

Blind Date 31

[Chapter 31](#)

Family Heirloom

The maids at Russell Mansion knew that Henry was going to be discharged, so they made a scrumptious dinner.

This was Josie's second meal with Henry. She was not as nervous as before now that she knew Henry cared about her genuinely.

After dinner, he called both of them to his study.

He was a Buddhist, so he lit an incense that smelled nice.

Josie was still looking around the familiar surroundings. I feel like I've been here before.

Dexter grabbed her hand. "What's wrong?"

"This place looks familiar. Perhaps I've seen similar designs in some books. Just ignored me," she replied uncertainly.

At that moment, Henry took out a vintage box and motioned for Josie to sit.

"Your grandma left this for you. Before she died, she was hoping to see Dexter get married. Unfortunately..."

"Grandpa—"

"There's a jade bracelet in it. It has been passed down since your great-great-grandmother. It was with Dex's mother before this, but there were some accidents... Josie, it's time to pass it to you now."

He opened the box, revealing a beautiful jade bangle that shone brightly. It was apparent that it cost a lot of money.

It was out of Josie's expectations to receive such an invaluable gift. She quickly rejected him. "No, no. I can't take such an important item. Grandpa, just keep it as it is."

Henry spoke seriously. "Before my wife died, she made me promise to hand this over to Dexter's future wife. You're his wife now – you're entirely entitled to this."

Yes, but I'm not actually his wife! I can't take this!

She shot a helpless glance at Dexter and pulled his sleeves. Say something!

He felt that he had been smiling too much lately. Josie's eyes were slightly red, looking like a timid rabbit.

"Just take it," he replied.

Do you know what you're talking about?

Dexter held her wrist and put it on her. The jade had a great contrast against her fair hands.

"Is there anything my wife can't take? You're implying that you don't want to be my wife by rejecting this," he said calmly, rendering Josie speechless.

She couldn't refute him in front of Henry.

What about our act? He's not following the script at all!

"That's right." Henry was over the moon upon seeing that. "Even if my granddaughter-in-law wants the moon, we will get it for her."

Josie was still struggling against Dexter. He shot him a glance. "The jade will look prettier if you wear it often. Just keep it with you."

"Alright, then." I definitely can't take this. I have to return it to him later.

Rain started pouring down outside.

Josie ran to the balcony and saw the downpour accompanied by some lightning.

She looked at Dexter worriedly. "It's raining."

"Yeah. It looks like it's not going to stop anytime soon." Henry waved. "You guys don't have to hurry back. It's unsafe to drive in this weather anyway. Just stay the night."

Her fears had come true.

Dexter didn't have any objections. "Let's do that."

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Spending the Night Together

After Josie greeted Henry, she chased after Dexter and grabbed his arm. She spoke in a low voice, "Mr. Russell, why are we staying?"

Dexter glanced outside and replied, "Do you want to be struck by lightning?"

Josie was stumped before she said, "But do you know what staying back means? I will be entering your territory. Don't you hate it when I enter your room?" The two cannot sleep in separate rooms under Henry's surveillance.

So this was what she was worried about.

Dexter was amused when he saw her acting awkwardly. He deliberately teased her. "It's alright. This isn't Mason Garden. I'll allow it."

Before Josie could refute it, a maid walked over towards them with a blanket in her arms. She said gently, "Please follow me."

"Ah..."

She opened the door and explained with a smile, "Although Dex seldom stays at home, we keep his room clean."

Josie braced herself and entered Dexter's bedroom. It had a Nordic-style design—clean and simple. It was just what he liked. His huge bed looked comfortable.

He seemed to get along with the people here very well since they called them 'Dex .'He did not put on airs.

This was Josie's first time entering her boss' private space. She felt a little afraid, yet bizarre at the same time.

"Thank you, Marilyn. I will do the rest." Dexter spoke, saving Josie from the awkwardness.

Marilyn nodded and glanced at the two youngsters teasingly before she left.

Josie felt the urge to hide.

Dexter patted Josie's head, amused. He said, "I'll shower first "

I'll shower first. It sounded like part of a conversation a new couple would have before experiencing their first intimacy!

Josie blinked, "What about me?"

Dexter frowned.

"I mean, what about me after you've showered? I didn't bring any clothes." She needed a shower. It had been a long day.

"Good question."

An hour later, Josie opened the bathroom door quietly. "Mr. Russell, can you switch off the lights?"

The man was lying on the bed in his pajamas after a shower. He was reading the news. He raised his eyes and replied, "No one would bother to look at you. Your figure is not that sexy anyway."

Josie could not help but lower her head and look at herself. She was wearing Dexter's shirt. But it was so short that it barely covered her legs. A slight movement would expose her underwear.

"... Well... My legs....."

Dexter faintly smiled as he raised his hands to switch off the lights. The room turned dark instantly. Josie took a deep breath before walking out of the bathroom. "Mr. Russell, where should I sleep?"

There was only one bed in the room.

"I don't mind if you sleep on the floor."

Josie quickly climbed up the bed and hid under the blanket. She curled herself up in one corner and said, "I'm sorry, Mr. Russell! We should each have half of the bed! Whoever passes the center is a twit!"

Dexter narrowed his eyes. He was used to being called 'Dex' all night. He suddenly felt uneasy when he heard her call him 'Mr. Russell'.

"Go to sleep." He paused a while before he continued, "Don't worry. I'm not interested in you."

But Josie could not sleep.

She had never slept with a man her whole life.

Moreover, Dexter smelled nice. This is weird. We used the same shower cream. Why does his smell exceptionally pleasant? Josie gripped tightly onto the blanket. She could hear her own heart pounding wildly.

“Mr., Mr. Russell... Are you asleep?” She dared not move.

“Yes?”

[Chapter 33](#)

A Forbidden Sight

Dexter’s voice was hoarse from, perhaps, sleepiness.

Josie’s ears were burning from embarrassment.

“I should return this bangle to you. It is too expensive. I worry I will spoil it.”

“Grandpa gave it to you. Do you want to make him sad?”

Josie sighed. “Then I shall return it to you when we get divorced.”

Dexter paused. He suddenly felt annoyed even though the divorce was expected.

“This jade bangle is an antique from the last century. It is so pure that you will never find a third one in this country. You could buy an island with it.”

Josie almost fell out of bed when she heard Dexter’s words.

She would never be able to pay for it even if she sold herself.

“So you will have to take responsibility if you damage it.”

He is a devil.

Josie had felt a little touched initially. But now, she only felt like sleeping. “Goodnight, Mr. Russell.”

She was met with silence.

The next morning.

The first person Josie saw when she opened her eyes was Dexter. The man’s face looked huge. She did not notice anything strange as she croaked, “Good morning, Mr. Russell.”

Dexter did not respond.

Josie took a few seconds to realize that there was skin underneath her hand. She rubbed against it for a bit before a thought got through her head.

She was hugging Dexter with a leg wrapped over his waist! She was treating him like a doll. The ‘doll’s’ face was dark. He was obviously unhappy about the treatment he was receiving.

"Whoever passes the center is a twit? Josie, do you feel comfortable lying on my body?" The man sounded annoyed.

He had always hated intimacy with women.

Josie quickly got away and apologized, "I'm... I'm sorry! I did not do that on purpose. I forgot to tell you that I move a lot when sleep..."

Only then, Dexter sat up. Just as he was about to lash out, he accidentally saw her body through her shirt's rolled-up sleeves. He quickly looked away as he blushed hard.

"Pig."

Immediately after speaking, he locked himself in the bathroom and started freshening himself up. Josie did not see Dexter out of breath as he looked into the mirror at himself.

This is impossible. Why would I be aroused by her...

Josie, on the other hand, just realized what Dexter saw. She shrieked in utter embarrassment.

"Ah!"

The two of them did not talk to each other.

"Why aren't the two of you talking?"

Henry asked Dexter and Josie at the dining table. He could feel that something was going on between them.

Josie buried her face in her bowl. She did not dare raise her head and look at Dexter. She replied dully, "It's nothing, Grandpa. I'm just still sleepy."

God save me! I'm still single, but Dexter has seen my naked body! Am I still pure?

Josie simply ate a few mouthfuls, then excused herself after exchanging pleasantries. "Grandpa, I must hurry to work, or I'll be late!"

"Hey!"

Dexter took his car keys and said, "I'm heading to work too." The image of him chasing after Josie made him seem younger.

Marilyn smiled as she watched Dexter leave. "Dex has changed ever since he got together with Jo."

"The kid needed a companion."

Josie got into Dexter's car.

She curled herself up in a corner to distance herself from Dexter.

"Why are you acting shy? I'm the one who was being taken advantage of, Miss."

"Who, who's acting shy? Moreover, it's different for males and females. You only got hugged for a short moment, whereas I lost my purity!" Josie held her face in her hands as she cried distressfully.

[Chapter 34](#)

Overboard

Dexter laughed, "Josie, have you never?"

Josie wished so hard that she didn't understand what Dexter was referring to... But she could not pretend that she didn't understand. That would mean she had lost.

"Who told you that? Of course, I have!"

Dexter's smile slowly faded away. His face darkened.

He merely hummed in response a few moments later. Then, he started speeding so fast that the seatbelt tightened over Josie's body. It was painful, but Josie dared not voice out.

This man's feelings were written all over his face and actions.

On the twenty-seventh floor at Russell Group.

Josie walked out of the elevator gloomily. She bumped into Alice by coincidence. Alice greeted her enthusiastically, "Morning!"

"Morning..."

"What's the matter with you? Why do you look lifeless? You should have had a good night's sleep since Samantha left."

"Unfortunately, I was in the wolf's den last night."

Alice did not get Josie's meaning. However, the bangle on Josie's wrist caught her eye. She widened her eyes and exclaimed in disbelief. "Josie!"

Everyone around them was startled by Alice's cry. Josie almost jumped in fright, too, out of guilt, "What's wrong?"

"What is on your wrist?"

Everyone stared at Josie's wrist when they heard Alice's question. The expensive bangle was very eye-catching on Josie's fair wrist. As designers, everyone noticed the quality of the bangle at once.

"Wow, Josie!"

Josie's heart started pounding wildly again. It seemed to be on a roller coaster ride today.

She tried hard to maintain her calm as she said, "Why are you all giving me that look? I wouldn't be able to afford such an expensive item. This is a fake! It looks real, doesn't it?"

It was pretty convincing indeed, as Josie had always been stingy.

"Well, its workmanship is quite good."

"I knew it! It couldn't be real. Although you look good in it, you can still only wear a fake." Claire spoke. She was also from the design department.

Since Samantha left, everyone was guessing if Josie or Claire would be the next director. They were the top designers in the department.

Claire was the leader of Group A. She had a higher chance of getting picked.

But Josie's performance yesterday was outstanding. She stood a chance too.

Alice wanted to speak up for Josie, but Josie stopped her. "It's fine. There's no need to continue this conversation. Let's start work."

Alice sighed and looked at Josie's wrist again. But her look stopped at Josie's hand this time. "Hey, why is there a ring on your finger? Is that real? It isn't fake, too, is it? Why have you been wearing jewelry recently... Wait, isn't this your wedding ring?"

Oh yeah.

Dexter insisted that she wore her wedding ring yesterday when they met Henry. She had forgotten to take it off after.

Josie nodded embarrassedly, "Well, it's just some handicraft. I'm wearing it for fun."

When everyone left, Josie took off the ring. She had a headache. The bangle was too eye-catching. She could not keep explaining to everyone who asked. She had to find a place to hide it.

Ivy witnessed the whole scene at the design department this morning.

She had felt uneasy when she heard from Lucy about what had happened yesterday. Ivy had a hunch that something was going on between Dexter and Josie. She did not expect to see this as soon as she arrived at the twenty-seventh floor this morning when she reached Russell Group.

Jade bangle, ring...

An employee who happened to pass by greeted her, "Ms. Miller, what brings you to our floor? Did Mr. Russell send you here?"

The whole of Russell Group knew how important Ivy was to Dexter. She had been working with Russell Group before it started expanding. She had a lot of authority in Russell Group, so everyone who met her was sure to be polite to her.

Ivy regained her consciousness and replied, "It's nothing. I'm just looking around. I'm going up first."

[Chapter 35](#)

Is He Married?

Dexter arrived at his office early today, even before Ivy had prepared his breakfast.

Ivy panicked for a moment. She hurriedly prepared some toast. This was what she made for Dexter daily. He was always too busy to take care of his meals.

"Mr. Russell, I'm sorry, I arrived late today. This is your breakfast." Ivy said carefully.

Dexter was expressionless as he studied the financial reports for the first quarter of the year.

"I'm early today. I've eaten. You can have it."

Eaten? Ivy was a little surprised. "... Okay."

She picked up the plate and peeked at Dexter. Just at that moment, she saw a ring on his finger!

It was on his ring finger.

Its meaning was clear.

Ivy lost concentration for a moment. The plate in her hand slipped and fell onto the ground. Hot coffee spilled all over her. "Ah!"

Only then did Dexter raise his eyes to look at Ivy. He frowned in dismay. "What's the matter?"

She has always been steady and rarely made such elementary mistakes. What is wrong with her today?

"I'm sorry, Mr. Russell. I did not sleep well last night. I lost myself for a moment. I shall ask someone to get this cleaned immediately."

Dexter was a little annoyed. "Go. You can ask for sick leave the next time you feel unwell."

He had always been like this; empathetic yet strict, kind yet cold. He was a professional at work.

Ivy stood still. Her eyes reddened, and she started to tremble.

"What's wrong? Is there anything else?" Dexter frowned even harder.

"No, Mr. Russell. I'm just a little surprised. This is my first time seeing you wear a ring... Do you have any good news to share about your private life?"

Ivy tried to hold herself back from crying. Although she knew Dexter hated others prying into his private life, she still asked wryly with a smile.

It was the first time she felt her position threatened after so many years of being by his side.

Only then did Dexter notice the ring on his finger. He was taken aback. He had forgotten to take it off. He had no plans to tell anyone about his marriage. But since someone he trusted found out, there was no point in hiding it anymore.

"Yes." He admitted frankly. "I'm married. It's a secret marriage. No one knows about this. You are the first. I do not plan to make it known to others. Do you understand?"

The first... Ivy could barely breathe. This hurt more than killing her. Why did he get married all of a sudden...

"I understand... But I've never seen you being close to any woman before. Why did you get married suddenly? I don't understand."

Ivy was so obsessed with Dexter that she crossed the line.

Dexter crossed his arms in front of his body. His eyes were cold and full of dissatisfaction. "Ivy, you are acting unprofessional today."

"I'm sorry. I will call someone to come clean the place right away." She walked out quickly and closed the door after her. Tears streamed down her face.

She had been too professional all these years, so she had no opportunity to get close to him. She thought she understood him the most, yet she did not even know that he was married!

Ivy closed her eyes in despair. At this moment, the image of his ring appeared in her mind. She opened her eyes suddenly. Wait!

I have seen that ring before...

Where did I see it?

Ivy's chest heaved heavily as a figure appeared in her mind. It was someone she had met half an hour ago.

She took a step back. She could not accept it. How could it be? How could it be?

Josie?

She had been in Russell Group for so many years. Yet she never had the chance to interact with Dexter. Even if she did, it was just during these past few days. How can it be her?

[Chapter 36](#)

It Is Josie

The project had to go on even though Samantha had left.

Naturally, Josie took charge of the mess. But she changed the design because she didn't want her reputation to be tarnished.

Sure enough, the design was approved, and payment was made swiftly by the satisfied client.

The whole design department was discussing the vacant director's position. They wondered if Josie or Claire would succeed in the role since both were capable and had been with Russell Group for quite a long time.

Josie did not seem interested when Alice got to the topic. She said, "I don't want to be the director. Being the director is too hustling for me."

"Why are you so unambitious? Aren't you trying to make money for your father's medical bills? You'll make much more money if you become the director."

Medical bills... With Dexter looking out for Paul, he had the best medical team assigned to him. She did not have to worry about him anymore. But she suddenly thought of the possibility that Dexter might not need her one day and would divorce her.

She would be left with nothing.

"Thank you for reminding me. I will try my best and show my worth!"

At the pantry in the design department.

Lucy handed a cup of coffee to Ivy. She glanced in the direction Ivy was looking at. Josie was busy with work.

“Why are you so obsessed with Josie lately, Ivy? She is just someone who plagiarizes. Do you feel threatened by her too?”

Ivy’s face darkened. This woman was quite good-looking, although not particularly beautiful. How was it possible for her to be married to Dexter? She comforted herself. Perhaps their rings are just a coincidence.

The ring on Josie’s finger was gone. She had no chance to affirm her guess anymore.

“Mr. Russell wants me to keep an eye on her. She is capable and has a bright future ahead.” Ivy took a sip of coffee and lied calmly.

“Mr. Russell told you to do so? Ivy, are the rumors true? Is she hooking up with Mr. Russell?” Lucy was excited.

Ivy froze.

But Lucy quickly denied her negative thoughts. “How could Mr. Russell possibly fall in love with her? She’s a married woman. Who would want her?”

This was new to Ivy. She quickly put down her coffee and asked, “What did you say? She’s married?”

Lucy looked shocked as she explained, “Yes, we found out last week. She hid it really well. She has been married for years, yet no one knew!”

“When did she get married? Who is her husband?”

“This... She didn’t tell us. We don’t know either...”

Ivy took a deep breath and went straight to the point. “Did you say you found out she was married last week?”

“Yeap.”

Dexter started having interactions with Josie recently too... How could there be such coincidences in the world?

Ivy felt more and more threatened. She was sure that Dexter’s bride was Josie!

It was almost time to finish work.

Josie tidied her stuff and was ready to get off work on time. She never worked overtime.

At that moment, Lucy passed by with some documents in her arms. She smiled, “Josie, the design department is having a gathering dinner this weekend. Would you like to bring your husband along? We haven’t met your husband, although you married long ago.”

Was there a rule that one must bring their husband to meet their colleagues?

Someone chirped in before Josie could reply. "Yeah. He doesn't come to pick you up after work too. He's so ungentlemanlike."

"Perhaps she doesn't even have a husband?"

Josie rolled her eyes. She wanted to tell them so badly that they had already seen him. They wouldn't even dare talk to him if he stood before them.

She thought for a while, then chuckled, "Well, my husband is quite sick. It is inconvenient for him to follow me out."

Chapter 37

Caught Red Handed

"Sick?" Her colleagues exchanged glances.

Josie initially did not want to create untrue stories about Dexter. But when she thought about how he took advantage of her this morning, she wanted to get back at him!

So she lied with a straight face. "Yeah, my husband has been kind of crippled since he was young, so he doesn't like meeting people. Well, you know what men are like. They don't like to feel inferior."

As soon as Josie finished speaking, everyone was quiet. Their eyes were full of sympathy. Claire sneered, "You are such a saint for being willing to put the rest of your life in his hands."

"Well, he loves me so much that he is willing to sacrifice his life for me. Love is wonderful. I only married him because we matched each other!"

Josie cupped her face with both her hands. She trembled while trying to hold herself back from laughing as she imagined Dexter being crazy about her.

"Mr.... Mr. Russell... Are you getting off work?" Alice's voice trembled as she looked behind Josie.

Josie was still smiling as she responded. "Mr. Russell? What about Mr. Russell?"

However, as soon as she turned around, she saw Dexter in front of her.

He looked gloomy, like usual.

His hands were in the pockets of his tight black trousers. Josie felt slightly pressured when he looked at her from a higher angle.

Josie took a step back in surprise, but she accidentally tripped over the chair and fell awkwardly.

A chorus of laughter suddenly burst out in the office.

God save me! Why do weird things like this happen every day since I met Dexter?

Dexter glanced at the woman on the ground. A sparkle glinted in his eyes as he answered Alice, "I just happened to pass by. You all can get off work."

He left as soon as he finished speaking. Ivy, who was behind him, hurried to catch up. After taking a few steps forward, he turned around. Josie had just gotten up and was rubbing her wrist.

Ivy's eyes turned dim.

Dexter had a business dinner tonight. He brought Phil along with him. Phil was one of the senior employees in Russell Group whom he trusted.

When the meeting ended, Dexter asked, "There's a vacancy in the design department. I don't think leaving it vacant for long is a good idea. Do you have any suggested candidate for it?"

The question took Phil by surprise. He thought hard about it.

Since the day Dexter asked him to give Josie a hand, he had guessed that something was going on between them.

Dexter studied Phil's expression under the bright moonlight. "Just tell me your thoughts. You don't have to have the same opinion as I do."

"...I think Claire is quite competent. Josie is brave and responsible. However, she only started to stand out recently. Compared to Claire, she is less experienced and has poorer results. On the other hand, Claire has secured many projects for Russell Group over these years and gotten a lot of awards. So I think Claire is better than Josie."

Phil studied Dexter's face carefully as he spoke. He was afraid that his opinion would offend Dexter.

Although Dexter was younger than Phil, he still made Phil feel oppressed.

"Then?"

Phil did not understand. "Then... What?"

Dexter's tone grew cold. "You mentioned Josie's flaws but didn't mention Claire's."

Phil was stunned. Ivy, who had witnessed the whole thing all the while, spoke up for Phil, "What Mr. Yves said is quite right. However, we cannot let an incident like Samantha's repeat. Moral values are important too."

Ivy glanced at Dexter after she finished speaking. The man was staring far into the distance. He was still buried in his thoughts.

Based on Ivy's understanding of Dexter, he kept a clear boundary between work and personal life.

[Chapter 38](#)

Making Him Supper

Dexter's Porsche flew fast and smoothly.

Phil's forehead was covered in sweat. "Ms. Miller, did I say anything wrong just now?"

Ivy crossed her arms in front of her. Her face was gloomy as she answered, "Don't worry. Just stick to your answer if Mr. Russell asks you the same question. He's always serious at work. He will not take it personally."

"I know." Phil still felt uneasy. "But Josie and Mr. Russell, they seem..."

“No!” Ivy interrupted suddenly. “Mr. Russell doesn’t pick on people. He focuses on the matters itself.”

She could pry into the truth and act as if nothing had happened. But it was different for others. She would not allow anyone else to know Jodie’s relationship with Dexter!

“Okay...”

It was the weekend tomorrow. Jodie did not plan to sleep early. She made supper with Julie to pass the time.

Julie nodded enthusiastically. “Mrs. Russell, you are an expert in the kitchen. It looks delicious.”

Josie nodded proudly, “I grew up in a less fortunate family. I lived from hand to mouth, so I made my meals to save money. I learned how to cook in time.”

Jenny never did any chores. Most of the time, it was Paul who cooked. But Josie did not want Paul to get too exhausted from both work and home, so she did most of the chores at home.

Josie poured the drink she had made into a glass. She glanced outside, but she did not see anyone.

“Julie, does Mr. Russell often come back this late?” She had never seen Dexter come home early after staying at his place for so long.

“Yeah. Mr. Russell is always busy with work. Sometimes, he only gets home in the early morning. Before you moved in, he would sleep in hotels whenever he got drunk outside.”

This sounded weird to Josie, but she did not want to overthink it. She did not like to think after work.

No wonder Dexter was so successful. He worked very hard.

“Mrs. Russell.” Julie nudged Josie and winked at her. “You made so many delicious dishes tonight. You must have done all this for Mr. Russell, right?”

“Well... That’s quite right...”

Luckily it was Dexter, so she still had the chance to make it up and apologize to him. If it were any other men, they would have divorced her if they heard her say they were disabled!

She recalled the look in Dexter’s eyes back then...

At this moment, Josie heard the car engine revving into the garden.

Julie took the dessert and beverages and brought them out. “Mr. Russell. You’re back. Mrs. Russell made you these for supper.”

Dexter’s initially cold eyes sparkled with surprise. The dining table was full of exquisite food, and they smelled good.

He raised his head and saw Josie running out of the kitchen while taking off her apron.

“You... You’re back.”

Julie and the maids excused themselves, leaving Josie and Dexter alone.

"You made these?" Dexter was surprised.

"Yes, but Julie and the others gave me a hand. Would you like to try some? I made this strawberry cake, mango crepe, and chocolate truffles. I promise they're better than the ones you buy outside!"

"I don't do desserts."

Josie was embarrassed.

"... I didn't know. I wanted to show appreciation to you. That's why I made a table full of food for you. But you came home late, so I could only make you supper." She lowered her head, wishing that there was a place to hide.

"Josie," Dexter said in a low voice. He suddenly noticed how short she was. "Are you trying to cheer me up?"

Josie immediately raised her head and waved her hands vigorously. "No, no. I'm trying to make it up to you. I said some... demeaning words about you just now. I hope you won't take it to heart. I will not do it again!"

She did not look flirtatious at all. She just looked sincere in her apology!

[Chapter 39](#)

Focus on Work

She really cannot afford to lose her job!

Dexter folded his arms in front of his chest. The look on his face was cold and aloof. "I remember giving you information about myself when you moved in. It is stated that I don't take desserts. Don't you know how much trouble you'd cause if this scene happened outside?"

Josie lowered her head while she was being nagged. She had forgotten that only Henry knew that they were married.

They seemed more like a superior and a subordinate now.

"Mr. Russell, the information..."

"You should spend more effort and time on your job."

Dexter interrupted her before she could finish. He walked past her and went upstairs. She could smell the stench of alcohol on him.

Josie sat on the sofa, frustrated. She had lost her appetite.

Was he implying that getting to know him was her job?

Her efforts were taken for granted! Why would someone not love desserts? Life was already so stressful, and only sweets could make one feel better...

"Whatever. I'll eat it if you don't want to." Josie murmured. She picked up the cake on the table and started digging into it. The sweetness of the cake dissolved in her mouth. However, she still felt irritated.

Why did you have to be so mean? I was purely joking just now. Nobody knows you're my husband anyway!

He wasn't like this at Russell Mansion yesterday.

The tall man stood in the corridor on the second floor. He glanced down and saw the little woman sitting on the sofa. Her cheeks moved as she ate.

When she finally got tired from eating, she froze for a while. She seemed aggrieved and was trying to calm herself down.

Dexter frowned hard. His heart sank.

He did not intend to speak so harshly to her. But he had to. He wanted her to work harder so that she could become the director of the design department.

Then he wouldn't need to worry about her that much.

Josie seemed to feel his stare. She turned around and looked in Dexter's direction. There was still cream on the side of her mouth. Dexter took a step backward and hid in the dark.

Josie did not see anyone. She thought she was mistaken, so she got up and cleared the table. She needed to refresh herself to feel better.

The next day.

It was the weekend, but Josie had gotten up early for a part-time job at the mall. She was working as an actor in an escape room. They paid her two hundred a day.

She didn't go for her part-time job last week because of Dexter. When she was finally done with her ghost makeup, her phone rang. It was a call from the hospital. It startled Josie, but she quickly

answered it. "Hello, Dr. Sander? Is everything well with my dad?"

It was noisy at the other end of the phone. Matthew hesitated a while before answering Josie. "Jo, you should come to the hospital."

Jenny was at the hospital.

She could not reach Josie these few days. She had guessed that Josie would come to visit Paul at the hospital on weekends, so she was waiting there. However, she was surprised that the hospital did not ask her for any payment when she arrived. In addition, Paul was transferred to the VIP suite!

The nurse spoke gently, "Your child paid two hundred thousand for the medical bills."

Jenny was infuriated immediately.

It turned out that Josie had money. She just didn't want to give her any!

Jenny quickly pestered the nurse to return the balance of the medical bill. She told the nurse that there was an emergency at home and she needed the money.

"If you don't return me the balance, I will sit here and wait! I will not leave!"

The huge fuss she caused attracted many people. Matthew heard the commotion from his room, so he walked out to see what was happening. It was then he saw Jenny on the floor, demanding money.

Chapter 40

A Slap

Josie rushed to the hospital as fast as she could, attracting a lot of curious stares.

“Dr. Sander! She pushed through the crowd and grabbed Matthew’s arm. “What’s going on?”

Matthews raised his eyebrows gently and traced his finger along her face. “Your makeup...”

Josie looked embarrassed, “I’m sorry. I was in such a hurry that I didn’t have time to remove it. Where is she?”

“The security just brought her away. Don’t worry. I didn’t return her the balance.”

Josie was relieved to hear that. She patted her chest. “Great. Thank you so much.”

“My stepmother... is a little blinded by money. I’m really sorry for causing the hospital trouble. Sorry.”

“You don’t have to apologize for that. Although I’m not your father’s doctor now, I know you and your family well. You don’t have to feel embarrassed in front of me.”

Matthew patted her shoulder gently.

At that moment, Josie sat on the chair along the corridor. She spoke to Matthew gratefully. “Luckily, you were here today. No, luckily, you were here all these years. I love listening to you. You have always given me strength, unlike some other people...”

Mathew smiled as he looked at Josie. She still looked cute to him, although she was wearing a ghost’s makeup.

“Well, do you want to go see your stepmother?”

Josie got up from her chair, exhausted. After taking a few steps, she realized that Matthew was following her.

“Dr. Sander, are you not at work?”

“I changed my slots with a colleague before you arrived. Don’t worry.”

Josie felt relieved to have a man accompany her. She was grateful to Matthew.

At this moment, Jenny was being scolded by security in the surveillance room. “Do you think that the hospital is your home? That you can do whatever you want here?”

Jenny raised her head and saw two people walking into the room. She quickly shouted out loud, “Josie!”

“Sir, this is my daughter. Please let me go!”

The security turned around and saw a woman in weird makeup. “Are you her daughter?”

“Stepdaughter.” Josie corrected him.

“Well, even if you were adopted, I took care of you all these years. You ungrateful wrench! How could you tell us you have no money for your brother’s wedding when you can pay two hundred thousand for this dying man? If I knew you would be so ungrateful, I would have starved you to death back then!”

Josie watched the woman go crazy.

She remembered Paul telling her that it was an arranged marriage. But how could there be no feelings between them after having been married for so many years? Jenny even thought of giving up her husband’s life so that her son could get married.

Such cruelty.

“Enough!” Josie shouted. “Let me tell you the truth. That two hundred thousand does not belong to me. I do not have any money. I only have my life if you want it.”

Jenny suddenly became anxious. She quickly rushed up to Josie and scratched her face. “Whose money is it if not yours? Oh, is it the doctor’s? Did you marry him so he could support your father’s medical bills? Did you sleep with him to save that dying man?”

‘Slap!’

The slap was so hard Jenny’s face turned to one side. She held her cheek in her hand and gaped at the man in the white robe beside Josie with disbelief.

Josie was shocked too. She had known Matthew to be the gentlest man on Earth. He had never hit anyone before.

“Dr. Sander...”

“How dare you hit me!”

“The slap was for Josie. I did it since she did not dare to. You can call the police to report me. Let’s see if the police will charge you for false accusations!”

Jenny widened her eyes. She was at a loss for words.

Josie felt so much better. Her lips curled up into a smile as she added, “Do you want to continue to stay here, or do you want to stay at the station? You choose.”