

Wedded Bride 681

Chapter 681 Why Are You Here

She looked into the kitchen and asked Nancy, "Nancy, what are you still doing in the kitchen? Come out and let's have dinner now."

"No... thanks," Nancy stammered. Nancy was nervously pacing in the kitchen. She didn't know if she should come out or not. Sheryl had suffered so many miseries because of her, so she didn't know if Charles still hated her.

'He must surely hate me. It was because of me that Autumn suffered so much, ' she thought.

"I'm not hungry yet and I'll eat later," she added. Alone in the kitchen, she became more and more nervous.

Charles frowned as he heard Sheryl call the familiar name 'Nancy'. He wondered whether this nanny was the same lady who had once worked in his house. He had driven her out and fired her from the job three years ago. When he heard Nancy's voice come from the kitchen, his guess was confirmed.

He was worried and confused. He wondered if Nancy had any special motive to be here.

He smiled and said to Sheryl, "Just ask her to come and eat with us. It is inappropriate not to invite her after she has prepared so many dishes."

"You are right," Sheryl agreed. But then she frowned slightly and said, "I have never seen her so nervous as she is now. Maybe she is just unaccustomed to strangers."

But Sheryl rejected her own assumption immediately. She reasoned Nancy didn't act like this when Anthony came.

Nancy was busy doing the dishes when Sheryl entered the kitchen. Sheryl gripped her hand and said, "Let's have dinner now. Shirley is hungry."

Nancy was dragged out of the kitchen before she could refuse and she finally faced Charles.

He stared at Nancy intently, trying to read her thoughts from her expression. Nancy, however, kept her head stubbornly lowered. She refused to meet Charles' eyes.

After a while, Charles said with a smile, "Sit down, please."

Nancy had not dared to sit without Charles' permission. She just ate a little and began helping Shirley with her food. Sheryl scolded her, "Nancy, you don't have to bother about Shirley. She will manage. Just help yourself."

Sheryl heaved a sigh and told Nancy, "Shirley has become more naughtier since you have come. She

knows how to eat by herself actually, but now she expects you to help her."

"I don't mind. I like taking care of Shirley. Don't worry about me." Nancy glanced at Charles cautiously

and then lowered her head immediately as she met Charles' eyes. She sat quietly once again.

Although Charles was suspicious of Nancy's purpose, he still was very happy that night and ate a lot.

Nancy was good in taking care of his house but she wasn't good at cooking like Nancy was. The dinner

Nancy had served reminded him of many things from the past.

Nancy felt pleased to see Charles eat a lot. She peeled many fruits for them and went to the kitchen to

do the dishes.

After about half an hour, Charles stood up and was ready to leave. He secretly signaled Nancy to come

out. As soon as he left, she told Sheryl immediately, "I'll take out the garbage now."

"You don't have to do that. I will throw it out when I go to work tomorrow morning," Sheryl said with a

smile.

But Nancy persisted, "I will do it. I am going for a walk now and it's convenient for me to throw it out now

itself."

Charles had been waiting patiently for her for a while. As she threw the garbage into the dustbin,

Charles rolled the car window down and said, "Get in now."

Nancy got in the car fearfully. She kept her head lowered, not knowing what to say. After a while, she

stammered, "Mr. Lu, I..."

But she was interrupted by Charles, "Tell me why you are here." Charles' voice was cold and

authoritative.

He was not sure whether Nancy was a friend or a foe. He didn't want to doubt Nancy's intention, but he

worried that the past could repeat itself.

Nancy smiled bitterly and said, "I have been working in a domestic company since I left Dream Garden.

The salary is not too much but enough to support myself."

She paused for a while and continued, "Several days ago, Mrs. Lu came to the domestic company to

hire a nanny for Shirley and she chose me."

"So is that all? Is that a story or the truth?" Charles arched a brow and asked Nancy. "I gave you

enough money when you left my house, right? Why didn't you leave Y City with it? Why are you still

here looking for jobs?"

"That money... I didn't spend it," she said hesitantly. She gave a small and sad smile as she added, "Mr.

Lu, I know I did many things wrong. And Brent... He should be held responsible for your separation

from Mrs. Lu for so many years. I was just too embarrassed and guilt ridden to spend your money. I

have kept that money safe and I intend to return it to you at a proper time."

Charles was moved by Nancy's words. "That money has become yours since I gave it to you. You don't

have to return it to me."

"Mr. Lu," Nancy said emotionally, "I know you gave me that money to help me live a comfortable life. But

I can't persuade myself to accept it. I feel so guilty about all that happened."

She still felt so sorry for Charles as she recalled his sad expression when Sheryl had gone missing.

"All the hardships that Mrs. Lu suffered were caused by me. I even thought of committing suicide after

she went missing. But I finally decided to remedy my mistake. I knew she would be back, so I didn't

leave Y City. I was waiting for the day when she came back." Nancy paused for a while and

continued, "I was so excited when I saw her in the domestic company and I thought that God has given

me a chance for me to compensate for my mistakes. I was surprised and happy when she chose me."

She glanced at Charles. "Mr. Lu, I know you still doubt my loyalty. But I promise I have no devious intentions. I just want to help Mrs. Lu so that she doesn't get so tired every day. In this way, I hope I can atone for my mistake."

Her eyes got wet as she said this. Tears were about to drop from her eyes. "I just want to compensate her," she said in a broken voice.

Charles looked at Nancy speechlessly and she thought he might drive her away. But he glanced at her and said abruptly, "Now that you are here for some days now, just do as you said. Take care of her and Shirley and see to their comfort, please."

Charles had removed Nancy from his house and job not because he didn't trust her. Actually, he could not bear to see her because the sight of her had reminded him of his beloved wife.

Chapter 682 Better Than Her

Charles reasoned, 'Since Nancy has already been Sheryl's housemaid and Shirley's babysitter for a long time, she must be doing a good job; perhaps she is trying to make up with Sheryl. They're obviously happy with her so I won't interfere with Sheryl's decision. It wouldn't help to let her know that Nancy was our cook at Dream Garden anyway.

Besides, she is generally considerate and careful. She can take good care of Sheryl and Shirley, in

spite of her past mistakes. Though, it might help to let her know that if Sheryl needs anything, she can come to me.'

Nancy was shocked by Charles' reaction and his decision to not disclose her identity. She knew she had done terrible things to Sheryl before. Also, her son's greed and imprudence put Sheryl in danger and caused her disappearance. It was weird that Charles had let all that go, or that he didn't throw her out of Sheryl's house right then. She looked up at him and said in a surprised tone, "Mr. Lu, you..."

Charles realized what Nancy was thinking. With a short wave of his hand, he cut her off, "Don't worry. I won't say anything. Sheryl needs a babysitter and you are the best choice. I am sure you can take good care of her and her daughter. Just remember, if Sheryl gets in trouble, you come to me as soon as possible."

It would have not been easy to persuade Sheryl into firing Nancy anyway. Sheryl had no memory of the past so Charles would have not had a good enough reason to give her. Moreover, Charles was quite certain that Nancy wouldn't do any more harm to Sheryl. In fact, she even promised so, "Don't worry, Mr. Lu. I will make sure she is okay and I will inform you of any changes in her condition. Whenever

she is in trouble, I will go find you for help." Nancy was grateful to him for that chance to look after

Sheryl and Shirley. She also could not hold her excitement about the future. If Charles and Sheryl got

back together, she would be over the moon.

Charles nodded appreciatively but still had to warn her, "Nancy, just remember... if you do anything to

hurt Sheryl, though, I will not let it go. Do not mistake my kindness for weakness."

Nancy's memories of poisoning Sheryl a long time ago suddenly came back and caused her much

remorse. She understood where Charles was coming from with that warning and made sure to remove

any of his remaining worries, "I know what you mean, Mr. Lu. Trust me, I won't hurt her again. You have

nothing to worry about." Nancy then went upstairs with slow, heavy steps. Her eyes were bloodshot

and filled with tears of gratitude. Sheryl watched her suspiciously. Eventually, she decided to go over to

her and ask, "Nancy, what's wrong with you? Why are your eyes red?"

"Nothing. I am fine," Nancy replied cautiously. Without any further explanation, she went directly to her

bedroom leaving Sheryl totally confused.

The next morning, Charles came to Sheryl's apartment with Charlie as promised. Nancy cooked an

exceedingly good lunch for Charlie and Shirley, making them lick all their fingers. The two kids had

missed each other greatly and kept talking nonstop about absolutely everything. Charles and Sheryl had a good laugh watching them.

At Y Hospital

The doctors allowed Holley to be discharged from the hospital. After the acrimonious quarrel between George and Donna a few days earlier, George decided to stay at the hospital with Holley and didn't even mention Donna at all. He was still bitter about the hostility she had shown toward Holley.

After finishing all the discharge formalities, he said to Holley softly, "Let's go. Where would you like to eat for lunch? I'll take you there."

Holley smiled and replied, "Actually, I just made us a reservation. I am taking you to a place with some really delicious food." She then grabbed George's arm and guided him toward the exit.

George was impressed with her constant positivity, especially after all she had been through. Holley seemed to have moved on from Donna's insolence and all the physical pain she had caused her. He felt a huge relief about it.

Donna had called him several times during the past few days, but he didn't answer any of the calls.

After she had shown up at the hospital, several days earlier, to beat up Holley, George wanted nothing to do with her anymore. She had crossed the line and he could not forgive that. George was set to show Donna that he didn't want her in his life anymore, which was why he kept ignoring all her calls. Donna, however, was not about to back away that easily. She decided to hire a private detective to investigate Holley's past, in hopes to find something that would show George she wasn't as perfect as he thought.

In Downtown Y city, one could find many Korean restaurants but one, in particular, had a large number of positive reviews online. Since George was Korean, Holley decided to surprise him and reserved a table at that restaurant. George hadn't had any authentic Korean food since he came to Y City. She was sure he would like the food there.

That wasn't the only reason for bringing him there, though. Earlier, while he wasn't looking, Holley snagged his phone and sent Donna a message inviting her to have lunch together at that restaurant.

Holley had never confronted Donna before on purpose. It was always too draining for her. However, after getting discharged, she felt reenergized and able to properly deal with the situation. She wanted to prove herself to Donna and Sula, who kept seeing her as an unqualified partner for George.

George was completely oblivious to Holley's intentions. All he cared about was her welfare.

As the car stopped in front of the Korean restaurant, George winced and expressed his disappointment openly, "You brought us here? You said we were going to have some delicious food. Do you really think this is the best option?" He wasn't in the mood to enjoy Korean food, as it reminded him of Donna.

"Yes. Let's go. You will see; this restaurant serves the best traditional meals with a modern touch,"

Holley insisted. George gave in to her wishes. As they got out of the car, she latched onto his arm tightly and pulled him inside.

A waitress led them to a private room and handed them two menus. George ordered a small amount of food, but Holley added much more to it. She then folded the menu and concluded, "That's all. Thank you. We're quite hungry, so please try to hurry."

"Will do my best," the waitress replied and left. George did not comment at all while she was placing the order.

As soon as the waitress left, he cocked his eyebrow and inquired, "Why did you order so much food?"

"We can't finish all those dishes."

"Who said they are all for the two of us? George, I have something to tell you," confessed Holley. She bit her lower lip anticipating an angry reaction and kept thinking of all the right words to say. She had to let George know about inviting Donna before she showed up; otherwise, the situation could really get out of control.

George wasn't sure what she meant about sharing the food. He didn't remember her mentioning any other guests. "What is it that you have to tell me?" he asked.

Holly eventually bit the bullet and spat out the news, "I invited Donna and Sula to join us... from your phone... while you weren't looking." "You did what?" shouted George furiously. He could not believe his ears.

In a quieter, yet still aggravated tone, he continued, "Are you crazy? They insulted you; my mother even hit you. Why would you invite them? What are you thinking?" George was frustrated by her overly kind gesture. She had nothing to prove to them, nor to him for that matter. He was trying to make sense of the situation. 'I can't believe this! My mother hurt her and tried to humiliate her, and she answered back with respect and a peace offer? How can Donna not see how wonderful of a person Holley is? She'd better realize it because I love Holley and no one can separate us!'

George kept contemplating all the behaviors of Donna and Holley while Holley was talking his ears off, trying to convince him to be okay with his mother. Once he snapped out of his thoughts, he realized he had been tuning Holley out for a while. She was wasting her breath on him and he knew the only way to avoid any further arguments between her and his mother was to leave. So he grabbed Holley's hand and said sternly, interrupting her words, "Let's go. I don't want to have lunch with them. We're leaving right now."

George attempted to get up from the chair but Holley pinned him down with a firm hold of his arm, trying to explain once more, "George, calm down and just hear me out please."

She locked eyes with him continuing to plead, "We have already ordered our food; it is rude to leave now." She knew George would be angry, so she waited until after they ordered their meals to tell him.

She wanted George to understand that it would be best for everyone if she succeeded to make peace with Donna. She was willing to give it her best shot.

"No, I won't have lunch with them," replied George assertively. "Look at your face! There are still bruises on it. Did you forget what they have done to you? She is my mother but her behavior has been

completely unforgivable." George persisted staring intensely at Holley. He was ashamed and disturbed by what his mother had done.

"George, I know you care about me and I thank you for that. But she is your mother and you've always told me how much she has supported you throughout your whole life. When we'll have our wedding in the future, I want you to get her blessing too. I know it is important for you, isn't it?" pleaded Holley.

Holley's innocent eyes and warm smile softened George's heart. Seeing that she had finally won George's full trust and affection made her suffering worthwhile.

So she was even more determined to have lunch with Donna and Sula.

In her mind, everything was coming together. 'Since I have won George's heart, Donna will see that the more she interferes, the closer George and I will become.

Sula will also realize that there is no place for her between George and me, and eventually, the situation will sort itself out.'

This was her chance to show up as a victor, in spite of them trying to make her look like a loser. She wanted them to get it, once and for all: their interference in her relationship would never work. Holley also wanted to show George that she cared about him and that she was willing to put her best foot

forward in her relationship with Donna.

He was utterly impressed, but still didn't think her efforts were necessary. He argued, "Holley, you have seen her behavior. She is becoming unreasonable. If she continues to interfere in our relationship, I don't need her blessing." He used to respect his mother, but her actions had made him lose some of that respect. Also, he loved Holley and wouldn't give her up just because his mother wished so.

Holley urged him gently but insistently, "Don't talk like that. Try to understand her. She doesn't know me well and doesn't think I'm good enough for you. She is worried about you. Can't you see?" She paused and allowed her words to sink in.

Chapter 683 Doing The Opposite

Holley paused and continued, "Donna's objection of me is perfectly understandable considering the huge difference in our social status and family background. I think it will take a long time before Donna could accept me and see my potentials."

"Holley, sweetheart," George wanted to console her. George frowned a little and said, "I love you because of your kindness, fortitude and magnanimity. I love you for who you are. You do not need to feel pressured every time we are together."

"I truly appreciate your unsparing devotion to me, George." Holley smiled at George. "I invited Donna to this dinner because I want to show my deepest apology for failing to pick her up at the airport on time. I know that my failure led to subsequent unpleasant encounters between the two of you. I want to make up for it. Also, I want her to give our relationship her blessing."

Holley sighed and continued, "If Donna will give us her blessing, our love will be blessed two times.

However, if she still refuses to accept our relationship, we will still remain devoted to each other. We will not let it affect our relationship."

"I still believe that Donna will consider our relationship someday." Holley smiled and drew George's hand affectionately.

"I also do not want to see you being torn between Donna and me," Holley added coquettishly.

Holley rested her head on George's shoulder. "I don't want you to fall out with Donna because of me.

Otherwise, I would feel guilty for the rest of my life. Do you understand?"

"Holley..." George murmured. He was deeply touched. He was at a loss for words.

Holley was satisfied at winning George's heart. Thus, George agreed to wait for Donna so they could dine together. However, Donna and Sula arrived very late.

One hour of waiting plus Donna's arrogant attitude when they arrived were good enough to upset George.

George glanced at Donna and said begrudgingly, "How could you let us wait for too long? You should have refused our invitation instead."

"George, please hold back your temper." Holley tried to smooth over the situation in order to maintain an agreeable atmosphere.

But for Holley's intervention, George could easily just dismiss this dinner party.

Donna sneered and replied, "What Holley did previously was much more unacceptable than my late arrival today."

George flew into a rage upon hearing Donna's aggressive remarks. He gave her a cold smile and said, "Mom, you are free to leave now!"

"George, please calm down." Holley clung to George's arm as she tried to ease the tension.

Meanwhile, Sula whispered to Donna, "Donna, the more you show your disgust towards Holley, the more you upset George. Also, you are just giving Holley more chances of winning against us."

Realizing Sula's words, Donna held her tongue.

Sensing the growing hostility between Donna and George, Holley asked the waiter to serve the food.

When all the dishes were served, she motioned Donna to taste the roasted pork belly and said, "This

restaurant has been one of the bests here in Y City for more than two decades. They are well-known

for their special dishes. Please give it a try." She paused for a moment, took a deep breath, and

continued, "Aunt Donna, I invited you for dinner today because I want to present myself humbly before

you."

George had already informed Holley of Donna's food preferences so she was proud to present the

dishes she ordered for her.

"Spare me your flattery." Donna gave Holley a cold smile. Then she added in a satirical tone, "Just like

what others say, 'Dining with a friend or a relative is truly a pleasure while dining with an enemy is a

misery'. Do you know what that means?"

Holley was fully aware of Donna's aversion to her.

But she must do her best to hide her displeasure to Donna in front of George.

Otherwise, she would lose in this game.

So Holley braced herself to talk to Donna in a soft tone, "Donna, why won't you give me an opportunity to mend my relationship with you?"

"Stop your scheming!" Donna shouted with a sneer. "I will never ever get along with you. So, your countless cunning would be in vain."

George couldn't take Donna's words anymore. It was already difficult for him to maintain his composure so he immediately spoke, "How could you talk to Holley so arrogantly and crudely, Mom? She is already doing her best to please you." "I think there is no need for us to talk anymore. You are free to leave now," he added.

"Enough of this fight and dispute," Sula spoke up. She put on a mask of a mediator. "You are a family. You are supposed to be bound by love, not by hatred."

Sula then turned to Donna and said, "We came here to mend your relationship with George. Stop making a fool of ourselves."

Understanding Sula's meaning, Donna gradually calmed herself down to regain her composure.

When she saw that Donna got her message, Sula turned to Holley and smiled. "Holley, can you pass

me that dish? That is actually one of my favorites."

Holley gave Sula the dish she ordered. She marveled at Sula's ingenuity which was much superior to

Donna's.

Chapter 684 A Pretty Difficult Character

"George, how could you do that?" asked Sula. In a fluid and easy manner, she dipped the streaky pork

in barbecue sauce, wrapped it in a lettuce leaf and put it in his bowl. George and Sula sat facing each

other. She spoke to him in a slightly reproachful tone, "You know what her general health has been like

these last few years. But you were so angry with her and spoke such harsh words. After you left her

that day, she lay quietly in the hotel the entire day and night without eating anything. If something had

happened to her, would it have made you happy?"

"It's all my fault", Holley said in a dramatic tone, sitting next to him. Deep in her heart she hoped that

Donna would actually fall sick and never recover. She continued, "They quarreled so fiercely because of

me. I am to blame."

"Holley." Sula had a gentle smile on her face, but what she said was not gentle at all. "Whatever

happened because of you is not something that is reward worthy. Don't be so anxious to take credit for

it. It has nothing to do with you specifically but is a general matter between mother and son."

Sula's words made Holley sulk. At that very moment she knew that Sula was a more tricky character than Donna. It was going to be difficult to handle this woman.

After hearing that Donna was not feeling well, George looked worried. He looked at his mother and asked, "Why didn't you call me?"

"Would it have worked to lessen your anger? Would you have come running to take care of me?" said Donna, with a faint sneer on her face.

When she said this, George remembered that she had made many phone calls to him, but he had ignored them in his anger. He could not help regretting his unbecoming behavior.

Holley gritted her teeth. When Donna and Sula had entered the room, she had been having the upper hand with George. But things had gone wrong when Sula began to talk. Just a few words from her had made George worry about Donna's health. Holley knew she had to sway George soon. What could she do next?

George looked at Donna and said, "Mother, if you hadn't been so unreasonable, I wouldn't have gone so far as not to answer the phone."

He sighed, "If Holley had not arranged this meeting today, I still would not have seen you. I know that you have not liked her ever since I started dating her. But I like her. I am so happy when we are together, and I really want to live with her for the rest of my life."

When Donna heard that, she immediately wanted to laugh and ridicule it, but Sula, sitting beside her, pulled her arm gently to remind her that she should be patient and play her cards right.

They had lost so many times that they just could not continue to lose further.

Donna, reminded by Sula, forced herself not to say a word.

Donna's silence encouraged George to talk more. "Mother, even if you don't like Holley, it does not mean that you can go into the ward and beat her up like that. Just look at her face. It hasn't recovered yet. What kind of hatred do you harbour for her? Is your dislike so strong that you could not control yourself from whacking her?"

"It was..." Donna stammered. 'She deserved it!'

Donna thought but thankfully did not blurt out.

Holley smiled and pretended to be very sensible and understanding. She said to George, "It's all right.

What has happened has happened. Don't speak of that any more. That injury is trivial. Don't make a

fuss about it. It's OK."

She looked at Donna with a deliberately provocative smile.

Donna thought of Sula's warning. She knew that she must hold back her anger or she would really lose her war with Holley.

She looked steadily at Holley and said with a smile, "I was so impulsive, and it was all my fault. I should have controlled my temper. Holley, I must apologize to you."

"Aunt Donna, you don't have to do this," said Holley, who seemed to be overwhelmed by the unexpected apology. "I have never blamed you. On the contrary, I'm so sorry to see that you and George fight because of me. I... I don't want to be the cause of a conflict between you two."

Donna chuckled, "You can rest assured, Holley. George will remain my son, no matter what happens. I'll never allow things to go out of hand with him. Resentment between mother and son will never last for long. The bond between us is too strong."

"That's right!" Sula exclaimed as soon as Donna has done talking. She went on, "It's so good to see you two get along well again."

George was surprised that Donna, who had always been a dominating person, apologized to Holley.

Then he said to his mother in a soft tone, "Mother, in fact, I was wrong too, I shouldn't have lost my temper at you, let alone upset you by saying harsh words."

"That's all right." Donna laughed joyfully. She saw that their plan was working. It was not so hard to pretend to be an understanding mother.

She gazed at her son gently. "You are my son. Of course, I hope you always find happiness in your life.

How can I resent anything that brings you happiness?"

"Mom..." George frowned slightly. "But we still need to discuss Holley and reach an understanding about her."

Donna calmly glanced at him and said no more.

George sighed again and said, "I know that you don't like her, but that's because you don't know what kind of girl she is. In fact this time when you came to Y City, I wanted you to get to know Holley well. I

was confident that if you two spent time together, you would like her a lot. But I never expected that..."

George smiled bitterly and continued, "I didn't expect that so many things would go wrong. Now that we have sorted this out, can you give Holley a chance and get to know more about her?"

"Well..." Donna frowned in embarrassment. Gave Holley a chance? That was simply out of the question.

Seeing Donna's hesitation, Sula smiled and said, "Don't worry. Aunt Donna will certainly agree."

She looked straight at Holley and added, "In fact, I didn't know what kind of person you were until today.

You were willing to organize this meeting in spite of all that has happened, so I think that you must be a very generous and forgiving person. Aunt Donna, we have to thank her. Otherwise George would still have not forgiven us."

"Sula, you are right. That is true. We must say thank you to her." Donna agreed with Sula.

Getting Donna's verbal approval, Sula turned to look at Holley. "Holley, I want to thank you on behalf of

Aunt Donna and George. Without you, they would not have sorted out the issue for a long time.

Because of you the family rift has healed."

Sula acted like she was part of the family and an important member therein. She had cleverly turned the tables around. By thanking Holley, she actually turned Holley into an outsider and herself into the family insider.

Chapter 685 A Trap

Holley was not stupid enough to believe that Sula was just showing her gratitude. So, she held

George's arm, to make sure that her relationship with him was clear enough and to remind Sula of her

place, that is, as an outsider. "It's my pleasure. George is my boyfriend and I also didn't expect things

to turn out this way. I don't want anyone to be displeased because of me," she said.

The atmosphere around them suddenly turned less intense. When Holley was thinking about what to

say next, her phone rang. Leila was calling. Holley frowned and excused herself, "Excuse me for a

moment, I just need to pick up this call. It might be some business issues in my company."

"Go ahead." Donna waved her hand. It was a relief for her if Holley would not be around even just for a

little while since she would be much more comfortable without her.

Holley was already gone but Sula was still staring at the direction where she went. She seemed to be

lost in her thoughts. After hesitating for a moment, she said to Donna, "Aunt Donna, please excuse me.

I just need to go to the bathroom."

"Sure," Donna immediately answered without even doubting why Sula would suddenly want to leave

right after Holley went out. When only Donna and George were left at the table, Donna pointed at some

dishes to him and urged him to eat more. "The food in this restaurant is very delicious. You should

enjoy eating more."

"Yes, it is, Mom." George laughed heartily. "It took so long for Holley to find this restaurant. You know, she really exerted some efforts in finding the best restaurant to please you. And since you liked it, we can come here more often for dinner."

"That would be great." Donna smiled as she nodded her head. "Though I have tried a few Chinese food, I still think that Korean food is the best."

Donna glimpsed at George while she was still eating. Then she curiously asked, "George, you've been here in Y City for quite a long time. Do you find anything uncomfortable living here?"

"Nothing at all," George replied eagerly. He couldn't understand why Donna asked such question and didn't get what she meant. "Actually, for me, Y City is a great place. I like it here so much. I enjoy the food here, too," he added.

"So, you have never thought of coming back to Korea?" Donna frowned at the thought of it. George had been to Y City for a long time with Holley and he never went back to Korea even once. So Donna had no other way but to ask him personally about it.

"Mom, I don't have any plans of going back at the moment," answered George calmly. "BM Corporation has just started. The market in China right now is very huge so I have a very high chance to succeed.

Besides, Holley is here and I want to be with her."

"George, I think you misunderstood me," Donna said with a smile. "I didn't mean to break you apart."

"Then what do you mean?" George got confused.

"The thing is," Donna was trying to explain, "I'm getting older and I'm no longer as healthy as before.

Our family business is so important for both of us. We need someone reliable to watch over it or it might be taken away by our greedy distant relatives."

"Besides, you've got Holley here in Y City. You can let her take charge of BM Corporation. Then, you can come back to Korea and help me. I believe Holley is capable of handling your business," Donna continued. She tried to be as persuasive as possible.

'As long as they are apart, their relationship will not be stable. My son will lose his interest in her very soon. If breaking them up would cost BM Corporation, it will be worthy to give the company to that bitch

as a gift, ' Donna thought to herself.

George thought about Donna's suggestion for a long time. He couldn't help but frown. Eventually, he shook his head and said, "Let's talk about that some other time. As for now, I don't have any plans of going back to Korea."

Seeing that George was already frowning, Donna stopped persuading him.

'I still have plenty of time. There's no need to hurry. I believe I will be able to convince him someday, '

Donna assured herself.

Meanwhile, Holley looked for a spot where no one was around to answer her phone. With a low but displeased voice, she spoke on the phone, "I've told you not to call me unless it is something urgent, right? Didn't you understand what that mean?"

"Holley, I have been waiting outside Sheryl's apartment every day just like what you told me. But until now, I still couldn't get a chance to take her daughter away. Charles is sending this bitch home every day. He is really protecting her." Leila was quite angry and jealous. "He even brought my son to Sheryl's apartment today and they went to work together this morning. Is this how you are helping me?"

Leila already felt frustrated. Leila was mad as hell because of jealousy, and she couldn't stand it anymore so she decided to call Holley.

Holley answered in a cold voice, "Why are you so surprised? Of course, Charles would do everything to win Sheryl's heart. He would even get a star in the sky for her."

"Stop saying that nonsense," Leila snorted. "This is not working at all. You have to think of another way to deal with this bitch right now!"

Holley frowned, dissatisfied with Leila's tone of voice, "Leila, I've already helped you think of a way. It's all up to you if you will do it or not. Remember, even if Sheryl is a cautious tiger, she will also take a nap at times. If I were you, I would just wait for the right opportunity." "Really?" Leila was still skeptical.

However, she didn't have any other choice but to trust Holley's words. Holley, on the other hand, was already getting impatient.

"Remember, don't call me for such stupid reasons again. Never call me unless there's something really important. Do you understand?"

Holley hung up the phone. She then turned around to go back to their room. But before she could take a step, she was taken aback to see Sula standing in front of her with a half-smile on her face. "When did you come here?" she asked nervously.

"When you were on the phone," Sula replied calmly. Sula then gave her an inquiring look. "Miss Ye, you seem quite not in the mood. Is it because of that phone call?"

Suddenly, Holley's face changed. "It's none of your business.

Why are you here by the way? Are you trying to eavesdrop on my phone call?"

"Of course, not," Sula answered with a meaningful grin. "I just went to the bathroom," she reasoned.

"Bathroom?" Holley snorted. Since George was not around, there was no need for Holley to act and pretend to be nice to Sula anymore. "It seems to me that Miss Piao got a really bad excuse. As far as I can remember, the bathroom is in the opposite direction."

"Really? Then maybe I got lost," Sula answered with a smirk.

Holley didn't want to waste any more time on Sula and she wanted to go back to their room so she stepped forward. However, Sula stopped her. "Miss Ye, we've met for quite a few times already but we never really got a chance to talk. Don't you think right now is a good chance for us to have a talk?"

"Talk?" Holley looked at Sula with disdain. "I really don't know what to talk about with you. Let me just tell you this: Even if Donna doesn't like me, I am still George's girlfriend. Donna has nothing to do with our relationship. So, as long as George loves me, Donna can't do anything about it."

Holley stepped closer to Sula and whispered to her ear, "I know that when Donna brought you here, she promised you many things. But, it doesn't matter because George will never like you. You should know that as early as now."

Chapter 686 What Do You Want To Do

She looked at Sula standing in front of her and mocked, "Donna likes you so much. If possible she would marry you herself."

"You..." Sula was so angry with Holley. She looked at her coldly and said, "Don't become too complacent this early in the game. Sooner or later George will see you in your true colours, and then you will have nothing and be left with no one."

"Will I?" Holley sneered as she looked at Sula. She said lightly, "As far as I know, you were almost engaged to George. If I were you, I would be ashamed to be here. You're just an abandoned, resentful woman. You are in no position to mock or ridicule me."

She glared menacingly at Sula and added, "You just remember this! George is my man. You can never steal him from me! Get out of here as soon as you can! Otherwise, I will retaliate very harshly against you!"

"Are you afraid?" Sula sneered. "Yes, I cancelled my engagement with George. However, that doesn't mean George is yours now. George was engaged to me once, and he can be again. It is you who should give him up and leave. If you want to quit now, I'll give you a lot of money."

She looked at Holley contemptuously. "I know the reason why you want George is because he is a rich man and has a lot of money."

"How much can you pay me?" Holley asked indifferently. "One hundred million dollars or two hundred million dollars?"

"Are you crazy?" Sula stared at Holley with intense dislike. She mocked, "Do you really think you are worth that price? Get real!"

"You don't seem to love George much. If you truly love him, you will be willing to pay that money,"

Holley sneered. "Let me lay all the cards on the table for you. The market value of BM Corporation is 800 million dollars. What do you think I will choose?"

She moved close to Sula, laughed scornfully in her face and said, "Sula, I want both — the money and George. It seems that you still don't know me well enough."

"Holley Ye!" Sula was furious. She caught Holley to prevent her from leaving. Holley smiled in a devilish

way. All she had said just now was to deliberately annoy Sula. Holley thought that if she hadn't encountered Sula this time, she would have achieved her goal.

She had decided to vanquish Sula first so that she could concentrate on Donna.

Sula just grabbed Holley, but Holley took the opportunity to deliberately 'fall' on the floor. Her forehead quickly swelled up. Seeing what had happened, Sula could not help scolding herself for her carelessness.

There was a scheming look on Holley's face. She struggled to get up and a crowd gathered around her.

At that moment, she looked at Sula pitifully and said, "Sula, why did you do that to me?"

The crowd swelled around them. Holley was very happy to see the crowd. A million thoughts were

racing through her mind. She cried out in a sobbing voice, "I love George sincerely. Sula, I know your

family is rich and powerful, and you are more a more suitable match for him, but... but I think when

people are in love, they will do not remember this gap in wealth and family status. You said you would

give me money to leave George, but I can't do that. I love him, not his money."

Holley wiped her tears with the back of her hand and continued, "I didn't expect you to be such a crude

woman. When I said I won't leave him, you hit me, you..."

With a few simple words, Holley succeeded in portraying Sula as an arrogant and domineering young lady. Holley won the sympathy of the people gathered around.

Voices in the crowd had begun to scold Sula. "Girl, you're going too far. You can't do that."

"You can't do that, no matter what."

"That girl did nothing wrong. You shouldn't hit her. You are going too far."

Some people extended their sympathy to Holley. "Girl, don't be afraid, we all support you. For people in love with each other it is their feelings which are invaluable. If that domineering girl dares to hurt or insult you again, we will beat her down first."

"No, thanks." Holley waved her hands and said to the crowd around her, "It is nothing, just a small misunderstanding between us. That is all that it is."

She gave a wry smile, and said to them, "I don't want to embarrass my boyfriend."

"What a kind girl! She still protects the nasty one who beat her up."

"Yeah. She is truly a good soul."

Sula's face changed when she saw so many people support Holley. She didn't expect Holley to be so

cruel and manipulative.

When Holley hit the floor, Sula had heard the loud smack. Just the sound had her feeling pain. It was unbelievable that Holley had purposely inflicted so much pain on herself just to spite Sula. Holley had done similar things before, such as the car accident. Still Sula was horrified at this situation and Holley's action.

Seeing Sula's embarrassment, Holley knew that she had won this battle, but this was just the beginning. The war was still on!

Inside the box, George looked at the two empty seats beside him. He frowned slightly. "They haven't come back yet. What could be the matter?"

"Yeah, they've been out for a long time. They should have been back by now." Donna also grew worried.

Just when they were puzzling over this, the waiter opened the door and said to George anxiously, "Sir, please come and have a look. The two girls are fighting with each other."

"What?" Donna and George were shocked to hear this. George rushed out of the room very swiftly. He

pushed through the crowd and saw that again Holley was hurt. His heart ached at the sight of her injury. He rushed to her with red eyes and looked with concern at the swelling on her head. He asked, "What's the matter? What has happened? Holley, are you alright?"

"I'm OK." Holley lowered her head and put on a suffering look. "I bumped myself carelessly."

"What was really going on?" George asked in disbelief. He wanted to know what had actually happened.

Donna walked quietly to Sula's side. Seeing Holley hurt, Donna whispered her approval to Sula, "Did you beat her? Well done, you are fiercer than I ever thought. She was long due for a beating."

"What? No, this is not what happened. I..." Sula looked depressed. This time she had turned really careless. She didn't expect Holley to smartly turn the tables on her. She found Holley's behavior shameless and below the belt.

"Did you do this to Holley?" George thought that Holley was withholding the truth, so he asked Sula coldly, "Did you hurt her, Sula?"

Holley tugged at George's hand and said, "Don't do that. I have told you it was my own accident. It has nothing to do with Sula."

"Don't defend her, Holley." George shook his head and said, "I can't believe that you hurt yourself just walking."

"I..." Holley pretended to be at a loss for words and gave him a weepy look.

"Girl, tell your boyfriend the truth." The people in the crowd pointed at Sula and said to George, "Young man, your girlfriend was beaten up by her. She threatened your girlfriend to leave you alone and then hurt her. That is what happened and we witnessed it."

"Please stop talking, Sir..." Holley pretended to stop people from speaking out against Sula, but George had heard enough.

Looking coldly at Sula, George said, "Now look at what you've done! What else do you have to say?"

"George, this is not the truth. There is more to this whole story." Sula was anxious to explain everything to George, but George was in no mood to listen to her.

Because Sula was suffering from a loss of face and was embarrassed thoroughly, Donna rushed to George and said, "Ah, it's only a minimum swelling. Holley's injury is not serious. Don't become so stressed about it George."

Chapter 687 Sula Took The Blame

"It's all your fault! You brought George a lot of trouble. He shouldn't be involved in such a trivial matter,"

Donna blamed Holley. She cast a glimpse at Holley and added, "It was just a small mistake but you blew it up and made it more severe."

"Aunt Donna, I..." Holley wanted to say something but controlled herself and became speechless.

Then, she sadly lowered her head. George got even angrier when he saw her expression.

"Mom, how could you treat Holley so unfairly? This incident was clearly Sula's fault. Why would you

blame Holley, instead?" George asked his mother with discontent. He cast a glimpse at Sula with an

arched brow and continued, "Sula, I once took you as my sister. I never blamed you no matter what

mistakes you made. But it is different this time. What you did for many times really irritated me. I can't

bear that anymore."

George stared at Sula and added, "From now on, I don't want to see your face again. If you dare do

anything to hurt Holley, I will never forgive you."

"George, you're getting everything wrong..." Sula knew George was really angry when he gave her the

warning. She felt so sad to receive George's wrath because what happened was Holley's fault. But

George chose to blame her instead.

She stared back at George and firmly decided to fight Holley. Now that Holley had started the war with her, the only way out was to bravely fight her.

She said, "George, I admit that I love you since we were little. If this woman didn't come between us, we could have been engaged. No... we could have got married. I just wanted to have a talk with her and had no intention to hit her. It was her who..." George laughed sarcastically and interrupted Sula's speech.

"Now what, Sula? Don't be foolish in trying to attribute the fault to Holley? Do you want to tell me that she injured herself?" George gave a sneer and asked, "How can that be possible? Holley hasn't completely recovered yet. Why don't you find an excuse that sounds more realistic?"

Sula's face grew pale in anger and embarrassment. What she said did sound ridiculous but it was the truth.

Holley would do anything to frame her.

Seeing Sula was rendered speechless, George gave a cold smile and said, "Sula, I'm sorry if I ruined our engagement, but that had nothing to do with Holley. That time, I just didn't want to be the sacrifice

for the benefit of our company. I always felt sorry for you and wanted to make amends, but what you did today really disappointed me."

Then he mocked, "I always thought you were a good and innocent girl. Just now I realized that you are totally different from how you look like. You would devise such a ridiculous excuse just to pass the buck to Holley. I am really disappointed with you."

Sula was deeply hurt and shrank as she heard George's harsh comments. She couldn't understand why George would only listen to Holley's lies.

"What nonsense are you talking about George?" Donna interrupted and inquired. Seeing Sula's distraught expression, Donna couldn't help but butt in and question George, "Son, do you really think that she is evil as you imagined her to be?"

"Why not, Mom?" George gave a sneer and added, "So can you honestly tell me why Holley got injured?"

Donna clenched her teeth in rage. She believed in Sula's words. As for Holley, she was convinced that she would do anything to achieve her goal.

Holley got pleased with the result and grabbed George's hand. "George, let's get out of here now.

There are already too many people. They can see and hear us arguing," she said.

"Don't worry honey," George replied with a sneer. Then he blurted, "Both of them are not ashamed of what they have done. We are not doing anything wrong so we don't have to be wary of the opinion of other people."

But Holley persisted to leave. Seeing Holley's bothered eyes, George finally agreed, "Okay fine, let's go honey."

If they didn't leave, George would not be able to contain himself and would definitely say more harsh words to Donna and Sula. He put his arm around Holley's shoulder and spoke, "Sula, remember what I said. Don't ever show up before Holley, otherwise, I won't forgive you."

He warned Sula in a serious tone. Then he switched to a loving tone immediately as he turned to face Holley. Both left the scene. His totally different and contrasting attitudes towards Sula and Holley made the former heartbroken.

As George and Holley walked away, the onlookers who watched the whole quarrel also dispersed because the farce had come to an end.

Donna gripped Sula's hands and consoled her, "Sula, I'm really very sorry. I was not able to protect you that well."

In her mind, Donna felt God was punishing her by giving her such an abhorrent son.

"I'm perfectly fine, Aunt Donna." Sula had calculated everything. Although she was extremely saddened by the incident, she would never give up. "Aunt Donna, I understand that George unfairly treated me because of that bitch but that wouldn't be enough for me to give up so easily," Sula declared.

Donna was so happy to hear Sula's declaration but she was still worried. So she asked Sula, "Did you really mean what you just said, Sula? If you just want to make me happy, you don't have to say so."

Then she heaved a deep sigh and patted Sula's hand. "Although I hope and wish that you and George will be together, I don't want you to be sad because of him. I always regard you as my own daughter. If you don't want to be with him anymore, I won't compel you to do so," Donna said calmly.

"Aunt Donna, I meant every word I said because I want to be with George," Sula replied quickly. She smiled reluctantly and with bitterness and then exclaimed, "For you and I, Aunt Donna, I will do my very best to be with George someday."

"Okay," Donna said and nodded in agreement. "Sula, I will give you anything you want as long as you can drive that whore away from George," Donna offered.

Sula gave a fake smile. Although she had promised, she understood that it just got even harder to catch George based on the recent altercation and all the negativity he threw at her.

In Shining Company, Sam came to attend a meeting with Charles. Chris, on the other hand, left her child to the nanny. She followed him because she heard that Sheryl just recently started working there.

Chapter 688 What Do You Mean By That

On their way to see Sheryl, Sam kept on warning Chris, "I'm taking you to see Sheryl today because of your constant nagging. But, let me remind you that Sheryl has lost her memory and she couldn't remember anything. I understand you willpower to help your brother but please, don't do anything impulsive. You might just cause troubles. During my meeting upstairs, I can only allow you to see Sheryl from afar. You cannot show up in front of her. Do you understand?"

Giving Sam a reproachful look, Chris pouted and replied sadly, "How could you think of me like that?

Am I really that unreliable in your eyes?"

"No, it's not because I think you are unreliable. It's only because I think you are the kind of person who

couldn't be trusted enough," Sam answered without even throwing her a glance. Sam's focus was all on the road.

"You..." Chris was enraged by Sam's words. However, she couldn't find enough reasons to rebut because she was also aware that Sam was right. How many stupid things had she already done so far?

Anyway, she only came here today to see Sheryl out of curiosity. In the past, she didn't get the chance to see Sheryl because of her baby. Now she wanted to personally see whether or not Sheryl was really Autumn.

In addition, Charles had already warned her not to do anything that might backfire on them. Of course, she would obey her brother.

She heaved a deep sigh and said, "Okay, okay, I know exactly what to do." Then she added, "You have told me these words over and over again. Don't you think you are getting verbose?"

"I told you these many times because I want you to remember them," Sam answered with a shrug. He didn't want to argue with Chris anymore.

When they arrived at Shining Company, Sam was about to remind Chris again. However, when he saw

Chris' annoyed expression, he changed his mind. So, he just cast a glance at her and said, "Please behave accordingly. I have to go upstairs now."

"Go ahead," Chris urged Sam to leave. She was really very curious about Sheryl. She couldn't understand why Charles would mistaken Sheryl for Autumn despite knowing his wife very well.

"Cheney, where are the models from BM Corporation?" Chris asked the staff she first saw. Since she was Charles' sister, everyone in the company knew her so she could just talk to anyone she wished to talk to.

"Mrs. Lin, the models are currently rehearsing on the third floor. Mr. Lu has arranged a room there for them. Would you like me to take you there?" Cheney answered politely.

"Don't bother, I'll find it myself," Chris refused. She actually had other plans before going to the models' room. Chris went out to look for a fruit shop. She bought some sliced fruits and glasses of fruit juice enough for the models before she went back to the building.

Models are very particular with what they eat because they have to maintain their figures, so Chris decided to just buy fruits for them.

When she arrived at the room Cheney had told her, she sneakily looked for Sheryl. Meanwhile, Sheryl was also coming out from the back stage. She was wearing a pair of high heels. When Chris saw Sheryl, her mouth opened wide in awe. She then realized that Charles did not mistaken Sheryl for his wife. Sheryl was really Autumn.

She looked at Sheryl in utter disbelief while keeping on cursing her own stupidity.

"Who are you? Why are you standing here?" Gerry asked with an arched brow. He got irritated when he saw Chris stealthily looking for something.

"Oh, hi!" Chris greeted him with a smile. "My name is Chris Lu. I am Charles' younger sister. My brother asked me to bring some fruits and juice for you guys," she explained. Chris immediately went back to her senses when she heard Gerry's voice. Gerry felt delighted when he heard what Chris just said. He then clapped his hands to signal the models to have a break. When the models found out that she was Charles' younger sister, they all came around her to butter her up.

Everyone knew that Charles only had his eyes on Sheryl, but a golden bachelor like him was still the target of so many models.

The models thought that anyone who could get Chris' favor would have the biggest chance in life.

Modeling is a profession only for young people. But whoever could stay young forever? Naturally, these models were dying to marry a golden bachelor so they could have a better future ahead of them.

Only Sue and Sheryl didn't join the group. Sue was already in love with Anthony so she was not interested in Charles. Sheryl, on the other hand, was not the kind of person to butter someone up.

Sheryl just stayed at one corner drinking her water while the others including Kitty were flattering Chris.

"Mrs. Lin, your skin is so flawless. Can you share with me your secrets on how you keep your skin in such an excellent condition?"

"Mrs. Lin, I heard that you have just given birth. But how are you able to get back to your best shape in such a short time? You are so excellent!"

"Thank you, thank you all." Chris had no other choice but to express her gratitude politely for their flattery. But Chris' eyes were fixed on Sheryl across them. Sheryl seemed to feel Chris' gaze so she looked at her and nodded politely.

Chris then again confirmed inside her that Sheryl was undoubtedly Autumn, her sister-in-law.

"Actually I don't have any secrets in keeping my skin healthy. Everything is natural," Chris replied

politely. Then she excused herself from everyone, "I'm so sorry ladies, but I have to talk to Sheryl first.

So, please excuse me for a while."

When they heard Chris mentioning Sheryl's name, the models exchanged glances. A contemptuous

look suddenly appeared on their faces. Kitty came closer to Chris and whispered viciously, "Mrs Lin, I

think it's really time that you talk to her."

"What do you mean by that?" Chris couldn't help but crease her brows. She couldn't understand what

Kitty was trying to imply.

"Don't you know?" Kitty excitedly ask. She thought that she got the perfect timing to discredit Sheryl in

front of Chris. "Sheryl seduced your brother, Mr. Lu," she started. "Mr. Lu takes her out for lunch and

drives her home every day. We even saw them come to work together this morning," she added. Chris

could feel that Kitty was quite envious of Sheryl. She couldn't help but sneer inside.

While listening to Kitty, Chris was already applauding Charles deep inside her. No wonder he didn't

need help anymore. He had already started to approach Sheryl in his own way.

"Is that a problem?" Chris asked in an arched brow.

"Of course, it is," Kitty insisted. Kitty felt strange because she didn't expect Chris' reaction. She thought

that Chris would immediately scold Sheryl after knowing the truth. However, she didn't want to give up.

She continued to denigrate Sheryl, "Maybe you don't know that Sheryl already has a boyfriend. Aside from that, she is also a single mother. She has a 3-year old daughter. Everybody knows about her daughter but no one knows who the father is."

Kitty felt more excited to spoke ill of Sheryl, "Despite of having a boyfriend, Sheryl unashamedly seduced Mr. Lu. And Mr. Lu seems to be charmed by her to the highest level that he wouldn't pay attention to any other woman anymore. Mrs. Lin, you are his sister. You must help him wake up and realize the truth."

Kitty gave a sarcastic laugh and continued, "If Mr. Lu really gets together with her, he also has to accept and support her illegitimate daughter. It may not be good for..."

"Who are you calling the illegitimate daughter?" Chris suddenly interrupted Kitty. Her expression hardened when she heard Kitty calling Sheryl's daughter illegitimate. But Kitty didn't pay much attention to Chris' reaction.

Kitty looked up at Chris. "I..." she hesitated to continue when she saw Chris' dimmed expression. She

didn't know why Chris suddenly looked so upset. Did she say something wrong? She felt a little panicked as she tried to explain, "Mrs. Lin, please don't misunderstand me. I'm just concerned about your brother." Kitty started to feel nervous.

"I know," Chris replied shortly. She frowned and remained silent for a moment.

'Kitty must have some conflicts with Sheryl before. Otherwise, she would not keep on defaming her in front of me. I didn't know that Sheryl has suffered this much. But now that I know, I must get even with Kitty for her, ' she thought.

"Mrs Lin, I am just telling you all these for the sake of Mr. Lu. I hope you won't get me wrong." Kitty kept talking without realizing Chris' enraged expression, "Such a respected man like Mr. Lu should find a woman of his match. He should marry a woman with high morals and excellent background. Not someone like Sheryl who is notoriously..."

Before Kitty could finish her words, a slap landed on her face. Then Chris indignantly asked, "Who did you just call notorious?"

Chapter 689 Chris Made A Mistake

"Mrs. Lin?" Kitty cried with bewilderment. She was confused as to why she was slapped by Chris.

Chris flashed a cold glare at Kitty and said, "Remember that I will not spare you if you dare speak ill of

Sheryl once again."

"And as for the rest of you girls," she added as she fiercely looked around, "if you dare bully Sheryl from now onwards, I will beat you up."

All the models lowered their heads as they heard Chris' words. Chris glared at Kitty and continued, "I don't care about whatever woman my brother chooses to be with because I trust he has good taste. At least I know he will never choose the likes of you, so you should just give up chasing him as early as possible."

Chris sneered and added, "If I come to know you all are still bullying Sheryl, I promise that you will not find any job in Y City. All doors will close to you. You are most welcome to test it if you don't believe my words."

Kitty's face became pale with fear. Chris pushed the crowd out of her way and walked up to Sheryl.

Sheryl had heard the scolding and raised her head as Chris approached her. She looked gratefully at

Chris and said, "Thanks."

"You are welcome," Chris replied. Chris was very annoyed with Kitty and she was surprised when she

saw Sheryl's indifferent attitude. Chris could tell that Sheryl was accustomed to Kitty's behavior.

"Why do you not get angry? The words they said to you were really harsh," Chris asked Sheryl in a wondering voice.

"Why should I waste my energy by getting angry?" Sheryl smiled and said, "Nothing can be changed by anger. Kitty won't change her nature and she will still speak ill of me again the next time. I was really angry the first time they said nasty things about me, but now... I have become accustomed to it and don't care."

Sheryl glanced gently at Chris and said with a smile, "Don't worry. Their harsh words do not have the power to hurt me."

"You are just too tolerant of them," Chris said in disgust. She heaved a sigh and added, "If they behave in this way again, you just call me and I will teach them a lesson."

"Thanks. But you don't have to do this for me. I really mean it," Sheryl refused her offer with a smile.

'Chris is still like a big girl even though she has married and has a child, ' Sheryl thought. "I don't want to disturb you with all such petty things. Besides, it's no big deal for me, really," she said to Chris.

Sheryl could predict that Kitty would treat her with increased vengeance after this episode with Chris.

Sheryl knew she must face further trouble caused by Kitty.

But Sheryl didn't mention all this to Chris.

After the short break, Gerry ordered all of them to continue with the rehearsal. Chris slipped away to

Charles' office. When she entered she found Sam and Charles talking about Sheryl.

There were twins in her womb before she went missing. Now she had only Shirley. Charles had

searched for her twin for a long time but to no avail. He was very worried about his missing child and

Shirley's twin.

"I can't ask Sheryl anything in her present condition. What should I do? I have to know what has

happened to the second baby," Charles asked Sam. He had no choice left but to ask for Sam's help

now.

Sam considered a while and then said to Charles, "Actually... there is a person who must surely know

the other baby's whereabouts."

Charles was bright enough to understand that Sam was referring to Anthony.

"Do you mean... Anthony?" Charles asked with a frown. Sheryl's memory loss and missing were closely

related with Anthony. Probably, Anthony would also know where the other child was.

Sam nodded slightly and said to Charles, "Anthony must surely know. But we don't know if he will reveal anything to us or not."

"His willingness does not matter. I should have a talk with him and try to get it out of him," Charles said in a cold voice.

Chris opened the door of the office and entered at this moment. "What are you both talking about?" she asked.

"Nothing special," Sam dodged. Sam thought it was better for Chris to know as little as possible. She had a habit of causing a lot of trouble without really intending to. "Why are you back so early? Didn't you go to see Sheryl?" Sam asked.

"I met her. Now she is busy with her rehearsal so I came here," she replied. Chris sat down beside Sam. She drank the tea in front of Sam and a few more cups in one go.

Charles looked at Chris with amusement. He said, "Drink slowly. It is a waste of good tea if you do not relish each sip but just gulp it down."

Chris glanced at Charles with mock discontent and complained, "I just drank a few cups of your tea and

you scolded me for it. You are so mean."

"I didn't mean that. Don't get me wrong," Charles defended himself.

"What's going on between you and Sheryl?" Chris asked Charles with concern. "I found the other models bullying her when I went to see her. The models were saying many harsh words to Sheryl and I taught them a lesson that they will not forget for a few days at least," Chris said with pride.

She arched a brow and said to Charles, "Now that Sheryl is working in your company, why don't you help her? Why do you just let them to bully her without doing anything to protect her?"

"You won't understand," Charles answered. Charles got restless as soon as Chris said those words to him. He did know those models often bullied Sheryl, but it was an issue that would not be solved just by scolding them. He was thinking about a more effective way to solve the problem. He was worried that his plan might fail if Chris was involved.

Charles looked at Chris with helpless eyes and said, "Didn't I tell you not to get involved in this matter?"

"Why did you..."

Charles was interrupted by Chris, "Maybe you can see Sheryl being bullied by others, but I can't. If I

know those models have dared to harass her again, I will not spare any of those bitches. I will punish them mercilessly."

"And what if they fight you? What will you do after that?" Charles asked her. "How can you be so stupid? I found you have become even sillier since you has a child," Charles scolded.

Chris was annoyed by her brother's words. "I did that just to help Sheryl. Do you mean to say that I should not do anything when she is bullied? I interferred for your sake and on your behalf. How can you blame me for that?" Chris defended.

"Chris!" Sam tried to calm her down. Then he said to Chris, "Have you forgotten the advice I gave you before coming here? Now you should..."

Chris interrupted him even before he could complete his sentence, "I just did the right thing! But now you two blame me like I have committed a severe crime. I am very upset with you both." Chris was very angry with Sam and Charles and her mood darkened.

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"That is not the case. We are not blaming you for anything," said Sam with a sigh. He paused. Then he continued in a weary voice, "Have you ever considered that even if you set things right for her today, what about tomorrow?"

"Tomorrow? What do you mean?" Chris was stunned by his words. In fact, Sheryl had been too dignified to point this out to her. Sam had no such hesitation and chose to be very blunt with her.

Sam smiled bitterly and explained to Chris who was still puzzled, "They will definitely hate Sheryl more after you created a scene like this. They may make more trouble for Sheryl when they get another chance to do so. You are not helping her but actually doing a disservice to her."

Chris immediately understood what Sam was trying to say. She glanced cautiously at Charles. Then she lowered her head and dared not talk anymore.

After some time she finally said, "Charles, I..." Chris stuttered and felt awkward. She knew that she had done a blunder again.

"Well, spilled water cannot be gathered and foolish actions cannot be reversed. I will handle it," said

Charles in a rough voice to his sister. He had not wanted to get involved in this matter so early, but now

he had no other choice. Chris had messed it up and now his interference was necessary or Sheryl

would suffer the consequences.

"Charles, we have to leave now," said Sam. He stood up, patted his brother-in-law on the shoulder and

explained, "The baby should be awake by now. It is time for Chris to nurse the little fellow."

"Okay. Go ahead," replied Charles calmly. He did not bother to look at them as he said this. He busied himself with some papers on his table.

Chris had been planning to talk further about Sheryl. Now she decided to leave with Sam since she felt too embarrassed to stay in Charles' presence anymore.

After they left, Charles went downstairs and watched the rehearsal for a while. Gerry came up to Charles and said with a sigh, "These models are pretty good and highly professional, but..." Gerry stopped for a while and then went on, "But they are always causing trouble and even quarrel with each other. This is really annoying."

"Don't worry Gerry. I will talk to them and handle this. Call them together. I have something to declare," said Charles.

"Okay. I will call them right now," Gerry replied and nodded his head. "Everybody, please come here.

Mr. Lu has something to announce," said Gerry in a loud voice.

Hearing this, all the models gathered around them. They looked at Charles and waited for his declaration. Sheryl also stood there motionless. She gazed at Charles who was looking very serious.

She suddenly realized that he looked very handsome with a pensive look on his face.

"Okay, everybody, please listen to me," said Charles. Charles quickly glanced at Sheryl and then looked away. "I have just talked to Gerry. I know that you all are very tired these days since you have been rehearsing hard every day. I have decided to give you all a day off tomorrow. You can rest tomorrow and do whatever you want," added Charles.

"What? Really?" The models all smiled as they heard this good news.

The intense practice was very exhausting and it was rare to get a day off. "Yes, I am serious," replied Charles with a smile. He nodded and then added, "I will take you all to the suburban villa for a holiday tomorrow. You can bring your family members with you and spend some relaxed moments with them. Let us meet at the office gate at eight o'clock tomorrow morning. Are you all clear on this?"

"Thank you, Mr. Lu," Kitty said cheerfully to him. Hesitant, she then went on to ask, "Mr. Lu, will you join us tomorrow?" She looked keenly at Charles and waited for his reply eagerly.

"Yes, of course. I will go with you," replied Charles in a casual and friendly voice. He paused for a few seconds and then said again, "We will stay there for a night and you can have a pool party. I hope all of

you have great fun with your family and friends."

Kitty's eyes shone bright as she heard that they could have a party by the pool. It meant that she had a chance to get close to Charles tomorrow. She was confident about her own charms as she thought she was much more beautiful than Sheryl. Charles would surely be drawn to her.

Kitty even began planning her swimsuit and clothes for the next day.

Sheryl knew that Charles had to pick up Charlie from her house. She waited for him at the gate after she finished the rehearsal. As Kitty walked by, she sneered at her and said, "You really have a thick skin Sheryl. You are voluntarily waiting for Mr. Lu to give you a lift to your house. What a shameless woman you are!"

Though Kitty made such harsh remarks, Sheryl just turned a deaf ear to her and acted like she heard nothing. Sheryl always regarded Charles as her boss and felt no guilt at these sly remarks. She knew her intentions towards him were not romantic.

"Sheryl, just wait and see. Mr. Lu will be very attracted to me by tomorrow. When I become Mrs. Lu..."

Saying this, she laughed scornfully and then continued, "When that day comes, I am afraid that your wishful thinking to trap him will remain just a day dream."

Charles happened to hear these words when he walked out. His eyebrows knitted into a frown. At that moment, he decided to teach Kitty a lesson.

"Sheryl." Charles called out to her in a soft voice and said, "Sheryl, let's go."

"Mr. Lu," called Kitty. Kitty found that Charles did not even glance at her. She did not like this treatment and it made her a little uncomfortable at heart. With this thought, she stared at Charles and said, "Mr.

Lu, I also live close to where Sheryl lives. Could you drop me off at my place? I am very exhausted today. I have been rehearsing in high heels for the last two days and it is a very tiring work."

"I am afraid I can't," responded Charles politely. He shook his head and then added, "It is not convenient for me to do so. Also, the car is not big enough. But you can call a taxi. I will reimburse the fare."

"Mr. Lu, you..." Kitty was so indignant that she was speechless. Obviously, Charles' car was big enough. It was just an excuse Charles was using.

He was talking nonsense and clearly wished to snub her.

Seeing this, Sheryl giggled. It was the first time she had seen Kitty being snubbed so openly and

politely.

Kitty felt embarrassed as she heard Sheryl laughing at her. She glared at Sheryl and vowed to herself that she would strike back.

Sheryl couldn't help giggling when she got into the car with Charles. He glanced at her curiously and asked, "Why are you still giggling? Was it that funny?"

"Yes, of course." Sheryl laughed for a few seconds more and then said, "It is the first time that I saw

Kitty take a beating. Obviously, your car is big enough and it is easy to accommodate her. But you

fobbed her off with such a stupid excuse. Moreover, she couldn't even challenge your foolish excuse."

"So what?" asked Charles in reply. "It is my car and I am reluctant to drive her home. It is quite alright

for me to decline her request. I don't care if the excuse is reasonable or not."

On hearing this, Sheryl burst into further laughter for quite a long time. "Why did you decide to take us

out?" asked Sheryl as she finally sobered down.

"I know you all are tired since you have to rehearse for long hours every day. I decided to give you a

day off. This way, you all would be refreshed and work harder for me," joked Charles. He glanced at

Sheryl with a teasing smile.

"Wow, it seems you have your own agenda." Sheryl also grinned cheerfully.

They talked and joked with each other all the way. Soon they arrived at Sheryl's house. They got out of

the car and walked in. Sheryl didn't expect to find Anthony waiting there when she opened the door and

was surprised.