

Chapter 56 Encounter With Santino In The Bar

"There are two possibilities. One is probably to keep you out of her mind and sight because the mere thought of you breaks her heart. The other is that she has given up on you. She wants to get rid of this relationship as soon as possible," David said calmly, just like his serene personality. He was like an emotionless robot. One could never comprehend his feelings.

"What do you think I should do now?"

"That's for you to decide, Mr. Sloan. Do you want to rekindle your relationship with Miss Leslie or live a peaceful married life with Miss Horton?"

"Diana is severely ill. The doctor said she might commit suicide any time." Eliam couldn't stop worrying about Diana's illness.

He couldn't leave her alone. They had grown up together, and Eliam felt Diana was family to him and that he had an inescapable responsibility for her.

"Mr. Sloan, if you can't let go of Miss Leslie, you should decide what to do soon. Otherwise, things would only get complicated."

"All right. I'll think about it." Eliam waved his hand, asking David to leave. He wanted to be alone for a while and mull it over.

He had called David to hear a third person's opinion, hoping it would help him make a decision.

But David's words seemed to confuse Eliam further.

In the next few days, Rhonda juggled between her company and the hospital.

Fortunately, Amanda kept an eye on Leonard in the hospital, and Margret helped her with the training. Rhonda finally passed the final



assessment and got the appointment letter from the company. She became a former employee of Eden Accounting.

Initially, Rhonda was an assistant trainer. She gave a free financial accounting course online and selected potential clients for the company.

She went to the hospital to look after Leonard during the day and went home to offer online training courses in the evening.

Considering her popularity and pictures all over the Internet, Rhonda didn't show her face during the live stream. The people attending the classes would only see Rhonda's profile which contained a brief introduction about her.

At first, only a dozen people attended her live stream. Rhonda worked hard to improve her training skills, and Margret gave her many helpful tips. Gradually, more people started attending her training courses.

After a month's hard work, hundreds of people watched her live streaming every day without fail.

For the first time, Margret's team had ranked third in signing the maximum volume of contracts in the company.

Besides, Rhonda got a promotion and became one of the top trainers in the company. Margret booked a private room in a bar to celebrate her success.

Margret's group consisted of eight members: three men and five women. Only Margret and Rhonda were top trainers.

Rhonda was promoted to the role of a top trainer in such a short time. She had set a new record in Eden Accounting. Inevitably, some workers were jealous of her.

"Rhonda, you'd be getting a huge bonus this month, right?" asked a plump woman, her nose scrunching up with distaste.

"I'm still on a probation period. I won't get any bonus," Rhonda hurriedly explained.

"Then, I guess your salary is almost one hundred thousand dollars. Am I right?" The woman didn't give up.

Rhonda didn't dare to say that her salary, along with the commission, was nearly two hundred thousand dollars this month.

"Employees are not allowed to discuss salary in private. Have you forgotten that?" Just then, Margret came in and led Rhonda out, saving her from the awkward conversation.

Since Margret favored Rhonda, no one dared to tease her or cause trouble for her.

Everyone had dinner in harmony.

Rhonda bumped into Santino when she went to the bathroom.

He looked drunk. His eyes were bloodshot, and he staggered around.

"Rhonda, what are you doing here?" he asked.

"I'm having dinner with my colleagues." "How have you been lately?" Rhonda asked flatly.

"Not bad. The day after I met you, the company called me back and changed my position. Although my salary is lower than before, it's still better than being unemployed."

Rhonda's mind immediately flitted to Guilio. She didn't expect him to help her.

"That's good." Rhonda was neither angry nor upset about seeing Santino. At that moment, she realized she had completely moved on.

"Are... Are you really married?" Santino asked. "Or did you lie to me just to make me jealous?"

Rhonda couldn't help but laugh at him. Santino was still so full of himself. "Don't take it the wrong way. And I realized I didn't love you as much as I thought I did."

Rhonda left gracefully. Santino stood there, staring at her receding figure for a long while. He lost the woman who once loved him with all her heart. He felt a pang of regret in his heart.

When Rhonda returned to the private room, she found almost all her

colleagues had left. Margret was waiting for her because she had promised to offer Rhonda a ride.

The two walked out of the bar together.

Margret's car was parked on the other side of the road. When Rhonda was about to get in, she heard someone calling her from behind.

She turned around and saw Santino leaning against the wall, staring at her.

"What do you want?"

"I want to talk to you."

"I have nothing to tell you. I don't want to talk to you."

"Rhonda, I am sorry for what I have done to you. Can you please give me another chance?"

Rhonda looked at him and burst out laughing as if she had listened to the most ridiculous joke.

"Santino, when can you stop being so self-righteous? Do you want me to forgive you just because you've apologized?"

"No, I didn't mean that. I want to make it up to you. I..."

"No. You don't have to. I'm not Cristina. I have no interest in being with a cheater." With that, Rhonda got in the car.

"I won't give up!" Santino roared as the car started.

Margret looked out of the car and frowned. "Who is this man?"

"My ex-boyfriend."

"You better stay away from him. I can tell he isn't a good man by merely looking at him." Margret smiled and added, "How about I introduce you to a wealthy, handsome man?"

"No, thanks. Please stop teasing me. I don't want to think about dating anyone." Rhonda smiled awkwardly.

"You are 23 years old. It's time for you to start dating someone. How about I introduce you to Mr. Hawkins someday? He is from an affluent family. I heard his family has properties and a company abroad."

"No, no, No. Mr. Hawkins looks scary. He is not my type." Rhonda had only caught a glimpse of Eden's side profile. Despite it, she felt he seemed unapproachable. She couldn't stand being with such a person.

"You've misunderstood him because you don't know him well. In fact, he is not as cold as he seems. By the way, he has a twin brother who is a total playboy."

"He has a brother?" Rhonda suddenly felt an inexplicable sense of familiarity.

"He has three older brothers and is the fourth child. He has a younger sister as well."

"I've always believed guys with younger sisters are usually gentle." However, Rhonda had only sensed Eden's coldness and anger.

"His sister passed away a few years ago." Margret rubbed her forehead and let out a weary sigh. "I guess he has stopped talking since then."

The atmosphere in the car became depressing.

The two didn't utter a word until Rhonda got out of the car.

Rhonda believed that Margret had a special feeling for Eden, which was beyond the superior and subordinate dynamic. Although Margret hid her feelings, Rhonda could still sense her emotions. After all, women had impeccable intuition.

By the time Rhonda got home, Amanda had already gone to bed.

Rhonda didn't have a class today, so she began writing stories online. She had more than a million followers on Twitter now.

Just then, her gaze fell on a comment from a user named Sloiam.

"I haven't been in a good mood lately. But I have no one to talk to."

Chapter 57 Sloiam's Messages

"Sloiam?"

Rhonda's fingers stilled. Her heart took a sprint in her chest. She had guessed who it was. Therefore, she immediately replied, "Neither do I. I have no one to speak to."

"Are you married?"

Rhonda didn't expect to receive such a quick reply.

She hesitated for a while and typed. "No. What about you?"

Sloiam answered, "I'm married. My family met her through a matrimonial ad and felt she would be the right match for me. I didn't have any feelings for her when we got married. Every time I get to speak to her, I never know what to say."

"Since you don't love her, why don't you divorce her?"

After a while, Sloiam finally replied, "This marriage is important for me."

"All right. Are you in love with someone else?"

"No," replied Sloiam.

Rhonda tried finding the truth from him.

"I think you can find a girl you like. After all, a marriage without love is pointless."

"But don't they say love grows with time?" Sloiam asked.

"Yes, but it will take a lot of time and energy and doesn't always succeed. When you finally find that you two are not right for each other, all your efforts will be in vain. Don't you think that's a waste of time?"

"Is that what you think?" he asked.

"Not just me. Many people think this way. People don't want to waste their time and energy on uncertain things. Isn't that practical?"

However, Sloiam didn't agree. "It depends on whether it's worth the wait or not."

"Do you mean you want to grow your relationship and develop a bond with your wife?"

"Yes. I'm just afraid that she won't give me a chance. Can you teach me how to win a girl's heart?"

"Have you never been in love before?"

Sloiam explained, "I once had a girlfriend. We grew up together and naturally got into a relationship. I have never chased a girl before, so I don't know how to win her over."

"It depends. What's your wife like?"

"She's a nice person. But she's stubborn when she gets angry."

Rhonda frowned.

She had an inkling that Eliam was texting her from this account.

However, she wasn't stubborn. Therefore, she began to doubt whether it was really Eliam.

"Anything else?"

Sloiam added, "Well, she is careless and doesn't give importance to her appearance. In a word, she isn't delicate like other women."

Rhonda glanced at her clothes and smoothed her hair in front of the mirror. She thought she was pretty exquisite and wasn't someone who didn't give importance to her appearance.

Rhonda was so angry that she didn't want to talk to Sloiam again.

She told herself that he couldn't be Eliam.

"Why aren't you responding? Did I say anything wrong?" asked Sloiam.

"I'm sleepy. I'm going to bed."

Eliam was shocked by her blunt response.

Rhonda turned off her computer and jumped on the bed. She couldn't sleep and ended up tossing and turning all night.

She wanted to know if Eliam was texting from Sloiam's account. Besides, Eliam hadn't been working for a month. She didn't know if he had found a job or not.

The thought of job hunting reminded her of Giulio.

She felt he could help Eliam find a job. But it was just a whim. She didn't want to be associated with Giulio anymore.

Besides, perhaps Eliam didn't need her help.

That night, she dreamed of Giulio and that fateful night. At the end of the dream, Giulio removed his fox mask, revealing Eliam's handsome face.

The next day was a weekend.

As usual, Rhonda went to the hospital to visit Leonard, bought some food, and returned to the Sloan family's residence.

She cooked delicious food for Richard every weekend.

Rhonda called Maggie before she arrived and found out that Maggie had returned to her hometown a few days ago because her son had broken his leg. Maggie seemed to be very busy. She hung up the phone before Rhonda could question her further.

Rhonda worriedly hurried home.

As soon as she entered the yard, she saw Richard basking in the sun. A young girl was wheeling him around.

Richard was happy to see Rhonda.

He asked the young girl to take the food in Rhonda's hand to the kitchen.

"Grandpa, I heard Maggie has gone back to her hometown. Who has been looking after you?" Rhonda felt a little guilty. Richard had always been concerned about her. She shouldn't have neglected him because of Eliam.

"Eliam has found me a temporary maid. Her name is Tess. She is a diligent girl." Richard asked Rhonda to wheel him back to his room.

"Grandpa, I'm really sorry. I've been so busy lately that I didn't even know Maggie had left." Rhonda helped Richard to sit on the sofa.

"You don't have to apologize. It's all Eliam's fault. I can understand." Richard added earnestly, "But I want to explain something to you on his behalf. He is too sentimental and yearns for affection. I agree he didn't handle the issue about Diana well, which has caused a misunderstanding between you two. But from a third person's point of view, I can see how much he cares about you. Why else do you think he obediently went to Germany with us? Don't forget that Diana had just returned from abroad then. He didn't get a chance to see her, but he went to Germany with us without thinking twice."

"That's because he is an obedient grandson. He would never disobey you."

Richard smiled and said, "Silly girl. He could have left a day later after seeing Diana if he wanted. At first, I didn't want him to come with me. But I changed my mind because Diana was back. He agreed as soon as I told him one thing. Do you know what that was?"

"What is it?" Rhonda was curious.

"I said you wanted him to come with you."

Rhonda didn't think Eliam would have left Diana alone because of her.

After all, he hadn't seen Diana for five years. Even if he had to leave because of Richard's surgery, he could have left a day later as Richard said.

"Besides, have you noticed that he has always intentionally or unintentionally defended you every time Miranda makes things difficult for you?"

Rhonda pursed her lips and nodded. She had noticed it.

"I believe you are a smart girl, but my grandson is a fool. He hasn't even realized he has developed feelings for you."

"Grandpa, please don't try persuading me. I understand what you mean. However, Diana is not the only one who is between me and Eliam."

Her mind instantly flitted to the night she spent with Giulio.

Richard sighed.

"Rhonda, you are a good girl. If you have made up your mind, I will support you regardless of what the decision is."

"Thank you, Grandpa."

Rhonda left Richard's room and went to the kitchen. Her face reddened with rage when she saw Tess had discarded all the food she had bought into the trash can.

"Why did you throw the food away?"

"The food you bought is not fresh. Some are rotten," Tess grunted impatiently.

"How is that possible? I carefully selected everything before buying them." Rhonda picked up the food from the trash can and checked them. They all looked fresh.

"If I say they're rotten, they're rotten! I have the final word in this house!" Tess declared confidently.

"Who hired you as the servant here? Why are you so arrogant?"

"Miss Leslie asked me to work here. She said I have the final say in this house. Therefore, you better mind your business." Tess splashed water over Rhonda to drive her out of the kitchen.

Rhonda angrily bolted to the yard. She was so angry that she wanted to leave. However, the thought of Richard stopped her. She decided to stay.

She couldn't leave an ailing man like him to such a reckless servant.

Tess didn't cook lunch for Rhonda. Therefore, Rhonda made instant noodles for herself and posted a picture of her eating it on Facebook.



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