

## **Wedded Bride 861**

### Chapter 861 Whose Girlfriend

It had been a lot for Sue for the past few days. In fact it was a point when her nerve, heart and all her senses were at a brimming point. She just had to dunk it down somewhere. So she chose to drink it all down. However, as she tried to escape from her ongoing troubles, another trouble was just lurking close to her. A man sitting just a few seats apart had been noticing her for a long time, casting greedy eyes on her. However, Sue was in such a black mood that she did not notice that the danger was imminent. When she got drunk, the man decided to hit on her immediately. He walked up to Sue, sat down beside her and said, "Hey, you look gloomy. What happened? Why are you drinking alone?"

"Get the fuck out of my face!" Sue snarled savagely while holding a glass of wine. She was too frustrated to even look at his face.

"Don't be angry." Sue's harsh words failed to drive him away. Rather, it made him all the more interested in her. He gave a sinister smile at her that revealed his impure intentions towards her. He said, "You're alone, and so am I. Why don't we have a drink together? After all we're both adults now, you know... "

The man glided his hand across Sue's lap in a sleazy manner and spoke in a very low and husky voice,

"Trust me, I'll give you a fantastic night that will make you forget all the unhappiness..." He narrowed his eyes and looked at Sue lustfully.

His eyes roved through Sue's body. Sue was comely and had a good figure. Her long legs, in particular, were shapely, white and very attractive. The man's face broke into a dirty smile as the lustful fantasies and dirty thoughts filled his head.

Feeling the touch of his hand on her lap that made her extremely uncomfortable, Sue finally raised her head to see his face. "Get out of the way. I want to go home," she fumed. Finally realizing the danger, Sue pushed the man away, stumbled to her feet and tried to leave.

The man, however, seemed to have been experiencing his first encounter with such a beautiful and hot girl. Evidently, he was not ready to let her go so easily.

He grabbed Sue by her wrist and pulled her toward him. Unsteady for being booze, Sue slumped down on the man's lap.

"Well, I'll take you home right away," the man said in a very polite voice, pretending to be gentle. He laughed, his eyes blazing with pleasure and malice.

Then he stood up, helped the drunken Sue to stand up and tried to take her away. Sue was half in a trance and had little control over her body. Her intuition was completely at work. She tried to resist the man with all her mind but her limbs felt like feathers under the strong grasp of that man. She called out for help. But unfortunately, she was ignored.

It was such a common sight in such noisy bars that almost no one believed she was actually asking for help. Even if someone saw the truth, they were not willing to get into trouble for a stranger, and at most gave her a sympathetic look.

Right at this juncture Anthony entered the bar. He looked around, but found no trace of Sue. He literally started combing the bar to find her. And then finally, as he was exhausted, suddenly a drunken woman bumped into him.

Anthony creased his brows at the reeking odor of wine that offended his nostrils.

"I'm sorry, my girlfriend has drunk too much," the man holding the woman apologized to Anthony. "Are you all right?" he asked as he helped the woman up.

"I'm fine," Anthony replied curtly. It so happened that this drunk woman was none other than Sue. But, with Sue's head down and her hair loose, Anthony didn't recognize her for a moment. "Don't drink so

much next time," Anthony added.

"Yes, yes, I will tell her when she sobers up," the man replied with a nod and hastened to move out

supporting Sue with one hand. He was relieved that Anthony did not make a mountain out of the mole

on being hit by Sue, which was a common thing to happen in such bars.

However, as he walked past Anthony, Anthony felt something unusual. He was not sure what but

before he could even think of it, he instinctively turned around towards the man and said, "Stop!"

"What's the matter? Is there anything else?" The man swallowed nervously, as the fear of Anthony

knowing this girl did not skip his mind yet. Anthony marked the unsteadiness in his behavior as he

turned to reply him.

Then he turned to the girl. Anthony eyed the girl in the man's arms suspiciously. Though her face was

not visible, Anthony felt a strong intuition that she looked like Sue.

Without answering the man, he went straight up to Sue and tried to lift her face up.

"What are you doing?" the man snapped and looked warily at Anthony.

"Nothing," Anthony calmly replied. "I just feel she's a lot like a friend of mine."

The man's heart beat fast with nervousness. "Nonsense," he blurted out. "My girlfriend never told me she had a friend like you."

"Oh, she is your girlfriend? What's her name then?" Anthony asked blankly.

"She's..." Apparently, the man didn't expect Anthony to ask him this question. He looked at Sue who was unconscious, hesitated, and said, "She's Nana."

"Nonsense!" Anthony sneered. The man was frightened and swallowed again.

"What's wrong with you? What do you want?" he thundered.

While they were arguing, Sue threw up in the man's arms.

"God..." The man instinctively pushed Sue away, letting her fall to the ground. Anthony quickly picked Sue up and finally saw her face.

"Who are you?" The man pushed Anthony aside, shouting, "Get your hands off my girlfriend."

Anthony was glad to find Sue. He did not know if this was because Sue was fine or because he had fulfilled Sheryl's request.

He cast the man a cold look and asked, "She is your girlfriend?"

"Yes," the man replied firmly. Then he gave a sarcastic laugh and added, "Or is she your girlfriend?"

"I advise you take your hands off her." Looking at the man's hand on Sue's arm, Anthony felt as if a fire were about to burst out of his heart. His eyes literally popped out in rage and his face became red. The sudden change in his face made the man all the more frightened.

"Who are you?" The man glared at Anthony and barked, "Where did you come from?" Evidently, the man was still not ready to let go.

"That's none of your business. You don't have to know who I am," Anthony said, and shot a warning glare at the man. "If you don't want to die right here, let her go at once and get the hell out of here."

The man was immediately enraged by his words. He clenched his fist and plunged at Anthony, but Anthony grabbed him by the wrist. With a cracking sound in his wrist, the man let out a howl of pain.

"I have warned you of that," Anthony said in an icy tone.

"Who the hell are you?" the man asked with his eyes full of fear. "What have I done to you?"

"You shouldn't have taken advantage of this girl finding her alone in this way," Anthony replied, looking deadly, his eyes blazing and his stance in a full combating form.

"You... Do you know her?" Just then the man realized that all his troubles came from the girl resting on

his shoulder. Of course he was not reconciled. He shouted and the crowd surrounded Anthony completely.

"I tell you, I'm going to take this girl anyway. You're indeed strong, but you can't handle so many people on your own, can you?" the man said with a fierce look as he gestured towards the people around.

"Let's try, and you'll know," Anthony spoke in an intimidating icy cold voice.

The man winked at the crowd around Anthony, and these men immediately assumed a fighting posture.

Just before they charged toward Anthony, a woman's voice came from behind them.

"Stop! I've already called the police. If you don't get out of here, you all are going to have to spend the night in the police station. Of course, you can keep fighting if you are okay with it." Anthony turned around to see Sheryl standing there. The crowd exchanged looks and whispered among each other as soon as they heard the police coming and finally dispersed.

Only the man who wanted to take Sue away stayed in the same position still finding it difficult to let go of his prey.

Sheryl gave a stern glance at the man. "Are you waiting for the police to arrest you?" she demanded.

"No, no, I'm leaving." The man hurriedly shook his head, let go of Sue and walked away.

Sheryl swiftly grabbed Sue as Sue was about to fall to the ground. Looking at Sue who was in her inebriated state, she felt a pang of sadness.

"You silly girl, even if you drank yourself to death, he will not care about you." Sheryl let out a heavy sigh.

Then she headed outside the bar, holding Sue by the arm. Anthony hurried up to them and offered,

"Sher, let me hold Sue." "We don't need your help," Sheryl refused blatantly and walked ahead supporting Sue to the car.

Chapter 862 Taking Care Of Her

Anthony looked at Sheryl with his eyebrows slightly furrowed into a frown. "Sher, I..."

Sheryl interrupted before he could continue, "It's alright. You should probably go back first." Sheryl

heaved a small sigh. If it weren't for Anthony, Sue might have been taken away by that stranger

already. Who knew what the man was planning to do to her? In spite of everything, Anthony still helped

Sue and Sheryl herself as well.

Despite the anxiety boiling inside of her, Sheryl said calmly, "I'll bring Sue home. You can just go now."

"No," Anthony resisted, shaking his head. "Sher, you know the consequences of taking her home now.



If someone finds out about it, it wouldn't be good for her. Also, it's not very appropriate for her to go home with you now that she's passed out and drunk like this. Why don't you let me take her from here and bring her to a hotel to stay for the night? We can settle everything else as soon as she's sober tomorrow."

"Why should I let you?" Sheryl refused with a frown and added without hesitation, "Don't forget that you

and Sue are not in any relationship now. Besides, how can I trust you?"

"What are you talking about?" Anthony looked at Sheryl helplessly and sighed. He looked at her with a serious expression on his face and explained, "I'm just saying that it's not a good plan for you to bring her to your house, so I'm offering to bring her to a hotel. Besides, since she's drunk, she will need someone to take care of her, and I can be there for her."

"But..." Frowning, Sheryl started, opening and closing her mouth as if trying to find the right words.

When she couldn't find any, she paused and thought about it for a while. Now that she lived with the Zhao family, they would probably be worried sick if she did not come home for the entire night.

However, if she took a drunk Sue with her, Amy would most probably be more worried.

Seeing the hesitation on Sheryl's face, Anthony continued to insist, assuring Sheryl, "It's okay, Sheryl.

There's really nothing to worry about. Let me take care of her."

Sheryl looked at Anthony and weighed her options. After a short while, she heaved a helpless sigh and

said, "Fine." Anthony nodded and gently carried Sue with his arms. Sheryl was still worried despite

Anthony's reassurance, so she followed Anthony to the hotel. She helped them book the room and

open the door, so that Anthony could conveniently enter without having to place Sue down. As soon as

Sheryl closed the door behind her, she saw Sue throwing up on the floor. Luckily, Anthony wasn't

splashed nor were Sue's clothes affected, but she still made quite a mess on the floor. Sheryl called for

housekeeping service while Anthony placed Sue down on the chair and proceeded to go to the comfort

room to prepare a warm towel. He carefully wiped away the stains on Sue's face. Sheryl watched as

Anthony took care of Sue gently, feeling her worries fade away.

The housekeeper finally came and cleaned up the mess. Once Sue was cleaned up, Anthony carried

her and laid her on the bed. Sheryl sighed under her breath in relief. She nodded at Anthony, who

nodded back at her. Then, she quietly left the hotel and went back to the Zhao family house.

As soon as Anthony tucked Sue in, he prepared painkillers and a glass of water on the bedside table.

He sat on the sofa, watching Sue the entire night, in case she would start throwing up again. It was only when the sun almost began rising that Anthony felt the exhaustion and closed his eyes to rest.

As the sun rose higher on the sky, its bright rays shone through the glass window onto Sue's face. Her eyebrows furrowed at the light. She opened her eyes, blinked slowly, then sat up and winced at the pang of pain on her head. She gently massaged her temples and reached for the the painkillers on the bedside table and drowned them with water. She glanced around, confused as she noticed the unfamiliar room she was in. As soon as her eyes landed on Anthony, who was sleeping on the sofa, her eyebrows immediately furrowed into a deep frown.

Sue did not want to talk to him or even interact with him, so she decided to leave the room quietly.

However, the moment she got out of bed, Anthony's eyes opened.

Seeing that Sue had woken up, Anthony instantly sat up, feeling a rush of relief. He noticed that the painkiller was not on the small plate anymore, and that the glass was already empty. He gave a gently smile and said, "Finally, you're awake. You've taken the painkillers, too. How are you feeling?"

Since her back was turned to Anthony, Sue did not notice him waking up. She was startled, her heart

jumping a little. Hearing his voice, Sue turned to him with a frown and questioned, "What are you doing here?"

"You drank way too much last night. If I hadn't found you, you might have woken up in an unfamiliar hotel room with an unfamiliar man." Anthony answered with a tone of rebuke and asked, "How could you drink so much? For a girl like yourself, you should know that it's really dangerous."

Sue scoffed, "Why do you care? It doesn't have anything to do to you." Her head throbbed again, making her wince once more. The memories of last night after her glasses of alcohol were very vague, but she still had snippets of the in-betweens. Had it not been for Anthony, she really might have gotten in serious trouble. Indeed, she was very grateful for what Anthony had done for her, but somehow, she couldn't help but speak to him in a bitter manner.

"Sue!" Standing up, Anthony called out her name. His forehead creased, and his tone became a bit irritated as he asked, "Why are you treating me this way? Why can't you be a little nicer, huh? I was and still am very worried about you."

"Who asked you to worry about me?" Sue spat without hesitation and added, "Why does it matter to you whether I live or die?"

"You..." Anthony started, feeling his jaw clenched tight. He heaved a deep sigh as he tried to calm himself down. Then, he spluttered again, "After everything that I have done for you, this is how you treat me? Not even a single 'thank you' for me?"

Sue's hands rested on her waist. She scoffed, "Ohh, so you did all this just because you wanted me to be grateful to you?"

Anthony grimaced. Sue's sudden sharp tongue made him feel a little uneasy and uncomfortable; it was as if he were the one at fault in this situation. He shook his head and replied, "Of course not, but..."

"If that's not what you're looking for, then leave. Now!" Sue interrupted and rasped coldly, pointing her index finger towards the door.

Meanwhile, after Sheryl had dropped Shirley off to school, she passed by a restaurant and bought breakfast before heading towards the hotel to see Sue.

As she walked near towards Sue's room, she started to hear voices growing louder and louder. As she stepped closer, she recognized the voices and realized that Sue and Anthony were quarreling. She quickly rushed towards the door.

She raised her fist to knock, but before she could, the door opened abruptly and Anthony was suddenly standing in front of her. Sheryl's eyebrows frowned in confusion. Anthony gave her a feeble smile and said, "Great. I was wondering if you were ever coming."

"Anthony, what's going on? I can hear the both of you quarreling from outside," Sheryl asked concernedly, and then entered the room to see Sue.

"Sher!" Sue called out and walked towards Sheryl with a look of complaint in her eyes. "How could you leave me here alone last night? You know very well that..."

"I didn't have a choice, Sue," Sheryl replied. She heaved a deep sigh and explained, "You were too drunk last night, and I knew that the Zhao family would worry too much if I brought you with me."

Anthony cleared his throat and excused himself, "Sher, since you're here, I'll take my leave now."

Without saying anything else or even looking at Sue, Anthony walked away and closed the door behind him. Even after he left, annoyance still showed on Sue's face. She turned to Sheryl and complained again, "Sher, how could you leave me here alone with him?"

"What did you expect then? Should I have just left you with a stranger?" Sheryl asked, crossing her arms on her chest as she gave Sue a frustrated look. "How could I bring you back when you were so

drunk like that?"

When Sue pouted, Sheryl sighed and added, "Besides, I saw with my own eyes how Anthony truly cared for you, which was why I trusted him to take care of you in my place just for a night.

Also, if you hadn't recalled anything from last night, I should fill you in now. You wouldn't stop throwing up, since there was really too much alcohol in your system. Despite the mess and the smell, Anthony still stayed by your side and even prepared warm towels to clean you up. I could tell that he was really worried and concerned about you, which was why..."

Sue started to wander in her thoughts, drowning Sheryl's words. She felt a ripple of warmth flow through her heart as she remembered someone attending to her meticulously, but she was too drunk to know who that person was exactly.

Now that Sheryl was telling her straight out, Sue was certain that it was Anthony. Sheryl looked at Sue, who seemed to be lost in thought; she snapped her fingers near her face. "Sue, are you listening to me?"

Sue came back to her senses and looked at Sheryl. "Sher..." She sighed, and with sad eyes, she said,

"I'm sorry that I made you worried."

Sheryl sighed as well and said, "It's okay. At least you're fine, now. But, accepting your apology doesn't mean it's okay for you to do this again. Don't you ever dare to drink that much again, do you hear me?"

Last night, you were almost..."

"I know." A rueful smile formed on Sue's face. She added, "Anthony dropped by my house yesterday. I was really worried. That's probably why I drank so much."

Sue sighed again and looked at Sheryl before earnestly saying, "Don't worry. I will never do it again."

Sheryl felt relieved by Sue's words but remembered what she had said earlier, making her frown in confusion. "Anthony? Why did he suddenly go to your house? Are you saying that Peggy knows he exists now, too, aren't you?"

"Yes," Sue replied with a nod. Her smile grew sadder. She moved to sit at the foot of the bed and continued, "This situation is really giving me a terrible headache now. I don't know what to do anymore, Sher."

Sheryl's eyes grew sad as well. She knew that Sue was very troubled and bothered by everything that was going on with her family. She did not want to make her feel worse, and decided to change the



subject right away. She moved towards Sue and sat beside her. "Alright, stop worrying, okay? Have some breakfast first. We can settle everything else later." Sheryl then directed Sue towards the sofa with a coffee table and took out the food she bought for her.

She brought fried dough sticks and a box of soymilk. Sue sat beside Sheryl and grabbed the dough sticks. After having only a few bites, she suddenly felt nausea clawing her throat. She quickly rushed towards the comfort room and threw up what was left in her stomach on the toilet bowl. Sheryl rushed after Sue and raised her hair to prevent them from getting dirty. As soon as Sue finished, she flushed the toilet and looked at Sheryl, who was really worried about her more now. "Sue, what's going on? It has been a night already, so why are you still vomiting like this?"

Sue rinsed her mouth on the sink and shook her head at Sheryl's question. She then turned to her and answered, "I don't know. Perhaps... it's just probably because I really drank too much last night and it really hurt my stomach."

Chapter 863 Obscure Relationship

"Really?" Sheryl looked at Sue suspiciously. She hesitated for a while and then said, "Sue, why don't you have a medical check-up in the hospital? I think it's necessary."

"Don't worry, I'm pretty good," Sue replied with a smile. Seeing a concerned look on Sheryl's face,

Sue told her reassuringly, "I'm really fine. There's nothing to worry."

"It's still better to have a medical examination so we can set our heart at rest," said Sheryl.

"Seriously, there's no problem as I really feel good." Sue continued, "I know my own body condition better than anyone. I will tell you immediately if I'm not feeling well."

"Fine, as you said." Sheryl did not think much about it. She faced Sue and said, "Just tell us immediately if you don't feel well. Don't hesitate, okay?"

"I get it." Sue nodded slightly as Sheryl decided to take her home. She felt dizzy since she had drunk the night before. Meanwhile, Sheryl told her to go upstairs to rest. She felt a bit uncomfortable since Shirley went to school.

Sheryl accompanied Amy for a chat. She was left with nothing to do since everyone went to work.

Suddenly, she felt dullness in her life. She really missed the life when she was still in Cloud Advertising Company.

She had always been busy from day to night back then, though, she had still felt happy and satisfied.

It seemed that she really had to reconsider Isla's advice.

Just as she thought of Isla, the phone on the tea table rang. She looked at it and then laughed upon the thought of telepathic communication.

"What a coincidence! I was thinking of the advice you gave me when you called," Sheryl said as soon as she picked up the phone.

"Really?" Isla replied and laughed over the phone. But, her tone changed as she remembered her reason for calling. "Sher, I'm afraid that... there is no time for you to think about it now."

"What's wrong? Is something happened?" Sheryl froze for a moment and anxiously asked Isla over the phone.

"Okay, here's the thing." Isla sighed and said, "I know for sure you are aware that September and October are the best seasons for our industry to make profits. We have received a few cases at the beginning of September. I'm in charge of a case we received yesterday. So, I made a plan overnight and sent it to the client. However, they were not satisfied with it. I have no idea where they got the news but they want you to be the one to work on the case personally. I don't know what step to take. That's why I called you."

Isla forced a smile and continued, "Every one of us is responsible for a few cases. We are all fully occupied with tasks."

Isla sighed and added, "Sher, remember that this is your company. You can't ... just relax and watch us get busy as we struggle. Can you?"

"Well... Can't you just pull out a few cases?" Sheryl frowned while she asked Isla.

"No." Isla uttered slightly, "They are all long-established customers. We are the one they trust to handle their cases. We can't just tell them that we won't work with you from now on."

"But I..." Feeling lost, Sheryl couldn't think of a move.

"Alright Sher, I have an idea." Isla went on, "Since you are free right now, I will email you the details of that. Could you please handle the case for me? We can talk about the rest later. Are you okay with that?"

"I'll do it?" Sheryl hesitated before she proceeded, "How could it possible? It has been years since the last time I did this kind of work. I'm afraid..."

"I believe you can do it," Isla interrupted before Sheryl could finish. "Even though you haven't been in the industry for three years, I believe in your knowledge and skills. I know you can come up with a good

plan."

Knowing that Sheryl was still in hesitation, she continued, "I know you can't just sit there and watch us do all these things. Please, help us. We need you."

Unable to endure Isla's enticement, Sheryl finally agreed. She returned to their conversation and said,

"Alright. But the only assurance I can give you is that I'll do my best."

"Okay, there's no problem as long as you will try. I will send you the important documents right now."

Isla hung up the phone as she finished. After that, Sheryl received an email within a minute. She

thought of the plan she had done before. Then she looked through that plan and searched for some

information about the real estate and found out their preferences. Finally, she worked out a plan

overnight.

When Sue woke up, she went downstairs to see Sheryl busy with her laptop. She went up to look and

asked, "Hi Sher, it seems that you're busy. What are you doing?"

"I'm doing a plan," Sheryl replied straightly. "There is food in the fridge. You can heat some if you want

to eat. I didn't bother you when I saw you sleeping soundly."

"Okay, sure." Sue nodded on Sheryl's statement. She was aware that Sheryl did this before she lost her memory. Thus, she did not bother to ask more.

Sue was about to eat the food she just warmed when the phone rang. She picked up Peggy's call.

"Come back home as soon as possible. I have something to tell you," Peggy said hurriedly.

"Why not now? You can tell me on the phone," Sue answered faintly. "Is there any need to go home?"

"You'd better come home. It's not a simple matter as you think," Peggy declared.

Sue frowned tightly as she hesitated for a while. She then said. "Okay, I'll get home right away."

After hanging up the phone, Sue lost her appetite to eat so she packed up and went back to the apartment. As soon as she entered, she hastily asked Peggy with a cold expression, "Now, tell me.

Why did you call me?"

"Well, you tell me. What's the relationship between you and Anthony?" Peggy asked Sue seriously.

"What the hell! Is that what you want to know for calling me?" Sue said impatiently. "Didn't I explain our relationship to you? What else do you want to know? Tell me about it exactly."

"Sue, I've known this. Do you really think I will believe your statement? Obviously there is something going on between the two of you." Peggy unwillingly smiled at Sue and said, "You are afraid that I

would bother him so you hide it. Am I right?"

"Oh, you're wrong about that." Sue sneered and said, "There's nothing going on between us. Why would I be afraid of the trouble you can cause him?"

"Nothing? Do you think we will buy that?" Doris, who stood beside Peggy, said, "Be frank, you are reluctant that we will ask money from him, right?"

"You shut up!" Sue said coldly. "Who gave you the right to judge here?"

"Allen, see..." Doris turned to Allen who was beside her. She said unhappily, "Do I have the right to speak in the family?"

Chapter 864 Go To School

"Doris, don't panic. Please, breathe," Allen told Doris in what seemed like a whisper, gently caressing her back as he spoke. It did not take long before the panicked woman's breathing slowed down into regular breaths. This was when the concerned man's duality conveyed itself; Allen turned to Sue and went from a soft voice to using a harsher, more confrontational tone. "You should know who you are and where you stand around her. Yesterday, we were already on the verge of snapping because you showed no manners. You were being so rude to Anthony and to us, even when we were already being

so considerate to you. Now, don't tell me you expect us to have any more patience for you because we have no more energy to condone your bad and unethical behavior. If you dare speak to Doris in such a disdainful manner ever again, you will not know what will hit you."

"Alright, alright," Peggy intervened. She felt that her son had said too much to her daughter already, so she did the only thing she could to put the situation to a halt. "Go and accompany Doris back to the room so that she can rest. Let me talk to Sue," Peggy ordered Allen.

The frustrated man shot Sue a condemning look but could do no more than glare at her. Left with no other choice, he did as his mother said and went into the other room with Doris in his arms.

Now, the mother and her daughter were alone. Peggy sat next to Sue and said, "Sue, I am your mother. Now that everyone else is gone, why don't we talk about it? Can you please tell me the truth?"

Although Peggy really held no regard for her daughter, she figured that if she acted like she was a caring mother then Sue would open up to her. "Is there really nothing between you and Anthony?" she asked Sue, who was staring into the void.

"How many times do I have to tell you that Anthony is just a friend and nothing more?" Sue said,

obviously annoyed being asked the question for the nth time. All the young woman ever wanted was to



keep Anthony away so that she could eliminate all the burdens of having him; all she wanted was peace to be restored, without anyone else constantly asking her the same questions over and over again. She was especially tired of her mother's impositions, so she finally confessed, "Here's the truth: I do have feelings for Anthony. But, we all know I stand no chance, especially not against Sheryl. I can never be as beautiful as she is and I don't have a strong family background as firm and as rooted like she has. All I'm left with is this family dragging me around. How am I ever going to stand a chance against Sheryl? Why would Anthony ever choose me over her?"

Sue took a second to scoff sarcastically and added, "This is all the truth I can tell you. Are you happy now?"

Obviously, there was no way for her mother to be satisfied with such a disappointing answer. Sue's answer was the complete opposite of what the mother had hoped for. The only reason why she kept her daughter around was for her dream of developing a relationship between her daughter and the rich man so that she could profit and benefit from. She was very upset about finding out that there was no fulfilling her dreams because of Anthony's love for Sheryl. She disguised all the disappointment with

concern for her daughter, saying, "I just wish you can be with him so that I can be secured that you will have a full life in the future since I'm sure he can take care of you."

With fake concern written all over her face, she continued, "Don't get mad at me for being so stubborn. I'm just looking out for you like any mother would."

"Well, I think your primary concern is the money and not me, so take everything that you said back,"

Sue sneered at her mother. She couldn't care any less that she pointed out her mother's agenda without fear for the consequences of her words.

The forceful mother was rather insulted than angered. She then threatened her own daughter and said,

"Well, now that you're saying that Anthony is 'just your friend', then don't expect him in helping you aid your debt to Sheryl and pay her yourself."

The maiden's heart was crumbling inside her, but she did her best not to physically project the pain.

Her mind automatically prepared for whatever argument Peggy was going to throw at her, mentally

preparing herself for the blow. Sue acted like she knew nothing in order to counter her mother's

suspicious. "Money?" Sue innocently asked, "What money?" Still keeping the confused persona, she

questioned her mother in doubt, "What am I paying back to Sheryl? Can you be more clearer as to

what you're talking about?"

"Nothing," Peggy replied in a cold voice. The mother then clarified herself, "I believe you're aware that your younger brother is about to get married soon. We have to pay Doris' family a sum of cash, we have to pay for the wedding, and we have to pay for the expenses of the coming baby as well. We are running fast out of cash, so I..."

"So you borrowed money from Sheryl?" Sue said, cutting her mother off before she could finish. Peggy hesitated to answer the question that was being asked by her daughter who then said, "Peggy Li, please. When are you ever going to stop hurting me?" The maiden's eyes were starting to tear up when she added, "How can you involve even my friend in our personal troubles?"

The mother became defensive and said, "The fact that she is your friend is the reason why I decided to ask for some help from her. This is better than loaning. We won't have to pay for high interests, right?"

"You..." started Sue who was struck speechless. She paused for a brief moment until she angrily questioned her mother again, "So why are you telling me this? What does this have to do with me? You borrowed the money yourself, so pay the money back yourself."

"Well, Sue, of course you're the one paying," Peggy replied as if it was no uncommon fact. Then she even stared blaming her daughter, "You should ask yourself why you aren't earning any money. You're pathetic. If buying a house is too challenging for you, then why don't you start us off with some of your savings? You don't even have money left and yet you have the guts to refuse marrying the man in Zhang family. What else am I supposed to do? At this point, I'm solving your own problems for you."

"There is one thing I don't understand here. I'm not the one getting married, but Allen is. Why am I the one paying for him?" Sue scoffed, "I'm also your child. Why can't you be as considerate to me as you are to Allen? Do you ever think about how difficult my situation is?"

"How dare you? Just look at the other families," Peggy said, enraged. She pressed back at Sue with the distorted societal expectation, "In all the other families, the older sisters would get some money back from their husbands' families in order to support their younger brothers. Look at you. You're so useless! We get nothing from you!"

"Haven't I given you enough money all these years?" Sue asked. "If you really want me to do a quick rundown on how much money I've spent on this family, then I will. How about you? How much money did you spend raising me? I'm guessing not much. Even if you include the interests, I still should have

paid you everything that I owe you, right?" Sue was beginning to become aggressive.

"How can you measure my love for you with money?" Peggy rebutted in disbelief.

She was surprised to see Sue being so cold to her now that their relationship was compromised by money. However, her daughter was not buying into her schemes. "Okay, since you brought it up, let's talk about money now. Whatever I say, you're just going to defend yourself so that I will be the one to pay for you, right?" asked Sue. She was saying all these things fearlessly before her mother.

"This money... is supposed to be your duty anyway," Peggy argued. "I thought you had a relationship with Anthony, so it wasn't going to be a big deal for you to pay the loan. Anthony is rich, isn't he? If you want to find a person to blame, get in front of the mirror. I wished that he would become your husband and even invited him to eat here, but you drove him away yourself. Who else can you blame?"

"How much did you borrow?" Sue asked Peggy with a sneer.

"Nothing... Nothing much," Peggy hesitated. She averted her eyes, not daring to look at Sue in the eyes. Though Sue knew what the answer was, she still pushed her mother into her trap. She had now acquired the same skill her mother had -- acting, and used it as a weapon against her own professor.

'What's it like having a taste of your own medicine, ' Sue thought to herself, slightly allowing herself to feel victorious.

A rare timidity struck Peggy, who knew that she had gone too far herself. However, her guilt was quickly overcome by her selfishness. Looking down, she murmured, "Not much, just... 500, 000."

"500, 000?" Sue exclaimed in utter disbelief. "Mom, are you kidding me?" The young woman now had her hands on her head.

"I'm not," Peggy replied. Trying to redeem herself, she then proceeded to explain the number, "Doris wanted a house in Y City, but we were unable to deliver. As a compromise, we raised the sum that we needed to pay for her family. Plus, the money for the wedding, I still feel that it isn't enough."

She hoped her daughter would understand her because they were expecting a new member in their family in a matter of months. "When the baby is born, the expenses will escalate. We'll need to buy milk, clothes, and diapers. You know, Allen still doesn't have a job, but he's trying very hard. As a caring older sister, you should be able to help him out.

Oh, yeah, I almost forgot. I heard that Sheryl's kid just started schooling at a well-known school. They have the best resources, teachers, and facilities. Can you ask your friend to do us a small favor if she

can one day help Allen's kid to get in?"

It was unbelievable to Sue that her mother already had a plan for the future at the expense of her friend.

"You like that school?" the stressed woman asked with derision in her tone.

"Of course," Peggy replied. "I hear that the education there is bilingual. No wonder parents nowadays are keen to send their children to good schools in the cities. The quality of education in these schools is way better than the quality in those within villages. If I never came to Y City, I would not have imagined that lessons nowadays could be discussed in English."

"Mom, do you have the slightest idea how much that school would cost us? I would have to work three consecutive years without spending a cent on my living expenses in order to save just enough money for the school fees for only a year. You talk about it like it's so easy to get it paid! You're being ridiculous!" Sue mocked her mother.

"It's too expensive... It's so expensive," said the maiden. Peggy was shocked to hear the words of her daughter. Not only was quality education unimaginable to her, but also the school fees. She thought

over it for a while. Not long after, her selfishness brought her back to stubbornness. "Even though it's expensive, we can send the kid to school, right? Sheryl's family is so powerful. There must be a way.

Ask Sheryl if she can help us today," ordered the ambitious mother.

She heaved a sigh and continued, "He will be my only grandson so I have to do everything I can to raise him. I want to provide him with the best education and I want him to never be deprived of anything. I want him to have what other kids have, and to have what even other kids don't."

#### Chapter 865 The Unexpected Child

Being the kind of mother that she had always been, Peggy frowned in discontent at her daughter and complained, "Sue, I'm not getting younger. Neither are you. You should at least have a plan to get married to a man who will amount to Anthony so that I won't have to worry about money anymore. Don't you want the same?"

Even though it seemed like she was a part of her mother's whole narrative, Sue knew that what really mattered to her mother's never ending tale was money. As heart breaking as it was, the poor lady knew that if her mother were made to choose over her own daughter's happiness and money, Peggy would definitely choose fortune in a heartbeat. "Mom, do you never hear yourself talk? Do you have even the slightest idea what you're talking about?" Sue asked in utter disbelief. The young lady wasn't numb to



her mother's nature; she knew that Peggy was a person who had no boundaries, but even a person without limit would still have at least some kind of breaking point -- although the chance of that ever happening was low. The words of the single woman's mother never failed to make her wonder if there would be an end to all of her mother's demands. Her mother's persistence in getting her way for the things she could not afford was still astounding and unbelievable to Sue because she knew that it was not out of her mother's knowledge that the tuition fee of the school she wanted her grandson to attend was expensive, but she was still willing to manipulate and bend Sheryl for the sake of her future grandson.

"Of course, I know what I'm talking about," Peggy confidently responded as if whatever she demanded was what she deserved. With the same tone of displeasure, the head of the household once again demanded, "Stop looking at me like you're mad at me. You know well that everyone should go for the best and my grandson is not going to be an exception to that. If he doesn't get into the best school, he is going to lose his face value and fall out of the competition with his peers. I will never allow that to happen. You're his aunt so I trust that you'll do whatever it takes. If you're not up to it we can always

still ask for help from Sheryl, if not from Anthony, or anyone at all who has the fortune to aid our needs.

I'm sure someone will be willing to help."

"Wake up. This is not some fantasy; this is real life," Sheryl refuted without hesitation. "To tell you the truth, I'm never going to pay to make your unimaginable dream of getting your dearest grandson enrolled into a prestigious school come true. I'm not even going to ask Sheryl for help. I'm not going to give you even a cent from my money!" exclaimed Sue, who was already running out of patience for her stubborn mother.

"How dare you!" Peggy exclaimed even louder, battling her daughter's anger. She was enraged at her daughter's resistance and disobedience. For years, the standard scenario was that Sue would fold to anything her mother asked of her and the young lady wouldn't even dare put up a fight. Peggy always had things her way and that was why she was so furious; right now, nothing was going the way she wanted it because she seemed to have lost power and control over her puppet of a daughter. "If you don't pay the loan, I will sell you for whatever I can get for you! I heard that many widowed men are willing to pay for a wife. If you won't join in my plan with you, I will execute my plans without you."

When Sue heard that her mother was willing to go as far as selling her own daughter's body for money,

she found herself helpless and hopeless. How could a mother have the heart to profit out of her child?

It was all ridiculous to the maiden.

"I don't care what you say," said Sue, standing firm on her words. "I'm never gonna pay for you anyway

-- your debt, your money. I owe you nothing and I will never help you."

Allen, who was eavesdropping from the other side of the door throughout the whole conversation,

sprung into the room to reprimand his sister. Enraged by his sister's resistance, he came forward and

threatened Sue, "You will pay whether or not you like it."

The battered woman scoffed and said, "What if I say I don't want to?" Sue already had her mind made

up; she didn't want anything to do with her greedy family, where everyone was nothing but selfish and

evil. With her ties from them cut off, the woman now had nothing to fear because she knew she had

nothing left to lose. The only thing that the berated woman was worried about was her final words of

goodbye to everyone in that household, which was not something she was reluctant to do.

"I'll beat you to death," Allen threatened once more. He ran towards Sue, pushed her down with full

force, and threw kicks after the other at his very own sister's body. "If you're not going to budge, then I'll

beat you up until you do," the merciless man exclaimed.

Sue could not help but stay down and cooperate with gravity. She was lying on her side feeling sharp pains in her belly. What hurt her the most was that the one who was mistreating her was her biological brother and the one who stood by to watch and do nothing was her very own mother -- both from the same bloodline and both very much apathetic to her humanity. It took several kicks before Peggy intervened and said, "Alright, that's enough. Don't forget, we need her alive. She's our paycheck."

The abusive man shot the poor, worn out woman one last glare. He warned her one last time, "You better remember who you are and what you should be doing. If I ever hear you refusing to obey mom again, I'll surely have no second thoughts taking your worthless life."

Once Allen was able to storm out of the room, the evil witch decided to continue the conversation as if nothing had happened. "Alright, princess. Get up."

She then heaved a sigh and once again faked affection for her daughter. "I don't like seeing you like this. If you just agreed to pay, then you wouldn't have to suffer. Do you see my point?"

I know you think it's right to blame me for treating you unfairly, but you should know that you are a woman and that's just how society goes; we live to favor men." Peggy was just spewing nonsense until

she could get anything from her daughter -- she was waiting for a response or even a counter-argument from the woman she once bore. However, Sue's body remained lifeless on the floor. This was when the manipulative mother realized that something was wrong.

She kneeled down to examine Sue, whose abdomen was pressed against both of her hands. Her daughter's face was pale with body dripping full of sweat as if she had just taken a shower.

It was then that worry struck the guilty woman. She began to fear that she had gotten herself into trouble, knowing that she could be behind bars for the abuse she caused if anything serious were to happen to Sue. In panic, she asked, "What... What's wrong with you?"

Again, she received no response from the woman lying on the floor. Sue had lost the strength to utter even a single word. The pain that she was feeling was killing her.

With her heart beating fast, Peggy fell pale. The old woman knew that she could be in huge trouble.

She could barely gather and construct her words, "I'm... I'm warning you, Sue. Don't you dare act like you're seriously injured; I know you are not as hurt as you project yourself to be. It was just a couple of kicks, so get up. You can't be that hurt, can you?"

You... You better get up now, or else I'll beat you up as well!" The mother's empty threats once again

fell on deaf ears. No matter what she said, Sue still looked like she was dead. It was then that Peggy

got nervous that she couldn't help but give into being scared. "Allen! Allen!" the woman called out.

"What?" Allen responded, approaching the room. He reluctantly reported to his mother and impatiently

asked, "Why are you shouting so loudly? What's wrong with that bitch now?"

"Allen, look at her. Does she look like she's dead or dying?" Peggy asked. Her voice was shaking just

from the thought of Sue dying.

Allen then felt the same kind of anxiety as his mother. "What... What just happened? I didn't even go all

out. Why is she hurting like that?"

As much as he abused the woman, Allen was right -- he did not use his full strength against her. For all

the times he had beaten up Sue, he had learned to what extent the force he applied should be as to not

seriously injure the woman. He knew that it was definitely not supposed to turn out this way.

"Hello, stop acting. Get up now!" Allen shouted as he poked Sue.

"My... M-My... Bel... Belly..." Sue forced the words out of her mouth, squeezing any strength she had

left out of her throat while battling the pain she felt on her abdomen. "Send me... to the hospital..."

pleaded the poor woman.

"Hospital?" Peggy asked in utter disbelief. It took the mother a while to gather what she should do, but when she got her senses back together she immediately catered to her daughter. "Yes, okay. Allen, quickly, help her up and hail a taxi to take us to the hospital, now!"

The duo rushed to the hospital, with their hearts beating and their consciences driving them insane.

They meant to hurt the woman they had treated like a slave, but not the point that her life was

threatened. After a thorough examination of what had happened in the case of the beaten up patient,

the doctor reported that it was not entirely the trauma that made the young woman experience

agonizing pain – it turned out, Sue was pregnant. It made sense that the worn out woman was feeling

pain from her belly; she was housing a child inside. Peggy and Allen were stunned when they heard

what the doctor had to say.

"Mom, how could this be? How is she pregnant?" Allen asked. Perplexed, he added, "Who... Who is

the father of the child she's carrying?"

"How would I know?" Peggy replied sharply, clearly annoyed and tensed. "Look at what you've done!

You were too harsh this time! Did you really believe that she wouldn't pay so that you wanted to take her life?"

The man looked at his mother in embarrassment until he could come up with an excuse, "I... I couldn't have known she is pregnant."

Peggy, who was now genuinely concerned, was not in the mood to argue with her son. Instead, she ran to Sue who was lying still on the hospital bed. The mother found that the doctor was finally speaking to a conscious woman, reminding her of all the things she should do as a pregnant woman. "Your baby is in an unstable state. If you had come here a few minutes later than you did, the baby would have been gone. Please, take time to rest until the baby stabilizes. Do take care of your body if you want to keep the baby. Avoid falling again, or else the result may be irreversible," the doctor carefully instructed.

"Thank you, doctor," Sue replied, glad to finally see a face that was there to take care of her. She showed her sincere gratitude to the doctor who saved her baby.

"There is one more thing I need to ask you about. Please, be honest..." the doctors said. The medic took notice of the injuries all over Sue's body and after that he took notice of the woman who brought the pregnant woman to the hospital. He hesitated for a brief moment and then asked, "You really don't



seem like you just slipped and fell. Is there any need for me to get in touch with the police for you?"

"There's no need for that. Really, it's unnecessary," said the mother of the pregnant woman, replying on the behalf of the patient. Terrified to suffer the consequences under the law, Peggy stopped doctor and said, "It's just an accident."

The doctor, whose suspicion was only growing heavier, asked the old woman, "Who are you?"

"I am the mother of the patient," Peggy replied with an innocent smile. "I can assure that this was all a mere accident, doctor. Thank you so much for your concern, help, and kindness but there is really no need to trouble the police for this matter."

Still unconvinced, the doctor paid no attention to the guardian and instead turned to the patient, waiting

for her decision.

Sue, who knew well that the intervening of the police would only aggravate the situation, forced a wry smile. She knew that there was nothing that the police could do for her; it was not like Peggy was going to be sentenced to jail for life. At best, her evil mother would only be behind bars for a few weeks, which was enough time for her to plot harsher things to do to Sue.

The soon-to-be mother thought it through and finally shook her head gently. "Thank you, doctor, but there is no need to call the authorities."

Since this was the decision of the patient, the doctor pushed no further into it even though he had his own theories regarding the matter. Out of respect, he had no further mentions of the police and reminded the pregnant woman to take care before leaving the room.

#### Chapter 866 Keep The Baby

The heavy weight on Peggy's chest was lifted as soon as Sue decided not to call the police. The anxiety was transformed into exhilaration and joy as Peggy started to wonder who the father was. She asked Sue excitedly, "My dear, tell me, is Anthony the baby's father?"

"What nonsense are you talking about?" snapped Sue. She had just managed to get her mother off the topic of Anthony. With this pregnancy, she knew that her mother's secret hope that she and Anthony might get married someday had been rekindled. At the moment though, she didn't even want to hear his name, so she told Peggy, "Mom, I'm tired and need rest. Can you leave me alone for a while?"

"Not until you tell me the truth first," Peggy insisted, not willing to let go of the topic. She grabbed Sue's arm and latched on. refusing to let go.

"Get out!" Sue shouted, unable to tolerate her mother anymore. "Leave now before I call the police and tell them that you and your son assaulted me, to the point that I almost lost my baby. I wonder what the police will think about that and what action they will take."

"You..." Peggy sputtered. She was enraged by Sue's words. But Sue had hit on her weak spot, one of her biggest fears and she knew there was nothing she could do. Sue knew that Peggy would do anything to protect her son and herself, and therefore, sure enough, her words had the desired effect.

Reluctantly, Peggy left the room slowly, trying to figure out her next move. Judging from Sue's reaction, Peggy was confident that baby was indeed Anthony's. She couldn't let this golden opportunity slip away. But before that, she had to be 100% sure that he was the father. As soon as she left the room and was out of earshot, she took out her phone and gave Sheryl a call.

Sheryl was doing some work when the call lit up her phone. She glanced at her screen and was surprised to see Peggy's name. Even though she had never expected to receive a call from Peggy at that hour, she picked it up anyway. "Aunt Peggy? Why are you calling so late? Is everything okay?"

"Sher, I'm so sorry to bother you at this hour, I know it is already quite late." Peggy's words seemed

almost sincere, although her tone said otherwise. All she wanted at the moment were answers.

"No, not at all," Sheryl answered politely. "What's the matter, Aunt Peggy? Has something happened to Sue?"

"You two really are close. You certainly know her well, almost better than I do." Peggy smiled bitterly.

"In that case, I'll go straight to the point. Sher, please be honest with this old lady. What exactly is going on between Sue and Anthony? Are you sure they are just friends or is their relationship more than friends?"

"Aunt Peggy, what do you mean by that?" Sheryl asked curiously. Since she didn't know about the pregnancy, she didn't understand why Peggy was suddenly asking such questions and had no intention of divulging any information. Peggy seemed to sense Sheryl's hesitance and informed her, "Sher, please. This is important. Sue is pregnant."

Sheryl froze at those words. It took her a few long moments to recover her senses and she quizzed Peggy, "Where are you now?"

Smiling triumphantly, Peggy gave her the name of the hospital. Her plan was working! In less than twenty minutes, Sheryl arrived at the hospital.

Peggy rushed over to Sheryl as soon as she saw her, eager to find out who the father was for her own selfish reasons. She asked, "Sher, do you have any idea what happened? Sue says she doesn't even have a boyfriend. How can she suddenly be pregnant? You two are so close. You have to at least know something."

"Aunt Peggy, don't worry. Take a deep breath and we'll figure this out." Sheryl tried to comfort Peggy, even though she herself was both baffled and worried. She told her honestly, "I have no idea what happened either. Let me check on her. I want to see how she's doing. If she's okay, then I'll try to find out the truth from her."

"Okay, dear," Peggy agreed. Then she caught sight of the time and realized she should be leaving to check on things at home. She told Sheryl sheepishly, "You know, there's another pregnant woman waiting at home."

"No problem," Sheryl said with a nod. She understood instantly that Peggy wanted to go home so she could take care of Doris. "Aunt Peggy, you don't have to worry about Sue. I promise I will take good care of her. Just leave things to me. It is already very late, you should go home anyway."

"Sure, sure." Peggy beamed at Sheryl happily. She had said exactly what Peggy wanted to hear. "Well, I'll be off then. So sorry for troubling you. Do give me a call if there's any update."

"Don't worry, Aunt Peggy," Sheryl reassured Peggy again. As soon as Peggy was a safe distance away, Sheryl entered Sue's room. Sue was looking out the window, lost in her own thoughts. Hearing the door open, without even turning her head to see who it was, she shouted immediately, "Didn't I tell you to leave me alone? What is it now?"

"It's me," Sheryl answered quietly, as she entered the room and approached Sue's bed. Recognizing Sheryl's voice, Sue turned around in surprise. She seemed momentarily stunned to see Sheryl there, staring as if she couldn't believe her eyes. Finally, she asked, "Sheryl? Why are you here?"

Before Sheryl could answer, Sue put two and two together. "Let me guess, she's the one who called you?" She laughed bitterly, slightly annoyed that she hadn't anticipated Peggy's move.

"Let's not bother about that for now," Sheryl responded. She frowned slightly as she took a seat next to Sheryl's bed. Concern was written all over her face as she asked, "Sue, what happened to you? I didn't even know you were sexually active. Even if you were, I know you're the careful type. How did you end up pregnant? Is... This baby you're carrying, is it Anthony's?"

"Who else could it be?" Sue smiled bitterly. She herself was still in shock that there was a tiny human being growing inside her, and was totally unprepared for what was to come. She asked Sheryl, "Sher, I'm scared. What do you think I should do now?"

The baby's existence was both a curse and a blessing at the same time.

On the plus side, the baby could serve as a good turning point to save their almost broken relationship.

It would bond them by providing them with a common goal and shared responsibility. They would have to sit down and talk like adults to talk about how things would be from that point on. She knew both of them still cared very deeply about each other, and the baby could be the start of a strengthened relationship.

The unfortunate side of it was that Peggy had found out about the baby. She would definitely make a mountain out of a mole hole and interfere in every aspect that she could. With her mother giving unnecessary pressure, she was worried that things between her and Anthony would get even worse and she would end up being a single mother with a child born out of wedlock.

"Don't worry about it," Sheryl comforted Sue gently. "Listen to me. The baby is a gift from God. It is a

blessing. Let's forget about Anthony or Peggy. Just think about yourself. No matter what Anthony says,

I think you should consider for yourself whether you want to keep the baby or not. At the end of the day,

you're the one carrying the baby and it's your own choice to make."

"There's no decision to make. I know I want this baby." Sue rubbed her tummy and smiled gently. "I

don't care whether Anthony wants the baby or not. It's my choice, and I'll raise him or her alone if I

have to. This little thing is own my flesh and blood, and as you have said, a gift from God. What kind of

person would I be if I return the gift back?"

"Sue, let's not rush things. You have to think rationally," Sheryl cautioned Sue. She too had been

pregnant before and could put herself in Sue's shoes. But... Sue wasn't married yet. Not only would

she have to face the judgement of society, it could also have a heavy toll on her financial state. The

child too, would be deprived of a father's love and care. These were all issues that Sue would have to

consider before making up her mind. It was obvious that her decision was purely emotion based and

not fully thought out yet.

"Sue, I know exactly how you feel, but you have to consider some realistic problems here too, not just



the child but for yourself as well. Just think about what will happen once you are a mother, and a single parent on top of that. You have to imagine how your future will be if you give birth to this child. First of all, Are you planning to marry?"

"Marry?" Sue scoffed at the suggestion. "No, marriage has never crossed my mind," she stated firmly.

"Regardless of the problems between Anthony and I, this baby is in my tummy, and therefore mine and mine alone. I don't need anyone's help to raise a child. I'll just consider it as another life goal to keep myself motivated."

"Oh, Sue." Sheryl sighed, but didn't continue her sentence.

They had been friends for many years now, and Sheryl knew Sue very well by now. She knew how strong-headed and determined Sue could be, and most importantly, once she had made up her mind, nothing in this world could make her change her mind. That was why Sheryl ended holding her tongue, even though she disagreed with Sue's thinking.

"But..." Glancing at Sue worriedly, Sheryl added, "Unfortunately, Peggy knows about the pregnancy too. There's no way she'll stay out of this. I have a feeling that she's going to tell Anthony about this. If he is totally unaware about your pregnancy, then you can give birth quietly without anyone's

knowledge. But if he does find out, things are definitely going to get a bit messy."

"I have a feeling it's going to be a lot more than 'a bit' messy," Sue joked. Then her expression turned serious and she told Sheryl determinedly, "Like I said earlier, the baby is mine and I don't care about what he has to say. I'm only worried about my family. How can I get my mother and Allen to stay out of this?"

Sue sighed helplessly. "If it weren't for them, for the accident, they wouldn't even know about this pregnancy. Even if they suspected it, they had absolutely no proof and I could have avoided them until the baby is born. But now they know for sure that I am pregnant, and they'll definitely investigate my relationship with Anthony. And when they find out, they're definitely going to exploit him. What..."

"Sue, stop worrying. Relax," Sheryl interrupted quickly, seeing how worked up Sue was getting. "They can't move that quickly. We still have time to intervene and prevent their actions. All we need to do is make sure we get to talk to Anthony first."

"But..." Sue frowned. She was lost in her thoughts, being engulfed by one worry after another. Sheryl looked at her face and a playful thought popped into her head. It was the perfect way to distract Sue.

"Hey Sue, try to stop worrying for now, okay?"

Sheryl grinned at her. "You said you want to keep the child, right? Welcome to the first step of motherhood. For the sake of the baby, don't stress too much."

Chapter 867 How Dare You

Sheryl looked at Sue who sat on the hospital bed with her head hung downwards. Though the girl was probably going through personal clashes one after the other with nothing apparently working on her behalf, she still had the strength of mind to choose her priority. Sheryl's eyes moved down as she gazed at her. She said, "Okay, since you have decided to keep the child, then from now on, you have to rest well and take care of your own body. Only with a healthy body will you be able to survive the process of giving birth. Leave all other things aside. Don't worry. I will handle them for you."

"Sher, thank you so much," Sue spoke with her eyes still lowered. Then she slowly lifted her head and looked at Sheryl with deep gratitude. Indeed, Sheryl had been her only support in the days of despair.

And now she had to trouble Sheryl again for the baby. "I really have no clue of what to do without you."

"Just stop saying that." Sheryl put up a warm smile and told Sue to sleep. "It's already late. Have a nice sleep. Good night."

"Okay." Sue nodded and closed her eyes. She was so exhausted in both mind and body that she fell

asleep in no time. Sheryl sat by her bed waiting for her to fall asleep. It was not until Sue fell into a deep slumber that Sheryl left the hospital. After she reached home, she worked for the entire night to complete her task and mail it to Isla.

By the time Sheryl switched off her laptop, dawn had just started to break. She looked out of the window to see marks of crimson slowly blending into the grey sky giving it a beautiful ombre look. The pleasant morning breeze kissed her face. 'It's no use going to bed at this time, ' she thought to herself.

Then she decided to use this time to prepare a healthy breakfast for Sue. The very thought of Sue brought a sense of pensiveness in her heart.

When she arrived at the hospital, Sue had just woken up and was getting off the bed to brush her teeth.

Looking at the sleep deprived face of Sheryl, she asked anxiously, "Sher, you didn't sleep last night, did you?" With worries creeping on her face, Sue continued, "Your face looks so pale."

"I'm alright. Don't worry about me." Sheryl gave Sue a reaffirming smile. In fact, though she had not slept through the night, Sheryl was feeling invigorated. Having worked on an important proposal for her own company gave her a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction after a long time. That expelled her

sleepiness, powered her up and made her fully awake.

"Go and brush your teeth now. I've brought breakfast for you," said Sheryl. Sheryl knew that an expecting mother should get enough more nutrients for nurturing the baby, so she prepared a bowl of shrimp porridge for Sue. After Sue finished her teeth-brushing, she finished everything Sheryl cooked for her and felt much satiated. Just then, a much annoying intruder walked into the hospital room.

It was none other than Peggy. She came with empty hands. Sheryl was startled to see that she didn't bring anything for her daughter, no breakfast, no fruits, nothing. If the person lying on the bed was Doris, it might have been a completely different behavior all together.

But that was how Peggy was. She did not have the slightest concern about her daughter. The only thing she had to do with her was just to retrieve money from her and spoil her son with that money.

Before she came, she even peeked through the door seam to gauge whether Sue was in the mood to see her or not. After she saw the smile on Sue's face, she got confirmed that she was in a good mood.

Peggy then took cautious steps inside the room. The moment her eyes met Sheryl, she broke into a smile and thanked her, "Sher, thank you so much. You have been of great help. If I were to take care of two pregnant mothers, I would certainly be unable to cope with it."

Then Peggy took a deep sigh and continued, "But.... I am wondering... how come Sue became pregnant all of a sudden. It is like just out of the blue." Saying this, she shared glances with both Sheryl and Sue.

Sheryl looked at Peggy who just lowered her eyes to avoid eye contact with Sue. Then she spoke in a cold voice, "Aunt Peggy, after all Sue is your daughter. You have taken care of Doris for quite a while. I believe you should know how to take care of expecting mothers much better than I do. And you just stated that you were taking care of two pregnant mothers, right? Why don't you bring any breakfast for Sue. You know how important nutrition is to the mother and the baby, don't you? Or do you mean... that

only the baby of Doris is the baby of your family, while the baby of Sue isn't, just because the surname of the baby is not Wang?"

"Of course not..." Peggy smiled and began her performance as a caring mother. "Sue is my dear daughter. Her baby is going to be my grandchild. How can I not care for her?"

Darting a glance at Sue and then diverting the glance at Sheryl, Peggy gathered herself and continued, "It's just... that I knew you would prepare Sue a nice breakfast. That was why I came without any food."

Sheryl jeered. Neither did she agree, nor did she refute.

Unwilling to continue the conversation with the hypocritical woman, Sheryl stood up and started to clear

the cutleries. Peggy took the seat where Sheryl was sitting and placed her hand on Sue's shoulder and

asked with a concerned voice, "Sue, how do you feel now? Do you feel uncomfortable?"

Sue didn't reply. Neither did she feel worthy of looking at Peggy. Suddenly there was a silence in the

room that made it quite uncomfortable for all of them. Peggy glanced at Sheryl from the corner of her

eyes and continued, "As a mother, it is my duty to advise you. The first three months of pregnancy are

extremely critical. You must take care of your own body. Refrain yourself from excessive movement or

work that creates stress on your body. Think of the baby before you do anything. Or else you will regret

what you have done if you lose the baby."

Sue returned Peggy with a cold face and replied in a sarcastic tone, "Thank you so much Mom. As long

as Allen stays away from me, everything will be fine. If my baby needs to be protected from someone, it

is none other than Allen."

Peggy's face darkened immediately at Sue's daunting reply. She became speechless for the moment.

Though she knew it was all her fault, accepting her mistake was not her thing. Hence she tried to get away from it.

Moreover, Sheryl was also there. She eyed at Sheryl who kept herself busy fidgeting with something or the other, pretending not to pay attention to their conversation. Peggy muttered under with sported patience as she explained, "Sue, this... is just an accident. Please don't be bothered by that."

"Enough!" Sue shouted, interrupting Peggy with impatience. "Just leave now. I don't wish to see you anymore."

Glaring at Peggy with wrath in her eyes, Sue threatened, "Stay away from me unless you want me to call the police. Or else..."

"You..." Peggy could no longer keep the mask of being a caring mother on her face. More so, she had no mood to care about Sheryl's presence, and revealed her true self. She finally came to the topic she couldn't wait to talk about. "Sue, I am okay to leave. Just that... you have to promise me one thing."

"What is it?" Sue questioned back emotionlessly as she stared at Peggy's face. Peggy was slowly shedding all her masks and bringing out the real greedy side of hers. It was just one thing that she



wanted from Sue and she had always been shameless and unapologetic about it. Sue stared straight at her face watching her changing colors. Though she knew what Peggy wanted, she waited for her to snap her obscene demand.

"You have to agree to what I told you yesterday. Plus, you have to give me some more money for Allen to buy a new house at Y City. It is so inconvenient to live at your house," Peggy stated her conditions in a very point blank manner. Now her face was completely bereft of any trace of concern for her daughter. "This is my only condition. If you promise me that, I will leave right away. If you don't..."

"If I don't, then what?" Sue asked out of contempt.

"If you don't promise me that, I will find Anthony, and ask him whether he is the father of the baby you are carrying or not." Peggy finally revealed her bargain chip and threatened Sue. Sue's face went blank immediately.

Seeing the reaction from Sue, Peggy then knew that she had hit the bull's eye. She could clearly read the horror on Sue's face. It just told her everything she needed to know.

The new found knowledge about the truth behind Sue's pregnancy braced her with the right tools to oppress Sue even more. "I know that you do not wish to see me. To be honest with you, if not for Allen,

even I do not wish to see your face either. Since we both hate to see each other, let's just settle this once and for all so that we don't have to bear with each other anymore. I thought you said that there was nothing between you and Anthony. Alright, I don't dig further about the relationship between you two. Then where is the baby from? How do you explain that?

Why are you so resistant to the idea of marrying Anthony? He is a rich man, right? If you marry him, all the problems will be solved. How difficult will it be for him to pay back 500, 000?"

Peggy sneered again and continued, "If you are so shy to tell him about this, I am more than willing to do it on behalf of you. After all he is the father of the baby in your womb. And he will be my future son-in-law. It should be a reasonable thing for him to buy his brother-in-law a house, isn't it?"

"How dare you!" Sue's face turned red as she heard Peggy pronounce her threat in such a cold and clear manner. She glared at Peggy's shameless and contemptuous face with blazing eyes. There was a now-try-and-escape-from-me look and a winning smile on Peggy's face. Sue was turning crazy after she heard that Peggy was planning to reveal about her pregnancy to Anthony. She went absolutely blank in her head and screamed, "If you ever dare tell him, you will not want to know what I will do to

you!"

Sue's voice creaked as she threatened her mother revealing the weakness in her heart. Peggy curved her lips let out another selfish smile and spared a pitiful look at her daughter. Her face was glowing with the confidence that Sue just had no other way than to give in. Peggy rested her hand once again on Sue's shoulder that made her suffocate all the more. Then she said, "Sue, I will be nice to you and give you some time to prepare the things I demand. So today I will let you go. If I don't see the money ready by the time I need it, I will show you no mercy despite being your mother."

Darting a fierce glare at Sue, Peggy continued, "Alright, it has been a long time. I have to cook the lunch for my dear Doris. Take your time to consider my suggestion. Make sure not to make me wait. My patience for you is running out."

Peggy shot Sheryl a glance before she left. It seemed that she didn't care about letting others know her true attitude towards her daughter anymore. This glance, perhaps meant more than just a glance. It was like a pre-warning to tell Sheryl to steer clear of her family issues. Sheryl was unmoved by that, and handed Sue a cup of warm water. "Alright, stop being angry now."

As Sue took the cup with trembling hands, she looked at Sheryl with helpless eyes. Sheryl consoled

Sue gently while patting on her back. "This is not the first time you see her true colors, right? She is not even worth your anger. Please don't be disturbed by such a shameless person. Don't let anger affect your health. Take care of your body and your baby." Sue took a sip of the warm water, closed her eyes and took a deep breath to calm herself.

#### Chapter 868 The Men In Black

After Peggy left, Sue looked at Sheryl with teary eyes that were full of frustration and disgust for the kind of family she had. Then the very next moment she started to breathe faster and got worried about Anthony coming to know about her pregnancy. Sheryl came close to her and assured her with a pat. She smiled and said, "Don't worry. She won't have the energy or courage to cause trouble for you after today."

'The men arranged by Charles must be on their way to Peggy's house, ' Sheryl thought. Both Sue and Sheryl exchanged looks without any further discussion on the topic. Sue was assured that Peggy and Allen would be taken care of. After that Sheryl asked her to lie down. Sue lied down and closed her eyes. In just a matter of a few minutes, she fell asleep. There was a spring in Peggy's step and sparkle in her eyes as she walked out of the hospital. She had almost started daydreaming about Allen

becoming a house owner in Y City.

In her way back home, she purchased some special dishes for Allen and Doris to celebrate the accomplishment.

Allen came up to her as she arrived home and he asked, "Mom, did she agree?"

"Don't worry." Peggy said to Allen confidently, "We know her secret now. So she has no other option than to agree. Moreover..."

Peggy paused for a while and smiled as she continued, "In any case if she refuses to agree, we can ask Anthony for the money. He is so rich and it is no big deal for him."

"Fine then."

Allen let out a sigh of relief. But he was still rooted to the spot. It seemed that there was something else that was bothering him.

"Why are you still here? Just go and stay with Doris. I'm going to make dinner now," Peggy said loudly at Allen.

But Allen remained quiet and stood at the same place. He hesitated for a long time, reluctant to utter his words. Peggy was startled to see that he was completely unaffected by the news about the money.

It was a little disheartening for her at the beginning as she thought that all the three of them could really have a good laugh after such a great accomplishment.

Peggy decided to clear the air for once and for all. She heaved a sigh and said, "What do you want to say? Tell me. What is bothering you?"

"Mom, now that this matter has been settled, so... I was thinking that we should also decide when you will give Doris the money as the wedding gift for her?" Allen spoke to his mother with a timid and hesitant voice.

"What? Did she ask you to say this to me?" Peggy creased her brows and asked Allen with a cold smile.

"No! Not at all!" Allen explained immediately, "Doris didn't ask me to say this to you. I just feel... we are going to get married one day, so..."

"You are right! I asked him to tell this to you." Doris's voice cut through the conversation between the mother and son. "Aunt, our wedding is coming closer now but my parents haven't prepared dowry for me yet. I want to ask you when will you give me the money you promised so that I can go home and

urge my mother to get the dowry ready."

Peggy gave a smile and tried to console Doris. "Doris, I know what you are worried about. Take it easy.

I'll draw the money from bank after a few days. Do you think it is okay?"

"After a few days?" Doris sneered and asked, "How many days exactly would it take? One or two

days? Huh? Or may be four or five days? Aunt, you always give some excuse or the other and delay it.

It's really unfair for me."

"Take it easy, child. I won't break my words now that I have promised you." Peggy smiled and

continued, "But I need some more time."

"Okay." Doris shared a cold glance at Peggy and added, "Tomorrow is the deadline for the money. If

you can't give me the money tomorrow, I won't marry your son then." Saying this, she walked inside her

room.

"Doris! Doris!" Allen called her name nervously as she left. Then he turned to Peggy and blamed her,

"Mom, what are you doing? Doris is pregnant and she should not be under any stress. Moreover, you

had promised her, remember?"

"Yes. I did promise her." Peggy looked at Allen with a serious face and said, "But I should also be

cautious for your sake. If she didn't get your baby, I would never allow her to marry you."

Peggy let out a sigh as she saw her son's dimmed face. "Enough! Don't look at me like that," she scolded.

"Go and say some soft words to her. She will be delighted. I promise I will give her the money." Allen heaved a sigh of relief as he heard Peggy's words. Then he ran to Doris' room to console her.

Looking at Allen's receding figure, Peggy couldn't help worrying. She had already seen him suffer one contemptuous woman who ran away with their money. She was skeptical about Doris as well. She was afraid that he might be cheated by that woman.

But now Peggy could do nothing to deal with her as she was carrying Allen's child. Now, she had to make every meal for the whole family for the sake of her unborn grandson.

Peggy had not rested for a moment since she got up from the bed that morning. When she got the lunch ready, Allen looked at the dishes that had covered the whole table in surprise and asked, "Mom, why did you make so many delicious dishes? Is it a big day?"

Peggy smiled and said to Doris, "We haven't had a good meal together since Doris moved in. I am so



happy today so I made more dishes than usual to celebrate."

Then she walked up to Doris and helped her to sit down. Then she said to Doris, "Doris, these dishes are all prepared for you. You can eat as much as you like."

"Okay, I know," Doris said in an indifferent tone. Peggy could feel the coldness in her voice.

Doris sat there with a gloomy face. She was still sulking about the money.

Peggy filled a bowl of fish soup for Doris. She noticed the grumpy expression on Doris' face and said with a smile, "I know you are still worried about the money. So I decided to draw the money from the bank tomorrow itself. Does that make you happy?"

"Really?" Doris spoke with a sparkle in her eyes as she heard Peggy's words.

Peggy smiled and answered, "Yes dear. I will never break my words."

Peggy added some ribs to Doris' bowl and added, "Can we eat lunch happily now? If my grandson gets starved because of you, I wouldn't spare you."

"Okay, Aunt." Doris grinned and added, "I will take good care of your grandson."

The atmosphere got light and harmonious eventually. The smile came back on Allen's face. Watching her son happy and contented, Peggy felt her heart filled with joy.

She was willing to do everything to see that smile on her son's face.

She had completely forgotten that she even had a daughter who was also pregnant and was struggling alone for herself and her child. Peggy had never been considerate towards her. As if it was only normal to be indifferent and demanding towards her.

Peggy's world revolved around her son. Her happiness to see him happy with the girl he wanted to marry was more than enough. She counted her blessings as she watched them enjoy the meal she had put together. As she stood up and was ready to fill some juice for Doris, the door bell rang.

"Who has come at such a old time?" Allen glanced at Peggy and asked curiously.

"I don't know." Peggy shook her head and put the juice in front of Doris. "Help yourselves. I'll answer the door," she said.

Allen didn't think too much about it and added a shrimp to Doris' bowl. "Eat more," Allen said with a smile.

Peggy opened the door and was amazed by the strong men in black suits standing on the other side.

She thought clearly and made sure that she and her son didn't have any conflict with someone else.

"Who are you? What are you doing here?" Peggy asked with a frown.

"Are you Peggy Li?" Peggy nodded in affirmation as he stared at the cold and stern faces of the men.

The man in the front of the group was Charles' man whose nickname was Scar. He cast a cold glance

at Peggy and said, "We have come for you!"

"Come for me?" Peggy was taken aback. The men looked ferocious. She swallowed and asked in

almost choking voice, "Excuse me... Do you know me?"

Chapter 869 Scar

"Peggy Li, right?" Scar stared at Peggy without emotion.

"Yes." Peggy looked down as she answered, not daring to hold the man's gaze. She searched her

brain, but couldn't think of any reason why a group of fierce-looking men were looking for her. "Sorry

but, what are you doing here?"

"The person that we are looking for is you," Scar said with his eyes still on Peggy. With that, he didn't

say another word but pushed Peggy aside and entered the house.

"What's going on here?" Doris looked to Allen for an answer. "Allen, tell me, what exactly is happening

here? Is it because of you? Did you go out and gamble again? Do you owe people money and these

people are looking for you?"

"No, no. I quit gambling a long time ago," Allen denied shaking his head. "You said that you didn't like me gambling. I did as you said. I haven't dared step inside the casino since. I have been with you. How would I even get a chance to gamble if I'm with you?"

"Then what is happening now?" Doris asked as she pointed her finger at the tall and strong men that forced their way in. "Tell me, why did all these people come here then?"

"I..." Allen stammered, fumbling for words. But he didn't know how to explain the situation. "I really have

no idea. I don't know these people. I don't know why they are here."

Allen became angry and offended. This was his property. It was his home. How dare these people just barge into his house without his consent? He stepped in front of Scar and challenged him, "Who the hell are you? And what the hell are you doing here? Do you think this is a place where you can come and go at your own will? Get your ass out of here or else I will kick you all out. Don't you see that we are eating. You have ruined my family's meal, you asshole!"

"You little shit, shut the fuck up!" A rough looking guy standing next to Scar cursed him, as he shoved

Allen back. He looked so ruthless as if he wouldn't hesitate to kill Allen right on the spot.

"Allen, shut up!" Peggy yelled at Allen. She could see that this group of people were not to be reckoned with. All of them were covered in fierce tattoos and looked intimidating. They weren't just anyone from the street. You could tell that they were used to harassing people.

If Allen continued this kind of attitude toward them, they would surely lose their patience and become violent. The best thing to do was to cooperate with them.

"I see, you were about to eat." Scar mocked and commented on the meal after glancing at the table,

"The food looks good."

"Thank you." Peggy glimpsed at Scar and said in a soft tone, "Could you please tell us why you are here? When you tell us what you want then we can solve this, right?"

"There's no rush." Scar turned his eyes to Allen and pointed to him. "You! Bring me some cutlery!"

"Who the hell do you think you are!" yelled Allen at Scar. He was about to curse some more but his mother cut him off.

"Allen, didn't you hear what he said? Go bring the cutlery! Why are you still standing there? Go!

Quickly!" she said hastily.

Allen was brave enough to stand up to Scar, but not his mom. With much reluctance, he brought a bowl and a pair of chopsticks from the kitchen. Doris, Allen, and Peggy could do nothing but watch as Scar wolfed down everything that was on the table. There was enough food there to feed a family of three. He ate as if he hadn't eaten for days. After he finished devouring all the dishes, he put down the chopsticks and wiped his mouth using the back of his hand and burped out loud, satisfied with the meal.

"Who on earth are you guys? Why have you come to our house?" Doris asked annoyed with a frown.

Her burning questions were left unanswered. Scar replied with only a glare and a sneer, without saying anything.

She frowned even more and the strong irritation compelled her to threaten Scar, "If you don't answer me, I will call the police."

Doris wasn't actually planning to call the police. She was just bluffing to try and scare Scar, but Scar was totally unfazed by this. "Alright, go ahead," Scar encouraged her, as if it wasn't his problem.

Doris didn't dare. She was afraid that these people would take their revenge on them if she really did call the police. 'They may vent their anger on us if I do so, ' Doris thought as she put the phone down

that she was holding.

Worried about the safety of her dear grandson, she scolded Allen, "Why are you still standing there.

Don't you see that Doris is scared. That will hurt the baby! Move! Take Doris to the room and help her calm down."

"Yeah, yeah, go inside the room now," Scar added. He was looking at them with a cynical face. "But remember to be quick. Come out straight after she is settled. We have no patience left for you."

"What... what exactly is going on here?" Peggy asked timidly. "You have enjoyed the meal. So please tell me why you have come for us? We came to Y City not so long ago. We are new here and have not offended anyone. We haven't done anything to displease you, right?"

"No rush," Scar simply replied. He wouldn't tell her his intention without Allen. After Allen came out of the room, Scar just sat casually on the sofa and picked his teeth with a toothpick.

Noticing that Peggy and Allen were just standing aside, he mockingly invited, "Come and sit down. This is your house. Do you need me to host you two?"

"No need," replied Peggy. "I just want to know what exactly has happened? Did we offend you in any

way?"

"No offence actually, I believe," he said pausing for a moment while he took something out of his pocket

with a smile. "You should be familiar with this?"

It was a nicely folded note. As Peggy and Allen had a closer look at the note, they were astonished to

see that it was actually the IOU note that she wrote to Sheryl. She couldn't believe what she saw. How

could this piece of paper end up in the hands of this group of men?

"Mom, what is happening here? Why is the note with him?" Struck by anxiety, he looked to his mother

for a rational explanation in order to calm himself down.

Peggy was in total chaos as well. She couldn't figure it out, either. Bothered by her own anxiety plus

her son's, she replied in agitation, "Well, you ask me? Who should I ask then? How am I supposed to

know?"

"But you asked me to sign on this," Allen added. His face darkened immediately, as he was scared by

what they might do to make him pay the sum that he was definitely unable to pay back. Thinking of the

stories on TV about those who would do everything to chase after people for money, he almost wanted

to cry. "You told me that there was absolutely no problem with that. Look at the situation now. Is that



what you called, no problem?"

"Are you two done with your bickering?" Scar interrupted the two impatiently. "If you two are settled, can you now listen to me?"

Peggy and Allen didn't respond, but stared at each other confused.

"What's going on? Why do you have this note?" Peggy hurried to ask, as she was so curious to know more details.

"Note? That is 500, 000!" Scar began laughing, as if he were really holding 500, 000. "Tell me. When do you plan to pay me back?"

"What? What do you mean by that?" Peggy pretended that she didn't understand, hoping to escape from the fate of paying the money.

"Hey Aunt, I have come for the money," Scar answered her question in annoyance. "Before I get really impatient, give me the money back. Otherwise, I will have to use violence. Don't blame me for resorting to that."

"I really have no idea of what you are talking about," Peggy continued. "I did borrow some money, but it

was Sheryl who lent us the money and it was to Sheryl I wrote the note for. I don't get why the note is in your hands. If I need to pay, I will pay Sheryl, not you. Why are you asking me for money?"

Peggy sneered and then continued, "Though we are humble, that doesn't mean we can be easily fooled and bullied. We have not done anything wrong or against the law. If you continue to stay in this property without the permission of the owner and even make your absurd request, I will have no choice but to call the police now."

#### Chapter 870 Money

"Call the police? Great! I'd love to watch you do it. Go ahead and try it!" Scar replied with a jeer. After having a good laugh, he continued, "It is an indisputable rule that you have to pay what you owe. Is there any law that states the opposite of this? I am here to have what I am supposed to have and there is nothing wrong. If the police steps in then I will be the one with an upper hand."

Hearing these words, Peggy frowned with confusion. Staring at Scar, she decided that she must sort this out at any cost. She clearly knew these people would not answer her question if she continued to be cold to them, so she softened her tone. "Bro, I like to speak my mind and I don't think before I do it. I don't believe in hiding my emotions. But I sincerely apologize if I said something that displeased you. I hope you accept my apology. To be honest, I am really confused right now. I have no idea what

happened. Could you please... kindly explain to us the matter?"

"That's the attitude I was expecting," Scar jeered. "The matter is quite simple. The money that Sheryl lent you was taken from me. I am supposed to have it back. I have the IOU note with me. I have come to confirm a date with you by which you should pay me back."

Scar took a quick glance at Peggy before he turned his attention to Allen. Without any hesitation, he continued, "Sheryl gave me a promise that it would be back in a month. If my calculation is not wrong then one week has already passed. Are you ready to pay it within a month?"

"For your information, she is the one who promised you. Don't you think you should be chasing her rather than barking here?" refuted Allen with anger. "We have nothing to give you. If you want money, then find her!"

"Brat, what kind of attitude is that?" Scar interrupted Allen before he could show more attitude. Without

letting Allen fully vent his roaring fury, several men came forward and took hold of him. Watching this spectacle, Scar smiled cunningly. "You are speaking in such a disrespectful manner. I think it's time to teach you some manners. Otherwise in the future someone is going to give you a more painful lesson.

Let us see what we can do."

As Scar was speaking, the men punched Allen brutally and showed no mercy. Seeing the scene in front of her, Peggy was terrified but didn't dare help Allen. She could only beg, "Stop that please. Stop that. Just let him go."

Peggy felt extremely disheartened to see her dear son being beaten up. Even with her begging, the men showed no sign of stopping. She then took a deep breath, gathered some courage, and intended to walk up to help her son. Just when she was about to move, she was pulled back by another man who was way stronger than she was. So she had no choice but to watch her son suffer while she struggled to get past their grip.

"Alright, stop it," Scar said, finally putting a full stop to this. In spite of being beaten, Allen's face didn't show any sign of weakness. It contained nothing but anger. Seeing this, Scar laughed and said,

"Alright, stop giving me that look. What I want is my money. If you get the money ready for me, I will let you go right away."

"We have no money. If you have to take something from us, then you are free to take my life. It was

Sheryl who borrowed money from you. Why aren't you after her? I don't see the point in torturing us,"

Allen challenged looking resolute.

"You little brat..." Scar started to walk towards Allen. He picked a note from his pocket and questioned,

"Do you see it? Your name is on it. This is YOUR note, not hers. Sheryl didn't leave anything for me.

This note was left by you! You tell me then, shall I ask from you for the money? Should I be behind you

or Sheryl?"

"Of course Sheryl! This leaves no room for doubt. I don't know about the note, but you lent your money

to Sheryl. Why are we being held responsible?" Allen jeered coldly.

"Allen, shut your mouth!" Peggy scolded in her anxious voice. Watching the turn of events, she realized

what was happening. 'Sheryl is on Scar's side. They allied together to trap us, ' her mind screamed.

Sheryl had purposely made her write such a note which she intended to use to cause them trouble.

She then looked at Scar and tried to negotiate, "Bro, we only knew that we have one month's time to

pay back. You see... Could you spare us some time so that we can arrange the money?"

Peggy smiled at Scar wanting for him to negotiate. "Don't worry. This is supposed to be our duty. We

won't be running away from this responsibility. Plus, Sheryl did say we have one month, right? It is still

early at this point, isn't it?"

Darting a glance at Scar, she continued to convince him, "Rest assured. After a month, we will definitely pay the 500, 000 back."

"What? It is not 500, 000. Instead it is 750, 000,"

Scar corrected her. "What? Why don't you just rob?" questioned Allen in wrath. "You are a loan shark!"

"Yes, you are right. I am a loan shark." Scar jeered and warned Allen, "You brat, try to behave yourself.

Or else I have methods to make you shut your mouth for the rest of your life."

"Come on. You think you can threaten me with your words?" provoked Allen in a challenging tone. The moment he finished the sentence, his stomach was punched by Scar fiercely.

Turning to Peggy, he asked, "How is it? Have you decided?"

Peggy's fury almost burst out, but luckily she was able to contain it. Trying to compose herself, she acted as if nothing had happened. She was well aware that any resistance would be futile. "Alright, I agree to pay 750, 000 in one month. But you need to let go my son," replied Peggy, her face devoid of any emotion.

"That's clever of you to say so," Scar said. Then he nodded to his men and hinted them to let him go.

As soon as Allen was free to move, he grabbed his mother and asked in disbelief, "Mom, are you insane? That's 750, 000. How are we going to pay that amount?"

"Shut up!" Peggy scolded. "We have to find a way. If we don't then you will be beaten to death."

"Okay okay! Since you made such a quick decision, I am going to be kind enough to give you some extra time," Scar said interrupting the mother and son. Looking into Peggy's eyes, he continued, "I hope that next time we meet, we will have a much more pleasant conversation."

The group of people then made their exit. Now Allen and Peggy were left alone. Holding onto Allen's hands, Peggy led him to sit down on the sofa. Anxiously she asked, "How do you feel? Do you feel pain? I'm so worried. Shall we go to the hospital and do a check-up?"

"I'm fine," Allen replied dryly. "Right now we don't have to discuss about my body. We have more serious things to deal with. What are we going to do about the money, Mom? Do you really plan to give it back? But even if we want to pay back the money, we don't have enough!"

Allen held her hands tight and looked agitated. "Moreover, I'm going to marry soon. That will require some money. And don't forget the baby. How are we going to survive if we pay them the money?"

The silence from Peggy's side heightened his anxiety. It prompted him to pressure Peggy some more.

"Mom, can you please say something? What are we going to do? How are we going to deal with it?"

"What are you shouting for? Can't you see that I'm thinking?" Peggy yelled with impatience. She was already annoyed by the fact that she had to pay back the money which she initially thought was free money. On top of that, this astronomical sum of interest put her into a sour mood. As if to make things worse, her stupid son kept on nagging her rather than helping. Her mind was filled with problems.

Now Doris had no interest in taking a rest. Slowly, she peeked out of the bedroom door to confirm that Scar and his people had left.

"What on earth is happening here?" Doris asked. Seeing that Allen put his gaze down, Doris realized he wouldn't give her any answer. So she passed Allen and approached Peggy instead. "Aunt Peggy, I have thought about it. About the money that you promised to give to my family... I want it now."

Staring at Peggy, she asserted, "This money belongs to me."

"Doris, why are you in a hurry?" Allen replied. Once he heard the word "money", he could no longer keep still and hurried to respond. He knew he couldn't let his mother sort it out on her own. "Now the



entire family is in a mess. It is not a good time to talk about this. We need to settle this urgent matter first. After that, we will think about yours. Now the important thing for you is to go back to your room and take a good rest."

"No," retorted Doris firmly. With her finger pointing at Allen, she questioned angrily, "Allen, I am asking for my right. You promised you would give me money. Now where is it? Moreover, you promised me a house. Where is the house? Let me ask you, are you two just trying to fool me?"

"How is that possible?" Allen spoke out as he pulled Doris' hands. "Doris, you know me well. You know I love you. How can I ever cheat on you?"