

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 231[706 words]

Chapter 231

Did she like Emmanuel?

Even she didn't know the answer to that.

She had set a trial period of six months, anyway. It was still too early to tell.

Claudette smiled. "You have to be careful, then, Ms. Quillen. Good men sell like hotcakes. What if he found a more suitable woman while you're still hesitating and observing him? You might regret it."

The other women were confused, as they didn't understand what the two were talking about.

Lexi, however, was amazed at their lethal exchange of words.

Her impressions of Mackenzie and Claudette were completely upturned today.

In the past, one of those women was as cold as ice, and men dared not approach her.

On the other hand, the other woman was gentle and reserved, and she never had any scandals with men.

Yet, now they were waging a hidden war in public for the sake of one man!

"I couldn't care less about men who would get seduced by other women at the drop of a hat!" Mackenzie responded to Claudette's words coldly.

"Hah, you have a point."

Claudette smiled, narrowing her eyes. Her eyelashes were curved like the

crescent moon.

Mackenzie used to admire this woman, but now, she sensed danger coming from Claudette.

“Help yourself, then, Ms. Quillen. I have something to attend to, so I’ll be leaving now.”

”

After leaving a polite notice, Claudette left the teahouse.

Mackenzie looked at Claudette’s receding figure. She ignored the others as she waited for Claudette to leave before coldly making her way out as well. The others were stunned.

What did she come here for, anyway? She left after just a few words!

Only Lexi knew what was going on, so she hastily went after Mackenzie.

“Ms. Quillen, may I suggest something?”

“Go ahead.”

“With just one sentence, you can have your husband stay obediently at home instead of fooling around with Ms. Lenoir. Why would you give your enemy chances?”

“What enemy?”

Mackenzie feigned ignorance as she stared coldly at Lexi.

Fortunately, Lexi was immune to cold looks. She smiled as she continued teasing, “Is she not your enemy? I heard from Ms. Beatrix that they might have played late into the night.”

“Who cares if they do it all night long?” Mackenzie said, snorting.

Lexi quickly stuck out her tongue.

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She wasn't scared of other people because she knew that Mackenzie's man was a gynecologist who was also uninterested in other women. When Mackenzie asked Lexi to test him, he was able to endure the temptation, so any normal woman wouldn't be able to seduce a man like him.

However, she felt that Claudette was more charming and patient than her, so she feared that Emmanuel might commit a mistake.

Mackenzie finally found a man who made her feel special, so if their relationship ended because of a mistake, Lexi would feel sorry for them.

It was 9.00AM, so there would be another four and a half hours before they gathered for laser tag.

Claudette rushed home from the teahouse to change her clothes.

Today was one of the rare days she could go out with Emmanuel, so she had to choose her outfit carefully.

She frowned as she threw open the doors of the large wardrobes in her room.

There were all sorts of clothes in the wardrobes, and she had so many clothes that she could hold a mini fashion show.

Claudette was even more spoiled for choice now. She couldn't decide on an outfit even after pondering for half an hour.

Finally, her movements attracted the attention of her stepmother, Laura Newman.

Laura had just woken up, so there was a lazy look similar to a cat's in her

sleepy eyes. She was wearing a revealing set of pajamas, and her snow-white skin was extremely alluring. She looked like an 18-year-old girl; no one could guess her real age.

“What are you cooking up this time, Claudette? You keep trying on clothes and sighing.”

She wanted to be mad but hadn't completely woken up yet. She couldn't expend much energy into talking, so she sounded like a sexy little stray cat. She lay on Claudette's bed, not caring that her thighs were completely exposed.

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“Aunt Laura, get up and help me!”

Claudette was panicking as she pulled her stepmother up.

Laura was her late biological mother's sister, so she always referred to Laura as her aunt.

“Help you with what? You know very well that I don't know how to do anything other than spend money.”

That was what Laura said, and in her heart, she truly felt that women didn't have to learn any skills other than spending money and seducing men's hearts.

“Help me pick an outfit. I'm joining an outdoor event.”

Claudette didn't waste her time spouting nonsense as she pushed Laura toward her wardrobe.

It was only then that Laura remembered. Her husband's two daughters were participating in an outdoor event today, and after asking around, she found that they were targeting the same man.

Other people might feel ashamed if they were in her shoes, but Laura only found it amusing.

Her daughters finally grew up and started showing promise!

Laura hastily rubbed her sleepy eyes and stretched lazily. Her slender waist was alluring, and the weights on her chest wobbled a little like waves.

Unlike Claudette, Laura didn't even have to think before picking out a half-transparent chiffon vest and a pair of white hot pants. She passed the clothes to Claudette.

"Are you trying to kill me in this weather, old hag? Do you know how many degrees it is outside?"

Claudette was undoubtedly mad now. Aunt Laura has to be joking!

She had always been polite in front of others, but whenever she was talking with her aunt, she would speak differently as a result of being influenced by her aunt's boldness.

"What did you call me, Claudette? I'm only 31! With some makeup and a filter, I can easily disguise myself as a teen!" Laura put her hands on her hips and mentioned.

Noticing that Laura was going off track, Claudette hastily went back to the

topic at hand. “But this outfit isn’t appropriate, is it?”

“What do you mean by it’s not appropriate? Only this outfit can showcase your tall and pale body. It’s the best choice for seducing men!” Laura said, matter-of-factly and also a little shamelessly.

Claudette was speechless.

Before Claudette could say anything, Laura curved her lips into a confident smile and patted her chest. “According to my knowledge of men for the past 31 years, they’ll love to see you in this outfit.”

“Quit fooling around! We’re playing laser tag, not swimming! I’d be out of my mind if I listened to you!”

In reality, Claudette agreed with Laura’s opinion, but it only worked on men who were not gynecologists.

She knew that Emmanuel didn’t like to see women wearing skimpy outfits, so she took a set of pink sportswear and asked, “What about this one, Aunt Laura?”

“It’ll hide your chest.”

“What about this light blue suit?”

“It’ll hide your chest, waist, and butt. That man will certainly ignore you.”

“How vulgar. Dr. Lowe isn’t like other men; he’s not the shallow man you think he is,” Claudette said, snorting.

“Yeah, right. All men are perverts unless they’re a eunuch. This is the male instinct!”

As Laura spoke, she dragged Claudette to her room.

When she opened her wardrobe, Claudette was shocked to see that all her clothes were revealing.

Some might seem to have more fabric, but the cloth only hid unimportant parts, so the most important parts were out for the world to see.

Claudette didn't know what to comment.

Laura didn't care what Claudette thought and even smiled gleefully as she said, "To help the princess of the Lenoirs to get her Prince Charming, I'll selflessly lend you my equipment!"

With that, Laura took a white outfit from the wardrobe.

Surprisingly, it looked quite normal, and it seemed suitable for outdoor activities, too.

Even though it was tight-fitting and exposed the waist, it was undoubtedly the most reserved piece of clothing in Laura's possession.

Claudette was satisfied with it, so she held it against her body to check it out.

However, a startled expression soon colored her face.

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What is this?!

The outfit looked fine from the front but had zero coverage on the back!

If Claudette wore it for real, her back would be exposed for all to see.

“You don’t want to expose your chest and butt, so you can only expose your waist.” Laura analyzed it for her. “Believe me; if you don’t expose anything, no man would fall for you!”

Claudette thought Laura had a point, but she still hesitated.

“There’s nothing to hesitate over. Hurry and wear it! Are you General Lenoir’s daughter or not? How can you advance in love and relationships if you’re not bold enough?” Laura began reprimanding her.

Claudette’s father was a warrior, and he only started a business after he retired from the military.

The power and status the Lenoir family enjoyed today were closely linked to his connections and influence.

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“If you don’t act a little bolder today, I’m afraid you’ll lose your chance. Well, you can just settle for some other rich man. You have tons of admirers, anyway.”

“I don’t want to!”

When Claudette heard that, she hastily grabbed the outfit and ran back to her room like she was escaping something.

Even though she wasn’t completely brainwashed by Laura, she did somewhat agree with the latter’s words.

No matter how indifferent a man could be, he was still a man!

Laura was right. Unless Emmanuel were a eunuch, he wouldn’t be completely unfazed by women.

It was especially so when Claudette knew that she was a diva.

“Alright, Dr. Lowe, here I come! Take this!”

When Claudette thought about Mackenzie’s relationship with Emmanuel, she decided to break through her barriers, or she would lose all her chances.

At noon, Claudette went to the gathering place by car. When she arrived, she realized everyone was already there, including her sister, Elizabeth.

Almost everyone who joined laser tag was friends and classmates with her sister and Beatrix, so they were all around 20 years old.

Hence, Claudette, the 26-year-old woman, looked a little too old among their ranks.

She felt even more out of place since she was wearing such a mature outfit.

“Wow, you’re so pretty today, Claudette!” When Elizabeth saw Claudette, she shouted in surprise.

Claudette is getting serious this time. No one will be able to win against this beautiful diva! Elizabeth thought.

Beatrix also saw the daring outfit, and she hastily recorded a video in secret and sent it to her sister.

She wondered if her sister would sense immense danger upon seeing It.

Claudette’s beauty was radiating a little too much, and she soon became the focus of everyone present.

Girls envied her, whereas boys drooled at the sight of her.

Because of nervousness, Claudette avoided looking at Emmanuel on purpose. She smiled and greeted everyone, but she discreetly angled her

exposed back toward Emmanuel.

Just as expected, Emmanuel noticed her, and he couldn't help but be stunned.

Under the effect of the clothes, he realized that Claudette's skin was truly pale and tender.

Claudette stole a glance at him, glee welling in her heart. That woman at home is right; men always instinctively check out the bodies of the opposite .sex.

Just as she was about to get closer to him, two boys blocked her path.

“Hey, gorgeous, you're so beautiful! Let us, the valiant soldiers, protect you in the game of laser tag today.”

“That's right! We'll willingly risk our lives for you. No regrets!”

Claudette was a little bewildered. She didn't know the two boys at all.

Still, she knew that her bold outfit must have given off the wrong signal. They must have thought that she was easy to flirt with.

What should I do?

She glanced at Emmanuel with a panicked look on her face, seemingly to say, ‘Hurry up and help me, Dr. Lowe!’

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Chapter 234[708 words]

Chapter 234

“Do your best today, my good brother-in-law!”

Beatrix knew what Claudette was plotting, of course. She hastily walked over to them and snatched Emmanuel's attention away.

When everyone heard her referring to Emmanuel as her brother-in-law, they were shocked.

Elizabeth was surprised, too, as she said, "He's your brother-in-law, Beatrix?"

Emmanuel hastily explained, "No, it's a misunderstanding. We're bros, and she thinks it's funny to call me her brother-in-law. I'm not married to her sister!"

Beatrix smiled as she remained silent. Mackenzie is right-this guy is a fool! If he was not my brother-in-law, I wouldn't have called him as such now, would I? He's so dumb, but I have to say, he's fun to play with as well.

When Claudette saw that scene, she knew Emmanuel wouldn't be able to help her out anymore.

The boys standing before her were sons of wealthy families in Yeringham, and she had a faint impression of them.

The tall and broad one was named Isaac Lane. His brother used to be Claudette's classmate.

Isaac had met Claudette before and had fallen in love with this gentle and reserved beauty at first sight.

He even pursued her before, but she rejected him in a roundabout way by joking and saying that he was still a brat.

Now that he was 20 years old, he was a brat no more. When he saw the woman wearing such bold clothing today, he swore that he would win the heart of the idol in his youth.

Claudette knew the boy beside Isaac as well. His name was Jonathan Verkade, and they had met at the banquet before.

Initially, he was aiming for Beatrix, but the latter always rejected him. Now that he saw Claudette exuding a more feminine aura while wearing slightly revealing clothes, he felt that Claudette should be easier to get than Beatrix. Hence, he decided to try his luck.

Not only that, Jonathan always had this narcissistic view that he looked good, and he even secretly wondered if Claudette would want to do it with him.

At the thought of sharing a bed with this woman who had a back as white as snow, he couldn't help but feel a little excited.

Sadly, the gap between expectation and reality was always suffocatingly huge.

“Sorry, but I’m not interested in teaming up with you guys.”

Claudette’s honest words instantly caused Jonathan to feel awkward.

The looks and laughter coming from all sides made him want to disappear from the face of the earth.

Oh, well. Life is always fair. I’m sure this is a signal from the gods that she’s not the one for me. With that thought in mind, Jonathan turned around and invited Beatrix instead.

“Sorry, but I’m teaming up with my brother-in-law. We already made a promise,” Beatrix declined politely, then gripped Emmanuel’s arm tightly.

Emmanuel was exasperated. We are in public right now. How can she behave so intimately around me?! He couldn't help but feel as if he truly were

her brother-in-law.

The corners of Jonathan's lips twitched. He realized that his life motto was wrong. Real life would make one suffer for a while first and continue to make them suffer until they finally got used to it.

Before Jonathan could say anything, Elizabeth took her sister's hand and walked up to Emmanuel, saying, "We've already agreed to form a team with the four of us."

The corners of Jonathan's lips twitched even more violently.

Isaac had an upset expression on his face as well. Where did this man come from? He has snatched away the three prettiest divas. What chances do we still have?!

Still, Jonathan was an expert at flirting. He always went out and fooled around at night, so he knew a lot of tactics. He quickly smiled and said, "After the game of laser tag, Mr. Lane and I will treat everyone to a meal. So, I suggest we don't break into so many small teams for laser tag; just two teams will do. Does anyone have any objections?"

No one did.

No one dared to, either.

Everyone knew that Isaac wasn't one to be messed with; after all, he was rumored to have connections among the higher-ups in Yeringham.

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Chapter 235[719 words]

Chapter 235

Isaac used to be a tyrant in school, so no one dared to offend him and Jonathan.

At this moment, the atmosphere instantly turned cold.

People usually formed teams of five for laser tag, so now that they had to split into two large teams, it didn't feel as fun anymore.

Also, in team activities, no one wanted to be on the same team as tyrants; it felt too suffocating.

Claudette also found the two annoying. If Emmanuel weren't around, she would've quit right away.

Beatrix, however, was smart enough. When she heard Jonathan saying that, she knew that the two wanted to join her team at all costs so that they could flirt with the pretty women in all sorts of ways.

Hence, she raised her hand and shouted on purpose, "Alright, then we'll split into two teams. Anyone who wants to join our team, come and stand behind us!"

In an instant, more than 20 people stood behind them.

It was not an unexpected outcome. All three divas were on that team, so everyone would want to be on their team.

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There were a total of 30 participants, but 28 of them were on the same team.

As for the remaining two, why didn't they join?

That was because they were Isaac and Jonathan!

If they joined as well, it would be a team of 30 versus none. They would win by default, so they didn't even have to play!

Jonathan and Isaac could feel the cold wind breezing past them. The atmosphere turned extremely awkward once again.

Jonathan and Isaac weren't fools. They knew no one wanted to be on their side, so their expressions darkened. "Fine, we'll form a team of two. All of you will regret this!"

Jonathan was mad from embarrassment, and he left right after saying that.

Isaac's friendship with Jonathan was too strong, so he could only grit his teeth and follow Jonathan.

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After the two unpopular guys were gone, the remaining 28 people felt the match would be too dull if to be proceeded as such, so they ignored the two and divided themselves into seven groups. It was just right for every team to have four members.

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Hence, the game started.

The battlefield covered two hills, and the map was huge indeed. It felt like they had replicated video games in life-size.

In an attempt to create opportunities to be with Emmanuel, Claudette had spent quite a lot of money to bribe her sister. She promised to buy a new LV bag for Elizabeth so that the latter would help her distract Beatrix.

Beatrix was a smart person, so of course, she knew about that, too.

Though, she didn't plan on intercepting them. After all, her mission was to help their grandfather stimulate Mackenzie, particularly in the jealousy department, so that she would realize how much she liked Emmanuel.

For now, she would just play along with them. After squeezing some nice things from Elizabeth, she would leave in peace with Elizabeth instead of being the third wheel for Emmanuel and Claudette.

Claudette finally got to have some alone time with her Prince Charming. She quietly followed Emmanuel, enjoying the experience of being protected by him.

Unfortunately, Emmanuel was a serious man. He didn't take her hand, and he was too focused on observing the terrain that she didn't have any chance to strike.

"Aah!"

As Claudette walked behind him, she suddenly tripped and fell.

"Are you okay, Ms. Lenoir?"

It was only then that Emmanuel turned around and helped her up.

"I'm fine, but... Dr. Lowe, I'm walking at a slow pace, and I'm a clumsy person. Won't I be dragging you down? To tell you the truth, I don't know how to play at all!" she said with an apologetic look on her face.

The man finally smiled. "It's just a game, so you don't have to be that serious about it. It doesn't matter whether we win or lose."

"But... winners can get a prize. I may be slow at this kind of game, but I still want to experience the feeling of winning the game. I want to get the prize as

a memento, so... can you carry me, Dr. Lowe?"

Claudette blinked at him with her huge, bright eyes.

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Chapter 236[1,390 words]

Chapter 236

"I'll try my best!" Emmanuel smiled at Claudette. His bronzed skin and reassuring smile were exceptionally attractive in her eyes, so she took the initiative to hold his hand gently.

Since Emmanuel thought of her as his friend, he held her hand without hesitation and continued to track forward.

Bang! Bang!

!

He was a real soldier that had been to war, so his keen senses were incomparable to those who enjoyed laser tag. So, before Claudette had a chance to register what was happening, he fired two consecutive shots and took out two men from the other team.

That maneuver not only shocked Claudette, but it also evoked screams from the female players from their opposing team.

"Oh, God. He's such an excellent marksman!"

"I know, right? It's no wonder why the pretty ladies wanted to be on his team. I thought it was because he looked handsome. Who would have known he is a pro at laser tag!"

“Sobs, I should have joined his team when I had the chance!”

“I guess we’re easy targets now.”

While the two women complained, they were ousted from the game without a chance to resist.

Meanwhile, Claudette liked but loathed how Emmanuel always kept his distance from women. Firstly, she admired men like that, and secondly, she was afraid he might keep his distance from her, as she was also a woman. Such a man was like a double-edged sword. She envied whoever would become his wife!

“Dr. Lowe, you’re amazing! We will definitely come out as winners with you on our team!”

Looking at the admiration in her eyes, Emmanuel did not think much of it because, to him, beating a couple of students was a piece of cake for the Northern Region’s Best Marksman. Therefore, there was nothing for him to be proud of. However, his low-key behavior attracted Claudette even more as she thought he had a mature charm.

Meanwhile, news of Emmanuel’s heroic performance had been spread throughout the battlefield. Following the increasing number of people he ousted from the competition, the rest felt they must work together to take out Emmanuel for them to have a chance at winning!

Therefore, the number of people trying to ambush Emmanuel and Claudette gradually increased, but Emmanuel managed to overturn the situation and oust them all!

“Ms. Lenoir, watch out!”

Suddenly, someone tried to tag Claudette from behind. Emmanuel couldn't care less about anything and conditionally reacted by pushing her to the ground before rolling away.

While rolling away, he fired his gun at the two opponents who tried to ambush them, ending their time in the game!

That's awesome! Claudette rolled on the ground with Emmanuel's arm around her and ended up under him, but she did not feel uncomfortable. Instead, she felt rather excited and could even hear her heart pounding inside her chest, wanting to lay in the man's arms for the whole day! No, she wanted to stay in his embrace for the entire year! Even better, for the rest of her life!

“Ms. Lenoir, are you alright?”

After dealing with their enemies, Emmanuel got up and reached out his hand toward Claudette, wanting to help her to her feet.

However, she stared intently at the man's face, feeling her world spinning, and she even saw dreamy hearts floating around! How can this man be so captivating? What's more detestable is that he seems to have no idea how attractive he is! No wonder a misandrist such as Mackenzie would also fall for him!

After he saw her looking at him with wide eyes but did not move, Emmanuel felt his heart skip a beat. This is bad! Have I been too focused on the game and accidentally hurt Ms. Lenoir's head by squashing her?

“Ms. Lenoir, can you hear me?”

He nervously leaned closer while waving his hand before her face. However, the closer he came, the quicker Claudette’s heart pounded! Her bust rose and fell irregularly, and her mind went blank. The scene before her made her start to fantasize about something. Is Dr. Lowe going to kiss me?

If it had been another man, she would not be willing to give up her first kiss, which she had kept for over 20 years. But now, she felt excited and even closed her eyes, blushing as she waited for him to kiss her.

When Emmanuel saw her suddenly closing her eyes, he became even more frightened! He could not figure out what was happening and wondered if there was really something wrong with her. Although he had treated many people, he had never seen anyone with the symptoms Claudette was currently showing. Her complexion was perfectly healthy, but she behaved like something was wrong with her mentality.

“Ms. Lenoir, are you okay?”

Emmanuel called out to her again but still received no response, which shocked him so much that he immediately picked her up.

Meanwhile, Claudette hadn’t expected things would turn out like this! She now understood that the man would continue to interact with her if she did not respond, so she pretended to be mute.

While nervously checking out their surroundings, Emmanuel searched for a shady area where he could set the lady down and check up on her. He was unsure whether she was suddenly dizzy from the heat or something strange

was happening to her.

“Hey, look!” That scene just happened to fall into Elizabeth’s sight, and she quickly dragged Beatrix over to watch.

“My goodness! This is too much, isn’t it? What are they trying to do?”

When Beatrix saw that scene, she immediately took out her phone to take a video. She did not expect her brother-in-law to be such a sc*mbag. Did he fall for Claudette after she flirted with him a few times? This is awesome-ahem! I mean, he’s so shameless!

After bringing Claudette to a spot under a shady tree, Emmanuel asked, “Ms. Lenoir, we can forfeit if you’re unwell. How about I bring you home to rest?”

At that, Claudette instantly sat up straight. It happened so quickly that the man could not react in time, and the two almost kissed. The atmosphere instantly grew intense when their eyes met, and Claudette could feel her heart nearly leap out of her chest!

She remembered Laura used to say that when a man and a woman looked into each other’s eyes at a close distance, their attraction toward each other would increase tenfold! Her aunt also said that men were more active beings. During situations like this, even if the man disliked the woman or thought the woman looked ordinary, he would not be able to resist kissing the woman before him due to the surging of hormones.

Kiss me, Dr. Lowe! I’m ready! Claudette gulped.

If Laura were right, Emmanuel would not be able to resist himself and kiss her.

After all, not only did Claudette look pretty, but she was also publicly

recognized as the most beautiful woman!

However, she would never have guessed that not only did Emmanuel not kiss her, but he also looked relieved, which starkly contrasted her nervousness!

“Ms. Lenoir, thank goodness you’re fine! I thought I crushed you. That’s a responsibility I can’t afford to take up!” he teased.

Claudette smiled when she heard that, but her smile seemed slightly bitter.

She was hoping to get crushed; that way, she could have pestered him forever. However, she was not a bad person, so she would not pretend to be hurt.

Once her smile faded, a complicated emotion filled her eyes! She enjoyed the feeling she had just now, which would become the most treasured memory in her 26 years of living. Falling in love was indeed an event in which one would release the most dopamine!

Claudette decided not to disappoint herself and be bolder than ever, so she tugged on Emmanuel’s hand and urged, “Dr. Lowe, why don’t we continue the game? You must lead me to victory!”

“Sure, I’ll try my best!”

The insensitive Emmanuel did not understand the meaning behind her words and simply thought she was excited to play the game.

Since there should be lesser opponents at this point in the game, he wanted to end the battle as soon as possible so that they could become the winners!

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Chapter 237[804 words]

Chapter 237

The laser tag game was still on.

Emmanuel and Claudette were still roaming about the battlefield, searching for enemies. They had no idea what was going on elsewhere.

The laser tag arena's owner was Matias Lane, Isaac's older brother.

For realism, the outdoor arena was built in the rugged wilderness of a mountainside. That, however, meant a lot of cameras had been installed throughout the area just to ensure everyone's safety.

At the moment, Isaac and Jonathan were watching the multiple surveillance feeds in a staff room.

When the cameras caught sight of Emmanuel and Claudette, they were leisurely strolling through the wilderness with linked hands. At the sight of that, Isaac and Jonathan roared with anger, "Darn it! Darn them!"

*Claudette plays the untouchable saint before us, but she would offer herself up to that man for free?! Is she looking down on us?!"

"Yeah! What makes him so special compared to us, anyway? Claudette must be blind!"

They were seething with envy and jealousy.

Every man in Yeringham yearned to take Claudette on a leisure stroll and roll in the wilderness.

Somehow, someone had achieved the impossible, yet all these two men

could do was watch through the digital screen as the two had fun.

It would have been fine if the other man were someone more powerful and wealthier than they were. However, this man was just a mere doctor! How could they not be angry?

It was outrageous!

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“What do we do now, Isaac? We can’t just let this man lead Claudette to victory. It would be an even more aggravating outcome!” Jonathan abruptly blurted out.

Isaac sneered as he gritted his teeth. His eyes shone with an eerie savagery.

“Don’t worry,” he spat out. “They will never win! My brother owns this place. At any moment, I can summon a group of experts. I’ll have them take care of this man later on. We’ll beat him up so badly that he’ll be begging for mercy. When Claudette sees that, she will no longer be fooled by his good-looking!”

“Hahaha! That’s a good plan,” Jonathan agreed.

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He then abruptly clapped his hands once in realization. “Isaac, if we get someone to beat him up, things might not go our way. Claudette will be suspicious of us and even sympathize with him. But what if he gets beaten up because he made enemies? If that happens, it could be framed as something he deserved.”

“Haha! You’re even more vicious than I am.”

Isaac gave Jonathan a thumbs-up as he continued, “As expected of the

talent behind the student council, you truly think of everything. Nicely done, Jonathan!”

“Oh, you flatter me! You’re the vicious one between the two of us. Only the truly powerful and talented could have a group of experts at their beck and call. My suggestion is merely a minor tactic.”

The two men began to shower each other with flattery. They were so enthusiastic that an outsider might have thought they were great war heroes.

A few minutes later, a group of professionals dressed in camouflage attire arrived, summoned by Isaac.

With the help of Jonathan’s meticulous planning, the group was soon marching into the wilderness with weapons in their arms.

Unbeknownst to Claudette, her plan to pursue Emmanuel had accidentally lured in schemers hoping to destroy it.

As it was Emmanuel’s and her first time in the arena, they had wandered into the forest due to how lost they were.

That afternoon, the forests were very calm and tranquil. The setting sun’s rays hit a lake, filling the air with beams of gold. It was such a mesmerizing and unforgettable sight.

“This place is beautiful, Dr. Lowe.”

Letting out a sigh, she continued, “I would like to sit somewhere higher to admire the lake properly. May I?”

“Sure! Let’s go.”

Emmanuel might be oblivious, but he was not incapable of admiring the beauty of the lake.

They were here anyway, so it could be considered fate's design. It would be a waste if they did not sit down to admire the sunset.

He lifted himself to a higher vantage point before casually holding his hand out for Claudette.

With lips pursed to suppress the excited skips of her heart, she slid her slender hand into his palm and held onto his strong hand.

One gentle pull was enough to bring her lithe figure into the air.

A few thrilling moments later, she was standing close to him, leaning against him for stability. "What a wonderful sight this is," she exclaimed.

It was indeed a wonderful sight, though it was not the most captivating sight the rich young woman had ever seen.

The feelings of romance and delight were only this intense because the man standing beside her was the man she loved.

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Chapter 238[659 words]

Chapter 238

Emmanuel's fingers were so long and slender. His palm was so warm against Claudette's, and his chest was so firm.-

If she could continue holding onto his hand and taking a stroll while watching this amazing view, it would be the most romantic moment of her life!

Meanwhile, Emmanuel was oblivious to her thoughts and only noticed how distracted she had been the entire day. He couldn't help but wonder if it was his fault.

"It has been a while since we last bumped into an enemy. Why hasn't this game ended yet?" he mused.

After dragging her to a higher vantage point, he had a full view of their surroundings now. Despite having keen sight, he could not find a single person nearby.

If not for Claudette's insistence on winning, he would have gone home long ago.

As for Claudette, she did not want the game to end, as it would have meant she no longer had an excuse to enjoy a world with just the two of them.

She desperately cherished every single second they now had to themselves.

"I'm starving, Dr. Lowe," she exclaimed.

She blinked at him with wide eyes as she patted her flat tummy.

"Oh, let's have some food, then."

It was only then Emmanuel recalled that this was merely a game, not an actual battle.

Thankfully, the two had food in their bags.

However, when the man looked into the bag, he found all the food he had brought with him had been destroyed and squashed during the game.

"Oh, well. Do you want some of my milk instead, Dr. Lowe?"

She smiled after glancing into his bag.

“Huh? Your... milk?”

He was stunned upon hearing her words. No matter how dense a man was, it was inevitable for his mind to be in the gutter sometimes.

As a gynecologist, he knew full well that women could never produce milk unless they had kids.

“It’s dairy milk with oats in it. It’s very filling!”

She pulled out a bottle of milk from her bag and shook it gently in emphasis.

“You only have one bottle, though. You can have it.”

In truth, Emmanuel was not that hungry. Back in the days of carrying out his missions in the Northern Region, he had even gone through three days without food. So, this was merely a child’s play.

“Here.”

After taking a gulp from the bottle, Claudette handed it to him. .

He stared at her. However, he had been in the military before, so he did not hesitate for long after noticing how nonchalant she was about sharing the bottle of milk. After accepting the bottle, he started drinking it.

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He took a sip. Before he could wipe his mouth, the lady reached over with a handkerchief, tenderly wiping his mouth.

“No, it’s fine!”

Emmanuel hurriedly backed away as he was not in the habit of letting women wipe his mouth for him.

Claudette beamed at him with eyes curving into crescents. She then

grabbed the bottle of milk and took another sip.

The man did not say anything about it. During his missions, he would sometimes share a water bottle with Eve as well.

Claudette, however, was on cloud nine on the inside.

It was her first time sharing a drink with a man. Just like Mackenzie, she thought it was an indirect kiss.

Since he did not mind drinking from a bottle she had taken a sip out of and vice versa, she wondered if it meant he could accept kissing her.

Just then, she suddenly heard Laura's voice in her mind, chanting, "Get him! Get him!"

Claudette pursed her lips and wondered if she should make a move.

Then again, if she let her chance slip by today, she would probably not have another opportunity to do this again.

Once he fell in love with Mackenzie, she would never stand a chance at winning him over anymore.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 239[700 words]

Chapter 239

"Look out!" Emmanuel shouted.

As Claudette was hesitating, he heard the bushes nearby rustling.

At first, he thought it was their final opponent in the game approaching them.

However, he soon realized that it sounded like more than two people were

heading their way. Moreover, he heard footsteps coming from all directions, which meant they were likely hostile.

The instincts he developed through his work had him promptly pinning Claudette down to the ground with one hand while he scanned the surroundings with hawkish eyes.

Claudette was startled.

Though, she was not afraid of danger at all with him by her side. In fact, her heart was racing faster with adrenaline.

The next thing she knew, he had leaped into the bushes while carrying her in his arms.

Despite the scratches on her fair skin, she did not feel any pain or voice any complaints. The new development made her find the experience even more exciting and wonderful.

Bang!

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Suddenly, a rock was shot at and bounced off the ground around the spot they were resting at moments ago.

That finally snapped Claudette back to her senses.

Even she could tell that the guns used by their opponents were not the guns they were using in the game. The shot was extremely powerful, leaving a tiny hole in the ground where it hit.

“That’s a flat-nose bullet!” Emmanuel scowled.

Judging from experience, this meant they were no longer playing a game.

They were facing people who wished to cause them harm.

Emmanuel had used flat-nose bullets before during shooting practice back at Northern Region. While they were not sharp enough to pierce the human body, being hit by them meant broken or fractured bones.

With how thin Claudette was, she might even suffer from internal injuries. In the worst-case scenario, she would die! Who could it be? Why are they ambushing us here using those bullets? Emmanuel wondered..

Bang! Bang! Bang!

A series of muffled gunshots echoed through the air.

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Realizing what was happening, Emmanuel swiftly started rolling away on the ground with Claudette still in his arms. There was no time to think about anything else.

The two of them rolled to the foot of the mountain, and Claudette was squashed under him once more. Her heart kept racing. While the experience was painful, this was all so exciting!

She was not worried about her own safety in the slightest; she even wished the game would go on forever!

In truth, she had known this was no longer a game, but it did not matter.

“Hey, look where you’re shooting! Who will take responsibility if you hit Ms. Lenoir?” Isaac shouted as he swiftly charged over, reprimanding his subordinates. They are as dumb as rocks!

“We didn’t hit anyone, Mr. Lane,” one of the men reported.

“What?! You didn’t hit anyone?” Isaac’s rage twisted into an even more intense fury. They had used a lot of bullets in the last wave, yet none of them hit Emmanuel?!

“Darn it! I’ll do it myself!” Isaac snatched a gun and dashed down the hill, intent on breaking Emmanuel’s legs.

When he spotted Emmanuel’s form spread out over Claudette, he swiftly shot twice.

At that moment, his mind was so overwhelmed with jealousy that his hatred was extended to Claudette as well. She would much rather let a beggar hug and touch her than give me a chance. She had even publicly made life hard for Jonathan and me. How dare she! It’s all an act! She deserved this for her aloof virgin act!

In his fury, Isaac was capable of anything. Right now, there was a terrifying thought lurking in his mind.

He would kill Emmanuel and have a taste of Claudette right then and there!

Since everyone around them was his men, he could arrange for the two bodies to be abandoned in the middle of nowhere. Without any witnesses, no one could do anything to him.

However, Emmanuel and Claudette rolled on the ground and successfully avoided his bullets.

Dut! Dut!

The two bullets sank into the dirt, carving out two deep holes. It was a clear

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indicator of how powerful Isaac's gun was.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 240[772 words]

Chapter 240

Instantly, rage quickened Emmanuel's blood. I get it now. These guys not only want to kill me but Claudette too. If that's the case, I can only treat them as enemies on a real battlefield.

However, just as he was preparing to fight back, he heard a scream from Claudette. Oh, sh*t. Did Claudette get shot? He quickly looked down and felt a chill run down his spine. He was stunned to see there was a cobra deep in the woods, and it was biting her thigh.

"What should we do now, Mr. Isaac?" Hearing her scream, Isaac's subordinates couldn't help but panic.

They had released that cobra to deal with Emmanuel, but they didn't expect it to harm Claudette instead.

Although they didn't know what was on Isaac's mind, they knew they couldn't bear the consequences if she died here.

"What else? Quickly kill that man!" Isaac ordered without hesitation; he was determined to kill Emmanuel now and would then savor Claudette's body before she died.

This was what happened once an obsession took form. It would make people become terrifying individuals who would disregard everything.

After he said that, he raised his gun and was about to rush toward Emmanuel to shoot. However, he didn't expect that he had underestimated the man in front of him.

Emmanuel possessed incredible strength and struck the cobra's vital point in one punch. Pop! The cobra died on the spot.

This scene startled Isaac and the others, causing them to forget what they were doing for a moment.

At that time, Emmanuel couldn't afford to bother with these sc*mbags, as saving Claudette's life was the priority now. He threw the dead cobra toward the group and immediately carried her, running toward the depths of the woods.

5

By the time the group regained their senses, the two had already disappeared.

"F*ck! Go after them! Don't let them leave alive!" Isaac realized that things had escalated. If Claudette managed to survive and reported it to the police, the Lenoir family's power was not something the Lane family could contend with. By then, he would end up in jail for the rest of his life.

Unfortunately, Emmanuel's agility far surpassed their imagination. They pursued the two into the jungle, but there was no trace of them.

"What the hell! Who is he, anyway?! How can he be so incredibly skilled?" All of the men working here were trained and had agility beyond what an average person would have. However, they had to admit they were not on the same

level as Emmanuel. His skills were those of a retired Special Forces soldier, and he might even be the best among soldiers.

“Split up and search for them! They must be dead! Understand?!” Isaac ordered again.

However, his subordinates were just here for work. They would take risks to injure Emmanuel for money since Isaac would take the blame in case things had gone awry. Yet, they hesitated when it came to killing Claudette. They knew her background to some extent, so when they heard she was to be killed, they pretended to search for the two. Once the opportunity to escape presented itself, they would take it and run for their lives.

Even Jonathan refused to participate. Why should I risk my life for this? That’s not my crush that Emmanuel stole, anyway. Isaac is the mastermind behind today’s events. I didn’t even fire a single shot, and Claudette getting bitten by a snake had nothing to do with me. I should stay out of this.

Only Isaac was unaware that everyone else had betrayed him, and he foolishly went alone to chase after the two.

At this moment, Emmanuel carried Claudette to the side of a stream. Not only was the spot secluded, but it also had flowing water there, making it the perfect place to save her.

“Claudette, the cobra’s venom is highly toxic. I must help you detoxify now.”

After saying that, he didn’t have time to think much and took off her pants directly.

With that, a pair of perfectly sculpted, beautiful legs appeared before his

eyes again. The delicate skin of a lady from a wealthy family was different from that of an ordinary girl, for it seemed fragile to the touch. Any man in the world would find it hard to resist such temptation!

However, he was a gynecologist who had treated her many times before, so he was very familiar with her body and felt nothing at all.

The next moment, he directly pressed his mouth against her thigh, intending to suck out the venom for her.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 241[1,223 words]

Chapter 241

Although Claudette's legs were starting to numb, she still had some sensation. Emmanuel was a gynecologist focused on saving her with a clear gaze, but her face couldn't help but burn.

"Pfft-" At this moment, he had no other thoughts in his mind other than detoxifying her. Another mouthful of venom spurted out, gradually reducing the swelling of her wound.

Fortunately, he treated her just in time. Otherwise, the consequences would have been unimaginable.

Her lips turned pale, and sweat covered her forehead, but her cheeks were blushed. She felt extremely embarrassed. Whom would I marry if not Dr.

Lowe? But how could he endure this? Does he feel nothing about my body?

What about when he sees Mackenzie's body?

Suddenly, she became anxious and felt her heart wrench.

On the other hand, Isaac, alone, couldn't find the whereabouts of the two, so he had to go back and deal with the scene first. Since Claudette was bitten by the cobra, she's as good as dead. I will just need to find a way to ensure that Emmanuel doesn't come back alive, and this matter will remain without evidence. I'm not afraid of an ordinary person like him anyway. What can he do to me without any evidence?

As the sky darkened, many people playing laser tag had already gone back. Elizabeth and Beatrix had been waiting at the entrance, but Emmanuel and Claudette were nowhere to be seen. When they tried calling them, no one answered.

To prevent cheating, the management banned mobile phones inside the gaming venue, so their phones were currently stored in lockers.

Gradually, Beatrix started to feel anxious and regretful about secretly sending the video of Emmanuel and Claudette together to Mackenzie. What have I done? Why did I agree with Grandpa to provoke Mackenzie? What if Manuel and Claudette don't come out tonight? What will she do?

At this thought, she decided that they should make a move. "Why don't we call the police?"

"Maybe we shouldn't," Elizabeth said. She knew Claudette had come for Emmanuel tonight, and it was a rare opportunity for them to have some alone time. If we call the police, it will ruin Claudette's plan. That's terrible.

"Why call the police? It's normal for people to stay overnight on this

battlefield. Everyone always comes out safely in the end. Don't worry. They're fine." Isaac also stopped Beatrix from calling the police. Emmanuel is still alive. If the police come down here, he may expose us.

After hearing that, Beatrix had no choice but to give up.

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At 11.00PM, in the Yociam Residence, Mackenzie wanted to lock the door but hesitated to do so. She knew where Emmanuel had gone tonight and expected him to come back late, but she didn't anticipate him not returning by 11.00PM.

After some thought, she breathed a sigh of relief and decided to call him. You b*stard! Have you forgotten to come home with Claudette beside you? Am I less attractive than her?

“Sorry, the number you have dialed is unavailable.” Beep.

Hearing the call go silent, her already bad mood became worse.

A few minutes later, Beatrix, who was still staying in a hotel near the laser tag venue, received a call from Mackenzie. “I was just about to call you, Mackenzie. Manuel and Claudette are missing.”

This news left Mackenzie at a loss, which was unusual. Should I call the police? The thought crossed her mind, but she didn't say it out loud.

Beatrix quickly added, “I was thinking of calling the police, but the person in charge of the venue said that staying overnight while playing this kind of game is normal. Many men and women take the opportunity to...” Halfway through speaking, she immediately regretted it and quickly spat out.

Just as she wanted to change her words, Mackenzie coldly interrupted her, saying, "I get it. I just wanted to see if I needed to wait for him, but I guess not."

"Things might not be as you think, Mackenzie... Hello, hello?" Beep. Beep.

Beatrix hadn't finished speaking when Mackenzie hung up the phone, indicating that she was furious. Oh no, things have gone bad.

At this moment, she didn't know what to feel. At first, she had various motives for inviting Emmanuel here. On the surface, she was helping the Lenoir sisters, but in reality, she was secretly carrying out the mission assigned by Terence, deliberately making Mackenzie jealous. However, Mackenzie was not only jealous but also seemed genuinely angry. You can't blame me, Manuel. I'm just following orders. It was you who went too far. I can only wish you good luck.

She knew that once Mackenzie was truly angry, the consequences would be severe. I wonder if Manuel can handle it.

On the other hand, Mackenzie intended to stop thinking about Emmanuel and go to sleep. Yet for some reason, she couldn't fall asleep even though she had always had regular sleep patterns and good sleep quality.

The next morning, she woke up and suddenly realized that there was no one to make breakfast for her, and she wasn't used to it at all.

She called Beatrix and was told that the two people hadn't been found yet. As she gritted her teeth, she changed her clothes and decided to drive herself to the Lenoir Residence. Let's see if Emmanuel secretly went home with that woman.

Meanwhile, inside the laser tag venue, the game time had ended, but Emmanuel and Claudette were still not seen coming out. In the end, Elizabeth, Beatrix, and the others turned back and got into an argument with the venue staff, demanding that they immediately find the two. However, the staff members, who had received instructions from Isaac, directly drove them away.

Despite that, Beatrix and Elizabeth stood their ground. They insisted that the venue staff find Emmanuel and Claudette, or else they would call the police. The staff members still refused and even brought out the game regulations, stating that they were not obligated to find players.

“Fine, you’re not taking any responsibility, right? We’ll call the police now. Let’s see who ends up regretting it.” Beatrix, Elizabeth, and the others took out their phones.

Unexpectedly, a group of tough guys from a martial arts club suddenly rushed out and knocked their phones out of their hands.

Except for Elizabeth and Beatrix, the other students with ordinary backgrounds instantly panicked. How could they dare confront these skilled and ruthless people? Moreover, most of the people present were girls, and the boys were afraid of getting beaten, so they didn’t dare say anything.

“Listen up. We have all your information registered. If anyone dares to meddle and call the police, I guarantee that all of you will meet a bloody end!” A tall and muscular man with an intimidating appearance pointed at them and threatened loudly.

His name was Leonard Dalton, a good friend of Isaac's older brother and the muscle behind the scenes at the Lane family's businesses. With a strong physique and a menacing face, he was extremely frightening. Normally, when the Lane brothers got into trouble, they often had him step in to deal with and intimidate the other party, which always worked. So now, with Isaac feeling guilty, he had brought him out to help solve the problem.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 242[1,217 words]

Chapter 242

Several girls glared at Leonard. Although they were furious, they didn't dare speak up. Beatrix was also momentarily at a loss for a good solution and was thinking about how to counter the other party's intimidation.

At this moment, Elizabeth suddenly exclaimed in excitement, "Look, isn't that Dr. Lowe and Claudette?"

Instantly, Beatrix looked over, her eyes showing astonishment. No wonder Elizabeth was so excited, and everyone around us was acting so nosy. Why is Manuel carrying Claudette on his back? Oh my God! If Mackenzie sees this, who knows how she will react? Seeing that, she didn't dare continue provoking Mackenzie as Terence instructed, afraid of the lady's wrath.

When Isaac and Jonathan saw the two, they were shocked and couldn't believe that Emmanuel and Claudette were still alive. Damn it! They slept together outdoors yesterday. They must have done everything! They felt like

they wasted their efforts in preparing a perfect opportunity for Emmanuel and even made themselves anxious.

“Alright, everyone is here now. Please leave.” Although Isaac was angry, he couldn’t do anything to Emmanuel in front of so many people.

Seeing Emmanuel and Claudette, Elizabeth, Beatrix, and the others didn’t intend to continue causing trouble. They quickly retrieved their phones and prepared to leave.

Unexpectedly, Claudette bellowed with all her breath, “No! We were attacked with real guns yesterday, and someone released a venomous snake to murder us. I’m not letting this go just like that. I must know the truth and bring the culprits to justice.” Whoever did this has to face the music!

Although she usually appeared gentle and elegant, when she was truly angry, her wrath would be terrifying. Someone tried to harm me and Dr. Lowe! I will never let the person off lightly!

“What? Seriously?”

“Real guns and a venomous snake? Is that for real? T-That’s horrifying.”

The young students turned pale with fear.

Meanwhile, Beatrix and Elizabeth glared at Isaac and Leonard, demanding an explanation. Isaac felt slightly panicked. Since that was a real incident, he had no idea how he could argue.

So, he quickly looked at Leonard. Seeing that, Leonard understood immediately and shouted angrily, “Don’t you dare spread false accusations!

We have been operating this place for many years, and no such thing has

happened before. If that happened, do you think we could still be in business today? Now, get out! If you continue spreading false accusations, don't blame us for being impolite."

As he spoke, his subordinates also joined in the intimidation. Some even brandished their weapons, intimidating them.

Silence engulfed the place as all eyes turned toward Claudette. After all, they were not the ones who witnessed the venomous snake or saw the crime scene. They only found out through hearsay.

Just then, Emmanuel suggested, "Should we call the police?"

"No need." Claudette's expression was completely different from usual, and she said seriously, "These people wanted to harm you, Dr. Lowe. I will never let them off." After she said that, she looked at Elizabeth.

Elizabeth understood the assignment and couldn't help but shiver when she handed her phone to Claudette.

As Claudette took the phone, she wasted no time and dialed a number.

At this moment, Elizabeth's eyes lit up. Things are about to get interesting.

These people have provoked our Princess Claudette. Good luck to all of you.

Emmanuel had never seen Claudette's capabilities, but he knew she was Roselynn's boss and definitely had the means. I wonder what will happen next.

Leonard, however, remained oblivious to the danger and provocatively sneered. "Hahaha! Go ahead and call the police if you want. If they can't find any evidence, you'll be in trouble for tarnishing our place's reputation with

-false accusations. I'll make your lives miserable!"

In fact, Isaac had already instructed them to clean up the scene, so any bullets and snakes had been completely wiped away. If the police came, they wouldn't find anything.

On the other hand, Elizabeth found it amusing. Go ahead and be smug for now. You will soon understand the true meaning of terror.

"Someone tried to harm me, Aunt Laura. Please tell my dad." Claudette called Laura and got straight to the point.

"What? Who dared to harm you? That's fantastic... Uh... I mean, those b*stards! I will teach them a lesson. If I don't beat the crap out of them later, you can consider me useless." Laura's excited scream came through the phone. She had nothing to do all day except spend money, put on makeup, and sleep. I finally have something to do today!

Her scream was so loud that Claudette felt extremely embarrassed because Emmanuel was carrying her, so he definitely heard the sound from the other end. Sigh, Aunt Laura is just... weird. Claudette hung up the phone after a few words.

When Leonard heard the call, he couldn't help but chuckle. I thought she wanted to call the police, but instead, she called her aunt. Girls nowadays are so dramatic, always asking for their mothers when something happens. They never grow up!

Coincidentally, Isaac's older brother, Matias Lane, called Leonard too.

"Leonard, what's going on at the battlefield? Did Isaac call you guys for help?"

“Hahaha, it’s nothing. Don’t worry, Mr. Matias. It’s a few students feeling wronged and asking for their mothers.”

“Asking for their mothers?” Matias was momentarily stunned. Why do I feel something isn’t right? I feel like I have a vague memory of that phrase, but I just can’t recall it now. “Well, as long as no one is killed.” He then hung up the phone.

Initially, he didn’t take it seriously. After all, the Lane family had considerable influence in Yeringham. As long as no one was killed, it wasn’t a big deal if Isaac wanted to bully a few students. However, when he recalled the phrase ‘asking for their mothers,’ he had a foreboding feeling.

“Asking for their mothers?!” He went to the bathroom, and the moment the toilet was flushed, it suddenly came back to him.

He remembered that years ago, there was a tough guy in their school who bullied a wealthy girl in his class. That wealthy girl had called her mother, and in the end, a catastrophic chain of events unfolded.

In short, the horrifying scenes were permanently imprinted in his unconscious mind. But I don’t think rich girls are into laser tag, though. It doesn’t fit her demeanor.

However, due to his worries, he called Leonard again.

“Hey, boss, what’s up?”

“Tell me, Leonard. What’s the name of that girl who called her mother?”

“How would I know? Am I supposed to ask for her name every time I see a beauty? Do you think I’m that kind of lecherous person? Haha!” In fact, it

wasn't that he didn't want to hit on Claudette. Rather, given the ongoing conflict, he couldn't do so.

"I'm serious. Does she look hot and elegant? Don't tell me her last name is Lenoir."

"Wow, you're really on top of things. She looks gentle and is indeed smoking hot. What about her?" At this moment, Leonard also sensed that something was amiss.

"F*ck! You guys are in deep trouble!" Matias screamed in panic. "Quickly apologize to her! Remember, kneel down and sincerely apologize; otherwise, you all will be completely screwed!"

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 243[583 words]

Chapter 243

Without caring if Leonard understood or not, Matias hung up the phone and ran out in a frenzy. If it weren't for Isaac being his biological brother, he would have wanted Isaac dead.

Why does he have to offend Claudette, of all people? Doesn't he know she is General Lenoir's most beloved daughter? No one dares mess with her in Yeringham! Isaac, you f*cking *sshole!

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On the other hand, Leonard still didn't understand why Matias was so terrified, but he soon found out. A loud commotion erupted outside, shaking the entire

place as if an earthquake had struck.

“What the hell is happening?” Leonard, like many others, showed

astonishment on his face. What is causing such a disturbance?

Isaac’s pupils dilated instantly when he turned around, and he was unable to blink. For a moment, he thought he was hallucinating and rubbed his eyes in disbelief. Yet, when he looked again, he was so terrified that his legs gave out, causing him to sit on the ground.

Several large green trucks came roaring in, and they were followed by an eight-wheeled black monster truck. The scene was majestic and imposing as if the king of all beasts had arrived.

After the green trucks stopped, fully armed soldiers poured out like a tide.

Their movements were swift and disciplined as if they were seizing a battlefield, quickly surrounding the venue.

“Squad One! Assembled!”

“Squad Two! Ready to engage!”

“Squad Three! Ready to attack!”

At this moment, everyone in the venue was left speechless.

The soldiers’ voices were loud, their eyes shone with determination, and their actions were swift as lightning. Every movement and every word struck a heavy chord in the hearts of those present.

Upon witnessing this, Leonard finally understood the meaning behind Matias’ words earlier. My goodness! What the hell is this? We are just a group of thugs—a bunch of rubbish in front of a military force!

Meanwhile, Emmanuel was also astonished. Did Claudette summon these soldiers with just a single phone call? They are well-trained and not inferior to the troops in the Northern Region. Is this the private military force of the Lenoir family?

After the soldiers took control of the scene, the black monster truck slowly entered. A woman dressed like a queen stepped out of the vehicle while wearing high heels. It was none other than Laura.

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She slowly took off her sunglasses, revealing a pair of enchanting, almond-shaped eyes as a proud and arrogant smile tugged on her red lips.

“Oh, my God! It’s been a while since I’ve been out here bullying people. This feels great!” she said openly, not bothering to hide her feelings.

“Madam, Yeringham’s South District Squadron has assembled. Awaiting your orders.” A tall man stepped forward, striding with respect as he saluted Laura.

He wasn’t wearing a military uniform, but a suit.

Emmanuel hadn’t paid close attention at first, but when he took a closer look, he was shocked. Isn’t that Quintus?

On the contrary, Quintus had noticed Emmanuel earlier, and upon seeing him carrying his beloved sister, he gave him a bright smile.

“Good job.” Laura acted like a commander. “Quickly advance inside and rescue the General’s daughter! Oh, and her man too.”

What?! Hearing that, Emmanuel was taken aback. Her man? Who? Don’t talk nonsense. I’m just her doctor!

“Yes, Madam.” Quintus and Laura were really getting into their roles. With another stride and a loud response, he waved his hand and commanded, “Charge forward!”

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 244[725 words]

Chapter 244

The students inside were already dumbfounded, and even Beatrix was seeing the true power of the Lenoir family for the first time. Rumor has it that Claudette’s father is a general. I guess it’s true, then! No wonder she’s so daring to compete with Mackenzie for Manuel.

Meanwhile, Leonard and his henchmen were terrified at the sight of those regular soldiers, their legs trembling.

When they saw the opposing force rushing in, they quickly covered their heads with their hands, each of them lying on the ground and not daring to breathe. No matter how arrogant they were, they couldn’t act like that in front of an armed force.

“Please don’t shoot! We’re sorry!”

“We’re so sorry! It was just a prank! Sob...”

“Don’t kill me! Please don’t kill me! I’ll kneel before the lady!”

Leonard and the others kneeled in front of Claudette and Emmanuel, even hitting their foreheads against the ground to admit their mistake. They went from being arrogant to being utterly humble.

“Just a prank, eh?” Emmanuel suddenly became furious, roaring, “You fired blunt bullets at us and released venomous snakes to take our lives. You call that a prank, huh? If you were being serious, what were you going to do to me and Ms. Lenoir?”

“What? Did you use blunt bullets and venomous snakes on the Lenoir family’s princess? You’re asking for death!” As soon as Quintus heard that, his anger erupted as his veins bulged.

Oh, it’s happening. Elizabeth knew very well that Quintus had always doted on Claudette the most since childhood, even more than herself. After all, Claudette had a good temperament and had been to military camps. She was the princess in the hearts of everyone in the Lenoir family’s army.

At once, the furious Quintus shouted in anger, “Prepare to fire! Execute these b*stards who tried to kill the princess on the spot!”

“Yes, sir!” After the resounding response, the sound of loading guns followed. Then, the safety catches were released as well.

Leonard and the others were petrified on the spot, some even wetting their pants.

Likewise, Isaac covered his head and knelt on the ground, regretting his actions deeply. He knew Claudette’s background was formidable, but he didn’t expect it to be this terrifying. What have I done? There are so many guns aiming at us now!

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“Spare their lives, Quintus, but make sure to teach them a harsh lesson.”

While Claudette was angry, she remained gentle and kind, for she didn't want Emmanuel to misunderstand her as a villain. As such, she quickly stopped Quintus.

"Alright." Quintus would grant her every request. He picked up the stock of his gun and viciously smashed it into Isaac's face. Instantly, blood gushed out like a fountain.

When the students saw that, they were dumbfounded, their mouths agape in shock.

On the contrary, Elizabeth and Beatrix cheered in their minds, feeling satisfied. Weren't you acting all high and mighty like you were at the top of the world moments ago? How disgusting! What about now, huh? How does it feel now? Slap! Quintus gave Isaac a backhanded slap and kicked Leonard to the floor, treating them like punching bags.

Meanwhile, the menacing Laura stood with her hands on her hips, shouting boldly, "Who do you think you are? Are you blind? How dare you harm the Lenoir family's princess?"

"Harming the Lenoir family's princess means death!" Other soldiers also joined in the rage, rushing over and ruthlessly beating Leonard's henchmen. In an instant, there were cries of agony, making it look like a scene from hell. Beatrix was secretly amazed and looked at Emmanuel. He should be more cautious with his relationship with Claudette in the future. What if he upsets the Lenoir family's princess? I wonder how he'd end up.

On the contrary, Emmanuel remained unaffected. Firstly, he always acted

according to his principles, and secondly, he was not afraid of anyone when it came to physical strength.

This dramatic bout of laser tag finally came to an end after an intense fight.

Emmanuel and Claudette emerged victorious, so both of them were in a good mood.

Being experienced in romantic affairs, Laura promptly led her people to evacuate after dealing with Isaac and his group.

She even forcefully dragged Quintus away, not allowing him to third-wheel Claudette and Emmanuel.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 245[633 words]

Chapter 245

All the gamers left, and Beatrix had also been taken away by Elizabeth.

However, Emmanuel was a bit slow to catch on and furrowed his brows as he asked, “Why are your family members so strange? Don’t they all know that you got injured?” Claudette’s aunt, brother, and even her sister all left her behind. How can they do that? If it weren’t for Claudette making a phone call and bringing everyone over, he would have even suspected that she didn’t get along well with her family members.

At his question, she looked embarrassed and didn’t know how to answer. I can clearly sense how clueless this man is. Doesn’t he realize that I have feelings for him?

“Let me take you back home then, Ms. Lenoir.” He was indeed a little oblivious, especially knowing that she came from an extraordinary family background and that she was Roselynn’s boss.

After witnessing her capabilities just now, he considered her a lofty princess. How can she possibly have feelings for a man like me? I’ve been on 18 blind dates! It just doesn’t make sense.

Therefore, being naturally slow when it came to emotions and guided by his habitual thinking, he couldn’t entertain thoughts in that direction unless Claudette explicitly told him so.

With affectionate eyes, Claudette nodded and hummed in agreement.

Undoubtedly, the clueless Emmanuel ignored all her subtle expressions and unusual behavior.

While lying on his back, she couldn’t help but sigh. Do I have to confess my love for him? Otherwise, he might never know that I have feelings for him. What if he rejects me, though? It will be so awkward to see him for my treatments in the future. Okay, I’ll never confess.

Over an hour later, Emmanuel got off the taxi with Claudette in his arms. Just as he was about to take her to the door of the Lenoir Residence, he suddenly trembled all over.

In front of him stood a beautiful woman, emanating a chilling aura. Her cold, beautiful eyes were fixed on the two of them.

“Mackenzie? What are you doing here?” he asked at once when he saw her.

However, Mackenzie just bit her lips, not wanting to say a word to him. As she

stared at Claudette, she sneered coldly. “Congratulations, Ms. Lenoir.”

Claudette trembled slightly as well under Mackenzie’s stare. Even though she was the Lenoir family’s princess, it was difficult to withstand Mackenzie’s icy aura.

She didn’t know how to respond to the woman. Despite consistently regarding Mackenzie and Emmanuel’s relationship as a fake marriage, she experienced a twinge of guilt at that particular moment.

Mackenzie walked past Emmanuel directly without a word, even bumping him with her shoulder.

“Mackenzie! Mackenzie!” Although he didn’t understand what was going on, he still wanted to put down Claudette and chase after her. However, Claudette had been bitten by a snake on her thigh and couldn’t exert force. As soon as he let go, she sat down on the ground with a cry.

“I’m sorry, Ms. Lenoir.” At this moment, he was in a dilemma, but as a doctor, Claudette was his patient, so he quickly lifted her and took her into the Lenoir Residence.

After that, without stopping for even half a second, he turned around and ran out to chase after Mackenzie. Unfortunately, she had already disappeared by then.

“Why was Mackenzie at the door of the Lenoir Residence? Was she angry with me just now?” He felt something amiss. Though I don’t think she has feelings for me, we are still considered a married couple. Perhaps she misunderstood

something. I need to hurry back home and explain everything to her.

With this thought in mind, he hurriedly rushed back home, but to his surprise, Mackenzie was nowhere to be found.

Chapter 246

“Mackenzie? Mackenzie!” After searching around, Emmanuel quickly called her number, but he didn’t expect to be blocked.

What the hell? What’s going on? He was frustrated. She’s usually magnanimous, but why is she being so petty today? It’s not like her. Since he couldn’t contact her, he had no choice but to wait at home. However, she still hadn’t returned by 10.00PM.

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Suddenly, he heard his phone ring and eagerly checked it. When he saw that it was Claudette instead of Mackenzie, a hint of disappointment flashed across his eyes.

“I’m sorry, Dr. Lowe. Did Ms. Quillen misunderstand you because of me? Is she

still angry at you?” Claudette was concerned about him.

“**You don’t** have to apologize, Ms. Lenoir. I will **explain** everything to her.”

His response left Claudette with mixed emotions. While she did possess a competitive spirit toward **Mackenzie**, she had no deliberate intentions of deceit. It **was** beyond her expectations to **see** Mackenzie at her house today.

However, based on Mackenzie's expression earlier that day, Claudette was certain they both had developed feelings for the same man.

"Okay. You can always call me if you need anything," she added.

Emmanuel forced a smile without responding. Even if he was clueless, he could tell that Mackenzie held hostility toward Claudette. As such, if he asked Claudette to explain, it would probably make things worse.

However, he hadn't done anything wrong, and he was still worried about Mackenzie's safety. He then asked, "Ms. Lenoir, **if** you have Mackenzie's contact, please tell her to come home. She has blocked me, and I'm really worried about her."

"Sure!" Claudette **agreed**.

After hanging up the phone, she bit her lip and sent a message to **Mackenzie** upon Emmanuel's **request**.

Ding! Right then, Mackenzie was drinking with Beatrix in a private room at a restaurant. Her face was already flushed from the alcohol.

When she saw the message from Claudette, she smirked coldly. "Are you here to show off? You can take that sc*mbag with you."

She was truly disappointed; she had confidence in Emmanuel and herself, which was why she allowed him to go on an outdoor activity with Claudette.

Yet, she never expected that her man would spend a night in the wilderness with another woman and even carry her home. Is **it** that difficult for them to separate from each other?

“Sc*mbag! He must have gone after Claudette for her looks and money. Go ahead and con her, then! There’s no way you can con me!”

Hearing Mackenzie talk **to** herself, Beatrix was **also** taken aback, for she had never **seen** Mackenzie like this before in their 20 years together. It seems that she has truly been hurt.

“Perhaps things aren’t **as** you think they are, Mackenzie. Why don’t you go home and let Manuel explain?” Although she didn’t have much faith in Emmanuel’s ability to have a lasting relationship with Mackenzie, at this moment, she couldn’t remain indifferent and didn’t want to see Mackenzie upset.

“I don’t want him anymore. Let’s **drink!**”

Mackenzie wanted to continue drinking, but Lexi arrived at that moment.

“You came just in time, Lexi. I can’t handle her anymore. Quick, **have someone**

take her home.”

“Okay.” Lexi agreed and forcefully held onto the tipsy Mackenzie as they left the restaurant.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 247[737 words]

Chapter 247

At 11.00PM, Emmanuel finally heard someone knocking at the door. He quickly rushed to open it and accidentally bumped into the corner of the table,

which made him grit his teeth in pain.

The moment he opened the door, he saw Lexi supporting Mackenzie, and he couldn't help but feel surprised. "Ms. Summerton?"

Although he had seen Lexi before, it hadn't been on office grounds. As a part-time errand runner for this project, he only worked at night and rarely encountered such a famous person close to the CEO.

He remembered helping this beautiful woman driving a BMW get out of a staged accident in front of the cafe back then. However, he couldn't understand why she was accompanying Mackenzie home now.

"Hi, Mr. Lowe. I am Ms. Quillen's friend. We were drinking just now, and she got -drunk. As such, I had to send her back!"

"Oh, thank you." He quickly expressed his gratitude and was about to support Mackenzie from Lexi's hands. Sigh, why do you resort to drinking whenever you're angry? You're a woman, and even more than that, you're a goddess.

"Go away! Don't touch me!" Although Mackenzie was drunk, she was still conscious. Before he could touch her, she forcefully slapped him away.

At her reaction, he frowned instantly. Goodness, this is embarrassing. She's acting like I've committed some sort of unforgivable offense.

When Lexi noticed the situation, she couldn't help but force a smile. "It seems you need to put more effort into comforting your wife, Mr. Lowe. I'll get going now."

"Alright, thank you." Emmanuel suppressed his anger and thanked her once again.

After closing the door, he turned around and noticed that Mackenzie had already collapsed onto the couch. Due to the effects of alcohol, her movements were ten times wilder than usual.

In any case, her behavior was completely different from his first impression of her.

“If you have something on your mind, you can tell me, Ms. Quillen. You don’t have to go out drinking every time. You said I got into fights four times a month after our marriage, but you’ve been drunk three times a month too.”

He voiced out his emotions.

This only infuriated Mackenzie further. I got drunk every time because of you!

However, she chose not to say anything and emitted an icy aura as she replied, “Does it have anything to do with you? I’ll drink if I want to. You can go and drink with Ms. Lenoir if you want to!”

“Let me get this straight, Ms. Quillen. Ms. Lenoir is both my patient and my friend. She got injured during the game, and I was just escorting her home. That’s all,” he quickly explained the situation.

Yet, she laughed coldly. “She got injured during the game, but why did you have to carry her home? What is she to you? Your wife?”

“My relationship with her is not what you think it is,” he further explained. “I’ve known her for three years. That’s way before I even met you, Ms. Quillen. Believe it or not, our relationship is platonic.”

Hearing that, she stood up directly and sneered. “You’re finally showing your true colors. So, you’ve been looking for a wealthy woman all along, eh? Did

you only marry me for my grandfather's money?"

He instantly let out a sigh, feeling greatly disappointed that she would say such things. "Let me make you a cup of tea to sober up. After you drink it, take a shower and rest early."

"Why? Did I hit the nail on the head? You can't even be bothered to explain anymore, huh?"

"Please stop making baseless accusations." Emmanuel was generally easygoing, but he had his limits too. Mackenzie's accusations about him made his temper flare up, and they faced each other directly, locking eyes.

"We signed a contract back then. Besides appeasing my mother and making her happy, what other benefits do I get from marrying you?"

In fact, Mackenzie understood what he meant. If he married her for money, it would have been better for him to marry Claudette when he didn't know she

5/5

was the daughter of the Quillen family. That woman is clearly throwing herself at him. I can't help feeling uncomfortable, that's all. Sigh, I don't feel like myself anymore. This feels terrible. It feels like I've been dragged down to a lower level by this idiot!

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 248[573 words]

Chapter 248

It's all this idiot's fault!

Seeing her silence, Emmanuel continued, "Ms. Quillen, you made it clear the first day we married that you wouldn't interfere with my relationships with other women. Why are you contradicting yourself now? Also, my relationship with Ms. Lenoir is perfectly normal. We didn't cross any boundaries because I know I'm your legal husband. I would never do anything to betray you."

He spoke with great sincerity. If it were Claudette, perhaps she wouldn't have this confidence, but Emmanuel definitely did. He truly had no feelings for Claudette despite finding her a great woman.

"Are you saying that I'm making a fuss and whining out of nothing?"

Mackenzie was a high and mighty woman, so no one dared contradict her like this. If she could persuade him with reason, she would feel better, but she felt that she couldn't win an argument with him. As a result, her feminine nature was completely ignited.

"That's not what I meant. I just don't want you to be angry. I like seeing you happy. Do you understand?" Likewise, Emmanuel became agitated and spoke from the bottom of his heart. He was worried sick about her today, and seeing her coming back in a drunken state made his heart twist.

When she saw him like this and heard what he said, combined with the effects of alcohol, she inexplicably took the initiative to hug him. The next moment, she even kissed him.

Instantly, his body tensed up. Has she gone mad? Yet, what was even crazier was that he didn't have the urge to push her away. At this moment, he truly

felt the difference between Mackenzie and Claudette. Only she can make my heart race so intensely, but what should I do now? Since he had no experience in relationships, he stood still like a wooden puppet, not moving an inch.

It wasn't until Mackenzie suddenly felt a surge in her throat and vomited everything she had eaten and drunk into his mouth that he was completely flabbergasted. What the hell?! Why did you add seasoning to my magical first kiss? He quickly moved away.

She vomited all over the floor, feeling extremely embarrassed. Can't I just die? If this goes out, I'd rather die! It's all the alcohol's fault!

Meanwhile, Emmanuel also felt awkward. He was about to go over and pat her back to help her sober up when his phone suddenly rang. Seeing that it was Claudette, he hesitated whether to answer or not but eventually decided to hang up.

However, Claudette called for the second time. He thought that she might be calling to inform him about Mackenzie since he asked her to contact the woman, so he answered reluctantly.

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Unexpectedly, she immediately said, "Dr. Lowe, has Mackenzie returned home? If she hasn't, can you come to my place now? I need you!"

Huh?! With the two of them so close, Mackenzie suddenly sobered up when she heard that. Just a moment ago, she still trusted Emmanuel and even

considered forgiving him, but now, she was completely furious.

Emmanuel, sensing the danger, quickly tried to explain the situation.

Yet, she gave him a tight slap. “Hmph, you spoke so sincerely just now, but I won’t trust you anymore. Get out of here!” Mackenzie bellowed with bloodshot eyes and ran back to her room alone. With a loud bang, she slammed the door shut.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 249[614 words]

Chapter 249

“Mackenzie! Mackenzie!” Emmanuel hurriedly chased after her to the door, but it was clear that she couldn’t be bothered with him. He retreated with a sigh, feeling dejected.

“What’s wrong, Dr. Lowe?” Claudette’s tone carried a hint of apology. Her strange illness chose to flare up at this very moment, and she truly wanted to see Emmanuel now, hoping he could come and help her.

“I’m sorry, Ms. Lenoir. I can’t go out tonight. Please come to the hospital tomorrow for a checkup.” He understood what she meant just now, but he wasn’t in the mood for it.

“Oh, okay.” She agreed with a sigh.

After she hung up the phone, her unsettled emotions continued to linger. She didn’t feel a sense of triumph over defeating a love rival. Instead, she felt a -wave of guilt.

Although it wasn't intentional, it was because of her that Emmanuel and Mackenzie ended up in such a state. I feel like a mistress in their relationship, but I really want to be with him. What should I do? At this thought, tears welled up uncontrollably in her eyes.

On the other hand, Emmanuel didn't have the energy to attend to Claudette's emotions, for his mind was occupied with how to fix his relationship with Mackenzie. She told me to get out, but I don't want to leave this home.

After some hesitation, he decided to respect her wishes. After leaving a note behind, he left the house.

Thud! Although he closed the door quietly, Mackenzie still heard it. She quickly walked out and discovered that the man had indeed left.

At this moment, it was already past midnight. Is he going over to Claudette's? When she noticed the note on the table in the living room, she quickly picked it up and read his message. 'I'm sorry, Ms. Quillen. Maybe I shouldn't have -attended the laser tag game, but my relationship with Ms. Lenoir is purely platonic. I didn't cheat on you. Please believe me. Since this house is yours, I will leave if you want me to. If you need me for anything else, you can contact me anytime.'

These simple words caused the poised and aloof CEO of Terence Group to tremble slightly, and she felt a tingling sensation in her nose. Damn it! When did I start caring so much about a man?

As she bit her lip tightly, she comforted herself, saying, It's good that the idiot left on his own. He's the one at fault, anyway. If I divorce him, Grandpa can't

blame me.

That was what she believed, but her body didn't follow suit. Since she couldn't sleep, she put on a coat and went outside.

Through the glass window in the corridor, she saw Emmanuel sitting on a bench under the streetlight in the neighborhood.

She wanted to invite him back inside, but she was the proud Ms. Quillen. How could she go back on her words? I was the one who told him to get out. If I ask him to return, others will surely laugh at me if they find out. No! No way I'm letting that happen."

"Hmph, since he's as strong as a tiger, he won't freeze to death."

Mackenzie ultimately returned to the house, but sleep eluded her.

The next morning, she left home slightly later than usual.

When she reached the garage, she noticed that the Maserati was still there.

Emmanuel must have taken the electric bike to work.

Suddenly, her expression turned slightly angry. She was about to call Wally to come and pick her up when she thought better of it and got into the Maserati before driving to work.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 250[1,474 words]

Chapter 250

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At the entrance of the Terence Group headquarters, the security guard was

performing his daily duties when he stopped a Maserati for registration. To his surprise, he found the cold and aloof female CEO behind the wheel. He immediately apologized and said, “Ms. Mackenzie, I didn’t know it was you! Please come in quickly!”

Previously, when Emmanuel drove this car, he would always stop at the intersection near the industrial park without coming all the way to the company entrance, let alone park in the designated parking spot. As such, the security guard didn’t recognize the car at first.

“Register the license plate in the system. If this car enters the company premises in the future, let it pass directly!”

“Yes, Ms. Mackenzie.”

The security guard promptly acknowledged her orders and proceeded with the registration.

When Mackenzie parked the car in the company parking lot and got out, she coincidentally ran into Lexi.

Lexi was shocked and hurriedly greeted her, asking, “Good morning, Ms. Mackenzie. Why are you driving by yourself today?”

“I have a driver’s license. Why can’t I drive by myself?” Mackenzie responded coldly. ”

Lexi nervously replied, “Ms. Mackenzie, you should know that I didn’t mean anything by it. Where is your driver?”

Mackenzie shot her a glance that could almost slice her in half with its intensity.

Lexi felt a chill run down her spine. Mackenzie is terrifying in this state! In the past, I wouldn't have believed that the formidable Ms. Mackenzie could be associated with the word 'heartbroken. Now, I have no choice but to believe romantic heartbreak.

Throughout the day, Mackenzie reprimanded more people than usual.

Fortunately, Beatrix had received a warning from Lexi in advance and didn't dare get too close to her sister. Otherwise, she might have faced the same fate.

Of course, Beatrix had to report Mackenzie's state to her grandfather, and she even vented her frustrations. "Grandpa, is this one of your bad ideas?

Mackenzie's current state is not conducive for her work, and if it continues for too long, it could affect the company!"

"Haha, excellent!"

Terence laughed heartily without a care in the world, completely disregarding the state of the company.

After all, the Quillen family's business was massive, and losing a few million wouldn't make a significant difference. Mackenzie's current state proved that Emmanuel had entered her world and could deeply influence her emotions!

Terence was confident that no one else in the world could put his granddaughter in such a state. Emmanuel had accomplished this, showing that he was indeed a suitable match for her. Hahaha, great! Very good...

Upon hearing her grandfather's laughter, Beatrix felt a headache coming on.

He's the most ruthless grandfather in the world!

Although her older sister was formidable, compared to her grandfather, her sister still had a long way to go.

Meanwhile, Emmanuel was also absent-minded at work today. Having married without ever having been in a relationship before, it was really hard to experience conflict with his wife for the first time.

He hadn't smoked since his retirement, but he couldn't resist the urge to go to the rooftop for some fresh air and a cigarette today.

"What's wrong? My boy, are you having relationship issues?" Frederick appeared behind him out of nowhere and expressed concern.

"Can you tell just by looking at me?" Emmanuel didn't hide his thoughts from his best friend.

"Haha, your expression says it all—you're troubled by love!" Frederick grinned smugly.

Emmanuel forced a bitter smile. "You speak as if you have a lot of experience in this. However, you've been single for years!"

"It's different for me. Although I haven't married, I have pursued girls in the past. On the other hand, you got married without ever being in a relationship.

Chapter 250

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"It's different for me. Although I haven't married, I have pursued girls in the past. On the other hand, you got married without ever being in a relationship. Skipping that step poses significant risks, my friend." Frederick continued to smile.

Emmanuel smiled without responding. He admitted that he had underestimated the complexity of marriage. Now, with Mackenzie in her current state, he didn't know what he should do next.

"Ms. Lenoir is here. Do you want to go and see her?" Frederick suddenly said, which was the reason he came up to the rooftop to find Emmanuel.

Although Emmanuel didn't particularly feel like seeing Claudette at the moment, he had professional ethics. If a patient came, he couldn't refuse to

see them.

Skipping that step poses significant risks, my friend.” Frederick continued to smile.

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Chapter 251

When Claudette saw Emmanuel walk into the diagnostic room, she couldn’t help but feel a bit nervous.

Apart **from** the incredibly sweet experiences they had over the weekend, she also noticed that his mental state wasn’t too good, which burdened her inexplicably.

“Dr. Lowe, I feel a bit unwell again...” Claudette took the initiative to speak, her

voice somewhat weak.

“Let me check your pulse.”

“Okay.” She **extended** her hand to **Emmanuel**, sensing that something felt

different compared to before.

However, Emmanuel proceeded to check her pulse as usual, but after **that** initial touch, it was **as** if **his** soul had left his body.

After a while, Claudette asked softly, “Dr. Lowe, how am I?”

“Ah!”

Emmanuel jolted as if he had been electrocuted and awkwardly chuckled.

“Sorry, I zoned out for a moment!”

He quickly resumed checking her pulse.

After a while, he said, “You have a congenital condition influenced by **the** snake venom in your body. You need to receive an antidote injection and rest for two **days**, then you’ll be fine!”

“Okay, thank you!”

“You’re welcome!”

Emmanuel continued to treat her in his usual manner, leaving Claudette somewhat disappointed. It made **her feel** as if no matter what she did, **she couldn’t** affect his emotions. Meanwhile, Mackenzie seemed to captivate him completely!

The weight each of them held in this man’s **heart was** already **evident**.

Although Claudette **didn’t** want to admit that she had lost to Mackenzie, she had to accept the reality that was right in front of her.

It seemed that no matter how much she continued to strive, it might all be

pointless.

Should I give up?

Coincidentally, Frederick came down from the rooftop and saw Claudette. He was thinking of greeting her, but when he saw her seemingly distraught state, he decided against it.

“Ah, what is love in this world? It drives people to live and **die** for it. Love is too

dangerous. I’ll remain single for a hundred years...”

Frederick, seeing Emmanuel and Claudette’s state today, seemed genuinely afraid.

When he **saw** Claudette enter, **her spirits seemed** fine, but after meeting **with**

Emmanuel, it was as if she had fallen gravely ill!

One had to admit that the power of love was incredibly **strong**!

Claudette didn’t even notice Frederick. In fact, she had forgotten the entire process of leaving the hospital.

It wasn’t until a Range Rover stopped in front of her that she snapped back to reality.

“Hehe, why do you look so absent-minded, the Lenoir family’s princess?

Weren’t you daydreaming and giggling last night?” Laura teased Claudette.

Claudette glanced at her without saying a word, remaining silent even after getting into the Range Rover.

“What’s wrong? Does that dumb gynecologist not like you?”

Laura, who was widely known as a love expert with her vast romantic experiences, could understand Claudette's predicament with just one **look**.
"Laura, I think I should give up. There's no place for me in Dr. **Lowe's** heart!"

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 252[767 words]

Chapter 252

Claudette's eyes reddened as she said, "He has Mackenzie in his heart! I've intervened in their relationship, and I'm a shameful homewrecker..."

Seeing her like this, Laura quickly hugged her and gently stroked her head.

"Silly girl, men are capable of changing. Don't give up so easily. When he and Mackenzie are done, won't you be able to rightfully take your place? That's how I established my position back then!"

Claudette trembled upon hearing that.

Indeed, Laura had liked her father for over a decade, but unfortunately, her father had feelings for her mother. Laura never married, and it was only after her mother's passing that she finally became a substitute for her mother.

"I know about Mackenzie. With her personality, no man can handle her! I can't guarantee that she'll have a shorter life than my sister, but I can guarantee that her relationship with Dr. Lowe will definitely be short-lived! You don't have to wait until my age to marry the person you like!"

Laura used her personal experience to inspire her daughter.

After hearing her words, Claudette instantly regained her fighting spirit!

That's right, all I have to do now is wait. Once Emmanuel and Mackenzie are done, perhaps it will be my turn!

Seeing Claudette's determined gaze, Laura was also pleased. She couldn't help but think that Emmanuel must've been a hero who saved the entire world in his past life. His luck was simply unbelievable!

Not only did he marry the heiress of Yeringham's wealthiest family, but even/ the Lenoir family's princess willingly became his backup plan. If this news got out, it would undoubtedly cause a sensation throughout Yeringham!

As night fell, Mackenzie stared into the distance, lost in thought. After a while, she pressed a button to notify Wally to come pick her up and take her home.

At the same time, a Range Rover had long been parked outside the commercial park, where Quintus was already lying in wait. No matter what, I have to successfully ask my goddess out on a date today!

Quintus had gotten out of the car. Zane was the only one left in the Range Rover when he realized that Abellyn had sent another message to arrange a meeting with him.

"Heh, she's quite forward! Is she lacking men?"

Zane smirked. He had played around with countless women, and she was the first to be so proactive in making the first move.

As the manager of Lenoir Group, he certainly couldn't be lacking in emotional intelligence and IQ. He knew that this woman had ulterior motives.

Thus, he deliberately kept his distance from Abellyn for now, both to keep her interested and to give himself time to figure out her intentions.

However, since she had continuously invited him out three times, he had to accept it tonight. Otherwise, she might give up, and he would miss an opportunity for a freebie session!

“I’ll be accompanying my boss to a banquet tonight. It’s at Northern Riverside Villa No. 301. If you’re free, just come over.

Zane sent a voice message and casually tossed his phone aside.

On the other end, Abellyn received the message and became ecstatic. She quickly called her sister over.

“This is great! Tonight is the perfect opportunity! Remember, don’t give yourself up to him too easily. In the final stage, you must keep him interested and force him to promise you a house or money. When things get steamy, no matter what request the woman makes, the man will agree!” Chloe quickly reminded her.

“I understand, Chloe! I know what to do!”

Abellyn was confident.

Tiger, who was listening on the side, tightly pursed his lips and suddenly felt uncomfortable. He turned and ran into his room.

The two women didn’t pay attention to his reaction. After Chloe gave a few more instructions to her son, she hurriedly left with her sister!

Meanwhile, at the entrance of Terence Group, Quintus finally saw Mackenzie’s car and rushed over, risking his life as he opened his arms to block the car.

Fortunately, Wally reacted quickly. Otherwise, he might have sent him flying.

Mackenzie was already in a bad mood, and being jolted like this made her

even angrier. She rolled down the window and scolded angrily, “Quintus, if you want to die, don’t die in front of me. Get out of my way!”

Instead of being angry, Quintus burst into laughter excitedly. “Excellent, Mackenzie! In all the years I’ve known you, this is the first time you’ve scolded me like this. It proves that I’ve finally managed to affect your emotions!”

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 253[715 words]

Chapter 253

“Huh?” Mackenzie couldn’t help but burst into laughter at Quintus’ words. Even Wally was speechless. One wouldn’t be able to come up with such words without years of experience as a lapdog!

Does his family carry the lapdog gene or something? Quintus acts like this around Ms. Mackenzie, and his sister acts like this around Emmanuel. It’s causing discord in Ms. Mackenzie’s marriage, for Emmanuel hasn’t been picking Ms. Mackenzie up from work.

“Mackenzie, are you free tonight? We have a party, and if you attend, you will undoubtedly be the center of attention!” Quintus didn’t care about Mackenzie’s expression or what Wally thought. He was just shamelessly being a lapdog. “Your beauty and temperament should be presented to everyone! Do you know that you’re the most elegant flower in Yeringham? Please don’t keep your beauty to yourself. Otherwise, it would be a waste. What a pity!”

If he had said such words in the past, Mackenzie would have scolded him

and left. However, she was in a foul mood that day and thought Quintus was right! She married Emmanuel despite having countless pursuers, yet he still wanted to embrace other women. It was truly infuriating! Yesterday's incident still bothered her, and she was thinking of finding someone to have a drink with. If there was a party, it would save her the trouble of inviting someone out.

"Fine, let's go and check it out." Mackenzie surprisingly agreed to it, leaving even Wally extremely surprised.

"That's great, Mackenzie. Get in my car, and I'll take you there!" Quintus wanted to take advantage of the situation and even planned to kick Zane out of the Land Rover once Mackenzie agreed. Fortunately, Mackenzie rejected his offer, and Zane escaped his fate.

On the other side, Chloe and her sister had arrived at the Northern Riverside Villa ahead of time. Seeing the luxury cars in the parking lot and the bustling scene by the seaside villa, they were truly amazed. This was the glamorous life of the upper class!

"Abellyn, you must find a way to marry Zane. By then, perhaps we'll be able to get into the upper-class circle!" Chloe actually believed that Zane was an upper-class person, unaware that he was only able to attend due to Quintus' influence.

"I understand, Chloe! I'll do my best!" Abellyn, who was even less knowledgeable than Chloe, had no idea how treacherous the upper-class circle was. At this moment, she adjusted her bra and fixed her makeup,

thinking that if she could enter with Zane tonight, perhaps she would meet someone even more influential than him. Then, she could find a man more formidable than Mackenzie and suppress her in turn!

Just look at how that woman had shown off in front of me before. Wasn't she just bullying me for being poor?

At that moment, there was a sudden commotion at the party venue. Many young men and women rushed out of the villa and gathered at the entrance, craning their necks in anticipation.

Seeing the commotion, the sisters who had been lingering at the entrance became curious as well.

4

"It seems like a super important person is about to arrive, right?"

"Yeah! Look at how well-dressed these people are. They must be wealthy. Whomever they're fawning over must be on a different level altogether."

The two sisters tiptoed to get a better look. If a super wealthy man took a liking to them, it would be like a plot in a romantic drama. How exciting!

Dreams were meant to be had. What if they came true?

At this moment, a Land Rover and a Bentley arrived one after the other.

Seeing the crimson Bentley, the Sheppard sisters, though not necessarily knowledgeable in cars, were aware that it was very expensive. It went without saying that the people gathering at the entrance were undoubtedly waiting for the owner of the Bentley!

Unfortunately, they were in a lousy position, and they were not tall enough.

Their line of sight was quickly blocked by others.

“Wow! It really is Ms. Quillen!”

“Ms. Quillen has graced our party. We’re so honored!”

The group of young men and women cheered excitedly.

Upon hearing that name, Abellyn suddenly trembled instinctively, for

Emmanuel would always address his wife as ‘Ms. Quillen.’

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 254[600 words]

Chapter 254

Could this Ms. Quillen be his wife?

Unfortunately, just as they managed to squeeze their way to the front after the crowd dispersed, Mackenzie had already gone in, and Abellyn caught only a glimpse of a figure from behind.

“What’s going on? That figure really looked like her!” Abellyn suddenly exclaimed.

“What do you mean looked like her? Do you know Ms. Quillen?”

Abellyn had never even thought about it from that perspective. How could Ryder’s cousin possibly have any connection with Ms. Quillen? They were from completely different worlds!

Abellyn earnestly said, “Chloe, I think her figure looks a lot like Mackenzie!

Could she be Emmanuel’s wife?”

“How is that possible?”

Chloe also exclaimed but then laughed. “How can Ryder’s cousin in that wretched state marry Ms. Quillen? No author would dare write such a story. Besides, if she were Ms. Quillen, would she live in an ordinary upscale neighborhood? She would definitely live in a mansion or a grand villa!”

“That’s true...”

Abellyn also thought it was highly unlikely, but the silhouettes of the two women looked exactly the same!

“Enough, let’s not overthink it! Emmanuel’s wife is indeed beautiful. The silhouettes of beautiful women all look somewhat similar, don’t they?” Chloe scoffed.

“You’re right!” Abellyn accepted this explanation.

At that moment, Zane walked toward them and invited Abellyn to the party. Due to his status, he couldn’t bring two people in.

Chloe didn’t mind and made intense eye contact with her sister before they parted ways.

2/5

Abellyn understood and nodded her head, linking her arm with Zane and entering the venue.

After joining the party, Mackenzie socialized and had a few drinks with some businessmen present. However, having gotten drunk the previous night and feeling physically uncomfortable, she didn’t want to drink too much. She quickly distanced herself from the clingy Quintus and sought a place to rest. When she was left alone, she couldn’t help but think of Emmanuel. She

wondered what he was doing. Without her permission, he probably wouldn't have come home, right?

If this continues, is this marriage coming to an end?

Click.

As she was about to enter an empty room, she noticed a couple being intimate on the bed. She didn't want to witness such a sight and was about to turn away when she unexpectedly felt like she recognized the two people. So, she looked closer at them.

What's going on? Is it actually Abellyn and Quintus' driver fooling around on the bed?

Just as Zane was about to reach out toward Abellyn, she grabbed his hand and playfully said, "Zane, don't be in such a hurry!"

At that, she sat up.

Mackenzie quickly retreated but continued to eavesdrop on their conversation.

"Darling, what's the matter with you?"

*

Zane was indeed itching with impatience. His pants were already off, and the other party was playing hard to get. No man could withstand it!

"Life has been hard for me. I've encountered sc*mbags before, so I'm worried about whether you're sincerely interested in me."

Abellyn followed her sister's instructions and seduced Zane step by step.

"Of course I am!"

Zane just wanted to deceive her into sleeping with him so that he could enjoy himself. He would deal with the consequences later. Right now, he was definitely going to say whatever she wanted to hear.

“In that case... Can I live in your house? I’m planning to divorce my husband, and I have nowhere to go!”

Abellyn’desperately tried to seduce Zane, believing that as long as this man desired her body, he would readily agree to anything!

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 255[716 words]

Chapter 255

“Of course, you’re welcome to come and stay anytime!” Zane said and pounced on Abellyn.

Soon, the room was filled with disgusting sounds that made Mackenzie nauseous. She wondered if Emmanuel and Claudette had done the same thing when they camped out in the wilderness that night.

Strange, why am I thinking about that man again?

Mackenzie felt increasingly irritated and walked out of the banquet hall, where she ran into Quintus.

“Mackenzie, may I invite you to dance?”

“Get lost!”

Quintus was enthusiastic, but all he got in return was a heartless and fiery

‘get lost’. He suddenly felt rejected. Mackenzie didn’t care about his feelings and left the party directly.

“What a difficult wild horse to conquer! So challenging!”

Quintus was not discouraged, though. As the son of General Lenoir, he always enjoyed taking on impossible challenges. The more difficult the task, the more passionate he became.

In any case, Mackenzie was a woman he was determined to conquer. After coming out, Mackenzie got into the Bentley, where Wally drove her to the entrance of Yociam Residence. According to the usual routine, he stopped there, but then he heard Mackenzie’s instructions. “Drive in!”

“Huh?” Wally was stunned and asked, “Aren’t you afraid of being seen by Emmanuel?”

“If he sees, he sees. I want him to know that I’m even wealthier than Claudette! I want him to regret his choice!”

Mackenzie’s words made Wally sweat profusely, but he didn’t dare to rebut. It seemed that she had been hurt emotionally, and she was completely different from her usual self!

Although Wally had little interaction with Emmanuel, he had good observation skills. That man didn’t seem like a shallow person. How could he cheat just because Claudette was rich?

But Wally still followed her instructions and drove the car into the parking lot of the residential area.

Mackenzie noticed that the electric scooter was parked there again,

meaning Emmanuel had returned to Yociam Residence tonight.

She inexplicably breathed a sigh of relief!

She now realized that she was afraid of Emmanuel going back to his home and having their current situation reach Alessandra and Roselynn's ears.

By then, things would become even more complicated, and there would be no turning back! After all, it was still a matter between the two of them as a couple, so it would be best not to let it escalate...

Wally also noticed the change in her expression and understood it well. It seemed that Mackenzie had developed feelings for Emmanuel. It was something unimaginable before!

But he didn't dare to say anything. After Mackenzie got out of the car, he followed the usual routine and drove the Bentley away.

Throughout the journey, Mackenzie didn't see Emmanuel. She thought that Emmanuel dared to defy her and had gone home on his own!

Unfortunately, when she returned home, she found that it was cold and empty. Not a single person was there!

"Dang it, that man didn't come back?"

Mackenzie couldn't help but bite her lip lightly. Where did that idiot go? The electric scooter is parked inside the residential area!

In the next moment, she saw two dishes on the dining table in the living room, which were covered with lids. Not only that, there was also a note!

She picked up the note and trembled when she read it.

"Mackenzie, I don't know if you've had dinner tonight, so I prepared a

late-night snack. If it's cold when you come back, you can warm it up in the microwave."

It was such a simple note.

Compared to Quintus' disgusting flattery, Mackenzie found herself more easily moved by these sincere words.

The most important thing was that she hadn't had dinner, and her stomach was indeed grumbling. She even felt a slight pain in her abdomen. At this moment, she didn't care about warming it up and sat down to eat.

It felt strange. The food wasn't particularly delicious, at least not as good as the delicacies she had tasted before. But she enjoyed it!

As she ate, her eyes became slightly tearful. She regretted telling that man to get lost last night.

Halfway through eating, she ran to the corridor window and looked down, Sure enough, she saw the idiot sleeping on the bench again.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 256[777 words]

Chapter 256

It was already freezing outside, yet that idiot slept so comfortably on the cold wooden bench.

"Fine, let him freeze to death! After all, he can spend the night with a woman in the wilderness, so I'm sure he's not afraid of the cold!"

Mackenzie turned around with an icy and heartless expression on her face.

But after a while, she couldn't help but call the security office and ask them to send a blanket to Emmanuel. She justified it as showing concern for a stray cat!

The next morning, when Emmanuel woke up, he found an extra blanket on him. No wonder I felt so warm during my sleep. There are still good-hearted people in this world!

After waking up, he sneaked a look at the garage and found that the Maserati had already been driven out. He quietly returned home, freshened up, and then went to work.

Little did he know that Mackenzie hadn't left the residential area at all. She was watching him like a thief from the security office, unable to hold back her laughter!

This man went to such an extent just by her words alone. It showed how much weight she had in his heart!

It seemed like he really didn't have an affair with Claudette after all.

No, I shall observe him for a few more days before I forgive him so as to teach him a lesson!

Mackenzie proudly walked out of the security office.

The security guards looked at her retreating figure and didn't dare to say a word. They couldn't understand this couple's game at all. It was beyond their comprehension...

Mackenzie had driven the Maserati out of the residential area just now, so she had to walk to it. Before she reached it, a van rushed toward her

suddenly and stopped in front of her.

Mackenzie frowned, her eyes revealing a cold and murderous look. Who has the audacity to confront me here?

Is it another person sent by Laura?

At this moment, Emmanuel was riding his electric scooter to the residential area entrance and saw the scene from a distance.

Oh no!

My wife is in danger!

He wanted to play the hero and save her, but he hesitated. After all, how would he face Mackenzie after the situation was resolved?

This was his first conflict with a woman, and he felt a little helpless.

The next moment, he saw the person getting off the van, and he was completely stunned!

Mackenzie was also taken aback. It was actually some of the despicable relatives from Emmanuel's grandfather's family!

3/6

"Hey, hey, we finally found you!"

Jamison stared at Mackenzie and approached step by step, his eyes filled with a covetous look.

Emmanuel is so lucky. How could he have married such a beautiful wife?

"What do you want?" Mackenzie stood her ground, her eyes coldly sweeping Jamison and his father, as well as the two men they brought with them.

She had seen them when she last visited Emmanuel's home.

Trash, that's all they are. There's nothing to be afraid of!

"What do we want to do? Of course, we want to destroy you, you b*tch!"

Emerson stepped forward with big strides while angrily saying, "I checked. It was Bull Tech that installed the CCTV system at the Lowe Residence, and you were the one who had it installed, Mackenzie!"

Due to the presence of that CCTV system, they couldn't do anything to the Lowe family. In the end, they had to apologize and compensate them, and only then did Roselynn delete the post.

Now they regarded the person who installed the CCTV system as their primary enemy, but they didn't expect it to be Emmanuel's wife. Moreover,

:

following the address left by the other party, they happened to find this place. They intended to threaten Emmanuel into returning the money.

However, Mackenzie wasn't afraid of these hooligans at all. She smirked and asked, "So what if it's me?"

This contemptuous look completely infuriated Emerson.

www

He had originally just wanted to come and threaten Mackenzie a bit, but he ended up cursing and slapping Mackenzie in the face!

Emmanuel, seeing this, quickly dropped his electric scooter and rushed to save his wife!

If these people dared to harm his wife even a bit, he would make sure they spent half a year in the hospital!

But before he could approach, Mackenzie easily dodged Emerson's slap and kicked him in the shin. Then she targeted his groin, and finally, as he bent down in pain, she kneed him in the nose.

Splat!

Instantly, blood spurted from Emerson's nose, causing a bloody scene.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 257[724 words]

Chapter 257

1

Jamison was dumbfounded!

Emerson's two lackeys were also shocked. They had planned to bully the beautiful woman and see if they could take advantage of the situation, but who would have thought she was a fierce tigress?

Even Emmanuel was astonished!

My wife is so fierce!

He didn't need to be a hero and save her at all...

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“The rest of you, will you come at me one by one, or all at once?”

Mackenzie had been in a bad mood these days, and she had been wondering how to vent her frustration. These people had walked right into her trap, giving her the perfect opportunity to release her pent-up anger. Seeing her icy gaze, Jamison retreated in fear, not daring to approach to even help

his father up.

“L-Let’s go quickly!”

Emerson’s two lackeys turned around and ran...

“Cowards!”

Mackenzie didn’t have time to waste on these individuals. She turned around and left the scene.

Meanwhile, Emmanuel sighed. The father and son from the Cadigan family were truly disappointing. They didn’t even give him a chance to intervene. It seemed he would have to find another opportunity to resolve the conflict with Mackenzie.

The news of the couple’s conflict quickly reached the Quillen estate through Terence’s arranged informants.

Terence, the old fox, even managed to obtain video footage of Emmanuel failing to save his wife after sleeping on the bench all night.

“Grandpa, it seems like your plan backfired!”

Beatrix was extremely anxious. She had never been in a relationship, but she had a deep bond with her older sister. Seeing her sister gloomy and absent-minded these days made her worry, and she couldn’t even eat or sleep properly.

It felt as if she had gone through a breakup herself. If it weren’t for fear of exposing her sister’s identity, she would have wanted to kick her idiot brother-in-law and warn him to hurry up and make amends with her sister.

“Haha, it won’t backfire! Marriage is just like a business. You have to be

patient!” Terence remained confident.

He was already 70 years old, and he had experienced all sorts of situations.

He always maintained a detached attitude as he saw through the heart of everything.

If Mackenzie didn’t mention divorce, it meant she still couldn’t bear to leave that man. The longer the conflict lasted, the greater the chance of reconciliation. There might even be unexpected gains!

He knew that if he wanted great-grandchildren, he had to take drastic measures. Beatrix listened with confusion to his reasoning. Stomping her feet in frustration, she announced, “I won’t listen to you anymore.” Afterward, she turned and left.

At that moment, Alfred approached respectfully and asked, “Sir, shouldn’t you intervene and mediate between the young couple?”

“I won’t help them with this matter!” Terence’s eyes contained a faint gleam.

“When it comes to marriage, let them resolve it naturally. I won’t interfere unless they really want a divorce...”

After finishing work in the afternoon, Emmanuel headed to the headquarters of Terence Group as usual on his electric scooter to work part-time.

On the way, he received a call from Quintus.

“Emmanuel, we didn’t have enough fun last time. Let’s go out for a drink tonight!”

“Quintus, I have a part-time job tonight, so I’m afraid I can’t.”

“No? That won’t do! How about this, I’ll introduce you to a super pretty woman

to accompany you for drinks, and I'll compensate you for the wages you lost!"

Quintus generously said.

Emmanuel forced a smile. He felt quite uncomfortable inside and wanted to drown his sorrows in alcohol. But he knew very well that getting drunk would not only fail to reconcile with Mackenzie but might make the situation even worse!

"Quintus, maybe next time! I'm really not in the mood tonight..."

"What a bummer! Fine, then!"

Quintus hung up the phone and got out of his Range Rover the next moment.

In fact, his call to Emmanuel for drinks was just a backup plan, so it wasn't a problem when Emmanuel refused.

Emmanuel arrived at the entrance of the Terence Group building on his electric scooter just as Mackenzie was leaving the company. He had actually come to invite Mackenzie out again, and he was prepared to be rejected.

She looked even colder today, and her eyes seemed dimmer than usual.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 258[610 words]

Chapter 258

As if having a psychic intuition, the two of them, standing 100 meters apart, almost simultaneously noticed each other. Emmanuel wanted to greet her, but the words stuck in his throat, and he couldn't utter them.

"Mackenzie!"

At that moment, Quintus suddenly appeared out of nowhere, wearing a smile on his face as he approached them.

Emmanuel froze on the spot, after which a bad feeling washed over him.

Could it be that Quintus' super pretty woman is my own wife? So, I helped him chase after my own wife on my electric scooter through the streets?

Oh no!

Mackenzie had been keeping her attention on Emmanuel the whole time and couldn't help but find his expression amusing.

That idiot should have finally figured out the truth, right?

But even though she found it amusing, she maintained her icy demeanor on the surface.

"Quintus, what do you want this time?" Mackenzie was unusually proactive, which surprised Quintus.

"Mackenzie, I've reserved a luxurious private club VIP room for tonight. Let's have a drink and relax there?" Quintus started going through the motions again.

He knew very well that Mackenzie had agreed to attend the party yesterday because she was in a bad mood, but she left halfway through. Tonight, no matter what, she probably won't agree to my invitation!

To his surprise, Mackenzie glanced at Emmanuel and immediately agreed.

"Okay, you'll drive me there tonight, then!"

Huh? What the hell?

Quintus felt like he had hit the jackpot!

She actually accepted my invitation and even wanted to get into my car willingly. Look at that! Look at that! Who said being a lapdog is useless? As long as one keeps at it, one will eventually be able to bring one's dream girl home!

Seeing Mackenzie getting into Quintus' car, Emmanuel lost all enthusiasm for work.

How could this be happening? Could it be that Mackenzie was just playing with me all along? Now that a handsome and wealthy man is pursuing her, she casually dumps me?

Emmanuel felt suffocated and couldn't breathe properly. After thinking about it, he decided to call Beatrix.

"Hello, Ms. Beatrix, I'm feeling a bit unwell today and would like to take a day off!"

"Sure, take the day off! Go and do what you think is important!"

Beatrix's voice sounded anxious because she was currently standing on the top floor of the Terence Group headquarters, overlooking the scene below.

For some reason, even though she knew deep down that Quintus was the suitable match for her sister, she secretly shipped her sister with Emmanuel.

"Oh, okay!"

Emmanuel felt that Beatrix was acting a bit strange, but he didn't have the time to think about it.

In the next moment, he called Quintus.

"Hey, Quintus! I'm free tonight. Let's go for a drink!"

Upon hearing Emmanuel's words, Quintus was stunned. What's happening tonight? Why am I so lucky? It seems like I can ask anyone to do anything I want!

Since Emmanuel insisted on coming, Quintus agreed and hung up the phone. Then he quickly called his sister, Claudette.

"Hey, Claudette! I managed to arrange for Dr. Lowe to meet you. Get yourself ready and come to the VIP Room 888 at Lux Club!"

"Huh? Okay!"

Claudette was momentarily surprised but quickly agreed. This time, it was her brother who arranged the meeting with Emmanuel. So, her encounter with them could be considered a coincidence, right?

Mackenzie sat in the passenger seat of Quintus' car, silently observing the man's performance.

Knowing that both Emmanuel and Claudette would be joining the game, she gently bit her lower lip, her eyes showing a complex mix of emotions!

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 259[1,389 words]

Chapter 259

Emmanuel was driving an electric scooter, so there was no way he could have caught up to Quintus' car.

When he arrived at the restaurant, Mackenzie and Quintus were already seated at the table, loaded with alcohol. The alcohol they ordered was so

costly, with the most expensive glass priced at his entire year's worth of salary each.

As expected, Quintus was one of the ultra-rich.

"Haha, Emmanuel! Come, let me introduce you two. This is my idol and best friend, Miss Mackenzie Quillen." He then proudly bragged, "You're lucky, brat. Ms. Quillen is the goddess of nearly everyone in Yeringham. Most men can only ever dream of meeting her."

There was a conflicted twist in Emmanuel's smile as he silently looked at Mackenzie. She scoffed and turned away to avoid looking at him.

As Quintus did not know of their relationship, he tried to reassure Emmanuel and said, "Don't take it to heart. She's just that cold. It's not because she dislikes you."

That only intensified Emmanuel's urge to laugh. After all, Mackenzie actually disliked him.

However, he did not say a word about his relationship with her to Quintus, mostly because their relationship was shaky.

Emmanuel chose to sit right across from Mackenzie, making it impossible for her to avoid looking at him.

Claudette soon arrived. "I'm here!" she cried out as she entered.

"Ah, just in time!" Quintus said with a laugh.

2

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He was so very happy to see her. Then, he promptly dragged her over to sit

down beside Emmanuel. “Since it’s just going to be the four of us tonight, and we have equal numbers of men and women, why don’t we have a match to see who was the best at holding their drink?”

He thought that once they were all drunk, he would stand a chance at gaining a perfect accident with Mackenzie.

He also knew that Claudette liked Emmanuel. If those two got drunk as well, she could seal the relationship with one night.

Claudette did mention that Emmanuel was taken, but that did not matter. He would know just how amazing she was sooner or later. Then, he would dump that girlfriend to get together with Claudette.

The other three individuals in the room blanched when they heard Quintus wanted a drinking contest.

Emmanuel’s reaction was the worst. He would have no fear if he teamed up with Mackenzie.

However, Quintus clearly intended for the men to go up against the women....

“Well? Objections? Anyone up for it?”

As the host of the evening, Quintus did his best to ensure a great start to the night.

Emmanuel was about to object when he heard Mackenzie coldly bark out, “I’m up for it.”

+

The fact that she was the first to go along with the suggestion was shocking, but Emmanuel was not the most surprised person in the room; it was

Quintus.

Is something wrong?

Why did Mackenzie seem like a completely different person this evening?

Just what on earth is going on?

“Well... I’ll go along with it as well.” Claudette tentatively held her hand up to show her agreement.

“Yes! We have the majority. The game is on!” Quintus hurriedly made the announcement.

He had two goals for the evening.

One, he wanted to get together with Mackenzie.

Two, he wanted Claudette to get together with Emmanuel.

No matter which aims Quintus was after, Emmanuel had no leeway to say no to the game.

“Very well. Let’s start.”

+

Emmanuel’s eyes shone with a sharp glint as he stared at Mackenzie.

He knew she was angry, but so was he.

They were not divorced yet, so how could she agree to drink alcohol with another man? What if he hadn’t tagged along? What was she going to do with Quintus?

That was why Emmanuel went along with it. “What punishment awaits the loser?” he asked.

“Ah, good questions!” Quintus’ glee intensified. “Of course, we won’t just be

competing about our ability to hold our drinks. We will also be guessing which alcohol we are looking at. The losing team will have to play Truth or Dare, or they have to drink a whole glass in one go!”

“Fine. I have no problem with that.”

Once more, Mackenzie did not hesitate before agreeing. Her eyes were ablaze with competitiveness as she stared back into Emmanuel’s eyes. In fact, she looked like she was glaring at her cheating husband and his mistress.

“All right!”

Emmanuel was similarly seething. The way he glared at her would have others thinking he was looking at his wife fooling around with the neighbor. Claudette was the one person who felt the most uneasy in the room since she was the only one in the room who knew everyone in the room and their relationships with each other.

As expected, the more one knew, the more there was to worry about.

“Good! Let’s start then.” Quintus was so very excited. He had not expected the evening to go so smoothly. However, what happened next had the evening slowly spiraling out of his control.

In the first round, Emmanuel’s team lost.

“I’ll drink!” Emmanuel did not even think before downing an entire glass of liquor that burned its way down his throat.

“Nicely done. You’re great at this.” Quintus did not find Emmanuel’s swift response abnormal. In his mind, it meant Emmanuel was protecting

Claudette.

Fury burned brighter in Mackenzie's eyes. How dare Emmanuel protect another woman when his wife was watching!

Just wait!

In the second round, Quintus' team lost.

Before Quintus could react, Mackenzie immediately grabbed a glass of liquor and downed it in one go as well.

"Ah, you're good at this, but..." he said hesitantly.

"Shut up. Let's continue," she barked back.

She did not want to hear his chatter at all. Her enemies were the two individuals sitting across the table from her.

She would definitely defeat them tonight.

Claudette knew how competitive Mackenzie was, but something about the tension in the air felt off.

She was on the same team as Emmanuel, so why did it feel like she and Quintus were just extras in the room? Were they just background characters there to support the married couple?

In the third round, Emmanuel's team lost again.

"I choose truth!" Claudette declared before Emmanuel could even make a move to grab a glass.

"Alright," Quintus said.

He then hurriedly asked, "Who is the man you like, Claudette?"

Mackenzie's death glare was promptly turned to Claudette.

It was time to see if Claudette had the guts to stand firm.

Coincidentally, both of the women in the room were the type who refused to admit defeat.

Claudette appeared soft and sweet, but she packed a punch. She pursed her lips and said, "I... I like Dr. Lowe."

What? Emmanuel's pupils shrank in shock.

He was a very dense man, especially when it came to emotions and love.

Claudette could have confessed his love to her, and he would still have assumed she was lying.

After all, the only price for lying in Truth or Dare was just one glass of liquor...

"Really?" Quintus deliberately asked that to encourage Claudette to come on stronger and to beat into Emmanuel's mind the fact that she truly liked him.

"I..."

Claudette was about to nod, but the sight of Mackenzie's murderous glare and Emmanuel's lost look made her falter. In the end, she grabbed a glass of liquor and downed it.

Quintus was frankly the most disappointed person in the room. Why did she falter? She would rather down an entire glass of liquor than muster up the courage to nod once.

Although Claudette had drunk the glass of liquor, Mackenzie still scowled at her.

Hostility burned bright in Mackenzie's eyes.

Emmanuel finally understood what was happening, however. It seemed like

something major had happened to him. The daughter of the Lenoir family had actually fallen in love with him.

Why else would she insist on getting him to treat her when her family was so rich?

There was also that time at the laser tag arena. She had been showing so many obvious signs...

Ah! He realized that Mackenzie was right. He was an absolute fool. Why did it take him so long to realize this? No wonder she was angry.

Chapter 260

“Let’s continue,” Quintus **said**.

He **was** the **one** hyping them up, yet **everyone** in the **room** except for him had

drunk a glass of liquor each.

In the fourth round, Emmanuel’s team lost once more.

Emmanuel realized that Mackenzie was so amazing and stubborn. It was only a drinking game, and she still refused to lose at all.

“Truth or dare?” Mackenzie stared straight into Claudette’s eyes as she asked that

He was now stuck in a dilemma, or rather... he was stuck between two **women**__

If it **were anyone** else targeting Claudette, he would have definitely drunk up **and defended** her.

However, the person in question **was Mackenzie**. **He would** never dare do

that!

“I’ll go with **dare**!” Claudette abruptly snapped her head up to glare back with eyes full of anger. She had lost to Mackenzie once already and had **given** up on her chance to confess her love to Emmanuel just because she was afraid of Mackenzie’s glare.

She would not let herself be defeated another time.

She arrived at the dinner knowing that she would be declaring war on Mackenzie.

If she lost, it was impossible **for** her to get together with Emmanuel.

She did not want to lose.

“**Very** well. **Kiss** anyone you want in **the** room.” There was a taunting smirk on

Mackenzie’s red **lips**.

Emmanuel **was** taken aback by that.

Quintus’ eyes **were** as wide as dinner **plates**. What on earth? That was too **hardcore**. Was **Mackenzie helping Claudette** because she knew Claudette **liked** Emmanuel?

Thankfully, no one knew what he was thinking. Otherwise, he would be cursed

out by everyone else as an utter idiot.

Claudette pursed her lips as her eyes shimmered and her gaze bounced

between Emmanuel and Mackenzie.

Quintus thought she did **it** out of fear.

To his surprise, Claudette swiftly closed her eyes and leaned over to Emmanuel.

That was never **going** to happen.

Emmanuel hurriedly dodged.

Her kiss landed **on** thin air.

Everyone in the room **froze**.

They **stared at** each other with wide eyes, **unable to speak**.

A certain someone was **feeling** disappointed while another was in shock. One **of them was** rejoicing while the other's **heart** kept **racing**...

"I tried, Ms. Quillen. Still, it's not my **loss**, right?" Claudette **turned** to shoot Mackenzie a challenging look.

Since war had been declared, she would no longer hold back.

Mackenzie scoffed and did not say a word.

Emmanuel's heart was pounding loudly in his ears. If things continued on like this, who knew what games these two women would come up with?

"Let's continue," Quintus said.

Once more, he broke the ice **with** his cheerful laugh.

He had practically been a non-participant in the games, but he had failed **as** an observer and **did not realize** what was going on. **He** thought that **if the** night went **on** like this, there was a huge chance of success **for** both of his

goals.

Mackenzie was now taking the game seriously. Thus, she easily won the next round.

Claudette and Emmanuel could not resist sighing. They never stood a chance of winning when playing against Mackenzie in games related to intelligence.

“Again, dare.” Claudette declared her choice before Mackenzie could even say a word. Her eyes locked with Mackenzie’s; she dared Mackenzie to state a` dare.

She would **do** anything Mackenzie dared her to do!

To her surprise, Mackenzie then turned to Emmanuel and sneered. “What’s this? Why are you constantly letting your female teammate take the fall for you? **Are** you even a man?”

Darn it! She **had used** that **phrase once** more.

He **recalled** the night they spent in the hotel. If he had gone along with Terence’s suggestion and had sex with Mackenzie, perhaps this would not have happened.

Of course, that was a fleeting thought that vanished as soon as it popped up.

He knew **that** even if he rewound time **and** went **back to** that night, he was still unable to do it to Mackenzie.

“I’ll take the dare this time.”

Emmanuel had had enough of her provocations. “Well? What is the dare?”

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 261[715 words]

Chapter 261

Mackenzie clenched her jaw. “Very well. This time, choose someone in the room and kiss them.”

There was a strange twist on everyone’s faces when they heard that.

Quintus wondered what was wrong with Mackenzie. She had not been acting like herself for the past two days.

If he had not known her for years and knew her well, he might have thought her aloof act was actually just an act.

Everyone then turned to stare at Emmanuel.

Emmanuel had meant to just down a glass of liquor to get it over with. After all, he could not kiss a single person in the room. In that case, it was better for him to kiss his glass.

However, Quintus stopped him before he could do more than that.

“Emmanuel, two of the most beautiful women in Yeringham are in the room with us tonight. Are you sure you want to give up on this chance? I see. You really aren’t a man.”

He thought that if he forced Emmanuel to kiss one of the women in the room, Emmanuel would surely kiss Claudette.

After all, there was no way he would be crazy enough to kiss Mackenzie, right?

Was there a single man in Yeringham who had the guts to do that?

Claudette had a bad feeling about this, but she did not stop Quintus. Perhaps this was the deciding moment in her war against Mackenzie.

“Are you sure you want me to kiss someone, Quintus?”

Emmanuel had just downed an entire glass of liquor. Due to how fast he was drinking, he was now feeling the effects of the alcohol.

Mackenzie wants to play, right?

Well, she'd better not regret it!

“Of course! You have to keep an open mind during games. Go on...”

Swoosh!

Before Quintus could finish speaking, Emmanuel placed a hand on the table and used his other hand to forcefully drag Mackenzie over.

She just had to do this.

And he would show her that he wanted to kiss her instead of Claudette.

A smooch.

#

The other three people in the room froze in shock when they saw that he had kissed Mackenzie on the lips.

Among them, Quintus was going crazy.

He never imagined Emmanuel would be that ballsy. Emmanuel knew that he liked Mackenzie, yet Emmanuel decided to kiss her right in front of his eyes.

Claudette felt like her heart had shattered into tiny pieces.

In the end, she still lost to Mackenzie.

Smack!

When Mackenzie snapped back to her senses, she swiftly slapped Emmanuel in the face.

He did not dodge. Instead, he took the blow and just stood there, dazedly staring into her eyes.

He felt like he was going mad as well.

Where did that bout of courage come from? How could he have kissed Mackenzie right in front of the Lenoir siblings?

Still, he did not regret what he did. Let the consequences strike!

Just as he was about to pull away, Mackenzie grabbed him by the collar and dragged him closer.

Then, she kissed him.

While doing so, she even let her eyes wander to “accidentally” glance at Claudette.

Once more, Claudette’s heart shattered into a million pieces. Her jaw was clenched tight.

Quintus had gone absolutely made.

Darn it! Oh, darn it! What?

What is going on?

What on earth is going on?

He could barely accept the fact that Emmanuel kissed Mackenzie. The first kiss could be because she had been caught off-guard. But, what on earth was this second kiss?

“Aah! Aaah!”

Mackenzie only let go of Emmanuel when Quintus was so overwhelmed that he started flailing his arms around. She coldly huffed and strode out of the room.

“Mackenzie!”

Emmanuel stood up to run after her.

Finally, Quintus realized what was going on.

Crap! Emmanuel knew Mackenzie before this. They had kept it a secret from him and played him for a fool!

He wanted to stop Emmanuel and demand an explanation, but Emmanuel had been so intent on chasing after Mackenzie that he was already gone from the room.

Quintus felt the urge to chase after them, but upon seeing Claudette crying, he panicked. “Darn them! Shoot!” he cursed.

This was supposed to be the perfect evening. How did things end up like this?

Chapter 262

“Mackenzie! Mackenzie!”

Emmanuel ran out of the restaurant before he finally caught up with Mackenzie. For the first time, he boldly grabbed her by the hand.

Whoosh!

Mackenzie immediately swung her hand to slap him across the face.

This time, he finally dodged it. She seized the chance to pull away from him

and continue stomping away, looking like she was about to hail a taxi to bring her home.

“I’ll send you home!” he called out.

He dragged her outstretched arm down.

The arm bounced back up.

He pressed it down.

She was stunned by his **response**. There **was** something **off** about him

tonight. Not only had he called her by name, but he also had the audacity to touch her.

He did not know what came over him either. Perhaps it was the **effects** of liquid courage?

When he thought of how he kissed her, his heart still skipped anxiously. He had risked his life for that kiss.

However, why did she kiss him back?

Was the kiss meant for Quintus’ eyes or Claudette’s?

“Enough. You can save the money you’ll be paying for the taxi by following me home,” he said.

For once, he decided to take charge and dragged her **over to** his scooter.

His actions shocked her, infuriated her, and even made her laugh. She tugged at one of **the** strands of her hair, speechlessly questioning him if he was actually telling a daughter of the Quillen family to ride on the back of his

scooter.

What would people think of the great CEO of the Terence Group?

He did not care what she thought and quickly straddled the scooter. “Get on!”

“No way!”

She huffed and turned away with crossed arms.

“If you’re not getting on yourself, I’ll make you get on.”

He was seething as well.

“That’s a bluff!”

“You **can** verify that yourself.”

He got off the scooter. Frankly speaking, he did not want this cold war between them to continue **any** longer.

Firstly, he did not want to sleep outside through the winter. If he did not do

“You filthy **liar! Are** you an **actor?**”

Quintus shook his head. He thought Emmanuel was a nobody. Who would have known that Emmanuel actually had a trump card up his sleeves? He had forcefully dragged home the city’s most unapproachable woman, the woman neither Hubert nor he could get with.

As for Emmanuel, he had already forgotten about Quintus. Mackenzie was his wife anyway, **so** what **was** wrong about riding off with her?

The scooter wobbled the entire way back to Yociam Residence.

The security guards gaped in shock upon seeing that.

They had never seen Mackenzie return home in such a vehicle.

She was always seen riding in Bentleys and Maseratis, **so why was** she riding on some shabby electric scooter today?

This man was certainly somebody. He was able to drag a goddess down **to earth**, tainting her **ethereal image**.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 263[821 words]

Chapter 263

After arriving home, Mackenzie locked herself in the bedroom, slamming the door shut with a loud bang. It was clear that she did not intend to speak to Emmanuel.

Nevertheless, he was helpless because he knew his wife's temper was explosive. If I had done something inappropriate, that would explain her anger, but I haven't! In any case, she threw a tantrum and accused me of having an affair with Claudette. As he was seething with anger still, he soon returned to his room to turn in for the night.

When she heard a door click shut, her anger burned brighter upon seeing he had not even tried to calm her down. "What an absolutely useless fool. Would it kill him to learn to flatter and flirt like Hubert and Quintus?" she grumbled. Then, she sighed. How could a wife be asked to appease her husband during a fight? Does he think I'll go out of my way to make amends with him? He is as dumb as rocks! Why did Grandpa choose such a husband for me? This is so infuriating!

The next morning, Mackenzie woke up to find the man, who was as dumb as rocks laying out a breakfast spread on the table. After two days of giving each other the cold shoulder, she suddenly realized Emmanuel's importance in the household.

"I made you breakfast, Ms. Quillen!" he greeted. While he was still angry at her, he was not a petty man and would not refuse to make her breakfast just because they were fighting.

"Got it," she huffed. Mackenzie was initially moved by Emmanuel's actions. She would have forgiven him when he said something sweet, but the fool then resumed his formal tone. However, she noticed he had forcefully kept them at a distance again.

After hearing her bland response, he felt displeased. Why is she so difficult to deal with?

When he had finished his breakfast and was about to leave the apartment, he noticed she had just finished cleaning up and was sitting at the dining table. However, he could only spare a few minutes to speak to her, so he focused on the most pressing matter at hand. "My sister's wedding ceremony is this Saturday. I hope you'll be there with me, Ms. Quillen." Since they were still married, his sister was also hers. Emmanuel knew it would be detrimental to Mackenzie's reputation if she did not attend the wedding. Moreover, he was also concerned about making his family suspicious of his marriage.

"That soon?" she asked, surprised. "She just started dating him, right?"

“Yes, it’s a little fast.” He had been just as shocked when he received the news last night. All of that reaction was now hidden away behind a smile. “Their speed is nothing compared to us.”

Mackenzie huffed coldly in response. This hasty wedding is the cause of my current state of anger. “That’ll depend on my mood on the day.” She had purposefully avoided saying yes right away because she wanted to see if Emmanuel would try to cheer her up, and if he did not make any attempts by Saturday, she would not be accompanying him.

He sighed upon hearing this. Why is it so hard to communicate with her? Still, it is best to stick with this until the wedding is over. Furthermore, the situation is much better now, and the rest can be discussed later.

After he had left on his scooter, a Land Rover pulled out of nowhere and blocked his path. Suddenly, he had a bad feeling about this. Yesterday, he had finally broken the ice with Mackenzie, but in doing so, he had made Quintus his enemy.

Emmanuel knew that Quintus was unlike Hubert because he was a man who expressed his emotions honestly. Consequently, he realized that Quintus would be a difficult adversary to deal with, but he also did not wish to be Quintus’ enemy.

The car door swung open at this moment as Quintus marched down with a nunchaku. Since he was over six foot two, most people would be quivering in fear as soon as they saw him.

On the other hand, Emmanuel was a tough man and a fighter, which was the

only reason he did not turn his tail and run. He even forced a bitter smile and greeted, “Morning, Quintus!”

“Shut up! If you’re a man, you’ll take up my challenge right now!” Not only was Quintus a burly man, but he was also the owner of a very loud voice. One roar, and he had the attention of every security guard in the area.

One of the security guards tried to do his job and stop the fight, but his companions stopped him while whispering fiercely into his ears. “Do you want to die? Can’t you see the air of murder lurking around him? You could die if you try to stop him!”

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 264[747 words]

Chapter 264

After a while, the security guard began to fear Quintus, realizing how powerful and intimidating he could be with his nunchaku. This man is unquestionably a trained fighter; I could tell he has trained for at least a decade.

“I... Quintus, why would I accept your challenge? I have to get to work right now. I don’t have time to play!” Emmanuel explained as he did not intend to fight him at all. He might be dense, but he was not an idiot. Quintus must be here because of Mackenzie. However, she is my wife, and why would I use my wife as a trophy in a fight with another man? Only fools will do that!

“Play? This is a serious problem!” Since Quintus was not immoral, he would never attack his opponents before establishing conditions. Hence, to stoke

Emmanuel's passion, he stated, "In other countries, chivalry is one of the most important qualities in society. Only the strongest and most sincere knights could win the princess' affections!"

He is crazy! Emmanuel sighed.

At this moment, Mackenzie exited the apartment and walked to the security booth when she noticed the unfolding events. However, she did not stop the fight since she wanted to see who would be stronger between the two men. She knew Quintus had been part of the military since he was 9 and had been training in martial arts for nearly 20 years as he was considered invincible in Yeringham. In addition, she knew that Emmanuel was no slouch because he had defeated Samuel's gang all by himself and rescued her and Beatrix from the hands of professional killers. Until now, she had never met anyone as strong as him.

"I admire your passion, Quintus, but I must get to work right now! This is also not the best place for a fight. Someone might call the police. You wouldn't want to be arrested, right? I don't think a fight between us would end in just a few minutes. Why don't you pick another time and place for the challenge?"

Emmanuel was the Wolf Warrior of the north, and while he wasn't particularly good with emotions, he was a master of tactics. With that, he quickly figured out a way to delay the fight.

"You're right... You're absolutely right!" Quintus put away his weapon, realizing he had been acting too recklessly. "Very well. I'll pick you up on Saturday morning. We'll duel in the fighting ring! Bye then."

However, Emmanuel did not respond with an answer and promptly rode off since he did not want to fight at all. In which era does Quintus believe we are currently living? How could anyone still believe a fight can decide the right to date a woman? What a joke!

The next two days passed in silence.

As Roselynn's wedding quickly approached, Emmanuel had to return home to help decorate the house. This meant that he would never return until late at night, but no matter how late, he would always go home. Alessandra instructed him to do so because she was concerned for Mackenzie's safety and worried that being home alone would be unsettling for her. Although his sister's wedding was important, so was his wife because Mackenzie was Alessandra's greatest hope of having a grandchild.

On Friday night, Ryder called Emmanuel to express his frustration. "It has been one week since the fight with Abellyn, and she has not returned home! It feels like there's no difference between this and divorce!"

On the other hand, Emmanuel understood what he was going through.

Ryder wanted a divorce but could not bear to say a word for Tommy's sake. It did not matter what Emmanuel and Mackenzie recommended or that a lawyer had already been picked out for the divorce process. Moreover, Ryder was a straightforward man who could not bear to betray his wife, regardless of their short relationship. He might have agreed to do it when angry, but now that his wife gave him the cold shoulder, he had no opportunity to act on his impulses.

“Mackenzie and I have told you our opinions. Abellyn cheating on you is a fact. It is your decision whether you decide to forgive her for the sake of your family or you get a divorce.” Emmanuel was at a loss for what else to advise. “Fine. If she doesn’t return and attend Rosie’s wedding with me, I’ll divorce her immediately!” Ryder finally came to a decision.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 265[698 words]

Chapter 265

Since Abellyn’s presence in Ryder’s life was as visible as thin air, it did not matter to him if he got a divorce. He wanted nothing more than to provide a mother for Tommy, even if that meant getting remarried.

However, Emmanuel agreed with that train of thought. If she could turn over a new leaf and admit her faults, it would be good news if he could forgive her for his family’s sake. However, divorce would be the best course of action if she insists on betraying him.

During the phone call, Mackenzie walked past him. While they no longer gave each other the cold shoulder, they did not engage in much conversation because there was nothing to discuss. When he ended the call, she said,

“Don’t wait until tomorrow. Tell him to just get a divorce already.”

“Why?” Emmanuel asked. He knew that there must be a reason behind her declaration.

In response, she bit her lips and hesitated. The mere thought of spotting

Abellyn and Zane together was so revolting that Mackenzie had to leave the living room.

At this moment, a frown formed on his face as he realized a major factor must be behind her reaction. Since she does not explain the situation, I cannot immediately call Ryder to tell him to file for divorce.

On Saturday morning, Quintus arrived at Yociam Residence in his Land Rover.

This time, he was not waiting for Mackenzie but instead for Emmanuel.

However, his wait was similar to the paradox of happiness in that the more one pursued it, the more elusive it became.

When he used to wait for her, she would never show up. However, when he stopped waiting for her, she drove toward him in her Bentley and rolled down her window to talk to him. “You can stop waiting now.”

“Ah, you’re mistaken. You can’t say no today because I’m not here for you!”

Quintus grinned and added, “Just wait. Once I defeat him, I’ll continue my pursuit of you.”

“Fool.” Mackenzie rolled her eyes. After a few moments of muttering to herself under her breath, she told him the truth. “Emmanuel’s sister is getting married today. He had returned home to help before dawn, so you won’t be able to talk to him today.” After saying this, she rolled up her window.

“What?” He exploded in anger and scolded, “That brat did not keep his word!

He promised me we would duel today. Does he think he can leave me hanging just because of a wedding? Where is his home? I’m going to him!”

“Fool.” After repeating the insult once more, she told Wally to continue driving.

Quintus was fortunate that Mackenzie witnessed the events of that day, as Emmanuel did not consent to the duel. However, he had only assumed Emmanuel agreed to it. “Dang it! Darn him!” Then, he stomped on the ground and grumbled, “Oh, why do Claudette and Mackenzie like that dishonorable man? Is there no more demand for an honest man like me?”

Achoo! Emmanuel, who had been busy helping with the wedding, suddenly sneezed. Due to his hectic schedule, he had completely forgotten about Quintus. Emmanuel was so dense that just dealing with the marriage with Mackenzie was a headache for him. Moreover, he did not need a third party to butt in to worsen the situation.

“What is it, Manny? Did you catch a cold?” Roselynn suddenly appeared from her room upon hearing the sneeze.

His eyes lit up the moment he landed his eyes on her. “You look beautiful today, Roselynn!”

According to Yeringham tradition, both sides of the family had to host wedding dinners. Today was the bride’s turn to host the wedding dinner, and after that, his sister would head over to Jaxton’s home for the wedding dinner hosted by the groom.

On this particular day, she wore a tight-fitting red dress that showed off her long legs and slim waist. She looked like the perfect personification of feminine beauty.

Emmanuel suddenly realized Jaxton had lucked out in convincing Roselynn to marry him. He could only hope that Jaxton would continue to be good to her

after the wedding.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 266[717 words]

Chapter 266

“Hmph! Finally, you see my beauty,” Roselynn said.

She was so proud of how she looked that she even struck a pose.

“I am your brother, Roselynn. I am not your husband. Save the poses for when you’re married,” Emmanuel protested with an awkward laugh.

“Huh? Are you tired of living?! I’ll teach you one last lesson before I’m married off!”

The siblings started play-fighting.

They only stopped when Alessandra walked into the room.

“Honestly, Roselynn, it’s your big day. How can you fight with your brother as if you’re some tomboyish little girl? Go in and get ready now. The guests are about to arrive!”

Alessandra delivered her lecture in a gentle voice.

“Mom, it’s only 7.00AM. Who would be here this early?”

Roselynn pouted as she protested. To her surprise, someone actually appeared soon after she said that.

It was her boss and best friend, Claudette.

“Ms. Lenoir? You’re here! Come, sit!”

Alessandra was both awed and terrified.

Even Roselynn was surprised.

While Roselynn was close to Claudette, she was still her boss and a member of high society.

It was such an honor for Claudette to be the first guest to arrive at her wedding.

E

“No need to be so polite. I’m here to help Roselynn with her makeup.”

As Claudette sweetly spoke to Alessandra, she kept sneaking glances at Emmanuel. However, she soon kept her eyes off of him.

None of the other women knew she liked him, not even Roselynn.

After all, in Roselynn’s mind, Claudette was a publicly acknowledged idol of Yeringham while Emmanuel was the densest man alive who failed 18 matchmaking attempts. He was undeserving of even wishing to get together with Claudette, so why would Claudette like him?

There was an awkward look on Emmanuel’s face. He could not resist recalling Claudette’s face that evening when she confessed her love for him.

Was she telling the truth?

There was no way she liked him, right?

Thankfully, Claudette soon followed Roselynn into her room to get ready.

Emmanuel did not interact with Claudette at all, except for a brief exchange of glances.

“Oh, that’s right. Manny, is Mackenzie coming today?”

Alessandra’s voice quivered with anxiety.

From, inside the bride's room, Claudette perked up her ears. Oh, how she envied Mackenzie. Why did she not think of getting married to Emmanuel first? Was she always going to lose out to Mackenzie?

"She said she would come. I'm sorry, though. She said she doesn't have time to help Roselynn with her makeup."

He made sure to pass on the message Mackenzie told him to.

"Oh, that's fine. Your sister's friend will be helping with the makeup anyway!"

Alessandra grinned. It had been so long since she last saw Mackenzie.

Unbeknownst to her, Terence Quillen was currently all dressed up and waiting at the Quillen residence. He would be attending the Lowe family's wedding later that day.

Of course, according to tradition, he would also be bringing Felicity, Mackenzie's mother, with him.

Felicity did not want to go. To her, it was a waste of time, and she would have to play along with being poor with Terence. It would be so uncomfortable.

Hence, she had not gotten ready for the wedding yet.

On the other hand, Beatrix was clamoring to go. "Grandpa! I want to see Manuel's sister's wedding. It'll be fun! Bring me with you!"

"No way! You didn't pretend to be poor before, so if you go, they'll know who we are!" Terence replied with a laugh. As someone who was forever young at heart, he was happy to prank his in-laws by pretending to be poor.

However, when he got into the rather old car and called for Felicity, Beatrix let out a huff.

“Do you think I can’t go just because you won’t bring me with you? Not only will I be attending today’s wedding, but I will also be going to tomorrow’s wedding as well. I might not be Mackenzie’s sister, but I am Emmanuel’s boss!”

“If you won’t acknowledge me as your granddaughter, I’ll be your grandson-in-law’s boss. Either way, you’ll be seeing me there, and you have to be very respectful to me,” she continued with a giggle.

Her mumblings made Alfred sigh. This entire family certainly loved to have fun.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 267[726 words]

Chapter 267

Well, this entire game was being led by Mackenzie, the most serious of them all.

Meanwhile, the Lowe residence was bursting with life.

At that moment, Roselynn’s bridesmaids had arrived.

Besides that, Benny’s entire family was there as well.

Soon, Ryder and Tommy arrived.

Abellyn was also there, even though she kept a look of scorn on her face the entire time.

After arrival, she immediately sat on the couch and scrolled on her phone.

She did not help with anything.

Alessandra and her family knew Ryder's relationship with Abellyn was very tense at the moment, so they all ignored her.

Jack, however, could not do so. He could not resist going over and grumbling at her, "Abellyn, don't you think you're acting like an outsider? It's Roselynn's big day. There are over a dozen tables outside. Everyone is swamped with work. Can't you help out?"

Jack's young wife chimed in as well. "He's right. Everyone feels even more exhausted just by seeing you sit there and do nothing. You should have just stayed home if that's all you're doing!"

Abellyn immediately threw her phone to the side.

Jack and his wife thought she was going to help out, but she instead stood up with her hands on her hips. "Do not speak as though I am one of you. Soon, I will no longer be like you!"

The couple was shocked.

Jack even laughed upon hearing that.

Did she think he did not know what Ryder's finances were like?

Out of the three brothers in the Lowe family, Jack's side of the family was the wealthiest. Still, they were helping out since today was Roselynn's wedding.

What gave Abellyn the audacity to boast?

"Tell me then. Just how will you be different?" he asked.

"Yeah! What do you have as proof? What makes you think you can throw your weight around?" his wife asked.

The two of them were insistent on getting a proper answer.

Their disagreement caught the attention of the other members of the family, and they all came closer to listen in.

“Hmph! You’ll know soon enough! Either way, I’ll soon be someone far beyond your reach!”

As Abellyn was quite uneducated, she was so blunt that she could never hide -her thoughts.

For the past few nights, she had been living with Zane.

Zane’s mansion was much bigger than Jack’s home and in a district. In fact, it was much better than Yociam Residence.

Zane said that he would marry her soon. Hence, she was now ready to show her cards to Ryder.

“Who’s that, Roselynn?”

Claudette, who was in Roselynn’s room with her, was also watching the disagreement.

Usually, she felt she was above poking her nose in arguments that did not involve her. However, this was Emmanuel’s family. As such, she wanted to know everything that happened in the Lowe family.

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“She’s the wife of my cousin, Ryder. She must be showing off because she’s likely cheating on him with another man and is ready for a divorce,” Roselynn replied.

She did not try to hide Abellyn’s shameful actions from Claudette. She had long since known the marriage would end in tragedy. With more people

knowing about what Abellyn had done, Abellyn would be unable to steal too much of Ryder's money from him.

"Oh, I see!"

Claudette had not planned to know more.

Suddenly, Roselynn said, "Oh, yes. You should also know who the man she's involved with is. He's one of the managers in Lenoir Group. He's actually quite close to your brother."

"Zane Xanders?"

Claudette was instantly able to name the man.

"Yes, that's him! Abellyn's affair with him is likely coming to fruition, so she's showing off."

Roselynn did not know Zane that well. She only knew he existed.

He was doing quite well for himself in the company as he had become quite close to Quintus. According to her memory, his annual salary was in the millions. As for other income sources, she knew nothing of those.

Claudette could not resist laughing though. After all, Abellyn thought she could strut around like a peacock just because she had gotten the affections of a Lenoir Group's department manager.

Did she not know that the Lowe family included individuals so very rich and powerful that not even Zane could properly look at them?

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 268[801 words]

Chapter 268

Claudette was not a braggart; otherwise, she would not have chosen to work her way up at Lenoir Group, except when people pushed her buttons and forced her to show her assertive side as the princess of the Lenoir family. Hence, it was natural that she wouldn't stoop down to Abellyn's level as Abellyn was just showing off in the Lowe Residence.

At this moment, Mackenzie walked into the Lowe Residence, and the cold air surrounding her attracted glances all around her. She had clearly overheard Abellyn's earlier conversation and couldn't keep her small lips from curling upward. However, like Claudette, she would rather not waste her time with a woman like Abellyn and let her continue to delude herself like the ignorant fool she was.

On the other hand, Abellyn could not contain her anger upon observing the subtle changes in Mackenzie's expression. "What are you smiling at, Mackenzie? Don't think too highly of yourself; in Yeringham, there are many more capable people than you!" As she spoke, she recalled seeing Ms.

Quillen at the banquet the other day. Back then, she thought that the two shared a similar silhouette, but as she watched Mackenzie walk into the Lowe Residence with a lack of grandeur, it was a stark contrast from the reverence Abellyn had witnessed the other day, and she knew that she had definitely gotten the wrong person. Therefore, she concluded that the two were not in the same league and could not be the same person!

Nevertheless, Mackenzie didn't say a word, but the serenity in her eyes made

her look like an eagle unfazed by the nearby magpie's chatter.

When Alessandra learned that Mackenzie had arrived, she hurriedly rushed out and tightly gripped her hand.

When she realized she couldn't continue berating Mackenzie, Abellyn was forced to swallow her rage and could only let out an angry huff before leaving.

"Where do you think you're going, Abellyn?" Ryder, who had been assisting in the kitchen with dinner preparations, dashed outside when he heard his wife arguing with another person, just in time to see her walking away, and shouted after her.

"It's none of your business! Just take care of yourself!" she roared, using him as an outlet for her anger.

Since her husband had a bone to pick with her, he lost his temper upon hearing her words. "If you dare to leave, we're getting a divorce!"

However, this was what Abellyn was waiting for. Chloe had previously advised her not to bring up the topic of divorce so that no one would suspect she had already found a new partner. Although Abellyn's execution was imperfect, she took advantage of his words and barked, "Then, so be it! No one in their right mind would want to spend the rest of their lives with a worthless man like you who earns only a few hundred every month! Go ahead and live in poverty alone!"

"Y-You-" Ryder's face flushed crimson, and he nearly lost his temper when Alessandra hurriedly stopped them as the head of the family.

Meanwhile, Jack and his wife were already reluctant to pitch in with the chores before the fight broke out, and they're even less inclined to do so now.

All of a sudden, no one was doing any work.

At that moment, Emmanuel was frantically busying himself in the kitchen and was hoping to find someone who would help him when Claudette and Mackenzie unexpectedly walked in. In a split second, he felt a wave of panic wash over him. What is this happening?

"What's going on? Is this the wedding banquet?"

Just then, the groom and his family arrived at the door.

That day, Jaxton's elder sister, Jessica, accompanied her brother to greet the bride alongside their other relatives. According to the wedding traditions in Yeringham and the Oatley family's request, the groom's family was not supposed to attend the bride's wedding banquet. However, the bride and her family were required to be present at the groom's banquet as that was the formal event. This tradition accorded great respect to the groom's family, and the groom had already provided a dowry of 30 thousand in advance.

However, Jessica blew a fuse when she witnessed the mayhem at the Lowe family's banquet and learned that a couple threatened to divorce.

"Didn't we give your family 30 thousand as a dowry? Is it that difficult to host a banquet at a hotel, yet you insist on hosting it at home to save money?

What has happened?"

In the meantime, Alessandra, who had always been meek-tempered, rushed forward to apologize upon hearing the groom's family throwing a temper.

After hearing the fuss growing louder outside, Roselynn led her friends out and saw Jessica chiding her mother and her relatives.

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Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 269[795 words]

Chapter 269

On the other hand, Benny and his family, who normally act with an air of superiority, knew that the Oatley family was well-off from their luxurious clothes and Jessica's bejeweled appearance. Therefore, they did not muster the nerve to offend them.

Nevertheless, Roselynn immediately lost her temper and stomped over in her high heels. "Do you think 30 thousand is a lot for a dowry? That's for my mom, so it doesn't include the fee for the wedding banquet!"

Instantaneously, Jessica's face flushed red, and she jabbed a finger toward Roselynn.

After seeing that, Jaxton hurriedly held his sister back, not because he was on the Lowe family's side, but because Roselynn was just too beautiful. Besides, he knew his wife's temper well and feared that she would return the dowry and refuse to marry him if offended, so he decided to defend her. After all, he was well aware of the number of suitors she had in the past.

"Hmph, fine, you can take your time! We'll wait for you to finish and pick up the bride later!" Jessica eventually relented and let Roselynn off the hook.

When you become part of our family, I'll have all the time to teach you a lesson!

"I'm sorry. We didn't put enough thought into today's events. Please forgive us!" Alessandra quickly expressed her regrets to the groom and his family.

On the other hand, Ryder felt bad for Roselynn and her family, so he pushed Abellyn out the door to keep their personal problems from spilling over into their wedding celebration.

Nevertheless, Mackenzie and Claudette silently watched the commotion from the kitchen. Due to the Oatley family's haughty demeanor, neither believed that Roselynn's position in the family would be anywhere near the top once she married Jaxton.

At that moment, Emmanuel had a lot on his plate, but nobody was around to help him in the kitchen because they were all too preoccupied with the argument or the commotion. Hence, he had no spare time to care about what was happening outside. After finishing the preparations with much difficulty, their relatives and friends arrived, and the banquet officially commenced. It was then that he was called to the main hall. According to tradition, the groom's sibling was required to prepare a monetary gift for the bride's younger brother before taking the bride home.

At this point, Jaxton and Jessica were already seated in the main hall, where she was sitting with an air of superiority befitting a queen on her throne.

"Manny, where's your wife?" Alessandra inquired when she couldn't find Mackenzie. After all, Jaxton and Jessica were to present the couple with their

monetary gifts.

“Mackenzie just so happens to be busy. Should I accept her gift on her behalf?” Since he wanted his sister’s birthday to be a happy occasion, he swallowed his pride and told his mother a white lie. He knew his wife would not come out with him with that personality of hers to serve her brother and sister-in-law tea in exchange for money.

Despite this, his mother was also aware of her daughter-in-law’s personality, so she did not force her to show up either.

“Hmph, she doesn’t even want money? Then, no!” Jessica scoffed.

Everyone at the scene thought that her behavior was selfish. Why couldn’t she spare some money when both families were already relatives? Was she planning to give them a hefty gift?

However, Emmanuel was unphased. It’s not a big deal if they don’t give us anything. The Oatley family might be wealthy, but my wife isn’t poor either!

After handing out the monetary gifts and completing the necessary formalities, the Oatley family left the Lowe Residence and returned to the car to wait for Roselynn. While Jaxton still gave the bride’s family a toast with a smile, Jessica went through the entire process with a sour expression as if she had a grudge against the Lowe family.

When Emmanuel returned to her side, Mackenzie asked, “Your brother-in-law’s sister acts a lot like a bigshot. How much did she give us?” After he opened it and saw only a hundred inside, her lips curled up into a disdainful smile. How stingy!

“All right, Roselynn, don’t let Jaxton and the others wait too long. It will be a long journey, so you should return with them as soon as possible!”

When evening came, Alessandra began to send her daughter away.

However, even though she had a good heart, it was a completely different case for Roselynn!

On the other hand, Roselynn had seen enough of how the Oatley siblings and their family did not respect her family, so she immediately declared coldly, “Just let them wait. I’ll go with them after all of our relatives leave!”

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 270[700 words]

Chapter 270

“I don’t think they’d be happy about that!”

As Alessandra came from a family with patriarchal values, it was inevitable that she would prioritize the groom’s side. However, Roselynn was different.

“So what if they’re unhappy? Is Roselynn supposed to bow down to them for the rest of her life? What’s the point of a marriage like that?”

All of a sudden, Mackenzie spoke up in support of Roselynn. With just one sentence, she saved Roselynn the effort of convincing Alessandra, and the latter could only go along with them.

Seeing that, Claudette stepped forward to speak to Mackenzie as well. “Miss Quillen, I really like your personality. I don’t think that we should tell Roselynn to compromise for them. I was just wondering, do you normally compromise

for your husband?”

Next to her, Roselynn was just as curious.

“This is a family matter, so you don’t have to worry about it, Ms. Lenoir!”

Mackenzie bit back, refusing to spare Claudette’s pride.

She knew that Claudette was trying to gauge their relationship as her rival in love, and she would never allow it.

After Mackenzie walked away, Roselynn said to Claudette, “It looks like you know my sister-in-law quite well.”

Knowing that they were not aware of Mackenzie’s true identity yet, Claudette chose not to expose her and instead smiled as she said, “We’ve met many times!”

Meanwhile, when Jessica hadn’t seen Roselynn emerge from the door after waiting for over an hour, her face turned red from anger.

“Remember, Jaxton! When this woman moves in, you have to make sure you get rid of her temper, or she’ll walk all over you for the rest of your life!”

“Don’t worry, Jessica! I’m a man!”

Jaxton was confident that although Roselynn acted like a queen before marriage, she definitely had to be a caring housewife once they got married.

If not, he would not dote on her as much as he did now.

“Then you can keep waiting. I don’t think that woman will be leaving within an hour!”

Feeling scornful toward the Lowe family, Jessica drove away to get some fresh air. How dare a family of commoners patronized the Oatley family? It

was unacceptable!

While Jessica decided to go shopping nearby, she saw a small fleet of luxurious cars near the Quillen Residence. Although the car in the front was an ordinary Ford, it was followed by a line of Mercedes-Benz limousines.

“What’s going on?” Jessica gaped in shock.

As the Oatley family was a family of businessmen, she was accustomed to the grandeur of the scene, and she was certain that a person who was under the protection of several limousines filled with bodyguards would not just be anyone. However, how powerful was he if he was only using a mere Ford?

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Soon after, the limousines came to a halt, and a group of bodyguards dispersed around the streets, most likely to protect the important figure in secret. A long while later, an elderly couple walked out of the Ford.

“I–Isn’t that... Old Mr. Quillen?”

Jessica thought that she was seeing things. Why would someone as prominent as Terence show up in a rundown countryside like this?

Furthermore, why would he even dress so plainly? However, when she spotted Felicity, she knew that she wasn’t mistaken, and the wealthiest family in Yeringham had indeed arrived.

At that thought, Jessica hurriedly leaped out of her car, planning to risk everything to speak to the couple. In the past, the Oatley family had worked with Quillen Group and even made a fortune. Alas, Quillen Group found that the Oatley family was not capable enough for their standards and did not

work with them again. If she was able to establish a connection with Terence, her family might have the chance to succeed with the help of the Quillen family once more.

Meanwhile, Terence was preparing to walk toward the Quillen family's house. As he had visited in the past, he knew that it was inconvenient to park by the entrance, especially on a festive day like today. However, before he could turn the corner, he heard someone call out to him from behind.

"Old Mr. Quillen!"

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Chapter 271[796 words]

Chapter 271

"Mrs. Quillen!" Jessica greeted them, smiling ear to ear. "I never thought that I'd see you here!"

"You are?"

Terence was not particularly pleased by her sudden appearance as he was in a hurry to attend the Quillen family's wedding banquet. As Felicity had held them up, they were already running late, and he did not want to waste any more of his time. However, upon seeing the uninvited guest's wide smile, he responded out of courtesy, all the while worried that he would be recognized nearby the Lowe family's house which would lead to Mackenzie losing the ability to pretend to be poor when she was with Emmanuel.

"Old Mr. Quillen, I'm Jessica Oatley, the chief financial officer of Oatley

Corporation!” Jessica introduced herself along with her title, afraid that he wouldn’t recognize her.

And yet, Terence still had no inkling of who she was and had even forgotten which company Oatley Corporation belonged to, so he only replied, “Nice to meet you, Miss Oatley. I’m busy, so let’s talk next time!”

Saying that, he turned around to leave.

On the other hand, Felicity remained expressionless, unsurprised by the sight of small fry like Jessica trying to gain their favor, though she hadn’t expected to encounter someone like this near the Lowe Residence.

“Old Mr. Quillen! Old Mr. Quillen!”

Jessica refused to give up, but she was immediately stopped by the Quillen family’s bodyguards.

Alfred shot her a fierce glare and even warned her, “Miss, if you take another step forward, we won’t hold back on you.”

“Uh...”

Jessica was thoroughly bewildered. It was embarrassing enough that she failed to strike up a conversation with Terence, but the biggest problem was that the Quillen family’s bodyguards were blocking the road that just so happened to lead toward the Lowe Residence. If they refused to let her pass through, she wouldn’t be able to return to pick up the bride!

As the sky grew darker, Roselynn finally left the house and got in the car. Not knowing what had happened to Jessica, Jaxton assumed that she had left without any intention of returning as she looked down on the Lowe family and didn’t stick around to wait for her. Hence, she must have immediately

headed back home after picking up his bride.

Roselynn had just left when Terence and Felicity arrived at the Lowe Residence. Although it was only a short walk, Felicity seemed to be in a bad mood.

Fortunately, Terence made up for her low spirits with his friendliness as he smiled brightly at Alessandra. “Haha. Mrs. Lowe, congratulations on your daughter’s marriage!”

Then, he instructed Felicity to hand over their gift.

As Terence had a down-to-earth personality, he prepared two envelopes of monetary gifts as a present. However, it was quite a large sum—each envelope contained 10 thousand. Moreover, despite instructing his men to prepare as much money as they could, this was the most he was able to come up with.

“Oh, Old Mr. Quillen, you’re being too polite! It’s a pity Roselynn just left with the groom, so we can’t bring her back to give you a toast!” Alessandra replied politely. After all, two envelopes containing 10 thousand each were considered a significant present in the Lowe family.

Claudette, who was just preparing to leave, finally got the gist of the situation upon seeing the scene before her. It appeared that Terence was the one who set up Mackenzie and Emmanuel’s marriage.

Looking at Felicity’s expression, it seemed that she was quite unhappy with their marriage even if she didn’t say a word, and Claudette, wondered if she still had a chance. As she watched Emmanuel giving Terence a warm

welcome, she let out a deep inhale before taking her leave.

Although both the Oatley and Lowe Residences were in Yeringham, the journey was almost three hours long as Yeringham was a large city, and it was already midnight by the time Roselynn arrived at the Oatley Residence. Many of the members of the Oatley family expressed their displeasure toward the situation.

Similarly, although Jaxton's parents did not lose their temper at Roselynn, they secretly chided him, "What exactly is going on? You went to pick up the bride early in the morning, so why did you only come back at midnight?" "That's right. Did her relatives ask for a lot of money from you or they would refuse to let her leave?"

The couple understood Yeringham's customs when it came to wedding banquets like the back of their hand. In the past, there were cases where the bride's family would ask for a large sum of money on the wedding day, resulting in the groom immediately leaving without even taking the bride with him in a fit of frustration.

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Chapter 272[747 words]

Chapter 272

"That's not the case!" Jaxton reported truthfully, "It's just that Roselynn has a bit of a temper and refused to come home with me for a long time. Jessica even left first out of anger!"

“What a temper!” Jaxton’s mother, Jennifer Burke, immediately furrowed her brow. “Jaxton, as a man, you have to tame her! If not, how will we deal with that temper of hers?”

“I understand, Mom!”

Although Jaxton was on the shorter side, he had a strong sense of masculinity. At the same time, he was worried that Jennifer and Roselynn would not get along. Besides, to him, his mother was from a wealthy family, while Roselynn was nothing more than a commoner girl no matter how stunning she was. Hence, she was obligated to respect his mother and live by the Oatley family’s rules.

Unaware of the family’s discussion, Roselynn dragged her exhausted body to socialize with the Oatley family after returning home with them, and only headed to the bathroom to take a shower upon seeing that it was nearly one in the morning.

As it was her first day in the Oatley Residence, everything was unfamiliar to her. Although their house wasn’t considered a grand mansion, they were still much wealthier than the Lowe family, and it took Roselynn quite some time to figure out the amenities in the residence, particularly in the bathroom.

Wanting to be clean and radiant on her wedding day, her shower lasted two hours in the morning. When she returned to her room, she was immediately !

met with the sight of Jaxton’s tanned face.

“What’s wrong with you? Get some rest soon if you’re tired!” she advised him

worriedly.

As a matter of fact, Jaxton had relentlessly pursued her for nearly two months, and she thought that he was a decent man. Although he was slightly arrogant, it wasn't unacceptable. Moreover, she agreed to his proposal as Alessandra was constantly worried that she would not be able to get married. In all the time they had known each other, Jaxton had never lost his temper at her, so she subconsciously assumed that she wasn't the reason behind his anger.

Unexpectedly, Jaxton suddenly rose to his feet and strode toward her in big steps. Then, he immediately pushed her down on the bed.

"Hey, what are you doing?" Roselynn demanded, shocked.

"Didn't you promise me that we can do the deed after we get married? I'm going to fulfill my duty as a husband tonight!" Jaxton roared furiously, peeling his clothes off.

A little terrified of his behavior, Roselynn hastily pushed herself up and shoved him aside. "Jaxton, we're both exhausted today. How about we leave this for after the wedding is completely over?"

"Do you think I'll keep listening to you? From today onward, I'm the head of the house! Stop setting rules for me all the time!"

Upon saying that, he immediately pounced on her. He felt that this woman had spent their entire wedding day disrespecting him and constantly ordering him around. He was able to indulge her while they were dating, but now that he was married, he had to live like a man!

“Move!” Roselynn was not a frail damsel in distress, and she easily sent him flying to the ground with a kick.

“Jaxton, do you not understand what I’m saying? I said I’m really tired, so stop making things difficult for me! We’re sleeping separately tonight!” she huffed, genuinely angry.

Jaxton gritted his teeth, his face turning gloomy. However, as he was shorter than Roselynn and not much heavier than her, he could not win over her when it came to strength, so he had no choice but to leave the room without another word.

Fine! Just wait, woman! Either way, you’re going to have to be tamed by me now that you’re a part of the Oatley family!

Meanwhile, Roselynn was completely oblivious to Jaxton’s plan and only assumed that he was unable to hold his urges back as he craved her body too much. Since she had decided to become his wife, she had already prepared to give herself up to him. However, she was just too tired that day and did not wish to do anything else.

After locking the door, Roselynn immediately drifted off as soon as her head hit the pillow. However, before she felt like she had gotten any sleep, she was jolted awake by someone banging wildly on her door.

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Chapter 273[698 words]

Chapter 273

Left with no choice, Roselynn opened the door in her nightgown. Outside the door stood Jaxton, who was wearing a fierce expression.

“What? Aren’t you going to let me sleep?”

“Stop sleeping and get up to greet my parents!” Jaxton ordered in a cold voice, but his eyes roamed across her fair skin.

The only reason why he would bear the pressure from his family to marry this common woman was only because of her excellent figure and features.

Unfortunately, he was unable to get a taste of her to this day, and he could barely hold it in any longer.

“Oh, okay. I’ll come down after I change...”

Roselynn turned around and headed back inside. It was a part of tradition for a bride to greet her in-laws by serving them tea on the day of the wedding, so she did not think much of it. However, Jaxton suddenly wrapped his arms around her from behind and even glided his hands across her body.

“What are you doing?” Roselynn hurriedly pushed him away, starting to feel repulsed by him.

He had been well-mannered and polite before their marriage, leading her to believe that he was a gentleman. Moreover, she only agreed to marry him as he came from a good family and was quite romantic as well. However, he was now acting very differently from the past, and it was beginning to scare her.

Roselynn only believed in marriage after seeing how happy Emmanuel was with Mackenzie even though they got married in a rush. Compared to her

brother who had signed the marriage papers the day after his blind date, she and Jaxton had dated for two months, so she did not think that she was in any danger. And yet, things weren't turning out how she expected them to, and she was already regretting her decision to marry him..

"You're already my wife. Can't I hug you? Is it that embarrassing?" Jaxton demanded, losing his temper.

If it were in the past or if they were in the Lowe Residence, Roselynn would've definitely thrown a tantrum as well.

However, she held her fury in and said, "Your parents are waiting for us to greet them, so we don't have time to waste here. Hurry up and leave!"

At that, she pushed Jaxton out despite his unwillingness.

"Hmph, stop pretending to be innocent when you're in your thirties! I'm going to expose your true colors one day!" Jaxton grumbled to himself outside the door.

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By then, Roselynn's sleepiness had completely vanished. After a look at her dark eye circles in the mirror, she decided to take some time to doll herself up in order to leave a good impression on her in-laws.

Half an hour later, she finally headed to the main hall with Jaxton, where Sebastian and Jennifer had grown impatient from waiting. On the contrary, Jessica, who had been so haughty the previous day, remained quiet with a strange expression on her face.

"What's wrong? Roselynn, are you not willing to prepare tea for us old folk?"

Although Jennifer was inwardly peeved, she still spoke to Roselynn with a smile.

“Mrs. Oatley... That’s not true, I was just a little tired from yesterday...” Roselynn replied with a weary smile.

“Still going to call me Mrs. Oatley?” Jennifer asked with a smile.

Meanwhile, Jaxton’s face darkened as the conversation continued. This woman has no tact at all!

“Mom, Dad, please have some tea!”

Roselynn tried her best to go along with their wishes, all the while reminding herself to get used to change, and that things would get better soon.

“Alright!”

In the end, Sebastian and Jennifer did not lose their temper and even gifted Roselynn a large amount of money each. Roselynn responded to this with a smile, but she wanted to get along with her in-laws in the future more than money.

However, Jennifer immediately instructed her, “I’ll let you off since it’s the first day, but remember to refer to me correctly in the future. Also, you have to come out and serve tea for us every day at six-thirty in the morning!”

“What?” Roselynn’s smile immediately froze. “E-Everyday?!”

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 274[649 words]

Chapter 274

“Is it so hard to serve my mother and father a cup of tea each morning?”

Jaxton was already angry at Roselynn and felt annoyed by her reaction. The Oatleys had been raised to be filial and so respecting elders was a must. He didn't think there was anything wrong with it.

She looked somewhat conflicted though. “I-I'll try my best. I may not be able to get up so early if I get too tired or fall sick.”

She had already made a great compromise!

However, Jennifer's eyes became cold. “I have married into the Oatley family for more than thirty years, and always served my mother-in-law tea each morning when she was still alive no matter what.”

“That's what you did, but I may not be able to do it!” Roselynn replied plainly. It was how she had always behaved—never agree to anything she couldn't do in case someone used it against her and blamed her for it.

Jaxton felt she was too disrespectful toward her parents and became furious. “Alright, we'll discuss this another time since the banquet is still going Sebastian was satisfied with Roselynn's appearance and didn't want quarrels to happen on the day of the wedding because the Oatleys would be embarrassed. So, he quickly put a stop to the discussion.

The moment might have passed, but Roselynn still felt something stuck inside her throat. She was more afraid of marrying into the family now; had she known they would be so strict, she wouldn't have recklessly accepted Jaxton's proposal.

The banquet was held in a local 5-star hotel. The Oatleys were businessmen

and had far-reaching social connections, so the entire floor of the hotel was filled with family and friends. It was truly on a grander scale compared to the one her family had held. This was thanks to Jaxton's astounding assets that had been displayed before Roselynn on occasion.

Meanwhile, Jessica who had been so arrogant the day before maintained a low profile without showing herself off. Roselynn, thinking that Jessica didn't have anyone to show off to, didn't pay it any mind.

Claudette and Roselynn's other girlfriends arrived at noon. Roselynn, who felt like she was facing everything alone, felt somewhat settled by their presence. Since Claudette had flown under the radar and started work from the lower ranks of the company, the Oatleys wouldn't know that she was the eldest heiress to the prominent Lenoir family.

"Claudette, I don't want to get married anymore. What should I do?" Roselynn only dared to whisper this to Claudette when they were left alone. She wasn't brave enough to say this to Manny or her mother at all. After all, she was already thirty and had eventually gotten hitched, making her mother relieved. If she told her family about this, they would definitely worry.

"Why, Roselynn?" Claudette loved having deep conversations with Roselynn ▶ since she felt distanced from Roselynn whenever Roselynn called her Ms. Lenoir. Plus, addressing Roselynn by her name gave Claudette a strange feeling.

"I can't express it. I keep feeling like there are too many restrictions and I can never be a good wife-" Roselynn didn't know how to describe it.

Claudette understood her implication at once and spoke frankly. “Are you afraid that your husband will treat you badly and you will have a bad relationship with your mother-in-law?”

“Yes. I’m scared that they will bully me. Besides, I will never take it lying down, so I worry that our clashes will get worse...” Roselynn sincerely thought her boss was extremely intelligent and found sharing her innermost thoughts with Claudette the right decision.

“There are always misunderstandings between married couples. You have to tolerate each other in order to live happily.” Claudette might not be married, but she knew the inner workings of marriage.

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Chapter 275[682 words]

Chapter 275

Claudette had just witnessed Emmanuel and Mackenzie’s marital issues as well. If they could maintain their relationship, why couldn’t she do so too with her marriage?

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“Yes, you are right. I can’t be too self-centered either since I have to make some changes for the sake of my family.” Roselynn knew that too. She had only gotten married at thirty after continuously accumulating plenty of relevant knowledge, but that knowledge still had to be practiced and tested out in real life. What she had learned was just theoretical after all.

“Yes, but you can’t belittle yourself too much either. There are people supporting you as well. If you ever get humiliated, our family and I will always back you up!” Claudette reassured her.

Roselynn was not so scared anymore. Yeah, I have a brother who is good at fighting. If they ever come to blows, I will never let the Oatleys gain the upper hand!

It was the day of her wedding though, so it wasn’t exactly appropriate to think M

about fighting. I should just put that dangerous idea aside for now. Besides, she firmly believed that she and Jaxton would never progress to where her cousin and Abellyn were now.

Soon, Emmanuel and Alessandra led the Lowe family relatives into the room. Hermann’s family is here too?

Alessandra had sent them an invitation to attend the banquet the day before, but it wasn’t clear if they had deliberately refused to show up for the Lowe family and came today instead. The presence of her relatives might not be as overwhelming as the day before, but Roselynn still felt more settled. She didn’t know what would happen in the future, but the Oatleys would never dare humiliate her today!

“Roselynn, don’t you think your elaborate gold necklace is a little incompatible with your wedding dress?”

Alessandra couldn’t help but comment on her daughter’s look. If even an older person like her thought that way, then the other younger women like

Claudette would too. Roselynn's clunky gold necklace definitely clashed with her white wedding dress during the ceremony as well as the red gown she would change into for the banquet.

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"It may not be compatible, but Jaxton bought it for me to show off." Roselynn wasn't flashing her wealth despite the fact she knew the Oatleys liked doing so, but Jaxton and his family might not be happy if she didn't wear the necklace.

"Why don't you put mine on instead?" Claudette took off her diamond necklace voluntarily. While the diamond centerpiece wasn't big, the workmanship was detailed and so the necklace was definitely more valuable than the clunky gold one.

A cold voice suddenly came from behind them. "Change into mine instead. My necklace goes well with your wedding dress and suits your red gown even better!"

Roselynn turned around in surprise to see that Mackenzie and Emmanuel had entered the room.

She felt flattered that Mackenzie had voluntarily offered up her golden jade phoenix. It wasn't because she knew Mackenzie had a higher social standing compared to Claudette or even because she knew Mackenzie's necklace could fetch 200 million at auctions, but because Mackenzie gave off a sense of class. Anyone who had been the target of her voluntary kindness would feel the same as Roselynn right now.

“That’s true. I think the golden jade phoenix fits the grand atmosphere of the wedding better too. Thank you, Mackenzie!” Roselynn chose Mackenzie’s necklace.

Mackenzie glanced at Claudette almost carelessly with a sense of victory, while Claudette smiled slightly.

It seemed like only Emmanuel understood the subtle meaning in their looks, but he chose to ignore it and quickly remarked to his sister, “Rosie, you may be marrying into the Oatley family, but you are still a Lowe. Tell me if you ever need anything!”

“Alright, that’s enough! Anyone who doesn’t know better will assume you are my older brother or my father!” joked Roselynn.

The atmosphere was warm and happy in Roselynn’s room but in contrast, all wasn’t exactly well in another room of the hotel.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 276[739 words]

Chapter 276

Before the wedding started, the relatives from both sides chatted while sticking to their respective families.

The Oatleys were a big family since Jaxton’s father Sebastian had plenty of brothers, which caused the members of the family to total up to more than fifty people. Many of them had been drawn into a grand room where a woman covered in jewelry was currently showing off.

“Since you have all found out about it, I’m not going to keep it a secret anymore. This was carved by Mr. Thomas Cline and is his best work!”

The woman was Selina and was Jaxton’s cousin. She was merely 27 years old, yet she displayed her wealth most proudly out of everyone in the family, even surpassing her cousin Jessica.

“Is that the golden jade phoenix?”

“I’ve heard of it too! A mysterious wealthy man acquired it at an auction some time ago with a price of 200 million!”

“I didn’t think she would possess it. Who exactly is that rich man? Is he pursuing Selina?”

There were plenty of Oatley family relatives, and many of them were eager to associate themselves with power. This wasn’t a fictional setting after all since many of them were common folk. They would definitely be envious of someone wearing a necklace worth 30 million and desire to get close to her.

Meanwhile, Jamison wandered around the hotel. It had been his idea to let the Cadigan family attend the banquet today; where was the fun in a wedding party with just a sit-down dinner where they had to give the couple wedding gifts? Of course, they had to come to the banquet organized by the groom’s family, since they didn’t have to pay for anything and could shamelessly eat anything for free. It was the best!

Seeing the commotion inside the room, he went toward the entrance to look inside. His knees nearly buckled at the mention of a necklace worth 30 million and he immediately craned his neck, trying to see what it looked like.

“Hello! Are you talking about me?”

Another man was about to enter the room as well, looking highly ostentatious with two professional bodyguards shadowing him as he pushed Jamison mercilessly to one side. Anyone who didn’t know better would have thought the newcomer was the groom due to his expensive suit and exquisite style.

“Everyone, allow me to introduce him. This is my boyfriend, Isaac Lane. He’s the one that gifted the golden jade phoenix to me!” Selina held his arm tightly as she proudly showed him off to everyone.

“Ah, Isaac Lane. Is he the heir to the Lanes, one of Yeringham’s four most prominent families?”

“I think he’s also the direct heir. It’s no wonder that he’s so wealthy!”

“No matter how rich he is, it must be true love if he gifted his girlfriend with a necklace worth 30 million!”

Everyone began to chatter among themselves.

Selina was delighted by the enormous amount of attention she got and met Jessica’s eyes from time to time.

Jessica didn’t look happy, naturally. She knew that Selina had deliberately stolen everyone’s attention today. After all, Jessica had driven the sports car gifted by her husband to attend Selina’s birthday party and ended up stealing the spotlight from the latter. This was purposeful revenge on Selina’s part!

Jessica hadn’t expected that Selina had managed to win over the heir to the Lanes who generously gifted her with a necklace that cost 30 million.

Completely at a loss of what to say, Jessica had no choice but to watch Selina preen.

Besides, Sebastian Oatley and his son had come here just to chat with Isaac after knowing about his presence. Social connections were extremely important to businessmen like them, and it didn't matter if the honor of being one of the four prominent families in Yeringham was useful or not. Isaac was still the definite third-generation heir to the Lanes and had begun taking over many parts of the family business. So, the Oatleys had to build a close relationship with him. As a result, Isaac Lane's reputation became more prominent and he even stole the spotlight momentarily from the groom himself.

Jamison quietly witnessed the entire scene from the entrance, eyes focused on Selina's chest. Besides the fact that she had an excellent bust, the golden jade phoenix was far too attention-grabbing. It was worth 30 million after all.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 277[634 words]

Chapter 277

If Jamison could get that necklace, he would transform from a poor nobody to a wealthy man. He could then live in luxury for the rest of his life after escaping to a faraway place and changing his name!

However, it was just a fleeting thought. Isaac's professional bodyguards aside, the Oatleys were the hosts for today. They had to place countless

security guards and bodyguards everywhere, so whoever dared to steal from them had to have a death wish. Besides, Jamison didn't think he could ever find a chance to do it.

However, fate was extremely strange since Selina and Isaac had gone into a tiny room in the hotel after showing off. And Jamison, who had followed them secretly, spotted the rich couple making out for the door wasn't even closed due to their haste. Jamison got an eyeful of everything but didn't expect Isaac to carelessly remove the necklace and throw it to one side due to it being in the way either.

The couple had fun for a long time before someone suddenly announced that the banquet was about to begin and invited everyone to quickly take
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their seats, which made the two leave the room quickly. Jamison couldn't believe his luck at all; he knew very well that the necklace worth 30 million had been left behind in the room.

He could hear every beat of his heart which sounded like a drum. After looking left and right multiple times to ensure everyone had entered the banquet hall and no one was around, he went inside the room while avoiding the closed-circuit cameras.

They really did leave it here!

Jamison was frozen to the spot before he brightened up as if he was already imagining his life filled with riches. He could have the best time of his life with 30 million!

He stuffed the necklace into his pocket without a second thought and sneaked quickly out of the room. His heart was still racing when he hid inside the bathroom.

After eventually calming down, he pretended to look relaxed so he could leave the venue. He was a relative of the bride anyway, so no one would ever notice him!

As he walked along the corridor after leaving the bathroom, he didn't expect to bump into Roselynn, who had been styled and was about to head into the banquet hall according to the arrangements made by the hotel staff. Since the wedding schedule had been planned by the Oatleys, the bridesmaids and her relatives were already waiting for the ceremony to begin inside the hall while enjoying the banquet.

"Jamison? What are you doing creeping around here?" She couldn't help !

frowning at the sight of her cousin as if she had seen a giant rat.

"I-I wasn't creeping around. You're-"

He was about to retort that she was the one creeping around before recalling that she was the bride, so he couldn't possibly say that. However, he then noticed that she was also wearing a golden jade phoenix around her neck.

F*ck, what's happening? This expensive necklace has a twin? How many of those did that sc*mbag Mr. Cline carve?

"Hmph! You'd better behave well today!" She was too occupied to pay him

any mind and prepared to enter the venue for the ceremony.

Her scornful look wounded his fragile psyche. Recalling that he had just stolen a necklace worth 30 million, he realized he could just find a scapegoat so no one could suspect him. He probably didn't even have to escape at all! He then shouted in panic, "Someone come here at once! There's a thief! Catch the thief!"

She frowned and turned to glare at him coldly. What's with him again? Is this his revenge? By destroying my wedding on purpose?

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 278[680 words]

Chapter 278

"Jamison! What on earth are you raving about? Stop embarrassing me!"

Roselynn couldn't help but shout at him.

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However, Jamison refused to listen and continued screaming, "Come quickly!

There's a thief here! She stole 30 million!"

Her frown became deeper. Had she not been wearing a wedding dress which hindered her movements, she would have kicked him out herself.

!

"What's wrong? What happened here?" The Oatleys soon arrived since the bride was there in preparation for the ceremony.

"Jaxton! You all came just in time! Kick that lunatic out!" She pointed directly

at Jamison, refusing to give him any courtesy even though he was her relative.

However, the Oatleys knew nothing about the relationship between them, only that he was a relative of the bride's. Why did the bride want to kick her relative out? It was far too puzzling!

However, Jaxton would always support his wife, and he directed a look toward his bodyguards as a signal for them to take action.

"Hang on! Look at what she's wearing around her neck!" Jamison didn't mind being kicked out, but Roselynn's treatment of him really gave him the urge to make her suffer.

Jaxton then looked at Roselynn, noticing that the necklace she was wearing wasn't the clunky gold one he had bought for her. This displeased him somewhat since the Oatleys had a family tradition where the bride had to wear gold jewelry during the wedding. The more she wore and the clunkier it, was, the better. She was now wearing a wedding dress, so it was fine if she didn't wear any other gold jewelry. However, why wasn't she even wearing her gold necklace?

"Hey, isn't that Selina's necklace? Why is the bride wearing it?" Many of the Oatley family members recognized it. How could they ever mistake it when Selina had been proudly displaying it for everyone to see?

However, Roselynn didn't know what they were talking about and became confused.

"Roselynn, why have you changed to another necklace?" Jaxton questioned

her sternly.

She knew from his expression that the issue was with her necklace, but she replied honestly, “The gold necklace was too clunky and didn’t match the wedding dress, so my sister-in-law lent hers to me.”

Jaxton’s expression darkened at once. He was already embarrassed by his wife’s refusal to wear the necklace he had given her, not to mention that she claimed it was her sister-in-law’s when the necklace actually belonged to his cousin. Roselynn was publicly twisting the facts here!

“What’s wrong? What happened?”

Selina and Isaac hadn’t planned on joining in on the commotion, but someone had notified her that her necklace had been stolen. It was then that she remembered forgetting to put it back on after making out with Isaac, so she had come over to take a look. She immediately noticed that her necklace was really around the bride’s neck, which annoyed her.

“Jaxton, Roselynn could’ve just told me if she liked my necklace. I never said I wouldn’t lend it to her so she could show it off, but she shouldn’t have taken it without permission!” Selina informed Roselynn arrogantly while directing a scornful look at her.

Selina had already known that Jaxton was marrying a commoner, but she didn’t think that Roselynn would actually act like one. Selina couldn’t believe that Roselynn was vain despite being penniless. How shameless she is to steal and wear my necklace!

Roselynn was infuriated by the look in her eyes and immediately retorted,

“You’re talking rubbish. How can this be yours? My sister-in-law lent it to me!”

“Oh, keep lying!” Selina was enraged and immediately humiliated Roselynn in front of everyone, no longer concerned for Jaxton’s reputation. “It’s okay to be poor, but stealing and lying is a moral issue. How can our family ever accept a woman like you?”

Selina’s words were like a bomb which caused the scene to erupt into chaos.

Everyone present supported Selina unanimously and called the bride shameless. The noise soon drew the attention of many guests at the

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banquet.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 279[716 words]

Chapter 279

“Where’s Roselynn? Why hasn’t she shown up yet?” Alessandra grew increasingly anxious, fearing that something might go wrong with the wedding reception.

“Mom, I’ll come with you to find out what’s going on.” Emmanuel sensed his mother’s impatience. She wouldn’t be at peace until she laid eyes on her daughter. He rose from his seat, ready to accompany her out of the banquet hall.

To their surprise, the Oatley family staff present urged them to stay calm. The staff emphasized that as it was their family’s event, any issues should be

handled by the groom.

Emmanuel and Alessandra remained clueless about what was happening outside the hall, but out of respect for the groom's arrangements, she reluctantly returned to her seat.

"Don't worry, Ms. Cadigan, I'll go and find Roselynn!" Claudette, a member of the bridesmaid team, insisted on searching for her.

Meanwhile, Roselynn found herself surrounded and attacked by a group of Oatley family relatives. Unable to defend herself, she mustered the strength to confront them. "Y-You all better watch your mouths and show some respect! I'm not a thief! I have no interest in anything belonging to the Oatley family! This necklace was borrowed from Mackenzie, not Selina!"

As Selina witnessed Roselynn's defiance, her anger reached its peak, prompting her to swiftly approach and deliver a forceful slap across Roselynn's face.

Slap!

Roselynn didn't expect an Oatley to actually lay hands on her. She was momentarily taken aback by the blow.

After being slapped, she instinctively sought out Jaxton's gaze.

After all, he was the only person she could rely on within the Oatley family.

However, Jaxton deliberately averted his eyes, firmly believing that she was shameless and deceitful. He couldn't bring himself to support her in this predicament.

Sebastian and Jennifer made their entrance, convinced that they had the entire situation figured out, and haughtily demanded, "Roselynn, apologize to

Selina right now and give back the necklace to her!”

Gritting her teeth, Roselynn fought back tears of frustration. “The necklace doesn’t belong to her, so why should I apologize? It’s her who should apologize!”

“Heh, I’ve never seen such a shameless woman in my life! Give it back to me now!” Selina not only hurled verbal abuse at Roselynn but also resorted to physically pulling and tugging at her.

However, Roselynn stood taller and possessed a more commanding presence than Selina. She refused to be intimidated and forcefully pushed Selina away.

“Ah!” Selina tumbled to the ground.

As his wounded ego demanded attention, Isaac seized the moment to assert his strength and leave an impression. He charged forward, forcefully shoving Roselynn to the ground and following it up with two brutal kicks.

Roselynn curled up in pain on the ground.

The Oatley family felt ashamed witnessing the bride being subjected to such violence, yet none of them stepped forward to assist Roselynn.

Jennifer even instructed the staff to prevent anyone from entering from the outside, forbidding any idle onlookers from intervening. If news of the incident leaked out, it would only further tarnish the Oatley family’s reputation.

“Roselynn, return the necklace to Selina immediately and spare yourself further embarrassment!” Jaxton’s conviction that Roselynn had stolen the object was unwavering. Not only did he refuse to defend her, but he also

demanded that she hand over the necklace. His expression grew darker, and he appeared ready to take action if she didn't comply.

"I-I didn't steal anything! If you don't believe me, I'll have Mackenzie come here and clear things up face-to-face!" Even in this critical moment, Roselynn refused to admit guilt.

Unfortunately, being caught up in wedding preparations, she had left her phone behind and couldn't reach out to Emmanuel and Mackenzie at all.

Witnessing the scene, Jamison couldn't help but smirk with satisfaction. With everyone's attention fixed on Roselynn, he saw the perfect opportunity to slip away unnoticed.

This way, no one would suspect him as the true culprit behind the theft of Selina's necklace.

He reveled in the prospect of striking it rich.

However, just as he turned to make his escape, the hotel's general manager personally led an elderly man and a wealthy-looking woman inside at the far end of the hotel corridor.

A contingent of hotel security guards trailed behind them.

What a grand entrance it was!

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 280[1,292 words]

Chapter 280

"Ah, look, isn't that Old Mr. Quillen?" someone exclaimed.

“What? Old Mr. Quillen is here?” another person chimed in, surprised.

The hotel manager’s reception attracted the attention of many onlookers.

Being a prominent business family, the Oatley family quickly identified Terence Quillen as the wealthiest and most influential figure in Yeringham’s business realm.

!

The mere mention of Old Mr. Quillen instantly diverted Sebastian’s attention from Roselynn’s situation, compelling him to approach hurriedly.

The arrival of Terence himself left everyone in a state of utter astonishment.

“O-Old Mr. Quillen, what brings you here?” Sebastian asked in disbelief. This was a joyous occasion for them, and Terence had voluntarily graced them with his presence.

Even Sebastian couldn’t fathom the idea that Terence was honoring the Oatley family. Is he somehow connected to the bride’s family?

However, Sebastian quickly dismissed such thoughts.

After all, the Lowe family was a commoner family. It seemed implausible for them to have any ties to the prestigious family of Yeringham.

It simply didn’t add up.

“Haha, why is there such liveliness here? Is the wedding ceremony taking place here?” Terence, having just arrived, was unaware of the situation. Out of respect for the Lowe family, he approached the members of the Oatley family, who were hosting the banquet.

“Ah? No...” Sebastian was at a loss for words. If Terence discovered that the

Oatley family's bride had stolen the necklace, their reputation would be ruined.

Jennifer understood her husband's predicament all too well. She harbored deep resentment toward Roselynn, wondering why their son had chosen such an unscrupulous woman to marry.

"What's the matter? Is it inconvenient for you to speak to an outsider like me?"

Terence felt disrespected by the Oatley family's apparent disregard for him.

Although the Quillen family had no business ties with the Oatley family, Terence possessed enough influence to dismantle their enterprises with a mere word.

"Ah? No, no, no..." Sebastian waved his hands repeatedly, but he didn't know how to respond to Terence. How could they expose their family's dirty laundry?

However, in a pivotal moment, Claudette emerged from the crowd and coldly said, "Old Mr. Quillen, they are claiming that Roselynn stole someone else's necklace!"

"Oh? You're the eldest daughter of the Lenoir family!" Terence immediately recognized Claudette. After all, only the Lenoir family and the Verkade family held equal standing with the Quillen family in Yeringham.

The Lane family stood a step below these three esteemed families.

As for the Oatley family, they were considered second-rate at best.

"What? Y-You're the Lenoir family's eldest daughter?!" Jennifer, who had carried an air of superiority, suddenly grew uneasy. She knew that Claudette

was part of Roselynn's bridesmaid team today.

How could Roselynn, a commoner woman, have such a prestigious friend?

It didn't make sense!

Jessica, who had remained silent and reserved all this time, began to break out in a cold sweat.

She had just witnessed Roselynn being subjected to bullying and had been unsure whether Roselynn had any influential connections.

However, she regretted her hesitation now.

She regretted not helping Roselynn earlier.

Nevertheless, it was better late than never to rectify her mistakes.

With that, she swiftly made her way through the crowd, reaching out to help Roselynn, who had been knocked to the ground. Feigning concern, she asked, "Roselynn, are you okay?"

Roselynn had been ruthlessly kicked by Isaac, and her lower abdomen was in excruciating pain. At this moment, she was covered in a cold sweat and still unable to utter a word.

After noticing that it was Emmanuel's sister being mistreated, Terence promptly approached.

!

His bodyguards behind him quickly dispersed the crowd.

"Roselynn, what happened to you? Who did this to you?" Terence's genuine concern caught everyone present off guard.

What's going on? What is the relationship between Old Mr. Quillen and

Roselynn? everyone pondered silently.

Jaxton was also dumbfounded. He was on the verge of marrying Roselynn, yet he had no inkling of her powerful backing.

”

Selina, consumed by nerves, quickly retreated and clutched tightly onto Isaac’s arm.

Although Isaac was also flustered, he endeavored to maintain his masculine composure and calmly stated, “Don’t be afraid. She stole our necklace. Even if the heavens descended, we would still be in the right!”

Gradually regaining her composure, Roselynn clenched her teeth and pointed at Isaac and the others. “T-They’re falsely accusing me of stealing their necklace!”

Perplexed, Terence furrowed his brow and questioned, “What necklace?”

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While he didn’t possess extensive knowledge about Roselynn, Terence was familiar with Emmanuel’s character and believed that his sister’s character couldn’t be any worse. Moreover, as the bride, how could she find the time to steal someone else’s necklace? It seemed utterly absurd.

“It’s the necklace my sister-in-law Mackenzie lent me. It was a gift from my younger brother to her.” Roselynn pointed to the golden jade phoenix around her neck.

Terence trembled with disbelief. At a glance, he recognized it as the exact necklace he had purchased for Emmanuel to give to his granddaughter,

Mackenzie.

Since when did it fall into the possession of someone from the Oatley family?

A surge of anger welled within him.

However, as someone well-versed in navigating the complexities of life, he concealed his emotions. Instead, he smiled and turned to Sebastian, asking, "Is that so?"

Sebastian sighed inwardly and nodded to Terence. "Yes, it's true. What a shame that something like this has happened to our family!"

"Hold on for a moment!" Terence waved his hand, urging them to clarify. "Are you implying that someone from the Oatley family falsely accused your daughter-in-law, or are you saying that your daughter-in-law stole someone else's necklace and tarnished your family's reputation? Please make it clear!"

As the chairman of Terence Group, he always approached matters in a systematic and precise manner.

"It's about her stealing my necklace, of course!" Selina immediately grew angry and pointed at Roselynn. "Everyone here knows that this necklace was a token of affection given to me by Mr. Lane. How did it end up in the possession of someone she knows?"

Terence maintained his smile, neither confirming nor denying, as he repeated his question to Sebastian, "Is that so?"

Sebastian stammered, unsure of how to respond.

Roselynn finally caught on, wondering why these arrogant people from the

Oatley family held such reverence for Mackenzie's grandpa. What's his true identity, after all?

"Yes!" Jennifer chimed in, convinced that Roselynn had indeed stolen Selina's necklace. With so many eyes from the Oatley family as witnesses, it seemed improbable that the incident was fabricated.

As her husband's hesitant response turned into a source of ridicule, Jennifer stood by Selina's side and felt an overwhelming urge to assertively speak the truth,

At her words, Terence shifted his gaze toward Claudette and said, "Ms. Lenoir, I didn't bring anyone with me today. Your family has always shown efficiency, and I would appreciate some assistance from you."

While the meaning behind his words eluded others, Claudette instantly grasped it.

She had personally witnessed Mackenzie giving the necklace to Roselynn.

How could Roselynn be lying?

These people from the Oatley family were acting high and mighty, falsely accusing Roselynn of stealing the necklace and even resorting to violence against her. Even without Terence's intervention, she was determined to help her best friend.

"Very well, let's further investigate the true ownership of the necklace!" After instructing Claudette to make the necessary arrangements, Terence smiled and addressed the Oatley family members.

Little did they know, his smile concealed a hidden agenda.

Unbeknownst to them, their actions had already put them at a disadvantage.

They remained oblivious to the fact that Terence had been sharpening his

blade, ready to strike and silence them with a swift and deadly blow.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 281[729 words]

Chapter 281

“What? Is it necessary to investigate this further?” Selina raised her hand arrogantly and proudly declared, “Most of the people here witnessed it. The necklace was around my neck. Old Mr. Quillen, if you doubt it, feel free to check the hotel surveillance.”

“That’s right! I can vouch for it!”

“I saw it too!”

“This is the precious token of affection that Mr. Lane gave to Selina. It’s worth 30 million!”

Sure enough, a group of people at the scene voiced their support for Selina’s claim.

Roselynn became anxious, unable to comprehend the situation. Did

Mackenzie steal the necklace?

No, that can’t be true!

She firmly believed that Mackenzie was not such a person.

Terence, the cunning old fox, continued to maintain a sly smile. He didn’t doubt that so many people at the scene were lying, but he was well aware

that they had misunderstood a crucial detail.

Instead of questioning Selina directly, he turned to Isaac and inquired, “Isaac, is it true? Did you purchase this necklace for 30 million? Where did you acquire it?”

If someone else had asked him that question, Isaac would have proudly admitted to it and boasted about the purchase. However, when he caught sight of the look in Terence’s eyes, he felt something was amiss, and a strong sense of guilt washed over him.

Isaac wouldn’t hesitate to show any mercy to anyone else in the room, but Terence was someone he wouldn’t dare offend.

The Quillen family’s influence in Yeringham ran deep like an ancient tree firmly rooted in the soil. They had connections in the business world, the government, and even the underworld. They were on an entirely different level compared to the Lane family.

If Isaac had a clear conscience, he wouldn’t be afraid of the Quillen family’s power. After all, Yeringham was a society governed by the rule of law.

The problem was, he was lying.

Furthermore, he had a gut feeling that the genuine golden jade phoenix necklace might have some connection to the elderly man standing before him.

“Well... It’s true that I bought it and gave it to Selina...” Isaac attempted to redirect the focus and provide selectively truthful information.

If it had been anyone else, they might have been deceived. However,

Terence Quillen, the shrewd and astute self-made man who had risen to become the wealthiest person in the entire city, was not one to be easily fooled.

“Mr. Lane, you purchased it for 30 million at the auction, right? Oh my, it seems that I may have forgotten about the records at my own Quillen Auction House...” Terence’s words caused Isaac’s confidence to shatter completely.

How could Terence, as the auction house owner, not know who had bid 30 million for the golden jade phoenix necklace?

“Uh... no, I didn’t acquire it at the auction house. I obtained it through other means.” With this sudden change in Isaac’s statement, a commotion erupted in the room.

Many sensed a potential turning point in the situation.

Those who lied would always remain under suspicion.

Selina immediately exclaimed in disbelief, “What? Isaac, how dare you deceive me! So, is this necklace truly worth 30 million?”

Isaac was drenched in sweat. If Terence hadn’t been standing right in front of him, he might have boldly continued lying.

However, his confidence had crumbled, and he hesitated, “It didn’t cost 30 million... B-But... it’s close enough!”

Indeed, the difference was just a few zeros.

Terence, disinterested in their argument, let out a chuckle and remarked,

“Haha, Mr. Lane, I suggest you take a closer look. Is the necklace worn by my

godchild truly the one you purchased?”

What? His godchild?

Terence’s words sent shockwaves through everyone present.

The members of the Oatley family, who had previously scorned and belittled

Roselynn as a mere commoner, turned pale in an instant.

Jaxton’s expression turned exceedingly unpleasant.

Although Jessica had already harbored suspicions, she hadn’t fully grasped

the situation. Now, her mood darkened further as regret flooded her. Why

hadn’t she stepped forward earlier to assist Roselynn?

“U-Umm...”

Isaac found himself trapped with no escape, his face etched with distress.

To compound his troubles, Claudette approached Terence with a smile,

saying, “Old Mr. Quillen, the people I called will be here soon. I assure you that

the culprit won’t stand a chance of escaping!”

What?

Isaac’s complexion turned ashen.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 282[604 words]

Chapter 282

He was Claudette’s classmate, so no one in the room knew better than him

about how terrifying the Lenoir family could be. His younger brother was still

in the hospital after being taught a hard lesson by them! Was he going to

end up like his younger brother?

“Oh, thank you, Ms. Lenoir!”

Once Terence was done, his expression suddenly became stern. “Though the Quillen family had never actively mistreated others, anyone who dares to mistreat a member of the Quillen family will not end well either!”

Buzz... Many people at the scene felt like their mind was about to explode as they thought they were doomed. After all, they had taken Roselynn’s opposing side just now, and though they were not the ones who took action, they were considered accomplices!

Meanwhile, Jaxton looked at his wife like she was a stranger, while Jennifer was at a loss. She thought her daughter-in-law was a commoner, but Roselynn’s status had skyrocketed to become higher than hers! How was she going to get along with her daughter-in-law in the future? Roselynn’s last name was Lowe, so when did she become Terence’s godchild? What was all this about?

While everyone thought Roselynn was pretending, the more sophisticated Sebastian and Jennifer thought otherwise. If Roselynn had known she had such a strong backer, she would not have reacted the way she did just now. Therefore, there was only one explanation! Could Roselynn have had no idea about her relationship with Terence before today?

On the other hand, Roselynn would not explain anything to the crowd. Also, she knew about her relationship with Terence but did not know her younger brother would have such powerful in-laws! Even the prestigious Oatley family

was nothing before the Quillen family! It turned out her sister-in-law was really the Belle of Yeringham, the eldest daughter of the Quillen family! Now that she thought of it, the troubles her family faced previously would be easily solved after Mackenzie's appearance. It was then that Roselynn realized what was the reason!

She was still flabbergasted since the time she found out the truth and wondered what Emmanuel's reaction would be if he learned the truth as well.

"How is it, Isaac? Do you recognize that?"

The insufferably arrogant Isaac was now shaking.

When the Oatleys' relatives saw that, they thought they were looking at one of the wonders of the world! They would never have guessed Selina's awesome boyfriend would fall into this situation.

"I... I do," Isaac stammered.

"Did you buy that?" Terence's eyes were filled with oppression, making him seem utterly different from the kind old man he usually was.

Since Isaac was feeling guilty and terrified, he fell on his knees and pleaded,

"Old Mr. Quillen, I-I'm sorry! I... I was misguided by the situation just now. I didn't know-"

"F*ck you!" Terence did not listen to his explanation and whacked Isaac's head with his walking stick.

Isaac instantly blacked out. He felt a warm sensation on his head and almost fell unconscious.

The next moment, he was pinned to the ground by Terence's bodyguards!

Thud! Thud! Thud! Thud!

At that instance, the hotel was filled with thunderous footsteps.

It seemed like the Lenoir family's squads were indeed very quick because they had arrived at the venue and fully surrounded the entire hotel.

Judging by their lineup, they were clearly about to block their exit and deal with them here!

Meanwhile, the Oatleys would never have thought they would suffer such a huge revenge operation after mistreating Roselynn. The Quillen and Lenoir families were working together to get justice for Roselynn!

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 283[657 words]

Chapter 283

"I don't want to hear your excuse. You must pay the price for laying a finger on my family!" Terence growled.

The guests were terrified by his authority.

Roselynn was surprised to see the usually friendly old man get angry. His authority and assertiveness resembled a lion, the king of beasts.

"The golden jade phoenix is a gift from my grandson-in-law to my granddaughter. Then, she gifted it to Roselynn. How dare you all accuse her of stealing your item?! You arrogant idiots! I'll teach you a lesson today!"

Terence glared at the crowds.

Nobody dared to say a word as they hung their heads low.

The next moment, the security guards brought Jamison back to the crowd and shoved him to the ground. He fell next to Isaac.

The hotel manager approached Terence with his head bowed. “Old Mr. Quillen, we looked up the surveillance footage and found this guy sneaking into Mr. Lane and Ms. Selina’s room. He also left the room without drawing any attention. He tried to take advantage of the chaos to flee the hotel, but our people caught him. We even found a necklace on him.”

At that, he took out a yellow necklace from his pocket and presented it to Terence.

“Ah! That’s my necklace! It belongs to me!” Selina exclaimed.

Realization dawned on Roselynn and she pointed a shaky finger at Jamison.

A long while later, she finally brought herself to scold him. “Wow! You again? A thief having the audacity to cry thief! You must have a death wish!”

The discovery made her boil with anger.

Everything had to do with her beloved cousin. Before this, he once tried to hire somebody to get rid of her and Emmanuel. Now, he stole somebody’s belongings and tried to blame it on her.

If it weren’t for Terence arriving in time, things would end badly for her.

“Beat him up.” Upon noticing Roselynn’s flushed cheeks, Claudette waited no more and ordered her men to teach Jamison a lesson.

Before Jamison could speak, a punch landed on his face and smashed his teeth.

At that moment, a thief like him no longer deserved to defend himself.

After appraising the necklace, Terence concluded, “Ms. Selina, your necklace is a counterfeit. It’s not the work of Mr. Cline. Judging from its material and craftsmanship, it isn’t even worth 30 thousand.”

The statement made the crowd go wild.

Nobody expected such a dramatic outcome.

The fake daughter of a wealthy family is wearing a counterfeit that isn’t even worth 30 thousand?! However, she dares accuse another woman, who wears the real thing, of stealing her cheap necklace. She even used force on an innocent woman!

The truth was out. Selina could feel the crowd’s eyes on her as they despised and mocked her. The thought caused her body to shake.

As she refused to accept the truth, she threw a tantrum. “That’s impossible!

No way! Mr. Lane bought it for me for 30 million!”

“Wake up, you vain woman!”

Jessica decided to jump at the opportunity to stand up for Roselynn. “The real rich daughter here is Roselynn. As for you, you are nothing but a poor woman who shows off her counterfeit around. You’re just a laughingstock and a clown!”

“N-No! Whom are you calling a poor woman? I’m not making a joke of myself.” Selina was in denial.

I’m just a victim of Isaac’s lies from the very beginning!

However, Isaac didn’t dare to speak up. The crowd needed no more words as the truth was already presented to them.

Usually, Roselynn would've slapped Selina. However, she changed her mind at the sight of the miserable woman. A woman like her deserves a mental punishment. It's more effective than hurting her physically.

"That's it. There's nothing interesting around here. Get back to work." Terence waved his hand to dismiss the crowd. He decided that he had enough attention for today.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 284[700 words]

Chapter 284

Terence was here to visit Emmanuel and Mackenzie. Fortunately, the two weren't there to witness the drama.

Meanwhile, the atmosphere in the banquet hall remained joyful.

The speakers were blaring. People in the hall had no idea about what was happening outside.

Alessandra couldn't stand the elephant in the room, but the Oatleys asked her to stay calm. Therefore, she remained in her seat. Since both Emmanuel and Mackenzie were around, she took the opportunity to catch up.

As expected, she asked mostly about Mackenzie's condition and whether she was feeling uncomfortable these days.

The questions embarrassed Mackenzie and Emmanuel.

However, the duo didn't dare to tell her the truth. After all, they never shared a bed. Therefore, Mackenzie wouldn't get pregnant at all.

“You’re a man, Manny. You’re responsible for taking care of Mackenzie.”

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Since the youngsters remained quiet, Alessandra took the opportunity to continue, “You should take over the household chores no matter their nature. Most importantly, you must take care of Mackenzie’s health. A woman is meant to be spoiled by her man. Do you understand?”

The words pleased Mackenzie. She purposely glanced at Emmanuel with pride written all over her face.

She’s different from her father. He favors a son over a daughter, but she prioritizes the daughter over the son. They’re different to an extreme.

Emmanuel couldn’t stand the pressure. “I understand, Mom. I’ve always been in charge of the housework.”

He even helped Mackenzie to dry her clothes. At this point, the only thing he hadn’t done was help her bathe.

If there was more room to nitpick on him, he might as well start to feed Mackenzie in the future.

“By the way, I’ve got some money. I’ll give them to you later. Remember to buy nutrition supplements and folic acid tablets for Mackenzie.”

What the hell? Did she say folic acid tablets?

Mackenzie had been pretending to drink the water to avoid getting involved in the conversation. However, Alessandra’s words took her by surprise. She couldn’t help but spew the water on Emmanuel’s face.

Emmanuel was embarrassed as he stared at her wordlessly. What is she

doing?

“Don’t worry about it, Mom!” Mackenzie declined such an offer.

“I have to worry about it! Besides, you lent me some money before. I’m going to pay you back.”

Alessandra was a woman who kept her promise. Even though they were a -family at this point, she didn’t want to take advantage of her daughter-in-law.

“It’s fine. Really!” Alessandra’s obstinacy was giving Mackenzie a headache, but it was touching at the same time. It seems like Emmanuel and his family aren’t greedy people.

“Listen to me. You have to take them!”

Alessandra turned to Emmanuel. “Manny, you’re taking your sister’s wedding gift with you. Remember to pay Mackenzie back and buy her some nutrition supplements with them.”

Knowing his mother, Emmanuel could tell Alessandra was being serious.

There was no room to argue with her regarding this topic.

Mackenzie could see he was about to agree with Alessandra, so she pinched his thigh under the table. She glared at him, sending him a warning look.

Don’t dare to make a move on me. One false move and you’ll be dead!

Emmanuel winced as he silently endured the pain.

Fortunately, Terence’s invigorating laughter interrupted them. “We meet again, Mrs. Lowe.”

“There you are, Old Mr. Quillen. Take a seat!”

Alessandra and Terence had been bonding over their past encounters. At last, the two became good friends.

Terence liked the interactions between him and the simple woman. Even though he was considered an elder to her, the age difference between them was no more than twenty years. Therefore, the two shared some common ground.

As expected, the two talked most about a certain topic, which was urging Emmanuel and Mackenzie to have children as soon as possible.

The Oatleys, who followed Terence to walk into the banquet hall, finally realized that Roselynn's younger brother had married the daughter of the Quillen family.

Jaxton finally recognized the pretty woman as Mackenzie. No wonder I felt like I knew her from somewhere during our first meeting. I'm such an idiot! Why did I realize it only now?

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 285[590 words]

Chapter 285

Felicity kept quiet the whole time. She was attending the banquet as Terence's companion.

Not long after that, Claudette came into the hall as well.

Instead of sharing the table with the bridesmaids, she followed Terence and joined Emmanuel and his family at their table.

Indeed, the guests at the table drew all attention to them.

After all, the most respected man, the most beautiful woman, and the other important figures in Yeringham were sharing that table.

Emmanuel could feel the guests' gazes on him, but he decided that it was due to Mackenzie's and Claudette's gorgeousness.

"Manny, I rarely have a chance to talk to you. Today, I have something to tell you in your mother's presence."

The conversation between Terence and Alessandra was cut short when Terence sat taller in his seat with a serious expression. He shot Emmanuel a stern look.

Emmanuel tensed at the man's piercing gaze. Is he going to lecture me on staying loyal to Mackenzie due to what happened between me and Claudette?

"Grandpa, it's not what it looks like. I-" Emmanuel immediately explained. He didn't want Terence and Felicity to misunderstand.

Terence's words came out before Emmanuel could finish his sentence. "When are you two going to have a baby? Now that your family elders are here, you need to make a promise. An unbreakable promise."

W-What? A promise to have a baby? The words took Emmanuel aback. That's what he wanted to talk about?

The guests at the table had different expressions on them.

Felicity was watching Emmanuel as well. Even though she seemed expressionless, her eyes suggested otherwise.

Mackenzie stared at Emmanuel. Her cold eyes warned him to watch his mouth, or else he would be dead.

Claudette pursed her lips. Her eyes darted from Emmanuel's face to Mackenzie's. Her heart sank at the words.

If Emmanuel agreed with Terence, not only would Mackenzie fight him, but it would also break Claudette's heart.

However, if he decided against Terence's wish, he would get scolded by Terence and disappoint his mother.

It's tough being a man nowadays as trouble came twice to a man.

Fortunately, the wedding was about to begin.

Upon noticing Roselynn's discomfort, Emmanuel rushed upstage.

"What's wrong? What happened to you, Roselynn?"

no

Emmanuel was a skilled doctor. It took him one look to tell Roselynn was suffering an internal injury, which explained her emaciated face.

"Oh? Is this-" The smile froze on the host's face.

He had been a wedding host countless times. He expected unforeseen circumstances to interrupt the wedding, but never once in his career had he faced a situation like now.

"Tell me what happened, Roselynn," Emmanuel urged.

Roselynn didn't show up as expected and it worried him. However, the Oatleys asked them to stay in the hall. Therefore, he believed their words and stayed in his seat.

He realized he had put his trust in the wrong people at the sight of Roselynn.

Roselynn couldn't bring herself to answer. After all, she would reveal

Mackenzie's true identity to him if she told him the truth.

But it seems like Mackenzie doesn't want him to know.

Therefore, Roselynn decided it wasn't her place to tell him. She didn't want to anger Mackenzie, and further drive a wedge between Emmanuel and the woman.

Chapter

"Tell me what happened, Jaxton." Emmanuel could see Roselynn was refraining from telling him the truth. He thought it was because she was

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worrying about the Oatleys. However, he would never allow anyone to wrong his sister.

"|—"

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 286[756 words]

Chapter 286

Jaxton averted his gaze. He couldn't help but look down to where Terence and the others were seated.

He finally realized that Emmanuel's wife was none other than the daughter of the Quillen family.

He had always thought that Roselynn was marrying above her station, but things weren't quite what it seemed. The discovery made him panic.

Losing patience for Jaxton's stutter, Emmanuel began, "Jaxton, since my sister chose to marry you, I'll see you as a family too. The Lowe family are indeed commoners. We have no wealth, no influence, and no connections. However, if any of you dare to wrong my sister or bully her, I'll make you pay the price."

The crowd fell into silence at his announcement. The guests turned to each other and exchanged looks between them.

The Oatleys didn't dare to speak up.

If Emmanuel said those words before today, the Oatleys would only fume at his accusation.

After all, he was just a commoner. He shouldn't step on their ego and talk to them with no respect.

However, they were feeling guilty at the moment.

After all, Roselynn was wronged and beaten by another person on the Oatleys' territory. And her brother, the man on the stage, was the husband of the daughter of the Quillen family. The Oatley family didn't dare to mess with them.

"It's okay, Manny. Calm down." At last, it was Roselynn who spoke up with a smile.

She was grateful that her brother was standing up for her, but it wasn't necessary at this point.

After witnessing what Terence and Claudette were capable of, the Oatleys treated her with respect. Nobody dared to look down upon her anymore.

Besides, she had always seen marriage as a game. The player who was better at compromising won. One must compromise with their situation to make their marriage work.

She was in her thirties. She decided to end her single status so her mother could stop worrying about her.

Therefore, she smiled at Emmanuel. "I'm well-respected in the Oatleys.

Nobody would dare to pick on me. Don't you agree with me, Jaxton?"

Jaxton was surprised by that and he immediately agreed with a smile. "That's right. I, Jaxton Oatley, hereby pledge to love and cherish my wife. I'll never let anything happen to her."

The crowd immediately applauded.

Their applause was getting louder and louder. Most of the guests thought that it was a part of the wedding.

At that, the atmosphere in the hall became warmer.

"All right, Jaxton. I believe your words. I'll entrust Roselynn to your care from today on." Emmanuel finally let Jaxton off the hook.

Terence chuckled loudly at the table. "Look at that guy, Felicity and Ms. Lenoir. He's a dependable man. One would be lucky to be his family because he'll protect them at all costs."

Felicity forced a smile. She said nothing but her mind was thinking otherwise.

It's all about foolhardiness. If it isn't for the old man to back him up, he would

never have the courage and power to say those words.

Claudette couldn't bring herself to laugh at all. There was a lump in her throat. She simply excused herself and left the table on her own.

Why did I choose to sit with them? Do I want to torture myself that much? No matter what happens, Emmanuel will always be Mackenzie's husband. It's only normal to establish a more intimate relationship on that basis, including giving birth to a child.

”

In contrast, she could never establish an intimate relationship with Emmanuel because it was forbidden and wrong. People would never bless them with a future.

But I'm the one who got to know Emmanuel before her.

“What happened, Ms. Lenoir? You seem down.”

Claudette went outside to take a breather and a young man followed her. He had a wry smile on his face.

“What are you doing here, Hubert?”

She was surprised to see the second son of the Verkade family. How does the wedding have anything to do with him?

Little did she know, Hubert and Isaac were friends. Moreover, he was Selina's classmate. Most importantly, he was Laura's nephew. She invited him to the wedding.

Thus, Hubert followed Isaac to join the fun. He even witnessed Terence teaching Isaac a lesson earlier.

Realization dawned on him. No wonder Emmanuel was so agitated when I confessed to Mackenzie. He even put the candles out like an aggressive man.

It turns out that Emmanuel isn't Mackenzie's driver but her husband!

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 287[773 words]

Chapter 287

“Ms. Lenoir, you seem to be heartbroken. I have to admit, I'm curious. Which man in this world could be so fortunate yet foolish enough to not appreciate the love you shower upon him?” Hubert deliberately poked the barely weeping dragon.

“This... It's none of your business!” Claudette had no favorable impression of him and intended to leave immediately.

However, Hubert blocked her path and persisted, his voice brimming with intrigue, “Ms. Lenoir, allow me to be candid, I have developed feelings for Mackenzie, while you fancy Emmanuel, am I correct? Why don't we join forces and devise a plan to separate them?”

She trembled and said, “I... I'm not interested.”

“Haha...” Hubert chuckled, thoroughly amused by Claudette's trembling state and finding it difficult to contain himself. “If you were truly disinterested, you wouldn't still be here with me, would you? I know you're a well-bred princess who wishes to avoid any wrongdoing, but pursuing your own love, how can that be considered wrong?”

Claudette bit her lip lightly. She couldn't deny that she agreed with his words.

Her aunt, Laura, who happened to be Hubert's aunt as well, had also imparted the same advice to her. Everyone had the right to pursue love, so she patiently awaited the inevitable breakup between Emmanuel and Mackenzie. Although she was vehement in her verbal claims of disinterest, her body betrayed her true feelings, revealing her true thoughts on the matter.

"We have organized a certain outdoor activity in our circle, located at the foothills of Flower Mountain. The scenery there is incredibly beautiful, a sacred place for lovers."

"I had initially thought of inviting Mackenzie, but I am certain she would refuse if I approached her directly. However, if you were to extend the invitation, the chances of success would be significantly higher." Hubert explained the intricacies of the plan to Claudette.

It turned out they were just creating an opportunity for her to take Emmanuel away, and then he would spend time alone with Mackenzie.

It didn't seem like a bad idea.

Claudette also knew what kind of person Hubert was, and it did seem as though he would be capable enough to pull off such a simple plan.

"Well, I will give it a try. Besides, I am also interested in experiencing the beautiful scenery and finding some relaxation." Claudette agreed as she made her way back to the banquet.

The atmosphere of the wedding reception was lively, so no one noticed when

she had even left the premises.

Claudette was still thinking about how to bring up the topic when the bride and groom came to their table.

Emmanuel and Terence had drunk quite a bit of alcohol. They had been talking a lot today and he reminded Jaxton to treat Roselynn well.

“Oh. By the way, Roselynn, do you have any plans for your honeymoon?” At that moment, Claudette suddenly interjected.

Jaxton’s expression immediately soured. He was the general manager of the family business and was usually very busy, so he hadn’t made any plans to take Roselynn on a honeymoon.

“Well. We have plans, but we haven’t arranged them in detail yet.” Roselynn quickly intervened to resolve the situation for Jaxton.

“In that case, why don’t we plan a trip to Flower Mountain in a few days? It’s known for its breathtaking scenery, surrounded by beautiful lakes and glorious mountains. Plus, there are numerous resorts where you can have a wonderful honeymoon!” Claudette seized the moment, her voice brimming with enthusiasm. As she spoke, Roselynn’s attention immediately shifted to Jaxton.

“Of course, that sounds great!” Jaxton hastily agreed, fearing any disappointment from Roselynn and the potential displeasure of Emmanuel and Terence.

“Mhm, how about you, Emmanuel? Would you and Miss Quillen like to join us?”

Claudette extended another inviting smile toward Emmanuel and Mackenzie.

Mackenzie's gaze turned vigilant as she couldn't shake off the nagging feeling that this young Ms. Lenoir harbored ulterior motives. Could it be that she has not given up on pursuing my husband yet?

To think that this young Ms. Lenoir has such audacity! With her striking looks and prestigious background, Ms. Lenoir could easily attract any man she desired. Why is she insistent on stealing my husband away?

"Absolutely! You have to go!" Terence interjected, keenly observing the interaction between Emmanuel and Mackenzie. When he noticed the questioning glances exchanged between the couple, Terence immediately prompted impatiently when none of them bothered to respond to Claudette's suggestion. Thus, he stepped in and accepted the invitation on their behalf.

"Oh, Manny. I just realized that you haven't taken my granddaughter on a honeymoon yet!"

Chapter 288

Terence reprimanded him sternly.

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Emmanuel hadn't responded yet, but Alessandra quickly apologized, "Old Mr. Quillen, I'm really sorry! Our family was going through some tough **times**, and as the head of the family, I couldn't financially support them for their honeymoon. I'll make sure they'll have some quality time together this **time!**" Of course, they had to go on a honeymoon.

Who knows, maybe they'll come back from their honeymoon with a few little ones in Mackenzie's belly.

The two elderly parents were in perfect sync, leaving Emmanuel with no room for refusal.

"But Grandpa, I **still** have matters to attend to at my company," Mackenzie tried to resist.

Terence immediately shut her down **with** a cold **tone**, "Can't your company handle things without you? You **of** all people should understand **the** importance of a work-life balance! In any **case**, you will be going, or I'll help you quit your job right this instant!"

She was speechless.

Quit my job?

Terence Group will be shaken to its core!

Unfortunately, Terence, as the chairman, had the power to fire her if he so wished. Although she knew it was an empty threat, she'd really rather not risk truly enraging Terence.

"Mackenzie, let's go together! The more, the merrier! Plus, we'll only be gone for a few days," Claudette smiled as she urged beseechingly.

Mackenzie ignored her. She knew that any plans from her rival in love would be unfavorable to her.

"Well, Mackenzie. Let's go and have some fun **for** a few days." Emmanuel

eventually compromised.

It's **hard** to withstand parental **pressure**.

Mackenzie snorted but did not continue to refuse. Therefore, Emmanuel **took** it as her giving the green light regarding this matter.

The wedding finally concluded successfully.

The happiest person was none other than Alessandra. She had been worried sick as her children hadn't gotten married yet. Little did she expect that within less than two months, both of their marriage matters would be resolved.

Now, she was eagerly waiting to become a grandmother.

Ryder did not attend the wedding today. Since Abellyn had completely abandoned her family, he had lost all hope in her.

Now he **was** taking care of Tommy alone, regardless of whether that woman was dead or alive.

But unexpectedly, as he was driving his scooter with his son back home, they happened to pass by the road where Chloe's rented house was, and he **saw** a parked BMW there.

"Dad, why did you stop?"

Tommy was curious. Why is Dad staring at that car?

There was only a **man** around thirty years old **in** the car, **and Tommy did not** know him.

But Ryder recognized him. He was the man who had been intimately involved with his wife that night.

“Don’t **say** anything, Tommy!”.

He quickly hid with his son. He had a premonition that this man parked the car here because he was waiting for his wife.

Sure enough, after he waited for a few minutes, Abellyn came out of Chloe’s rented place. She was dressed in a tight skirt with heavy make-up, and Ryder could barely recognize her.

This woman had been married **to** him for over six years, but she had never dressed up **so** beautifully before.

“**Dad**, isn’t that Mom? **She looks** so pretty!”

Tommy did not know what was happening and even wanted **to** run over **and** hug his mom.

But Ryder was **so** furious that he threw down his scooter and ran towards them **like** a madman.

Abellyn was opening the passenger door and getting in when Zane placed his hand on her thigh and asked, “What do you want to eat tonight?”

“Well, I feel like having—” Her voice turned sweet and alluring, but her eyes suddenly widened in fear, prompting her to quickly push away Zane’s hand.

Zane furrowed his brows, displeased by her reaction, when he saw a dark-skinned man running towards their car in a fit of fury.

“Get out of the **car**! You adulterous couple, get out of the car right now!!”

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 289[684 words]

Chapter 289

Zane saw the furious expression on the man's face and did not dare to unlock the doors. Instead, he quickly locked the car doors.

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

Ryder's emotions were getting out of control as he relentlessly kicked the BMW's doors.

"Get out of the car! Get out now, you shameless couple! I'll make sure you regret this!" Ryder shouted in anger.

"Zane, w-what do we do now?" Abellyn, a rather foolish woman when she had no one steering her way, was completely at a loss and panicked.

She was afraid that Ryder might actually break the door open in his rage. This savage man could really harm her if he did.

"Why don't you get out of the car? I'll be taking off now. It seems we won't be able to have any fun tonight!" Unfortunately, Zane had no interest in lingering and taking any punches. After all, whatever Ryder planned to do to Abellyn was not his concern.

Besides, he was starting to grow tired of this woman. To make matters worse, he had even discovered that Abellyn of all people wanted to marry him.

How could that ever happen?

He had planned to continue fooling around with her a few more times and then get rid of her once he had had his fill. Now that her husband had shown up, it was the perfect opportunity to cut ties and never contact her again. Yet, would Abellyn even dare to unlock the car door? Of course, she wasn't! She was unwilling to leave Zane and intended to force him to put her name on the property deed tonight.

"Zane, why don't you drive us away? Let's get rid of this man together!" She suggested, albeit hesitantly.

Zane was reluctant to do so.

He wasn't stupid. He had been sneaking around, hiding their affair from Abellyn's husband, enjoying the thrill of the forbidden fruit.

Nonetheless, if he were to drive away with her when her husband was right in front of them, the consequences would be severe. Not only would he have to fear Ryder's potential retaliation, but it would also be even harder for him to get rid of Abellyn.

While he was still hesitating, Ryder could feel his mounting fury at the obstacle before his eyes. Moreover, his son was watching this unfold behind him. He was afraid that his son would see his mother running off with another man. Thus, he picked up a stone and smashed the car window in a moment of impulsiveness.

Crash!

Zane's eyes widened in shock and frustration.

He knew that if he got out of the car, Ryder would definitely beat him up, and

he was no match for Ryder. But he didn't want to endure this humiliation for nothing. So, he decided to step on the gas pedal and hit Ryder with the car, hoping to knock him away.

"Dad! Dad!" Tommy ran toward Ryder, crying, only to find his father covered in blood.

Abellyn was also stunned by the turn of events.

After a while, she finally reacted. She didn't scold Zane. Oh, no. Rather, she hastily instructed him to flee the scene immediately.

Meanwhile, Zane was already regretting his actions!

If he drove away by hitting someone like this, it would be a hit-and-run. If he was caught, he'll be sentenced to jail faster than he could plead not guilty.

"What do you mean 'leave'? Get out of the car and check if he's dead. When the police start asking questions, remember to say that he attacked us, and we acted in self-defense! Do you understand?" Zane threatened loudly.

She nodded absentmindedly and hurriedly got out of the car.

"Mom, please save Dad! Call an ambulance quickly!" Tommy rushed to her, embracing her as he begged her to help his dying father.

Alas, Abellyn paid him no mind at all. She only had eyes on checking Ryder's condition. Soon, she discovered that his old wound on the waist had reopened, and blood was flowing out steadily.

She was completely overwhelmed by panic as white noise filled her ears.

Love at the Wrong Table

Chapter 290[821 words]

Chapter 290

Luckily, Chloe, the elder sister, heard the commotion and quickly ran out of her rented apartment.

She was taken aback when she witnessed the scene but swiftly dialed for an ambulance.

“Abellyn, Zane, what on Earth have you done? This reckless act will only bring you harm and offer no rewards!” She couldn’t help but consider these two as imbeciles, particularly her sister.

She hadn’t even finalized her divorce with Ryder, and now they had stirred up such a tremendous fuss. Soon, everyone would discover her extramarital affair. What will become of her reputation?

“Hmph, it was an act of self-defense. He intended to crush me with a stone, forcing me to resort to hitting him with the car. You two will provide witness testimony for me!” Zane asserted with unwavering conviction.

“A-Alright.” Abellyn was about to comply, but Chloe seized her arm forcefully, conveying a silent message through her piercing gaze, urging her to remain silent.

She had a few more tricks up her sleeve than Abellyn. She had a feeling that her sister hadn’t fully captured this man’s heart in her hands, so she had to keep all her cards close to her heart before the dust settled.

If he failed to include her sister’s name on the property certificate, she would

not provide her testimony. Then, we'll see how he will navigate this problematic predicament.

The ambulance swiftly arrived at the scene and whisked Ryder away to the hospital. As none of them notified the Lowe family of this accident, Emmanuel was completely oblivious to his brother's dire conditions.

Two days later, a group of young, fashionable, and incredibly good-looking men and women prepared to board a luxury coach to Flower Mountain early in the morning.

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Initially, Mackenzie was reluctant to squeeze into the coach with everyone else. It didn't matter how luxurious it seemed, it was still really packed, and she disliked having people in her personal bubble. Yet, for some unknown reason, she suddenly agreed to their proposal.

So, not only were Mackenzie and Claudette, two renowned beauties from Yeringham, but also Roselynn and some other relatively famous beauties were forced to squeeze themselves into the bus. The men on the bus were unusually excited.

The seats in the luxury coach could accommodate three people in a row.

Mackenzie wanted to avoid being harassed by other men, so she sat by the window and asked Emmanuel to sit next to her.

This way, no one could disturb her while she handled official business on the bus.

She was a well-known workaholic in Yeringham, and everyone was not

surprised by her actions. Instead, they were curious about who the man sitting next to her was. They had never seen him before.

The only people on the bus who knew the identities of Emmanuel and Mackenzie apart from Roselynn and her husband were Hubert and Claudette.

But since Emmanuel had already taken the middle seat, Hubert had no chance to get close to Mackenzie. So, he could only shoot Claudette a meaningful look, signaling her to go ahead.

Claudette had sat together with Emmanuel and Mackenzie before, so it was natural for her to take the seat.

Because of Mackenzie's reserved nature, Claudette engaged in playful banter with Emmanuel throughout the ride.

"Silly girl, remember to take the initiative when you meet your Mr. Lowe tomorrow. Flirt with him right in front of Mackenzie. Only then can you provoke their conflict!"

"As long as they have an argument, it will be your perfect opportunity to capture Mr. Lowe's affection!"

The words of her Laura echoed in Claudette's ears. Of course, she filtered out -the part about dressing provocatively and initiating physical contact with Emmanuel.

Mackenzie, who had been focused on her laptop since they boarded the bus, indeed began to act strangely. She occasionally cast sidelong glances at Emmanuel.

The people on the bus grew even more restless when they witnessed such a

strange scene.

“Who is that man, after all? Did he save the galaxy in his past life or has he suddenly become wealthy? The two goddesses of Yeringham are surrounding him!”

“I don’t know him! It’s the first time I’ve seen him!”

“Who invited him?”

“I guess Mackenzie deliberately hired him as a shield?”

Emmanuel was unfazed by the curious glances and remained oblivious to any peculiarities. He understood that his wife and Claudette were captivating beauties, and with Claudette’s prestigious background, it was only expected that others would feel envious and jealous.

Hubert gradually felt his anger reaching a boiling point as he clenched his fists in frustration.

“Just wait and see, Emmanuel! I will make sure you don’t come back alive from Flower Mountain!”

Hubert maliciously thought to himself.

Now that he had two strategists scheming for him, he might as well buy a block of tofu and die by crashing into it if he couldn’t outwit Emmanuel this time!