

The Wife He Forgot to Marry (Winona and Yule)

Chapter 31

Stepping into the kitchen, Winona found Cora already washing rice. "What's for dinner tonight?" she asked.

Cora listed off a few dishes, all of which were Tallulah's favorites.

Over the past few days, Cora had picked up on the budding romance between Tallulah and Yulen, and she had been trying hard to curry favor with Tallulah by catering to her tastes.

After hearing the menu, Winona changed it completely.

Cora frowned. "I'm not sure that's a good idea, ma'am. These were the dishes Mr. Locke requested."

Winona's expression hardened. "Didn't Yulen say that I'm in charge of all household matters, including what we eat? Are you looking to be fired? Fine. You can collect your final wages and leave today."

Cora, who had never seen this side of her, was taken aback. "Alright," she stammered, intimidated. "I'll do as you say."

At dinner, Tallulah frowned at the spread of dishes.

Noticing that not a single one was to Tallulah's liking, Yulen called Cora over. "Didn't I tell you what Tallulah likes to eat?"

Cora cast a nervous glance at Winona.

Winona looked at Yulen with a bright smile. "I was suddenly craving these dishes tonight, so I had Cora make them. I had no idea you'd already asked her to cook Tallulah's favorites. In that case, let's just have Cora make a couple more dishes now."

Tallulah had no choice but to feign graciousness. "That's not necessary. I can eat these."

She picked up her fork and knife to cut a piece of fish, but before she could take a bite, a wave of nausea hit her. She covered her mouth and rushed to the bathroom.

Just as Yulen was about to follow, he caught Winona watching him.

"That's a pretty strong reaction," Winona mused aloud. "She's not pregnant, is she?"

A flicker of guilt crossed Yulen's eyes, but he quickly composed himself. "How could that be? She's still so young. It's impossible. She probably just ate something that disagreed with her. I'll go check on her."

Winona simply nodded.

Yulen found Tallulah heaving over the toilet. He brought a towel to wipe her face and then a glass of warm water.

Once she stopped vomiting, he helped her back to her room.

"Yulen, I feel so sick," Tallulah said, her voice thick with misery.

Seeing her pout and look so pitiful, Yulen couldn't help but feel that Winona had gone too far. In the past, Winona would have always put everyone else's preferences and feelings first, saving her own for last. What had changed?

Winona returned to their bedroom, and Yulen followed shortly after.

He looked at her and said suddenly, "Winona, are you still upset because you haven't gotten pregnant? How about we try for a baby tonight?"

He figured that if Winona got pregnant, she'd be in a better mood and have something else to focus on instead of dwelling on every little thing.

Winona found it laughable. He had no idea she was already pregnant with his child. But she would never tell him.

Yulen went into the bathroom to shower. When he came out, he saw Winona wearing a silk nightgown. The scar on her thigh was starkly visible, and he instinctively averted his gaze.

Because of that scar, Winona had always avoided wearing anything revealing, even in the summer. But now, she was deliberately wearing a short nightgown to avoid being intimate with him.

Even though she knew he was repulsed by her scar, seeing his reaction still sent a sharp pang through her heart.

Just then, Cora's anxious voice came from outside. "Mr. Locke, Ms. Shipley just fainted!"

A knot of fear tightened in Yulen's chest as he thought of the baby in her womb. "I'll go check on her," he said to Winona. "You go ahead and sleep."

Winona watched him hurry out, her expression perfectly calm.