

Marrying A Secret Zillionaire Happy Ever After

#Chapter 181 - Read Marrying A Secret Zillionaire

Happy Ever After Chapter 181

Chapter 181 What Happened To Your Lip

Linsey racked her brain, desperately trying to come up with a way to make amends.

She couldn't shake the memory of Collin's confession; he had never been with a woman before.

Who could have predicted that his first experience with intimacy would occur under such bizarre and disorienting

circumstances?

Guilt gnawed at Linsey with increasing intensity, and a flicker of worry crossed her features.

Collin, observing her troubled expression, couldn't help but let out a soft chuckle.

"It's alright, Linsey," Collin reassured her after a brief pause. "I don't blame you. Just kiss me, and we'll call it even."

Linsey froze, her eyes widening in surprise. "Huh? That's it? It's that simple?"

Collin reached out and gently took her slightly cold hand in his, his voice a low, steady rumble. "Linsey, we're husband and

wife. What happened between us is perfectly natural. Did you really think I'd cast you aside over something like this?"

Linsey considered his words and realized he was right.

A smile bloomed on her face, and a wave of warmth washed over her.

"I'm glad you don't blame me," Linsey said.

Collin shook his head. "I don't."

Linsey gazed at Collin's handsome face, then, still enveloped in the blanket, leaned forward and gently pressed her lips to

his.

The kiss was so brief that Collin barely had time to register her touch. Collin's brow furrowed slightly. "That's not exactly what I had in mind," he said. Linsey looked at him, puzzled. "Didn't you just say one kiss would suffice?"

Collin chuckled, his eyes twinkling with amusement. "I didn't mean a mere peck on the lips."

His gaze dropped to her lips once more.

Linsey felt a shiver run down her spine, a warmth blooming where his eyes lingered.

She bit her lip, a blush creeping up her cheeks.

Witnessing her bashfulness, Collin couldn't resist teasing her further. "You were so bold last night," he remarked playfully.

"Why so shy now?"

Linsey's face flushed crimson, a mix of anger and embarrassment warring within her. She felt like Collin was making fun

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Chapter 181 What Happened To Your Lip

of her.

"How dare you underestimate me!" she retorted.

With a determined glint in her eyes, Linsey leaned in once more and captured his lips with hers.

Collin's breath hitched, and just as he was about to deepen the kiss, Linsey pulled back.

To add insult to injury, she playfully nipped his lower lip-not hard enough to cause pain, but enough to leave him

wanting more.

Collin let out a dramatic gasp, feigning offense. "Ouch! Is this payback for something?"

"Don't be ridiculous," Linsey retorted, trying to maintain her composure. "I'm just... a little out of practice, that's all."

Collin remained silent, his eyes locked on hers with an intensity that sent shivers down her spine.

"Right, well, we should probably get up," Linsey stammered, flustered.

Linsey snatched the pajamas from the bedside table, slipped them on, and made a beeline for the bathroom to freshen up.

Collin watched her flee, a hint of amusement playing on his lips.

After freshening up, Linsey deliberately steered clear of the walk-in closet where Collin was getting ready and hurried

downstairs.

The memory of Collin's intense gaze sent Linsey's heart into overdrive.

There was something about Collin, an air of authority that clung to him like a second skin, as if he were accustomed to

wielding power.

If she hadn't known about his disability and his less-than-stellar standing within the Riley family, she would have easily

believed him to be a man of great influence and power.

Linsey paused, a playful thought crossing her mind. Perhaps this was what it felt like to be truly smitten with someone.

She was falling for Collin, so naturally, she saw him through rose-tinted glasses. Collin joined Linsey downstairs a short while later.

"Goodness gracious, Mr. Riley!" one of the maids exclaimed. "What happened to your lip?"

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Chapter 182 I Don't Need A Ride Anyway!

Linsey's heart pounded as her eyes darted to Collin's face. A faint mark at the corner of his mouth confirmed her suspicion

-it had definitely been bitten.

Did she really bite him that hard?

Sensing Linsey's eyes on him, Collin turned his head.

Linsey quickly averted her gaze, busying herself with her breakfast, feigning indifference.

This wasn't her fault, was it?

She had already confessed to being a bit clumsy in these situations.

Collin, noticing her evasiveness, couldn't help but smirk. "It's nothing," he said casually to the housekeeper. "Just a little

scratch from a feisty kitten. Nothing serious."

The maid blinked, a confused look on her face. "Sir, we don't have any cats, do we?"

"A stray," Collin replied smoothly. "It scratched me and then bolted."

"Oh, I see. That's quite a naughty stray," the maid commented, completely unaware of the true culprit.

"Indeed," Collin agreed with a nod. "Playful and troublesome-quite impossible to catch."

Linsey's face burned crimson with embarrassment.

That infuriating man! She fumed inwardly. How could he describe her like that?

She quickly finished her breakfast and stood up, making a show of leaving for work.

"Wait," Collin called out, stopping her in her tracks.

She turned back, her voice hesitant. "What is it?"

"I'll have someone drive you to work," he said firmly.

"There's no need for that. I can go by myself," Linsey replied hastily, shaking her head.

Collin, however, was adamant. "No. Today... it might not be the best idea for you to drive yourself."

Linsey frowned, confused. "Why not?"

Collin paused, then glanced pointedly at her legs. "Are you sure about that? Your legs seemed a bit wobbly when you got up just now."

Collin's words sent a fresh wave of heat to Linsey's cheeks, her blush deepening.

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Chapter 182 I Don't Need A Ride Anyway!

He wasn't mistaken—her legs had felt a bit wobbly when she had gotten out of bed.

She thought she had masked it well, but Collin had clearly seen through her facade.

Frustration bubbled up inside her. Linsey glared at Collin, her voice laced with annoyance. "How come you're perfectly fine,

and I'm the one..."

She trailed off, unable to finish the sentence, and added stubbornly, "I don't need a ride anyway!"

With that declaration, she turned and stormed off.

But the moment she turned away, she winced.

"Damn it," she muttered under her breath. "It hurts again."

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Why did she feel like she had run a marathon?

Collin, still seated at the table, chuckled. He subtly gestured to one of his subordinates.

"Follow her," he instructed. "If she refuses the ride, tell her that if she doesn't get in the car, I'll fire you."

"Understood, Mr. Riley," the subordinate replied.

A few nearby maids exchanged confused glances and began whispering amongst themselves.

"What's with them this morning? Something's off."

"Mrs. Riley seems upset."

"And look, Mr. Riley's mouth is hurt. We don't have any cats, do we?"

"Could it be... Mrs. Riley bit him?"

"Oh my gosh, did they have a fight?"

An older maid, overhearing the whispers, chuckled knowingly. "Alright, alright, stop with the gossip," she said. "You don't understand. This is a good thing."

"A good thing?" the others echoed, confused.

The older maid winked. "Just wait. It won't be long before we have little ones running around here."

"Little ones? Oh..."

It only took a few seconds for the younger maids to understand, their faces lighting up with realization.

"So Mr. and Mrs. Riley were..."

The older maid just smiled knowingly.

The younger maids giggled excitedly. "I hope they're always this happy."

"They will be!"

Chapter 183 Everyone, We Just Landed A Major Clie...

As soon as Linsey walked into the office, a few colleagues gathered around to greet her.

"Good morning, Linsey!"

"Hey, why'd you leave the dinner so suddenly last night? Didn't even say goodbye."

"Yeah! We had to ask the waiter what happened. He told us someone picked you up. For a moment, we thought you'd gone

missing!"

Linsey opened her mouth, ready to apologize. "Sorry, I had a little too much to drink last night and wasn't fully aware of what was happening. Totally forgot to let you guys know."

One of her colleagues sighed. "Guess you really can't handle your liquor, huh?" "Yeah, I guess so," Linsey admitted, sinking into her chair at her desk.

She couldn't shake the memory of the two times she had gotten drunk recently. The first time, she had accidentally upset Collin. The second... well, she had ended up having sex with him.

If she drank a third time, Linsey didn't even want to think about what might happen.

Alcohol always seemed to lead to trouble.

With a deep breath, she made a silent vow-never again would she drink recklessly.

Midway through the morning, Coen suddenly emerged from his office, grinning like a Cheshire cat. "Everyone, we just landed a major client!"

The office erupted in excitement, and one colleague leaned forward, eager for details. "Who's the big client? Don't leave us hanging, Coen!"

Coen flashed them a mysterious smile. "Kylee Russell."

"Wow! Kylee!"

"Unbelievable, it's actually Kylee! She's a huge star!"

The colleague next to Linsey leaned in, her voice full of excitement. "I thought Kylee had been working overseas for the

past few years. Is she really coming back now?"

Coen chuckled, clearly enjoying the buzz. "Yep, she's returning to shoot a new project. I heard it's a big one. She'll be walking the red carpet for a promotional event in a month, and the gown she wears? It's going to be a major deal."

Coen paused, scanning the room before adding, "Everyone will need to submit a design for Kylee. She'll personally choose the one she likes, and whoever's design gets picked will land the project."

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Chapter 183 Everyone, We Just Landed A Major Client!

Linsey's eyes lit up as she immediately understood. No wonder Coen was practically glowing with excitement.

It didn't matter whose design was chosen-the success would reflect well on Coen, the department head.

Coen gave a pointed reminder, his tone serious. "Make sure you take this task seriously. If Kylee picks your design, you could become her go-to designer. Just imagine what that could do for your career."

Once Coen left, the office buzzed with excitement again.

"I'm such a huge fan of Kylee. She's drop-dead gorgeous!"

"I'd kill to get her autograph!"

"Are you serious? If your design gets picked, getting her autograph will be a given!"

"Forget the autograph. We need to focus on our designs!"

Even without Coen's reminder, everyone in the room knew how crucial this task was.

If their design was chosen, it could mean not only a promotion but also a raise for the year-a career-changing moment.

And the designer's reputation would skyrocket-after all, this was Kylee they were dealing with!

But Linsey wasn't concerned with that. She just wanted to do her job right.

Once she set her mind to something, she didn't back down. She was all in.

Without wasting a single moment, Linsey jumped into her research, scouring the Internet for everything she could find

about Kylee's style and tastes.

The atmosphere in the office grew thick with tension as everyone hunched over their designs, fully focused.

But one person remained completely unfazed-Cynthia. While everyone else worked tirelessly, she casually sipped her coffee, looking completely at ease.

A colleague couldn't resist asking, "Cynthia, why aren't you starting yet? Don't you want to land Kylee's deal?"

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Chapter 184 She's So Bloody Full Of Herself

Cynthia's response was a light, arrogant chuckle. "Why the rush?" she scoffed, her expression oozing superiority. "With my talent, landing this deal will be a piece of cake. Why should I break a sweat like the rest of you?"

Her eyes flickered towards Linsey, a thinly veiled insult hanging in the air. "Someone," she continued, her voice dripping

with disdain, "might have gotten away with their shoddy work and fooled clients in the past. But not this time."

A smug smirk played on Cynthia's lips as she picked up her coffee and sauntered out of the office, leaving a trail of simmering resentment in her wake.

Linsey couldn't help but frown as she observed the triumphant smirk plastered across Cynthia's face.

Why was Cynthia so confident? It was as if she already knew Kylee would pick her design.

Cynthia's arrogant display didn't sit well with the other colleagues either.

One of them rolled her eyes dramatically. "God, I can't stand her," she muttered under her breath. "She's so bloody full of herself. Does being the spoiled daughter of the Keller family make her royalty or something?"

"Shhh, keep it down! What if she hears you?"

"Yeah, just focus on your own work," another chimed in. "She's got connections; we've got nothing."

A brief silence descended upon the office, punctuated only by the clicking of keyboards and the rustling of papers.

Suddenly, a colleague gasped. "Oh shit, I just remembered something!"

"What?" The others leaned in, curiosity piqued.

"The Keller family and the Russell family are related!" the colleague blurted out. "Kylee comes from money, and if you think about it, she's probably Cynthia's cousin!"

"What?!" another exclaimed in disbelief. "They're related? So that's why Cynthia's so smug! Does she seriously think Kylee

will just hand her the project because they're family?"

"Ugh, this is such bullshit!"

"This is ridiculous. What's the point of even trying? This whole thing is rigged in Cynthia's favor."

Disappointment washed over the group.

"Does Coen know about this?" someone asked.

"Probably," another replied with a sigh. "But why the hell would Coen make us compete if it's already a done deal?"

"Ugh, what a waste of time and energy. I actually thought I had a shot, but now..." 0.0%

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Chapter 184 She's So Bloody Full Of Herself

But not everyone was convinced. Doubts lingered in the air.

"I don't know about that. I'm a huge Kylee fan, and I've never heard her mention any connection to the Keller family."

"So you're saying... Kylee might not even know Cynthia?"

"Exactly! Maybe they're just distantly related or something. It's not like they're besties."

"That actually gives me a bit of hope. What if Kylee doesn't give a damn about Cynthia? We might still be in the running!"

Linsey tuned out the chatter and focused on her work. Their gossip and speculation were irrelevant to her.

She believed that whether she was chosen or not wasn't the most important thing. What truly mattered was putting her

best foot forward.

Linsey immersed herself in her research, working diligently until the end of the

day. When it was finally time to clock out,

she headed back to Vista Villa, as usual.

As she neared the villa's entrance, a sleek, unfamiliar car caught her eye.

Linsey recognized the car instantly-it wasn't Collin's.

If she recalled correctly, it was a limited-edition model, the kind favored by the ultra-wealthy.

Clearly, Collin had an important guest.

Linsey was about to inquire about the visitor when a sharp, haughty voice cut through the air.

"Just who do you think you are, barging into Collin's villa like you own the place?"

Linsey whirled around, her eyes widening in surprise.

Standing before her, radiating an air of arrogance, was none other than Kylee, the famous actress.

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Chapter 185 I Live Here

Linsey had researched Kylee, combing through countless photos and articles. So the moment she saw her in person, Linsey

recognized her instantly.

But what was Kylee doing here?

Shock froze Linsey in place, her mind scrambling to catch up. It took a second before she snapped out of it.

A few steps away, Kylee studied Linsey with a scrutinizing gaze. Her delicate features and natural beauty sent an

unexpected pang of unease through Kylee's chest.

Whoever this woman was, she needed to be dealt with-before Collin returned.

With that thought, Kylee didn't hold back. Her voice was sharp, cutting through the silence.

"Whoever you are, get out of this villa immediately! This is Collin's home, not some place for strangers to wander into!"

Kylee's arrogance made Linsey's brows knit together.

Only then did she realize how casually Kylee referred to Collin-like they were more than just acquaintances.

Linsey had never known Collin was close to Kylee...

Pushing that thought aside, she kept her voice steady. "You're mistaken. I didn't trespass-I live here."

The second those words left Linsey's mouth, Kylee's expression darkened, her gaze turning razor-sharp.

"You live here?" Kylee scoffed. "Do you even hear yourself? Women like you are everywhere-clinging to men, hoping for

a free ride. You're obviously just trying to get close to Collin, aren't you?"

Kylee took a step forward, her tone laced with disdain. "Since you insist on being shameless, don't blame me for handling

this the hard way."

Before Linsey could respond, Kylee spun around and called out, "Someone, get in here!"

Josh arrived swiftly, his expression composed. "Miss Russell, is something wrong?"

Kylee shot him a sharp look. "Do you people even know how to do your jobs? Some random woman just waltzed into Collin's villa! Get her out of here- immediately!"

Her commanding tone carried the authority of someone who thought she belonged here.

But Josh hesitated. His gaze flickered to Linsey, surprise flashing across his face before he spoke. "Mrs. Riley, you're back?"

Linsey gave a small nod, her voice steady. "I just got back."

Kylee stiffened. Her head snapped toward Josh. "What did you just call her?"

Josh met Kylee's incredulous stare and answered matter-of-factly, "Mrs. Riley."

He continued, his tone polite but firm. "Miss Russell, you've been overseas, so you may not be aware. This is Mr. Riley's

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Chapter 1851 Live Here

wife-Linsey. The rightful mistress of this villa."

Kylee's eyes widened in disbelief. She stared at Linsey, her expression twisting with resentment.

"His wife? That's impossible!" Kylee spat. "She must have married him for his money! Collin has been fooled by her!"

Her voice grew shrill, her words turning cruel.

Linsey's stomach tightened. The hostility in Kylee's gaze made her uneasy, but she refused to let it show.

Before she could respond, Josh stepped in, his tone firm. "That's enough, Miss Russell. Please show some respect to Mrs.

Riley. Regardless of how long you've known Mr. Riley or how famous you are, if you continue this behavior, we'll have no

choice but to ask you to leave."

Josh's words made Kylee freeze, her face draining of color.

She didn't know much about Linsey, but she knew one thing-Josh wasn't just any servant.

He had worked in the villa for years, and his words often reflected Collin's own.

And right now, he was defending Linsey without hesitation. That could only mean one thing-this woman wasn't just some passing fling. In Collin's eyes, she was someone important.

Kylee clenched her fists. She hadn't come here to pick a fight-she needed a favor from Collin. Swallowing her pride, she forced herself to hold her tongue.

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Chapter 186 Collin And I Grew Up Together

A flicker of annoyance crossed Kylee's lips, but after a brief pause to compose herself, she plastered on a forced smile.

"Oh, I see. You truly are Collin's wife? I apologize profusely. I mistakenly assumed you were lying earlier, which unfortunately led to some misunderstandings. Please don't take offense at my previous remarks."

Linsey regarded her calmly, remaining silent for a beat.

A moment later, Kylee drew a radiant smile and extended her hand towards Linsey. "Let's start fresh. I'm Kylee Russell. Collin and I grew up together."

Linsey's impression of Kylee was less than favorable.

However, recognizing that Kylee was Collin's guest, Linsey politely accepted her hand. "Linsey," she responded.

Their hands met briefly before separating.

At that moment, Collin's car pulled up.

Recognizing the familiar sound, Linsey stepped forward to welcome him.

However, Kylee reacted more swiftly. Gathering her dress, she rushed out, bumping forcefully into Linsey as she passed.

The unexpected jolt caused Linsey to stumble and nearly lose her balance.

By the time she regained her footing, Kylee had already reached the villa's entrance.

As Collin was being assisted out of the car and into his wheelchair, he noticed a familiar figure he hadn't seen for quite

some time.

"Collin! You've finally returned. I've been waiting for you at home," Kylee exclaimed affectionately, her eyes brimming with emotion as she gazed at him.

A flicker of surprise crossed Collin's eyes as he inquired, "What brings you back to the country?"

His entourage, noticing Kylee, greeted her respectfully, "Miss Russell."

"I missed you, of course," Kylee replied demurely.

Her gaze fixed on Collin, she frowned with concern. "Collin, it's only been a short time since we last saw each other, yet you've lost so much weight. Haven't you been eating properly while I was away?"

Pouting, she moved closer, attempting to take his arm, but he subtly evaded her touch.

Kylee paused momentarily, not pressing the matter further, and said playfully, "Collin, if you don't start taking better care of yourself, I'll be quite cross with you."

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Chapter 186 Collin And I Grew Up Together

"I'm perfectly fine, Kylee," Collin replied, his voice cool and composed. "No need to fret over me."

As if recalling something important, he said, "I heard you sustained an injury while filming abroad. Are you alright?"

Kylee's spirits lifted at the sound of Collin's concern. A sheepish grin spread across her face. "Oh, it's nothing serious," she assured him. "You know me, Collin; I'm not some fragile flower. It's just a minor scrape, nothing to worry yourself over."

Collin offered a curt nod, his expression remaining unchanged.

To Linsey, their easy banter resembled a scene straight out of a movie, a handsome man and a beautiful woman completely engrossed in each other's company.

For a moment, Linsey hesitated, unsure whether to intrude upon their intimate exchange. She felt a pang of awkwardness,

like she was an outsider looking in.

Despite being married to Collin for a considerable period, she had never once heard him mention Kylee.

Judging by Kylee's familiar tone, it was evident that they shared a deep bond, perhaps even a childhood connection...

Linsey observed the scene unfold from afar, a wave of jealousy washing over her.

She silently clenched her fists, a feeling of helplessness creeping into her heart.

She turned to walk away, unable to bear the sight any longer.

Collin, however, had spotted her. "Linsey!" he called out.

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Chapter 187 Your

Happiness Is My Priority

Linsey paused, startled, and turned to find Collin approaching her in his wheelchair.

Before she could utter a word, Collin came to a halt directly in front of her.

"Linsey," Collin said softly, a gentle smile gracing his lips as he repeated her name.

He reached out and captured her hand in his, his touch both gentle and firm.

A jolt of electricity shot through Linsey the moment their hands touched, making her heart flutter.

"Why did you leave your guest behind?" Linsey inquired, her voice barely above a whisper.

Shouldn't he be occupied with his friend, Kylee?

Collin arched an eyebrow, his gaze piercing as he held Linsey's eyes. "Is something wrong?"

Linsey's composure faltered under his direct gaze, her true feelings momentarily exposed. She quickly recovered and shook

her head. "No, nothing's wrong."

She bit her lip nervously, then said, "You should be with your guest."

Linsey lowered her gaze, a mix of emotions swirling within her. "I don't really know your friend," she admitted quietly. "I

think it would be best if I just... stay out of sight and go back to my room."

Collin's grip on her hand tightened, preventing her from withdrawing. "Linsey, you're my wife. We host our guests together."

The warmth of his hand enveloping hers sent her pulse racing. She hesitated, choosing her words carefully. "But I don't

know her very well. What if I say something awkward and make a fool of myself?"

Collin's smile softened, his eyes reflecting a tenderness she had never witnessed before. "When you decided to marry me,

despite all the challenges, weren't you brave back then? Everyone in town knew about my condition, my limitations, but

you weren't afraid of what people would say when you chose me. So why worry about embarrassing yourself now?"

Collin gently caressed the back of Linsey's hand, his voice a soothing balm. "Don't worry. As long as I'm here, no one will

dare to laugh at you. And if they do, I'll personally show them the door."

Linsey couldn't help but chuckle. "That's a bit much, don't you think?" she teased. "People might start avoiding us if they think we're that intimidating."

Collin's expression remained serious, his voice firm. "Your happiness is my priority. I don't care what others think."

Gazing into Collin's eyes, Linsey felt a warmth spread through her, melting away the tension she had felt earlier.

The atmosphere surrounding them was charged with affection, and those nearby couldn't help but smile at the sight of the

couple.

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Chapter 787 Your Happiness is My Priority

Only Kylee, who stood nearby, watched the scene, her face etched with disbelief. She could scarcely believe her eyes.

Kylee, a woman accustomed to attention, with her wealth, striking beauty, and commanding presence, felt utterly invisible. She had never experienced such a complete lack of attention before.

She and Collin had been childhood friends. After his accident, which had left him paralyzed, he had become withdrawn and unpredictable, isolating himself from others.

Back then, Collin had treated her differently than the others.

While he wasn't particularly affectionate, he was at least more considerate towards her than others.

Kylee, aware of Collin's naturally distant nature, had never expected anything more.

But now, witnessing the expression on his face, Kylee realized she was seeing a side of Collin she had never seen before.

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Chapter 188 That Makes You My Friend Too!

Collin's gaze lingered on Linsey, his eyes filled with such tenderness and warmth that it was almost tangible.

If Kylee had ever been the recipient of such affection, she would have melted on the spot.

But no, that tenderness was reserved for another.

Jealousy flared within Kylee, her breath catching in her throat. She glared at Linsey, barely hiding her resentment.

This woman, this stranger, had somehow captured Collin's heart while she was gone!

What a brazen, shameless hussy!

Unable to bear it any longer, Kylee marched forward, shattering the intimate moment between them.

"Linsey," Kylee began, feigning remorse, "are you still upset about earlier? I admit I was out of line. If you're still angry, I'm

truly sorry."

Collin's expression hardened, his gaze turning icy as he turned to Kylee. "What happened?" he asked, his voice clipped.

Kylee bristled at his change in demeanor but quickly plastered a smile on her face. "When I arrived, I overheard Linsey

mentioning that you two were married. I was so surprised that I thought she might be someone you hired to get your family off your back. So... I might have been a little rude."

She flashed Collin a practiced smile. "But now that I see how close you two are, I realize I was mistaken. I apologize."

Turning to Linsey, Kylee put on a sincere expression. "Linsey, I was wrong. Please forgive me."

Linsey observed her calm, seemingly genuine demeanor. Knowing Kylee's reputation for being polite and well-mannered,

Linsey relaxed her guard.

"It's alright, Kylee," Linsey replied gently.

Perhaps she had been overthinking things earlier. Maybe Kylee really did just see Collin as a friend.

Linsey reflected on it. Collin had never been particularly popular in Grester, so seeing him with a friend made her happy

for him

With that thought, her earlier unease vanished completely.

Linsey smiled warmly. "Don't worry about it. It's really no big deal."

Kylee let out a sigh of relief, her voice soft as silk. "That's a relief," she purred.

After a brief pause, Kylee's eyes flickered towards Collin before returning to Linsey with a warm, inviting smile. "Well, since you're Collin's wife, that makes you my friend too! Don't hesitate to reach out if you ever need anything at all."

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Chapter 188 That Makes You My Friend Too!

Linsey offered a polite smile in return. "Thanks, Kylee," she replied. "I'll keep that in mind."

Collin, noticing Linsey's brighter mood, flashed her a small smile and gently took her hand. "Let's go inside and chat," he

suggested.

Linsey returned his smile and moved to push his wheelchair. "Are you hungry?" she asked. "I'll have the kitchen whip something up for dinner."

Kylee, who had been hoping for an opportunity to get closer to Collin, bristled as she watched Linsey take charge.

Swallowing her annoyance, she forced a smile and trailed after them.

Linsey asked, glancing back at her, "Kylee, is there anything specific you'd like to eat? I can have the kitchen prepare it for

you."

Kylee's eyes flickered with a hint of calculation. She reached out and patted Collin's shoulder, her voice light and playful.

"Collin, we've known each other for ages. I'm sure the staff here remembers what

I like, don't you think?"

Linsey merely blinked, remaining silent.

Collin's voice remained calm and even. "You've been away for quite a while, Kylee," he pointed out. "The staff has changed a few times since then. Josh is getting on in years and has a lot on his plate. It's not really fair to expect him to remember every little detail. If you have any specific requests, just let the staff know directly."

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Chapter 189 You're Welcome To Stay Here

Josh overheard the exchange and stepped in with a gentle smile. "Indeed, Miss Russell, my memory isn't what it used to be. Please, don't take offense. Just let me know what you'd like to eat, and I'll have the kitchen prepare it right away."

Kylee's smile didn't falter. "Thank you, Josh," she replied sweetly.

Collin, Linsey and Kylee moved into the spacious living room and settled on the plush sofas.

Kylee, eager to impress, launched into a series of amusing anecdotes from her recent trip abroad. Collin, however, responded with polite but detached interest.

He meticulously wiped his hands with a napkin, then picked up an orange from the fruit bowl on the coffee table and began to peel it with practiced ease.

Kylee watched, her heart fluttering with anticipation. As Collin finished peeling the orange, she instinctively extended her hand, expecting him to offer it to her.

But to her dismay, Collin placed the peeled orange directly into Linsey's outstretched hand.

"These oranges are particularly sweet today," Collin remarked. "Try one."

Linsey, who had been lost in her own thoughts, blinked in surprise. "How do you know?"

After all, he had just returned home.

Collin chuckled. "I had one before I left this morning," he explained.

Linsey plucked a segment from the orange and popped it into her mouth. Her eyes lit up. "Mmm," she hummed in

satisfaction. "It really is sweet."

She casually broke off another segment and offered it to Collin, who leaned in and took it from her fingers without

hesitation.

Kylee sat on the sofa, fuming silently as she observed their easy, intimate interaction.

After a tense silence, Kylee cleared her throat, desperate to break the spell. "Oh, Collin," she began, forcing a bright smile. "I just remembered something I wanted to discuss with you."

"Go ahead," Collin replied, his attention still focused on Linsey.

Kylee feigned hesitation, glancing at Linsey. "Well..." she began, her voice dropping to a conspiratorial whisper. "I'm not sure if it's appropriate to discuss in front of Linsey."

Linsey looked up, her brow furrowed in confusion.

Collin's brow furrowed slightly. "Just spit it out, Kylee."

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Chapter 189 You're Welcome To Stay Here

Emboldened by his response, Kylee finally revealed her motive for visiting. "I came here today hoping I could impose on you for a short stay. My return to the country has unfortunately attracted a lot of unwanted attention online. The paparazzi have exposed all of my properties, and even my parents' home is constantly surrounded. I'm quite frightened to go back-I don't want to cause them any more distress."

She then continued, "I know Vista Villa is very private and secure; the paparazzi won't be able to find me here. I was hoping I could stay here for a few days."

Kylee sighed helplessly. "However, I wasn't aware you were married before I arrived. Now I'm concerned that Linsey might object. Perhaps I should consider alternative arrangements. I could always stay at a hotel."

Upon hearing this, Linsey remembered a news article she had come across earlier while conducting some research.

The renowned actress Kylee had once found herself in a perilous situation due to the relentless harassment of the

paparazzi.

Some paparazzi were known to cross any line in pursuit of a sensational story.

It couldn't be easy for a woman like Kylee to endure such constant scrutiny and intrusion.

Therefore, Linsey responded, "I don't mind at all. You're welcome to stay here." Kylee was surprised by Linsey's immediate agreement and beamed with delight. "Truly?"

She turned her gaze back to Collin, her eyes filled with hope.

Collin glanced at Linsey, confirming her sincerity before responding, "Since Linsey has no objections, you're welcome to stay. Our bedroom is on the second floor. There are numerous guest rooms on the first floor. Choose whichever one you

prefer, and I'll have the staff prepare it for you."

"Thank you," Kylee replied with a grateful smile.

Dinnertime arrived soon after, and the three of them gathered at the table to eat.

Linsey picked up some food with her chopsticks, intending to place it in Collin's bowl. "Have some more," she encouraged.

"Hold on!" Kylee abruptly interrupted.

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Recommended for you

Chapter 190 Collin, You Can't Tolerate Spicy Food

"What's the matter?" Linsey asked, surprised.

Kylee interjected, her voice tinged with concern. "Collin doesn't really care for spicy chicken wings. Perhaps you should offer him something else."

Linsey's hand froze mid-air, and she instinctively turned towards Collin, anticipating his response.

Collin smiled warmly, putting the chicken wing Linsey had intended to serve him onto his plate. "I appreciate the gesture, Linsey," he said. "I'm sure I'll enjoy whatever you choose for me."

Kylee's anxiety, however, was palpable. She frowned at Collin, her voice laced with worry. "Collin, you can't tolerate spicy food. You even have a mild allergy to chili peppers. It's really not worth the risk."

Without waiting for a reply, Kylee swiftly removed the chicken wing from Collin's plate.

A residue of chili oil, however, remained on the edges of the plate.

Kylee's expression hardened as she turned to address a nearby servant. "Bring a clean plate, please," she instructed.

The servant hesitated momentarily, glancing at Linsey, before acknowledging the request and heading towards the kitchen.

Collin's brow furrowed slightly, his annoyance at Kylee's interference apparent, though he managed to maintain his

composure.

Turning towards Linsey, who appeared somewhat flustered, he offered a gentle reassurance. "Don't worry, Linsey. I can

handle a bit of spice."

As if to emphasize his point, he reached for a chicken wing.

Linsey, startled by his defiance, swiftly moved the plate of chicken wings out of his reach. "Don't eat it, Collin," she insisted.

Her expression betrayed a lingering fear. "You're allergic to chili peppers," she scolded. "Why didn't you tell me?"

Linsey had a particular fondness for spicy food. It dawned on her that, despite having shared numerous meals with Collin, she had never noticed him consuming anything containing chili peppers.

This realization filled her with guilt.

She recalled the last time Dolores had visited the villa for dinner; Collin had already been well-acquainted with Linsey's

culinary preferences.

She, on the other hand, had been oblivious to such a crucial detail as Collin's allergy.

The more she dwelled on it, the more she berated herself.

Noticing her distress, Collin set down his fork and gently took her hand in his. "It's really not a big deal, Linsey. I didn't

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Chapter 190 Collin, You Can't Tolerate Spicy Food

even think twice about it, so you really shouldn't blame yourself."

Kylee's expression momentarily clouded over as she observed their intertwined hands.

Kylee feigned concern, her lips tightening into a worried frown. "Collin, you know, allergies can be quite serious. In some cases, they can even be life-threatening."

She then turned to the servants, her voice laced with reproach. "Why didn't any of you inform Linsey about Collin's allergy? He might be careless about his own well-being, but you should know better!"

Linsey's cheeks burned with shame. It was a stark reminder that despite their growing intimacy, she still had much to learn

about Collin.

Kylee, noticing Linsey's discomfort, felt a thrill of victory. Seizing the opportunity, she piled more food onto Collin's plate.

"Here, Collin, have some more fish. I remember it's your favorite," she said sweetly.

Kylee turned to Linsey, a sugary smile plastered on her face that didn't quite reach her eyes. "Linsey, don't worry about it.

You and Collin haven't been married long. It's perfectly natural that you wouldn't know all his likes and dislikes yet. But

I've known Collin since we were children. I know him like the back of my hand. And since I'll be staying at Vista Villa for

a while, please don't hesitate to ask if there's anything you need help with."

Linsey's emotions were a tangled mess as she looked at Kylee's beaming face. She simply nodded absently, unable to find the words to respond.

The remainder of the meal passed in strained silence.

As Linsey rose from her seat, intending to assist Collin with his customary after- dinner stroll, Kylee interrupted. "Collin, wait! I have something for you. I think you'll really like it."

Kylee retrieved an elegantly wrapped gift box and presented it to Collin with a flourish.

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