

The Wife He Forgot to Marry (Winona and Yule)

Chapter 2

Like a soulless puppet, she stood there, watching them in a daze. Yulen had sworn countless times that she was the only woman he would ever love, the only one he would ever touch. His promises were so fragile.

Leaving the club in a stupor, Winona took a taxi to the Marriage Registry Office. After speaking with a clerk, the truth was confirmed: she and Yulen had no legal marriage. Before their wedding, Yulen had told her he was too busy to go to the registry office himself and would have someone handle the paperwork. She had trusted him without a second thought, never imagining he would have a fake certificate made. Five years of marriage, all a lie. His promises and his love were all lies.

After graduating from college, Winona had applied for a pharmaceutical research position at Locke Group. Yulen fell for her at first sight and pursued her relentlessly. As someone who didn't believe in marriage, she politely declined. But Yulen refused to give up, showering her with attention. On every major holiday, he would gift her a necklace he designed himself. His social media handle was an abbreviation of her name.

His blend of dominance and tenderness gradually wore down her defenses, though she refused to admit her feelings. Later, during a ski trip in Switzerland, they were caught in an avalanche. He shielded her with his own body, leaving her unharmed while he ended up in the ICU, unconscious for a month. From that moment on, she knew he was the one and began to love him as fiercely as he loved her.

Because she couldn't get pregnant, Yulen's mother had always been critical of her. To spare him the difficulty of being caught in the middle, she quit her job and threw herself into preparing for pregnancy. She took medication and endured daily injections, even when the injection sites became swollen and hard, and the hormones wreaked havoc on her body. She never gave up. When she finally conceived and was ready to share the wonderful news, he had given her this... 'surprise'.

She returned to the hospital and made a new appointment.

"Ma'am, are you certain you don't want to keep this child?" the doctor asked.

Winona touched her abdomen, her eyes numb as she nodded. Since Yulen had cheated, she was done with him, and she certainly wouldn't have his child.

“Alright,” the doctor said. “Let’s run some tests first. Once the results are in, we can discuss the surgical options.”

Winona took the forms, paid the fees, and went for the tests. While she was waiting for the results, a video call came in from Yulen. She was about to decline, but her hand slipped and she answered. Yulen’s handsome face filled the screen, his eyes as full of devotion as ever.

Noticing the hospital background, his voice filled with worry. “Winona, are you at the hospital? Are you not feeling well?”

Seeing his concern, Winona felt a flicker of confusion. She couldn't tell if he was genuinely worried or just a masterful actor. When she didn't answer, he grew more anxious, thinking she was in too much pain to speak. “Winona, I’m coming back right now. Wait for me.”

Remembering what he’d said in the private room, she wanted to reach through the screen and slap him. But she was afraid that if he came now, he would find out about the pregnancy and stop her from having the abortion. She forced herself to act normally. “You don’t need to come back. I’m fine. I’m just here with Rhea, she’s having some stomach issues. You should focus on your work. Don’t worry about me.”

Rhea Sheffield was Winona’s best friend. They often met for meals and chats, and Yulen had met her before.

Yulen relaxed upon hearing it was Rhea who was sick. “Okay, I understand,” he said gently. “But don’t wear yourself out. I’ll worry. How about this? I’ll wrap up my work early and be back this weekend. Wait for me.”

Winona scoffed inwardly, not believing a word, but her expression remained calm. “Okay, I’ll be waiting.”

“I love you, Winona.”

After hanging up, Winona collected her test results and returned to the doctor's office. The doctor frowned as she reviewed them. “Your uterine lining is thin, which already makes pregnancy difficult. If you have this procedure, it could cause permanent damage, and you might never be able to have children again. Are you still sure you want to have an abortion?”

Winona's heart clenched, and she instinctively covered her belly. If she gave up this child, would she lose her only chance to be a mother?

The doctor looked at her sympathetically. “Why don’t you take some more time to think about it? This is a major decision. You could discuss it with your family.”

Winona didn't know if she would regret this later. She could live without Yulen, but she didn't want to lose her chance to be a mother.

Walking out of the hospital, she looked up at the gray sky with a bitter smile. Just then, a car sped past, nearly knocking her over. A strong hand shot out and gripped her waist, steadying her. She looked up and met a pair of deep, piercing eyes.