

## **Wedded Bride 651**

### Chapter 651 Sheryl Discharged From The Hospital

"Nothing happened," said Isla. Isla didn't want to lie to Aron because he was the closest person to her.

But she had promised Sheryl she wouldn't tell anyone.

She just couldn't break her words. She was also unsure whether she should tell Charles about it or not.

Isla tossed and turned in her bed almost the whole night trying to figure out the answer to that mind-

boggling question.

In her heart, all she wished was to make her best friend happy. Charles was not able to protect Sheryl

from the danger at that time. Sheryl had suffered a lot of torture. But he too had gone through enough

hardships these past three years in return.

Isla knew Sheryl once loved Charles with all her heart. Now, she just forgot what happened in the past.

She struggled for a long time and decided to tell Charles. Whether Charles would try to regain Sheryl's

heart would be up to him.

The following morning, Isla got up early and thought of calling Charles but changed her mind. She

realized that he could already be in his office. She decided to pay him a visit. She surmised that it was

better to tell him face to face.

Charles was having a meeting when she arrived. She waited for him in his office. A little later, Charles adjourned the meeting and went back to his office. He found Isla seated on the couch waiting for him.

"Good morning, Isla. What brought you here so early?" he asked in surprise.

"Morning Charles! Sorry to bother you this early but I have something really important to tell you."

Charles sat on the chair beside his office desk and prepared to work. Isla got up from the couch and approached him. "Hey, what's up with you and Sheryl?" she inquired.

Charles paused for a while and heaved a deep sigh. Then he answered, "She seems to hate me. She is also allergic to get too close to me."

"So, that's it? You're just gonna give up?" Isla got very worried as she probed.

"How could that be possible?" Charles glanced at Isla and added, "You know very well I don't give up easily."

No matter how cold Sheryl treated him, she was the only one he loved. He loved her so much that he would never give up on her. "I will do everything to win her heart back," he uttered decisively.

Then he gazed at Isla with extreme curiosity. "Did you see me just to find out my next move?"

"Of course not." Isla finally recalled her main intention in seeing Charles. She arched a brow and started to divulge, "Sheryl called me last night."

"Why did she call you?" Charles got amazed and asked Isla abruptly.

"It seemed that... she remembered something in the past." Isla added, "She said she wanted to see Autumn's photo. She wanted to verify whether she is Autumn or not."

"Did you show her the photo?" Charles asked her nervously. He had waited for this moment for a long time. He couldn't help but grasp the pen tightly in suspense.

"Yes, I did." Isla added, "I just want to warn you that Sheryl must have known your identity by now. You should take an action as soon as possible."

"I know." Charles nodded his head in approval. The situation got much more complicated.

As Isla was about to leave, she said, "Oh, I nearly forgot something important." Isla flashed a glare at Charles and added, "Sheryl was not feeling well. She was confined at Y City Hospital for treatment. Her ward number is 1615."

"What... what happened to her?" Charles didn't bother to wait for Isla's reply nor asked for more. He rushed out of the office to see Sheryl. He had lost her once and that made his heart broken. So he

wouldn't let her be lost again this time.

Her safety and health were the only things he cared about.

Sheryl was cleaning the bed when Charles arrived. Although Sheryl just stayed for one night in the ward, Anthony brought many things to make her feel more comfortable.

Sheryl struggled to pack them all up and blamed Anthony, "I told you I was fine but you didn't believe me. You brought too many bedding stuff. How can I pack them all up? It's exhausting!"

"Well Sweetie, I was just worried you might feel uncomfortable with the hospital bedding so I carried all of them." Anthony added with a grin, "I'm sorry, Sher. Don't blame me for wanting to make you really feel at home."

"Fine," Sheryl said with a smile. Upon seeing Anthony standing motionlessly in front of her, Sheryl queried, "Why are you still here? Didn't you say you would take care of the hospital's procedure to discharge me?"

"Sher..." Anthony called her name with concern. Then he asked with a wrinkled brow, "Are you sure you are alright? How about staying for one more night here in the hospital? We could leave once the

doctors are a hundred percent sure you are alright."

In his mind, Anthony was suddenly uneasy as he knew Sheryl's memory might recover anytime. But he calmed down after considering what happened that one night.

It was Sheryl's own will to take the medicine back then. So Anthony didn't have to worry even if she did remember what happened before. It had nothing to do with him.

He was her only company for years. He surmised that what he should do that time was to give all his heart to her. That way she couldn't bear to be separated from him.

"Anthony... I'm fine... really. Don't worry about me, okay?" Sheryl said reassuringly. Although she had never known who she was even after the talk with Isla, Sheryl still pretended nothing had happened before Anthony came.

She smiled at Anthony and said, "Just go now and complete the discharge procedures. I will stay here to pack the things up so we could go home soon."

"Fine, then. Call me if you need any help okay?" Shirley was left home alone. She was a good girl. She understood that it wouldn't take too much time to discharge her mother from the hospital. Anthony believed Shirley would be safer to stay at home and wait for their return.

Sheryl went on packing up as Anthony left. Just a bit later, the door of the ward opened. Sheryl thought that the person who entered the ward was Anthony. Without looking, she exclaimed, "Have you finished the procedure? That's too quick!"

The intruder didn't answer. Instead, she felt something wrong when she realized that she was abruptly pressed into someone's arms. That was before she could even see a face.

But, she immediately recognized it was Charles through his familiar smell.

She tried to push Charles away but he hugged her tightly. She couldn't move in his arms and had to shout at him, "Charles what's wrong? Let go of me!"

"No Sheryl, I won't!" he rejected. Then he mumbled as he spoke, "Sheryl, I will never let you leave me."

"Charles, what are you saying? Are you insane?" Sheryl asked with an arched brow. She wanted to push him away but restrained herself as she felt the restlessness and sadness from his voice.

"Yes, I am insane," he said with a bitter smile. He had already gone insane when she went missing three years ago.

Charles must have been out of his mind and totally devastated if Sheryl didn't show up.

"You gotta let me go, Charles!" she blurted as she struggled to free herself from his embrace. He

hugged her tightly and long enough. Sheryl couldn't bear it any more. She ordered, "Get your hands off me, please!"

But Charles continued to hug her even more tightly and decided not to give her any chance to get rid of him.

Chapter 652 Sheryl's Abduction

Sheryl smiled bitterly and asked softly, "Charles, who do you think you are hugging? Is it Autumn or me?"

She had already known she was Autumn. There was no difference no matter he took her as herself or Autumn. But she couldn't help but tease Charles with the question.

She just couldn't accept the fact that she was Autumn.

"Don't you know how much I love you?" Charles asked bitterly. He withdrew his hands and sorrowfully stared at her eyes.

He had suffered enough. He wondered why Sheryl still couldn't read the content of his heart.

"You love me? I don't know that." Sheryl turned back to face Charles and said, "I just know I'm Sheryl.

I'm Anthony's girlfriend and we are going to be married soon."

Sheryl cast a glance at Charles and said, "I have told you everything clearly and hope you won't bother my life anymore. Why don't you listen to me?"

"Come with me!" Charles grasped Sheryl's wrist suddenly and dragged her out of the ward. Taken aback, Sheryl patted Charles' hand with all her strength but couldn't shake it off.

"Let go of me, Charles!" Sheryl screamed. Charles didn't care about what she said and dragged her into the elevator. As the door of the elevator closed, he saw Anthony staring at him. He stood outside the elevator, as his face got pale out of anger and shock. Charles flashed a cold smile towards his competitor.

From then on, the battle between the two men began. Charles decided not to give way this time.

"Charles! You are crazy!" Sheryl yelled. Sheryl didn't see Anthony and tried her best to get rid of Charles' hand. Charles got a bit annoyed and warned Sheryl, "If you dare to struggle more, I will kiss you!"

Sheryl's face blushed red when she heard his warning. She became quiet immediately and stopped fidgeting in fear that Charles would do as he said.



Charles felt delighted as Sheryl stopped struggling. But he immediately got a tad sad because he realized she was just taken aback by his warning.

After they got out of the elevator, Charles pulled Sheryl and walked towards his car. He opened the door and pushed Sheryl inside his car. She kept asking him where he would take her to but he didn't answer any of her questions.

Sheryl felt more and more nervous as they got increasingly far away from the hospital. She grasped the seat belt, put it on and asked Charles, "Where are we going?"

"You will know when we arrive." Charles still refused to tell her. While she was in panic, her cellphone suddenly rang. The call was from Anthony.

Sheryl picked up the cellphone immediately and said, "Anthony, I..."

Pretending he knew nothing about what happened, Anthony asked her with concern, "Sher, where are you? I heard from a doctor that you were taken away by a man. What happened?"

"I..." Sheryl stammered. Then she glanced at Charles, the man who was once her husband. She didn't want to cause too much trouble for both Anthony and Charles, so she said, "I'm... I'm fine. I have something to deal with now. You can just go home and wait for me there."

"Sher, can you please... please tell me what's going on with you?" Sheryl felt the nerves coming from his voice. But actually, his face showed no sign of being worried. He just very calmly stood in the ward.

He felt very painful as Sheryl kept the fact that she was taken away by Charles.

He wondered why Sheryl lied to him.

"I'm fine honey... really." Sheryl wanted to console him but Charles grabbed the cellphone from her. He said to Anthony, "Sher is with me now. She is safe and you don't have to worry."

Anthony grasped his phone tightly in a rage. He was speechless for a while and said, "Charles, what do you want to do?"

"Nothing," Charles answered with a sneer. Then he added, "What I want to do is between Sheryl and me. It's none of your business."

"You're a fucking asshole! Don't you dare lay your dirty hands on her!" Anthony burst furiously. He resisted the urge to throw away his cellphone and firmly said to Charles, "Sheryl is my fiancée now. We will be married soon. You'd better know that I will never surrender her to you. You jerk!"

"Oh, really?" Charles ridiculed. Clearly, he didn't take what Anthony said seriously. "I don't need you to

give her to me. Let's compete and see who will win her heart in the end," Charles challenged Anthony.

As he finished his words, Charles hung up the phone and turned it off so that Anthony couldn't bother them any longer.

He put the cellphone into the pocket of his suit. "I'll keep your phone temporarily," he said.

Sheryl clenched her teeth out of anger. She stared at Charles and inquired, "How could you be so rude?"

"Because it doesn't work whenever I treat you like a gentleman." Charles added, "I was worried that you would feel uneasy, so I was careful and respectful as I got along with you previously. But that only gave you more chances to avoid me. So I decided to do what I want directly. You can go on trying to stay away from me, but I don't care about what you think anymore. I'll court you whether you like it or not."

Too irritated, Sheryl was rendered speechless.. She cast a contemptuous glance at Charles and remarked, "You're really a jerk!"

'How could I fall in love with such a shameless man?' she asked herself.

They had spent quite a long time on the road. When Charles saw Sheryl early that day, he had decided that he must take actions the soonest. He must tell her everything that was in his heart once and for all.

So he brought her to the warehouse where she was imprisoned by Ferry three years ago. Everything started in the warehouse. He would rather rebuild their relationship from the same place.

Chapter 653 I Won't Let You Go

"We're here," Charles told Sheryl as the car parked outside a dilapidated warehouse. He got out of the car, went around to the passenger side, pulled the door open and said, "You can get out now."

"Where are we?" Sheryl asked. There was a certain hesitation in her voice. The place was unfamiliar to her but she could feel a familiar sense of fear instinctively. It was as if something untoward and terrifying was about to happen.

"Don't be afraid. I'm with you," Charles comforted her and held her hand. "Come on, I'd like to show you something." Charles' gentle voice allayed Sheryl's fear.

She looked up to him. His eyes seemed to be so magical that Sheryl plucked up enough courage to face her fear. Holding Charles' hand, she got out of the car.

For some reasons, she just trusted Charles.

She could not bear to see the slightest hint of sadness in Charles' beautiful eyes.

Charles then led her to the warehouse. While holding her hands, he could feel that Sheryl's hand was

still as soft and comfortable as it had been three years ago.

It was about a ten-minute walk from the parking area to the gate of the dilapidated warehouse. Sheryl

didn't say a word along the way. The closer she got to their destination, the more upset she felt.

Had Charles not been by her side, she might not have had the courage to go on.

"Here we are," Charles said when they arrived at the gate. He then turned to look at Sheryl and

asked, "Do you remember this warehouse?"

"What is... this place?" Sheryl questioned. Her high-pitched voice denoted her panic. Her face was

white as a sheet and her lips trembled with fear. She had dreamed of this place many times before and

they were nightmares for her. She didn't expect to be in front of this building right now.

"What the hell is this place?" she cried out and tightened her grip on Charles' hand. When Charles

noticed her uneasiness, he put his arms around her.

"Don't freak out. Let's go inside and have a look," he said softly.

Charles knew very well that this warehouse was Sheryl's worst fear. The reason why he brought Sheryl

here was for her to finally conquer her fear. He wanted Sheryl to realize that this place was not as scary

as she thought.

This was also one of the ways that he could make Sheryl feel that no matter what would happen in the future, he would always be there for her. He would face all the difficulties with her.

In her terror, the sense of suffocation that she felt in her nightmares swept over her. She didn't even know how she got into the warehouse. As she looked at the familiar surroundings, she shivered.

Charles held Sheryl in his arms again and caressed her back to calm her down. "Don't panic. It was all over. I'll never let it happen to you again," he said lovingly, as if soothing a child.

Being in Charles' arms for a good while, Sheryl finally calmed down a bit. When she found her voice again, she whispered, "Why did you bring me here? What is this place? Tell me, please."

"This was the last place my wife went before she disappeared," replied Charles in an unwavering voice.

But Sheryl knew that no one could ever understand his grief.

"Why... Why did she come here?" Sheryl asked gently, looking into Charles' eyes.

She felt awful that she needed to ask someone else about something that should have been her own experience. More than anyone else, it should have been her who knew the whole event.

"I don't know. That was already three years ago and she was pregnant when it happened." Charles

tried to recall his memories of that event. "One day, she said that she would be meeting a friend. After that, she just disappeared. No one knew where she'd gone. I tried my best to find her. I even resorted to the underworld but what I found was only this place." Charles took a deep breath, as if to subdue the agitation he was feeling.

"When I got here, I saw nothing but some traces of blood on the ground," he continued to recall.

Sheryl's heart sank while she was listening to Charles narrating the story. According to him, she was pregnant with Shirley when she disappeared.

His pregnant wife suddenly disappeared and he spent a lot of time and efforts to look for her only to find traces of blood on the ground. How desperate he must have been at that time. Sheryl could not even try to imagine how Charles had managed to get through those hard times.

She still couldn't remember why she left Charles. And until she found out, she would never admit to Charles that she was Autumn Zhao.

She looked at Charles and saw that his cold face was full of sorrow. Well, the pain of losing a love one was already enough to break anyone.

"Do you love her so much?" Sheryl asked quietly after a moment of hesitation. Before, when Isla and

Charles talked about Autumn, she would only take it as a simple story. But now that she already knew

that she was Autumn, she wanted her memories back. She was more eager to know everything now.

Whatever happened in the past, be it good or bad, was an integral part of her.

"Yes, I love her very much," Charles answered earnestly with a small nod. "She's the only woman I've ever loved in my life. I love her eyes, her eyebrows, her lips, her smile, everything about her. I would do anything for her. I could take all her pains and sufferings as long as she just comes back to me."

Charles looked at Sheryl seriously with a strong affection in his eyes as he said those words.

Sheryl felt that she was about to fall into his sweet words. She blushed and her heart rate doubled when she heard Charles confessing his love for his wife. Shyly, she quickly looked away.

"What if she comes back to you?" she asked, still looking away. "Can you guarantee that she will never be hurt again?" This time Sheryl had a bitter smile on her face.

"Yes, of course," Charles immediately answered. "If she comes back to me, I'll tell her how much I love her and I'll take care of her for the rest of my life," he added solemnly. "But... "

Sheryl was touched by Charles' words. She felt a warm current flowed through her heart when she



found out that Charles had been thinking about her for the past three years.

She then took an inquiring glance at Charles and questioned, "But what?"

"She has been missing for three years. I don't know if she could still come back." Charles looked at

Sheryl in dismay.

"What do you mean?" Sheryl frowned at what she heard. "Are you giving up now?"

"No, I'm not," Charles instantly denied. "Although I haven't found her in the past three years, I've come to meet you. I know you are a gift from God. Sheryl, I won't let you go this time."

Charles clutched Sheryl's hand and looked straight in her eyes. "Whoever you are, I know that you're the one for me. From now on, I promise to protect you and I'll never let you get harm. Please, just give me a chance to love you," Charles begged.

Chapter 654 The Car Broke Down

"So, whom do you think you are talking with right now? Sheryl or Autumn?" Sheryl asked. Women are weird creatures. Sheryl already knew there was no difference between Autumn and herself but she still couldn't help but feel jealous.

She was deeply moved by Charles' words but could never take to be just Autumn's substitute.

"I think you must have already gotten the answer," Charles answered. Charles' absurd answer made

Sheryl feel a little confused.

"We need to talk, Charles," Sheryl said. Charles nodded and said, "Yes, you're right. And that is exactly the reason why I took you here."

Sheryl looked at Charles seriously while thinking how to start the conversation.

After a while, she finally started, "I know you love Autumn very much. I totally understand your agony of losing her. But I'm different from her. If you want to be with me so you can make up for your shortcomings on her, I can't accept that. I will never be anyone's substitute."

"Sher!" Charles suddenly gripped her hand. Sheryl didn't admit that she already knew who she was so

Charles also didn't expose her.

He cast a glance at Sheryl and said, "Whoever you maybe, all I want is you. You don't have to be Autumn's or anyone else's substitute."

Sheryl felt in a mess. He took her to the place where Autumn went missing three years ago and confessed his love for her. Then suddenly he would say that he also loved Sheryl.

Autumn must feel so sad if she found out that her beloved husband had fallen in love with another

woman so easily.

But at present, she was already Sheryl. After knowing Charles' love for his wife, she felt so uneasy and

it seemed so hard to accept his love.

She couldn't understand why Charles would chose such an inappropriate way to express his feelings.

"Please agree to be with me," Charles pleaded. His palms began sweating. The one he was asking

was the woman he loved the most so he couldn't help but get nervous.

Sheryl glared at Charles and shook her head with a bitter smile. "I'm sorry, Mr. Lu. I have told you

clearly, I already have a boyfriend. I feel happy and comfortable when I am with him because I don't

have to worry about being another woman's substitute. He loves me with all his heart and that is what I

want." "As for us, we belong to different worlds so could never be together," she added.

"How can you be so sure that we belong to different worlds without even giving it a try?" Charles asked

her in agony.

"The answer is so clear so we don't really need to try," Sheryl answered sternly and shook his hand off.

"I can always be myself and I can do anything I like when I am with Anthony because nothing is more

important in his heart than me. But you are different..." she said and paused for a while. Then she

added, "You have just told me a while ago that Autumn is the only woman you love, and yet, you are also expressing your feelings for me right now. Moreover, if you really love her so much, how do you explain your relationship with Leila? Why do you even have a son with her?" Sheryl couldn't hide the bitterness she was feeling anymore.

She had seen the birthmark in Charlie's wrist but she had never doubted that he was Leila's son.

She stared at Charles and asked again, "How can you explain them?"

She couldn't help guessing that maybe she left Charles because she couldn't bear the fact that he secretly had a son with another woman.

"Sher, it was just an accident," Charles tried to explain. He was then rendered speechless. From the start, he had already known that Charlie and Leila would be an obstacle between Sheryl and him. But he just didn't know how to face it.

"Actually, Leila and I..." Before he could finish his words, Sheryl interrupted him, "Enough! Mr. Lu, you don't have the obligation to explain that to me." Sheryl couldn't bear to stay here any longer. She really wanted to leave as soon as possible. "Anyway, we won't have anything to do with each other anymore

from now on." Sheryl then immediately ran out of the warehouse.

She felt like she would collapse anytime if she wouldn't go out.

Charles followed her immediately and grabbed her hand. "Listen to me, Sher..." he tried to explain.

But Sheryl didn't want to hear anything from him anymore. She pleaded with sad eyes, "Charles, don't say anything more. I beg you."

Charles didn't have the heart to compel her so he just kept quiet despite his strong desire to clarify everything to her.

He looked at Sheryl with resignation and said, "It is cold and windy. Let me take you home."

They got in the car and set off. However, the car stopped even before they could leave the mountain.

Sheryl got nervous so she asked Charles, "What happened?"

"I don't know. It seems there is something wrong with the car," he answered. "Just stay here. I'll go out and check."

Charles lifted the car hood and discovered that the problem might be from the water tank.

Unfortunately, they were in a desolate place. He didn't know where to ask for help.

"What's wrong?" Sheryl asked. She became impatient waiting inside so she decided to get out of the

car. "There's a problem with the water tank," he answered.

"So what should we do now?" she asked with so much concern. She had never come across such a problem.

"Don't worry, I'll call for help." Charles took his cellphone out only to discover that there was no signal in the area.

Sheryl got more worried and couldn't help but blame Charles, "This is all your fault. If you hadn't taken me to such a desolate place, this wouldn't have happened. How should I go back now?"

"Take it easy," he consoled. On the other hand, Charles felt happy inside. God was giving him more time to spend with Sheryl. "I'll handle it," he added.

Charles had been here before and have already checked the neighborhood while looking for Autumn, so he was somehow familiar with the place. He remembered, there was a village nearby and he could go there to ask for help.

But he didn't tell Sheryl about it because he wanted to spend longer time with her.

"What should I do?" she asked desperately. She wasn't convinced that there was no network signal so

she took her own cell phone to personally check. To her dismay, Charles wasn't lying at all.

It was already getting dark. Should she stay here with Charles for the whole night? A horrible idea came up Sheryl's mind.

Chapter 655 The Starry Sky

Sheryl and Charles sat inside the car. She asked Charles fretfully, "So, what should we do now?"

Instead of answering her, Charles got off the car, took a bottle of mineral water out of the trunk and gave it to Sheryl. "Please drink some water first."

He appeared calm. Sheryl glanced at him and blurted, "Charles, please give me a break. Why do you keep on bothering me? Is it because I'm the spitting image of your wife?"

What had just happened got on Sheryl's nerves. Besides, it was very likely that she would spend the night with Charles in the mountains. Thus, she was on the verge of a breakdown.

Charles soothed Sheryl for quite some time before she finally calmed down. After the fact that she couldn't get back home sank in, Sheryl reclined the car seat and leaned back on her side. She tried to sleep.

After being separated for three years, it was the first time that Charles had ever been so close to Sheryl. Wide awake, he lovingly gazed at Sheryl's back.

He then decided to open the sunroof. The city was extremely colorful and bright at night. He realized that he couldn't even have the luxury of looking up at the sky with his hectic schedule, let alone marvel at the sparkling and starry sky which was a rarity in the city.

With Sheryl next to him, a sense of peace and security welled up inside him.

Charles thought Sheryl was asleep. He quietly took off his coat and gently put it over her.

Sheryl couldn't sleep at all either. She felt the warmth of the coat sweeping over her. She said in a muffled voice to Charles who was behind her, "There is no need to be so good to me. Nothing will happen between us... at any rate."

"You're still awake?" Charles asked Sheryl tenderly.

Since she already came to terms with the fact that she had to spend the night with Charles, Sheryl softened her tone a little.

She thought, 'It was unexpected that the car broke down. I don't think Charles did it on purpose.' She then asked without answering him, "Why are you awake?"

"I don't know but I can't sleep." Charles stared at the starry sky with his hands clasped behind his head.



"It's extremely rare to see such a beautiful, starry sky."

Sheryl turned over and lay flat on her back. She slightly looked at the sky and then looked again

intently. 'Admiring the starry sky through the sunroof is indeed a highly enjoyable experience.'

She stared at the sky for quite a long time and then heaved a sigh. "We are busy with work in our daily

lives. Besides, the city teems with artificial lights. It's indeed a special experience to spend a night in

the mountains like this."

"You don't blame me for what happened tonight?" Charles tilted his head to face Sheryl as he asked.

"Charles, what's the use of blaming you?" Sheryl said with a smile. "There is no point in putting the

blame on you. I'd rather look on the bright side. At least... we can marvel at such a beautiful, starry sky.

It makes everything worthwhile."

Charles couldn't help smiling at the lively sound of her voice. The car was so small that even the

slightest sound could be heard clearly. Upon hearing the rumblings of Sheryl's stomach, Charles again

hurried out of the car and took a carton of milk and a bag of bread from the trunk. He handed them to

Sheryl. "Here, take a bite."

"How come you have these things in your car?" Sheryl asked Charles with a puzzled look.

"I bought them for Charlie. I didn't expect they could come in handy on this occasion," Charles explained with a smile.

Sheryl did a double take and said to Charles, "You are such a good father. I'm really surprised!"

Charles grinned. He wanted to take advantage of the good vibe and explain what was going on between him and Leila.

"Sheryl please listen," he said to Sheryl suddenly, "actually... what happened to me and Leila was just an accident. I don't have the faintest idea when we had..."

"What do you mean by saying that, Charles? Do you want to... to shake off your responsibility about what happened... or you just want to feel less guilty?" Although she didn't like Leila, Sheryl was also a woman. She felt pity for Leila when she heard what Charles had just said.

"Neither," Charles shook his head slightly. "I don't want to evade the responsibilities and obligations.

Otherwise, I could have denied that Charlie is my son when Leila came to me, couldn't I? I am telling you all this... because I don't want you to get me wrong. I did make some mistakes. But can't we have a fresh start?"

"Charles, you really don't have to worry about my feelings." It was dark inside the car. There was only a full moon floating in mid-air. Sheryl stole a glance at Charles. She couldn't make out his expression in the dark. She said to Charles, "Since you brought up the subject, I think it's time for us to really get things straight. I'm totally not interested in your past, nor your future. I don't give a damn about what's going on between you and Autumn or Leila."

Sheryl continued after a pause, "I... I just want to be a good mom. I have Shirley and Anthony. I'm really content with it. I will definitely have a happy life. So, I beg you, please just get out of my life and stop messing it up."

"But, what if I don't want to?" Charles seemed to be already used to Sheryl's hurtful remarks. Initially, her remarks could really push his buttons and hurt him so badly, but now he got immune to them.

'No matter what Sheryl says, I will run after her until she accepts my love. It's gonna be a real marathon.'

Sheryl remained silent. Charles could hear her steady breathing in the darkness. He knew that by being quiet, she was just beating around the bush with his question. So he decided not to force her to answer. He got plenty of time after all.

At the door of Sheryl's apartment in Y City

Shirley had fallen asleep, but Anthony couldn't.

He had made numerous phone calls to Sheryl, but her phone was off. He waited at the door hoping that he could see Sheryl immediately the moment she came home.

Anthony watched intently every time the elevator pinged. But he couldn't spot the figure he was eager to see among a horde of people coming in and out of the elevator.

'What's going on with Sheryl? Did she recall everything? Is she rekindling her love for Charles? Is she with Charles now?'

Many torturing questions flashed through Anthony's mind. The elevator pinged again. He looked up at the entrance of the elevator with so much anticipation. Instead of Sheryl, it was Sue who stepped out.

Sue had been in a bad mood since she fell out with Sheryl. She frequented bars at night and recently returned in the middle of the night. The instant she got out of the elevator, she spotted Anthony at Sheryl's door. She gave him a quick glance but glanced back again longer.

A flicker of disappointment flashed across Anthony's face when he saw Sue. Sue tottered drunkenly

towards him and mumbled, "What are you doing Anthony? Why... do... you crouch at Sheryl's door?"

Chapter 656 In Wine Lies The Truth

Sue, in a drunken stupor, belched while she spoke to Anthony, "How could Sheryl reject you just like this?"

"Sue, you better go back and sleep. Stop being a roaring drunk!" Anthony was already upset and he was about to pull Sue back.

However, Sue pushed him away with all her might and main.

"Anthony, you stay put!" Sue demanded. She then banged Sheryl's door again while shouting, "Sheryl, you better quickly open your door! Anthony deserves a proper explanation. Why are you mistreating him?"

Anthony feared that Sue's fury would disturb Shirley in the dead of night so he immediately pulled Sue away from the door.

Anthony found it difficult to drag Sue back to her room but fortunately, he made it. When they entered Sue's room, Anthony urged her to take a rest so she could recover from intoxication.

But to Anthony's surprise, Sue suddenly threw herself to his arms and spoke in a very womanish manner, "Why do you seem to worship Sheryl so much? What's in her?"

Anthony reflected Sue's question for a moment but ended up with no answer.

Actually, Anthony's love for Sheryl was driven by sensibility.

Sue continued to press Anthony for an answer, "Since Sheryl has already rejected you, why don't you

just forget her and try to forge a new relationship? Find someone suitable for you.

Someone who loves you."

After she spoke, Sue vomited a lot.

Seeing Sue's miserable looks while vomiting, Anthony had no recourse but to prepare a cup of honey

water to comfort her.

Anthony's gesture made Sue laugh foolishly. 'How could my beloved man take good care of me right

now? Am I dreaming?' Sue pondered to herself.

Anthony helped Sue lean on the couch so she could drink the honey water. Anthony urged her to drink

it all to help ease her discomfort.

After drinking the honey water, Anthony helped her lie down comfortably on the couch. Then he

removed her shoes. Anthony couldn't help but complain, "Sue, you should behave what befits a decent

girl. You shouldn't give your parents a reason to worry about you."

"My parents would be the last people to worry about me," Sue replied with a hint of sarcasm in her voice. "They value my younger brother more than me."

Anthony was sympathetic toward Sue. He didn't know she held some grudges over her parents, but her parents must be really hard on her.

"Well, take a good rest, Sue." Anthony covered her with a quilt. "A woman like you should not drink too much. You have to be more careful..."

Before Anthony could finish his words, he felt a sudden pain on his arm. He realized that Sue pinched him. Because of the sudden pain, Anthony got annoyed. "Sue are you crazy?"

Sue immediately explained why she did such thing. She did on purpose to prove that she wasn't only dreaming.

"No, you are not dreaming. But you are roaring drunk!" Anthony replied with a hint of displeasure.

Sue shook her head and said, "No, I'm not drunk. I can assure you that I am sober."

Sue talked to Anthony coquettishly, "Anthony, you are still as tender as ever."

Actually, Sue considered it a blessing that Sheryl rejected Anthony. Because now, she was the one

receiving the favors that Anthony should have given to Sheryl.

"Stop talking nonsense!" Anthony roughly dismissed Sue. He was about to take his leave when Sue spoke again, "Anthony, please stay a little longer." Sue tried her best to detain Anthony by unbosoming her feelings for him, "Anthony, I love you more than anyone else in this world. Despite the fact that you only bestow all your love and care on Sheryl, I still can't stop loving you."

Sue forced a smile and continued, "So, because of my love for you, I undertook caring Sheryl and treated her as a friend."

Because of the wine's effect on her, Sue became more outspoken. On the other hand, Anthony started to feel embarrassed.

Anthony thought that he should have kept distance from Sue since the beginning.

"Sue, I think you are too drunk to speak wisely. You better take a rest first," Anthony advised.

But Sue kept on insisting that she was sober.

Before Anthony could say more, Sue continued, "When you and Sheryl were still together and we became bosom friends, I did everything to hide my feelings for you. I was pining with unrequited love."



Sue's voice was full of pain.

Sue paused for a moment and then continued, "Now the situation has changed. Sheryl was proven to be an obscene woman undeserving of your love and I have already cut ties with her. Therefore, I think I now have every reason to start a romantic relationship with you. Besides, Sheryl has already kept a constant communication with Charles."

"What do you mean by that?" Anthony's brows furrowed upon Sue mentioning Charles' name. Anthony naturally suspected Charles of flirting with Sheryl during his absence. Now that Sue was hinting about it, his suspicion grew stronger.

Anthony bent to question Sue, "Is there something between Sheryl and Charles?"

"Please do not expect for the truth to come from me." Sue refused to confirm his question. "I promised Sheryl to keep it a secret," Sue added fuel to the fire.

Chapter 657 Anthony Bluffed Sue

"What's going on between them?" Anthony repeated his question, with eyes full of anxiety. When Sue still didn't answer, he clutched her hand even tighter and pleaded, "Please tell me what's going on between Sheryl and Charles."

"Ouch! Anthony, you're hurting me," Sue cried in a coquettish manner. Before Sue could say anything

more, she fell into a deep slumber. She must be really drunk. Anthony felt so helpless. He couldn't do anything but sit on the couch and stare at the sleeping Sue. He didn't realize he had been sitting there the whole night pondering about Charles and Sheryl.

Fate was deliberately playful. He had been hiding the truth from Sheryl for many years hoping that it would help him win her and have her forever but just all of a sudden, she would be back to Charles. All his efforts had gone to waste.

In the mountains

In the middle of the night, Sheryl fell asleep. Charles just watched over her. At dawn, while Sheryl was still fast asleep, Charles secretly left to look for someone who could help him repair the car. Fortunately, he was able to find a mechanic who was already awake. When he came back to the car with the mechanic, Sheryl was still asleep. She only woke up when the car was almost done.

Somehow, she slept well despite the not so pleasing environment.

Rubbing her sleepy eyes, she opened the door and got out. She noticed that Charles was not alone.

Without any knowledge about car repairs, she innocently asked Charles, "How's it going?"

"It's almost done," Charles answered while looking at her lovingly. It was only 5:30 in the morning and the temperature in the mountains was biting. Sheryl's face turned pinkish with the cold. When Charles noticed it, he thoughtfully urged her, "You wait in the car. It's too cold outside."

Sheryl nodded and then took off Charles' coat to give it back to him. "Put your coat on."

"I'm not cold. You just wear it," Charles refused. He then gently wrapped the coat back on her shoulders.

Sheryl waited for roughly twenty minutes inside the car before the mechanic could finally fix it. Charles gave the mechanic a few hundred dollars before the man thanked him and left. When Charles entered the driver's seat, he turned to Sheryl and said, "Well, we can go now."

Sheryl remained silent all throughout their journey. When they passed by a coffee shop, Charles pulled off to buy some breakfast for Sheryl. Sheryl didn't even react when he went out of the car. "Here."

Charles handed the bag of breakfast to Sheryl when he came back to the car. Then he added, "I know you don't want to have breakfast with me so I decided to buy you some breakfast before I drop you home. By the way, I'm sorry about what happened last night. I was too imprudent."

"Never mind. It's all right now," Sheryl replied with a forgiving smile on her face. It was almost eight

o'clock when they reached Sheryl's apartment. She bid goodbye to Charles and got out of the car. She waited for the car to vanish before she turned to the elevator.

Meanwhile, Sue also had woken up. She felt a throbbing headache. As soon as she opened her eyes, she was startled to see Anthony sitting opposite her. "What are you doing here, Anthony?" she inquired nervously.

Anthony's bloodshot eyes indicated that he stayed up all night. "Don't you remember anything about last night?" he asked back in a weary tone.

Upon hearing it, Sue racked her brain to remember everything she did last night. Suddenly, her face turned pale as she remembered a vague memory of her confessing her love to Anthony.

She gave Anthony a guilty look. "Er... I think I drank too much last night. I was not in my own mind. So whatever I must have said, please don't take them seriously." She then added with a pale laugh, "I always talk nonsense when I'm drunk. Please don't take it to heart."

She knew how much Anthony loved Sheryl. If she wanted to continue her friendship with him, she couldn't admit what she had said in front of him now that she was already sober.

However, Anthony just stared at her coldly. "How about those things you said about Sheryl? Were they also nonsense?"

"About Sheryl?" Sue froze for a moment.

"What was it?" Anthony sneered, "Huh! Your words were pouring out like a rain last night and now you're playing innocent?" Anthony's voice was full of mockery.

Anthony was not sure if Sue would remember all that happened last night so he bluffed her to tell the truth. "Should I remind you? Last night you told me something about Sheryl and Charles." His face darkened upon mentioning this.

Sue turned crimson in embarrassment. Yes, she did love Anthony deeply, but she also made a promise to Sheryl that she would keep it a secret.

Sue told Sheryl that she would pursue Anthony, but in a fair way. She didn't intend to reach to the point that she would sell Sheryl out.

She was too ashamed to look at Anthony's eyes so she looked away.

"I have no idea what you're talking about. I told you, I was drunk. I can't remember anything I said last night," Sue cried, pretending to be firm. She coughed a little before she continued, "Just consider

everything I said last night as a made-up story."

"Well, that's just what I actually thought," Anthony commented sarcastically. "Sue, you and Sheryl have been friends for quite a long time. She has always treated you like a family. She has been so kind to you and she always cares about you. I never thought that you'd be so scheming. Just to get what you want, you made up some stories to discredit Sheryl. You just made me despise you!" Anthony's voice was full of conviction.

"No, I didn't! That's not true!" Sue hurriedly denied. Anthony was the last man she could stand to misunderstand her. So she didn't have any choice but to admit, "I didn't make up anything. I would not make things up just to discredit Sheryl. What I said was true."

Sue gave Anthony a miserable look and continued, "I don't understand why Sheryl is so perfect in your eyes. She has done so many things behind your back but you're just turning a blind eye. You should know that better than anyone else."

"You shut up!" Anthony shouted frigidly. "She would never do anything to betray me."

"Really? In your heart, Sheryl is the goddess of perfection. No matter what she does, you'll always

forgive her. You can accept everything about her. But now, why are you so angry when you hear something about her and Charles? Admit it, Anthony. You can allow Sheryl to do anything except associating with Charles. You feel threatened by Charles, right?" Sue continued with a sneer.

"I told you to shut up! Didn't you hear me?" Anthony couldn't contain his anger anymore. Sue's words definitely irked him.

However, Sue had been angered as well that she couldn't stop anymore. "You have always refused to acknowledge Sheryl's inappropriate relationship with Charles. But you know in your heart that Sheryl never really loved you. And since she met Charles, things started to get out of hand. She might not admit it, but for her, Charles is clearly more important than you."

"That's my own business. What does it have to do with you?" Anthony replied coldly. "Sher is indeed a perfect woman for me. I trust her with all my heart and I'm sure, she would never do anything to betray me. But you intentionally denigrate Sher in front of me. Don't you feel sorry for her?"

Chapter 658 Why Don't You Trust Me

"You..." Sue was so indignant that an arrogant sneer crept over her face. She then said to Anthony who was standing in front of her, "First of all, I shouldn't have gotten myself involved in this matter. I never intended to poke my nose into your business. You are Sheryl's boyfriend and I know I shouldn't have

said all those words. However..."

Sue paused for a while before she continued,"However, I just feel it's so unfair to you. You love her so much, help her take care of her daughter, and even bought a house in the US for her to rent in a very low price. I know all those things that you did for her. But in return, how could she treat you just like this?

It isn't worth it. Even though she knew that it would hurt you, she still agreed to stay at Charles' house.

She thought Charles needed her. But we all know that Charles is a rich businessman. He doesn't need

Sheryl's care. He can afford to pay as many servants as he want to take care of him at his home. Why

should he ask Sheryl to take care of him instead?" Sue was carried away by her emotions. It was too

late before she realized that she shouldn't have told Anthony about it.

"What did you just say, Sue?" Anthony was completely stunned after hearing what Sue had said.

'Did Sue just say that Sheryl moved to Charles' house? What happened? What was going on?'

Anthony wondered.

Sue was frozen upon seeing Anthony's expression. She immediately shut her mouth. Truth lies at the



bottom of the decanter. She regretted saying those words. But soon, Sue realized that Anthony deceived her so she would spit out the truth in front of him.

Sue remained silent and motionless, with her head lowered.

Anthony who was anxious and irritated rushed up to her, held her shoulders and asked in a rather indignant tone, "What did you just say? Sheryl moved to Charles' house? Are you sure about that?"

Anthony bombarded Sue with questions but she was still dazed. "What the hell is going on here?"

Anthony added.

"Anthony, please calm down. Listen to me," Sue persuaded Anthony when she came back to her senses. She took a glance at him and said, "There's no point getting agitated. Perhaps you're taking it the wrong way. Let me explain it to you."

"No, there is no need to explain," replied Anthony in a cold tone. He sneered and continued, "You have said enough."

"Anthony, please wait..." Sue tried to stop Anthony when she saw him about to leave. However, the moment Anthony opened the door, he found Sheryl was standing outside and about to open her door as well. She was holding a bag of breakfast in her hand.

Sheryl froze upon seeing Anthony coming out of Sue's apartment at this very early morning.

Sue was also stunned, her eyes wide. She never expected such a coincidence. She was so embarrassed that she could almost hide her face in shame.

Sue was rendered speechless. She doesn't know how to explain the situation to Sheryl.

Anthony felt like his heart was burning with fire when he saw Sheryl. It seemed that he had lost his marbles after hearing Sue's words. Moreover, Sheryl didn't even come back home last night. Thinking that she might have spent the night with Charles made Anthony more enraged. He wanted to ask so many questions to her.

Therefore, as soon as he saw Sheryl standing outside the door, he held her hands and closed the door, bolting out Sue.

Anthony had to leave Sue alone for the time being. All he wanted to do right now was to personally ask Sheryl of what really happened between her and Charles.

"Where did you stay last night? Tell me the truth," asked Anthony in a cold voice. He stared at Sheryl with furious eyes, waiting for her reply.

Sheryl could tell from his voice that he was in a bad mood. Shirley who was sleeping in her bedroom was also awoken by his voice. The little girl took a glance at Anthony only to be frightened by his serious expression. She immediately turned to Sheryl and called her in a shaky voice, "Sher..."

Sheryl shook Anthony's hands off and handed the breakfast to Shirley. She then led her back into the bedroom. Sheryl told her daughter and comforted her with a smile, "Shirley, be a good girl okay? Go wash up and eat your breakfast. I just need to talk to Tony. Remember not to come out of your room no matter what you hear unless I tell you to do so, okay?"

Although she was a little hesitant, Shirley nodded her head slightly. It was her first time to see Anthony so furious so she felt a little bit scared. When Sheryl went out of her room, she called Charlie to find comfort.

Charlie tried his best to console Shirley who also soon felt better.

In the living room, Sheryl immediately reprimanded Anthony about his behavior. "What were you doing? Didn't you see how frightened Shirley got when she saw you?" Her eyebrows knitted.

After a short pause, she remembered something and asked, "Why are you here?"

Sheryl would not be suspicious of anything if she didn't fall out with Sue. Things were different now

especially that Sue had already hung out the red flag to her. So Sheryl couldn't help thinking negatively.

"Is it important to you? Do you really care about me?" Anthony sneered while gazing at her. "Have you ever cared about me?" he asked again.

"Of course it is important to me," Sheryl responded. Her eyes were filled with confusion. She couldn't figure out what really happened to Anthony. She didn't know why he was so furious at her for no reason. She felt like she was talking to a different person. Staring at him, she finally asked, "Anthony, why are you so indignant? What happened to you? Can you tell me?"

"That's enough!" Anthony shouted. He was already boiling with rage and his voice sounded so impatient. He took a glance at Sheryl before he continued, "You're such a hypocritical woman! You didn't come home last night and no one even knew where you've been. And now you're asking me what happened? Have you even considered my feelings? Have you forgotten that aside from being my girlfriend, you are also Shirley's mother?" Anthony poured out his anger in one breath.

"Anthony, please listen to me. I can explain everything to you." Sheryl frowned slightly. She hesitated for a moment before she finally said, "Charles took me somewhere yesterday. I told him that I didn't

want to go with him, but he..." Sheryl rambled in her statement since she was still at a loss on how to explain everything to Anthony.

She must admit that she should also be responsible for it, though she actually didn't mean it to happen.

"Well, fine. I am not going to explain myself anymore because I know I was wrong. But I didn't mean

not to come back last night. Charles took me to a very distant place and there was no signal. What's

more, the car broke down on our way back. It wasn't until this morning that he found someone to fix the

car. I also wanted to call you but I couldn't get through since there was no signal in the area. We

immediately drove back as soon as the car got fixed."

She looked into Anthony's eyes and continued,"I know you might be uncomfortable to find out about

this but I can promise you that this will never happen again."

"Wow! But I'm afraid that those are just high-sounding words," responded Anthony. He seemed to

become irrational because of rage. He could not control his emotions anymore. He still couldn't

understand why Sheryl would stay with Charles for the whole night.

"Anthony, you don't need to be so sarcastic." Sheryl scowled. "I have already admitted my mistake and

I have already explained the reason why I wasn't able to come back last night. As I have said, the car

broke down and there was no signal so I wasn't able to call you. What do you expect me to do in such a situation?"

"Sheryl, what a poor liar you are!" Anthony laughed scornfully at her. "Do you expect me to believe that everything was just a coincidence? His car broke down somewhere and there was no signal at all. How could you have such misfortune at the same time?"

"Anthony, I am telling the truth. Whether you believe it or not, it's all up to you," Sheryl replied in an angry voice. As she finished her words, Sheryl sat in the corner angrily. She was reluctant to talk to him anymore.

Upon seeing Sheryl's expression, Anthony moved toward her. "Who do you think I am? Why won't you tell me the truth?"

Anthony glared at her. He seemed to be so distressed after hearing what she said. "Sheryl, I am your betrothed but why don't you trust me?"

Chapter 659 You Are Totally Without Scruple

"What I told you was absolutely true," Sheryl looked up at Anthony and explained to him patiently.

Anthony was fuming in rage. She understood that he was not in the position to judge the situation

rationally. Any man who suspected that his girlfriend got involved with another man would be mad. It was useless to reason with him at the moment. So she suggested, "I know you are angry. We will talk about it when you calm down."

Anthony was rather amazed at such a cool reaction from Sheryl. It seemed she had no repentance for what she did! "You would rather keep that a secret and never let me know, huh?" Anthony said. In the past three years, Anthony had done so much for Sheryl while she still maintained a vague distance with him. And just now she confessed to him that she had spent the last few days with Charles in his house!

Anthony could suddenly feel that all his efforts to win her heart had gone in vain. He was deeply hurt.

He could not put up the all forgiving benevolent self in front of her any more. He blurted, "Sheryl, do you think you can do anything even if it hurts me just because I love you? Do you think I am an idiot? Do you have no heart? Do you think I can always tolerate you and forgive you no matter what you do? Do you think I won't mind being a weak cuckold? When you were with Charles, have you ever thought about the fact that you have a boyfriend? And on the top of that you have no repentance for it!"

Sheryl was shocked to hear Anthony's accusation. She had thought Anthony loved her and trusted her.

The fact that Anthony's faith in her was so frail that it broke so easily hurt her feelings deeply. He didn't

even care to hear the entire thing. She sneered, "In your heart, I am such a cheeky shameless woman.

That's your real thoughts, isn't that?"

"Isn't it true?" Anthony retorted. Sheryl's question struck him like an arrow leaving him sad and

dejected. He knew Sheryl very well and trusted her. However, he couldn't restrain his anger.

Jealous.

Yes, he was jealous. His lips curved in a painful and sarcastic smile.

He thought, 'Three years ago, I really envied Charles because he had met Autumn before I could

express my feelings for her. And now, three years later, Charles still has his own charm to bring Sheryl

to get close to him. I am so jealous of him.'

"Get out! Get out of here," Sheryl shouted, looking at Anthony angrily. Sheryl could not tolerate

Anthony's suspicion towards her. Is this how he loved her? That his trust broke so easily. Little did she

know why Anthony reacted in that way at the very mention of Charles. What actually made him so

insecure towards Charles?

Yes, last night she went out with Charles and stayed with him for the whole night. Although there was



nothing between them beyond friendship, she knew her behavior was not proper for a committed woman like her. She had intended to make a sincere apology. She had never expected Anthony to react like this. His harsh criticism made her disappointed.

She calmed down and said, "Anthony, we'd better take a break. You have not in right mindset to talk about this. We will talk about it, after you have calmed down." Sheryl looked at his face and wondered what happened to him? This was the first time she saw him react like this.

Anthony glared at Sheryl and insisted, "I am perfectly rational now."

Sheryl failed to persuade Anthony. She looked up at him with apologetic eyes and explained once again after a deep breath, "Anthony, I am aware that it was improper for me to do what I did. I was wrong. I admit it. I told you nothing happened between Charles and me. We are just acquaintances. He has been pursuing me, but I didn't agree. I knew that I am your girlfriend and hence have maintained a respectable distance with him always. Why can't you trust me?" Sheryl looked at Anthony's face which was still as stern as ever. She felt that no matter what she said and how much she tried to assure him about her loyalty towards their relationship, Anthony was hard to be convinced. She had tried her best to smooth things over while it didn't work.

"Trust you?" replied Anthony with a sneer. "Tell me, why did you live in Charles' house when I was in the United States?" Anthony was literally on the verge of getting paranoid at this point. He could feel a fist full of sand slipping out of his grip. It was possible for Sheryl to fall in love with Charles once again. Or else, she could even remember her past as she met her ex-husband several times. Charles must have tried his best to remind her of her past. The thought of his life without Sheryl, made him feel miserable and he couldn't suppress his anger.

Sheryl thought sadly, 'How could Anthony know about all this? It must be Sue. She has a liking for Anthony and she said she would compete against me.

I feel so unhappy. After all, we used to be best friends. Now we will be mere acquaintances.

I understand why she did so. Making trouble for Anthony and I is surely good for her. Thank God, she just told him the truth and didn't make up any stories. There is no need to hate her. All she wants is to take my place and become Anthony's girlfriend.' Sheryl was lost in her thoughts while Anthony was expecting a reply from her.

Anthony stared at her with a cold look on his face and asked, "Why don't you say something? Don't you

have an answer to a simple question I asked? I repeat again, why did you stay at Charles' house?

Sheryl, I trusted you and respected you. See what you have done to repay me? You said you have nothing to do with Charles. Why did you stay in his house?" He interrogated once again.

Sheryl heaved a deep sigh and explained the whole thing, "Anthony, I stayed in his house in order to look after him. While I was getting photographed in the film studio, the background panel fell down. He was hurt when he rushed to protect me. If he hadn't done that, I would have been injured. That's the only reason why I went to his house. Trust me, I am telling you the truth. Besides, I just stayed there for one night. I came back early next morning."

"Is it the truth? Did you care even for once about my feelings?" Anthony spoke with a sarcastic smile.

"Don't talk to me in such a sarcastic manner. What I said was true. I won't admit any crime that I didn't commit," Sheryl replied angrily. Anthony had kept on hurling baseless accusations against her which made her lose her cool.

"Sheryl, you have disappointed me," Anthony said contemptuously. He was almost on the verge of slamming the door and leaving when his phone rang. He looked at the phone screen. It was his mother Laura.

The atmosphere had become tense because of their ongoing fight. He took a few seconds to calm down before he answered the phone, "Mom, what's the matter?" It was a very critical moment for Anthony. On one side it was his mother who just needed one reason to refuse Sheryl and on the other side it was his girlfriend who could not reciprocate his love wholeheartedly. God knew how long would it take for him to win her over completely. He had persuaded his mother to meet Sheryl, so his mother might call to make an appointment. He couldn't hang up the phone in case his mother became unhappy and changed her mind.

"Anthony, I have something to tell you. Are you free now?" Laura asked. Anthony could sense a feel of happiness in her voice.

"Yes Mom. I am free now. Please tell me," Anthony calmed down and replied.

Laura continued in a cheerful voice, "You said you will bring that woman to meet me. I thought it over and decided to cancel our meeting."

"Mother, how could you go back on your words?" Anthony frowned and muttered a curse out of utter desperation. Why was it that all the problems were snowballing on him at the same time? One ordeal

after the other had made him desperate. First, Sheryl met Charles and stayed one night in his house.

Then he was quarreling with Sheryl. And now, even before he could sort it out with Sheryl, his mother had broken her promise.

"You should let me finish what I'm saying, son. I have bought a ticket. Next week I will fly to Y City. I

have never been there. It will be a good chance to visit that city and meet your girlfriend at that time,"

Laura interrupted his son and explained patiently. Anthony's unfriendly attitude didn't spoil her good mood. She was confident that she would be able to separate Anthony and Sheryl with Junia's help.

His mother's words fell on his ears like a soothing balm. A bright smile broke open on his face cutting through the frown. He heaved a sigh of relief and said, "Okay, Mom, I see. I will pick you up when you arrive." Although he had a bitter quarrel with Sheryl, both of them tended to seek reconciliation.

Anyway, he loved Sheryl much. They would be husband and wife sooner. He was looking forward to it and was trying to persuade her mother.

"No, I can handle it myself. I will call you when I have checked in," Laura replied in a firm voice.

She wanted to observe Sheryl secretly. After figuring out what kind of person she was, she would make further plans. As the saying goes, "Know the enemy and know yourself, and you can fight a hundred

battles with no danger of defeat." With Junia agreeing to help her, she thought it wouldn't be difficult to make Sheryl get away from her son.

"Carry on with what you are doing. I'll hang up now," Laura said and hung up.

Anthony glanced at Sheryl who was sitting on the sofa sulking and announced, "My mother is coming next week. I'll pick you up and we will have a meal together."

Although they were in the middle of a ferocious argument which was not resolved yet, the meeting couldn't be delayed. Laura might refuse to meet Sheryl if they missed this chance. That was why

Anthony informed Sheryl about the news at once.

Sheryl didn't reply. Nor did she move. Anthony walked out and slammed the door behind him. Sheryl heaved a deep sigh and reflected over the argument.

'Perhaps I was wrong. I should have kept a distance from Charles after I felt his intentional approach.

Anthony must be furious. I must apologize to him when I see him.' Sheryl could understand the reason behind Anthony's rage. Even though she did not do anything wrong, yet, her staying at Charles' house could not be justified to Anthony. She was repentant for what happened.

After Sheryl calmed down, she hid her anxiety and went to her daughter's room. As soon as she opened the bedroom door, she saw Shirley sitting on the bed with tears in her big eyes. It was evident that she had heard the fight outside the door and had got scared. Sheryl quickly walked to her and sat down beside her. Then she put her arms around her and asked, "Are you scared?"

Shirley stared Sheryl with a gloomy face and asked her with a mix of doubt and tears, "Sher, what's wrong with Tony? Why did he look angry?" Anthony was always kind to both the mother and daughter. His sudden and abnormal anger was something that Shirley had seen for the first time in her life. This made her really very much frightened.

Chapter 660 Hire A Nanny

"Because..." Sheryl paused, wondering how to explain it to Shirley. Then she added with a smile, "Because I did something wrong and Tony is upset with me."

"What did you do, Sher?" Shirley asked. She lifted her head and looked at Sheryl with curiosity.

"You are too young to understand these things," Sheryl told her as she patted her head. Sheryl suddenly realized that she desperately needed a nanny to help her take care of Shirley. She just did not have enough time to devote to Shirley.

She went to an caretaker provider agency the same afternoon to hire a nanny for Shirley. She met and

interviewed many candidates. Finally she found one woman who seemed suitable to her requirements and to her liking.

"Can you cook?" Sheryl questioned her.

"Yes, I can," she answered. She looked directly at Sheryl with kind and honest eyes. She also looked very excited and emotional at the chance of being hired.

"Okay, I think you are suitable for the job. I am willing to hire you as my daughter's nanny. Please report for work tomorrow itself." Sheryl swiftly decided and hired her on the spot. She went home and got a room ready for the nanny. The nanny also promptly reported for work early next day.

Sheryl admitted her inside and showed her the room. "This will be your room from now on. Also, this is my daughter, Shirley," she introduced. "Shirley, say hello to..." She realized she didn't know the name of the old woman. She turned to her and asked, "What's your name, please?"

"Just call me Nancy," answered the new nanny. Nancy had registered at the domestic agency after she left Dream Garden. She had managed to survive by doing some part-time jobs all these years. She had been shocked to see Sheryl there yesterday. She was hoping that Sheryl would select her and had



been elated to get the job.

She had always felt sorry about Autumn and was finally soothed and overjoyed to know that Autumn was still alive.

"Hello, Granny Nancy!" Shirley greeted her with a smile. Looking at Shirley, Nancy couldn't stop her tears from falling.

Sheryl was a little confused and perplexed at Nancy's reaction. She said to Nancy, "My name is Sheryl Xia. Your job is very easy. Just clean the house and take care of my daughter. But..."

She paused and then continued with embarrassment, "I just came back from abroad and do not have much money. I can give you only three thousand a month. If that is not suitable to you or short of your expectations, I will understand."

Nancy interrupted her by nodding her head, "Three thousand a month is good enough for me. I will take the job."

Charles had given Nancy enough money when she left Dream Garden. She could have easily retired and spent the rest of her life comfortably. But she chose to stay in the same town and find other jobs.

She liked Autumn and hoped to get some news about Autumn's whereabouts. At the sight of Sheryl,

she had become very excited. But she was confused as to why Sheryl assumed her to be a stranger.

"You can rest for some time before you start your work," Sheryl suggested to her.

However, Nancy didn't rest. She started to clean the house. In her own way, she wished to compensate

Autumn. After she finished cleaning, she began cooking dinner. Sheryl felt very pleased to see the

delicious dishes laid on the table.

Nancy laid the table and was going to clean up the kitchen, as Sheryl called her back. She told

her, "Nancy, you also join us for dinner."

"That is very kind of you. But I don't think it is appropriate for me to eat at the table with you," Nancy

politely refused.

"You must eat with us," Sheryl persisted. Then she smiled and added, "You don't have to bother about

all those restrictions here. I would like us to be like family and eat together."

Nancy finally agreed. She was happy that Sheryl was still so kind even after all these years.

In Shining Company

Charles went back to his office after he sent Sheryl back. David thought that his boss would have some

big news to share as he had seen Sheryl in Dream Garden. Today, Charles came to work without changing his clothes and David couldn't help but wonder what happened to him.

'Maybe... Mr. Lu didn't go home last night. If so, then where did he go?' he wondered.

"What are you thinking?" Alice patted David's head suddenly. "Make sure all the files Mr. Lu needs are ready. We also need to pick the employees from BM Corporation a little later," said Alice.

David quickly gripped her hand. "Alice, did you notice that Mr. Lu was wearing the same clothes as yesterday?" he asked with concern.

"So what?" Alice asked with a puzzled look. "All of Mr. Lu's clothes look the same," she added.

"No, no... you don't understand." David persisted, "I think Mr. Lu didn't go home last night. Maybe he was with his wife."

"What nonsense are you talking?" Alice cast a worried glance at David and said, "Do you want Mr. Lu to punch you? How can you be so bold as to make up stories and gossip about Mr. Lu? You must be crazy, David."

Then she added, "Mrs. Lu has fully forgotten the past, right? Mr. Lu is trying his best to court her and win her back. However, it will not be easy. I think he still has a long way to go before it can happen."

"Don't underestimate Mr. Lu. He has already..." David suddenly stop speaking. He realized he had come close to blurting out the secret. He looked away and began moving the files on his desk.

Alice pulled his ear. "What were you going to say? Why didn't you finish your sentence?"

"Ouch!" David screamed as his ear ached. He begged, "Alice, release me, please. The other colleagues are watching us!"

"I won't unless you promise to tell me the whole story. What happened between Mr. Lu and his wife?"

Alice demanded to know.

"Release my ear first!" David pleaded helplessly.

As soon as she released him, he told her about the day he saw Sheryl in Dream Garden. "I went there very early that day and met her in the house. So I guess, she must have stayed the night. Mr. Lu is really a smart man. He has managed to regain his wife's heart in such a short time. That's awesome!"

David was filled with admiration for Charles.

"Do you want to be as smooth and smart as Mr. Lu?" Alice asked. Then she warned him, "If you dare date other women, I will beat you up!"

"Of course darling, I won't dare!" David promised with a smile.

When the files were ready, he prepared to take them inside to Charles. Just then, Anthony barged in

angrily and tried to enter Charles' cabin. David immediately blocked his way and asked him

impatiently, "Why do you come here again? Don't you get tired coming here every now and then?"

David remembered the last time Anthony had come. He and Charles had got into a fistfight and were

both injured. That had happened not so long ago and yet Anthony was here once again.

"Get out of my way!" Anthony yelled at David in contemptuous anger.

Charles realized Anthony had come as he heard his angry voice. He had been speaking with Charlie

on the phone when he heard the raised voices. He immediately said, "Charlie, I have to hang up now as

something has come up. I promise you I will deal with the matter of Sher."

Charlie had called Charles to inform him about what had happened to Shirley. Therefore, Charles knew

at once that Anthony had come to question him after losing his temper with Sheryl.