Gu Lingfei 491

Chapter 491

"I made you hot cocoa. I'll put it in the insulation cup for you since you don't have time to enjoy it now. Take it with you to your shop."

Serenity looked at Zachary in surprise.

To think Zachary would make her hot cocoa.

Zachary cleaned the insulation cup before pouring the hot cocoa into it. He then put the lid on and packed the insulation cup in a bag before handing it to Serenity.

"Don't forget to drink it."

Serenity took the bag and looked deeply into his eyes. She said, "See you."

She then took off.

Standing there, Zachary watched her head out the door.

Grandma May told him off, "Can't you walk with her?"

"She knows where the exit is."

Grandma May was speechless.

She was about to prais his progress when reality gave her another slap in the face. This punk ... left her with no words.

"Nana, by the way Serenity was looking at me just now, I think she would've kissed me if you weren't around."

She was stumped for words.

With Zachary regrettably returning to his seat next to Nana, the pair of grandmother and grandson quietly had their breakfast.

"I think Seren didn't have her thick coat on," the old lady noted.

Zachary faintly replied, "I'll deliver it to her."

Grandma May was pleased with him getting the drift.

LLL

Despite leaving home in a hurry, Serenity did not forget to call Liberty to ask about Sonny. Since her sister had taken the day off work, Serenity drove straight to the shop without stopping by at her sister's.

Having missed the morning rush hour, Serenity set up the store and immediately tidied up the place. Since it was raining, the shop appeared crammed with the stuff that should have been on display outside

Armed with a duster, Serenity dusted the shelves.

The students would be having their term break in a few days. She could basically close the shop until after New Year's.

"Serenity."

A familiar voice came from behind her.

Turning around, Serenity first saw the bouquet of vivid–colored roses before laying eyes on the bouquet holder–Shawn.

She had not seen him for a while. Shawn appeared rather haggard and unkempt with his five o'clock shadow. The usually cheerful boy was nowhere to be found.

Showing not much of a reaction, Serenity looked away from him and back to her cleaning. "Jas is sick at the hospital. You should visit her there."

She was giving Shawn an out.

"Seren, I'm here for you."

Shawn presented Serenity with the bouquet.

Serenity brushed the bouquet aside with the duster.

Shawn stared at her in dismay without hiding the hurt in his eyes.

"Seren."

"Shawn, what's the meaning of this?" Brewing inside, Serenity glared at him. "Have I not made myself clear? I'm married!"

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Shawn uttered in agony. "Seren, I know you're married, but it's just a marriage of convenience. You'll divorce. I like you, Serenity, and I've fallen for you a long time ago.

"I know you can't accept me now. I tried to keep my distance from you, but I couldn't do it. All I can think about is you the first chance I get. Serenity, I want you to know that I love you."

Presenting Serenity with the bouquet once more, he looked her straight in the eye. "Serenity, would you give me a chance to go after you?"

Jasmine had a talk with him and warned him against it.

However, Shawn could not simply drop his feelings and give up.

He really loved Serenity.

Shawn regretted not confessing his feelings to Serenity the moment he fell in love with her. Serenity might wait until he was older rather than marry a stranger if he had come clean about his feelings.

Serenity reached out and snatched the flowers before walking past Shawn to throw the bouquet into the bin at the door.

Turning her body around, she said to Shawn, "Shawn, are you going to leave, or do I need to chase you out with a broomstick?"

"Serenity!"

Shawn cried in pain, "Can you not be so cold to me? You weren't like this before. You used to be so good to me. Your cold—heartedness now is like a knife cutting through me again and again.

"How am I not better than the husband you married with no prior meeting? We've known each other for more than a decade and shared everything together. Why didn't you pick me?"

Jasmine broke it down to him why Serenity did not pick him. It was because Serenity had always seen him as a younger brother.

Yet, Shawn would not listen.

He did not want to be Serenity's younger brother. He wanted to be her husband and man.

"I was only good to you because you were a younger brother to me. I would rather die than be nice had I known it would give you the wrong idea."

After a decade of friendship, she could say that she had been there when Shawn grew up. It was also tough on Serenity to be indifferent to Shawn now, but she had to!

Serenity was no longer alone with Zachary having her back now. Serenity could not do as she

pleased or be nice to just about anybody like before as she was now Zachary's wife. She had to take Zachary's feelings into consideration.

Besides, she did not like Shawn romantically. She saw Shawn as her younger brother.

How would there be romance between siblings?

She had to be distant so that Shawn could get over his feelings.

Discoloration washed over Shawn's face.

"Serenity... H– How am I lesser than your husband? You don't know each other, but you could get married without feelings involved. Why can't you give me a chance when we've known each other for more than a decade? All I want is a chance to wait for you."

Looking at him dead in the eye, Serenity ruthlessly uttered, "Shawn, since I rather marry a stranger than choose you, it proves I have no romantic feelings for you. What we have is a sibling relationship.

"I wouldn't accept your feelings even if I was single, much less now that I'm married. I don't want to date my family. Besides, how could I possibly fall for you when you're a brother to

me?

Shawn yelled, "We're not siblings! We're not related by blood!"

He went up and locked his bloodshot eyes with Serenity.

"Please, Serenity. Please give me a chance."

He extended his arm to grab Serenity's hand, but Serenity slapped his hand away with the duster.

"Don't touch me, Shawn, or I won't hold back on you. You know I do kickboxing."

Serenity did not want to get physical with Shawn, but she would show no mercy if he refused to open his eyes and lay a finger on her instead!

"You haven't got a chance! Not in this lifetime, Shawn! You should leave before we become enemies. Don't ever come back here."

Pale in the face, Shawn could not stop his lips from shaking. "Enemies... Serenity, are you going to take me for an enemy?"

He was in love with her, but she saw him as the enemy. These words were heart-wrenching and eating him up inside.

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"Shawn, I'm someone else's wife now. My husband and I have gotten a marriage license. Although we married right away, we're developing feelings for each other. I won't betray my husband.

"If you're hell—bent on getting in between my husband and I, starting troubles and rumors, you're depleting what's left of our relationship. I'll be forced to hate you and see you as an enemy."

With paleness overtaking Shawn's complexion, Serenity sighed, wondering when she ever sent out the wrong message.

As she would put it, she would rather die than be nice to Shawn had she known it would give Shawn the wrong idea.

Serenity was long—time friends with Jasmine, so she knew Shawn through Jasmine. As she was older than Shawn, Serenity had always played the part of an older sister to him.

It never crossed her mind that...

"Shawn."

Relaxing her tensed facial muscles, Serenity said, "You're a nice and cheerful boy, Shawn, but you and I don't go together. Stay away from me. I can promise to keep my distance from you too. Let time and distance help you to move on. You'll soon realize that it doesn't have to be

"Letting go is not losing the person. You'll be gaining a new life to find the love that's yours to keep. Shawn, thank you for liking me. Please forgive me that I can't give you any chance because I've fallen in love with my husband.

"I won't leave him unless he gives up on our marriage. My heart can't accept another now that he lives in it.

"Please don't do this again. Next time, I'll chase you out with a broom and cut ties with you. That would be it for our friendship."

Shawn shook.

He could not believe Serenity could be so cruel.

Her words were more than hurtful.

"Serenity..."

Serenity extended her hand out, gesturing for Shawn to leave.

While doing that, she caught a glimpse of a familiar figure standing not too far away.

With Serenity looking over, Zachary threw the coat and umbrella in his hand over the front hood of her car. The umbrella happened to shield the coat from the rain.

As she watched in dismay, Zachary turned around and took strides back to his car. He opened the door, got into the car, started the engine, and turned around to drive away.

It was all done without pause.

He was already far by the time Serenity snapped out of the trance.

All Serenity could think about was 'Oh, sh*t!'.

She was caught by Zachary yet again.

Was he getting the wrong idea about her again?

o not come home, start another silent treatment, and delete her number once

Wash more?

Shawn's full attention was on Serenity, so he did not notice Zachary's arrival and departure. Seeing Serenity stunned there, he sensed something amiss and concernedly cried, "What's the matter, Serenity?"

Serenity pushed him away and ran into the shop to grab the car keys from the cash register. She then made her way out and unlocked the car without an umbrella. Serenity grabbed the coat and umbrella on the hood along the way.

She stuffed the coat and umbrella into the car before getting in herself.

"Serenity! Serenity!"

Shawn came after her, slapping on her car window and asking anxiously, "What happened, Serenity?"

All Serenity could think about was catching up to Zachary and explaining to him before he got the wrong impression again.

The last time, Zachary saw her serving Shawn some food. She had no idea Shawn had a crush on her at the time and was merely thanking him for his help. Shawn was a younger brother to her anyway.

Zachary did not lose his temper at the time or even let her know that he saw her.

He had an argument with her while he was drunk and started to stay out from the next day onward. Zachary gave her the cold shoulder for days and also deleted her number.

Chapter 494

It was because Serenity and Zachary got into the marriage without any feelings for each other in the beginning. It took a lot of care for them to come this far.

Serenity drove away.

Shawn wanted to take his car and gain up on her, but seeing that no one was watching Serenity's shop, he gave up the chase and stayed to watch over the shop.

Serenity ran into Elisa at the corner turning into the school.

Their cars nearly collided right before both parties jammed on the brakes.

Elisa rolled down her window to give the other party a piece of her mind when she realized that it was Serenity's car. She shouted, "Where are you going, Serenity?"

Serenity was surprised to see that it was Elisa. Noticing the beautiful middle—aged woman sitting on the passenger's seat next to Elisa, Serenity guessed it must be Mrs. Stone. She nodded at the mother and daughter and said, "I have an urgent matter to attend to, Elisa.

"Jas is in the hospital for a cold and fever. No one's looking after the shop. Can I trouble you to watch the place for me?"

"Serenity, I... Sure, I'll leave you to deal with your stuff."

Elisa wanted to say that she came here with her mother to bring Serenity and her mother for a DNA test. However, Serenity must have had an emergency since she appeared rather anxious, so Elisa ended up agreeing to watch the shop.

Serenity restarted the engine and disappeared into traffic.

Traffic was bad as it was the morning rush hour. Cars were jammed up on many roads.

Serenity was desperate.

She wished she had wings to fly all the way to York Corporation.

Had she known, she would have taken the e-bike to work

The four-wheeled ride protected her from the external elements, but it was useless in the heavy traffic.

Serenity kept phoning Zachary while on the unmoving road, but he refused to pick up.

He would not even return her text messages.

Now, this was all too familiar

That was how he acted when he was angry and took things the wrong way. He refused to receive calls or reply to messages.

Zachary was jealous.

Before he could get out of the car upon his arrival at the shop, Zachary witnessed Serenity bringing the roses out of the shop and dumping them in a bin.

Serenity said something to Shawn, and Shawn tried to reach out and grab her, but she slapped his hand away with a duster. Serenity did not do him any wrong.

Yet, Zachary could not stop himself from getting angry.

Hence why he turned on his heel and left when she saw him.

Zachary was acting on his instincts.

At present, he was on his way back to the office.

Serenity's call came in when he was driving. Zachary was not in the mood to accept the call.

He did not bother to read the text messages she sent either.

Zachary simply drove on, going past his office building without stopping.

It was not until he was miles away that it hit him. He made a U-turn at the intersection ahead and went back to where he came from.

Several minutes later, Zachary stepped into the office building with a face longer than a horse.

Josh must be looking for Zachary as he was hanging around Mr. Chaplin's desk, chatting away. Seeing that Zachary was here, Josh ditched Mr. Chaplin and went up to Zachary.

Chapter 495

To everybody's surprise, Zachary grimacingly ignored Josh and stormed past him. The only thing Josh heard was Zachary callously telling Mr. Chaplin, "Notify all senior-level executives for a meeting now."

Josh wondered if the earth was about to shake.

"Duly noted."

Mr. Chaplin was ahead of Josh in responding as Josh was taken aback by his best friend's sour face.

Zachary made a beeline to his office, only to stomp back out in less than two minutes to head to the meeting room.

Josh went with him this time.

There was no one in the meeting room.

No meeting was scheduled today, to begin with.

Yet, Zachary told Mr. Chaplin to notify higher management to attend a last-minute meeting

The man was on a warpath!

Zachary entered the meeting room and took a seat at his place while waiting for the arrival of his executives with a stoic face.

Josh paused before making his way to Zachary. He pulled a chair out and sat next to Zachary.

"What's going on with you, Zachary? Who got on your nerves first thing in the morning?"

Josh drew close and probingly asked, "Did you have a fight with the missus?"

Zachary carried the same expression when the former butted heads with Serenity.

He raised hell at the workplace for a few days until Grandma May had to jump in to mediate the couple's fight. Only then, the dark cloud over the company finally let through a shimmer of light.

Without a word, Zachary pulled out his phone and tapped on his messages to read Serenity's texts.

She explained to him that there was nothing going on between her and Shawn.

Serenity also told Zachary that Shawn had confessed his feelings to her, but she turned him down and talked him into moving on. Hence why the conversation went on for quite a while.

She did nothing to hurt him.

Serenity was not going for the next guy to come into her life, nor was she going to have another man. She only wanted him!

Shawn confessed his feelings to her!

For the brat who had not weaned off his mother's milk to profess his love to Serenity while being fully aware that she was married was throwing down a gauntlet at Zachary!

"Josh, do we have any business dealings with the Lowes?"

"None with the headquarters, but they have an ongoing partnership with our subsidiaries."

"Whichever subsidiary company that is, end the partnership."

"Huh?"

Tilting his head, Zachary glared at Josh. "Is there a problem?"

Josh immediately replied, "No, no problem at all. Okay. We'll end all partnerships with the Lowes."

So, it appeared Shawn had angered the tiger.

Shawn was a fool who rushed in where angels feared to tread. The boy had it coming by stepping on Zachary's toes.

"Lowe Enterprise has a project that's up our alley. Take it from them."

Josh bobbed his head. "Sure, of course. We'll steal the project out of their hands."

Still, Josh had to point something out. "We'll be declaring war against Lowe Enterprise by doing so."

It would be going against the Lowes for stealing their project.

"Yes, I'm declaring war on them!"

Shawn should have thought twice before eyeballing his wife.

For the boy to attempt stealing his woman, Zachary had to do something before Shawn believed he was no threat.

"Alright, York Corporation fears no one. You're free to challenge anyone you want, and you have my full support. But, Zachary, can you tell me what happened that made you go after Lowe Enterprise?"

Chapter 496

"You should let it all out to me before the others arrive. Don't bottle everything up inside. You're not just harming yourself by doing that but everybody in the company too."

Zachary's rage brought forth hellfire!

Josh was trying his best to keep the better days alive in the entire office building.

"I saw Serenity with Shawn when I was delivering her a coat."

Josh was rendered speechless.

with his jaw wide open, Josh had a hard time finding the words before finally saying, "It's a misunderstanding. I'm sure it's a misunderstanding. Sometimes, what you see isn't the whole truth, Zachary. Don't sulk as you did before. You have to give the missus a chance to explain."

"Shawn confessed his feelings to her."

Josh paused and replied, "Shawn is my idol. He's bold and courageous. Mr. Lowe taught him well to be his successor."

Zachary gave Josh the stank eye.

Josh rubbed his nose and said with a smile, "Zachary, maybe I should get Mr. Chaplin to buy you bucket loads of green paint."

Zachary scowled.

"Here's a question for you. Did you see Serenity accepting Shawn's feelings? What did they talk about?"

After a brief silence, Zachary responded, "I saw Serenity holding a duster with one hand and a bouquet with another as she came out of the shop to dump the roses in the trash can. She then had a long talk with Shawn, but I couldn't hear what they were saying.

"I also saw Shawn trying to grab her hand..."

With his eyes sparkling for gossip, Josh eagerly asked, "Did he manage to grab her hand?"

"No. Serenity slapped his hand away with the duster."

"Oh," Josh remarked, "So he didn't hold her hand. What are you jealous about then? It seems Serenity has rejected Shawn."

Tension ran along his facial lines as Zachary remained without a word.

He knew that Serenity did not accept Shawn's feelings. Serenity had also sent him a lot of text messages to give full details.

Still, Zachary was disgruntled and eating his heart out.

"Zachary, you fell in love with Serenity because of her charms. Just because you like her, you can't stop anyone else from liking her too. It's the same thing as Elisa having feelings for you. Was Serenity jealous when she found out that Elisa likes you?"

Josh turned into a love guru in an attempt to enlighten his best friend and boss.

The whole company should thank Josh as their lives would be a living hell once more if it were not for him by Zachary's side.

Zachary sulkily answered. "She knows Elisa likes me. She even gave Elisa ideas to pursue me."

Josh was lost for words.

"Serenity doesn't even know that you're the great Mr. Zachary York, alright!"

Josh stood up for Serenity. "Shawn has known her for over a decade. They're childhood friends... Fine, fine. They're not childhood friends, alright? Stop glaring at me. Your looks could kill."

Josh added amusedly, "If Shawn likes Serenity, that's his business. She can't control him or stop him from liking her, okay? All is good so long as she doesn't accept Shawn's feelings nor has a relationship with Shawn behind your back.

"The number of men having the hots for your wife proves you have a good eye for Mrs. Right. You don't need to be jealous or envious because that's what other men should be feeling You're the one who gets to go home to her."

Before falling in love, Josh could not understand Zachary's pettiness and jealousy.

Zachary would turn into a green-eyed monster every time he was jealous.

Josh felt sympathetic toward Serenity as she was stuck with a petty man like Zachary.

Zachary uttered aloofly, "I can't even stand Shawn, let alone other men."

Jealousy would bury him alive.

Josh replied with a smile, "I was only speaking metaphorically. I didn't mean anything by it." Zachary scoffed without putting forth a comment.

Chapter 497

The senior executives entered the meeting room in droves by then.

Seeing the two biggest bosses waiting in the room, the senior executives were startled and got a bad feeling about the meeting being called at the last minute.

Zachary still had his poker face on.

Some looked at Callum, hoping to seek comfort from him. The least he could do was tell them what the sudden meeting was about.

Although Callum appeared calm, he was looking at Josh.

Sure, Callum was from the same family as Zack, but Josh was closest to Zack.

Josh got up.

"I'm going to the men's," he said while tipping Callum the wink.

Getting the hint, Callum got to his feet and followed behind Josh before all attendance was accounted for

Despite knowing what was going on, Zachary did not stop them.

Zachary stared at the senior executives who were in the meeting room. Josh mentioned that he would drive his employees up the wall when he went mad. Zachary was interested to see how

Everybody was at a loss for words.

'Why are you looking at us like that, Sir?'

'What did we do wrong? Please give us a quick and painless death. At least, tell us what we did.'

Callum followed Josh out and caught up to him to ask, "What's up with Zack, Josh?"

Josh stopped in his tracks and turned around before whispering a question, "Do you have Serenity's mobile number?"

"Yes, I do."

"Hurry up and call her. Tell her to come here no matter what. Zachary's crazy jealous right now. This meeting is called at the last minute. Your cousin is going to bite people's heads off for any uncompleted projects. He's in a foul mood and taking it out on us.

"The only one who can save us is your cousin's wife. I believe you won't want to relive those hellish days again. You're Mr. York's cousin. You can't refute him if he gets on your back, and you still have to face him at home."

Callum replied hesitantly, "Zachary and his wife were fine during the weekend though. They

were all lovey-dovey last night too. What changed overnight?"

"Zachary's love rival confessed his feelings to his wife. Of all people, your cousin saw the whole thing, and now he's jealous. You might as well get him cans of green paint."

Callum whipped out his phone. "T'll call Serenity now."

For professional and personal reasons, Callum hoped there was no conflict between Zachary and Serenity.

"I can't believe Zachary had his routine disrupted because of Serenity."

Having found Serenity's number, Callum immediately reached her but got the automated response that she was on call.

He helplessly hung up and told Josh, "Serenity's line is busy."

Josh's eyes lit up. "Never mind then. Let's get back to the meeting room. The meeting should adjourn in less than five minutes.

He bet Serenity was on the line with Zachary.

The last–minute meeting should be over once Serenity soothed Zachary.

Even if the meeting would go on, Josh or Callum would be left to preside over it. Whichever the case, they would be spared a telling—off from Zachary.

LI

"My hats off to the missus."

Zachary was a rather disciplined man. Yet, he threw his routine out the window because of Serenity.

It was a good thing the senior executives were in the dark about the truth. Otherwise, they would be rendered speechless.

Callum shared the same sentiment. "I'm going to learn from Rowan and cling onto Serenity."

"I want to hold onto her tightly and don't let go too."

Serenity had no idea there were people wanting to latch onto her. She was stuck in traffic for a while before escaping the road congestion. It took her another ten minutes to get to York Corporation.

Rain was pouring at this point. The temperature dropped even lower.

Chapter 498

Serenity stopped the car in front of York Corporation's building before giving Zachary another call.

While on the road, she had called Zachary no fewer than twenty times.

The jealousy-ridden sourpuss refused to take her calls.

It made her worried sick!

Fortunately, Zachary finally accepted her call.

"I'm at the entrance of your office building, Zachary. Can you take thirty minutes off work? Come out. I need to talk to you."

Jumping to his feet, Zachary approached the window in the meeting room and pulled open the curtains to look down.

Since he was on a high floor and far away from the ground, Zachary could not tell if the car at the entrance belonged to Serenity.

"Are you listening, Zachary? Say something."

Serenity uttered anxiously, "Come out. I'll wait for you at the entrance until you're off work if you don't come out."

Zachary's husky voice came through. "Hang on. I'll be right out."

Closing the curtains, he turned on his heel to walk out of the meeting room. After hanging up on the call, he solemnly instructed, "Josh, take over the meeting."

Josh nearly burst into laughter.

He was right on the money.

Still, Josh did not show it on his face when he answered, "Sure."

Zachary ditched his senior executives and dashed out of the meeting room.

He took the lift to the first floor and caught sight of Serenity when he walked to the entrance of the office building. Serenity was out of the car, holding the umbrella he threw onto her car hood.

Zachary did not have an umbrella.

Just as Zachary was about to run in the rain, a receptionist perceptively grabbed an umbrella and gave it to him, "It's pouring down heavy, Sir. Take this."

"Thank you."

Taking the umbrella from the receptionist, Zachary took steady strides out with the umbrella.

All the jealousy disappeared the moment he saw Serenity standing at the entrance.

It never crossed Zachary's mind that Serenity would come all this way.

It turned his frown upside down for sure.

She cared about him.

Shawn could shove it even though the boy knew Serenity for more than a decade.

"Zachary."

Serenity felt like crying when the man finally made an appearance.

He denied her the chance to explain, and he did so every single time. Zachary would take off without a word when he saw her with another man.

It was not like she did him dirty. All Serenity did was turn Shawn down and talk him into moving on.

"Why didn't you wear the coat? Didn't I leave you one?"

Zachary felt bad to see her without the coat he delivered, so he took off his jacket and draped it over her shoulders.

"The coat is in the car. Don't take yours off. You only have a shirt underneath. It's getting colder because of the long downpour."

Serenity handed the jacket back to him.

Zachary then went to her car to grab the coat. It was a little wet because the persistent rain drenched the car hood. Even though he put an umbrella over the coat, the wet hood dampened the coat.

Clamping the umbrella between his neck and shoulder, Zachary checked the insides of the coat with his free hand. He only draped the coat over Serenity's shoulders after confirming the insides were dry.

"Zachary."

Serenity looked at him as he held onto the umbrella. Tossing her umbrella aside, she ran over and jumped into his embrace to hold him tightly. Acting on reflexes, Zachary put his arm around her waist.

Chapter 499

"You're a b*stard! You won't even give me a chance to explain. What you see isn't always the truth."

Serenity let go of Zachary and angrily pinched him on the arm.

He scared her.

She thought they were entering another phase of silent treatment.

Zachary quietly took her pinching. It hurt like hell, but he did not care.

All was good knowing that she cared about him.

"Shawn confessed his feelings to me, but I rejected him. I'm your wife. I won't leave you unless you decide you don't want me anymore."

"Really?"

The concealment of his identity came to mind.

Would she stay by his side when she was to find out that he had been lying to her for so long?

"Don't you believe me?"

Letting out a sigh, Zachary pulled her into his arms. "Serenity, I was really angry when I saw you with Shawn. My instinct told me to leave. I know that you were not to blame. Shawn was all over you.

"The truth is... I'm jealous.

"I'm green with envy. I'm jealous at the thought Shawn loves you and that he has had the pleasure of knowing you for more than a decade."

Zachary had not known Serenity for long.

His relationship with her could not beat her decade—long relationship with Shawn.

Shawn got to know her and fell in love with her sooner than Zachary could.

Zachary fell far behind Shawn in every single way.

"Shawn and L. I told you before that he's a younger brother to me. I don't like him that way. We wouldn't have gotten married if I had romantic feelings for him. I would've gone for Shawn to give my sister peace of mind."

Despite knowing that Serenity was telling the truth, Zachary could not get over his bitterness.

Basically, Serenity was saying that Zachary stood no chance if she was into Shawn.

Zachary could buzz off to wherever he came from.

"Are you still jealous?"

Lifting her chin, Serenity stared at his grimacing face. Amused, she pinched his face. "Has any talent scout cast you to be an actor? You make the perfect grinch without makeup."

Zachary took her by the hand and replied gruffly, "I am."

"Didn't you say you don't know what jealousy was? I had to give you a dictionary for that."

Zachary was at a loss for words.

Since he had nothing, he might as well lower his head and seal those luscious lips.

It did not slip Serenity's mind that they were in front of his office building. Although it was working hours, there were still people coming in and out of the place.

She let him give her a quick peck before pushing him away.

Serenity uttered softly, "Trust me, Zachary. I won't do anything to betray you while we're still lawfully married."

"I trust you."

Zachary did not take his hands away from her as they walked to her car. He pulled open the door. "Get inside. It's chilly outside."

It was snowy in Meadspring while the temperature had only begun to drop in Wiltspoon.

After Serenity was stuffed into the backseat, Zachary followed suit.

With the door closed, Zachary pinned her down to the seat and towered over her to lock

tongues.

It took several kisses to diminish most of Zachary's jealousy.

"Don't meet with Shawn ever again," Zachary demanded.

"I know you don't love him, but it doesn't change the fact that he's in love with you. God knows what he'll do to you since he can't have you." "I'll beat him up if he gets handsy."

Gu Lingfei: Married At First Sight Chapter 500

"Although you can kickbox, you should stay away from him. Your husband is petty-minded and can't stand to see you together with him. I'll get jealous even though he's the one all over

you."

Zachary was feeling jealous in the past but he never admitted to it back then.

It would not matter to Zachary who Serenity was with if he did not care.

Now that he had feelings for Serenity, Zachary lost his head and was out for blood.

"I'll chase him away if he comes along, but I can't cut off his legs to stop him from coming."

Zachary put on a stern look and said, "I'll make sure he doesn't show his face."

"What are you planning to do? Don't do anything stupid."

Zachary pinched her cheek. "Don't worry. I won't do anything stupid now that I have you."

He wanted to spend the rest of his days with her.

Zachary had made plans to end partnerships with the Lowes and even steal from them some projects that were in talks. The Lowes would know the Yorks were putting the heat on them. Zachary would be waiting for Mr. Lowe to come and ask him the reason for doing so.

Serenity could not stop Shawn, but who was to say his parents could not stop him?

"Don't go too hard on him for Jasmine's sake."

With Jasmine's name coming into the picture, Zachary subtly asked, "Why didn't Ms. Sox stop Shawn?"

Was Jasmine on her cousin's side regarding this?

"Jas has a fever. She's at the hospital. She wasn't at the shop."

The realization then hit Serenity. She said amusedly, "Don't tell me you were suspecting Jas for helping Shawn to pester me? She's not that type of a person. She hopes Shawn could move on more than anyone else."

As her best friend, Jasmine had the best understanding of the person Serenity was.

Jasmine knew that Serenity did not love Shawn romantically, and that would not change no matter what Shawn did.

Shawn's fixation on Serenity would only get him hurt.

Jasmine was Shawn's cousin. Feeling sorry for her cousin, Jasmine could only persuade Shawn to get over his feelings.

Shawn could only get his life back when he let go of his obsession with Serenity.

That was why anyone but Jasmine would take Shawn's side.

"Uh... I was wrong about Ms. Sox.

"So she's not well."

Zachary must inform Josh later so the latter could have an excuse to contact Jasmine.

"Yeah. She has a high fever. It could be the sudden change of weather. She picked fashion over comfort and caught a cold in return."

Serenity had always seen her best friend in a dress during winter. Although the dresses were made of warmer materials, Serenity believed winter clothes were more appropriate for the season. Serenity often teased her best friend for choosing style over comfort.

The girls had different preferences when it came to winter clothing. Serenity wished she could wear a duvet out when the weather was chilly.

"Give me your phone, Zachary."

"What's the matter?"

Serenity put her hand out, demanding his phone.

"I want to see if I'm still on your contact list. Did you delete my number? With that history of yours, I need to check your phone. You can forget re—adding my number if you wipe out my contact again."

She had a temper too.

Zachary compliantly handed out his phone. He unlocked the phone and tapped on the message icon for her convenience to examine. "It's easy to delete a number but difficult to add it back. It was a hard lesson to learn. I won't make the same mistake again."

While adding back her number the last time, Serenity mentioned that they would be through if they deleted each other's numbers again.

With her number still on his contact list, Serenity's mind was put at ease.

Nevertheless, it upset her that he did not respond to a single message despite her blowing up his phone with multiple text messages.

Shoving his phone back into his hand, she opened the door and uttered, "Alright now. I've cleared the air, so get down. You should get back to work. I need to return to the shop. Elisa brought her mother there. I told her to watch the shop for me." Zachary stared at her and asked, "Are you agry, Seren?"