

## **Wedded Bride 991**

### Chapter 991 Ferry's Warning

"What is she doing here?" Holley seethed as she stepped out of the shadows to confront Sheryl. 'She

ruined us. How dare she come here?' she screamed with hatred in her heart.

Ferry grabbed her hand and pulled her into their hiding place again.

"What are you trying to do?" He frowned at her.

"I am going to ask her to get the hell out of here. She is a shameless bitch. Mom wouldn't want her

here," Holley replied emotionally. Narrowing his eyes at the seething woman, Ferry snorted, "Three

years! I thought you would be smarter by now. Looks like you are as stupid as ever."

Holley ground her teeth at his mockery and asked in a displeased tone, "What do you mean?"

"What's in it for you if you went out there and drove her away from the grave?" Ferry asked, with a

sneer.

"I..." Holley stammered. 'What would I get if I asked her to go away now?' she mused.

"All you would do is expose yourself to your enemy," Ferry continued, giving a contemptuous laugh.

"Well, if that's what you want, I will not stop you. You can go tell Sheryl that you are Yvonne Gu. But if

you don't want that, you'd better stay here quietly."

His words helped Holley regain her composure. 'He is right. I can't let Sheryl discover my real identity yet.

Perhaps Sheryl has started to suspect me, but I don't think she have any proof. If I appear in front of her now, she'll know for sure who I am.

I can't do that, ' she decided.

Ferry had followed Sheryl to the cemetery. After being discovered by her once before, he had learned to carefully stay at a distance from her. When Sheryl was parking her car outside the cemetery, he hastily took a shortcut to Wendy's grave because he was afraid that she might run into Holley there.

And just as he had suspected, Holley was right in front of the grave. He had made it in time to remove her from the spot.

He didn't think it was the right time for Sheryl to know that Holley was her sister.

'Yvonne is now Holley, BM Corporation CEO's pretty girlfriend. Her new identity could help me deal with Sheryl, ' he meditated.

The moment she reached Wendy's graveyard, Sheryl's eyes were caught by the bunch of fresh flowers

at the gravestone. She knew that Yvonne must have been there.

Although Sheryl didn't see her, she was certain that Holley was her half sister—Yvonne Gu.

'No wonder she tried to give me a hard time,' she thought.

Sheryl looked at Wendy's picture on her grave. With a sincere smile, she said, "Mom, I'm here.

I know that Yvonne is back. To be completely honest, she is not a bad person. But after living with you

for so many years, she has picked up some nasty habits from you. She is like a child. She wants to get

her hands on everything she likes and destroy all that she dislikes." Sheryl let out a sardonic laugh and

said, "But you know what? When I found that she had escaped from prison, I was really happy. She is

my sister after all. I hated that she had to suffer in prison and I was glad for her because I thought that

she could now lead a new life."

A sad expression settled on her face as she continued, "She had a plastic surgery and she is so

beautiful now. Her appearance has changed completely. She has a boyfriend who treats her like a

princess and I also heard that they are getting married. She has a good life. I don't understand why she

chose to come back."

Sheryl sighed heavily, not knowing what to think of her actions. She felt helpless. After a while, she

opened her mouth, "Why does she want to risk her new life just to bring me down? I don't get it.

Three years ago, you ended up in prison and you deserved it. I don't know if you ever realized your

mistakes. But I don't want to see her go down the same path. If you were alive right now, wouldn't you

wish for her to live happily?"

She crouched down near the grave. Her eyes were fixed on the gravestone as she said in a decided

tone, "I hate to see her as an enemy. But I am not afraid of her either. If she continues on this path of

revenge, I will strike back and I hope you don't hold it against me when I do."

After she confessed in front of Wendy's tomb, she placed a banquet of lily at her grave. She got up and

turned away from the tomb.

Before taking her leave, she took a deep breath and said in a loud and clear voice, "Yvonne Gu! If you

are here, hear me well and remember my words. I don't want to turn against you, but that doesn't mean

that I am scared of you. From this moment, we are no longer sisters. I will not stand by and allow you to

hurt me. If you move against me, then I will make my move too."

Sheryl drew another deep breath and continued, "I hope you are clever enough to make the right

choice. You are lucky that you've met a man who loves you so much and is willing to do anything for you. If I were you, I would bring him back to Korea and live happily. If you don't, then you'll regret it for the rest of your life."

She looked around the graveyard once and then swiftly walked to the exit. Holley stood in the shadows, listening to her every word.

"Are you bothered by what she said? Are you going to give up on your vengeance?" Ferry asked flatly, taking a sidelong glance at Holley.

"No," Holley replied in a low voice. "I will not trust a single word that comes out of her mouth. I will never forget what she did to me and my mother. She is gonna pay for her mistakes."

"Good." Ferry was relieved that she wasn't affected by Sheryl's little speech. "Just remember this—your target is Sheryl. And as for your boyfriend, you need to appreciate his feelings for you and take care of his needs. He is a powerful weapon which will come in handy at critical moments. You can't give up now, do you hear me?" he said menacingly.

Holley looked up at Ferry and asked cautiously, "You have been following me?"

With a defiant laugh, he replied, "No, I haven't. I have been busy following Sheryl. I don't have time to

keep tabs on you."

"But how...?" 'Why do you know so much about me?' she wondered, but didn't ask out loud.

Ferry said in a small growl, "I am always watching you. Don't do anything stupid or you will not be spared."

Holley knew what Ferry was capable of. So when she heard his threat, she shuddered.

Ferry's threatening words worked like a charm on Holley. She stayed by her mother's grave for a long time and calmed down. Her mind was clear.

On her way home, she dropped by the mall and bought some food. When she entered her apartment, she saw George waiting for her. He dashed towards her and pulled her into a tight hug. With a worried look, he threw a bunch of questions at her. "Where have you been? Why didn't you answer my calls? Do you know how worried I was?" he asked.

"I am fine," Holley said with a subtle smile. "I am here now."

He figured from her tone that Holley was in low spirits. He let go of her and focused his gaze on her.

Anxiously, he asked, "Are you still mad at me for what happened at the meeting?"

When Holley didn't reply, he promised instantly, "Don't worry. When my mother is in a good mood, I will talk to her and find a way to get your job back. So, cheer up."

Holley responded with a bitter smile and said, "There is no need for that."

#### Chapter 992 Turning Over A New Leaf

"Holley, my mother shouldn't have acted like that toward you. I understand that you're hurt. At the same

time, I understand her too. Your words were offensive. She is not only my mother but also the owner of

the company. You contradicted and embarrassed her in front of all those shareholders. No one could

take that attitude without getting angry. So please try to understand. I promise I will help you get your

job back," George comforted Holley patiently. The disagreement between her and his mother was such

a headache for him. They were both at fault; he had to help them understand that and iron out their

differences.

Holley nodded her head approvingly and stated, "I see. Yes, you are right. George, when I say I don't

need to go back to my old job, I mean it. It's not something I'd just throw out in the heat of the moment.

It's what I want now."

"What do you mean? I don't get what you're saying," George inquired, confused. He knew how much

Holley's job at BM Corporation mattered for her. Susan was still working in the company, and Holley

would use her to get back at Sheryl. She wouldn't just give it all up, but her words weren't making any

other sense.

Holley noticed George's shocked expression and explained, "We have been in love for so many years.

You know how much you mean to me. All that really matters right now is that you are part of my life. As

long as we're together, losing my job doesn't matter anymore." She seemed genuine in her answer.

George continued to stare at her, unable to comprehend her words. Eventually, he asked, hesitating,

"Holley, I don't understand what's happening. Are you saying you're not mad anymore? Are you willing

to give up your plans?" More questions were inundating his mind but he was trying to take them one at

a time.

"No, I'm not mad. I really mean it. It just hit me," Holley began clarifying. With her head hung low and

tears in her eyes she continued, "Today is the anniversary of my mother's death." She knew George

would realize where she was going with that.

Indeed, he understood then why Holley had been under the weather that day. She had lost her cool

because she was missing her mother more than any other day.

He cupped her face, grazing his thumb along her jaw, and apologized, "Sorry, Holley. If I had known today is the anniversary of your mother's death, I would have explained it to my mother before things got out of hand." He could feel her sorrow. The last thing he wanted was to add more to it. He would do anything to alleviate her pain.

Sighing heavily, he questioned himself, 'What should I do now? I don't know if my mother will care about this at all. I can see why Holley has lost control today, but now it's not easy for me to change my mother's opinion of her.'

"It's okay," Holley said while holding George's gaze. It was as if she had read his mind. "George," she continued, "I didn't tell you about this to make you feel bad. As I said, you are what matters most to me. Honestly, nothing else means as much for me. As long as you are in my life, I can give up anything and anyone. You are all I need."

"Really?" George doubted. His heart skipped a beat at the sound of her words. He wanted to believe her but he could barely recognize her anymore. It felt like the Holley he knew had disappeared and a completely new one emerged after that day's argument. It felt like a dream, one that he dreaded

waking up from. Holley living the simple life with him was something he could only hope for before.

However, at that moment it was all starting to look plausible. Everything was happening so fast. He felt

conflicted while warm and fuzzy inside.

"Of course. I mean it," Holley assured him as she leaned into a hug. She rested her head on his

shoulder and added, "Because of the anniversary of my mother's death I am in low spirits. However,

today shows that no matter what I do, no matter how many times I mess up, you are always by my

side. This means a lot to me, George. I am lucky to have you. Being with you is the best thing that has

ever happened to me."

Holley steepled her fingers together and remained silent for a moment before continuing, "Do you know

what I am thinking of? When I honored my mother in front of her tomb, I was angry. You are always

supportive of your mother and regard her as the most important person in your life. So it's not hard to

figure out that I am putting you in a tough spot when we argue. You try to remain neutral and pacify

both of us. You really want us to get along well, don't you?"

George felt relieved seeing that she was starting to understand his situation. He smiled gratefully and

replied, "I am so glad you get it."

Holley nodded in response. She stared at him for a while in silence before concluding, "Said and done

then! If your mother has decided to fire me, then I'll gladly resign myself to that. There is no need to

explain anything to her anymore. The position at BM Corporation doesn't matter to me anymore. As for

Susan, if your mother approves to her resignation, I won't interfere with her decision."

"You really mean what you are saying?" George repeated. He never expected Holley to accept his

mother's short-temper. Her willingness to simply let it all go was starting to sound suspicious to him.

It was hard for him to trust Holley's words after knowing how focused she had been on getting revenge.

On top of that, she didn't even want to confront his mother anymore. It all seemed strange to him.

Noticing his reluctant looks, Holley promised, "I wouldn't lie about this. George, I know I've often disappointed you but now I am realizing my priorities and you are one of them, the most important one.

Life is too short; I don't want to waste my time or energy on insignificant people and things. All I want is to live a happy life with you."

Her thoughts interrupted her words. Her gaze drifted away from George for one second and then

returned with a smile. Excited, she mentioned, "You know what I want now? I want us to hold our

wedding ceremony as soon as possible and live happily ever after. I want to have your babies. You can

work at the company and I will look after our children. We will live such a good life, won't we?"

"Holley!" George exclaimed. He was so deeply touched by her words that he hugged her immediately.

She took him by surprise in a pleasant way.

Only God knew how long he had been waiting for that moment.

"What's the matter? You don't like my plan?" Holley joked. His reaction said everything.

However, he still wanted to clarify, "Of course I do! How can I not like it? You don't know what it means

to me to hear you say that. I will confirm our wedding date as soon as possible. I can't wait to marry  
you!"

"Sounds good," she answered plainly. Compared to George, she looked calm, almost indifferent.

George ignored that, though.

She thought to herself, 'Ferry is right. My position at BM Corporation is not the most important thing;

George is. As long as he loves me, he will help me and my plans will go smoothly.'

It doesn't matter that Donna doesn't like me now. I will marry George as soon as possible. After the

wedding ceremony, we will have a baby soon. I am confident that Donna won't look down on me after

that.'

Holley glanced at George and quickly added, "By the way, George, marriage is holy and important for me. Our parents must attend our wedding. Also, since your mother got embarrassed because of me, I am wondering if you can invite her for dinner. I want to apologize in person and tell her about our wedding plans. What do you think?"

George didn't reply right away. If Holley had offered this before, he would have been all over it. At that moment he had a minor hiccup, which could backfire badly on him. He gulped and considered the issue, 'I have been intimate with Sula and have not figured out how to face her yet.

I wonder if she has said anything about us to our parents. Now that Holley and I are talking about our wedding, she may get mad. We may break up because of her.'

#### Chapter 993 Meet With Me

"What's wrong? Did you encounter any issues?" Holley asked inquisitively, as she spotted the hesitation on George's face.

She simply could not shake the feeling that he was hiding something from her. She tried to ignore it but she knew that due to the simple fact that a woman's intuition was rarely wrong.

Accurate or not, she hated the feeling that her boyfriend wasn't being honest with her. It gnawed at her very core.

With a look of sheer skepticism, she told him solemnly, "Baby, I want you to know that you can be honest with me no matter what. We're going to be married soon and we will be spending the rest of our lives together. I don't want there to be any secrets between us. You do understand that, don't you?"

"Don't be silly, honey," George responded with a forced smile. "Holley, I assure you that I will love you sincerely and cherish you for the rest of my life. I will never lie to you. I need you to believe me."

"That's good," Holley said. Satisfied with his response, she snuggled up close to him as she inhaled very deeply so that she could indulge in his very essence. "Let's arrange it for tomorrow night. I will book the hotel, and you call up Donna and invite her to join us for dinner. Oh, and make sure you don't forget to also invite Sula."

George's eyes widened with surprise when he heard Holley mention Sula. With knitted brows, he lowered his head to look at his girlfriend and quickly responded, "I don't think it's a good idea to invite Sula. She is an outsider. It would be inappropriate for her to be present on such a special occasion."

"Why would you say that?" Holley frowned at him. "You know your mother is very fond of her. She

already thinks of her as a part of the family. Besides, she has no friends or relatives here. Do you really

have the heart to let her stay at home alone?"

With a suspicious grimace on her face, Holley said, "What's wrong with you? You are acting kind of

strange today. Are you sure that there isn't something on your mind that you're keeping to yourself?

Maybe something that you'd like to share?"

With an uncomfortable laugh, George said, "Now why would I be keeping anything to myself? I will

make sure to call them."

Holley nodded approvingly at him and replied, "I am going to go and get started on dinner."

"Ummm, okay." While Watching Holley put on an apron and enter the kitchen to begin preparing their

meal, George furrowed his eyebrows.

He was in a bit of a rush to ask Holley to marry him because he wanted to make amends for his

misdeeds. Not to mention that he wanted to make himself feel better. But now he still needed to face

Sula.

After hesitating for just a moment, he decided to call Sula and have her meet with him so he could

speak to her face to face.

Sula was with Donna when her phone rang. She answered the phone and placed it on speaker so that

Donna could hear their conversation. When George invited her out to meet with him tonight, she looked

up at Donna, who was older than her, seeking some advice on what she thought she should do. She

nodded her head in agreement, so Sula reluctantly accepted the invitation.

As she hung up the phone, she looked up to see that Donna was still looking at her. Feeling a little

uneasy, she asked, "Aunt Donna, why do you think he wants to see me?"

"I'm sure that he is reaching out to talk to you about what happened between you last night," Donna

sneered. She knew her son better than anyone else. Holding Sula's hand, she urged, "When you meet

George, just say okay and agree with him, no matter what he says. Make sure to keep your wits about

you. I will handle the rest."

Sula drew in a deep breath before allowing an unsure smile to adorn her face and responded

dejectedly, "Do you really think it will work, Aunt Donna? George is devoted to Holley Ye. What sense

does it make for me to continue to pursue him? Apparently, he's already made up his mind."

"Believe me, sweetie," Donna reassured the girl, gazing into her eyes with love, care, and compassion.

"As long as I am alive, I will not allow Holley to marry my son. Please give me a little time and just trust me one more time, okay?"

Sula had already given up on George. But when she heard Donna's words, a glimmer of hope welled up in her heart. So she nodded her head in reply.

Holley made a bountiful meal. George kept adding food onto her plate and encouraged her to eat more. After dinner, he even volunteered to do the dishes. With a platter of fruit, she emerged into the living room and settled herself on the couch. There, she got comfortable so she could enjoy her favourite TV show with her fruits.

As George finished up the dishes, he got out of the kitchen and headed straight towards the front door. Before opening the door, he turned to Holley and said, "Honey, don't wait for me. I have an appointment with a client, so I might be back late."

"You are going out at this hour? Isn't it kind of late?" Holley asked with knitted brows. "Yes," George replied with a wry smile. "You know we have a lot of work business to take care of. Go to sleep whenever you feel the need. There's no need for you to wait up for me."

"I see," Holley said with a nod. "Drive carefully."

"Bye!" George gazed at Holley for a while and left the apartment.

Holley didn't even suspect her boyfriend of being dishonest. After all, he usually worked overtime and

reached home late at night. Most importantly, she had faith in George's love for her. So it never dawned

to her that he would cheat on her.

She headed upstairs and went to sleep after enjoying some of her fruits.

George had suggested to Sula that she meet with him in a park near his apartment. He arrived first,

and waited for a while before he caught sight of Sula in her long pink coat.

Watching her as she approached him, he couldn't help but feel embarrassed.

"Thank you for coming. I'm glad you're here," George greeted. With an apologetic smile he said, "I am

sorry to ask you out at this hour, Sula."

Sula narrowed her gaze on George and said indifferently, "Let's get right to it, Mr. Han. No need to

waste time with small talk. You must find it quite tiresome to beat around the bush. I also don't want to

hear any foolishness."

A tinge of embarrassment flashed across his face. Especially when he heard her call him Mr. Han, he

detected that Sula was distancing herself from him.

He thought to himself, 'She used to call me George intimately. But now she suddenly addresses me so formally. There's no doubt that I hurt her very deeply.'

He sensed that there was a disconnect because of what had happened between them the other night. He was painfully aware that he had offended her and that he needed to make things right between them.

"Sula, I..." he stammered.

"Call me Miss Piao, please!" Sula demanded. Forcing a smile on her face, she continued, "I don't believe that we are close enough that you can address me in such a manner."

"Sula, you..." George reached out to hold her hand but she moved aside and avoided his grasp. Staring at a silent Sula, who bit her lips, George knew that it was not going to be as easy to settle this matter as he had anticipated.

'She is just a girl and now she has lost her virginity, which was not something that she took lightly. Yet here I am and I'm trying to compensate her with money. I'm a wicked, no good, despicable man.

But I am out of options. That's the only thing that I can do for her right now, ' he thought to himself as

he gazed at this visibly broken girl before him.

At the thought that Holley was waiting for him at home, he mustered up some courage. He took a deep

breath and began, "Miss Piao, I wanted to talk with you about what happened between us that night.

I..."

Cutting him off, Sula said impatiently, "I've already forgotten about it. It was just a stupid mistake.

Please don't bring it up again."

A long drawn out silence followed as they just glared at on another unmoving. With his eyes fixated on

the immovable Sula, he was immersed in his own thoughts. 'If she really didn't care about it, would she

really be acting this way?'

Chapter 994 A Favor

George reeked of guilt, but he broke the embarrassing silence eventually. "Now that you are here, I'm

guessing it means that you want to work things out as soon as possible. We'd better sit down and think

of a way to solve this. And I know that I am at fault, so I will do anything I can to compensate for my

behavior," he offered.

"I came here because I have something to tell you, not because I want anything from you," Sula replied

coldly, turning to George. "I am done with you. From now on, you mean nothing to me. We will be strangers if we meet each other again. Is that clear?"

"Are you sure about this?" George asked in a trembling voice, fixing his gaze on her. He was pleased and relieved to hear her decision, but he kept that to himself knowing full well how selfish he was to think that way.

"Yes." Sula nodded firmly. "I have mulled over our relationship in these past few days and I have realized how silly I was to waste so much of my time on you. I admit that I liked you very much, but now I only want to get rid of you from my life. I hope you will respect my wish and stay away from me."

George didn't utter a word. As he stared at her in a puzzled silence, Sula went on, "I will tell Aunt Donna that I am leaving. I have so many miserable memories in this place. I don't want to stay here any longer. I wish you and Miss Ye a lifetime of happiness."

Her heart bled as she spoke. Heartbroken as she was, she had to say those words against her will to honor her pride.

George listened to her patiently and finally let out a deep sigh. He said, "I didn't expect that you would

be so understanding. I..."

He was too ashamed to continue speaking to her. 'I have to do this for our happiness. For Holley.'

"Actually, there is one other thing. I need your help," George said, overcoming his sense of guilt and shame.

He knew that he was being unbelievably cruel to Sula, but he had no choice.

After a pause, he went on, "I proposed to Holley. We want to proceed with the wedding as soon as possible."

His announcement left Sula speechless and she was frozen in her place. 'He slept with me just the other day. But he has already proposed to Holley. I really mean nothing to him.

I am such a fool. I thought that he cared about me,' she thought as bitterness consumed her.

"Why are you saying this to me?" she asked with a sneer. "Is this why you wanted to see me? To show off your love for her?"

"No, of course not! Please don't get me wrong," George replied immediately as he shook his head nervously. He couldn't bear to proceed when he saw the hurtful look on her face. But at the thought of his girlfriend, he plucked up the remainder of his courage and went on.

"I know that this is difficult for you. To be honest, I feel really horrible about that accident. After all, I have always seen you as my sister and we both didn't want such a thing to happen. But now that it happened, we should find a way to move on from this phase. What do you say?"

Sula let out a contemptuous laugh, but didn't say anything.

'Move on? Seriously?

I gave my first time to a man who doesn't even care about me. It hurts so much that I could never let it go. How could I ever move on from such a memory?' she thought.

"Like I've told you before, I am serious about Holley and I will love only her for the rest of my life,"

George declared. He was embarrassed by this whole situation, but he had to bring this issue to a close.

So he went on, "To be honest, I believe that I might have been drugged that night. There's no other explanation for what had happened that night. But this is not the time to go after that suspicion. The most important thing right now is to handle this matter wisely. Our parents are on good terms with each other and we will often meet even after this. If we don't settle this now, we will not feel comfortable when we see each other later. I don't want that to happen between us."

Sula pulled a long face. 'He doesn't want Holley to learn about what had happened. So he's making up an excuse to make me believe that he's doing this for us. What a hypocritical man!' she thought in disdain.

Sula took a deep breath to control her anger and replied, "Mr. Han, could you get straight to the point? I am tired of all this round about talks."

George looked at her in surprise and shock. "All right," he said as he cleared his throat nervously.

"Holley wants to invite you and my mother to a meal to officially announce the wedding. There have been some deep misunderstandings and she thought that you three could solve your problems over a meal."

He paused and looked away from her. It was difficult for him to bring this topic up again and again, but he was left with no alternatives. He said, "I cannot tell her what had happened between us. I don't want her to know about it."

With an expectant look at Sula, he requested, "I was wondering if you would accept the invitation and act as if nothing had happened in front of Holley. And I hope you can persuade my mother not to mention it to her either. You are going back to Korea; I and Holley are getting married. It will do us no

good if she found out about it."

At last, Sula yielded to her feelings and gave him a cold laugh. Transfixing her gaze on the man, she

growled, "So, you wanted to see me because you hoped that I would put up an act in front of your

girlfriend so that you and she can get married peacefully?"

George looked at the floor in embarrassment and replied, "Yes."

"What's more, you also want me to convince your mother to be nice to her, right?" she continued.

With a helpless weak smile, he rested his eyes on Sula and said, "I know that I am being very cruel to

you. But I couldn't think of any other way. My mother treats me like an enemy now. But she listens to

you. You are the only one who can make her change her mind. So you are the only one who can help

me."

"You..." Sula glared at George and asked, "How could you be so shameless?"

He dodged her gaze and said, "Sula, I really love Holley. I know that I broke your heart. I was serious

when I said that I would do anything for you. I only hope that you would do me this one favor. I will be

grateful to you."

Sula looked at George's pitiful state and closed her eyes. With a painful expression, she accepted his

request. "I will do it, if that's what you want."

Chapter 995 Instant Friends

"Really?"

Thanks to Sula's promise, George wore a relieved smile on his face. He was so ecstatic that—without

thinking—he reached his hand out to hold Sula's, but she moved her hand away.

Sula glared coldly at George and said, "Mr. Han, no more favors. And please don't act like we're on

good terms. We're done here. Have a nice life."

"Fine!" George replied without hesitation. Because what Sula said and did were out of anger, she

hadn't thought that George would agree so quickly. She was breaking into pieces inside as she realized

that her relationship with him was finally and completely over. Her heart was well and truly broken at

the sight of his cheerful expression.

She asked herself, 'What's so special about Holley? Why has George fallen so deeply in love with her?'

George looked at Sula with an excited smile on his face and made a promise to her, "Don't worry. I'll

return the favor. If you need a hand later, just hit me up and I'll help you."

"If there's nothing more, I'm gone." With those words ending the conversation, Sula turned to leave in

quick and unsteady steps.

When she was facing away from George, Sula couldn't control herself anymore and finally burst into tears. She was dumped by George, which tore her heart to pieces.

After Sula was back home, Donna saw that the younger girl was really depressed. She asked what happened. Face wet with tears, Sula finally told Donna everything, which made the mother tremble in rage.

"Wow! He's really something else, isn't he? He didn't even ask my permission. I need to sort him out."

Donna's voice was thick with fury. The woman pulled out her phone and was ready to call George, but Sula stopped her.

Sula stared at Donna helplessly and begged, "Aunt Donna, please stop. I don't want anything more to do with him."

A frown made its way onto Donna's face. She stared deeply at Sula, and then turned off her screen, setting the phone down.

Donna bade Sula sit on the sofa. She breathed a deep sigh and comforted her, "Sula, I know you're

down right now. But you should understand that Holley is a terrible person, and I'm not going to let my son marry her."

"But, Aunt Donna..." Sula frowned.

Donna patted Sula's hands and comforted her with a gentle tone. "I know you're upset, but do you think I'm going to take this lying down? George won't be able to live happily ever after with this woman. I know he was pretty harsh with you. Don't worry, he'll change his tune."

Donna looked at Sula and said, "Here's what I want you to do. Go upstairs and get some sleep. I'll figure out how to deal with Holley tomorrow."

Sula took a deep look at Donna. She was confused. 'Do I need to keep loving him?'

Yeah, I blew him off, but I still have some hope in my heart. I hope George comes back for me after he figures out who Holley really is.'

The next morning, Sheryl went to work early as usual. Recently, her attention was diverted from designing projects to training the employees as much as she could.

As Isla said, she couldn't handle everything on her own.

By noontime, Sheryl was still troubleshooting employee projects. The receptionist came by with news.

"Sher, someone wants to meet you outside."

"Really? Who?" Sheryl was confused for a second. She thought, 'It's almost lunchtime. Maybe it's Charles here to have lunch with me?

No that can't be it. The receptionist knows who he is, and would let him in without too much fuss.'

"I don't know." The receptionist added to Sheryl, "She said she's your friend. I'm guessing that once you see her, you'll know who she is."

Sheryl frowned, wondering who it could be. "I'm going out for a bit. The rest of you, back to work," she told her employees.

When Sheryl reached the reception desk, she saw a familiar figure—it was Donna.

She frowned and stood staring for what seemed like forever, wondering, 'Why is she here?'

"Miss Xia." Donna sat in one of the chairs in the reception area, and saw her coming over. She stood up as Sheryl was came in and nodded her head in greeting.

Confused, she almost forgot her manners. Then she caught herself, and composed herself. She wore a polite smile. "Ms. Han! What a surprise! Why are you here?"

Donna smiled and looked Sheryl straight in the eye. "I think you know why."

Sheryl gave Donna a dumbfounded look and shook her head.

'To be honest, I do want to confer with her. But I'm so busy right now. Maybe we can pencil something in later. Why did she come to me first?'

She scratched her head. "Sorry, I really don't know why. Could you please... cut to the chase?"

"It's private. So, not here." Donna looked at the decorations in the lobby. Finally, she asked, "It's

lunchtime. Miss Xia, will you do me the honor of having lunch with me?"

Sheryl hesitated for a second. She really didn't know why Donna was here. On one hand, she was

really curious about Donna's purpose; on the other hand, she had something to discuss with Donna as

well, so Sheryl accepted Donna's lunch invitation.

Sheryl chose a nearby Korean restaurant. After all, Donna was her guest, so she chose a decent place.

At the restaurant, they walked into a compartment and took their seats. Then Sheryl said to Donna,

"Ms. Han, this Korean restaurant is the most authentic one near our company. The food is delicious.

You have to taste it to believe it."

"That is so kind of you, Miss Xia." Donna replied with a tender smile. The first time she met Sheryl, she

liked her. Donna couldn't exactly put her finger on why, but Sheryl's personality was absolutely magnetic.

There were some people she liked when she met them. On the flipside, there were people she hated no matter how many times they saw each other.

After ordering, Sheryl poured Donna a glass of water and said, "Ms. Han, I..."

Donna interrupted Sheryl, wearing a gentle smile on her face. "Miss Xia, I'm older than you. If you don't mind, could you call me Aunt Donna? It's a bit weird being called Ms. Han."

"Fine." Sheryl smiled and said, "On one condition. Call me Sher."

"Sher." Donna said Sheryl's name and smiled at her. "It's a beautiful name."

"Aunt Donna..." Sheryl hesitated for a moment and finally spat it out. "You said you wanted to speak in private. Now it's just the two of us. So, what did you want to tell me?"

#### Chapter 996 Real Purpose

"It's about Holley Ye!" Donna replied. Sheryl smiled politely. She had already guessed the real purpose of the other woman's visit.

"Well...what's wrong with her? Could you elaborate and give me more details? I'm not following you,"

Sheryl responded flatly.

"Here's the thing," Donna began. She took a sip of water and continued, "You must have heard about

Holley and my son George, right?"

"Of course I have," Sheryl nodded, looking at her. "Mr. Han is my former boss. They are a good match,"

she added.

Donna frowned at Sheryl's remarks. She then shook her head slightly. "To be honest with you, I don't

agree with that and I don't approve their seeing each other."

"Is that so? I'm sorry to hear that," Sheryl replied with mock surprise. "But Holley is good-looking.

Besides, she and Mr. Han are mutually attached. Why do you oppose them being together?" she

asked.

Donna wrinkled her nose and her brows as she replied, "I have a feeling that Holley is not a simple girl.

I have already arranged a good match for George long time ago. But since he and Holley met three

years ago, George hasn't been keen on my match for him, and has been insisting on staying with

Holley."

She paused, heaved a sigh, and continued, not waiting for Sheryl to interject, "To tell you the truth, I

don't like Holley. She is not from a wealthy family, and more importantly, I don't think she is a good girl.

If George continues to stay with her, I am afraid that she might get him into big trouble."

With a bitter smile, she added, "I only have one son. I admit that sometimes I am manipulative, but I

have done all of this for his sake. People who come from families like mine only hope to find a good

match for their children. Even if he dated a good girl from a poor family, I would not oppose them. But I

will never allow Holley to marry into my family."

Sheryl looked Donna calmly in the face. "But as far as I know, Mr. Han and Holley love each other.

Even though you are not happy with them, I don't think you can split them up," she told her.

"You got me," Donna sighed. "I did everything I could to make them break up but I failed. Now I don't

know what to do. So I came to you. I hope you can help me."

"Me?" Sheryl was dumbfounded. She was about to say something else, but stopped herself when a

waitress came over to their table to put their food on it. Turning on the stove, she began to cook their

pork chops for them, occasionally turning the meat over in order to cook them through. Shirley looked

at Donna and gave her a confused smile. "Aunt Donna, you've confused me...It's about Mr. Han and

Holley...How can I help you?"

"Let's cut to the chase, Sher," Donna said, fixing Sheryl with a look.

Sheryl nodded and smiled at her. Although she was more than willing to team up with Donna, she

needed to know her real motives. Sheryl didn't want to make a mistake on any account.

When Sheryl remained silent, Donna continued, "At the charity auction Cary hosted, I saw that you and

Holley had an argument and I thought that you would join me against her. I think we could make a good

team."

She arched her eyebrows as she added, "I only have one aim: split George and Holley up. I really hope

you can help me."

After a pause, she went on to say, "The enemy of my enemy is my friend. You and Holley have a

grudge against each other, I'm guessing. If you have some ideas on how to handle her, please feel free

to let me know. I will do it for you."

Now that Donna had laid out her purpose and motivations clearly, Sheryl thought that she could help

her. But there was still one more question that she was dying to ask; looking at the older woman,

Sheryl frowned slightly. "Holley and your son have been together for three years. Why didn't you do

anything three years ago?"

Donna gave her a wry smile before replying, "I didn't pay attention to this situation at first. I thought that

my son wasn't serious about her. After all, he was a good child and he listened to me. I thought he

would desert her after he got tired of her.

But I didn't expect that he would fall in love with her. Since he started dating Holley, he has been out of

control. When I tried to stop them, it was too late." With a sigh of regret, she added, "I am eager to split

them up because George proposed to Holley. They invited me to a dinner tonight. I guess they will

bring this up."

Then she leaned forward to grab Sheryl's hand. "I'm out of time, Sher. If I can't find a way to deal with

Holley, I will lose my last chance to force her to leave my son, and my son will marry her and she will

be a part of my family. I can't stand the thought."

Donna was pleading her now. "So please do me this favor, Sher."

After hearing Donna's story, Holley couldn't help but feel impressed by Holley. 'She is so cunning that

she fooled George. If Donna is telling the truth, she is going to marry George. It will become more

difficult for me to put her down once she becomes George's wife.

I can't let it happen. I will do anything to stop this, ' she resolved.

She had promised to avoid meddling with Holley's life if Holley stayed away from her. But considering

she already made the first move, she had no reason to stand by idly.

Watching the anxious Donna, Sheryl said apologetically, "I am sorry, Aunt Donna. I just want to see

your attitude towards Holley. I hope you will not be mad at me."

"It's okay," Donna returned. She added, "I understand your concerns. After all, I am just a stranger to

you. I can understand that you're cautious of me."

"How about I tell you a story?" Sheryl placed a pork chop onto Donna's plate, smiling. "Enjoy."

"Sher..." Donna squinted at Sheryl and said anxiously, "I don't have time to hear your story. I need an

idea to bring Holley down. How about you tell me your story next time after I make Holley leave my

son?"

"Easy, Aunt Donna," Sheryl told her in a reassuring voice, smiling. "Trust me. You'll not regret hearing

my story, and you'll want to hear me out."

Chapter 997 The Story

Looking at Sheryl's very determined expression, Donna frowned slightly, but finally she decided that she would believe her.

Sheryl took a drink of water and then said, "Actually, my name is not Sheryl Xia. My name is Autumn Zhao. And even three years ago, my name was Autumn Ye.

I have a half-sister called Yvonne Gu. She is the apple of my mother's and Uncle Simon's eye. When I was a child, I envied her very much. She could have all the delicious food and all the beautiful clothes she wanted, and whatever she did, my mother found no fault with her and never scolded her, even a bit." Despite the fact that she thought recalling her memories would make her sad, Sheryl felt calm and unaffected by telling Donna her story.

Because Charles was by her side now, her past didn't matter to her anymore.

"When I was twenty-four years old, Uncle Simon's company got into trouble, so he and my mother arranged for Yvonne to marry Charles. But Yvonne ran out on the wedding. My mother had no choice but to force me to marry Charles in her place. And I obeyed her." Sheryl paused for a little bit, then continued, "I didn't expect that Yvonne would regret what she did and she would try everything to take

her identity back. Uncle Simon didn't agree with it, and he was eventually killed by Yvonne and my

mother.

Sheryl didn't tell Donna all of the details, only the broad strokes of the story.

"The court sentenced my mother for shooting. As for Yvonne... As an accomplice, she was also

sentenced to jail. But she disappeared from the prison inexplicably in less than a month. According to

Charles' investigation, she fled to South Korea, and no one has seen her for three years." Sheryl took

another drink of water and continued, "I thought I wouldn't see Yvonne again, but then a woman named

Holley Ye came into my life. Even though her appearance and voice are not the same as Yvonne, she

is also allergic to seafood. Besides, she is always wanting to cause me harm or go against me, as if

she wants to take revenge."

"You mean... Holley is Yvonne?" Donna asked, looking at Sheryl with a shocked expression.

"I am not sure, but it is a high possibility." Sheryl said, "Yesterday was the anniversary of my mother's

death. When I went to the grave, I found someone had gone there before me. I'm guessing... it should

be her."

Shocked, Donna drank a full glass of water. As she finally calmed down from her shock, she looked at

Sheryl, "So... Holley is likely Yvonne, a murderer?"

"Yes." Sheryl nodded, giving Donna a confirmation. "I also really don't want Yvonne to come back to my life, but the fact is that she has indeed returned as Holley."

"No wonder! When I arranged for people to keep an eye on her before, they found that she went to mourn a woman called Wendy Ye. I've been wondering who Wendy Ye was and I've checked up on documents and official listings, but I couldn't connect Holley to Yvonne." Donna was in utter shock. Never in her life could she have imagined it. She looked at Sheryl. "I can't even imagine that she has kept such a secret. It is really shocking."

Sheryl laughed and said, "I hope my story can help you, Aunt Donna."

Looking at Donna, Sheryl continued, "To be honest, I don't want Holley to marry Mr. Han. She is too vicious. If Mr. Han married her, he would end up being hurt."

"Don't worry. I will never allow that to happen." Donna promised. She was already opposed to her son's and Holley's marriage; now that she found out that Holley was a murderer, there was no way that she would be okay with it now.

"That's good." Sheryl smiled and then nodded to Donna's plate. "Please hurry and enjoy your food. It's

getting cold."

Donna was still very engrossed in Sheryl's story. She thought for a while with knitted brows, and said to Sheryl, "Sher, I have to bring Holley down... If I need your help, will you help and support me?"

"Don't worry, as long as you need me, I will help you." Sheryl smiled. She had already resolved to letting Holley pay the price, so whatever it was that Donna asked her to do, she would do it. And she wanted to do it.

"Thank you. Thank you." Donna took Sheryl's hand and continued, "With such a past, it's no wonder that she never told me about her family. George is really stupid. Holley cheated him, but he still treated her as a victim."

"Aunt Donna..." Sheryl frowned slightly, and said to Donna, "I have to remind you that Holley has changed a lot. She is very calculating now, so I think...and I have to tell you... No matter what you do, be careful. Protect yourself well. Don't give her any chance to hurt you."

"I know, Sher," Donna reassured the other woman, nodding and smiling at her. "Don't worry."

After both of them had finished eating, the two women rushed to pay the bill, but Sheryl won eventually,

giving the waitress her card. Donna, quite embarrassed by the outcome, told Sheryl that she promised

to have her over one day after Holley was done and dealt with.

Sheryl agreed with a smile.

On the way home, Donna received a phone call from none other than her son George. He wanted to

invite her over for dinner.

Donna smirked and sneered silently to herself before asking, "Oh? Why do you suddenly want to invite me for dinner?"

There was a pause on the other line, then her son's voice, full of awkward and nervous energy, came to her ears, "Well, I wanted to tell you personally, but you didn't come to work so I couldn't. But I know that

you and Holley had a misunderstanding yesterday. So I want just the two of you to have a meal together and explain the misunderstanding that you have."

Another pause, then George continued, "Holley also wanted a chance to apologize to you, since she realized that it was her fault."

"Would she have such awareness?" Donna asked with a sneer.

Donna's words upset George. "Mother, what do you mean?" he asked, and Donna could hear the frown

in his voice. "Holley is really not who you think she is," he added.

"OK, stop talking." Donna really didn't want to hear her son explain for that vicious woman anymore.

Donna sneered to herself. 'The person who really does not know Holley is you, stupid son.'

After a while, she heaved a sigh and nodded slowly, weighing her possibilities. Finally, she said into the

phone, "Text me the time and place. I will be there."

Chapter 998 The Meal (Part One)

Of course, Donna would go. Moreover, she was going to expose Holley's true colors.

"Great! Holley and I will be waiting for you." George hung up on a happy note and hurried to share the

exciting news with Holley.

When Donna was back home that evening, she saw Sula packing her things. She panicked at the

sight. She creased her eyebrows and rushed towards Sula, who hadn't noticed her presence yet. She

grabbed Sula's hands tightly to stop her and asked, "Sula, what are you doing? Didn't you promise me

that you would wait? Why are you...?"

"Aunt Donna, you are hurting me!" Sula said, gritting her teeth as she tried to shake off Donna's hands.

Donna let go of her immediately. She apologized, "Sula, I'm so sorry. I panicked when I saw you packing."

"It's fine," Sula replied briefly. She rubbed the back of her hand which was still hurting because of

Donna's grasp. "Aunt Donna, the situation has become too awkward for George and me now. It's

meaningless for me to stay here. I know that you want me to wait longer for the winds to change, but

Aunt Donna, I can't do this anymore. Besides, my parents called. Apparently, they have arranged a blind date for me. I'm ready to go home after tonight's dinner."

Sula smiled bitterly and continued, "Aunt Donna, you can rest assured that I won't tell my parents about what has happened here. I should... I should stop this useless daydreaming and accept the reality."

George didn't like her and it was time for her to face that truth.

Donna shook her head. "Sula, listen to me..." She was anxious to tell her everything she had heard from Sheryl. However, she was interrupted by Sula's impatient voice.

"Aunt Donna, please save your efforts to persuade me. I have figured out where I stand in George's life. And I now know that I have no place in his heart." Sula sighed, "I have already booked my air ticket. I must leave tonight."

"Sula, just hear me out." Donna held her hand gently this time. "Hear what I have to say and after that if you still want to leave, I won't stop you. Okay?"

Sula hesitated. She was tired of her endless encouragement, but she had no choice. Finally she agreed to listen to her.

Donna breathed a sigh of relief. "Today I... I met with Sheryl."

Sula looked at Donna in surprise. But she remained silent.

Donna was glad that she had managed to grab Sula's attention. She then went on to tell Sula everything that Sheryl had told her. Sula was indifferent at first, but as Donna explained everything, the expression on her face gradually changed. Her mouth was wide open in shock. Her reaction reminded Donna of herself when she had received the news from Sheryl.

Sula was rendered speechless. She listened without saying a single word, but occasionally gasped in shock as Donna continued to tell her all the secrets. Donna's face was covered in rage as she said, "Sula, I have never liked Holley so far because of my personal preferences. But now that I know the secrets she has been hiding, I will never let that vicious woman be a part of my family!"

She squeezed Sula's hands and pleaded, "Sula, please stay. Help me drive that woman out of my home."

"Aunt Donna..." Sula finally came out of the shock, but she still could not believe it. She muttered, "Are you telling me the truth? Is this for real?"

"Of course, it's true!" Donna exclaimed. She said, "Sheryl told me herself. I have always been suspicious of Holley. I knew that she was up to something. But I didn't think that she was hiding such a huge secret! I cannot allow her to do as she pleases with our lives."

"If this is true... is George in danger?" Sula asked worriedly. She wondered out loud, "If by any chance George displeases her, would she treat him like how she treated her father?"

"That is exactly my concern as well," Donna said. She frowned, trying to think of a solution. She looked into Sula's keen eyes and said, "In any case, I need your help.

George is my only kid. I can't... I can't just stand and watch him get hurt and cheated by a vicious woman like that." Donna's imploring eyes stared at Sula, and she couldn't refuse. Finally, Sula nodded.

She sighed. She had made up her mind to leave, and she was prepared for a future without George. However, after knowing that George might be in danger, she decided to stay without any hesitation.

'I have to inform my parents,' she thought. 'I may need to give them an excusable explanation.'

There was no way that she could leave now.

"Thank you, Sula!" Donna exclaimed, relieved that Sula had changed her mind. She took Sula's hands

and comforted her, "Don't worry. I won't make you wait long. After we destroy Holley's disguise, I'll have

George marry you for sure."

"We'll talk about that later," Sula replied shortly. She wanted to save George, but she knew that he

might never love her.

"Yes, you are right. We'll talk about all that later," Donna smiled. "Sula, you are such a wonderful girl.

Now listen to me. Go upstairs and get ready. Put on your most beautiful dress and be at your best.

Tonight is especially important for us. We have to bring that bitch down. Holley Ye should be driven

away from us. Do you understand?"

"Yes." Sula followed her advice and went upstairs. After a while, she returned in an elegant outfit and

delicate make-up. Donna was already downstairs waiting for her. They were ready for the war against

Holley Ye.

The restaurant which they were invited to was downtown. When Donna and Sula arrived, Holley was waiting for them in the VIP room.

When she saw them coming in, Holley smiled and rose to her feet to welcome them. She greeted them with a bright smile, "Auntie, Sula, you are here!"

Donna ignored her and took a seat sullenly, while Sula managed to produce a faint smile.

Holley wasn't embarrassed at all. She knew that Donna disliked her. So what? George was still going to marry her and Donna couldn't do anything about it. It was quite natural for her to be angry.

She was not displeased that Donna was mad at her. In fact, Holley was very happy that Donna was angry. It gave her a sense of victory.

"Where is George?" Sula asked, looking around for him.

"He went out to get some juice," Holley said, smiling. "He knew that you both like fresh juice, so he went to the fruit shop to buy some. He should be back soon."

Holley passed the menu to Donna and added, "Auntie, I have already ordered some dishes. Why don't you take a look at the menu and add some more dishes that you like? We'll start as soon as George

gets back."

#### Chapter 999 The Meal (Part Two)

Donna handed the menu to Sula, smiling. "Sula, here. You order the dishes. You know my tastes

better."

Sula hesitated. She looked at Holley and paused for a moment, but then nodded to Donna and took the

menu from her.

Holley wasn't very happy about that particular exchange. She thought to herself angrily, 'It's quite

obvious that Donna likes her more than me. But I am her future daughter-in-law. What does Sula have

that I don't?'

By the time Sula finished ordering the food, George came back with their refreshments. He greeted

them with a smile and then placed a cup of watermelon juice in front of Sula, orange juice before

Donna and pear juice before Holley. He looked joyously at the ladies and asked, "Have you ordered the

food?"

"Yes, we have," Holley smiled and responded. "I've already told the kitchen to prepare our meal. And

we have also ordered some extra dishes."

"Wonderful! Mother, the food in this restaurant is very delicious," George turned to Donna and said. "It

is so popular that you have to wait in line to book a table here. Holley had come here very early to book this room for us. So you should eat well and make it worth the wait."

"Really?" Donna responded without any emotions. She looked at George and then turned to Holley and said, "Thank you so much, Miss Ye."

Holley smiled and answered with respect, "You are being too polite, Aunt Donna. It's my pleasure."

George was pleased to see that they were having a friendly conversation. 'Everything will be fine as long as Mom gets along with Holley. I couldn't ask for anything more, ' George thought, smiling at them both.

"I'm sure we aren't gathered here just to have a simple meal, right?" Donna asked coldly as she looked at Holley without showing any emotion on her face.

"Of course not," George said with a little embarrassment. "Holley and I have something important to tell you."

George turned to Holley and fixed his gaze on her. He stared at her intently, and the love in his eyes were sincere. Sula, who was sitting beside him, couldn't bear to watch his display of affection anymore,

and she looked away. She was bitter and she wanted to leave that place soon.

Holley blushed as she looked back into his loving eyes. She wanted to respond to his romantic gesture,

but she saw Donna staring at her with a smirk on her face. Holley hesitated and took a moment to clear

her fear. When she finally calmed herself down, she said to George, "We don't have to talk about that

right away. We can tell her later. I have another important thing to tell her."

George nodded to her and remained silence, waiting for Holley to speak.

Holley turned back towards Donna. She grabbed her glass and poured some white wine into it. Then

she held the glass up and said to Donna, "Aunt Donna, I'm really sorry for what happened yesterday in

the meeting room. It was entirely my fault. I wasn't myself yesterday. I shouldn't have lost my temper

and yelled at you. I insulted you in front of the staff and I know that it was wrong. I apologize."

Holley paused and closed her eyes in regret. A moment later, she opened her eyes again and

continued, "Your anger is natural and I deserve to be punished for my rude behavior. I will gladly accept

any punishment you give me. And to show my sincerity, I will drink this cup of wine. Aunt Donna, I hope

you can forgive me."

Holley held up her glass and drank the liquid to the last drop in a single gulp. George frowned and said

in a displeased tone, "Holley, what are you doing? You are not very good at holding your liquor."

"I'm fine." Holley wiped her mouth with a tissue and said, "As long as Aunt Donna forgives me, I am all good."

"Holley..." George sighed. Then he turned to his mother and said, "Holley has apologized to you so sincerely. Please forgive her, Mom. Tell us that you've forgiven her."

Donna pursed her lips and didn't say a word. She glared at Holley and carefully read her expression for any possible clues which would lead her to believe what Sheryl had told her. But she couldn't find any similarity between the person in front of her and Yvonne, whom Sheryl had talked about.

'It's not my son's fault. It's not that he's not smart enough to see Holley's real face, but that bitch is so good at pretending to be a different person that she has made a fool out of my son,' thought Donna.

Holley felt a little uncomfortable being glared at by Donna. However, she hid her feelings and managed a smile. "Aunt Donna, I know that I was out of line yesterday. I will do whatever you ask of me, as long as you can forgive my mistake."

"Is that so?" Donna sneered. She looked at Holley disdainfully and asked, "You will do whatever you

can to please me?"

Holley hesitated for a moment before giving her answer. "Yes," she said. She looked straight at Donna

and had a bad feeling that she was going to ask for something unreal.

"You'd better make good on that promise," Donna said, knowing well that Holley was not capable of

keeping her promise. She went on, "What I want from you is nothing extravagant. I simply want you to

leave my son and go as far away from him as you can."

"Mother!" George burst out. He was utterly displeased by his mother's words. "Don't you see that you

are hurting her? Holley and I came here to apologize to you sincerely. But you are just being

completely unreasonable."

George had to pause to take a deep breath. He finally said, "Holley and I are getting married. If this is

going to be your attitude towards her, then I..."

Holley grabbed his hand and stopped him from saying more. She tried to comfort George with her

words, "It's no big deal. Aunt Donna is still angry with me, so I won't take her words seriously. You are

her son, and you don't have to hurt your relationship with her for my sake."

Holley laughed lightly and continued, "Don't worry. Aunt Donna will forgive me soon. Believe me."

When George heard Holley's sweet words, he calmed down. He couldn't think of another person who

was as understandable than Holley, and at the same time, he also couldn't think of another person who

was unreasonable and mean like his mother. The difference in their character seemed so obvious to

him.

After comforting George, Holley turned to Donna and said, "Aunt Donna, I know that you don't like me

at all and that you've never wanted me to be your daughter-in-law ever since George and I started

dating. I had thought about giving up on this relationship at first because your family status is much

higher than mine and I thought that I didn't deserve a successful and handsome young man like

George. But he insisted on being with me and he moved my heart with his unconditional love. He

proved to me with his own actions that money was not a barrier in our relationship at all. And he told

me that I deserve a man like him, again and again."

Holley paused for a moment, lost in her own thoughts, thinking about all the touching things George

had done for her in the past. She continued, "I know that my family is not as wealthy as yours and we

don't have the social status that you do. But George doesn't care about all that. He loves me as I am,

and he isn't bothered about my appearance, my family or my past. Nothing else matters more than our love, and I know that now. That's why I have decided to be with him forever. In these past years, no matter how many difficulties we'd been through and no matter what you had done to separate us, we stuck together."

"And that is only because you shamelessly lean on his moneybag and seduce him with your hypocritical face," Donna accused as she stared at Holley angrily. "No one knows George better than I do. If it weren't for your fake beauty and seduction, he would never have hurt his mother after listening to your honey-laced words."

"Mother!" George bellowed and tried to stop her from saying more hurtful words. However, Holley stayed calm and padded on George's hands, comforting him. She smiled again and said, "One person doesn't have any authority over the other in a romantic relationship. We are equal and we make our own choices. You can be with the person if you like, and if you don't, then you can split up. Yet, here we are. I've been with George for a long time and that's because we love each other. If you still think that we are together simply because I seduced him, I don't have any means to disprove it otherwise."

### Chapter 1000 The Meal (Part Three)

"I promised you that I will do whatever you say as long as it is within my capacity. But Aunt Donna, if

what you want is for me to leave George, then I will have to politely refuse." Holley stared into Donna's eyes fearlessly and stayed awfully calm in the tensed room.

"Hmph!" Donna scoffed. She smiled sarcastically and said in an ironic tone, "I know that you won't let go of my son that easily."

After watching Donna look down on Holley, George couldn't stay silent anymore. He finally said in a serious tone, "Mom, Holley is my fiancee. I wish you would show her some respect."

Holley reached out to touch his hand and shook her head, asking him to stop. She forced a half smile and reassured him, "It doesn't matter, George. We came here today to solve our problems. So I don't mind her attitude towards me."

Her kind words melted away George's anger. Satisfied with his reaction, she turned around to face Donna. "Aunt Donna, you are his mother. So it's understandable that you are being protective of your son. But my relationship with George is our business. We can't break our lives apart just because of some disagreements between us."

Holley put on a soft smile. "I invite you to dinner today because I want to apologize to you. After all, we will soon be a family. I don't want to see George fall into a dilemma because of the issues between you and me.

"I don't care how much you humiliate me, but I will not give up on my love for George," Holley stood erect and said in an aggressive voice.

"Stop dreaming!" Donna growled. She was now seething in anger. "You insulted me in front of my staff. And now, you want me to forgive you. Did you really think that a simple apology would suffice to win me over?"

"I..." Holley was dumbfounded by her sudden question. She tried to explain, "Aunt Donna, I recognize that I made a grave mistake. I lost my temper and I said something out of line. But I...I was having a difficult time yesterday. It was an extremely important day for me. I was in a bad mood all day. I apologize for my outburst. I forgot my place and I let you and the company down. I'm very sorry."

"No one cares about your personal problems and difficulties," Donna scoffed at her without showing any pity.

"And I don't need your apology. All I want is for you to leave my son alone. And you better listen to me

while I'm still asking politely. If not..." Donna glared at Holley and let her words trail on a threatening note.

Since George had fallen so hard in love with Holley, Donna didn't want him to know what kind of person she truly was unless it was necessary. But if Holley planned on keeping up this farce, then she would be forced to expose her true identity to George.

"Mom, that's enough!" George exclaimed out of indignation. George couldn't believe that such words were spoken by his own mother. He was devastated by her behavior towards his fiancee. He asked in despair, "When did you become so cruel? Why can't you just understand her? Don't you know that yesterday was her mother's death anniversary? It is understandable that she was having a bad day."

George stared at Donna with a wronged expression as he continued admonishing her, "I really don't understand what's going on in your mind. I've already proposed to Holley and we invited you here today hoping that we could solve our differences. But now that things have gotten worse, I'm making myself clear to you right now... whether you agree or not, I will marry Holley."

George had his eyes fixed on Donna. "I did not expect this from you, Mom. I truly don't understand

when you turned into such a narrow minded woman. I agree that Holley made a mistake. But there's no need to torture her all the time just because she acted inappropriately once. It was her mother's death anniversary, for God's sake. It is completely normal for her to be disoriented on such a day."

"So, you're saying that she yelled at me because she was sad over her mother's death anniversary?"

Donna was astonished by George's blind trust in the woman.

"Of course! Why else would she do such a thing?" George asked. "I know that you don't want to accept her into the family, but please think it over. Since the very moment we came into the room, Holley has been apologizing to you. Her sincerity is beyond question. But you on the other hand, have only been finding faults with Holley all this time. What benefit do you get from insulting her like this? Why do you insist on treating her this way?"

"George, that's enough. Just stop." Holley pulled the hem of his coat and cut into their conversation.

Holley pretended to be the sensible one after letting George quarrel with Donna for a while. She intentionally gave a wry smile and said to him, "It's all right. I understand her anger."

She then glanced at Donna and continued, "Aunt Donna, no matter what kind of difficulties I was facing, I shouldn't have blown up at you in front of all those people. Please try to forgive me."

She held George's hand and articulated in pretended sincerity, "George and I have decided to get married. You are his mother. We sincerely hope that you will grace us with your presence for the wedding ceremony. It would be a pity if you aren't there to bless our union. Aunt Donna, I promise you that I will take good care of George and I will support him every day. I will give birth to your grandchildren and we will prove to you that our love is sincere and pure."

Throughout their conversation, Sula had kept her silence. But after hearing what Holley had just said, she looked at her and said in a low voice, "You can make all kinds of promises now. After all, no one knows what's going to happen in the future."

"Sula..." George frowned as he heard her words clearly. He wasn't expecting Sula to meddle at a crucial moment like this. He expressed his discontent, "Excuse me, what do you mean?"

She had promised him that she would take his side during the dinner. But now, she was siding with Donna and humiliating Holley. George was angrier than before.

Sula glimpsed at George and replied in a faint voice, "Mr. Han, there's no need for you to glare at me like that. There might be many people in the world who might want to deliberately cause you harm, but

please bear in mind that your mother would never be one of them. You keep saying that you love

Holley. But do you really know what kind of person she is? Do you even know how her mother died?"

Sula smiled sarcastically when she saw the expression on Holley's face change drastically. "If you don't

know the answer to that question, you don't know much about the person you love. Don't you think it's

ridiculous to marry someone you know nothing about?"

"I know what kind of person Holley is better than both of you," George said in an arrogant and angry

voice. He glowered at Sula and said in a sombre tone, "But I'm not so sure about you anymore."

George kept his eyes fixed on Sula. But she was staring at a fixed point on the floor since his gaze was

making her feel uneasy.

It was true that she had agreed to do him a favor. But now that she knew Holley's true colors, she

couldn't stay silent. George's happiness was at stake and his life might be in danger too. She was in no

position to keep her promise to him.

She raised her head to look at George and said in a faint voice, "People don't remain the same at all

times."