

Chapter 9

Julian's finger gently scratched her nose as he said dotingly, "I'm not busy... Even if I'm busy, I will still come over. I can't let you starve because you are my wife."

Upon hearing this, Scarlett immediately let out a sweet smile. She then looked at Hazel and said gently, "Good morning, Hazel. Why were you not at home last night? Tell me, did you secretly get yourself a boyfriend? That's why you..."

Hazel panicked. How could that lunatic be her boyfriend?

It was true that she didn't go home. Moreover, she was shamefully pressed on the bed and tortured by that man for the entire night.

Although she tried hard to control her emotions, she still blushed.

She had already made up her mind to only maintain a cousinship with Julian. Therefore, she lowered her head and did not refute. She just panically spouted, "Scarlett..."

Julian suddenly felt a little uncomfortable. Hazel didn't come home last night? Was she really with another man?

"It seems that I am right. As I said, Hazel, you must be having a boyfriend. But you're a girl, so you should be more careful outside. It's good to have a relationship but there are a lot of jerks nowadays. If you're free tomorrow, you should bring him back and show him to me and mom. We can also be your advisor. Am I right?"

Hazel blushed furiously but she couldn't tell the truth and only nodded gently.

When Scarlett saw this, her smile became more tender.

She deliberately looked at Julian and was relieved when

she saw his tender look.

However, she didn't notice that there was a sudden hint of... dissatisfaction from Julian's eyes. It happened very fast that Julian didn't even notice it himself.

Scarlett continued, "By the way, I heard someone say th you are going to travel abroad now? Are you going for a month?"

Hazel nodded and could only brace herself to continue justifying her initial reason. "Yes, I want to relax. I'm just about to look for you and say my goodbye. I'm going to the airport now."

Scarlett gently took Hazel's hand and said, "Well, remember to have fun outside, alright? And also be careful."

Hazel's heart grew softer as Scarlett had always been very kind to her all these years.

Therefore, she would not allow herself to do anything to hurt Scarlett.

At this moment, Julian frowned and asked, "Are you goin abroad for a month? Alone?"

"Yeah, alone... Don't worry, I have a plan. When I'm back safely, I'll attend your wedding, and be Scarlett's bridesmaid." Hazel said with a smile but there was still something she didn't say. She just thought it to herself and hoped she would completely forget about him a month later.

"Bon voyage." Julian didn't know why he had such a strange feeling in his heart but he could only give the blessing.

"Okay, thank you."

Hazel bowed her head after she spoke and left silently.

She didn't dare to listen to the laughter and sweet voices of those two behind her anymore.

"Hazel, he doesn't belong to you," she told herself.

She sincerely wanted to forget about him.

The Collins family was one of the richest families in Oriaby City.

And everyone in Oriaby City knew that Julian was the only successor of the Collins family.

Her sister, Scarlett, was his fiance and they had just held an engagement party a few days ago.

Soon, they would get married.

Their relationship was like a fairy tale. It was as if Cinderella finally found a handsome prince and they were destined to be happy.

Speaking of this, their fate started from the generation of Scarlett's biological mother and Julian's mother.

It was rumored that Scarlett's biological mother, Ivy-Rose Taylor, and Julian's mother, Cleo Watson, were best friends so when they were pregnant, they had agreed that their children would be betrothed if it was a boy and a girl. They even exchanged jade pendants during that moment.

However, Ivy-Rose passed away after giving birth to Scarlett while Cleo was abroad at that time.

During that year, Hazel's mother, Vanessa Taylor, took Hazel into the Wilkinson family three days after Ivy-Rose's death.

Therefore, Hazel had been criticized by others since young.

Because she was an illegitimate child.

It was said that Hazel and Scarlett were born on the

same day and even in the same hospital.

The most important thing was that her biological mother, Vanessa, and Scarlett's mother were also half-sisters. ■

Outsiders thought that Hazel was favored.

In actuality, her father had always been ignoring her for these 20 years.

Her mother even seemed to have devoted all her love to Scarlett as if she was her own daughter. Her mother would treat Scarlett better than normal, and treated her as an outsider.

However, she had been comforting herself. "Never mind... Mom loves me but she is doing this to make up for Scarlett."

"Besides, Scarlett is good to me," she told herself.

Scarlett was kind towards her.

That was why she could not hurt Scarlett. ■

In addition, her mother had been telling her since she was a child that she and her mother owed Scarlett a lot, hence she must tolerate her.

At this moment, Hazel only lowered her head and showed a painful look in her eyes.

Speaking of which, before Scarlett introduced her boyfriend, who was also her fiancé, to the family, she really didn't know that he was actually Julian...

All this while, Hazel had been communicating with Julian on an online app. She only knew what he looked like because he once sent her a photo of himself.

She had always been using the username "A Sunny Day" to chat with him. Everything they talked about was flowers and plants because they liked all kinds of flowers and plants. Apart from liking fashion design, she also

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liked gardening. She hoped she could have a private garden one day, where she could personally plant all kinds of flowers and plants.

In the beginning, they started to talk to each other because she posted photos of a flower, which she accidentally found when she was traveling outside, on the Internet, hoping to know its scientific name.

At the moment, she did not expect someone would actually take the initiative to contact her to inform the scientific name of this flower. Not only that, but he also wanted to buy some flowers and plants.

It was just that she really didn't know that Julian was Scarlett's fiancé whom she had never met before since young.

From that day onwards, she only felt that her crush on him had been a secret she kept to herself, hence she didn't dare to reveal that she was "A Sunny Day" when they were communicating.

Everything was a mistake and it shouldn't continue any further.

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Julian still had some business to attend to. He immediately rushed to the company after bidding farewell to Scarlett.

When Scarlett looked at Julian's back, the tenderness from her eyes faded away instantly.

At this moment, her cell phone rang.

"Mom, I'm in the company. Do you know? I never want Hazel to show up in front of me ever again! Julian just held her hand, looking so intimate. At that time, I wanted to cut her face so badly. How dare she seduce my man!" Scarlett mentioned what she just saw. She was furious

but she couldn't vent her anger on the spot and could only let Hazel off.

"Calm down, my baby. Don't worry, Julian will definitely be yours... More than 20 years ago, I helped to betroth him to you when you were just born. No matter what, I will find a way to kick her out of your life." Vanessa gently comforted her precious daughter. ❏

"Mom, I really don't want to see her again. Oh yeah, she said she would go abroad for a month." Only Scarlett knew how uneasy she felt.

After all, Scarlett was a fake.

What if Julian knew that Hazel was his true fiance? And the 'A Sunny Day' thing? ❏

"What should I do?" she thought to herself.

Hazel braced herself to sign the documents. She took the pen and was about to sign a name casually when the lawyer interrupted her,

"Miss Wilkinson, you signed your name wrongly... Don't worry, I have prepared extra ones. You can sign it again."

As soon as he finished speaking, the lawyer took out another copy of the document and handed it over to Hazel.

Hazel felt a chill down her spine. How did they know her real name?

Could it be that he had already investigated her background thoroughly? ■

Hazel became uneasy instantly, and she could only sign with her real name in fear.

She put down the pen immediately after signing and stood up in a hurry, eager to leave. "Can I leave now? I have to go to work..."

"Of course you can. Mr. Morris permits you to move freely during the day. We will also send someone to chauffeur you to and back from work. You should be home by six o'clock sharp. Otherwise, Mr. Morris will be angry, and you should bear all consequences yourself." Max said with a meaningful smile.

Hazel felt her scalp tingle with Max's words...

Despite sitting in the luxury car, all Hazel could feel was helplessness.

Her mind was in a mess as she stared blankly at the scenery outside of the car window.

She was still in a trance.

Even until now, she still found it hard to believe everything that had happened these days was true.

"Could it be just a dream?" she asked herself.

It didn't matter. What mattered the most now was that she didn't even know who that person was!

It was when she almost arrived at her office that she realized she must not let her colleagues see she went to work in a luxury car. Or else, it would cause misunderstandings.

Therefore, Hazel quickly said, "Sir, you may stop here. Thank you..."

"Yes, Miss." The driver, Ollie Lawson, replied respectfully.

At this moment, Max was a little frightened. He stood in front of a closed door and carefully handed the documents into the room through an interlayer.

He didn't even dare to make a sound, in fear of disturbing Mr. Morris who was inside.

To everyone who was familiar with Mr. Morris, they knew his temper during the day was even more terrible than other times of the day!

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At the office, Hazel plucked up the courage to ask her superior for a short break.

In the past year, she had not taken even a day off. So, the leave that she saved up for should be enough for her one month vacation.

Hazel had made up her mind to take advantage of this trip abroad to relax.

It didn't matter even if she was fleeing or taking refuge!

She would leave today. She would leave for the airport

now!

Fortunately, her superior agreed to this despite him pulling a long face.

After letting out a sigh of relief, Hazel called Alana to check up on her.

Instead of answering her, Alana questioned anxiously, "What happened last night? Why did those people break in without warning? Did they do anything to you?"

Hazel felt a twinge of pain in her heart.

Truth to be told, there were so many things that she wanted to tell Alana. However, all she could do was to swallow back the words she wanted to say.

How could she even speak of... something ridiculous like this!

Something that even she found it hard to believe!

She smiled bitterly and tried keeping her voice calm. "It's okay... They mistook me for someone else. You can rest assured that they didn't do anything to me."

"Well, it's good to hear that..."

Hazel told Alana her plan to go abroad. They chatted for a while, then Hazel hung up the phone.

Just as Hazel was about to leave the company, she ran into a handsome man in a black suit. Her heart stopped beating in that instant, and her whole body tensed up.

His face was handsome and elegant. Even his gaze was gentle. "Good morning, Hazel..."

"Good morning, Julian," Hazel's heart was in pain, but she still chose to mask it with her smile.

"Have you eaten breakfast?" Julian Collins handed one of the bags containing breakfast in his hand to Hazel.

However, Hazel only smiled and waved her hand. She

quickly declined, "I've eaten breakfast. Thank you, Julian.."

She knew very well that Julian was here to deliver breakfast for her sister.

Scarlett worked in the same company as her. However, her sister was well-known here, unlike her who was just a small assistant designer.

Every day, Julian would bring for Scarlett breakfast without fail as his office was nearby.

Julian, being the kind-hearted man he was, would bring an extra portion of breakfast for Hazel who happened to work here.

Julian frowned when he looked at Hazel's pale face. He felt a little unease seeing that she was too thin.

Therefore, Julian grabbed Hazel's hand and put the exquisite looking paper bag in her hand. His voice was filled with concern. "You are too thin. You should eat more..."

Hazel was touched by his words and action, but just as she was about to refuse bitterly, Scarlett's gentle voice could be heard from behind her.

"Julian, you're here..."

Hazel pulled her hand out from Julian's as if it had been electrocuted.

She didn't want Scarlett to arouse suspicion because the posture they were in seemed too intimate for two people who were just friends.

Scarlett's lips curved into a simple yet elegant smile as she walked up to Julian and held his arm. Her voice was gentle. "Julian, look at you... you bring me breakfast again. You shouldn't have brought me food if you are busy with your work. I don't want to hold you up."

Scarlett sounded very understanding.