

His kiss 1231

Chapter 1231

She recounted being hit by a car, how close she'd come to losing her eyesight, how Dr. Su had performed the surgery himself, and how her own mother had drugged her in an attempt to frame him.

"Kevin, I was just born into a bad situation, I guess. Bad luck. I used to think I owed my parents loyalty no matter what, but maybe I was wrong about that. I'm just grateful I didn't end up ruining Dr. Su's life in the process."

Having said everything, Aubrey looked visibly relieved.

"Dr. Su got dragged into my mess, and that's the only reason he agreed to marry me. If I betrayed him now, I'd never forgive myself for the rest of my life."

Kevin listened in silence, not saying a word.

Aubrey looked at him. "I've told you everything now."

Still, Kevin said nothing.

"Should I go?" she asked.

Kevin remained quiet, his lips trembling slightly, darker thoughts beginning to creep in at the edges of his mind.

Her nose stung with emotion as she turned and walked back toward Gabriela.

“Gabriela, let’s go.”

Long after they had left, Kevin remained seated in the exact same spot.

It wasn’t until a café employee approached to tell him they were closing that he finally moved.

He picked up his now-cold coffee and drank it all in one go.

It was bitter and harsh, leaving a chill behind in his chest.

This stuff really wasn’t for him.

A man with nothing but a high school diploma, and Aubrey, a graduate of a top university. They might as well have come from different planets.

The only reason he'd ever managed to win her over in the first place was because he'd scared off a group of men harassing her.

Now he'd lost her, because of another group of drunken men.

Except this time, it was a doctor who'd been the one to save her.

One argument, and it had cost him the only girlfriend he'd ever had.

Kevin stood, paid the bill, and left.

Once home, he quit his high-paying job and holed up in his dingy rented apartment, numbing himself with alcohol day after day, sinking deeper into hopelessness.

He knew exactly how useless he was.

The time he'd beaten up Aubrey's younger brother, it was only because Gabriela had stepped in that he'd avoided jail. And even then, her brother hadn't been the least bit intimidated by the beating. If anything, he'd escalated things further, causing Aubrey more trouble and even demanding she cover his medical bills.

In the end, it was Gabriela who'd gone to Tyler for help. Tyler had rounded up a couple dozen tough guys to corner the brother in an alley and teach him a proper lesson. Only then had he finally backed off.

No money. No skills.

And a sick mother waiting at home.

What right did he have to ask Aubrey to suffer alongside him for the rest of her life?

Kevin had given up on himself, resolving never to bother Aubrey again.

Then, one day, he was jolted awake by the shrill sound of his phone's notification tone.

Sunlight streamed through the window, stinging his eyes and leaving him momentarily dazed.

Chapter 1232

Suddenly he sat bolt upright, fully awake.

Today was Aubrey and Su Zhuoming's wedding day.

And here he was, wallowing in his own despair.

Was he really just going to let the woman he loved most marry someone else?

Especially when he knew, deep down, that Aubrey still loved him. She didn't truly love Su Zhuoming. She was marrying him purely out of gratitude.

He couldn't let this wedding happen.

Kevin showered immediately, scrubbing away the stench of alcohol, then went straight to a boutique and bought himself a tailored, high-end suit.

Finally, he got a sharp haircut.

Looking in the mirror now, he no longer looked like some broke loser.

He called Aubrey.

Since the night before, Aubrey had been feeling uneasy.

Having cut ties with her family, she was essentially alone now, like an orphan. Gabriela had suggested she be married from her home instead, so Aubrey had spent the night at the Jiang family estate. When she woke, she got dressed and did her makeup there, waiting for the groom to come pick her up.

The sudden ring of her phone startled her.

Seeing Kevin's name on the screen, she froze, a wave of dread washing over her.

In the room with her were Gabriela, Tessa, Cali, and Nina.

Gabriela noticed her panic and asked, "What's wrong?"

"It's Kevin," Aubrey said.

Cali and Nina exchanged glances.

Having worked alongside Aubrey longer, the two of them knew her ex-boyfriend fairly well.

Truthfully, neither of them thought badly of Kevin. Despite his perpetually grim expression and unremarkable job, he'd always been generous toward them, Aubrey's friends.

He'd treated them to meals more than once, and had struck them as principled, sharper than he looked, and fiercely loyal, the kind of man who wouldn't cheat or stray.

So when they'd heard Aubrey was suddenly marrying a doctor, they'd been genuinely surprised.

Which meant Kevin calling right now wasn't exactly unexpected.

The phone kept ringing. Nina finally said, "Just answer it. At least hear what he has to say."

Gabriela, however, gave Aubrey a measured look. "You've got about two hours before Dr. Su comes to pick you up. Before you answer that call, you'd better be sure of what you actually want."

It wasn't that Gabriela favored Su Zhuoming simply because he was Wesley's friend, or because his family background happened to be better.

She had warned Aubrey long before this, plainly: if her heart wasn't completely certain, she shouldn't go through with the wedding.

Be honest with Dr. Su. A man as kind and gentle as him deserved a clean ending, not a messy one.

Aubrey took a deep breath and nodded. "I understand."

She answered the phone.

Kevin's voice came through. "Where are you?"

Aubrey countered, "What are you planning to do?"

"You don't need to tell me where you are. I already know where Su Zhuoming's holding the wedding." Kevin's voice was resolute. "Just wait. I'm coming to crash it. I'm taking you away."

Chapter 1233

Aubrey gasped, her chest tightening. "Are you out of your mind? I told you everything that day!"

"I'm not crazy." His tone was almost detached, as if he were somewhere far away in his own head. "Aubrey, I saw it clearly that day. You still love me."

"You don't love that doctor. You're marrying him out of gratitude, nothing more."

"There are plenty of ways to repay someone. Marrying him isn't the only one. Aubrey, you're mine. I'm coming to take you away. I'll pay back the hundred and eight thousand dowry myself!"

A chill ran straight through Aubrey's chest.

If Kevin actually showed up and crashed the wedding, even if she refused to leave with him, the whole thing would turn into a public spectacle, humiliating Dr. Su in front of everyone who mattered to him.

Clenching her teeth, she steadied herself. "You're right. There are plenty of ways to repay a debt. So why do you think I'm marrying Dr. Su?"

"Because I love him."

Kevin's grip on his phone suddenly tightened.

"Say that again!"

Aubrey took a deep breath, then forced out the cruelest words she had ever spoken in her life, one deliberate word at a time.

"Kevin, Dr. Su comes from a well-off, harmonious family, and his career is excellent. His parents are warm, kind people who treat me exceptionally well."

Kevin's hand trembled around the phone, his silence heavy and oppressive. The only sound on the line was his labored breathing, a clear sign of how hard he was struggling to hold his anger in check.

"I'm just an ordinary person. Of course I'll choose whoever's best for me."

"Kevin, if I hadn't been hospitalized from that injury, I would never have met someone as wonderful as Dr. Su in this lifetime. I'm begging you, please don't ruin my wedding, okay?"

Aubrey's voice grew softer as she spoke, a quiver in it betraying the tears she was fighting back. But she steadied herself and pushed through to the end. "You have nothing, Kevin. What gives you the right to crash my wedding?"

Kevin's breathing grew heavier. When he finally spoke, the words came out through gritted teeth. "Aubrey Zhao. Shut your mouth."

"Don't come looking for me." Aubrey closed her eyes as she delivered her final words. "No matter what you say or do, I won't betray Dr. Su."

Kevin couldn't bear to listen any longer. He hung up with a venomous click, then hurled the phone to the ground in a fit of rage, a gesture of pure despair.

He crouched down and buried his head in his hands.

Slowly, his shoulders began to shake, the tremors growing more and more violent.

Kevin cried.

People passed by on the street, a few glancing over at the sight of a grown man weeping so openly. But their curiosity never lasted, and they moved on quickly.

It was unclear how much time passed before Kevin finally rose to his feet. He left the shattered remains of his phone lying on the ground, his expression now set and resolute.

Chapter 1234

Tilting his head back to hold off the last of his tears, he took one heavy step forward, then another.

On her end, the call hadn't left Aubrey unaffected either.

Her heart ached, but she was no longer the idealistic girl who once believed in nothing but love. Life had taught her harder lessons since then.

"Gabriela, I might need your help with something," Aubrey said.

"Go ahead," Gabriela replied.

It was Aubrey's wedding day, and Gabriela was prepared to grant just about any request, so long as it wasn't too outrageous.

"I'm worried Kevin might actually show up and cause a scene. Could you... maybe get a few people to keep watch outside?"

Aubrey's voice shook as she made the request.

The thought of having to fend off the man she'd loved for so many years, on her own wedding day of all days, filled her with a deep, aching unease.

Gabriela turned to Tessa.

"This one might need your help, Tessa."

In the past, Gabriela could have simply asked Tyler herself to send a few men to keep the peace.

But ever since Tessa had married Tyler two weeks earlier, Gabriela had made a point of keeping careful boundaries, even with her closest friends.

Tessa, catching Gabriela's meaning immediately, rolled her eyes in mock exasperation before picking up her phone and calling Tyler.

"Actually," Gabriela added, "it might be smart to ask him to send more people than usual."

Kevin's call had been something of a wake-up call, a reminder that the Zhao family might well try to show up and cause chaos of their own.

Though they'd been warned off before and had stayed quiet for a while, a wedding was exactly the kind of high-stakes occasion that might tempt them to act out.

Gabriela laid out her concerns to Tessa and convinced her to have Tyler arrange extra security to make sure everything went smoothly.

Aubrey felt a deep pang of embarrassment.

Most brides dreamed of a joyful wedding surrounded by loving family and friends.

And here she was, having to prepare for the possibility of disruption instead.

Gabriela patted her hand reassuringly. "Cheer up and go touch up your makeup. Dr. Su will be here soon."

Ever since the call with Kevin, Aubrey's tears had been falling steadily, leaving her makeup smudged.

"Okay."

The makeup artist stepped in quickly to fix her face.

After a flurry of activity, a voice called out from outside, "The groom is here!"

Su Zhuoming entered, dressed in a tailored groom's suit. Tall, handsome, carrying himself with the grace and polish of fine jade, he seemed to glow with happiness.

Cali, always eager to liven things up, had set up a few playful obstacles at the door to make his entrance harder.

Su Zhuoming's groomsmen made quick work of each one.

Not ready to concede, Cali racked her brain for something tougher.

Peeking through the door's gap, Aubrey caught sight of the faint sheen of sweat on Su Zhuoming's forehead. Her heart softened at once.

Chapter 1235

He was like moonlight itself, serene, pure, and dazzling. She couldn't bear to see him flustered.

"Cali, that's enough. It's too hot today. Don't make it harder on him."

Cali raised an eyebrow at her. "Wow, already sticking up for him, and he hasn't even made it through the door yet. Careful, or Dr. Su's going to have you wrapped around his finger before long."

Aubrey's cheeks flushed. "Dr. Su isn't like that!"

Though the door still separated them, her voice carried, and those outside caught snatches of the exchange.

The groomsmen started teasing.

"Zhuoming, your bride's a keeper. Already looking out for you before the wedding's even started."

Su Zhuoming smiled faintly, his usual calm warming at the edges.

He handed over a thick red envelope, which the groomsmen slid through the gap under the door.

“Dear ladies, our Zhuoming here is very eager to see his bride. Would you be so kind as to open the door?” one of them called out.

“Traffic in Okburg gets rough this time of day too. We wouldn’t want to miss the auspicious hour,” another added.

Finally, red envelope in hand, Cali and her friends relented and pulled the door open.

The moment it swung open, Su Zhuoming’s eyes found Aubrey.

She stood there in her white wedding dress, her makeup flawless, radiant as something out of a dream.

A smile curved across his lips, his voice tender and full of joy. “Aubrey. I’m here to take you home.”

Aubrey blushed and lowered her head, placing her hand in his.

Su Zhuoming held it firmly, then swept her off her feet and into his arms.

Cheers erupted all around them.

The wedding was held at the Grand Century Hotel.

Across the street, Kevin stood in silence, watching Aubrey walk arm in arm with Su Zhuoming.

The two of them stood at the hotel entrance, greeting Su Zhuoming's relatives with warm smiles.

She looked genuinely happy.

Kevin turned and walked away, a single bag slung over his shoulder. He left Okburg without a backward glance.

Inwardly, he swore to himself. No matter what it takes, I'll make something of myself.

I'll never let anyone call me a worthless loser again. And I'll never let words like that cost me the woman I love, not ever again.

On the other side of the hotel, Zhao Shanbao was shouting furiously, his face flushed, the veins in his neck standing out.

"It's my sister's wedding today! Why can't I go in and have a drink? Who the hell do you people think you are? Get out of my way!"

Tyler, flanked by dozens of his men, fixed him with a cold stare.

"Aubrey is Gabriela's best friend. Gabriela is my sister. That makes Aubrey my sister too."

"This is her big day. Anyone who tries to cause trouble here won't like what happens next."

Zhao Shanbao's mother stepped forward, her expression awkward and pleading. "We're only here for the wedding. She's still our daughter, after all. We raised her for over twenty years..."

Chapter 1236

"Take a good look at these." Tyler pulled out two formal documents severing family ties. "Aubrey has already cut all ties with the Zhao family. If I catch any of you trying to claim her as family again, you'll regret it."

Tyler's towering frame, backed by the intimidating presence of his suited entourage, left no room for argument.

The Zhao family could do nothing but mutter empty threats under their breath as they reluctantly retreated.

Back at their car, a pregnant young woman smirked at them.

“I told you not to waste your breath on someone who cuts family ties as easily as Aubrey did. Now look, you’ve just embarrassed yourselves.”

The woman was Zhao Shanbao’s wife, who had married him two months earlier for an eighty-eight-thousand-yuan dowry. Six months pregnant now, she felt no need to hold back her mockery of the situation.

Zhao Shanbao’s expression darkened.

“I heard Dr. Su is the top ophthalmologist in the entire country, a genuinely remarkable man. Just imagine, having someone like that as a brother-in-law...”

Kevin’s mother recalled seeing Dr. Su at the hospital, always surrounded by a crowd of interns. Even the hospital director spoke to him with the utmost respect.

He was the center of attention wherever he went, basking in everyone’s admiration.

Having a son-in-law like that would certainly be something to be proud of, something she could brag about back in the village for the rest of her life.

Yet as she glanced over at her newly married daughter-in-law, who carried herself with obvious sophistication, resentment began to stir inside her.

If it weren't for her insisting on such a high bride price, constantly threatening to terminate the pregnancy otherwise, they wouldn't have had to treat Aubrey the way they had.

Feng Shiyao seemed to guess exactly what was running through her mind and cut in. "Mom, do you honestly think Dr. Su would ever acknowledge someone like you as his mother-in-law?"

Kevin's mother muttered under her breath, "He'll have to, unless he wants to go back on that family severance letter."

Dr. Su seemed like the type with an easy temper, someone simple to manage.

Feng Shiyao scoffed. "And why did that severance letter get written in the first place? Do I need to remind you?"

It had been written because Kevin's parents had framed the doctor, then used the letter itself to extract money afterward.

"Without the frame-up, do you honestly think Aubrey would have had any chance of marrying someone so remarkable?"

Feng Shiyan's expression was full of disdain, yet Kevin's mother felt neither shame nor anger. Instead she agreed readily. "That's true enough."

"But without it, Aubrey never would have married Dr. Su either way. And because of what happened, that doctor is never going to be polite to any of you."

So the eight-hundred-thousand-yuan bride price had essentially been the price of selling off a daughter outright.

In this world, how could anyone expect to have it both ways?

Kevin's mother still sounded somewhat aggrieved. "Wasn't it you who demanded such a high bride price to begin with?"

Feng Shiyan laughed. "Mom, I think you're a little confused about something."

Chapter 1237

Feng Shiyan was a local of Okburg, an only child, and her family was fairly well-off. If it hadn't been for Zhao Shanbao catching her eye, the Zhao family could never have reached the Feng family's standing, not even after twenty or thirty years of trying.

“My parents never approved of me marrying into the Zhao family to begin with. That eight-hundred-thousand-yuan bride price was the leverage I fought for, to get Zhao Shanbao accepted at all.”

Feng’s parents had looked down on the Zhao family in every possible way, but Feng Shiyan had taken it upon herself to insist the Zhao family was willing to pay the price, and that was what had finally worn her parents down.

Seeing his wife’s displeasure, Zhao Shanbao quickly tried to smooth things over. “Don’t be upset, love. My mom’s all bark and no bite, don’t take her seriously.”

Then he shot his mother a sharp look. “Say less. Don’t upset Shiyan.”

Kevin’s mother pressed her lips shut at once.

The group climbed into the car, and Zhao Shanbao eagerly announced he wanted to drive.

It was the car that had come as part of the bride price, and he hadn’t gotten behind the wheel of it yet, his hands practically itching for the chance.

Feng Shiyan asked skeptically, “Can you even drive?”

“Didn’t I get my license just last month?” Zhao Shanbao patted his chest confidently. “No problem at all.”

Eventually, worn down by his persistent pleading, she let him take the wheel.

But his driving turned out to be terrible, lurching and stopping until a car finally rear-ended them.

Zhao Shanbao's forehead got a small scrape, and as he climbed out, he immediately started shouting at the driver behind them. "Can't you drive? Are you blind? You hit me on a road this wide?"

Never mind that it was Zhao Shanbao who'd slammed on the brakes without warning.

But these things were always hard to sort out cleanly, and the other driver, resigned to bad luck, decided against calling the police and simply wanted to settle things quickly with cash.

The moment the other driver offered five thousand yuan on the spot, Zhao Shanbao's mind started calculating.

"Five thousand yuan to brush me off like a beggar? My forehead's bleeding! I could have a concussion! I need a full checkup at the hospital!"

Faced with someone so shameless, the driver's luck had clearly run out for the day.

But his girlfriend beside him tugged at his sleeve and murmured, "Just let it go. Let him get his checkup. Let's not make a scene."

In the end, the driver handed over the five thousand yuan, left a phone number, and told them to send along any further checkup costs.

Kevin's mother was the first to object. "How do we know that number's even real? You need to come to the hospital with us!"

The driver's patience finally snapped. "I don't care about your checkup fees. Just name a number and I'll transfer it, fine?"

Kevin's mother was gearing up to make an even more outrageous demand when Feng Shiyao cut her off, disdain written across her face. "Enough. They gave us the money and the number. Don't make a scene here, it's embarrassing."

Chapter 1238

With Feng Shiyao putting her foot down, Zhao Shanbao had no choice but to go along with it.

The Zhao family finally jotted down the phone number and headed off to the hospital for checkups.

Zhao Shanbao figured it would be foolish to let the opportunity go to waste, so he didn't stop at getting himself examined, he had the whole family checked as well.

“Mom, Dad, you’re both getting on in years. After a scare like that, who knows what could be wrong.”

Then he turned to Feng Shiyan. “And you, sweetheart, with a belly that big already, if the baby got startled, that wouldn’t be good either.”

Feng Shiyan could barely contain her disdain.

How had she ended up married to such a shameless scoundrel?

But she genuinely was worried about the baby after the jolt, so she agreed to a prenatal checkup, the kind of routine exam any expecting mother might need.

Zhao Shanbao marched the whole family up to the registration desk and demanded of the doctor, “Check everything, head to toe!”

Aubrey had no idea that her strange, shameless brother was off happily milking free medical checkups at the hospital.

Gabriela and Tessa knew, since Tyler had people keeping tabs on the family.

Relatives that troublesome were like ticking time bombs, as long as they stayed anywhere near Okburg.

After hearing Tyler's report, Gabriela and Tessa decided against telling Aubrey.

After all, they weren't family anymore.

Aubrey wasn't worried about her troublesome relatives, knowing the severance letter shielded Dr. Su from any fallout their actions might cause.

Her only real worry had been Kevin showing up.

Fortunately, all the way through the wedding, as Dr. Su introduced her to relatives and friends, Kevin never appeared.

Aubrey let out a quiet, secret sigh of relief.

When Dr. Su finally brought her back to his family home and into his bedroom, it hit her all at once.

She was truly married now.

And to the best doctor in the world, no less.

Having socialized all day, Dr. Su was sweaty and in need of a shower.

“Rest for a bit,” he said gently. “There’s food on the table if you’re hungry.”

Aubrey’s voice came out as soft as a whisper. “Okay.”

Dr. Su disappeared into the bathroom, and soon the sound of running water filled the room.

The bedroom carried a pleasant scent, one uniquely his, faint but persistent, as though it were quietly wrapping around her.

Aubrey sat on the wide, soft bed, gazing at the double happiness characters on the wall, the traditional symbol of marital joy, and felt a swell of both happiness and longing.

She’d been anxious all day and had barely eaten anything. Starving now, she picked up the snacks on the bedside table and began nibbling slowly.

They tasted quite good, and before she realized it, she’d eaten several pieces.

The water in the bathroom shut off.

Dr. Su emerged, carrying with him a fresh, damp scent that drifted gently toward her.

Chapter 1239

Since the snacks had been so good, Aubrey had eaten a little more than she meant to.

Just as he stepped out, she happened to burp, and her face flushed scarlet with embarrassment.

Dr. Su let out a soft chuckle. “Do you want to wash up?”

His voice was calm and even, but Aubrey’s face only grew redder. “Yes,” she whispered.

She’d changed into a traditional wedding gown earlier for the tea ceremony with the Su family elders, an elaborate garment that took her a while to work her way out of.

After washing up, she found Dr. Su reclining on the nearby sofa, eyes closed, looking utterly exhausted, as though he’d already drifted off.

“Dr. Su?” she called softly.

His eyes opened. Seeing her in her nightgown, something flickered briefly across his expression.

But it passed just as quickly. He reached out and gently touched her hair. "You're tired too, after a day like today. Dry your hair and get some rest."

With that, he picked up a coat and opened the door.

Startled, Aubrey blurted out, "Dr. Su, where are you going?"

Tonight was their wedding night.

Shy as she was, she knew what the night was supposed to mean, having been thoroughly briefed by Tessa more times than she could count.

"There's something I need to take care of tonight," Dr. Su explained gently. "Don't worry. Just sleep well."

With that, he opened the door and left.

The bedroom suddenly felt strangely empty, and Aubrey sat on the bed for a long while, lost in thought.

Dr. Su walked out of the room, and Aubrey let out a quiet breath, torn between feeling relieved and feeling disappointed.

After all, spending a wedding night apart felt wrong somehow, almost unlucky.

Yet she still hadn't fully recovered from Kevin's unexpected call before the ceremony, and part of her felt grateful for Dr. Su's absence, in a strange way.

That gratitude, though, filled her with a deep sense of shame.

Dr. Su was so good to her. Whatever he did, he always had his reasons. And here she was, on her wedding night, letting her mind wander to another man?

Aubrey took a deep breath, telling herself over and over that no matter how many years she'd spent with Kevin, that chapter was closed now.

The man she'd spend the rest of her life with was Dr. Su, and it was him she needed to fill her heart and mind with, no one else.

She dried her hair slowly, then lay down on the bed.

Unfamiliar room, unfamiliar bed.

She thought she might not manage to sleep at all that night.

But she did, maybe because the new bed was so soft, or because the whole room carried Dr. Su's comforting presence, wrapping gently around her.

Aubrey drifted into a deep sleep before long.

The next morning, a knock on the door woke her.

Su Zhuoming stood outside, a warm smile on his face. "Did I wake you too early?"

Chapter 1240

Still half-asleep, Aubrey took a moment to fully register him standing there. She instinctively ran her fingers through her tangled hair.

She already felt unworthy of him. The last thing she wanted was to look even more of a mess in his eyes.

But Su Zhuoming didn't seem bothered in the slightest, reaching out naturally to smooth the stray strands off her forehead.

"Get dressed and come out. Breakfast's ready."

Aubrey quickly brushed her teeth and washed her face. She'd meant to put on a little light makeup, but worried about keeping him waiting too long, she decided to go out bare-faced instead.

In the living room, Dr. Su's parents were waiting.

They usually lived apart from their son, but since it was the first day of his marriage, they'd stayed the night to receive the traditional morning tea, the gesture of respect a new daughter-in-law offers to welcome herself into the family.

Aubrey served them tea with careful, respectful attention, anxious about making any missteps.

Both of his parents gave her a generous gift in return.

Dr. Su's mother smiled warmly at her.

"Aubrey, from now on you're Zhuoming's wife. You two should support each other, and ideally, start a family before too long."

Aubrey's face flushed slightly, and she murmured, "I understand, Mom."

Su Zhuoming frowned faintly. "Mom, why bring that up first thing in the morning?"

His mother wasn't the least bit put out. "Look at that, married one day and already rushing to defend her."

With his parents being so easygoing and open-hearted, Aubrey gradually relaxed, and the four of them shared a warm, comfortable breakfast together.

After three days at home, Aubrey wanted to go back to work.

Her eye injury and the accident with the electric scooter had already forced her into an extended leave, and the inactivity left her restless, eager to return to her job.

She wanted to become someone who could genuinely match Dr. Su's accomplishments.

Su Zhuoming, however, didn't agree.

“Your eye has only just recovered, and the wound from the knife hasn’t fully healed either. You need more rest.”

“I’m fine,” Aubrey assured him. “I promise I’ll take good care of myself.”

She was simply restless by nature.

Without a hospital stay or a job to occupy her, she was afraid she’d go stir-crazy sitting at home.

Seeing how set she was on it, Su Zhuoming relented. “Come by the hospital at noon, then. Your eye and the wound both need daily checkups.”

Aubrey agreed readily.

Back at the office, her colleagues were surprised to see her.

Most newlyweds took at least ten days for a honeymoon.

When Tessa had married Brenden, he’d given her a half-month off, and she and Tyler had traveled to several places together.

Aubrey had rushed back to work the very day after her wedding.

Tessa found a quiet moment to ask her, "Didn't Dr. Su mention taking you somewhere for a honeymoon?"

"My injuries haven't fully healed," Aubrey answered quickly. "Dr. Su doesn't want me traveling right now."

Tessa understood and didn't push further.