

Gu Lingfei 931

Chapter 931 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“You chose such great timing. We’re just about to eat.”

While speaking, Serenity opened the gate of the villa for Zachary.

Zachary said shamelessly, “I’m here to sponge food off you.”

Serenity replied with a friendly sneer, “I feel really sorry for you.”

He shamelessly came to the Stones to sponge food off them for Serenity’s sake.

It would be a lie to say that he was calm. Serenity knew that when she was angry at him for lying to her, he was silently changing his ways for her.

Zachary stared at her deeply and said affectionately, “I’ll show respect for those you care about. I’ll be wherever you are without any fear.”

“Don’t make it seem as though my aunt’s house is frightening. She’s very nice.

“By the way, Elisa is at home too.”

Serenity reminded Zachary.

Undoubtedly, she would not misunderstand Zachary for having feelings for Elisa. As he said, he did not accept Elisa’s love or promise her anything. It was Elisa’s own decision to be interested in him and pursue him. This had nothing to do with Zachary. Furthermore, Elisa had the freedom to do so.

Serenity was worried Zachary would feel awkward.

“Oh.”

Elisa’s presence did not stop Zachary from walking into the house afterward.

When Zachary and Serenity walked in together, he asked Serenity, “What does Aunt Audrey like?”

“I have no idea what she likes, so I casually bought some tonics.”

Serenity took a glimpse of the things held by Jim and the chauffeur before she said, “My aunt has everything. What matters is that you follow the etiquette rules.”

Zachary laughed. “You actually treat your aunt as your elder. This is my first time paying a visit, so I hope to do my best.”

As for her relatives in her hometown, she would treat them with hatred.

Those people would just cause her trouble and hold her back.

Several days ago, Old Mr. Hunt brought a group of devoted children and grandchildren over to ask for money from Serenity. After Serenity rejected them, they acted in an unscrupulous and despicable manner.

John made a public apology to Serenity and her sister on Twitter, but all he did was write some sentences perfunctorily. This caused them to feel that he had purposely made the apology only because Serenity had married into the Stones. Therefore, he had no choice but to yield. He did not actually apologize with sincerity.

Then, the Hunts often informed the reporters to head to York Corporation with them. They wanted to ask Zachary for money, but Zachary forbade them to step into the office.

With the fusses the Hunts made, the reporters were dumbfounded as they did not expect Serenity's relatives to be so shameless!

The reporters felt great sympathy for Serenity.

Clearly, those relatives of hers wanted to make her life in her husband's family difficult.

Anyone would rage to have such shameless relatives who were utter troublemakers.

However, the Hunts lost their businesses and jobs under Zachary's suppression and revenge. They had nothing to lose to him at that moment. Could Zachary be daring enough to kill all of them?

Just as Josh had said to Zachary earlier, these awful people would be impossible to defeat unless they died. From time to time, they would kick up a fuss because they had lost everything that mattered most to them.

Little did Zachary expect that the Hunts would be this extreme. It changed his perspective on the world.

Of course, no one had the audacity to report the news that the Hunts brought the reporters to York Corporation to ask for money. Therefore, only witnesses at the scene, were aware of how despicable the Hunts were. As the news spread within a small circle, it did not cause a commotion as the Hunts had anticipated.

"I'm more than happy that you're here."

Serenity led Zachary to the main hall.

"Wash your hands and eat with us."

Zachary hummed in acknowledgment. Serenity led him to the basin to have his hands washed. After that, he followed her to the dining room composedly.

"Uncle Zak," Sonny addressed Zachary before he continued with his meal.

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As usual, Sonny's face was covered with rice. There was also a lot of rice on the table. Mrs. Stone and Elisa left him alone. Mrs. Stone felt that the kid needed to learn

how to clean the mess on his own. Even if he failed to handle it well at first, the more he practiced it, the better he would get at it.

A few months later, Sonny would turn three. It was about time to learn how to eat.

Zachary touched Sonny's head before turning his eyes to Mrs. Stone and calling her Aunt Audrey" gently.

Mrs. Stone replied in a soft tone, "Mm. I'm coming. You can start eating."

A servant had already prepared the cutlery for Zachary.

After greeting Mrs. Stone, Zachary turned his gaze to Elisa. She was focused on eating and did not beam like how she used to when she saw him. After Zachary pursed his lips, he said, "Hi, cuz!"

"Ha-"

"Ahem-"

Elisa spewed her food. Then, she choked and coughed.

The person closest to Elisa was Mrs. Stone. She promptly lifted a glass of water and handed it to her daughter. "Take a good gulp."

Elisa took the bowl and drank a few mouthfuls of water. Only then did she stop coughing.

Seeing herself spewing food, she flushed. It was her first time forgetting who she was.

The flush on Elisa's face got redder, particularly when Sonny's big bright eyes were fixated on her.

The kid even used his fleshy hand to cover his bowl as he was worried that his aunt would spit food into his bowl.

"Zachary, y-you made me spit my food!" Elisa exclaimed to Zachary.

Her food was splattered on the few dishes in front of her. The maid swiftly took away the dishes and asked the chef to prepare a few new dishes since Zachary was here.

No one would dare treat the Hunt sisters with contempt, much less Zachary who was noble.

Only after the maid finished cleaning the table did Elisa stop blushing.

Zachary sat beside Serenity nonchalantly and said indifferently, "My cousin said that you're older than Seren. Since Seren acknowledges you as 'cuz', I should do the same."

Elisa opened her mouth but could not refute his claim.

After some time, she laughed and said, "I thought you were unwilling to

acknowledge me as your cousin-in-law. Who knew you would surrender so quickly and formally address me that way?"

Zachary did not utter a word.

Anyhow, he had formally called Elisa "cuz" to acknowledge her as family, and that meant he had shown respect for Serenity's family.

As he said, he would respect people who mattered to Serenity.

Seeing Sonny covering his bowl, Elisa said, "Sonny. You can continue eating. You don't need to cover your bowl."

Sonny asked naively, "Aunt Elisa, are you going to do the spewing performance again?"

Elisa rose to her feet and bent over. She extended her hand and pinched Sonny's face gently. "You brat, how dare you tease me."

"I'm not a brat!"

"You brat."

"I'm not. You have a strong smell."

It was the scent of her perfume.

In fact, the kid did not quite like perfume even if its scent was faint.

This was because his mother and aunt had a naturally pleasant smell, unlike Elisa. Elisa was at a loss for words.

Chapter 933 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Mrs. Stone grinned and said to her daughter, "Sonny dislikes the perfume you're using, huh? It's fine. Let's eat. Don't haggle over it with a three-year-old kid."

Elisa raised her arm and smelled herself. Indeed, she sensed the faint smell of perfume.

She recalled how Sonny disliked her scent. Since the kid could not tell that it was perfume, other people might misunderstand that she stank.

"I won't wear perfume anymore. This way, I can save my money as well."

Serenity laughed and said, "Sonny was just talking nonsense. Elisa, don't blame him. He's still young."

"It's precisely because he's young that he was telling the truth."

Regarding the remark Sonny made about her smell, Elisa took it to heart.

She was particularly fond of Sonny, yet he disliked her because of her smell.

"Let's start eating," Mrs. Stone said with a grin.

Now that she was old, she did not wear any perfume. She found it best to be natural.

However, her daughter was still young. It was natural for her to be used to spraying perfume.

"Zachary, these are just ordinary dishes. I hope you're fine with them," Mrs. Stone spoke to Zachary politely. Indeed, the dishes prepared by the chef were nothing special. The vegetables were actually grown by Mrs. Stone in her courtyard.

Zachary quickly said, "I'm not a fussy eater. I eat everything."

Deep down, Mrs. Stone and her daughter criticized him, "If you're not a fussy eater, then nobody is."

As someone who used to be infatuated with Zachary, Elisa knew his favorites very well. She knew that he was a fussy eater besides being a clean freak.”

He claimed he was not fussy only because of Serenity’s presence.

During the meal, Zachary was very attentive to his beloved wife beside him. He served her some food from time to time. When Sonny glanced at him occasionally, he would serve him food as well.

The kid was eating with so much gusto that his stomach became full.

After having a hearty meal, Sonny said to Mrs. Stone, “Grand aunt Audrey, your food tastes yummy. It’s as good as the food Mommy and Aunt Ser cook.”

Mrs. Stone carried him joyfully. “You should come to my house often then.”

Sonny nodded and replied, “I’ll come when Mommy and Aunt Ser come.”

Mrs. Stone wrapped the kid’s head into her arms indulgently like how she carried her younger sister back then.

“Sonny, remember my number. Whenever you feel like coming over, just give me a call. I’ll pick you up to have meals here.”

Then, she said to Serenity, “Same goes for the both of you. You both hardly come over. Do it more often in the future.”

After that, she looked at Zachary, who was silently staring at her niece, and added, “Zachary, you can come over with Seren when you’re available next time.”

Zachary averted his gaze from his wife and said courteously, “I’ll certainly come whenever I’m available.”

He took a glimpse of the piles of invitation cards on the coffee table.

After Mrs. Stone caught sight of this little act of his, she took the initiative to say, “Seren would like to attend the social gatherings with me.”

Based on such a concise sentence, Zachary was aware of Serenity’s intention. He knew that she was striving for him.

He was not the only one making an effort.

Serenity was too—changing and striving together.

Chapter 934

Much as Zachary wished to maintain his current relationship with Serenity so she could be happy and relaxed, he did not say anything else. She took pity on Serenity as she was changing her life for his sake.

However, he could not bring himself to let her go.

He would attend social gatherings occasionally to make an appearance, but he would soon leave. As for the women in his family, everyone would admire and flatter them ladies whenever they showed up. Hence, it would be impossible for them to get bullied.

Nevertheless, there was one point Zachary would not overlook, namely that his mother and aunts grew up in wealthy families.

His mother's and aunts' marriages with the Yorks were considered well-matched.

At the thought of Serenity's circumstances, Zachary gradually came to understand her persistence.

Zachary held Serenity's hand.

To save his dignity in front of her aunt, Serenity did not shake his hand off.

Zachary was just holding her hand tightly without saying a word.

After staying at the Stones' place for a while, he had to return to the office, so he took his leave. Serenity held Sonny's hand while walking to see Zachary off.

Zachary walked steadily and slowly with the intention of having a talk with Serenity.

"Seren, I think I don't understand you well enough. I'll learn more about you and put myself in your shoes," Zachary said tenderly.

"Having said that, I greatly sympathize with you. If you're tired of learning to blend in with my circle, you can remain in your current state. I can choose not to attend any social gatherings, but I can't afford to lose you.

"My wife doesn't need to be at anyone's mercy."

"I won't be at anyone's mercy, but I just don't want to be the object of ridicule and hold you back."

Zachary paused to look at her. He then said with a deep voice, "My reputation in Wiltspoon isn't that great. When do I actually care about those things? What matters is that I'm fine with my wife's background, and it's none of their business. We're not

relying on them either."

Serenity's eyes settled on him. A while later, she stretched out her hand and caressed his face gently. Then, she said softly, "We're in the same boat, heading in the same direction. If both of us can't face hardships together, we'll fall into the water and fail to reach the shore together.

"Even if we can't stand at the bow together, we must hold onto the stern and not fall into the water.

"Zachary, give me some time to adapt to it. If I really can't do it and blend in... I won't force myself either. If you refuse to get a divorce anytime soon, I won't force you. If you ever think that I'm a drag and dislike me, just let me know. I'll immediately leave and not pester you."

As long as she had done her level best, she would not regret it.

That was Serenity's mindset.

Zachary could not be bothered about Sonny's presence. He forcefully wrapped Serenity into his arms and said in a husky voice, "We must never part!

“I’ve never gone back on my word. As long as you’re willing to cooperate, I’ll settle it. I can make you a shareholder of York Corporation anytime, and you’ll be the richest lady in Wiltspoon. I’m willing to work under you forever and let you get richer.”

Serenity sighed silently. She eventually put her hands around his waist.

This was her first time hugging him gently since she found out that he lied to her.

Although they were hugging, their hearts were so close yet so far from each other.

He was willing to sacrifice everything for her, while she was willing to work hard and learn to be more outstanding for his sake. She hoped that she would be able to walk side by side with him one day, rather than have him drag her along.

“Aunt Ser? Uncle Zak?”

The third wheel lifted his head and blinked his big eyes. Clueless, he rested his gaze on the two adults.

Serenity promptly pushed Zachary away. Subsequently, she bent over and carried Sonny. She then said to Zachary, “You may leave for work.”

Zachary pinched Sonny’s face lightly. “You’re such a third wheel.”

Chapter 935 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“I’m going to work now.”

Zachary walked out of the Stones’ villa reluctantly and left under Serenity’s gaze.

Sonny touched the part of his cheek where his uncle pinched, then he asked Serenity, “Aunt Ser, Uncle Zak just called me a third wheel. My name is Sonny, not a third wheel.”

While carrying Sonny, Serenity returned to the house and said gently, “Your uncle was just joking with you. You’re not a third wheel but a peacemaker.”

If she brought Sonny along to meet Zachary, the two of them would control their temper and avoid conflict. This would be helpful in improving their relationship and trust in each other.

They were very concerned about the healthy environment in which the child grew up. Therefore, Sonny acted as a reconciler between the couple even though he was not their child.

“I’m Sonny.”

“Fine, fine. You’re Sonny.”

Only then was Sonny satisfied.

He had no idea what a third wheel or peacemaker was. All he knew was that his full name was Sonny Brown, and his nickname was Sonny.

After Serenity returned to the house, Mrs. Stone asked her to go upstairs and enter Elisa’s walk-in closet, which was filled with Elisa’s clothes.

Mrs. Stone said, "Seren, your height and build are similar to Elisa's. You can try on her clothes first. I'll see which type of clothes can fully portray your natural elegance."

Serenity turned her eyes to Elisa, who said generously, "Seren, go ahead and try on my clothes since my mom asked you to. We're cousins. I don't mind you wearing my clothes. What's more, there are many clothes I bought when I was fond of them. After I bought them, I placed them here without having worn them before."

"You can wear some on my behalf. I'll then have an excuse to keep them."

Serenity was amused.

When Elisa loved someone, she would be genuinely nice to them and not put on airs. Of course, she would embarrass those with whom she could not get along.

Besides spending the entire afternoon trying on clothes, Serenity was dragged by her aunt and cousin to do hair and facial treatments.

Evening came around and that was the peak hour of the businesses near Wiltspoon School, especially the bookstore.

Since school had reopened, students needed to buy all kinds of materials. The stock of some materials arrived late, which caused students to frequent the bookstore over the two weeks and ask if the materials were in stock.

At that moment, Serenity's bookstore was crowded with students who wanted to buy reference material and stationery. Consequently, Jasmine and Mrs. Lane had their hands full.

When Serenity could not come over to help out at the store, she would arrange for Mrs. Lane to help so that Jasmine would not be rushed off her feet..

A brand new SUV was parked at the entrance of the bookstore. When the car door was pushed open, Josh got out of the car. He was dressed in a white suit, holding a bouquet of flowers.

At the sight that many students were buying things, Josh placed the bouquet back in the car. He removed his coat and took off the expensive watch on his right wrist. Then, he put them in the car. After shutting the door, he made his way to the bookstore and rolled up his sleeves, ready to help Jasmine.

"Jasmine."

Josh went into the store and greeted Jasmine. "You're busy. I happen to be here. Is there anything I can help with?"

"Just help them find anything they need."

Jasmine directly got him to help out as he wished.

She did not ask Josh to process the payments since he was unsure of the prices.

The three of them had their hands full until it was time for students to do self- revision.

"Don't you have a social function to attend tonight?"

When they could finally relax, Jasmine had the chance to speak to Josh.

Chapter 936 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“My boss suddenly showed mercy and attended the social function on his own. I’m quite relaxed, so I came over to pick you up after work. Let’s have a meal together. I made a reservation and even ordered the dishes at Wiltspoon Hotel. Once we arrive, we can straight away have the dishes served without waiting.

“I’ve also bought two movie tickets. After dinner, we can watch a movie. It’s rare that I have so much leisure time.”

Ever since Josh became Zachary’s administrative executive, he had been really busy.

He barely had nights with no social functions to attend.

Josh was busiest during the period when Zachary and Serenity’s relationship improved. It was because Zachary always assigned the company’s matters to Josh while he spent time with his wife.

When Jasmine was about to speak, Josh suddenly swung around and ran out.

Jasmine was dazed for a moment before she asked Mrs. Lane, “I haven’t said anything, have I? Why did he run out all of a sudden?”

Mrs. Lane said, “Just now, I was standing outside and saw Mr. Bucham getting out of the car with a bouquet of flowers. He noticed the crowd in the store, so he put the bouquet back in the car. After that, he removed his coat and came in.

“So now, he’s probably going to get the bouquet.”

Mrs. Lane said with a grin, “Mr. Bucham cares about you. You’re blessed like the missus.”

At the mention of the missus, Mrs. Lane’s smile faded. She sighed and said, “I wonder what the missus’s decision is. Mr. Zachary has lost his appetite because of the missus, and he has thinned down. We feel great pity for him.”

Of course, his mother, Mrs. York, was the one who sympathized with Mr. Zachary the most.

As it was Mr. Zachary’s mistake, Mrs. York could not cause the missus trouble. Also, Old Mrs. York was still around in command.

According to Old Mrs. York, the couple’s conflict should be solved by themselves.

No one should meddle in it unless Zachary asked the elders for help.

“Zachary and Seren are having a hard time. Although Liberty is the one on diet, Seren has lost a few pounds as well.”

Serenity did not let this issue affect her diet. She became slightly thinner probably because she had been pretty preoccupied.

“Ms. Sox and Mr. Bucham must take care of yourselves.”

Jasmine said, “Mrs. Lane, do you think Josh and I are well–matched?”

The Buchams had strict criteria for selecting marriage partners.

“Yes. Both of you are well–matched in appearance.”

Jasmine was speechless.

Ever since her parents and aunt knew that Josh was going after her, they all told her to hurriedly accept his love and not miss the boat.

Even Shawn told Jasmine that Josh was great.

It made Jasmine feel that she would be beaten if she rejected Josh’s love.

Josh put on his coat again. Then, he held the bouquet of flowers and walked in. He walked up to Jasmine and handed the bouquet to her before he said affectionately, “Jasmine, these flowers are for you.”

Jasmine accepted the bouquet. “Thanks.”

“Glad that you like it.”

He then took out a red Tiffany box from his pocket. After opening the box, he handed it to Jasmine. “I thought this charm bracelet suits you, so I bought it.”

He pulled Jasmine’s hand over and put the bracelet on her wrist.

Jasmine did not decline his gift, knowing that she was unable to do so. Josh might be all smiles most of the time and seem more approachable than Zachary, but he was actually domineering.

After receiving such an expensive gift, she had to think about what gift to return him with so that she would *not* owe him.

As the saying goes, “One good turn deserves another.”

Chapter 937 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Jasmine ordered food delivery for Mrs. Lane and passed the store key to her. She said, “Mrs. Lane, you can close the store and go home whenever you want after you have dinner. You can keep the key or pass it to your missus.”

“Missus said that she won’t be available for the next few days. So I’ll come over to help out on her behalf. Let me keep the key.”

Mrs. Lane added with a smile, “Ms. Sox and Mr. Bucham, both of you can go ahead and eat together. I can watch the store.”

Mrs. Lane had helped in the store for quite a long period. She could remember the book prices. Even if she was alone, it would not affect the operation of the store.

Jessica felt at ease when she left with Josh. They headed to Wiltspoon Hotel for dinner.

“How has Zachary been lately?” Jasmine asked concernedly.

While driving, Josh said, "He's busier than ever. He's been working around the clock. like Superman. I could hardly keep up with him. Those working under him have been grumbling, and many of them expect me to advise him.

"Right now, I can't do so. Only Serenity has the ability to do that. But it's been days. since the couple met. Grandma May forbade Zachary to meet Serenity as she wanted the couple to calm down.

"The couple just got to meet today. I wonder how their talk went. After Zachary returned, he did not pour out his problems to me but continued to work hard. At noon, he went to the Stones and cheered up a lot after that.

"Even so, he worked very hard. I think he has lost a few pounds."

Josh tilted his head and took a glimpse of Jasmine. Then, he smiled and said, Jasmine, both of us shouldn't follow in their footsteps. We must continue to be lovey-dovey and trust each other. I won't lie to you, and you mustn't hide anything from me as well."

"Who wants to be lovey-dovey with you? What can I hide from you?"

Josh chuckled. "I think we're now lovey-dovey. Lovey-dovey isn't about saying 'I love you' every day. It's shown through the little details in life."

Jasmine said, "All I see is that you try to butter my parents up whenever you're available. You also treat my brother like your own."

Josh was naturally brilliant and had a glib tongue. Therefore, he was able to coax Jasmine's family into favoring him.

"Because they're your family members, who'll be my family in the future. It's natural to treat my family well."

"How shameless of you. I haven't even promised you anything, yet you've treated my family as yours."

Josh said unabashedly, "One has to be shameless when going after their wives. It was because Zachary cared so much about his dignity that he ended up in this state now."

Jasmine did not know whether to laugh or cry.

"You see Zachary's situation as a cautionary tale, don't you?"

"I'm just stating facts. If Zachary had listened to my advice, he and Serenity wouldn't have ended where they are right now."

Jasmine asked, "Are you very experienced in relationships?"

"No, actually. You're the first and only girl I truly love."

Josh did not get tricked by her question.

Even though he used to have a crush on a female classmate, that was in the past. He could not even recall that classmate's appearance.

Later, he was too busy to get into a relationship.

He did not meet any girls who could capture his heart too.

At first, he did not show interest in Jasmine either. When Zachary and Serenity got married unexpectedly, he helped Zachary investigate Serenity's background. While at it, he figured out Serenity's best friend, Jasmine's background.

Chapter 938 | [Serenity & Zachary]

At that time, Josh did not take Jasmine seriously at all.

It was only until Aunt Rachel stopped setting up blind dates for Jasmine that he started to pay attention to Jasmine during Mrs. Dawson's birthday party. He found Jasmine interesting.

After going on a blind date with Jasmine, he felt that she was his cup of tea. Similar to him, she enjoyed joining in on the fun and gossiping. Coincidentally, he knew a lot of juicy gossip. He could share it with someone who was eager to listen to gossip. Little by little, the thought of marrying Jasmine occurred to him.

"After all, I'm already in my 30s. I have common love knowledge. Furthermore, onlookers see most of the game. I can see things more clearly than Zachary and became his love consultant. Unfortunately, his relationship with Serenity is still a mess despite the help of an excellent love consultant."

Jasmine let out a sigh. "Seren isn't cold-hearted. It was because Zachary concealed his identity and lied to her. After Zachary allowed her to stay in her sister's house, her anger is slowly subsiding.

"Seren's current worry is that there's a huge gap between Zachary and her in reality. She's suffering from psychological stress because of Zachary and her future. Casting Seren aside, there's a huge gap between our lives too. Having said that, my condition is much better than Seren's."

Jasmine had several apartments for rent and half a row of shop lots. If she sold them off, her assets would amount to over 100 million dollars based on the current market prices.

Of course, she could not compare with the Buchams. Josh's parents had a few companies. Although they paled in comparison with Julian's family, they were a wealthy family that kept a low profile. Josh did not want to take over his parents' company and went to York Corporation to realize his potential instead.

"We're well-matched. There's no gap between us at all."

Jasmine glanced at him before she smiled and said, "I don't feel inferior, nor do I think I'm unqualified to be with you."

As a local of Wiltspoon, Jasmine's father built wealth through opportune property investments. Since young, Jasmine had been living a rich life. As much as she disliked marrying into a wealthy family, she would not think that she was unqualified.

To her, there was a lot of adversity to jostle through in wealthy families. Her aunt, for example, suffered a lot after marrying Mr. Lowe.

Jasmine wanted to find a Wiltspoon local who had a stable job and several buildings for rent like her so that they were well-matched. After she got married, she would discuss who would collect the rent the next day with her partner. That would be their common topic.

“Seren isn’t inferior. She’s just too rational.”

Serenity had to step into the circle that she had never wanted to. That was way too stressful for her.

Josh understood her circumstances.

As the two of them were talking about relationships, they soon arrived at Wiltspoon Hotel.

Josh did not go into the basement parking lot. Instead, he parked in front of the hotel.

Just as Jasmine wanted to get out of the car, Josh reminded her, “The bouquet I gave to you.”

“Why should I bring the bouquet along for dinner?”

While mumbling, Jasmine got out of the car with the bouquet nevertheless.

Then, Josh spontaneously held her hand and brought her to the hotel.

“Josh?”

A high-pitched female voice rang out. It was familiar to Josh but strange to Jasmine.

“Hurry up.”

Josh pulled Jasmine to quicken her pace.

While being pulled away, Jasmine turned around and saw a beautiful middle-aged woman rushing over in high heels.

She looked like Josh, or rather, Josh looked like that beautiful middle-aged woman.

Chapter 939 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“Josh!”

After Mrs. Bucham called her son, she saw that he was pulling a young girl to hurry inside to shy away from her.

Mrs. Bucham could not help but scurry forward. She caught up with them shortly and stopped in front of Josh.

“Josh, you brat. Didn’t you hear me calling you?”

Mrs. Bucham gave him the piece of her mind first. When she turned her gaze to Jasmine, she wore a smile and said to Jasmine, “Young lady, don’t be intimidated. I had to tell Josh off. How dare he turn a deaf ear to his mother’s words and run away when his mother was calling him!”

“Mom.”

Never in his wildest dreams did he think that he would bump into his mother here.

Mrs. Bucham checked Jasmine out from head to toe and saw her holding a bouquet of flowers. Even though Josh had let go of Jasmine’s hand, Mrs. Bucham clearly saw her son holding Jasmine’s hand just now.

Giving flowers and holding hands were daily acts of a couple.

When did that brat get into a relationship? He did not even let his family know.

After Jasmine was sure that the beautiful middle-aged woman was Josh's mother, she openly addressed the woman "Mrs. Bucham".

Mrs. Bucham acknowledged Jasmine's greeting with a grin. After that, she shoved into the space between the pair to stand beside Jasmine. She affably pulled Jasmine's hand which was not holding the bouquet. "Young lady, what's your name? Are you Josh's girlfriend?"

Unexpectedly, Jasmine was already meeting his parents.

If she claimed that she was not Josh's girlfriend, Mrs. Bucham probably would not believe it.

She shot a look at Josh before introducing herself. "Mrs. Bucham, my name is Jasmine Sox. I'm a female friend of Josh."

"A female friend is known as a girlfriend. That means you're Josh's girlfriend. Jasmine Sox sounds familiar to me. Have we met before?"

Mrs. Bucham cordially pulled Jasmine and walked together.

Jasmine answered honestly, "I've never seen you before. You've heard of my name probably because of the spread of my embarrassing experience. Several months ago, I attended Mrs. Dawson's birthday party with my aunt, Mrs. Lowe. I drank a lot that night, and I lay on the floor sleeping. That embarrassing incident has probably spread all over in your circle."

Mrs. Bucham burst into laughter before she said, "It was you, huh? No wonder your name sounds familiar. You're Mrs. Lowe's niece. Mrs. Lowe always brings you along to attend social gatherings. I believe we've met in some gatherings, but we just didn't speak or greet each other."

The Bucham women had always kept a low profile. Even if they made an appearance in social gatherings, they would hardly socialize with others. All they did was have a quick talk with the organizers of the gatherings. They would then sit down in a corner and take their leave after meals.

Even so, this did not mean that they were unclear about the happenings in the upper class.

As Jasmine said, the incident of her lying on the floor had spread all over high society.

"When did you get into a relationship with Josh? He didn't mention anything about it when he got home. Apparently, it's been a long while since he last returned home."

Mrs. Bucham wondered for how long her son was planning to hide it from her if she had not bumped into him and Jasmine here.

He did not even let his family know about the girl he was interested in.

Josh walked with them and explained, "Mom, Jasmine has just told you that she's my female friend. If I'd told you about it, you would bring a bunch of people over. What if Jasmine got a fright and refused to meet me anymore?"

Mrs. Bucham understood that her son had not won Jasmine's heart, but that was fine. Since her son was interested in Jasmine, Jasmine would be within his grasp.

Mrs. Bucham said with a smirk, "Don't listen to Josh's exaggeration. We're very easygoing and won't make things difficult for youngsters. Jasmine, come and drop by my house with Josh whenever you're free."

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Jasmine smiled and replied, "I'm afraid I'll disturb you."

"No worries. I enjoy having you around, in fact."

Mrs. Bucham brought Jasmine upstairs as if she knew in which room Josh was going to have a meal. Once they entered the room, it happened to be the private room that Josh had reserved.

After being seated, Mrs. Bucham took off her fine charm bracelet. Then, she lifted Jasmine's hand with the bracelet that Josh gave to Jasmine, and she removed that bracelet.

After that, Mrs. Bucham put her bracelet on Jasmine's wrist and said, "Jasmine, this is our first time meeting. I didn't prepare anything, so I'll give you my bracelet as a gift. That bracelet was given by Josh, right? The fineness of this charm bracelet is better."

Jasmine was born into a wealthy family and had a wealthy aunt. Therefore, she had come across all kinds of jewelry and could determine the value of the jewelry.

The bracelet Josh gave her was quite costly. It was estimated to be worth a hundred thousand dollars.

As for the charm bracelet that Mrs. Bucham gave to her, its elegance was better than Josh's gift. It looked clear and beautiful. No doubt, it was a high-grade bracelet.

It was certainly valuable.

Jasmine did not dare accept such a precious gift. She wanted to take the bracelet off and return it to Mrs. Bucham, but Mrs. Bucham stopped her.

"Jasmine, do you think my gift isn't valuable enough? You must accept it. If you don't, it means that you think it's not valuable enough."

Jasmine responded helplessly, "Mrs. Bucham, this is too precious."

"It's not. It might seem precious, but it's just a bit more costly than the bracelet Josh gave you."

Mrs. Bucham insisted on giving Jasmine the bracelet as a gift. Jasmine turned her eyes to Josh, seemingly asking for help.

However, Josh gazed at her smilingly. After noticing her imploring look, he laughed and said, "Jasmine, since my mom has given the bracelet to you, you should just accept it. You're the only person who deserves to wear it."

The bracelet was one of the Buchams' heirlooms.

The bracelet that Mrs. Bucham wore was not as precious as the one worn by the wife of the head of the Buchams. Anyway, Mrs. Bucham's bracelet was a lot more precious than Josh's present.

The head of Buchams' wife said that she wanted to pass her heirloom to her eldest daughter-in-law. However, her son was still single. She was worried no one would inherit the heirloom.

Mrs. Bucham heard that from the head of Buchams' wife. She did say she would pass the bracelet to her eldest daughter-in-law too.

Now that Mrs. Bucham had given the bracelet to Jasmine, it meant that she acknowledged Jasmine as her daughter-in-law.

Sure enough, Mrs. Bucham was Josh's mother. She behaved in the same way as he did, or rather, his behavior resembled his mother's.

Mrs. Bucham put Josh's bracelet on Jasmine's other hand.

Jasmine was at a loss for words.

Given that she was unable to reject Mrs. Bucham, she readily accepted it.

"Thank you, Mrs. Bucham."

Mrs. Bucham laughed and said, "You're welcome. I'm very fond of you. By the way, are your parents available? I'll let Josh's dad know that I'm going to ask your parents out for a meal."

Jasmine thought, 'Is this going to be the occasion where both our parents meet?'

It finally hit her why Josh was not in a hurry to let his family know that he was pursuing her.

Indeed, Josh's family was eager.