## Wrong Table 611

Chapter 611

Scarcity made things valuable—the same applied to humans!

The Lowe family had not returned to their hometown for many years. Today, news spread that they were back, so more people came to visit and exchange New Year's greetings. Although some rural people were materialistic, the simplicity of their lives was far more abundant than in bustling cities.

Frederick also came to Emmanuel's house. Since he would face endless discussions about why he had not gotten married if he stayed at his own home, why not come here and listen to others discussing why someone else had not gotten married? He also realized he overestimated the power of his PowerPoint presentation. Regardless of how often he answered, people would continue asking as long as he remained unmarried.

"Why haven't you gotten married?" That was a question Emmanuel had been

asked many times today, even though Alessandra had spread the word that her son was married.

It was almost as if he should make a public declaration! However, it remained a lie since nobody had seen his wife.

"Manny, just admit that you're not married!" Shane was sticking by Emmanuel's side today. After all, they had not seen each other for so many years, and if they did not interact more today, who knew when they would have the chance to meet again?

He believed if Emmanuel could not find a wife, he would not have the face to return. However, he still believed that Emmanuel and Frederick were lying together to deceive him. Frederick originally mentioned that Emmanuel married an ugly wife; even if it were an average—looking wife, he would have tried to believe it. However, Frederick insisted on saying that Emmanuel's wife was stunningly beautiful and incredibly wealthy. How could Shane convince himself to buy such an outrageous lie?

"I am indeed married." Emmanuel persisted, not tired of repeating himself.

"Then, where is your wife?" someone else questioned.

He could not answer because he had no idea where Mackenzie was right now! The situation was getting out of hand. Many villagers sighed as they had a favorable impression of Emmanuel's grandfather and father. They were loyal, upright, and devoted to their country, so how did Emmanuel, in turn, become so untrustworthy?

Meanwhile, at the entrance of Hero's Village, a black Mercedes Benz cleared the way and stopped in an open space. Following behind was a red Bentley, which also came to a stop. Immediately after, another Mercedes Benz arrived. Then came the fourth and fifth cars, both Mercedes Benzes as well.

A convoy of five luxury cars seemed out of place in the ancient village, like a two–dimensional Transformer suddenly intruding into the world of heroes.

However, as it turned out, this was a perfectly reasonable occurrence!

In the next moment, almost simultaneously, the doors of all the Mercedes

Benz cars opened, except for the Bentley. Tall and imposing bodyguards in

black suits scattered around, ensuring every detail of the site and eliminating

any potential danger.

In addition, a gray—robed old man slowly approached the Bentley and respectfully opened the door. "Haha. Hero's Village truly lives up to its reputation!" Terence leaned on his cane and stepped out, taking in the fresh air. Having lived in the city for too long, he almost greedily savored this type of air. He opened his mouth and took several deep breaths while closing his eyes.

Alfred had also heard about the renowned heroes and great generals who once appeared in Hero's Village. He had long wanted to pay a visit. However, who knew the daughter of the Quillen family would be married into this place? That could be considered fate.

In the next moment, Mackenzie also got out of the Bentley. She wore black

tights that accentuated her slender and elongated legs, appearing even taller and creating a visual effect of being five—foot—eleven! She also wore d tight—fitting white thermal shirt with pearl patterns as a top with a white down jacket.

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The combination of black and white was seemingly simple. However,

Mackenzie wore the outfit with the effect of top models. Along with her innate

icy temperament, it secretly captivated the male bodyguards around her.

This woman belonged only in heaven!

Mackenzie felt cold, so she wrapped a red scarf around her neck. That

instantly brought a festive atmosphere to the first day of the new year!

"Grandpa, let's go!" She walked over and wrapped another red scarf around

Terence's neck.

The old man dressed in a red suit perfectly matched with the festive scarf!

"Haha. Let's go! Let's wish our in-laws a happy new year!"

He was in a great mood today. Choosing Hero's Village as the first stop for the new year's greetings was marvelous to him! However, this magnificent -procession of new year's greetings frightened the surrounding villagers.

Is this a new year's greeting or an invasion by the enemy? Many people secretly followed behind to watch, pointing and discussing among

People in Hero's Village had not seen such liveliness during the new year for many years since the younger generation kept migrating out!

themselves. Who has such distinguished people as guests?

Mackenzie was unfamiliar with the route, so she approached an elderly lady at the entrance and asked, "Excuse me, miss. Happy New Year! Can you tell me where the Lowe family lives?"

The way Mackenzie addressed her made her heart flutter with joy! She pointed toward the eastern part of the village and excitedly said, "The way to the Lowe family's house is easy to find. Just keep walking straight until the

end, and you'll see a brick house directly facing the heroic stone statue!"

"Thank you." She nodded and walked away.

Terence felt that his granddaughter's way of expressing gratitude was a bit cold, so he turned to the elderly woman and said, "Thank you, miss!" Then, he instructed someone to give her a generous reward.

However, the elderly lady insisted on declining the reward, and her happy and smiling expression instantly turned cold. This old man! How could he address me as 'miss'? I don't want to be a 'miss' to him!

New Year after many years. More and more people were pressing Emmanuel

It was lively since the Lowe family had returned to the countryside for the

for information about his wife. However, he did not know how to respond.

Even Alessandra knew nothing about Mackenzie, so how could he casually

reveal details to these people?

At that moment, Howard appeared again with his wife and burst into laughter. "Emmanuel, did Frederick suddenly use you to brag and catch you

off guard? You can't back down now, right? Seriously, not having a wife is not

a big deal! Why lie on the spot and stick to it?"

Everyone chimed in and agreed. So what if someone did not have a wife? At

-most, they might receive a few mocking remarks. However, lying was a

matter of character and would make the village look down on you!

"I got married. Today, I planned to bring her back to the village to pay

respects to our ancestors." He had no choice but to continue saying so.

"Stop spouting nonsense!" Howard could not bear it any longer and angrily

interrupted him. "I despise trash like you the most. You refuse to face reality.

You're doomed for a lifetime="

Before he could finish his sentence, someone outside suddenly exclaimed,

"Someone's here for New Year's greetings to the Lowe family!"

The voice was filled with excitement, catching everyone inside off guard.

Howard frowned in annoyance. What's so surprising about New Year's

greetings? Why make such a fuss?

However, in the next moment, even his eyes widened! His gaze shifted to the entrance, and he saw a woman as delicate as the snow. The woman was not enthusiastic, but her vermilion lips curved with a charming smile as she said to the bewildered Alessandra, "Mom. Happy New Year! Grandpa and I are here to visit you."

As soon as she spoke, the scene fell into a dead silence.

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"Is... Is she Manny's wife?!" Shane was the first to exclaim in shock. At first

glance, he thought Mackenzie was a goddess who had descended to the

mortal world!

He, on the other hand, was a keyboard warrior who loved to comment on

beautiful women online. Gradually, he developed a high standard toward

women and believed that true beauty should possess both looks and

temperament, beauty inside and out. However, even with his critical eye, he

could not find any flaws in the woman before him!

It was not just him, though. Seeing the envious gazes of everyone, even

Alessandra suddenly felt a sense of dizziness as if her eyes were playing

tricks on her! How should I describe my daughter—in—law? Too beautiful. Too

pure. Too unique. Too elegant and poised! She was undoubtedly excited and

happy, but she could not help but worry deep down. Is my 'ugly son' worthy of

such a lady?

"Mom, Mackenzie is here to greet you for the New Year. Why aren't you saying anything?" It was Roselynn who came over in time to remind Alessandra.

She excitedly and loudly exclaimed, "Ah! Mackenzie, you finally came. I've

been eagerly awaiting your arrival!"

Terence burst into hearty laughter. "Apologies for keeping Mrs. Lowe waiting.

Mackenzie and I were preparing some New Year gifts, so we arrived late,

haha." After speaking, he waved his hand.

Immediately, Alfred signaled outside the door, and a row of men in black

suits promptly carried in large and small gift boxes. The entire room was in astonishment.

"Please make way!"

Howard and his wife, blocking the path, were directly pushed aside.

Alessandra only then realized that there were so many people outside. She wore an expression of sincere anxiety. "Old Mr. Quillen, isn't this too much? I'm happy to have you and Mackenzie here for the New Year! We really can't accept so many gifts from you!"

She finally started to worry! My daughter—in—law's financial power is not simply that of a high—level executive in a large corporation, right? Why would they bring so many bodyguards and subordinates just for a trip? Is her grandfather the leader of some shady organization? However, his demeanor and style don't quite match that description! They're more like a prominent wealthy family! What should I do? Help!

Alessandra had a clear understanding of her son's status. It was considered

a blessing from the ancestors to find a wife after going on 18 blind dates, so how could he enter a prestigious wealthy family with his humble

background?

"Haha, Howard, do you still think I'm lying? Do you find yourself ridiculous?"

Frederick saw Howard being pushed aside and could not help but feel a

sense of relief even though he was still single!

Shane also added fuel to the fire, taking advantage of his shoved wife on-the-

ground, and whispered, "Hurry up and hide your wife, or else the whole village

will compare her to Mackenzie. You'll be so embarrassed!"

Damn it! Howard instantly broke down. He raised his arm high and shouted,

"It's fake! It's all fake! You can't fool me!"

All eyes in the room were drawn to him instantly, thinking he was crazy in

unison. Even if Emmanuel's wife is more beautiful than yours, there's no need

to react like this, right?

"Emmanuel, tell us the truth! Where did you rent this beautiful lady from, some company?" Howard thought he had the truth in his hands. He pointed at Emmanuel and loudly questioned him.

Emmanuel looked puzzled, not understanding what he was talking about.

What company?

Seeing his silence, Howard continued to shout, "Don't think I don't know!

Nowadays, many companies specialize in designing setups, providing actors

and props to assist losers in showing off at home! You, who haven't returned

for ten years, suddenly come back and marry a heavenly goddess. She also

happens to be from a prestigious family. Do you think I'd believe you? You

paid a professional team to stage this act, right?"

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"This scheme may deceive the simple villagers of Hero's Village, but it can't

fool me. I've been in the city and lived a life, hahaha."

Seeing him acting as if he had the truth in his hands, Emmanuel was

speechless. How is there someone so self-righteous?

Unfortunately, quite a few people in the room believed him! Even Shane

surprisingly whispered, "So, there are companies and teams like this

nowadays? If I had known, I would've hired one too! Putting on a show in front

of the elders in the village would be so impressive!"

Mackenzie did not rush to clarify for her foolish husband. Instead, she ignored

it and took the initiative to hold Alessandra's hand. "Mom, don't you worry!

Today is my first time coming home for New Year after marrying Emmanuel.

How can I not bring gifts for my mother—in—law? One might say I lack

etiquette if they heard."

Hearing these words, Alessandra felt even sweeter than eating honey.

Emmanuel was also pleasantly surprised. He had been worried that

Mackenzie would be upset about what happened last night and miss the

event. Now, his worries were completely dispelled.

He never expected that not only would his wife visit, but she would also

handle everything so beautifully. She was so generous and graceful!

"It's fine. It's not necessary!" Alessandra looked at the boxes of gifts and

expressed her uneasiness. Had this kind of unimaginable plot happened

before anyone's eyes, they would have felt unsettled too!

Mackenzie released her hand and slowly addressed the villagers present.

"Dear fellow villagers, my name is Mackenzie Quillen. Today is my first time

returning to the village with my husband, and I haven't prepared any gifts for

everyone. Instead, I have prepared a cash envelope of 300 for each person

as a New Year's greeting!"

What?! A 300-dollar cash envelope? One for each person? How much money

would that cost?

Everyone thought they misheard until the black-clad bodyguards opened a

large gift box and handed out the cash envelopes. That was when they

realized it was true!

"Ah! Every single bill is real!" someone immediately exclaimed.

Holding the cash envelope in his hand, Howard trembled all over! How could

this be happening? Why?!

The group of people was grateful for Mackenzie. It was not an exaggeration

to say that 300 was equivalent to a month's income for many villagers! That

was much more generous than what Zaniel gave!

Mackenzie smiled faintly and said, "If you want to thank someone, thank

Emmanuel. Didn't you say that we are all actors he hired? Well, he rented all

of these!"

Bullsh\*t! Who would believe that this was rented? They had real money in

their hands!

The crowd immediately berated Howard for his nonsense, their eyes turning

green with envy. The embarrassed man cursed with tremble and cold sweat,

barely able to stand steady, and quickly ran away!

"Hey, your wife!" Shane shouted behind him, "He's running so fast. Doesn't he

even want his wife?"

Frederick chuckled. "Maybe his wife was the one rented to act! Hahaha."

As news of the large cash envelopes spread, more and more people

crowded in, especially the children in the village. The scene was bewildering

Mackenzie saw the extremely excited Lowe family of three and inexplicably

as if someone suddenly opened a granary after three years of hunger!

curled her lips with a smile. In the past, she would never show off in such a

manner. First, there was no need! Secondly, she did not feel like it.

However, today's atmosphere made her feel comfortable showing off! It

seemed like marriage was not such a bad thing.

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quiet spot.

Emmanuel knew Mackenzie enjoyed the tranquility and assumed she did not like crowded and lively environments. So, he found an opportunity to pull her away through the back door. Both kept walking upward until they found a

She stood at the elevated spot, admiring the scenery of Hero's Village. Though it was not a utopia, the environment was clean and comfortable. It was perfect for a living! "Mackenzie, thank you for coming!" He walked toward her side and sincerely expressed his gratitude. "My mother is so content. I've never seen her smile this happily before!" 1 t She intentionally turned her face away. "Hmph, didn't I promise you? Did you think I would break my promise?" "No, I knew you would keep your promise!" he replied, and a hint of delight flashed in Mackenzie's eyes. This man understands me. He continued, "I was worried you were still upset with me from last night."

Hearing his words, she became angry and suddenly stared at him with cold

eyes. "What? Am I such a petty person in your eyes? Didn't I tell you I don't know the taste of jealousy?" "Um..." Emmanuel was most afraid of his wife being angry. Although he knew she was jealous, when she said it like that, even a straightforward guy like him had to stay silent, right? Hence, he quickly smiled and coaxed, "I knew you'd understand and believe in me. Claudette and I don't have the same kind of relationship as you and-" "What kind of relationship do we have, then?" She skillfully interrupted his words at the right moment. It was an art. "We're friends!" He confessed. "And what about us?" She continued to ask, feeling a hint of sweetness in her heart, but her face did not reveal it. "Isn't it written on our marriage certificates?" He was puzzled. "I want to hear you say it!" She suddenly became assertive.

"We are husband and wife!" He said, "Didn't you just admit it in front of all my

relatives and friends? We're husband and wife, a married couple! Maybe in the future, you might even be buried in my family's graveyard."

"Hmph! Who wants to be buried with you?" She coldly snorted and turned her

face away. She would only openly acknowledge their relationship in such a

place with Emmanuel's relatives and friends.

However, in Yeringham, in the upper echelons of business, she dared not

openly admit it. As for why? Even she could not explain it at the moment!

She was satisfied with Emmanuel's words today because this fool was

gradually giving her a sense of being married.

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"Mackenzie, I still want to apologize to you!" He could not figure out her

thoughts, so he seriously said, "Last night, I had no choice but to do what I did...

Sorry. It made you embarrassed."

"What is there for me to be embarrassed about?" She looked at him again

and continued, "The one who should feel embarrassed is you, isn't it? My family doesn't accept you, you can't enter the Quillen family, but that's not my concern. It's all your own doing!"

"Um..." He was stunned. Her words saddened him! After taking a deep breath, he solemnly said, "Ms. Quillen, a husband and wife are a partnership. Your words will hurt our relationship."

She gravely replied, "You've done things that hurt our relationship. Do you expect me to take the initiative to fix it?"

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"Well, then..." Emmanuel was also reasonable. He sighed and said, "I'm sorry, looks like I have to figure something out. I genuinely like you and want to be with you. I want us to grow old together and to be buried in the same place." Mackenzie was too stunned to say anything. Who confesses. so out of the blue? I'm not ready for this! She blushed slightly, somewhat satisfied with his foolish attitude. She did not continue to give him a hard time and quickly changed the subject. "Now that my grandfather and I have come to your

house for the New Year, is there something else we should do next?" "Of course there is!" "What is it?" she asked. Since she was here, she would fulfill her role as a wife. She would not give up halfway like Emmanuel because that was not her style! As the female CEO of Terence Group, she valued efficiency and reputation in her work. Marriage was no exception. Emmanuel looked at the time and smiled. "Perfect timing. I'll take you to meet our old godfather in the village!" "Old grandfather?" Mackenzie frowned, wondering why it was so troublesome. In the Hero's Village, the church shouldered a sacred place. A long time ago, it used to be a village school but was replaced by public academics as time passed and society developed. The old teacher became unemployed and

the school was converted into a church for worship.

Respected and revered by everyone in the village, the old teacher had students throughout the whole town. As one would say, a teacher resembled a father. Since the old teacher never married, his disciples, as a sign of respect, had their descendants address him as godfather.

Emmanuel's grandfather was also a disciple of the old teacher, so his father referred to him as the godfather. In Emmanuel's generation, they addressed him as the old godfather. The situation in other families in the village was probably similar to his. So, gradually, the old teacher became the old godfather of the entire Hero's Village.

On the way to the church, Terence got curious and asked Emmanuel for information regarding the old godfather. He was surprised and asked, "Are you saying the old godfather of Hero's Village is over a hundred years old? He participated in the war eighty years ago?"

Emmanuel nodded. "That's right. Many descendants in Hero's Village are inspired by his patriotic spirit and volunteered to go to the border, sacrificing

their lives to defend our great country's land and rivers!"

He was one of them. So, the old godfather held a high position in his heart.

"Well, it seems he is truly an admirable old man!" Terence also nodded, eager

to meet this legendary figure in the Hero's Village. After all, very few people in

the world could be considered his peers at his age!

Alfred walked alongside him without saying a word, but his narrowed eyes

revealed a hint of curiosity. On the other hand, Mackenzie remained silent

throughout the journey and quietly walked.

Along the way, everyone's eyes were on her, rendering her somewhat

distracted. Although she had been the center of attention since taking over

as the CEO of Terence Group, the feeling of being adored today was different

from before.

In the past, those who adored her had no connection with her and only

sought to flatter her for their interests, which she had no interest in and even

found repulsive. However, the villagers of Hero's Village, apart from some men, had pure admiration for her, giving her the feeling of being a top star and meeting genuine fans.

"Look, Emmanuel and his wife have come to church!" The moment Emmanuel and his group arrived at the open space in front of the church, someone immediately shouted.

It was Shane, and it was obvious that he loved to attract attention. After all, as Emmanuel's junior, he should also bask in some of his senior's prestigious glory, right?

Many were devoutly waiting for the old godfather in front of the open space of the church. Upon hearing Shane's call, they turned to look at Emmanuel and Mackenzie, who suddenly felt a hostile gaze and instinctively looked in that direction.

The woman looking at her was none other than Emmanuel's childhood friend,

Queenie!

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The young people came to the church to worship the old godfather during the New Year. It was a custom in the Hero's Village. The open space in front of the church was prepared specifically for them. Therefore, Terence,

Alessandra, and Alfred did not enter the area designated for the youngsters.

Instead, they chatted with other villagers on the side.

When Queenie saw Emmanuel and his wife enter the open space, shè immediately walked over with a smile. "Emmanuel, is this your wife? She truly lives up to the rumors, so beautiful that it makes others feel ashamed!" After she finished speaking, she covered her mouth and giggled.

Mackenzie, however, did not laugh and remained cold as usual. Although

Queenie's hostile gaze disappeared in an instant, she believed she was not

mistaken. Is it possible this woman has some special relationship with

Emmanuel? Otherwise, why would she be hostile toward me?

"Yes, you're right." Emmanuel nodded. In the presence of others, he would not

boast about marrying Mackenzie, but inexplicably, he felt a sense of fortune having her by his side in Queenie's presence.

"Hello, I'm Queenie! Emmanuel's longtime childhood friend. He even pretended to be my groom and held me when we were kids. But unfortunately, when we grew up, he chose another bride. Maybe I wasn't pretty enough..." She reached out to Mackenzie and added a self-deprecating remark.

Mackenzie, however, looked at her coldly and showed no intention of shaking hands. As for Zaniel next to Queenie, she did not even glance at him from beginning to end. That was just her personality—she had no reason to waste time looking at or acknowledging strangers irrelevant to her.

Queenie felt awkward and turned to Emmanuel, jokingly complaining,
"Emmanuel, your wife seems quite cool. Not very easy to get along with,

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Before he could answer, Mackenzie sneered. "There's no need for you to get

"Well..." Queenie immediately looked aggrieved and embarrassed.

Some of the villagers could not help but speak up in her defense.

along with me. What difference does it make if I'm cold or not?"

wife doesn't seem to understand courtesy."

"She may be beautiful, but a wife should adhere to the principles of

obedience and virtue. Such a wife isn't desirable!"

"I wonder how he manages to deal with her. Maybe he married into the

family and can't speak up when his wife bullies him at home!"

"If that's the case, what's the point of marrying a goddess?"

Hearing these comments, Alessandra suddenly felt uncomfortable. Initially,

Mackenzie's arrival at the Hero's Village was a moment of great joy and

excitement for her, but now, that feeling had been diluted.

As these comments were not directed to their faces and were in a chaotic state, Emmanuel was unable to respond to those individuals despite overhearing them. He simply held Mackenzie's hand and said gently, "Don't mind them, Mackenzie."

She replied nonchalantly, "As long as you don't mind, I don't care."

She had no further dealings with these people after leaving Hero's Village, so why would she care? Besides, it was true that she was not easy to get along with; that was something known throughout Yeringham, and there was no need to explain or hide it.

"Pfft! So, you're just a parasite, a kept—man!" Howard, who had been silent like a quail, finally spoke with a disdainful expression. After being treated poorly at Emmanuel's home and fleeing, he finally found an opportunity to attack

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Emmanuel.

On the side, Shane overheard and immediately mocked, "Haha, Howard, let's

not worry about whether Manny is a freeloader. If you have a wife like that,

I'm afraid you would go crazy too! Right?"

Howard did not dare to refute for a moment because the other party hit the mark. After realizing it, he awkwardly said, "Who would marry a rude and disrespectful woman like her?"

"Oh my, do I smell a sour stench? Fred, do you smell it too?" Shane waved his hand and taunted.

"What 'Fred'? Call me Frederick! I smelled it a long time ago. Someone is even more sour than sour plums and smells worse than expired vinegar." Frederick and Shane echoed each other, leaving Howard defenseless.

In Frederick's eyes, it was not Mackenzie who was difficult to get along with at all; it was Queenie who brought it upon herself. What's the motive behind saying that someone's husband had married you and even hugged you in front of his wife? The wife didn't lay a hand on you, which should have been

seen as a gesture of saving face!

He was grateful for his good friend's sake. Fortunately, Mackenzie reacted nonchalantly. If she had acted indifferent, Emmanuel would have been heartbroken, right?

It had to be said that Frederick was the one who understood Emmanuel the best. Emmanuel indeed had such a feeling, so he did not feel resentful about her prickly way of chatting. Instead, he felt at ease. It seems that she cares about me!

However, what made Emmanuel feel uneasy was Zaniel. The way Howard described it, that man seemed completely unfeeling, nothing like a married couple. What on earth are Howard and Queenie up to? Why do they find such strange partners?

"The old godfather is here!" At that moment, someone exclaimed.

The noise in front of the church immediately quieted down. This scene alone showed the esteemed position of the old godfather in the Hero's Village.

Mackenzie also thought that the old godfather of Hero's Village would be a dignified and scholarly old man full of a domineering aura; she had even been a little excited earlier. However, she was disappointed at the first encounter.

It seemed she was still influenced by the media. In reality, the old godfather was just an old man with white hair and a face covered in age spots. His face looked rougher than tree bark; his attire was casual, not sloppy, but devoid of any scholarly temperament. The only thing that satisfied Mackenzie was his deep and slightly shining old eyes.

"Hello, old godfather!" Everyone immediately bowed and called out in unison.

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Emmanuel was no exception. He held deep admiration for the old godfather, not only because his late grandfather and father bore great respect for him, but also because he had received his teachings when he was young. The old...

godfather had even taught him some fundamental martial arts. For him, the old godfather was his first mentor.

"Well, everyone, Happy New Year!" The old godfather slowly raised his right hand and greeted his descendants with a smiling and benevolent face. Then, amidst the cheers of the whole village, the old godfather was assisted by a young man to slowly sit on a chair at the center of the open space.

Everyone stood at attention, indicating the high status and prestige of the old godfather in Hero's Village. However, due to his advanced age and being over a hundred years old, his movements were unsteady and even a bit unattractive. In the end, he needed the young man to lift his feet and help him up.

Mackenzie frowned slightly. After all, with her status and position, she had always been the center of attention wherever she went. Now, she had to wait below while watching others serve an old man slowly. As someone who valued time, she could not help but feel a bit impatient..

After the young man finished assisting the old godfather, his gaze shifted downward, and he looked slightly different when he made eye contact with Emmanuel.

"Emmanuel, long time no see. You're finally back, huh?" the man spoke

directly to Emmanuel.

literature and martial arts.

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"Yeah, I'm back." Emmanuel nodded, responding to the man's words.

The man's name was Yosef Harper. Just like Queenie, they were Emmanuel's childhood playmates and even sat together in class. Not only that, but the old godfather had wanted to take them both as disciples, teaching them

Unfortunately, Emmanuel ended up leaving Hero's Village with his father, living in Yeringham, and later coming to the Northern Region. It had been over ten years since they had last seen each other, and they finally reunited today.

"Yeah." Yosef nodded with a smile, which carried an intriguing impact on people.

Firstly, he cultivated himself in literature from a young age under the old godfather's guidance, giving him the disposition of a scholar. Secondly, he was recognized as a handsome man in Hero's Village, with attractive facial features and even dimples when he smiled. His charm was quite powerful among women.

"After all, neither of us married Queenie..." He nodded and continued with a smile. "Do you remember when we said as kids that we would see who would marry her in the end?"

The villagers around them instantly became restless, engaging in lively discussions. Queenie blushed and lowered her head shyly, her cheeks turning red, while Mackenzie's originally icy and indifferent face became even more distant.

Emmanuel immediately tightened his grip on her delicate hand and smiled dismissively. "Children say whatever comes to mind. No need to bring up jokes like this." He was relatively calm about it. After all, he and Yosef were only six years old back then.

It was just a game of playing house, and a group of boys were discussing it.

He was simply one of them, coincidentally chosen as Queenie's husband

during the game. He never had any feelings for her, and after the game, he

quickly forgot about it.

However, Mackenzie forcefully pinched his large hand, angrily pulling her

hand away. He endured the pain and glanced at her from the corner of his

eye. Oh, no. Is she angry again?

Seeing this scene, Yosef smiled again and added, "Now isn't the time for idle

chat. You should join everyone—and worship the old godfather."

"Alright." Emmanuel nodded, maintaining his composure.

Frederick, on the other hand, was infuriated, his face flushed. Both Yosef and

Queenie were cunning individuals, just like heartless schemers! They intentionally brought up such matters before and after to undermine Emmanuel's relationship with his wife! How disgraceful!

However, they both casually mentioned it in the context of reminiscing, and even Emmanuel could not react, let alone him. Moreover, the traditional ceremony of loyalty and filial piety had already begun, diverting everyone's attention.

The younger generation lined up, waiting to bow and pay their respects to the old godfather. Mackenzie also stood in line with Emmanuel, observing the unique ritual of the village.

The individual rituals held little reference value, but she observed the ones where couples worshiped the godfather, which had their own rules and etiquette. Firstly, they had to wear unique clothing with a filial or loyal plaque hanging from their chest. Secondly, the posture of men and women when

worshiping was different.

ground, waiting for the old godfather to tap their heads a few times,

Men/could just bow their heads, but women had to bury their heads on the

symbolizing the opening of their wisdom and the future prosperity of their

husbands and offspring.

Although the taps were not painful and were done in the name of blessings,

the dignified Mackenzie could not possibly imitate those women, ending up

with a face covered in dirt. Who am I? Of course, the number one icy goddess

of Yeringham!

Chapter 620

No way! Kneeling and worshiping? Absolutely not!

"Emmanuel, it's your turn!" Queenie and Zaniel had already worshiped the old

godfather and were waiting for Emmanuel and his wife. When they

approached, their eyes seemed to hold some expectation.

Emmanuel nodded and took the jackets Yosef handed him, passing one of

them to Mackenzie. Unexpectedly, she did not accept it. He was slightly taken aback. The next moment, Mackenzie walked directly toward the old godfather with confident steps, speaking in a composed manner, "Happy New Year to the old godfather of Hero's Village!" "Uh-" Seeing this woman deviating from the village customs, the surrounding villagers were immediately taken aback and looked at each other in alarm. "Bold! How dare you show such disrespect to the old godfather!" A discussion ensued. Emmanuel smiled wryly, thinking that something bad will probably happen. Indeed, Yosef immediately became agitated and warned Mackenzie, "Show some respect!" However, the aged old godfather reached out to stop him, smiling at her. "Oh,

Happy New Year! Who is this girl?"

"My name is Mackenzie Quillen. I married Emmanuel this year and came to pay respects to you, Old Godfather," she responded calmly, unaffected by

Terence watched this scene with great interest from the crowd, knowing that

his granddaughter would not adhere to the customs of Hero's Village.

the angry stares of the villagers and Yosef's warning.

"Oh, so you're Emmanuel's wife? Haha... Good, good!" The old godfather

Taughed excitedly, "Another loyal and virtuous family is blossoming. Hero's

Village is fortunate!"

Mackenzie remained silent, simply watching him.

After a while, the old godfather continued, "Since you're Emmanuel's wife, why

don't you worship me as the old godfather?"

"There's no need for that," she replied directly.

Feeling the waves of anger from the surrounding villagers, Emmanuel

became frightened and quickly walked up to her side, speaking on her

behalf, "Old Godfather, I'm Emmanuel. It's Mackenzie's first time in Hero's Village, and she doesn't understand our village customs. I apologize on her behalf. Please don't be angry."

The old godfather waved his hand, and his initially elderly and frail expression became slightly intimidating. He stared at Mackenzie for a long time, but she showed no signs of fear. Then, he forcefully struck his cane on the ground and questioned loudly, "Why is there no need? Paying respects to the old godfather through kneeling has been a tradition of the Chanaea for thousands of years. Do you outsiders forget about the traditions of loyalty and filial piety? Do you know that loyalty and filial piety are not only personal virtues but also the foundation of a country?"

It had to be said that this Hero's Village old godfather had an imposing presence.

Seeing him like this, Terence and Alfred felt somewhat powerless. After all, the old godfather was over a hundred years old—thirty years older than them. If

he questioned them, they would not know how to respond.

However, Mackenzie remained expressionless, neither agitated nor afraid. "To borrow the words of the renowned scholar, Yankee Yorsen, loyalty is loyalty to the nation, and filial piety is filial piety to one's parents. Old Godfather, you were Emmanuel's grandfather's teacher. For me, we have no familial relationship. You are not my monarch, nor are you my parents. I don't need to be loyal and filial to you, but... Chanaea indeed upholds the traditional virtues of respecting the old and caring for the young. I respect you as an elder and have specially come to pay my respects to you and offer a money packet as a gesture. Please accept it!" After speaking, she stared squarely at the old godfather's anger, placing the cash envelopes in his hand.

Everyone in Hero's Village was stunned by her actions. Who doesn't know that the old godfather detests receiving gifts and never accepted cash envelopes?

However, this time, the old godfather held onto the cash envelope without putting it away or throwing it, just staring at Mackenzie, the unconventional young girl.