

# You Are Mine

## Chapter 36: It was Good

Edie was really tired. Asher's heart lightened, she again drifted into a deep sleep. Discovering that she had fallen asleep in his arms, Stuart's mouth curved into a smile then gently adjusted Edie's sleeping posture to make her comfortable.

A kiss fell on her forehead like a feather. "Good night, babe." From now on, he will protect her.

When Edie woke up, she was the only one in the room. She opened her eyes dazedly and thought last night was a dream, but when she completely sobered up, she recalled that everything actually happened.

Even the blanket on her body seemed to have a comforting scent. She didn't expect to be seduced by a gay man. Fortunately, Stuart doesn't like a woman, or it would be difficult for Edie to control herself, and she would be able to keep herself from falling for him.

In a dark heart, she took out her phone and messaged Aaron, "You gay's know how to hit on women so well!" She then got up to change. After she finished changing, Aaron replied to her message, "Of course, there are a lot of times when we are more sensitive than women. Haven't you heard of the saying? Every woman needs a gay friend."

Edie laughed at the message, "that's ridiculous. If you're this good at hitting on women, what if the woman falls for you?"

"Sis, I'll be honest with you, that's what troubled me for years. Stuart was badgered by those women too. That's the reason why his personality became more and more indifferent."

Seeing the message, Edie stopped texting for a moment, so they think of it as trouble? Aaron sent another message, "Stuart hates dealing with women, please be careful when you're with him. Please don't make him think that you have a thing for him, or he will start avoiding you for sure."

"Okay, I get it." Edie typed in slow motion and thought, of course, Stuart's actions had no special meanings. It might be that all gays are bad at measuring their distances with women. Suddenly, someone knocked on the door; it was Carol, "Mrs. Yates, your breakfast is ready."

"Okay, I'm coming," Edie answered. She pulled herself together and went downstairs to the dining room. Stuart was reading the financial newspaper as she sat down. He asked casually, "How was your sleep last night?"

"It was good."

"I made Carol prepare you two aromatherapy machines, and it helps you sleep. One is already in your room, take

the other one with you." After hearing of this general arrangement, Edie nearly choked on her milk. "Why did you prepare me this?"

"You always have nightmares, if you can't sleep well, how are you going to work the next day." Edie was not convinced, "I sleep pretty well." Stuart was flipping through the newspaper and said, "Who was it that hugged me and kept calling me mom yesterday?"

This time, Edie legitimately choked. She widened her clear watery eyes and asked, "You're lying, aren't you?" Stuart lifted up the newspaper and covered his mouth as it curved into a smile.

Seeing Stuart in silence, Edie started to doubt the validity of his words. However, since Stuart always possessed an aura of oppression and didn't seem like the kind that would make jokes, everyone took his words as command out of the subconscious.

Edie ate two pieces of toast absent-mindedly, and suddenly her phone rang. It was the producer from yesterday. "Hello?"

"Hello? Hi Miss Lara, there's a small problem," The producer's voice sounded very guilty. "What's wrong?" asked Edie.

"Since you were in such a hurry yesterday, I forgot to inform you. We have a news conference this afternoon at two, in the hall of the Victoria Hotel."

"What?!" The toast in Edie's hand fell onto the ground.

"Actors have to arrive before one o'clock..."

"What!" Edie stood up right away, and she didn't even care about how Stuart looked at her, "I haven't even booked a stylist! I don't even have a dress! Makeup and hair take at least three hours to do, I won't be able to make it."

The producer was very apologetic, "It was our fault, Miss Lara, we are so sorry." Edie got a headache, but there was no use in blaming the producer whatsoever, she had no choice, but to comfort him first, "Don't panic, I'm going to the dressing room now, I'll be there as soon as possible."

After hanging up, Stuart asked, "What happened?" Edie briefly told Stuart what the producer had just said, and with an anxious face she started to leave, "I have to go, I wonder what the traffic is like right now. There are definitely no nice dresses in the dressing room since this is such a short notice. It's so annoying! I'm going to mess up my first news conference,"

"So, you need to do a full makeover in three hours?"

"Yes, aargh, this is so annoying."

Stuart, who was sitting opposite her, stood upright after hearing her words and said, "Let's go."

Edie startled, "Are you taking me there? No, thank you;

you're too busy with your business matters...."It was as if Stuart hadn't heard her refusal, he came up to Edie, grabbed her wrist, and walked her outside. "I'm here; there's no need to worry."

His voice was cold as usual, but to Edie, it possessed some kind of power that relaxed her tensed heart. Her anxiety disappeared at once. The stretched Lincoln Limousine was waiting outside, as usual, when Edie finally managed to react, she was already in the limo.

There were two rows of seats in the limo that was opposite to each other, the secretary and Mr. Batessat opposite to Edie. She looked at them with a confused face.

The secretary who had never seen Edie before was shocked, doubting himself as if he was in a dream. A woman, in the morning, was holding hands with the CEO, in the car!

He had never seen a woman within one meter of the CEO ever since he has worked for him, and it's been nearly five years! The secretary's heart was being shattered by all the commotion. Mr. Bates pulled himself together and said, "This is Mrs. Yates. She is the CEO's wife?"

The CEO got married? When? Why is it that he told me anything about it? Is he going to be fired? If it were not his professional dedication, which he developed over the years with Stuart, he would have jumped through the roof.

Stuart saw through the secretary's mind with just one glance, and the secretary had goosebumps all over and immediately sat upright to restore his professional manner. "Goodmorning, Mrs. Yates."

"Um, good morning." Edie was a little awkward since she knew they were in a fake marriage. Accepting this title made her feel kind of guilty.

"UniverseEntertainment," Stuart ordered the driver in a cold voice.

"Universe Entertainment? Isn't that the most prominent entertainment corporation in the city? What are we going there for?" asked his secretary.

"The dressing room is not in that direction..." It was nearly nine o'clock, and she wouldn't be able to make it to the news conference if they didn't hurry.

## You Are Mine

### Chapter 37: Conference

"Don't worry." Stuart still looked calm and dignified. He said to the secretary, "Tell Jay and Arthur to come to Universe Entertainment in twenty minutes, and if he is late, it will be deducted from their bonus."

"Yes, CEO, I will let them know."

"Contact every luxurious custom-made clothing store for

women and tell them to deliver their latest dresses for this season to Universe Entertainment in one hour."

"Yes, CEO."

"Call Todd Anderson, tell the design director of Anderson Jewellery to bring ten of their best sets of jewelry here."

"Yes, CEO."

Edie watched in amazement. This was her first time seeing Stuart in his working model. She couldn't believe her eyes. She sat there, gazing at him. She could feel her love and admiration for him increasing.

Stuart arranged everything smoothly and directed everyone in a cold tone. He was very thorough, as if this was something he had done before. He was so precise and accurate.

It would be their lack of ability if they couldn't finish the task. Edie knew how hard it would be for them to complete the tasks in such a short time. He was a real king; the aura of oppression on him was enough to make others unconditionally obey.

The secretary received the orders, took out his laptop from his bag swiftly, and started typing, delivering Stuart's orders. The driver knew Stuart was in a hurry and sped up to the highest speed allowed in the city.

The traffic in the city had always been bad. It was rush

hour in the morning, and the busy road ran like a running river, even the main road was jammed. Seeing a red light in the distance, before the car slowed down, Stuart suddenly said, "Go through it."

"Yes, CEO." The driver said. The secretary and Mr. Bates looked at each other. Although the CEO's car had a privilege in the city, they hadn't used it for a long time. They didn't expect the CEO to go this far merely for his wife.

After running through the first red light, they knew there was no stopping him. The car was so fast that it only took twenty minutes for them to get from the Villa to Universe Entertainment, which would generally take forty minutes.

The stretched Limousine stopped right in front of Universe Entertainment. The manager ran out, panting with his people coming from behind to welcome them. The manager opened the car door with courtesy and saluted Stuart with a bow.

"How come the CEO is here at Universe Entertainment today?" Seeing Stuart walking out of the car, the manager asked obsequiously. Stuart didn't look at him; he just turned around and helped Edie out of the car.

It was then that the manager realized who the woman in the car was. For an instant, everyone's eyes focused on Edie. Edie nodded with embarrassment, "Hi everyone..."

The manager knew Stuart doesn't like to be flattered,



changed his tactic, and greeted Edie with a smile, "Hi Miss, and I'm the manager of Universe Entertainment, Fergus Armstrong." This was the first time the CEO had ever brought a woman to the company, and she's definitely not ordinary. He couldn't help himself from wondering why she was with him?

Edie didn't know how to introduce herself, only nodded and smiled, "Hi." The manager was glad to see the CEO's guest so approachable and wanted to make conversation. Stuart's blade-like eyes glanced at him, "Looks like manager Armstrong has a lot of free time?"

The manager was frightened and said in haste, "No at all, Mr. CEO, please come in." His heart skipped a beat, oh my god, he didn't expect the CEO to take that woman so seriously that he wouldn't even be allowed to talk to her. She's definitely no ordinary woman.

Stuart walked into the Universe Entertainment building, everyone else was behind him, except for Edie.

"Where's Jay and Arthur?"

"They are already in the dressing room."

"And the dresses?"

"We have informed all of the twenty luxurious custom-made clothing stores in the city, the dresses will be ready in one hour."

"Good and the jewelry?"

"Mr. Anderson picked up ten sets himself, and they are on their way."

"Ian, take her to the dressing room and do her makeup and hair first."

Ian was the name of Stuart's secretary, and he reacted to Stuart's command swiftly. He walked over to Edie and said, "Mrs. Yates, please follow me."

Edie had been confused all day from the point when she got into the car, and now the secretary is taking her. She looked at Stuart involuntarily. Stuart noticed her dependence on him, softened his eyes and voice, "Go on, I will pick you up later."

Inside the dressing room, the best hairstylist Jay and the best makeup artist Arthur in the city were already on stand-by waiting for them to arrive. When Edie entered the room, they all gathered around her as if she was a famous celebrity.

Arthur was a top-level makeup artist who was known for his bad temper. However, at this moment, he looked at Edie's face in admiration. "Miss, your facial features are so fine, looks as if you were born to be filmed. Your skin is so perfect and flawless. I've done makeup on so many actresses, but this is my first time seeing such a perfect face."

The assistant who was brushing her hair also chimed in, "Your hair is so nice, it's as smooth and shiny as silk."

Edie thought she was going to faint being hit by so many praises. However, she knew it was all because of Stuart.

The professionals worked in a well-organized way, every curl in her hair, and every stroke on her face was perfect. Her makeup was not yet finished when a few designers walked into the dressing room and started to measure up Edie's size gently.

The busy three hours passed quickly. When all the stylists were done, a knock on the door was heard. "Is everything finished?" It was the voice of Ian, the secretary. Jay quickly sprayed Edie's hair to finish up the look and replied, "It's done."

The door was opened, Stuart walked in, and everyone moved out of the way for him.

Stuart's cold face was startled the instant he saw Edie, and he was struck by her look. Edie's makeup was not heavy, and it made her exceptional facial feature even stand out more.

Her round eyes looked brighter and matched with her diamond necklace. Every move she made seemed captivating; everyone else was eclipsed by her beauty. Her long hair was slightly curled by Jay, which added a tint of seduction in her formerly elegant aura.

Stuart stared at her, but didn't speak, Edie blushed and asked, "Stuart, how do I look?"

"Ahem," Stuart coughed, which was a rare scene. He

then quickly pulled himself together and said, "Not bad." Knowing Stuart's personality, getting a "not bad" from him was good enough, Edie smiled.

Stuart reached out his hand, "Let's go, and I'll take you to the hotel."

"He's taking her there?" Edie was startled and nodded. Then she slowly put her hand in his.

## You Are Mine

### Chapter 38: Spotlight

When they arrived at the hotel, the reporters were swarming the hotel waiting for them. The corridor was even filled as they were waiting to get the first shot. Their fists of the reporters were clenched together, and their palms were all sweaty as if they were about ready to fight. Being a news anchor, they are always being put in a high-pressure situation. So this was something they had to prepare themselves for.

There were even reporters who weren't invited waiting outside the hotel. There was a lot of pushing and shoving because every reporter wanted a picture of the stars stepping out of their car and entering the hotel. The -White-Love-Song was going to be a smashing hit. It had already attracted a lot of attention from the public. Mainly because of the directors and the investment of three hundred million dollars. Not to mention, the public was excited about America cooperating with Korea.

The most famous star in America right now was Queenie Fox. She was playing the heroine in the movie. Then there was Charles Sims, who is a renowned actor from Korea. This was bound to attract a numerous amount of fans.

The press conference started at two o'clock sharp. The directors, actresses, and actors were all being interviewed. Queenie Fox was playing the role of a poor girl, and she actually dressed like her. She had on a long white robe, and her hair was in ringlets.

She actually looked like the character in the movie. There was talk amongst the crowd about how even though she dressed like the character, she still looked absolutely stunning. "Queenie, look over here. Charles, would you mind holding her waist," shouted one of the reporters.

Charles and Queenie have worked together in several movies, so they worked well together. They were nominated for the "Best Couple of the Year Award." They were selected for this particular movie for that reason. It would definitely meet the box office expectations. Everyone was sure it would be a box office hit and one of the top films of the year.

She was hearing what the reporter's suggested. Queenie still kept smiling, allowing the reporters from all directions to take pictures. She looked quite elegant, regardless of how she was dressed. She wasn't the type of actress who got nervous.

"Queenie, you were seen in a restaurant with Charles last week. Are you two dating?" Hearing this, Queenie just smiled and laughed. "I came here to the hotel with Charles. Do you think I am dating him?"

"But you have worked together multiple times. You must feel something for each other?"

"I have devoted myself to the movie. When I act, I become the character."

"Queenie, you have been in the movie industry for five years, but you haven't fallen into love? Do you think your standards are too high? Or would you like to tell us the type of man that could win your heart?"

Eventually, it was to the point where they were asking questions that were not related to the movie. Walking towards the camera, Charles pretended to be bitter, "Oh, apparently, I lost all my fans. I am standing right here, and no one wants to ask me any questions?"

It was obvious that he was trying to help Queenie. Charles, who was very easy to get along with, swayed the reporters in his direction.

"Charles, when will you be getting married? Tell us you have some big news?"

"Alright, I will tell you immediately whenever I find the right person."

As the director, Wilfred Lane, was talking to one of the reporters, he overheard someone asking, "What happened to Zoe Anna?"

Hearing this, director Lane looked towards him, and Zoe Anna was walking in. She looked somewhat different than usual. She always had a domineering personality, but today she appeared not to be herself. Her clothes and her makeup was different.

This wasn't the usual Zoe Anna. She was wearing a white dress and very little makeup. In fact, her makeup was so light that it didn't even cover the black rim around her eyes. She looked absolutely exhausted. "Are you ill?" a reporter asked her.

Smiling weakly, Zoe said, "I am all right. I think I may be under too much pressure. After all, there has been a lot invested in this movie, and that means I have to work even harder."

"Would you please tell us about your role in the movie?"

"Yes, I heard your role is quite different than what you have played in the past? Why did you choose it?"

Finally, they asked the right question. Pleased with the question, Zoe pretended to have a painful look on her face. Her eyes dimmed all of a sudden, showing a bitter smile, "You are mistaken. I am not playing the part of Susan Wilson. I am playing now playing the part of Lynn Joan."

Apparently, the reporters had seen the previous pictures from before and asked, "but, in the group picture, you are Susan Wilson."

"I don't know how to explain this either," Zoe pretended to be sympathetic, sighing, "I only do as they tell me."

Seeing her facial expression, they all knew she was hiding something. With their keen sense, all the reporters knew there was a story here. This was going to be big news.

"Why did they make this change so suddenly?"

"Who is, are going to play Susan Wilson then? Where is she?"

She raised her head as though she was looking for a familiar face in the crowd and then let out a loud sigh. She bribed a reporter and was pretending to be casual while looking around for him. Suddenly a reporter shouts out, "I heard that someone new made an investment and wanted to choose someone else for the part."

After hearing this, all the reporters were talking amongst themselves, and it appeared to be a heated discussion. There were always things happening in the entertainment world, and they had gotten used to it, but if anything was exposed to the production of *The White-Love-Song*, it would be horrible. It would have a negative impact on the popularity of the movie.

After hearing the conversation, director Lane became



very anxious. With him being the director, there was nothing he could do. He couldn't help himself and shouted, "Anne, what are you talking about?"

Zoe stepped back nervously, with tears in her eyes, "Sorry, director Lane, I shouldn't have said that. Everyone has treated me quite well. I should just follow your agreement." Her performance may have been one of the best performances of her life. She looked just like the bitter heroin, which was bullied.

Her role was taken. She was angry, but she didn't dare to say anything else in front of the cameras. She wanted nothing more than to express her anguish. The director yelled at her.

Seeing this, the reporters started yelling at the director.

"Director Lane, is it true? Aren't you worried about the movie? What will happen if you use a new actress? How much was the investment? Do you mind telling us?"

Hearing the reporters ask all these questions, the director was getting confused. He became so nervous that he started sweating.

"No, it's not like that. The new actress is quite amazing. Everyone will love her."

But the reporters never stopped, "Then why isn't she here?"

"Yes, why? Does she feel guilty? That's why she didn't

show?"

Moving his eyes among the crowd, he was looking for help. Suddenly, his eyes were shining, "She"s here, See."

## You Are Mine

### Chapter 39: She's Beautiful

The reporters got their cameras ready and turned towards Edie. They were just about to take her picture, and everyone stopped instantly. They were shocked by her beauty. They had never seen anyone this beautiful in the movie industry before now.

Indeed they have seen many beautiful women in the past, but Edie Lara was different. She was a fresh new face. Every movement that she made was delicate. She had amazing skin, impeccable makeup, and the most beautiful perfection that seemed to have landed from another world.

She was wearing a light pink strapless dress, highlighting her beautiful body line perfectly. She looked just like a princess, shining among the crowd. Zoe was shocked. She knew Edie was pretty, but all the actresses were.

Today there was something different about her. She was far more beautiful than any other woman she had seen before. If Zoe and Edie were compared, then, Zoe was definitely the pathetic looking one. After all, both Arthur and Jay were the best makeup artists and designers in the

world. This look truly deserves the stares it demands. She looked like a glammed-up porcelain doll.

Some of the reporters recognized her, "Edie Lara, from Star Entertainment." Everything went silent, and then the clicking of the cameras began. "Miss Lara, how do you feel about taking over Zoe's role in the movie?" The reporter that Zoe bribed wasn't going to give up. He was the first to ask the question.

Raising her eyebrows, Eddie got confused, "taking over?" She knew it had something to do with Zoe. Perhaps it was fate that every time she and Zoe were seen together, there was a conflict. With an elegant smile, Eddie said, "I didn't take over anyone's role. Everyone, including the directors and writers, wants what is best for the movie. Their performance chooses actors and actresses, not the relationship they have with this or that person. So, if they chose me, there is only one reason why."

Then, Eddie suddenly stopped as if she had said something wrong. Was she suggesting that the other actresses were not good enough? Zoe Anna couldn't believe what was just said. She was so angry. "Then, Miss Lara, what do you think of Miss Anna's acting?" This, of course, was the bribed reporter.

"Miss Anna had been in this circle for many years. I don't think I am qualified enough to make a comment on her performances. All I can say is that in the movie industry, the possibilities are endless. Who knows what tomorrow will bring. I never expected to get this part, but look at me now."

"Miss Lara, would this switching of the roles have an impact on your relationship with MissAnna?" At first, Eddie didn't know what to say. She widened her eyes and smiled, "Impossible."

She walked towards Zoe and held her hand, saying, "Miss Anna is quite generous and kind. It would be impossible for her to get mad at me for such a little thing. Am I right? Miss Anna."

Zoe was so angry that she almost crushed her teeth, but she had to keep smiling. "Yes, it's true. It doesn't matter which role I play. The chance to participate in the production is an honor." The reporters continued taking pictures like crazy.

Eddie didn't have any time to talk to Queenie and Charles until the interview was finished. "How are you, Miss Fox, Mr. Sims, I am Edie Lara. I have heard a lot about you. It's very nice to meet you." They were both very impressed by her after seeing how she talked to the reporters and Zoe.

Smiling, Charles said, "You are a remarkable woman. I am thrilled to be working with you."

Queenie also smiled, "With you around, maybe I won't feel so pressured. How is it possible that you have never been discovered until now? You seem to be a very gifted actress. I have seen some of your acting. Hopefully, we can learn from each other."

Such praise coming from Queenie. Edie could hardly believe what she was hearing. It felt like she was in a dream. This was everything she had always dreamed about. Queenie saw the diamond necklace on Eddie's neck and became very interested, "Your necklace looks gorgeous. Where did you get it?"

Edie remembered that Stuartasked Todd to give it to her, "It is from the Andersons Jewellery."

Eddie saw something different in Queenie's eyes. "Thank you for telling me." Zoe knew her minute of fame was gone, so she made an excuse and left. With her gone, everything continued smoothly.

After finishing up with there porters, Eddie sat on the backstage feeling exhausted. She hesitated as to whether or not to call Stuart. Slowly taking her phone out and looking at it. She knew as soon as she saw it she had to call him and tell him about her first news conference.

At the office of L.N Group, Stuart was listening to his employees" reports. He heard his phone ringing and raised his hand slightly. Everyone stopped. All of the executives were shocked. They had never seen their CEO answer his phone in the middle of a meeting. "Hello."

"Stuart, I am finished here. It was everything I expected and more. I don't know how to thank you."

Stuart calmly replied, "No problem, it was nothing." Things started to become a little awkward between them.

Since she had known him, it was always him that kept helping her. She was continuously saying, "thank you." It just didn't seem right. Suddenly, she came up with a great idea. "Stuart, how about dinner tonight? My treat."

"Dinner?"

"Yes, I want to express my appreciation. Would that be okay?" Hearing her voice so full of excitement, Stuart could plainly imagine her face. A soft smile appeared on his face. "Okay."

As everyone was watching Stuart, they all became nervous. After hanging up the phone, Stuart's face became cold. He took one glance at the man in the room and said, "It's not done properly, re-do it."

"Yes sir, of course," everyone agreed. His cold eyes scanned the room. "Which department now?" All the executives in the L.N. group were good at reading Stuart's mind. Seeing his reaction, they responded immediately, "We think perhaps we should also make some modifications."

Stuart nodded, "Then, you are all dismissed."

Ivan, the secretary, sitting next to him, was pretending to be calm. From the inside, he was shouting, "I heard it. He dismissed us for dinner. I can't believe it. The CEO was putting his personal life ahead of business, unbelievable?"

You Are Mine

## Chapter 40: My Husband

It wasn't too long after, and Stuart arrived at the Victoria hotel to pick up Edie. It was entirely silent in the car without Mr. Bates and Ivan. "What do you want to eat?" Stuart asked her in a low and tender voice.

With a mysterious smile on her face, she blinked, "It's a secret. You will find out soon. I can promise you one thing, and that is you have never eaten there before." She can't remember ever being this happy. Stuart thought she seemed more elegant and charming than usual. It was something different, something he had never seen in her before.

Staring at Edie, his eyes grew soft. Edie kept guiding the driver. After passing several blocks, they arrived in front of a shabby lane as wide as the car. "Mr. Yates, this is...." the driver hesitated. Stuart lowered his head to ask Edie, "We are going here?"

"Yes," Edie nodded.

"Stop, we are walking in alone." he sounded so profound and sexy.

"Mr. Yates, you can't do this. How could you go into such a place." the driver became nervous.

His young master should only be walking on carpet. How could he walk into such a dirty place?

Pitifully, Stuart got out of the car, without even looking

back at the driver. Edie took his hand and turned around to check on him. They walked several hundred feet and then they saw a little restaurant. It was modified from a residential house. They couldn't see many customers inside.

"Here?" he said.

"Yes," looking at Stuart's facial expression. "It may look a shabby little building, but the food here is quite good. I have tasted many foods in the high-end restaurants, but by far, this is the best one yet. My mother and I used to come here a lot before she passed away.

They entered the restaurant, and it was completely empty. Edie made a sound, "Aunt River, I am back." A middle-aged woman, about fifty years old, ran out of the kitchen. She was so surprised to see Edie. "Edie, my little girl. It has been a long time since I have seen you.

Smiling, Edie said, "I told you, I would come again. See., I'm here."

"Oh my god. You look gorgeous. I almost didn't recognize you." Holding her hands to take a good look at her, Aunt River felt a little sad, "You look skinnier. What happened? Why have you lost more weight?"

"That's all right. You look pretty. People must be so jealous of you." After that, Aunt River burst into laughter. Then, she saw Stuart. Seeing his cold, unconcerned face, she became a little nervous. Rubbing the corner of her clothes, she lowered her voice, "He is..."



Edie wasn't sure how to introduce him. Beyond her surprise, Stuart introduced himself, "Aunt River, I am Stuart Yates." Hearing his introduction, Edie was surprised and stared at him.

He was a big man. Even the mayor would have shown him respect. She didn't expect he would be so polite in front of her Aunt River, who was just a poor woman. Looking at both of them, she saw a handsome man and a gorgeous woman. She felt they were really a perfect couple. "You are his girlfriend? Right?"

"No....." Edie said sharply. She was shocked by what her Aunt had just said, "We are just....."

"I am not her boyfriend," Stuart started to explain. Edie started to calm down and felt relieved, but then he said, "I am her husband."

What? How could he say this???? "Stuart Yates!" Raising his eyes, he looked at her with his jade-black eyes, "Are we not married?" This time, Edie was rendered speechless. Looking at them bickering, her Aunt automatically assumed they must be in love. Tears started to fill her eyes,

"It doesn't matter if you are married or not. I have been worried about you. It does make me feel better knowing that there is someone taking care of you. Your mother would be so happy if she were here."

Edie could see the sadness on her Aunt River's face. She

didn't want to upset her anymore, so she silently admitted, "he is my husband."

"Oh my, I am so happy for you. I kept hoping and praying this would happen. Come in, and I will make some food for you."

She turned around and walked into the kitchen. "Stuart," Edie said as soon as her Aunt left. She turned towards him, "What are you talking about?" Whenever she got angry, her face would become red, and her eyes would have a bit of a sparkle to them.

He seemed to enjoy it when she got angry. "I was just honest."

"But, you know it's a fake marriage?"

"Allow me to remind you, darling. The Yates was equipped with the largest information network in the world. If we don't want to be exposed, we had better get used to telling everyone." Stuart stopped for a second, "Mrs. Yates."

Edie didn't know how to deny him. What he was saying was the truth. She slowly walked into the kitchen with her mouth pouting. Stuart couldn't get over how he felt. Even her thin lips looked sexy, plump, luscious, and still kissable.

With a light smile at the corner of his mouth, he followed her inside. To his surprise, the restaurant was quite clean. They sat down, and Edie saw Stuart looking around the

room. She said out loud, "You have never been to such a shabby place before, am I right?"

"Not shabby," he was commenting on the room, even though his eyes were fixated on her face.

He really didn't think it was shabby at all. Every moment he spent with Edie, it didn't matter where they were, but every place looked perfect to him.

"Actually, when I was a little girl, the business was always good. I lived around the corner. The boss saw my mother and me and felt sorry for us. He often helped us when we needed it."

Remembering things from the past wasn't always easy for her. Stuart could tell from the look in her eyes. Staring at her, Stuart listened to her in silence.

"When my mother got sick, she couldn't take care of me anymore. So, she sent me to Greg's. I suffered a lot there. Aunt River would secretly give me money. If it wasn't for her, I don't think I would be here today. Pitifully, nice guys finish last. Six years ago, Uncle River was in a car accident, and their son died also. After that, Aunt River had no incentive to run the store."

Stuart looked at her with affectionate eyes. He didn't know how such a confident and strong woman could have suffered so much. Edie smiled again, "Yes, it's all in the past. I have a new life now. My future will be much better. I really want to thank you for today. You have everything, so I didn't know what I could give you.

That's why I brought you to my favorite restaurant."

"My pleasure," he said. He was so thrilled that she was willing to share her story with him. He thought the past would be forgotten and now and he will protect. Edie's Aunt walks toward them, bringing in a big pizza. It had all kinds of meat and vegetables on it. It was delicious.

They started eating one bit after another. "This is really yummy. Have some more quickly before it gets cold. This was made by Aunt River's hands. Quite special." Edie was so excited.

They didn't use any forks or knives. It was by no means proper etiquette. They didn't even wash their hands before they ate. Stuart found that he didn't hate that at all. Instead, he quite enjoyed it, and then Edie paid for the bill.