

Chapter 284

Henry shot Zack a glare but didn't bring up dating again.

He turned to Selena with an awkward smile. "Sorry about that. First time you're here and you've already had to witness this."

Selena quickly shook her head. "It's fine. Actually, I think your family feels very warm and welcoming. It's really comfortable being around you all."

If only she had been bold enough to pursue Zack back then.

She truly liked this kind of family atmosphere.

But now, she no longer had the courage to chase after love. All she could do was work hard and keep herself occupied.

Only then did Zack really notice Selena.

She looked familiar somehow. He asked Autumn, "Autumn, is she your classmate? I feel like I've seen her somewhere before."

Autumn smiled. "Yes, she is, Zack. I'm surprised you still remember her. She was just asking me if you were home."

Before she could finish, Selena gave her a discreet pinch and whispered, "Don't say things like that. If your cousin misunderstands, I'll be mortified."

She was so embarrassed she felt like she could crawl into the floor, carefully sneaking a glance at Zack, only to find him looking right at her.

Startled, she quickly lowered her head, her face burning red to the tips of her ears, not knowing where to put her hands or feet.

Autumn whispered, "I was just testing my cousin's reaction for you. He still remembers you—that's good, isn't it?"

From the little test, she could tell Zack didn't have any special feelings, only a vague memory.

"Stop it." Selena pretended to be angry.

When Lily returned with groceries, the women gathered to chat while Autumn's uncle and cousin busied themselves in the kitchen.

During dinner, Lily kept piling food onto Autumn's plate. With her sharp eyes, she noticed the faint needle marks and bruises on Autumn's hand.

She couldn't help asking, "Autumn, have you been sick? Why are there puncture marks on the back of your hand?"

Autumn quickly drew back her hand. "Just a little cold, but I'm fine now. Sorry to make you worry, Aunt."

She had never intended to let her uncle's family know about her condition. She couldn't let them worry, so she told a gentle lie.

Lily frowned in displeasure. "Child, why are you still being so polite with us?"

After lunch and a short rest, Autumn and Selena left, since they had arranged to meet Charles at the café at two-thirty.

Jasmine, emboldened by the Lewis family's backing, had grown more and more arrogant in front of her.

If she didn't stand her ground, did they really think she was easy prey?

After the trial, she realized it was time to push forward with overturning her uncle's case.

At two-thirty, the soft strains of music filled Sojourn Café as Charles arrived right on time.

The moment he sat down, Autumn asked impatiently, "Mr. Charles, I want to know—does my uncle's case still have any chance of being overturned?"

Charles stirred the coffee in front of him, letting out a sigh. "The evidence on your side is lacking. Trying to reopen the case might be difficult."

"I've gone through the old files recently. On the surface, the evidence seems solid, with no gaps.

"But when I looked closer, I did find a few tiny cracks. Still, they aren't enough to meet the standard required to overturn a verdict."

Back then, George had been a subordinate he valued greatly. Seeing him fall into such a situation was something he had never wanted.

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