

Gu Lingfei 151

Gu Lingfei: Married At First Sight Chapter 151

"I'm not saying that you can't stand up for your sister, but there's no turning back once your sister and your brother-in-law have a falling out. I definitely am on your side with you sorting it out with your brother-in-law."

Serenity grimly ate her mushroom and replied, "You have a point. I will control my temper and refrain from hitting anyone, but I'll still leave him a warning. I don't want the Browns to think they can pick on my sister just because she doesn't have a family."

Seeing that she took his advice, Zachary left the conversation at that.

After filling their bellies, they sat for a little while before heading out together.

Knowing that Serenity was worried about her sister, Zachary took a detour to Liberty's place so Serenity could check on her sister before dropping her off at the shop.

Serenity was touched by his thoughtfulness,

She had cautioned herself against hitting on Zachary last night, but his kindness led her to throw that decision out the window

Jasine said that Zachary was a nice guy and that Serenity should give the relationship a lighting chance while they were still married. Since only a month had passed out of the agreed six months, she had five more months left to develop feelings for each other and become a real couple.

She should give the relationship a try so as not to regret it in the future.

As mentioned by Elisa, she should chase after love. Even if it was not meant to be, at least she gave it a shot. Elisa would have no regrets even if she failed to capture Mr. York's heart.

Spotting the miniature tree she had given to Zachary, Serenity uttered casually, "You still have the miniature tree in the car."

"I'll put it on my desk when I get to the office later." Serenity grinned. "Please recommend my work to other people if anyone asks."

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"Sure." Zachary happily agreed to her request. He would get Josh to order the crafts from her online business. Josh would probably wonder why he was dragged into it again. Serenity intended to get to the Browns' residence and have a talk with her brother-in-law later. To her surprise, the Browns came to her first. She got a call from Jasmine while on her way to work. Jasmine said that

Hank's mother and sister were waiting for her at the shop.

It was better that they came looking for Serenity as it would save her the trip to the Browns' residence.

Zachary asked, "Do you need my help?"

“I’m good. Only Hank’s mother and sister came to the shop. Women don’t usually fight. We’d probably bicker at most. You don’t need a row with these women. It’s beneath you. “Don’t worry. I won’t lose whether it’s an argument or a fight.”

As an orphan with the most ridiculous relatives, Serenity had grown up to be feisty. As she mentioned, she would always win in fights and quarrels.

A cultured person like Zachary would not pick a fight, whether verbally or physically, unless provoked. Since Serenity did not need help, Zachary dropped her off at the shop and made his way to work. While on the road, Zachary was a little bummed out as he was wearing the suit Serenity bought him. She did not pick up on that when they had breakfast together or when he drove her to the shop.

With such a handsome husband by her side, why did she not put her attention on him?

It was nine o’clock by the time Zachary made it to the

office. Lucky for him, Elisa was not there to block his way into the building.

He did not bring his miniature tree out of his car because there were not many people around.

Zachary took the elevator straight to the top. He ran into Josh when he was stepping out of the elevator. Josh had a file of papers tucked under his elbow while holding a phone with his right hand to make a call. Having spotted Zachary, Josh gave up on calling and said, “I have an urgent document I need you to sign. I thought you weren’t coming to the office since you weren’t around.”

He explained faintly, “I arrived late as I had to drive my wife to work.”

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Now that Zachary bade his single life goodbye, he should not drag Josh into a married life. For Zachary to persistently show off the perks of having a wife, he was trying to persuade Josh to ditch his wonderful singlehood to o.

“Huh? Why did you pick this outfit today?”

Josh’s keen eyes picked up on Zachary not wearing his usual suit label. He asked out of curiosity, “Why t he change of brands?”

Zachary was a stubborn man.

He would stick to the same brand for years once he had a penchant for a certain brand. He was not one to switch between labels.

With Zachary’s taste, the price of the suits he wore were exorbitant. However, the one he had on today did not cost more than a few hundred bucks.

This was so unlike Zachary.

Following Zachary’s footsteps, Josh asked with concern, “Mr. York, is our company facing a financial crisis? Are you wearing clothes from the outlet store to save cash?”

To a rich guy like Josh, a suit worth a few hundred bucks was an outlet sale.

Zachary waited until he was in the CEO's office before addressing Josh's questioning. "As the administrative executive, you should know whether the company is experiencing a financial crisis. My wife gave me these new clothes. What? Don't they look good? I think the clothes are great. The fabric is soft on my skin, and the cut fits me well."

Josh was speechless.

He should not have asked. All Josh got in return was Zachary parading his relationship in his face.

Since the missus gave his boss new clothes, his boss would, of course, gladly accept the gift and put the suit on.

Josh believed that his boss-cum-best-friend was starting to have feelings for his wife. Otherwise, Zachary would never be caught dead in these clothes.

Judging by the look on his boss's face, it seemed that the man himself had not realized his feelings for his wife.

Now, this was something Josh would not miss for the world

Serenity had no idea what was happening on Zachary's end. She walked into the bookshop to find her sister's mother in law and sister in law sitting and waiting for her by the cash register Jasmine poured them each a

glass of warm water and placed the drinks in front of them. However, they did not take the drink. With Serenity entering the shop, the mother and daughter scowled grimacingly. Bottling up her anger, Serenity greeted them courteously. "Chelsea, Mrs. Brown, what brings you here?" They came looking for her before she had gone to see them.

"I hope you're not busy now, Serenity." The students were already in class when the mother and daughter arrived at the shop. Seeing that it was not busy here, they believed Serenity's business was not doing well. They made the right decision to incite Hank to kick Serenity out of the house.

It was unlikely Serenity could earn anything as her business was slow. Besides, the rent in this area was high. She probably did not make enough to cover her rent. It was no wonder Serenity had to make crafts day and night to sell online. Serenity would still be living on Hank's dime if he did not kick her out.

Liberty's lavish spending probably included funding her sister,

The implementation of going halves was a good idea. It greatly secured Hank's interest,

Such were the thoughts of Mrs. Brown and her daughter.

"Yes, I'm not busy. What's the matter, Mrs. Brown?"

Serenity had been nothing but polite. Zachary had a point. It would put her sister on the spot if she had a fallout with the Browns when her sister wanted her marriage to work with Hank.

Chelsea said angrily, "Of course, something is the matter. That's why we're here. Your sister hit Hank. What do you have to say about it?"

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Serenity nearly burst into an outrage when Chelsea said that in her face. Still, Serenity had class and did not slam the table in front of Chelsea.

She unhurriedly went behind the cash register and sat down before looking Chelsea in the eye and bombarding her with questions, "Chelsea, you mentioned my sister hit my brother-in-law? Did you witness it? Did my sister start it? Did my brother-in-law fight back? How bad was he beaten? Was he hospitalized?" Chelsea replied shamelessly, "So what if Hank started it? Your sister ought to be taught a lesson, and Hank wanted to discipline her the other day. However, he didn't want to make your sister look bad since you came over with your husband. We even talked him out of punishing your sister. "Any man would've slapped their wives for all the things your sister had done. Your sister deserved a beating for her mistakes. She had the audacity to hit Hank back until he was black and blue. He couldn't bring himself to go home.

"Serenity, you might be younger than your sister, but you're married and can stand on your own. Since you're Liberty's family, we must discuss the matter with you. You should get your sister to come to our place and

apologize to Hank, bearing gifts. She should also have it in writing that she'll never raise a hand against Hank before taking him home."

Chelsea's statement was something else. It was a real eye-opener for Serenity and Jasmine.

Serenity learned that Chelsea was ridiculous when her sister confided in her. Chelsea's absurdity right now seemed to take the cake.

She was about to blow up.

The mother and daughter did not give Serenity a chance to speak as Mrs. Brown took over right after Chelsea was done talking. "Serenity, Chelsea is fair to say that. Show me a family whose wife doesn't go to work or cook.

"Hank has to work, and his schedule can be busy too. After going full steam on work in the morning, he comes home to no lunch on the table. He was expected to make his own lunch too. It's like he's single and has no wife.

"Hank pays for the mortgage and household expenses while your sister sits around the house and does nothing except caring for the child. Sonny is an easy kid. Your sister fools around all day at home, yet she doesn't know how lucky she is. She even fought with Hank.

“It’s hard enough that Hank is under a lot of pressure. It’s fine if she can’t help with taking the burden of f him, but she refuses to cook and leaves Hank hungry. Of course, Hank’s going to be angry. Anybody will be, if they

were

in his place. Going halves was the last resort. Your sister squanders money. She fiddled away over a thousand bucks in one day. Does she think Hank’s money grows on trees?

“For a family

of three, fifty bucks for groceries is good enough, your sister would only need a thousand and five hundred dollars a

month. Still, Hank gives her three thousand bucks every month. She has the cheek to fuss over going halves.

“She has the means to earn her own money. Don’t mooch off Hank. Your sister might not care for Hank, but we, parents, do. What’s the point of your sister’s education? She can’t help with the financial burden either. Look at Chelsea. She has three kids, but she works to help with the family.

“Your sister refuses to go to work because she wants to take care of the child. She insists Hank pay for her upkeep. Is she Hank’s daughter? Why should Hank be her bread and butter? Fine, so Hank pays for her living expenses, but she can’t even attend to Hank’s needs or cook for him. Does that look like a wife to you?

“We have been nothing but kind and patient with your

sister. Do you think anybody else would be tolerant toward your sister? They would’ve divorced her and kicked your sister out.”

Mrs. Brown’s words siung harder than Chelsea’s.

Jasmine picked up a broom, pretending to sweep around the place. In fact, she was waiting to get a cue from her best friend to sweep the absurd mother and daughter out of here.

They were all women here. They should be supporting one another instead of giving each other a hard time.

Boiling with rage, Serenity scowled and blurted coldly, “Mrs. Brown, do you think it’s easy caring for a child since you have experience caring for Chelsea’s kids? Do you think you can work with a two-year-old in tow?”

“Chelsea has three children, but you and Mr. Brown are hands-on with the kids. All she did was pop the babies out. My sister gave you a grandson that bore your last name, but you wouldn’t help out as grandparents. It’s funny that you compare Chelsea with my sister.

“My sister can go to work and earn an income if you can help look after Sonny. My sister had a higher income than my brother-in-law before they got married.”

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Chelsea cut in while Serenity was still talking. “We should be responsible for the children we give birth to. The parents-in-law have no obligation to look after the grandkids.”

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“That’s right. Children should be their parents’ responsibility. Why don’t you care for your own children then, Chelsea?”

Chelsea opened her mouth and retorted, “My parents are happy to take care of my children. You could tell your

sister to ask your parents to care for hers too.”

Serenity picked up the glass of water in front of Chelsea and splashed it on her face.

“Ah! What the hell was that, Serenity!”

“I was helping you to rinse your filthy mouth.” Serenity shot an indifferent glare at the mother and daughter

Livid, Chelsea wanted to put violence into action when Mrs. Brown held her back. Mrs. Brown said to her daughter, “Your sister-in-law’s parents are gone for over a decade. You can’t blame Serenity for being angry since you made a hurtful comment.”

“But she shouldn’t have splashed me with water. My

clothes are wet now. Serenity, do you know how much my clothes cost? Can you afford to pay me back?”

Putting all her energy into sweeping, Jasmine seized the opportunity to get a word in. “Your clothes would be worth a thousand bucks if they’re the real deal. It’s a pity that yours are a knockoff, so they aren’t worth much. You have been scammed if you spent a thousand plus on them. I would say the price is no more than two hundred dollars.”

Chelsea grimaced as she pointed her finger at Jasmine and yelled, “What do you know? You’re the one with the knockoff. Mine is an original. I spent over a thousand bucks. Can you afford the brand? You must be jealous of me because you can’t afford them and called mine a knockoff.”

Jasmine clicked her tongue. “The price tag on my clothes is several thousand dollars. A designer label costs tens of thousands. Your clothes are something I use as a rag at home.”

“You...” Chelsea turned black in the face.

She had something to hide as she only spent a few hundred on the outfit. She had checked the original brand on its official website. With an authentic piece of clothing priced at over a thousand bucks, Chelsea could not be sure she was wearing the real thing.

“Serenity,” Chelsea cried. “You sure hire all sorts of people. You should fire her.”

Serenity retorted callously, “I’m sorry. She’s not my employee but my partner. Are you sure the clothes on you aren’t a knockoff? Why do I get the feeling that you’re hiding your shame with anger?”

Who else but Chelsea would play up her knockoff as the real thing?

It was hilarious that Chelsea claimed she could not afford the clothes.

“Chelsea, let’s not talk about the clothes. Here’s what I think about my sister and brother-in-law’s situation. As part of my sister’s family, I stand by my sister’s decision to go halves on everything since Hank wants to go Dutch. He proposed the idea, so he should bear the consequences. Why should he get all the good and only pay his share while my sister does and covers for everything else?”

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“Of course, I have no problem if you want to be a slave to your husband, Chelsea. However, my sister is not one. Men and women are both equals in this day and age. There should be equality between spouses. No one is better than the other.

“It’s your choice to be under your husband’s thumb, but don’t force your values on my sister.

“Hank struck my sister first and bashed her real bad. My sister only retaliated to stay alive. She was acting out of self-defense. There’s no way my sister will apologize with gifts! You should be talking sense into Hank to apologize to my sister.”

Serenity reflected indifference and assertiveness on her face without fear of offending Liberty’s in-laws. She added. “You can send my sister back here if you think my sister spends money like water rather than earning it. Don’t ever use force on her. You might care about your son and brother, but I cherish my sister too.

“And one more thing My sister spent over a thousand bucks on clothes the other day because I was bringing my husband to meet the family My sister wanted to get her family new clothes to presentable I was not all spent either or li You can’t hold an isolated incident against her

“It has been a while she my sister has anything new to

wear after marrying into your family. Yet, you refuse to let the matter go. Sure, your family has been kind, but if that’s considered kind, the rest of us must be Mother Theresa then.”

Serenity’s words got under the mother and daughter’s skin. Of course, they were livid beyond measure.

They stood firm that they were right while Liberty was in the wrong

“God forbid my sister didn’t cook for one day. You were all over her, saying that it was like Hank didn’t have a wife. Well, if you think about it on the flip side, it’s like my sister doesn’t have a husband either. What’s the point of marriage when the husband can’t support his wife? He should marry his own family instead.

“Besides, it’s not like my sister doesn’t do anything. Mrs. Brown, you work your *ss off at your daughter’s place. Do you think managing a home is easy?”

Mrs. Brown opened her mouth. Yet, no words escaped her lips.

She and her husband handled the chores, looked after the young ones, and tutored the kids with their homework at their daughter's place. Truth be told, it was no walk in the park. It was rather annoying, especially when the kids were so little. The children did not know any better and were naughty to mess up the house,

Mrs. Brown could be tidying up at one corner while the kids scattered toys in another.

The young children often cried and rolled on the ground fussing at every little thing that did not go their way. Caring for toddlers was the most challenging job ever. To be frank, Mrs. Brown would rather get a cleaning job than look after the children and run a house if she did not feel for her daughter. "Mrs. Brown, don't play dumb. You can't expect my sister to give her everything unconditionally when you know it's tough work. What makes you think my sister has it easy? Marriage requires effort from both the husband and the wife. It's all about give and take. It doesn't make sense for my sister to do all the giving while Hank just takes it.

"As I said, you can send my sister back to me if you don't feel she's good enough for you. I can support her, but you can't raise your hand at my sister. I'm willing to move past the matter since my sister fought back this time, but I won't be so nice next time. That reminds me. You should know that I practice self-defense, so I know to hit where it hurts the most. You can forget what I just said if you think Hank can handle the consequences."

Serenity would not stop until Hank ended up in the hospital if she was fighting Hank!

Hank should think twice before striking her sister again!

"Do you think anyone would want your sister after she leaves Hank? She's lazy, fat, and a glutton. Hank can't stand the sight of her. Ha! A divorce? Not even a senior citizen would want her once she becomes a divorcee."

"Chelsea!" Mrs. Brown cried before giving her daughter a slap on the face.

With Serenity giving her a death stare, Chelsea cowered and stopped yakking. However, nothing could stop Chelsea from rambling in her mind.

"Serenity, Chelsea was simply saying stuff without thinking. Of course, we don't want to go down the divorce route because it's better to reconcile the couple. It's hurtful to talk about divorce and whatnot. Sonny is still young. He can't grow up in a broken family.

"Yes, you're right. Hank was wrong in this too. He shouldn't have hit your sister no matter how angry he was. Couples shouldn't go to bed angry. Tell your sister to come to our place and bring your brother-in-law home. They should work things out instead of arguing all the time."

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"I think, like us, you hope Liberty and Hank's relationship will turn out fine. You know how couples are. They might have a tiny spat every now and then, but it will pass. Don't fuss about it too much."

Serenity uttered coldly, "Did Hank break his legs or forget his way home? Why does my sister need to bring him home?"

The Browns might come down hard on her sister if Liberty went to their residence to bring Hank home. Besides, it would show that Liberty was admitting her fault. Serenity would never allow her sister to admit anything she had not done wrong.

Hank was free to return home as he pleased. He could stay at his parents' place for all she cared.

Her sister could enjoy some peace and quiet in the house.

"Why are you being difficult?" Mrs. Brown told Serenity off.

"Hank's not giving a dime to your sister for the living expenses so long as he's not living at his own home. Your sister can forget ever stepping in our house if she can support herself."

With that, Mrs. Brown pulled her daughter along to leave.

"I'll see how long you and your sister can hold out!" Mrs. Brown yelled from the entrance.

With a blank face, Serenity had to hold herself back from smashing stuff.

Her sister married Mr. Wrong and got the worst in-laws in the world.

It was said that before entering a marriage, women should get to know their men's character as well as finding out whether their families were decent human beings.

"Serenity, you're too nice. I would've hit them with a broom if it were me. That was infuriating. I've never seen shamelessness at this level. They could give your relatives a run for their money."

Jasmine barely had it together while listening to the conversation.

"I can't strike them since they didn't get violent, but I won't lose to a squabble. You're only wasting your emotions on these people if you get angry. Jasmine, you're single. You better open your eyes and have a thorough look at your future man and his family before getting married. You'll regret it if you marry the wrong man."

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Her sister gave her all to an undeserving guy. Now, Serenity could only hope that her sister would quickly make the decision to divorce Hank.

Serenity's heart went out to her sister and her predicament. Serenity knew Liberty was sitting on a divorce and fallout because her sister had no confidence things would work out in her favor. It would be a bitter custody fight for Sonny if she were to separate from her husband now.

"I won't ever marry into that kind of family. It's beyond absurd. All they talked about was subservience. Are they looking for a daughter-in-law or a slave? They're treating your sister as a free nanny. The type that can't fight back when being bashed and beaten.

“Tch!”

Jasmine said furiously, “Liberty should look for a job now. Something more flexible. She can opt for a divorce once she has a job, an income, and the means for a steady life. What’s the point of keeping a man like your brother-in-law?”

Hank was petty, stingy, abusive, and hung up about a subservient wife, Men like this should be dumped right away.

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“I’ll have a talk with my sister. This can’t go on. She’ll only be treated like dirt.”

Liberty would always be at a disadvantage without a source of income.

“How about we ask your sister to work at our shop? I’ll pay your sister’s wages. You don’t have to fork out the money. Liberty would be able to take care of Sonny too.

That’s an added bonus.”

Jasmine had Liberty’s interest at heart.

Serenity sighed. “My sister won’t come. She believes our business is not doing well because I run an online business for additional income.”

As a matter of fact, the shop was making a bit of profit.

However, Liberty refused to make money out of Serenity, and no amount of words could persuade Liberty otherwise

“Liberty used to work in finance. I’ll ask Shawn if Lowe Enterprise is hiring at the moment It’d be great to get Liberty into my unde’s company. Although the company {an’t Fonpare to York Corporation and Stone Group, it’s a bag bustard Iturripluyero’priks dial welfare aren’t too slatby

“Shawn could also look out for Liberty. Liberty had worked in her field for many years, so she’s pretty experienced.”

Serenity gave it a thought before inquiring, “Do you think it’ll be okay? It’s been three years since her last job. She’s been out of touch with society for the last few years, so she’s starting over with her career. Shawn is still learning the ropes in his family’s business. He’s probably not in the position to give my sister a job.” “Are you buying Shawn lunch this weekend? You can ask him if he can help out. I’ll ask my uncle if he can’t authorize the hiring.” Jasmine’s uncle was the boss of Lowe Enterprise.

“Alright then. I’ll ask Shawn for my sister. Thank you, Jasmine.”

“Don’t thank me. What are friends for? Your sister is my sister. I feel bad for the hardship Liberty’s facing now. I want to help her to be independent. Women should be self-reliant instead of relying too much on men.”

Jasmine learned a lot from Liberty’s marriage.

Although Jasmine got money in the bank and would certainly marry into her own social class, she was not going to live at the mercy of her man.

“Don’t stress yourself about it. Liberty’s all but useless. Her career’s only put on hold by a child and marriage.”

She’ll find success and newfound confidence once she’s out of this fix.

“But you should urge Liberty to go on a diet. She should look after herself. She can’t count on people to be nice when she doesn’t treat herself right.”

Jasmine always put herself first. Even Serenity would spare no expenses to get the best skincare for the upkeep of her appearance.

“I’ll have a good talk with my sister tonight.”

Serenity believed her sister should cut down the pounds too. Liberty stood at five feet three, and weighed ninety pounds before marriage. She was now at two hundred pounds.

Her sister should shed pounds not just for her outward beauty, but also for her own health.

Liberty ate a lot for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, plus snacks in between. Her waistline had grown due to the lack of exercise too.

Serenity found pleasure in eating too, but she stayed active to watch her figure.

“Maybe I should talk to my sister now.”

Pulling out her phone, Serenity was about to call her sister when her phone rang. It was Zachary. “Mr. York.”

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Out of habit, Zachary took a moment of silence before asking, “Has the Brown family left? Did they do anything excessive?”

“They didn’t do anything overboard, but they did say a lot of nasty stuff. I was so angry I nearly beat them up. They’re just as ridiculous as my relatives. All they did was blame my sister and say it was my sister’s fault. They want my sister to go to their place and apologize to Hank with gifts. As if that’s going to happen!”

The mention of the Browns saw a rise in Serenity’s blood pressure. Before she knew it, Serenity clicked her tongue on the phone and quickly realized how embarrassingly she behaved. She said, “I got too angry, Mr. York. I hope you didn’t mind my language.”

Zachary replied tenderly, “Did you have a stern word with them? You should chase them out with a broom. They had the audacity to tell your sister to apologize when she was a victim of abuse.”

“I roasted them

to kingdom come, and they fled the scene. Jasmine took out the broom, but I thought I should keep it together since we’re civilized human beings. I didn’t chase them out with the broom.”

Zachary was tempted to laugh.

Serenity was not a tolerant person, but she put up with it for the sake of her sister's future and before her sister made a decision. It was hard on Serenity.

"Where is your brother-in-law working?"

Zachary intended to ring up the boss of that company to give Hank some extra attention.

That was, of course, only if he knew the boss of the company.

"Waltham Electronics. It's a large-scale company of over three thousand employees that manufactures mainly electronic parts. My sister and Hank joined the company straight out of college. My sister was in the finance department and worked her way up to be the finance director before getting hitched. "She's so gullible to trust Hank. She quit her job after marriage and stayed at home to ready herself for pregnancy. Her pregnancy and time with the baby took three years away from her career while Hank climbed the ladder to become a manager with his own secretary."

"Mr. York, do you know anyone from Waltham Electronics?"

Zachary replied, "...I don't know anyone, but I've heard about this company."

York Corporation had a subsidiary company that produced electronic parts too. It shared the same field as

Waltham Electronics, so that would make them rivals.

Zachary did not run the subsidiary company, but its managing director would have the information on Waltham Electronics on his desk should he ask for it.

"Let me know if you need my help."

Zachary adjusted his tie. It was the tie Serenity gave him.

Although it was her thank-you gift for his help, Serenity bought the tie with her money. Zachary would put on clothes that she gave him. He planned to carry the miniature plant into the office after lunch so that everybody could see it. They would get online to buy Serenity's crafts without him spreading the word.

Callum had recommended the handicraft to everybody before, so he trusted they would increase traffic to Serenity's online business.

Zachary's silent publicity effort would have a way better effect than Callum's.

"I will handle what I can. I'm good without your help for now. Oh, I want to ask you a favor if you can help though. Is your finance department hiring at the moment? My sister wants to pick her career back up. It'll give her the confidence to go about the future."

After a brief silence, Zachary responded apologetically, "I'm sorry, Serenity. I can't help you with this. Our finance

department is at full capacity now.” Even if York Corporation was hiring, Zachary was not going to place his sister-in-law in the company. He would blow his cover. “It’s okay. I was only asking. My sister has the experience, so I believe she can find a job and regain her confidence when she decides to return to the workplace.” Serenity believed in her sister’s capabilities.

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Zachary said all the right words to console Serenity even if he did not believe them himself.

Although he was in a high position, Zachary knew that the requirement had grown stricter when it came to talent acquisition. Liberty had been out of touch with society for three years, and even if she had experience, her skills would be rusty. It probably would not be easy for Liberty to find a job.

“Are you at work? Carry on with your work. I’ll hang up.”

“Sure.” Zachary waited for Serenity to disconnect the call.

After the conversation with her husband, Serenity gave her sister a call to plan for her future. Serenity only ended the call when it was time for Liberty to start cooking. With her phone almost out of battery, Serenity pulled out a charger for her phone.

As afternoon drew close, Zachary phoned the Wiltspoon Hotel’s manager to prepare two sets of lunch. He also ordered a few extra accompanying dishes to be delivered to Bookit, a bookshop near Wiltspoon High School,

The lunch was for Serenity. Considering that Jasmine was in the shop, and the girls were best friends, Zachary ordered for Jasmine too. It was also a good way to get into Ms. Sox’s good grace, so she could speak well of him in

front of Serenity.

Despite being taken aback by Zachary’s instruction, the manager dared not question it and did as he was told.

Serenity had just finished dealing with the afternoon madness when she received a special lunch delivery from her man.

The manager of Wiltspoon Hotel drove himself and hand delivered the lunch to the shop. When he arrived, there were students browsing for learning materials while Serenity was holding her phone to order food delivery.

Serenity and Jasmine watched in a daze as the manager entered the shop with a basket in hand.

“May I ask? Are you Ms. Serenity?” The manager asked politely.

His gaze fell on Serenity. For some reason, his gut was telling him that the girl was Ms. Serenity.

“Yes, I am. And you are?” Serenity replied and asked the man to identify himself in return as she had never seen him before.

As he placed the basket on the cash register, the manager quickly tidied up the surrounding area before retrieving the packed dishes from the basket to display. The last to come out were two platters of sliced fruits. They were complimentary desserts from the hotel.

The manager had no idea who Ms. Serenity was, but all he needed to know was that she was someone Mr. York cared about. Otherwise, Mr. York would not put in the personal call to him. The complimentary fruit platters were the most expensive and best fruits the hotel had.

Serenity and Jasmine looked at the man all confused. Why was there a food delivery when they had not ordered any takeout? The food looked pretty sumptuous though, and it came with dessert. Most importantly, they could not tell where the delivery came from since the delivery person did not wear a uniform bearing any logos.

“Ms. Serenity, I’m the manager of Wiltspoon Hotel. I received a call from Mr. York not too long ago. He ordered two lunch sets to be delivered to you. Mr. York has made the payment, so please enjoy your meal. Please rate us five stars if you feel our food is to your liking.”

Oh, so Zachary ordered the takeout for them.

It was surprising to find the hotel manager hand delivered the lunch order.

Tilting her head, Jasmine looked at her best friend with a smile on her face and envy in her eyes.

It was rather thoughtful of Mr. York. He was becoming increasingly nicer to her best friend.

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Perhaps it would not be long before Serenity and Zachary turn into a real couple and live happily ever after.

Snapping out of her thoughts, Serenity thanked the hotel manager and saw him off at the door. She watched as the manager got into the car and drove away before heading into the shop.

As there were two lunch sets, the other share was without a doubt for Jasmine.

By the time Serenity got back in, Jasmine had washed her hands and was seated behind the cash register. With her best friend approaching, she said with a smile, “Come on and eat. The Wiltspoon Hotel is a seven-star hotel. We tried their food at the dinner party the last time. I couldn’t stop thinking about the delicious food after I got home.

“Thanks to you, I finally get to relive the taste.”

Jasmine shoved the cutlery into Serenity’s hands while complimenting Zachary with glee, “I can’t believe Mr. York can be so thoughtful. He bought you lunch and had it delivered to you. He must feel bad that you’ve been having takeout for lunch.

“Serenity, Mr. York has a lot of redeeming qualities. Although he has his guard up and signed a six-month

contract with you, he might trash the agreement and become lifelong partners with you once you two spend some time together. Think about it.”

Serenity burst out laughing . “You’ve already taken his side after he bought you lunch. I get along with him, but it doesn’t look like our relationship is going to advance from here.”

“I’m not someone who can be bought with a single meal. Besides, you’re my best friend. No matter what happens or the circumstances, I will always be on your side. Compared to your brother-in-law, would you dare say that Mr. York is not one of the good guys?”

The pair dug in and discussed the quality of men.

“My brother-in-law used to be so good to my sister. His attitude changed for the worst ever since Sonny was born.”

Human beings were fickle-minded.

Serenity and Zachary had only been married for a month, so they were not very familiar with each other yet. She still had a lot to learn about Zachary. They had not reached the stage to put themselves out there, showing their flaws and strengths to one another.

“I think Mr. York is not like your brother-in-law. Mr. York’s strict, aloof, and gentlemanlike. Once you bag that kind of man, you can forget ever leaving his side. He’ll spoil you to the moon and back for sure.”

Serenity grinned without a word.

Nevertheless, Serenity was happy that Zachary delivered her a bountiful and delicious lunch. Before digging in, she snapped a photo and posted it on Facebook with the caption: (Special delivery from the husband.)

Considering that she and Zachary kept their marriage under wraps, Serenity did not make the post visible to friends who were in the dark about her marriage.

After lunch, Serenity saw off the last few students before calling Zachary.

Zachary happened to be at the Wiltspoon Hotel for a luncheon with a few clients, where he could discuss business over lunch.

With an incoming call from Serenity, Zachary excused himself apologetically to the few CEOs, “I need to take a call.”

“Be my guest, Mr. York.” The CEOs gladly gestured for Zachary to go ahead.

Having closed a deal with York Corporation, the CEOs were in the best of moods. They enjoyed a few bites and chatted while Zachary got up to take the call elsewhere. One of the CEOs asked Josh, who was also there, “Mr. York’s outfit today doesn’t seem to be his usual attire.”

Those with keen eyes picked up on Zachary’s change in his clothing label

Josh replied with a smile, “Good catch, Mr. Williams. It’s indeed different. Um... A girl, who he’s a little interested in, gave him the suit.”

