

Wrong Table 201

Chapter 201

“It’s a shame that you are already married, Emmanuel! If you hadn’t gotten married, I would have introduced you to my sisters. Then, you will be the son-in-law of the Lenoir family. We will be brothers!” Quintus exclaimed.

Emmanuel quickly waved him off and said, “There’s no way I can compare to you when you are rich. Plus, your sisters are definitely heiresses. There is no way they will like someone like me.”

“Hahaha... That’s true. They both have high expectations. However, you are treating me like a stranger. Here, drink this as punishment!”

“Okay!”

Emmanuel wasn’t one to ruin the mood. Thus, he called a cab beforehand and drank with Quintus.

After they had drunk a lot of alcohol, Emmanuel wanted to use the restroom.

As he left the room, he forgot where the restroom was. However, on his way

to finding it, he saw a man and woman hugging each other as they entered a room. He could see the man's hand on the woman's *ss! In that split second, Emmanuel regained consciousness. He could have sworn that the woman was Abellyn! As for the man, Emmanuel felt that he looked a lot like Quintus' sidekick.

What is going on? How did those two end up together?! Emmanuel was furious. After all, Abellyn was married and had a six-year-old child. She had betrayed Ryder.

Thus, Emmanuel couldn't care less and slammed his fists on the door. "Come out! Come the f*ck out, you two!"

His actions attracted attention, and the hotel manager even brought some men over!

On the other hand, inside the room, Abellyn was terrified. Why is Emmanuel here? Now that he has seen me, he will surely tell Ryder about this! Since Abellyn was still Ryder's wife, her reputation would be ruined if this were to be

on the news.

In the meantime, the manager warned Emmanuel when he saw the latter in cheap clothes. "What are you doing, sir? Please stop making a scene, or I'll have you pay for the loss!"

At this moment, Quintus arrived and scolded the manager. "What do you mean by that? Do you think my friend can't afford to pay?"

"Huh? Mr. Lenoir? I'm sorry. I didn't know that he was your friend!" The manager immediately apologized.

Luckily, Quintus was a reasonable man. He dragged Emmanuel away from the door and said, "I didn't know you are a lightweight drinker, Emmanuel. Are you drunk?"

"I'm not. I know those people!" Emmanuel said hastily.

"You know them? Is it your wife in there?" Quintus asked jokingly.

At that moment, Emmanuel didn't know what to say. Although he was

enraged, he was still rational. That was why he wanted to barge into the room when no one was around. Unfortunately, now that many people were watching him, Ryder's reputation would be ruined if the others knew that Abellyn had been cheating on Ryder. He wanted to expose Abellyn but didn't want to make things hard for Ryder. If they were to get a divorce because of this matter, Ryder would be the laughingstock of the town!

Thus, in the end, Emmanuel didn't tell the truth. "The woman is not my wife, but that man seems to be your subordinate."

"Zane isn't married yet, so it's fine if he finds a woman to sleep with. Let's forget it and continue to drink!" said Quintus. Then, he grabbed Emmanuel's shoulder and dragged him away.

Emmanuel gritted his teeth. As the manager and crowd left, he couldn't restrain his frustration anymore and went to kick the door open.

Bang! In that split second, Quintus was shocked by how strong Emmanuel's kick was. As not even he would be able to break down such a solid door with

one blow!

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At this moment, Zane was the only one left in the room. He was in a disheveled state and looked nervous. "Mr... Mr. Lenoir, what's the matter?" he asked hastily.

"Didn't you bring a woman into the room? Why is she?" asked Quintus.

"There's no one here except for me!" Zane was still lying.

Emmanuel pushed him aside and stormed into the room. Although there was no sight of Abellyn, he noticed the window was open. When he walked over to the window, he saw Abellyn running away.

"What's wrong, Emmanuel?" Quintus didn't know what Emmanuel was doing and was confused.

Emmanuel glared at Zane and said, "Sir, I don't care if you want to find a woman to have sex with, but please don't try to find a woman who is already married!"

Zane kept his act and smiled. "I don't know what you are talking about, Mr.

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Lowe. Although I did find a sex partner, she isn't here yet."

"Okay. Since there isn't any woman here, let's keep drinking." Quintus didn't

want to linger on this matter for too long. Since the woman wasn't

Emmanuel's wife, he couldn't care less about it.

"It's almost 11.00PM, Quintus. I should get going. Let's drink another time."

Emmanuel wasn't in the mood to do anything now. If he had known that

Abellyn would be here to seduce other men, he would have kept an eye on

her.

"Fine. How boring of you!" Quintus was slightly upset, but he still let Emmanuel

1. go.

Emmanuel hailed a cab and went back to Yociam Residence.

Since it wasn't past 11.00PM, Mackenzie left the door for him. She was applying

a mask while sitting on the couch. When she saw Emmanuel's grim expression, she found it odd. "What's wrong?" she asked. Did he and Quintus get into a fight after they were drunk? If that's so, that's great! Mackenzie thought. She didn't want him to be near Quintus, nor did she want them to become best friends. After all, she couldn't imagine what would happen if Quintus had used Emmanuel just to confess his love to her.

"I saw Abellyn with another man, Mackenzie! Should I tell Ryder about this?"

Emmanuel needed her opinion since he viewed her as family.

"Abellyn? Did you see her in person?" Mackenzie asked with a frown. Although

she wasn't shocked that Abellyn was a cheating harlot, she was surprised

that Emmanuel knew about this. She wondered how Emmanuel caught

Abellyn in the act when he was out drinking with Quintus.

"I guess so. I saw her hugging another man as they entered a room. When I

burst into the room, she had already escaped from the window!" he told her

everything.

“That means she is cheating on Ryder.” Unlike Quintus, Mackenzie believed

Emmanuel’s words and immediately started devising a solution. “If it

happened once, it would happen again. It’s best to get it over with, so just tell

Ryder to get a divorce with her!”

“What?” Emmanuel looked at her in shock and thought, As expected from a

rational woman like her. She always comes up with the best solution.

“But.., I’m afraid it wouldn’t be good for Tommy’s growth if his family were torn

apart.”

“What did Tommy ever get when she was around? There’s no making without

breaking. Maybe Ryder will find a better partner after leaving Abellyn. The

longer you keep this from him, the worse the situation will be!” Mackenzie’s

words rang true.

Realization dawned upon Emmanuel when he heard her analysis. He sighed

and smiled at her. “You are so smart, Mackenzie. You are always here to help

me out whenever I'm in trouble."

"That's because you are dumb!"

Chapter 203

Mackenzie scolded him before going back to her room to sleep.

Her words didn't hurt Emmanuel at all. After all, although he wouldn't admit

he was a fool, Mackenzie was indeed smarter than him..

In the meantime, after Abellyn had escaped from Nightfall Bar, she quickly

went to Chloe's house.

"How did it go? Did Zane fall head over heels for you?" Chloe asked hastily.

After she got Abellyn and Zane to meet up, she returned home and waited

for Abellyn's good news. Initially, she thought Abellyn would come back

tomorrow morning. Yet, she had returned so early, and her expression

seemed off.

As expected, Abellyn snapped, "He did like me, but we didn't sleep together.

Emmanuel caught us!" Initially, Zane would give her money after she had sex

with him. Alas, her plan was all ruined now! It was Emmanuel's fault that she had become poor and couldn't play poker!

"What? Why was he there? Did he know about our plan?" Chloe was surprised.

She had gotten Zane's contact number from the Sheppard family's

connections. Thus, there was no way Emmanuel would have known about it.

"How should I know? What do I do now, Chloe? He will definitely tell Ryder

about this!" Abellyn didn't know what to do.

Chloe was out of ideas too. After some time, she quickly said, "It doesn't

matter what Emmanuel tells Ryder, all you have to do is deny it. Don't ever

admit to it no matter what. Do you understand?"

Abellyn nodded, but she was still clueless.

"I know you want to get a divorce with Ryder, but the fact is that the person

who cheated would be at a disadvantage in the eyes of the law, especially

when it comes to dividing up their assets and gaining the child's custody. If

you admit to what happened, you won't get anything once Ryder has filed for

a divorce!”

Abellyn made up her mind to deny it after hearing Chloe’s words. After all, it

would be a huge loss for her if she did!

“Alright. Hurry and go home. Don’t let Ryder gain any evidence of you

cheating on him.”

“Okay. I’ll get home right away!” As she walked to the gate, she turned back

and asked, “What about Zane and me?”

“Let’s set this aside for now. I’ll arrange another meeting for you two once

everything is over.”

“Okay, Chloe. I’ll listen to you.” Abellyn nodded and quickly went back home.

At this moment, Ryder had already put Tommy to sleep. Thus, not even

Emmanuel was able to contact him.

Today was a restless night.

The next day, Emmanuel called Ryder and wanted to have a meal with him.

He told Ryder to be prepared since their topic would be about Abellyn.

“What are you talking about, Manny? Did she betray me?” Although Ryder was an honest man, he was not stupid. When he heard Emmanuel’s words, he immediately knew what was going on.

“That’s right, Ryder. I saw her go into a room with another man yesterday!”

“What?!” In that split second, Ryder was enraged. Initially, he was going to work with his bike. However, he wasn’t in the mood now as he hastily rushed home.

“Calm down, Ryder! Let’s think of a plan before taking... Hello? Ryder?!”

Emmanuel was going to comfort Ryder, but the latter had already hung up the phone.

“Get out of here, Abellyn! Get out right this instant!”

Since Tommy had already gone to school, Ryder had no qualms about venting his anger, and his expression looked terrifying.

In the meantime, Abellyn was hiding behind the door. She was afraid when she saw the grim expression on Ryder’s face. Still, she soon took a deep

breath and acted like she had just woken up. "Are you crazy, Ryder? Why are you shouting in the house when you are supposed to be at work?"

"You b*tch! Did you go to the bar and cheat on me with another man?"

Ryder was a traditional man. He loathed those who were not loyal to their marriage and family. Thus, he grabbed Abellyn's curly hair in a fit of fury.

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Although Abellyn had mentally prepared herself for Ryder to lose his mind, she still couldn't believe that Ryder would be so rough with her. In that split second, she screamed at him, "Are you crazy, Ryder? Who told you I had cheated on you when I was sleeping here last night?"

"It was Emmanuel who told me! He saw you hugging another man at Nightfall Bar with his own two eyes!" said Ryder as he shoved her harshly onto the couch.

Although Abellyn constantly bullied Ryder due to his honesty, he was still a terrifying person when he was furious.

“You... He... He’s lying! That’s right! Emmanuel is lying!” Abellyn vehemently denied it and retorted, “I knew it! He harbors resentment at me for saying that you love his wife. That is why he told you that I was cheating on you! He was trying to avenge himself!”

“Bullsh*t!” Although Ryder wasn’t smart, he was not an idiot either. “I have watched Mariny ever since he was a child. I know him better than you! He will definitely not accuse others without any reason, especially when it’s something like this. So, I’m sure he must have caught you red-handed! What else is there to say?!”

“I didn’t do it!” Abellyn denied it once more.

“How dare you refuse to admit it? I’m going to punish you for lying!” As Ryder spoke, he slapped her leg.

“Ah!” Abellyn screamed but didn’t run away. Instead, she scowled at him and hissed, “You are abusing me again, Ryder! I’m going to have a divorce with

you! I will take away half of our money and Tommy. You are the one in the wrong!”

Ryder became even more furious after hearing her words. He pressed her against the couch and slapped her butt multiple times, trying to vent his anger. The more he used to adore her, the angrier he felt right now!

“Go on! Hit me! I dare you to beat me to death. Otherwise, I will have you pay for the consequences! I will kill you, Ryder!” Even if Abellyn were to be armed with a knife, she was no match to Ryder, not to mention she had nothing to defend her now.

Ryder only stopped after smacking her bottom until it was swollen.

Then, Abellyn stood up angrily and took off her clothes. Once she was butt-naked, she screamed like a madwoman. “Fine! Since you accused me of cheating, why don’t you find someone to check my body? Isn’t Emmanuel a gynecologist? Why don’t you let him check to see if I have had sex with someone else for the past few days? I’m innocent! Emmanuel has wrongly

accused me!”

There was no way Ryder would tell Emmanuel about this. After all, how could he tell others about this matter? If Abellyn had not cheated on him, he would be the one in the wrong. Moreover, he would also be embarrassed if she cheated on him! At this moment, Ryder fully understood the difficulty of not exposing his family matters to the public.

“Go on! Why are you just standing there? Let me tell you, Ryder. If you don’t get on your knees and beg for forgiveness, I will never forgive you!” After Abellyn had gotten the upper hand, she began to be unreasonable. She didn’t grab a knife and hurt anyone, yet Ryder had beaten her until she was

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swollen. Thus, she wanted to call her family over. When that happened, there would be hell to pay!

“No! Don’t call them!” After Ryder had vented out his anger, he was afraid

when he saw how intimidating Abellyn was. He quickly hugged her to prevent her from calling her family. If Abellyn's parents were to come, the house would be in utter chaos!

"Are you afraid now, Ryder? Why didn't you think that this would happen when you hit me? I won't let this matter slide if you don't make it up to me!"

"What... What do you want?"

Chapter 205

Ryder was suffering because he wasn't exactly an intellectual. He had the guts to do whatever he wanted when in a fit of rage, but when the deed was done, he would not know what to do to de-escalate the situation.

"5,000, now! Give that to me and I'll forget about the whole thing. Otherwise, I'll call my parents! You abused me! I will be seeing you in court!" Abellyn demanded hotly.

"5,000? I don't have that kind of money!"

"I know that you were paid just two days ago. Give that to me, now!"

Faced with Abellyn's threats, Ryder had no choice but to pay her 2,500. Finally, she relented and left their unit with a cold scoff.

Misery overwhelmed him. What should he do now?

That afternoon when Emmanuel stepped out of the hospital and intended to drive to Terence Group, he found Ryder waiting for him by the hospital entrance.

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"Oh, God. Ryder, what happened to you?"

Then, he hastily dashed out of the car upon seeing Ryder's messy hair and red-rimmed eyes.

"..."

Ryder released a heavy sigh, not knowing how to start.

As Emmanuel was concerned that Ryder might be in trouble, he hurriedly

messaged Beatrix to tell her he was taking the day off. Then, he led Ryder to a

place where they could talk freely.

They soon arrived at a taco truck.

After Ryder downed two cans of beer, he told Emmanuel all about his day.

Finally, he sighed wearily, complaining, "I was too impulsive! I shouldn't have made a move before I had proof. Now, I've tipped her off and suffered for my rashness!"

Emmanuel wholeheartedly agreed with that. He had told Ryder to control

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himself, but it was obvious that Ryder didn't heed his warnings.

Still, at this point in time, the only advice he could give was, "Don't beat yourself up over it. Abellyn is the one in the wrong. In the end, justice will prevail. I'll make sure of that!"

Ryder nodded and continued drowning his sorrows in beer.

Emmanuel's first task was to find out what Ryder thought of the situation.

“Have you ever thought of divorcing her?” he bluntly asked.

He did not have the nerve to question Ryder about this before, but now that she had definitely cheated on Ryder—well, at least mentally, for now—Ryder needed to make up his mind on this.

“I don’t know. I really don’t know...”

Ryder’s mind was in chaos. Tommy was only six! There was a high chance that he would feel abandoned or experience other negative emotions that might drastically affect his childhood and cause irreparable damage if Ryder decided to divorce Abellyn.

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Still, Emmanuel had discussed this particular matter with Mackenzie, so he knew what Ryder was likely worried about, “Ryder, don’t overthink things. Just focus on the now. As Mackenzie has said, there’s no making without breaking.

If this family isn’t capable of surviving turmoil, you should let it die on good terms... Or, whatever passes as good terms at this point. You’re only 35 years

old. You're still in your prime, perfectly capable of building a better

household."

Ryder's lack of confidence was his greatest weakness.

He was not well-educated, and he was not as handsome as Emmanuel. He

had only married Abellyn because he was afraid he would never be able to

find a wife. Thus, he doted on her with all his might.

Now, he realized he had made a terrible mistake.

However, he was not a young man any longer. Abellyn had also gambled

away most of his savings. He was actually in a more unfavorable state than

he was seven years ago. It was no wonder that he had no self-confidence to

speak of.

"If worse comes to worst, you can raise Tommy all by yourself. Abellyn never

did anything for the family anyway!" Emmanuel exclaimed.

Then, he solemnly swore, "I promise I will help you find proof of her cheating

on you last night. You will surely be granted custody of Tommy once I have solid evidence. There's no need to be afraid. You can't spend your whole life being taken for a fool by that woman!"

Ryder sighed and nodded but did not say anything.

"You can't keep dragging this on, Ryder! The man Abellyn seduced last night is quite rich and high in social status. She has already made her first move, so she's probably looking for a better catch. I'm certain that she plans to divorce you!"

"In that case, you need to strike while the iron is hot. You cannot give them the chance to attack you, or you'll lose a lot more than just Tommy. There's no way you can live with yourself then," Emmanuel concluded.

He was actually just repeating what Mackenzie said to him.

Women always had a deeper insight into other women.

Moreover, Mackenzie was a smart woman. Although she had not spent time getting to know Abellyn, she knew exactly what kind of woman Abellyn truly

was.

Chapter 206

“You’re right, Manny. I can’t just wait for the inevitable. I’ll get useful blackmail on that woman and sue her. If she insists on going down this path, I’ll divorce her!”

Ryder finally decided that he could not live in denial any longer.

His wife was determined to cheat on him, so he could not just pretend nothing happened.

“I’ll go with you, Ryder.”

Emmanuel followed Ryder to Nightfall Bar, thinking of asking for last night’s surveillance records.

Unfortunately, they were nobodies. It didn’t matter what they said, the bar refused to give them access to the footage. It certainly didn’t sway them when Ryder shouted in their faces that his wife had been cheating on him at their premises.

They had no choice but to leave empty-handed.

“You should head home first, Manny. I’ll camp out by the bar. I will catch her red-handed tonight!”

Ryder had the utmost faith in Emmanuel.

This whole time, he was certain Abellyn had been lying. If Emmanuel said she had been flirting around with other men, then she was definitely guilty of that.

Emmanuel was out of ideas as well, but he still advised Ryder, “You should only stay here for one night. I just caught Abellyn here last night. There’s no way she’s foolish enough to come back here. Don’t let this matter with her affect your work. It’s not worth it.”

“I know, Manny.”

Emmanuel only returned home when he received Ryder’s promise to be more careful this time.

When he drove Mackenzie home later that evening, Emmanuel drove past Nightfall Bar. Then, he told her all about what happened with Ryder during their journey home.

While she found Ryder's actions foolish, she did not see a need in throwing rocks when someone was already down.

As expected, Abellyn did not head to Nightfall Bar that evening. Therefore,

Ryder ended up drowning his sorrows in drink.

"It's getting late, Ryder. Let's go. I'll drop you off at home," Emmanuel said gently.

Ryder had intended to go along with the suggestion, but when he spotted

Mackenzie in the car, he adamantly refused to get into the car.

"Go home with your wife, Manny. Leave me be! I'll just hail a cab."

"It's fine. She won't be mad. You're not in a good place financially. Every little bit counts."

"No, no, no. You should go!"

Ryder would rather die than get into that car. He might be a fool, but he was a self-aware fool. They belonged to two completely different worlds. How

could he sit in the same vehicle as Mackenzie?

He was afraid his presence would stain her ethereal image.

When Mackenzie noticed what was happening, she let out a discreet huff.

Only Emmanuel would be foolish enough to suggest that idea.

She was the great CEO of Terence Group. There was no way she could sit in the same vehicle with a drunkard.

“Tell Ryder to stop with this foolish nonsense. I’ll find his evidence for him.”

That was what she said when Emmanuel finally got back into the car.

“Really?” His eyes lit up with joy. “What do you have in mind? Ms. Quillen?”

“Hmph! That’s none of your business!”

She was deliberately keeping it a secret from him.

As there was nothing he could do about it, he simply shrugged and started the engine.

Once they disappeared from view, Ryder heaved a heavy sigh. He was so envious of Emmanuel.

He genuinely desired to be as affectionate with Abellyn as Emmanuel was with Mackenzie. Just once was more than enough for him.

Unfortunately, Abellyn was never nice to him. She would only ever hurt him.

He stumbled home in a drunken stupor to find that Abellyn wasn't home. The mere thought of her fooling around with another man made him call her in a fit of mania.

She finally answered the phone on the third call.

"Which man are you with now, Abellyn? Get back here right now or I'll kill you!"

Chapter 207

Abellyn was currently playing poker. As she had lost over a thousand dollars throughout the night, she was in an awful mood. Thus, when she heard what Ryder said over the phone, she exploded.

"You absolutely useless fool! Only idiots would suspect their wife day in, day out! Everyone says that poor men have bad tempers. Well, they're talking about you, you moron!"

The other players at the poker table giggled when they heard her shouting at her husband.

Abellyn found it so humiliating that she immediately hung up.

Her friends all began to criticize Ryder. They went on and on about how it was a waste for a beautiful young woman like her to marry such a useless, old man like Ryder.

The more they harped on about it, the more humiliated she felt.

The other women never had to deal with phone calls from their husbands who would howl at the top of their lungs. All of the phone calls they received were calls of concern.

Ryder was the worst. He immediately accused her of cheating on him. How was she able to show her face at this poker group now?

Due to her bad mood, she kept losing until she lost all the money she had gotten out of Ryder. She even owed the other players a total of 2,000 by the end of the night.

Abellyn finally returned home around dawn, exhausted and seething in anger.

When she stepped through the door, she was immediately greeted by Ryder who had been staying up all night waiting for her. “How could you stay out all night right after extorting all my money? Do you even love our son? Do you even care about this family? Is your intent to kill both of us? Is that what it will take to make you happy?”

Before this, Abellyn would just suppress her anger and let him shout at her until he was done. After all, she did not contribute a single cent to the family’s

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finances.

Alas, she was currently beside herself in anger. Every single word her poker friends said still echoed in her mind.

“Why are you venting your anger at me? I was cursed with bad luck to have

ended up married to you! You have no capabilities to speak of, yet your temper is far worse than anyone else! Others might think you are some amazing, tyrannical manager, but you're just someone who abuses his wife!"

"Y-You..."

Ryder was still feeling the effects of the alcohol. His eyes turned red as he went through the roof.

The fury blazing in his eyes terrified her so badly that she hurriedly hid in the kitchen and grabbed a kitchen knife.

She would not let herself be beaten up if he finally snapped.

"Fine! I'll leave you be! Give me 300! I need to top up the fuel and go to work."

He was still holding onto one last shred of rationality, so he recalled

Emmanuel's reminder that his work was more important than this woman.

He had to go all out in work for Tommy and his sake!

Otherwise, they would be scorned by Abellyn for their whole lives.

To his surprise, she spat in response, "I don't have any money on me. I was doing quite well last night, but then you ruined my luck by humiliating me and accusing me of cheating on you! I lost everything, and I even owe them 2,000 now! You're the one who should be giving me more money!"

"What?" he roared.

Her response was the straw that broke the camel's back.

He went berserk.

He had worked hard every single day, but the moment he was paid for the month, she lost everything in one night!

Were they meant to feast on air for the remaining few weeks until he got paid again?

What about Tommy's fees? They needed to pay for after-school care, his school uniform, his stationery, and everything else! What were they meant to do now that they were flat broke?

Question after question whirled through his mind until he finally thought about how she had been cheating on him. He was no longer able to hold himself back and immediately charged at her like a crazed dog.

“I will kill you, Abellyn! I will break your legs, you darned woman!”

Her face went stark white with fear. She immediately squeezed her eyes shut and screamed, “Stay away! I’ll stab you if you come near me!”

She was so terrified that she wildly swung the knife through the air regardless of what was actually happening.

Suddenly, she felt a burst of warmth on her face. When she opened her eyes, she found herself covered in blood.

“Aaah!” she shrieked.

Her mind instantly went blank. She had actually stabbed Ryder with the knife.

Chapter 208

At Beacon Hospital, Emmanuel was working when Frederick suddenly ran up to him.

“Emmanuel, do you have a cousin called Ryder?” Frederick asked.

“Yes. What is it?” Emmanuel replied.

The panicked look on Frederick’s face was making Emmanuel anxious.

“I knew it! I was wondering why the name sounded familiar, and I know that

Lowe isn’t a common surname in Yeringham. He really is your cousin! He was

just rushed into the emergency operating theaters!”

“What?” Emmanuel gasped in shock.

He shot to his feet and dashed off toward the emergency operating theaters

without another word.

Did Ryder bump into trouble on his way home from the bar?

No!

The timing was off. Ryder should have been hurt after he arrived home.

Was Abellyn involved in this?

He arrived at the emergency operating theaters at the same time as

Alessandra and Roselynn.

“Mom, Roselynn, you were told about Ryder?” he asked anxiously.

He was surprised to see them. After all, he only knew about this because of Frederick. How was his family here when he had not informed them about this?

“Mary called to ask me to help out here, Manny. Do you know what happened?”

Alessandra was beside herself with worry.

Ryder’s father was Emmanuel’s uncle. Thus, ever since Ryder’s parents passed away, Alessandra had been the closest he had to a parent.

Since Mary called her, he could already hazard a guess at what had happened. Ryder should have either gotten into a fight with Abellyn or the state of their marriage was mentioned. That was why their parents were needed to help sort the mess out.

“Let’s head in and check in on him first,” he said.

“Okay.”

When the trio found the exact operating theater Ryder was in, the indicator light was still on while everyone from Abellyn’s side of the family was present.

“What happened?”

Alessandra was the first to speak up.

Ryder had been like a son to her ever since his parents’ deaths.

Before Mary could respond, Chloe let out a loud scoff. “Serves him right! Ryder has been abusing Abellyn. She only grabbed the knife to defend herself. It was an accident that she stabbed him in the abdomen.”

“What?” Alessandra gasped.

The Lowe family were flabbergasted.

However, Roselynn was not a pushover, so she instantly retorted, “I know Ryder better than you ever will. He has doted on her for years. She must have stepped out of line. That’s the only reason for someone as nice as him to go berserk.”

Abellyn, who was trembling the entire time, did not chime in.

Chloe spoke up instead, “You know what kind of man he is while I know what kind of woman Abellyn is. She is a gentle and sweet soul. She would never have grabbed the knife if she weren’t being abused!”

Roselynn scoffed derisively. “When a woman stabs her husband, it’s called murder. How can a gentle and sweet soul do that? Your family sure loves kicking up a fuss when you’re the one in the wrong. I am 100% sure that Abellyn was in the wrong before this!”

“Rubbish! Do you think you can just push us around?”

Chloe immediately shouted back with more insults.

When Mary saw that Roselynn was close to blowing a gasket and would not be backing down, she hurriedly called out, “Everyone, quiet!”

It was only then that Chloe stopped hurling abuses at them.

As Mary was still an elder, Roselynn fell silent after letting out a cold snort.

“Alessandra, since you are my in-law, let’s talk this out like adults,” Mary intoned solemnly.

Chapter 209

Mary might hail from a rural town, but she could put on a commanding presence when the need arose.

Compared to her, Alessandra seemed meek with her silent nod.

“Abellyn stabbed Ryder, but that was a fight between the married couple. No one meant for that to happen. Let’s not point fingers at anyone. At this stage, I don’t think they can continue living together in peace. Why don’t we just let them get divorced? It would be good for everyone.”

There was no ounce of shame when Mary said that. In fact, she even tried to make it sound like she was only doing it for the greater good.

Alessandra’s priority had always been peace, so she did not say anything.

Instead, she glanced at her children.

Emmanuel could not resist letting out a cold laugh. It was laughter born out

of anger.

“Mrs. Sheppard, are you trying to say Ryder was stabbed for nothing?” he

asked.

“Well, he deserves it, doesn’t he? He tried to attack Abellyn. What? Do you

think that Abellyn should be the one compensating him instead?”

Chloe swiftly stepped forward in agitation.

“Very well. Since you claim that he was abusing her, where did he hit her? Do

you have proof?”

Emmanuel might seem like a pushover, but he would not just let others walk

all over him. Since Abellyn could deny having cheated on him just with her

words, Ryder could deny the accusations of domestic abuse with a

statement as well.

Moreover, the Sheppard family had just confessed that Abellyn had stabbed

Ryder. That meant she could not escape the consequences.

Abellyn finally broke her silence and angrily shouted, "We were in the kitchen. There were no security cameras or anyone else around us. Where would

find the proof? Anyway, evidence for domestic violence has always been

hard to find!"

"Do not even try wriggling your way out of this. If you don't have any evidence,

then he didn't do it!" Emmanuel exclaimed firmly.

His resolute retort surprised Roselynn and she secretly gave him a

thumbs-up.

Men really were more reliable after getting married.

"Emmanuel, you..."

Abellyn gritted her teeth. She knew better than anyone else exactly why he

said that.

If she continued arguing with her, he would definitely tell everyone about how

she cheated on Ryder.

"You stabbed him, so this is attempted murder. You'll definitely be sentenced

to prison if you're found guilty!"

The

Emmanuel decided to strike first to frighten her. Then, he continued, "Since

you want a divorce, what are the conditions?"

He wholeheartedly approved of the divorce. It would be for the best if Abellyn

was willing to demand nothing out of the divorce.

After all, she had nothing to do with anything in Ryder's home. She rarely even

took care of Tommy.

"Fine! A divorce it is!" Abellyn spat out.

When Chloe saw the look Abellyn shot at him, she promptly proposed, "We'll

go with the usual procedure. She'll gain half of their assets and custody over

Tommy goes to her."

He let out a bark of laughter when he heard that.

"Tommy's custody can go to Ryder as well, but then Abellyn will be taking

70%," Chloe hurriedly added.

“Have some shame!”

He could not hold back any longer. His face was dark and stormy as he retorted, “What has Abellyn done for the family? What did she buy? The house? The furniture? Has she even contributed a single cent to the household? Don’t you dare tell me that she isn’t aware that Ryder worked himself to the bone just to pay off her gambling debts? Is she really that oblivious? How dare you ask for half of his assets and the boy!”

Abellyn did not dare respond despite the emotions flashing through her eyes.

Chloe scoffed as she spoke, “That’s none of your business. You’re just an outsider. The divorce will go according to the usual legal procedure. Let’s see what the court will say! Yes, she stabbed him. But he deserved it. He abused her! The court will surely order him to properly compensate her with more than just half. Just you wait!”

The look on his face was as stormy as a thunderstorm about to strike.

Even Alessandra and Roselynn were terrified. They had never seen him look like this before.

“If you insist on fooling around, I’ll play along with your act! Ryder and I will surely make you regret this!”

He clenched his fist and roared, “I’ll prove once and for all that you cheated on him, Abellyn. That’s why all of this happened. You won’t get anything out of Ryder, not even Tommy!”

Chapter 210

The argument soon drew the attention of the hospital staff.

“Everyone, please do not shout in the hospital,” one of them warned sternly.

“Dr. Lowe, you work here. Please control yourself!”

Chloe was able to drag her entire family away from the hospital with the staff’s intervention.

Before she departed, she loudly exclaimed, “The Lowe family is just a horrible family. Let’s go! They’ll regret this!”

“Hmph! We’ll see who ends up crying in the end.”

Roselynn could not resist one last retort

Soon after the Sheppards’ departure, Ryder was pushed out of the operating theater and into a normal ward.

He was not in any danger of losing his life.

However, his kidney was injured. That might affect his future marriage prospects.

“Abellyn is an absolute witch! How could she do this? Ryder, you have to divorce her! She needs to stay as far away from us as possible!”

Roselynn kept ranting as she peeled an apple for Ryder.

As for Ryder, he was silently lying in bed. Even though he was wide awake, his eyelids were partially shut so it was as if he had fallen asleep.

“Oh, a harmonious family is what brings good luck! How did everything end up like this?” Alessandra cried out.

She was distressed to see Ryder in this state. She also did not try to convince

him to compromise, especially not with how things turned out. Instead, she turned her attention to motivating him, coaxing gently, "Ryder, I know plenty of matchmakers. If you do get divorced, I'll find you a better woman!"

Ryder sighed. "If we get a divorce, she'll steal away half of everything. What about Tommy and the apartment?"

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He inherited that home from his late father. There was no way he could accept losing half of it.

He could also not allow her to have custody over Tommy.

"Don't worry, Ryder. I'll help you prove that Abellyn started everything by cheating on you. I'll even ask Mackenzie to hire the best divorce lawyer for you. We'll make sure Tommy stays with you and minimize your loss to the lowest it can go."

Emmanuel was determined to help out.

“That’s right! He has an amazing wife, so don’t you think about backing down.

There’s no need to be afraid of those two sisters!”

Roselynn was suddenly filled with confidence.

Ryder nodded. “Manny, I... I’ll leave it to you.”

It was evident that he had finally had enough of Abellyn. The divorce was

going to happen.

The Divorce

Happen

After all, no one wanted to live with a woman who would stay out all night

playing poker, not working or taking care of the house, let alone someone

who would cheat on her husband and stab him once they were caught.

After they walked out of the room, Roselynn worriedly inquired, “Do you really

have a way to get your hands on evidence that Abellyn cheated on him?”

“I’ll do my best,” Emmanuel responded as he was confident in his skills.

His family knew he had been working as a soldier in the Northern Region, but

they did not know he was a Wolf Warrior. He had been on many classified missions.

Since the bar refused to hand over the surveillance footage, he would sneak into the control room to get a copy of the footage.

Therefore, with that goal in mind, he asked Beatrix for a day off.

He even told Mackenzie he would not be driving her home later that evening.

Mackenzie was a busy woman, so she did not respond to his message.

Nonetheless, the door swung wide open just as he was ready to leave the house.

Mackenzie was shocked to find him dressed entirely in black. After a moment, she burst out chuckling. "What are you doing?"

"I..." he awkwardly stammered. "I'm going to the bar to steal some surveillance footage..."

He did not want to keep his actions a secret from her.

Unfortunately, that only made her laugh harder.

In fact, he had never seen her laughing so uproariously.

He had to admit that she looked so mesmerizing when she was happy, which made her resemble a painting of a field of flowers in bloom.

“You little fool. Are you asking to be arrested?” she asked.

She had returned early because she knew what he would likely be up to.

As expected, Emmanuel was a fool who liked to use idiotic measures.

“I don’t care about that! Ryder has been horribly hurt by Abellyn. If I don’t help him, who knows what other tricks she and her sister would have up their sleeves.”

“Don’t worry. I’ll definitely succeed. I won’t be arrested,” he promised.

Then, he moved to saunter confidently out the door.

“Stop!” Mackenzie called out to him. Why was he so dumb? He was as slow as molasses.

“The surveillance footage is all you want, right? I’ll get it for you,” she said.

“Huh? Do you have a way to get it?”

“Here!”

She threw him a phone, causing him to fumble the device before finally catching it with a firm grip. He soon found the surveillance footage from the bar that evening.

Of course, Lexi got this footage under her orders.

The bar refused to hand over their surveillance footage to Emmanuel and Ryder, but the moment Lexi appeared and told them whom she was working for, they handed it over without complaint or asking for a bribe.

Lexi and Beatrix had teased Mackenzie endlessly over that, saying that she was acting more and more like a wife.

Before, she would never ask Lexi to handle something so trivial. It would be overkill.

While it was nothing to her, it was an exceedingly challenging task for

Emmanuel.

“You’re the best, Mackenzie!”

After he watched the video, he excitedly wrapped his arms around her. He had gotten into the habit of hugging his fellow soldiers after a victorious battle.

Regardless, he soon realized that he was hugging a gorgeous woman instead of a fellow soldier as her body was so soft and nice to hug. He instantly leaped away as though he had been shocked by electricity.

“I’m sorry! I’m sorry!” he cried out.

His face flushed crimson as he stammered out an explanation, he hurriedly said, “I—I didn’t mean to do that, Ms. Quillen. I was just so happy.”

Mackenzie pursed her lips and glared at him. Then, she huffed before stomping back to her room without saying a word.

Ah...

Emmanuel scratched his head in confusion. Was she angry?

He was worried that she would hit him or shout at him. Still, this method of showing her anger seemed a little too gentle...

Bang!

Mackenzie slammed the door hard behind her before leaning against it while fuming with anger.

“That was dangerous! I can’t keep helping him. Who knows if he’ll seize the chance to do something worse?” she muttered to herself.

“This won’t do! I have to keep my guard up!”

“I need to stay vigilant!”

The next morning, Emmanuel returned to work. As he was utterly swamped with work, he did not have time to visit Ryder even though they were in the same location.

By the time he made his way to Ryder’s room in the afternoon, he found out that Ryder had been discharged from the hospital.

He sighed, not at all surprised. He knew Ryder well. One night at the hospital

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would cost Ryder hundreds. Ryder was someone who would rather suffer silently than deal with the financial burden.

Nevertheless, Ryder's body was not made of steel despite how strong he was. If he headed home right away, he might be in trouble.

That evening, Abellyn snuck into the apartment to steal some of the more valuable belongings so that she could begin getting her hands on Ryder's assets before the divorce. She did not expect to find Ryder at home.

His bloodshot eyes glared at her.

"Y-You're out of the hospital already?" she blabbered.

Her guilt caused her to be overwhelmed by fright, nearly causing her to collapse on the ground.