food on the table, Charles felt sorry. But the reason why he worked so hard and so late was to give Autumn a good life.

"Grandpa, I ....." Gary interrupted him before he could say another word, "I don't know what you are thinking. I only ask you one question. Are you still in love with Autumn?"

"Grandpa! Yes, of course I am!" Charles looked at Gary, in disbelief. As it turned out, Gary thought that there were some problems between him and Autumn. How ironic it was! Charles stifled his laughter and asked his grandpa, "What are you thinking about, my grandpa? Recently, I've been too busy with the business to care for Autumn. It's my fault but there will never be emotional problems between us. Don't make a blind guess."

"A blind guess?" Gary sneered. As the saying goes, a neutral third party sees the issue in question



more clearly than the disputants. In his view, Autumn could now bear a grudge against Charles. If they failed to resolve these issues in time, they were likely to encounter emotional problems sooner or later.

"Charles, you think I'm an alarmist, right? Well, I am not. Charles, listen to me. It strikes me that you really don't understand your wife well enough. I'm aware that you are under great pressure at work. But do you think Autumn is just lying around doing nothing? Everyday, she takes good care of me and helps Chris see what is sensible, among other things. In addition to dealing with tons of things at her own company, she also worries about her grandma's health. She has to face all of these things by herself. She is not less stressed than you." What Gary said really got to Charles. Perhaps it was true that he hadn't paid Autumn any regard recently.

"You are not the only one who is under pressure, you see. What you need to do now is to balance between your work and family, do you hear me?" Gary patted Charles on his shoulder. "I am too old, Charles. It's impossible for me to keep you company forever. It's Autumn whom you are going to live with, your whole life. She plays an important role and I believe that my grandson will finally come to realize what matters most in your live."

Gary said with a sigh. He continued, "It's getting late, and I have to go to bed. You'd better think about what I said to you just now."

After his grandpa had gone to the bedroom, Charles heated up the dishes that Autumn cooked for him.

Then he sat by the table and devoured everything. Having finished the dishes, he went upstairs. He found the bed lamp of Autumn still on when he opened the door.

In spite of the dim light, it felt very warm. It seemed as if it was kept on for someone who came back late.

Autumn leaned on the head of the bed, with a book in her hands. Hearing a rustling noise from the doorway, she was immediately sober. As she rubbed her sleepy eyes, she said to Charles, "Hey, you are back."

"Yep, I am back." Charles smiled with sweetness. He asked curiously, "Why are you still up? It's too late."

"I wanted to wait for you, but I couldn't help falling asleep." Autumn smiled with embarrassment, and

continued, "Was there too much work for you to deal with? Why do you come home so late tonight?"

In fact, Autumn really wanted to have a chat with Charles. She didn't know what was wrong with her, either. She just felt lonely in her heart, and wanted someone to listen.

"Yes. Unfortunately, I have been too busy." Charles took off his coat and lay down on the bed. He took Autumn into his arms and said in a gentle voice, "I'm so sorry, Autumn."

"What are you sorry about?" Autumn was surprised to hear Charles's apology.

Charles hugged Autumn in his arms with satisfaction. He explained, "I ate the food you cooked for me.

They are all delicious."

"You have had them?" Autumn was amazed to raise up her head. She muttered, "They have all gone cold."

"It doesn't matter." Charles smiled, "I didn't know you cooked meals for me at home. These days there has been plenty of work that I need to deal with. I would have come back for supper tonight, but one of my clients asked me to dinner out unexpectedly, so I had to accept his invitation. What's worse, my cellphone ran out of battery power when I was going to give you a call. I am really sorry that I have kept you waiting all night. Oh, by the way, I will go on a business trip next week."

"Don't mind it too much." Hearing Charles's explanation, Autumn felt much released. But when she

recalled that Charles said he was going on a business trip next week, she felt unhappy again. She

confirmed, "You are going on another business trip?"

"Yes, I am." Charles nodded. "A client in Europe wants to have a cooperation with Shining Company,

so I need to go there personally for about ....." for about three days. "

"So long ....." Autumn replied with disappointment.

"Well, well." Charles consoled Autumn in his arms, "I know you hate to be away from me. But you need

to be aware that whatever I do, I just want to give you a good life. It makes sense, right?"

"Yes of course, it does." Autumn gave him a wry smile. She had no choice but to accept this fact just

because only she could best understand Charles.

If she could, she preferred to live a life free of worries with her beloved family rather than pursue an

abundant life like now.

"I'm going to take a bath. You can go to sleep ahead before me." When Charles stood up and headed

for the bathroom, the usually silent Autumn suddenly called him back, looking a bit embarrassed.

"What's the matter, honey? Do you have something to tell me?" Charles asked with curiosity.

Autumn was hesitant at first. But soon she asked frankly, "You say you are going to Europe this time, then... how many people are going with you?"

"The same people as last time." After Charles answered in a calm voice, he took his clothes to the bathroom directly, leaving Autumn alone on the bed with a myriad of thoughts in her mind.

The same as last time... That's to say, Leila would also go on this business trip with Charles?

#### Chapter 316 Confiding Troubles

Autumn felt anxious, but she didn't show it on her face. She had a bad feeling that something would happen during Charles's journey to Europe.

In the meantime, Rachel's wedding ceremony with Edward was approaching. Since Rachel was a celebrity, the news of her wedding received great attention from mainstream media. As a result, reports of their marriage overwhelmed Autumn.

"You know what? Today I called Rachel and asked her when we could see the main hall, but she told me to wait until after her wedding. I was pissed off, " Isla complained while watching the news about Rachel. The more she saw Rachel's face on TV, the more furious she got.

Upon hearing this, Autumn gave a bitter laugh. Embarrassed as she felt, she had told Andy about this in private. After all, she couldn't allow any hiccups at the Giant Promise Company's press conference.

Andy said that he would consider changing hotels if Autumn wasn't allowed to check out the site.

"Autumn, what's up? You look unhappy, " Isla asked cautiously. 'Lately she has been in low spirits. Is she in any trouble?' Isla thought.

"I'm good, " Autumn replied, shaking her head. 'I don't know if it can be called a trouble. I just feel depressed that Charles has been too keen on his work these days. It sounds ridiculous, ' she teased herself.

"Are you really okay?" Isla continued. Autumn was noticeably upset. "If you need to find someone to confide your problems in, just come to me, " Isla said with a sigh, for she realized that Autumn was unwilling to tell her for now.

"I will, " Autumn returned, nodding. She looked at her watch, and stood up hurriedly. "It's getting late. I have to go to the airport to see Charles off. He is flying to Europe today, " she said to Isla.

"Want me to give you a ride?" Isla asked.

"No, thanks, " Autumn answered immediately. "Pay the bill. I have to go now, " she added.

Autumn was in a haste to grab a cab. However, she was caught in a traffic jam. When she arrived at

the airport, Charles's flight had already taken off. Soon she received a message and it read "Take care of yourself. I will get back as soon as I finish my business there." 'He must have texted this after boarding the plane, ' she thought.

Charles had paid more attention to Autumn than before since that night. Despite this, he would spare time to send a message to her if he went somewhere, or give Autumn a call and asked her not to wait for him if he didn't come home for dinner.

Autumn was satisfied with this. However, she felt uneasy at the thought that Charles was going abroad for a business trip with Leila.

Last time in Japan she didn't mind this for she was there as well. But this time she felt restless.

Autumn let off a sigh for failing to see her husband before he left. She comforted herself that Leila wouldn't succeed as David was also with Charles.

Although she had faith in Charles, she didn't trust Leila.

As she turned around, getting ready to leave, she saw David walking out from inside. 'He didn't go with them. What is this?' Autumn thought with a frown, her heart beating faster.

"David!" Autumn greeted, striding toward David.

"Mrs. Lu? Why are you here?" David asked Autumn in surprise.

"Why didn't you go with them to Europe?" Autumn asked bluntly, ignoring his question.

"I..." David muttered. "I had some urgent matters to deal with in the company, so I didn't go." David went on after some hesitation.

"So... did Leila and Charles fly out by themselves?" Autumn asked, hoping that her assumption wasn't true. But when she saw David nodding his head, she almost fell in a heap.

"Mr. Lu was worried that you might have an issue with this, so he asked me to keep it from you." David explained. "Mrs. Lu, there is no need to worry. Although they went there alone, nothing will happen. Mr.

Lu loves you so much that he will never..." he reassured.

"Stop!" Autumn interrupted him. Autumn walked towards the airport gate absentmindedly. 'I don't want

to be a paranoid wife. But I just can't trust Leila, ' she thought.

Charles called Autumn as soon as he disembarked from the plane. "Autumn, you need to believe me. I am a man. Do you think that she can force me to do anything?" Charles reassured her over the phone,



after David told him what had happened.

"No. I..." Autumn stammered. 'I know Leila very well. She must have plans.

But I should have faith in my husband, ' she pondered. "I trust you, " she continued, squeezing a smile on her face.

"Then I will call you later when I am free. Bye!" Charles said in relief.

"Bye!" Autumn ended the conversation. All of a sudden, a flood of thoughts entered her mind.

Therefore, she decided to talk to Isla.

Autumn went to Isla's house over the weekend. Autumn bought lots of snacks including melon seeds, spicy duck neck and two cups of milk tea. When Isla opened the door, she saw Autumn standing there with her arms full of shopping bags. Noticing what Autumn carried, she pointed to the stuff on her coffee table. They had bought the same refreshments.

"Had I known that you bought these, I wouldn't have gone my way for them, " Autumn whined. Autumn walked inside and put the bags aside. It was the first time that she had visited Isla's house. Having looked around, she found the room was tidy and cozy. "It seems that you two have moved in together, " Autumn said bluntly, as she noticed the two toothbrushes, two pair of towels as well as man's boxers

hung on the balcony.

"He spends the night here occasionally, " Isla admitted, as her face turned red.

"Does he?" Autumn asked with a playful smile. 'As they have just gotten together, they must have stuck together day and night, ' she giggled inside.

"Did he go out today because of me?" Autumn asked.

"No. He has gone on a business trip, " Isla replied hurriedly. "I was told that he had to attend a meeting in Europe. He hasn't come here these days, " she explained.

"Europe? What a coincidence!" Autumn responded. 'What is it? Why do they flock to Europe?' she wondered.

"Just forget him, " Isla said, as she handed the milk tea to Autumn. "Let's talk about you. I find that you look upset recently. What's going on?"

Autumn took a sip of her milk tea. The milk tea was supposed to be sweet, but it only felt bitter.

"Isla, lately I..." Autumn told Leila what had happened to her these days with a frown. She didn't know what to do with Leila. "Isla, what do you think I should do?" she asked, with a worried expression.

Chapter 317 It Was Really Discouraging

"I warned you earlier that Leila was a scheming and manipulative woman, but you still turned a deaf ear. If you had taken my advice into account, things wouldn't have gone down the way they have today.

You are responsible for it because even after being aware of what you did, you decided not to act on the information. You should have known better what kind of woman she is, " said Isla with eyes red with anger. She was exasperated with Autumn as she had tried many times to warn her to prevent such a situation.

"Isla, I know that I am in the wrong here and this could be prevented had I seen this coming. I regret not listening to you. Please don't scold me and just understand my perspective!" As she stared at Isla with a remorseful expression, Autumn went on to add, "If I had foreseen any of this, I would have definitely not introduced her to work at Shining Company to begin with. But now it is too late. I don't have a clue of what to do next."

Isla, who was sitting cross-legged on the ground, continued to munch on her drumstick while talking to Autumn. The dish was quite spicy, so as she finished one drumstick, she took a mouthful of milky tea to wash down the overpowering taste of spices. After taking a gulp of the refreshment, she said to Autumn, "Well, in my opinion, Charles will most definitely not fall in love with Leila. So don't cross the

bridge until you get there. For now relax and take it easy, " Isla comforted her.

Autumn also believed Charles and his loyalty, but she couldn't deny the fact that she was scared of what dirty tricks Leila would play.

With her brow furrowed, she responded, "I am just worried about Leila. Her affection towards Charles is so clearly visible through her every action. Now that she has finally got the chance to travel for business with Charles to Europe, I am worried that she will do something wrong."

"It is only fair that you will think on those lines. Of course, I understand you. You both have been married for about half a year, right?" Isla asked abruptly as Autumn nodded slightly. "Yes, we have been married for almost half a year. What's wrong?"

"When do you intend to have a baby with him?" Isla ambushed her with yet another question.

"What? Why would you even ask me this?" Shocked and yet a little embarrassed, Autumn asked Isla what her intentions were for asking such questions abruptly.

"Autumn, I think it is the right time for you two to start a family now, " said Isla, as she sighed. Isla paused for a moment and then added, "I know, in the beginning it was not easy for you to marry him

and you two have faced many hardships. But now that you have fallen in love with one another, I think you should consider having a baby with him. Apart from starting the next bright chapter of your life, having a child with him will also subtly send a clear message to the women around him. I trust Charles. He is a man of rock-solid integrity. But if you have a baby with him, he will be more family-centered. In this scenario, Leila too would lose all her chance to get close to him. And naturally she will give up.

What do you think?"

"But..." Upon hearing Isla's suggestion, Autumn was hesitant. She frowned with confusion. She hesitated because she didn't want to start a family with intentions to use their child to anchor Charles down.

"Don't hesitate, " Isla blurted. "You alone are responsible for your marriage, so you should have a baby with him. Autumn, I know you don't want to look at marriage as a gamble, but trust me when I say the most powerful chip in this game is your baby with him. Do you understand?" Isla sincerely said.

It was an indisputable fact.

"But also there is no need for you to worry too much. If you feel uneasy about the entire situation you can rest assured, I will ask Aron to keep an eye on them for you!" consoled Isla, as concern was

seeping through her eyes. However, Autumn shook her head and replied, "No, I trust Charles completely. He will never do anything to disappoint me ever."

If she had no faith in her marriage, then her relationship with him would be meaningless.

They chatted for a long time as Isla finally reminded her, "Autumn, I know you have faced many difficulties to be with him and your relationship has come out stronger. But now that you are married to him, you have to do all that you can to maintain and ensure this happiness is here to stay! No one could understand your feeling in your marriage completely, because no one ever even had the same experience. Now that you have met your true love, hold on to him. Don't hesitate anymore."

Upon hearing this, Autumn was shocked. She kept staring at Isla blankly, because she had never heard such wise and mature words from Isla.

"Why are you staring at me like that? Is there some food stuck on my face?" Confused, Isla asked

Autumn who was still staring at her with a rather blank expression.

"No, that is not it." Autumn shook herself out of silence and said, "I just feel like you are so different now. It seems that love can change people's temperament," Autumn said a warm smile.

"No, that is really not the case, " Isla denied what Autumn said. "In fact, it is really not as complicated as you think. I remember that you said the same things to me when I started dating Aron. It is just as the old saying goes that a bystander sees through everything. And now I am the bystander.

You are the one who taught me to trust your lover and I did it. But now it seems that you are now facing the same plight. You always feel that Leila is a stumbling block in your marriage, but it is not so complex as you think. You can make your own decision as you like to. You are the one who has to decide whether you are going to remove the stumbling block or make a detour." Isla's word hit her like a strong storm, and she finally realized it was not as complicated as she thought. All she had to do was to trust him and work on their marriage together while enjoying the sweet life with him.

As long as Charles loved her, he would remain loyal, under any circumstances.

"I understand everything clearly now. Thank you, Isla. I appreciated your kind words and guidance, "

Autumn thanked her sincerely. Her insecurities had disappeared after she poured out her grievances to Isla. And now she finally very clearly understood what she had to do.

"You are welcome, Autumn. You are my best friend and you don't need to thank me as I only did what I am supposed to do after all you would do the same for me." Isla couldn't help laughing as she realized

that Autumn had come round and she was really happy about it.

Autumn also took Isla's other suggestion into account. She stopped at a drugstore on her way back home. The shop assistant rushed up to her with great dedication and asked Autumn what she needed to buy.

"I want some folic acid, " Autumn replied with a hint of embarrassment.

"Are you preparing for pregnancy?" the shop assistant asked with a grin. "This brand of folic acid is pretty good and I recommend it. Would you like to buy this?"

"Yes, sure." Autumn paid the bill for the folic acid as she smiled softly.

From the pharmacy, her home was only a five-minute drive. Once she returned, Autumn found Chris in the living room. It was rare for Chris to be home so early as she usually went for a date with Sam every day. As she spotted the folic acid in Autumn's hands, Chris jumped with joy. "Autumn, are you pregnant?" she asked cheerfully which led Autumn to blush almost immediately.

"No, Chris. Not yet, " Autumn replied as she took back the folic acid from Chris's hand. She then glanced at Gary's bedroom as she was scared Gary would hear this. "Be quiet, Chris. Grandpa is resting."



Chris made a face at Autumn and stuck her tongue out playfully. "It seems like you have decided to have a baby. Autumn, I am so happy for you, " Chris said.

"This is just a plan." Autumn replied briefly. "Why didn't you go out for a date with Sam today?"

"He is busy with his work. I am so bored. Autumn, would you like to go out to watch a movie? I know a new film is screening and my favorite actor is the lead." Chris asked Autumn with great expectation.

Seeing her excitement, Autumn was unable to decline her invitation and so nodded to express her agreement. "Okay. But wait for a moment. I first have to change my clothes."

They went out for a movie cheerfully but unexpectedly Rachel showed up in the film almost abruptly.

Though the scene lasted only for a few seconds, Chris lost interest in it all at once even though her

favorite actor was the starring in it. "Autumn, let's go. I don't want to watch this movie anymore. It is just

really disturbing."

Chapter 318 Kill Two Birds With One Stone

Chris almost dragged Autumn out of the cinema abruptly. In fact Autumn knew very well what Chris

was thinking. No matter whom she regarded that person, he would always remain her father. Who

doesn't want to be the apple of the parents' eyes? Even though Chris wanted to be closer to her father,

she would not admit it.

"What is wrong? You don't want to watch the movie as it has Rachel as an actress?"

Autumn and Chris then found a cafe near the cinema hall, where they sat down and ordered two cups of coffee. They began to chat and while away their precious yet free time.

They all had their work to do and responsibilities chalked out. With very little time to spare, they cherished every moment and decided to spend time with one another and chat. It was the small things like this that made all the difference.

"Autumn, let's change the topic. I simply don't want to waste any more of our valuable time together talking about her," Chris frowned and said in an impatient tone, "I felt uncomfortable just hearing her name."

Right at that moment, the TV in the cafe seemed to buzz a little more loudly. It was broadcasting an interview about Rachel and her wedding ceremony tomorrow. As Chris watched her showing off her relationship with Edward on national television, Chris just wanted to turn it off.

"Please let us just go home." Autumn said as she considered her feelings. She knew Chris definitely had no interest in shopping right now so it was better just to head home.

After so many virtual run-ins with Rachel, they least expected to walk into Rachel hugging Edward on the sofa; both of them had smiles on their face. In contrast, Gary was solemn, sitting right across them.

Marriage seemed to impact the appearance of a person. It must be true. It appeared like Edward was younger than ever before. His looks had substantially changed from his inner body.

"What are you doing here?" Chris got angry and shouted at the both of them.

"Chris." Rachel stood up and tried to hold Chris' hand. "You are home, dear. Your father and I want to..."

"Just shut up!" Chris pushed her hand away and yelled at her, "Father? I don't have a father.

My father has already died!"

"Chris..." Rachel pretended to frown with remorse, but in her head she was feeling smug as she turned around and saw Edward's dull expression. She continued the drama of being kind as she persuaded

Chris, "I know you are angry with your dad, but it's just rude to say your father has died."

"Rachel..." Edward was extremely disappointed with Chris. He pulled Rachel behind him as he walked towards Chris, and then said to her, "Chris, please have a seat here. I want to talk with you."

Edward felt awkward, as he noticed that Chris was so against him.

He would be happy, as tomorrow was his wedding. But whenever he thought of his daughter and their relationship, he was rather distressed and just did not know what to do.

And that's why he always went an extra mile regardless of the difficulties. He spared some time to meet Chris as he desperately tried to iron out the crease in their relationship.

"We have already made it clear last time. Since you have made your decision, then we have nothing to talk about." Chris replied in a rather cold tone, "Uncle, hope you have a happy wedding tomorrow!"

"Chris..." Edward walked right up to Chris and held her wrist, then quickly blurted out, "I'm not here to quarrel with you, but I really have something very important to say."

"But I have nothing to say to you." Chris was content with their current relationship. She had her grandpa, brother, sister and Sam, who all loved her very dearly. Even though now she knew she had a father incidentally, she did not care about it.

Rachel was overjoyed with the entire scene, but she tried to mask her inner feeling and said to Chris assuming an elder's position, "Chris, no matter what has happened in the past. You should know he's your father. Why must you treat him like this?"

"Who the hell do you think you are and when did I ever talk to you? Shut up and don't speak out of line!" Chris snapped at her, "Don't speak like you are a celebrity and it means something. You are nothing to me!"

"Stop talking like that! Chris!" Edward's face grew morose. He really admired Rachel as he thought she was the perfect woman. After being together for quite a while, he thought of Rachel as someone who was kind, considerate and generous. Most importantly, she always thought for him and looked out for him. No matter what happened, she always stood by his side like a pillar. She also knew how to run the business. After she took charge of the hotel, their revenue was sky rocketing.

In Edward's mind, Rachel was already more a wife without even being married and was like a family member he never had. As for Chris, he actually started to dislike her for her bad temper and bad manners.

Also, Rachel's words were stirring more hatred in Edward's heart, though those word seemed to be persuading Chris to treat Edward good, Just like what happened earlier today.

Edward had no plans or intentions to go meet her, but Rachel insisted that as marriage was a big

turning point, and Chris was his only child, he should make some amends. She wished that Chris would attend the wedding tomorrow.

Well, that was a move to kill two birds with one stone.

Because if Chris did attend the wedding and would see her father marry another woman, she would only hate Edward more. But in the other scenario, if she was unwilling to attend the ceremony, then Edward would feel uncomfortable.

Therefore, regardless of what the outcome would be, Rachel would be happy in either of the scenarios.

Realizing that his fiancée, Rachel was being wronged, Edward instantly became angry. However, as he could not unleash his temper on Chris, he blamed Gary instead.

"Brother, how have you educated her all these years? Is it considered good manners to treat everyone so rudely? She doesn't even show a little respect to elders let alone speaking to them in an appropriate tone!"

Edward provoked Chris instantly with his sarcastic remarks. She rushed to him and furiously defended herself, "Why you don't reflect on how you behave and see how rude you are? People always say, like father like daughter. So I must have gotten it from you. After you do educate yourself please do pass on

the lessons!

You cannot judge how my grandpa educated me, concentrate on the fact that he did educate me.

Unlike you. You just seek pleasure with your newly married wife! Don't you think it's ridiculous for a man

like you to have other people educate your daughter?"

"You..." Edward fell silent as he felt like he must have owed Chris something from his last birth because

he could not even get himself to retort.

Gary stood up, turned to Edward and said to him in a rather cold tone, "I have never thought of her a

bad girl. The biggest regret in my life was not educating you to be a good person when I had the

chance."

"Grandpa..." Autumn saw that Gary was extremely furious, so she instantly went up and held his arm in

a bid to calm him down. "Please don't build your angry. Your health is more important."

"I'm fine." Gary waved his hands, letting Autumn loosen her grip. He had to maintain his dignity in front

of Edward. "If you want to marry Rachel, then do it. But after that, you just live your life while staying

away from us. Don't bring Rachel here and show off your power. Let's just be strangers and please

don't intervene in our life."

"Now I'm exhausted with all of this rubbish talk, I have to rest." Gary sighed, unwilling to deal with the disaster Edward unfurled. When he left, he seemed to be so lonely, as if he was getting much older in such a short time. Inside Edward's heart, he suddenly felt unease without any reason.

He was raised up by Gary. In his eyes, even though Gary was his brother, he was more likely to play the role of his father.

Chapter 319 He Is In A Meeting

Edward understood that Gary did not harbor any ill-feelings in doing all that he did, but he strongly believed that they all misunderstood Rachel. He thought they would all get along well with Rachel as long as they spent more time together.

While Rachel was bubbling with happiness of watching them argue with one another, she was also worried because Gary wanted to cut his ties with Edward.

She grabbed Chris by her hand immediately and said, "Chris, your father and I have come here to invite you to our wedding. I know you do not like me, but soon we will become family. I hope with all my heart that you give me chance to start our chapter afresh."

Rachel paused for a moment to compose her thoughts and added, "You are Edward's only child and



after our wedding tomorrow you will be my daughter, with that said I have never meant any harm to you

and I never will. I don't care how other people think of you and me. I just want you to attend our

wedding and support us as we begin our journey together. I will prove to you with my actions that I'll

treat your father with all my heart has to offer."

"Really?" Chris sneered and said, "So what do you want me to do tomorrow?"

I'm going shopping tomorrow so I'm afraid I have no time to spare for your wedding."

Then she sarcastically added, "I don't think famous Miss Bai would care to receive blessing from a girl

whom none of her friends know. Did you forget what my grandpa just said?"

From now on, we are strangers. Remember that!"

Rachel looked at Chris with embarrassment, and then she said, "No matter how or what you think of

me, I will always be your stepmother, so I really wish you reconsider your decision and come to our

wedding..."

Edward remained silent and listened to every word Chris said very carefully. As he looked at Chris and

saw a reflection of her mother, he didn't have the heart to blame her or even remain angry with her.

After thinking for a long time, he asked Chris, "Are you saying that going shopping holds more importance than attending your own father's wedding?"

"Yes, you got it right!" Chris said affirmatively. And then she added, "Also please don't tell others that you are my father. For the world and for, my father died a long time back."

"You..." Edward was losing patience and his cool but Rachel supported him immediately and asked,

"How are you feeling? Is this uncomfortable?"

"I'm just fine!" After a few moments, Edward calmed himself and addressed Chris, "Always remember what you said and one day you'll realize what a big mistake you've made!"

"Really, is that so?" Chris sneered. Then she added, "I will be looking forward to that day."

Chris drove them out of her home. Before Rachel left, she let out a malicious smile. Right after they left,

Chris started to sulk in silence as she sunk into the sofa.

Autumn offered Chris a glass of juice and said, "I can see you care about Edward, so why don't you change your attitude towards him? It does not have to be so hard and complicated."

"What? No, I don't care about him." Chris shouted to affirm her point, "I don't care about him at all!"

Please don't utter nonsense, Autumn."

Autumn looked at her seriously and said, "You know very clearly yourself whether you care about him or not. It is another matter that you just don't want to admit it."

Chris was speechless for a while, then she said abruptly, "Probably... I do care about him."

She sighed and added, "My parents passed away when I was very young. I was always really jealous of children who could sit on their dad's shoulders or play with their fathers who also bought them beautiful clothes and cute toys. So I always wanted to love my father."

Chris added, "Once I found out that Edward is my real father, I was honestly happy even though I couldn't accept the truth immediately. Just like other girls, I also want my father's affection and support."

"I understand that completely." Autumn nodded slightly. She still distinctly remembered the happiness when her father hugged her, the first toy he bought for her and his strict instructions for her when he taught her how to play the piano even though all these memories had blurred with time. These formed her childhood and she could never forget them.

"Can you tell me why God gave me such a wonderful gift yet hurts me with it?" Chris asked Autumn

with disappointment, "There are so many women in the world. Why did he choose to marry Rachel? I

hated his stubborn nature but couldn't stop worrying he would be cheated on by that devious woman."

"Please don't overthink, I am sure he can handle it. Even if he does get cheated on, I believe you'll help

him." Autumn consoled Chris, "We all know Rachel's real nature. We should be careful with her."

"Okay." Chris realized she couldn't treat Edward in this manner any longer. Clearly Rachel also tried to

create a rift between Chris and Edward. But Chris would not fall into her trap or else Rachel would be

the only one Edward would trust and he would leave all of his fortune to her. Chris won't let it happen.

"So... What have you decided? Will you attend their wedding?" Autumn asked her with hope

glimmering in her eyes. No matter how Chris felt, Autumn hoped Chris wouldn't regret her decisions.

"Can you come with me?" Chris was scared to go alone so she hoped Autumn would give her

company.

Autumn was a little taken aback but, then she nodded in approval and said, "Ok, sure I'll come with

you."

Chris smiled happily. Autumn urged Chris to take some rest and she also retired to her bedroom. She

tried to call Charles but he did not answer. She called him again and just when she was about to

disconnect, Leila answered from the other line.

"Mr. Lu is in a meeting. Can I take a message? I'll tell him right after he finishes his meeting." Leila

asked politely. But Autumn couldn't help wondering what Leila's intention was.

Autumn thought for a while and then frowned. She was always unsatisfied with evil tricks and now she

couldn't find Charles, so she began worrying about what had happened.

But all she needed to do was to believe in Charles and herself. Later, she told Leila, "Please tell him to

call me right after the meeting."

"OK, " Leila answered. She then tried to explain to Autumn about what happened a few days back, "Did

you argue with each other for what happened that day? Please don't misunderstand it all. It was just an

accident."

"Why would you ask that?" Autumn asked her indifferently. Leila was slightly shocked because she

asked Autumn that just to check whether Charles and Autumn's present relationship was strong or not.

Chapter 320 Attending The Wedding

"I noticed Mr. Lu looking cheerless lately which led me to think that maybe you guys had a fight, " Leila

said.

"What happened that day was a grave mistake. I thought Mr. Lu must be feeling drowsy after working so many hours so I poured him some coffee. But I accidentally spilled the coffee on his lap. I was just trying to clean up his pants when you entered the office. I never meant to cause some misunderstanding," she added, trying to explain.

Despite her apology, Autumn couldn't help but imagine her gloating deep inside.

'She doesn't feel sorry at all. She kept on reminding me of what happened. Is she expecting that my suspicions would destroy the relationship between Charles and me?

She must think that the more she tries to explain, the more skeptical I become. That's exactly what she wants,' Autumn wondered.

"There's no need to worry. We've been married for a long time so I know him more than anybody else.

He's a faithful husband and I know that he'll never betray me. I might have gotten angry when I saw that scene but I've already forgotten it," Autumn said, looking as if she had read Leila's thoughts.

"If I were you, I wouldn't really think too much about this. Besides, we wouldn't be fighting over such a small thing. He just really works hard. Trust me, he's not upset or anything," Autumn added, sounding sure of herself.

Leila's face turned red in anger upon hearing this.

'She's obviously trying to play it down by reminding me not to think too much about it. It's almost as if she's saying I'm not capable of turning them against each other, '

Leila thought to herself.

"Really? I even lost sleep just to think about this!" Leila responded, laughing casually.

"You can finally have a good night's sleep tonight then, "

Autumn said with a contemptuous smile.

"I hope so, " Leila said meekly.

"Anyway, I'm hanging up the phone now since I still have some work to finish. Don't worry about Mr. Lu.

I'll make sure to keep an eye on him so he doesn't have the chance to cheat on you."

"You don't really have to. But thanks, " Autumn said, gritting her teeth.

If anything, Leila was her biggest concern.

"You're welcome, "

Leila responded as she ended their conversation.

Autumn heaved a sigh of relief and collapsed to the bed. She was extremely worried that Leila might do something immoral just to get Charles.

She might have pretended to be cool but she felt relentless deep inside.

Not wanting to miss Charles' call, she stayed awake the whole night, staring at her phone. Even a small noise woke her up despite being extremely drowsy. Unfortunately, Charles hadn't called that night.

The next morning, Autumn came across Chris the moment she got up. "Hey, what happened? You almost look like a panda with those black eyes, "

Chris remarked, taken aback by the dark circles under her eyes. Autumn's white skin highlighted her under-eye area even more.

"I wasn't able to sleep well, " Autumn replied, yawning as she sipped a bottle of milk from the fridge.

"Hold a sec. Let me just change my clothes, " she added, going upstairs to dress herself.

By the time she went downstairs, Chris had already been waiting patiently. They left for Edward's wedding while Chris remained silent on the way. Autumn couldn't even start to imagine how uncomfortable Chris might feel with her father marrying a woman she didn't like.



"We're here, " Autumn said, looking at Chris.

"You can go out now. I'll just park the car, " Autumn said as they arrived at the hotel.

"Sure, " Chris replied.

Chris stood in front of the hotel, waiting for Autumn. She looked around, catching Edward and Rachel's wedding photo. The photo showed Rachel putting her head on Edward's shoulder, smiling casually. On the contrary, Edward's eyes narrowed into a line, showing a sincere laugh.

Feeling uncomfortable, Chris stared at the photo with a serious expression.

"What are you looking at?" Autumn asked, walking up to Chris after parking the car.

"They look nice, " Autumn said, catching a glimpse of the photo.

"Shall we go inside? They had already been waiting for us, " she urged, grabbing Chris' hand as they entered the hotel.

Edward was the CEO of Sun Company while Rachel was known as a top star. The wedding had a grand ceremony attended by a huge number of influential figures both in the business and entertainment industry.

This led to the wedding attracting a lot of media attention, with many reporters eager to acquire some gossip.

The reporters were most looking forward to seeing Charles at the wedding. They were mostly interested in the fact that Rachel and Charles had previously dated. Once he appeared, they could ask some questions and publish some stories.

Unfortunately, Charles hadn't shown up even after they had waited for so long. Instead, they were able to spot his wife and sister.

This led the media flood Autumn along with their cameras, making use of her presence to acquire some news that could be useful.

The reporters wasted no time as they bombarded Autumn with a lot of questions.

"Mrs. Lu, can you tell us why is Mr. Lu a no-show tonight?"

"What do you think of Mr. Lu and Miss Bai's past relationship?"

"Is it Mr. Lu's personal decision to not attend this occasion?"

"Mrs. Lu, do you have any words to say about Miss Bai's marriage?"

The questions continuously came in, all sharp and meant to spark controversy. Fortunately, Autumn

was able to prepare for the barrage of questions.

"Everyone, please stop speaking at the same time. I am faced with a lot of inquiries that I even don't know which one to answer first, "

Autumn said, smiling as she tried her best to entertain all of the reporters.