

Chasing After My Beloved Wife by M. Fei Chapter 15

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Everyone was preparing to have breakfast downstairs. Seeing that Joye had not come down, Baird couldn't help but glare at Shawn beside him.

"Where's Joye? Why isn't she coming down for breakfast? Get her now."

"Dad, she wants to sleep in. Why must you ask Shawn to wake her up?"

As she spoke, Xaria glanced at the servant and signaled for the servant to call Joye down. However, Baird stopped the servant, "He sinned, so he should do it instead."

Shawn stood up indifferently and went up to the second floor.

Walking to the door, he took out an exquisitely packaged pill from his pocket. He had lost control last night and had accidentally left his seed in her.

His hand froze on the handle of the door momentarily as he stared at the pill in his other hand. After a few seconds of hesitation, he stuffed it back into his pocket.

As soon as Joye came out of the dressing room, the door was pushed open from the outside. She thought it was a servant and didn't expect to see Shawn leisurely leaning against the door frame.

In an instant, her eyes turned cold.

It seemed that what had happened a night ago meant nothing to him.

"Don't look at me like that. I'm just here to call you down for breakfast."

He spoke casually before heading downstairs in his indoor slippers.

After tidying herself up, she went downstairs and into the dining area. When Baird saw her, he immediately smiled brightly.

"What time did you come home last night? Did you sleep well?"

Although the funeral was grand, he knew he could never make up for the loss she had suffered.

"She slept well."

Shawn raised his head and answered after taking a sip of his soup. The corners of his mouth lifted, causing Joye to clench her fists under the table.

"That's good to know. Sometimes, sleeping makes things easier," Baird said with a smile.

Joye knew that he was referring to her family, but she couldn't help but remember the scene in the bathroom from the night before.

"Grandpa, Leonard Group has been busy, so I rented an apartment next to the company. I am planning to move in today, so I don't have to spend so much time traveling. Is that okay?"

She couldn't act as nothing had happened like Shawn nor face him. She was afraid events from the previous night would happen again. She didn't want to be physically involved with him. She was afraid that she would fall for him again.

"Are you saying you want to move out?"

Baird put down the utensils in his hands, and the air suddenly became heavy and silent. Everyone in the family knew that Baird wanted the whole family to live together as he liked the liveliness of being together.

Baird sighed before saying, "I see where you are coming from. It's better to use your time wisely than to waste it away."

Baird glared at Shawn as he spoke before returning to his loving self.

"Go ahead and move. But I'm worried you won't have anything to eat. Why not have Sherry move in with you? She could clean the house and fix your meals."

No one said anything.

Xaria was so mad that she was trembling. She didn't expect Baird to agree so readily and even arrange a maid for Joye.

When she married into the family and suggested moving out with Maisie, Baird pulled a long face and told her, "Over my dead body."

How did Joye make Baird dote on her so much?

"Do you all have any objections?"

Baird's sharp gaze swept across the crowd before landing on Shawn's face. It was apparent that he was warming Shawn, forcing him to speak or he would have to suffer the consequences.

"Whatever. I still have something to do. I'm leaving now."

After putting down the half-eaten food, Shawn stood up and raised his eyebrows as he looked at Joye. There was a touch of anger in his expression.

"B*stard!" Baird scolded.

Seeing that Shawn was indeed leaving, Baird snorted with di

satisfaction, but he quickly went soft again. "Joye, I know you need some time to readjust. Don't worry about living outside. I'll support you."

"Thank you, Grandpa."

Joye knew that Baird had always doted on her since she married into the family. But the more affectionate he was, the more uncomfortable she felt.

After having some of the breakfast, she went upstairs to pack her things. Before she could fill her luggage, Xaria's unpleasant voice sounded from the opened door.

"Joye, don't think you can do whatever you want just because Dad dotes on you!"

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“What do you mean?”

Joye put aside the clothes in her hand and frowned at the woman who barged in without an invitation. In the past, because of her love for Shawn, she had always been respectful and tolerant of Xaria, but it didn't mean that she would continue letting Xaria insult her.

"What do you mean? What did Shawn do wrong? Your parents' and younger sister's deaths are an accident. It's their fate. This has nothing to do with Shawn. But you took advantage of Baird's love for you and guilt-tripped him. Not only did you steal the Richard family's shares, but you asked for a divorce and moved out. Are you trying to humiliate Shawn?"

Xaria's gaze was full of dissatisfaction, her tone harsh and aggressive.

Having a daughter-in-law like her was such bad luck.

"You'd better watch your language," Joye warned Xaria.

Joye's eyes were filled with anger as she glared at Xaria. "If Shawn hadn't taken revenge on the Leonard Group, my family wouldn't have ended up this way!"

"That's because you brought the reporters to the hotel to embarrass Shawn! Joye, if you want to find the culprit, look into the mirror. Don't slander my son."

Xaria rolled her eyes in disgust and Joye's anger immediately dissipated. Her lips turned pale and she couldn't say a word.

Xaria was right. It was her fault. She was the culprit. If she hadn't married Shawn in the first place, none of these would have happened.

"Aren't you going to say anything? Do you realize that you're in the wrong now? Didn't you want to divorce him and leave this house? Fine, but you have to leave behind all the shares that Baird gave you. The Richard family doesn't need you anyway."

If it hadn't been for the fact that Baird had arranged for an engagement with the Leonard family from the time she was pregnant Shawn and later insisted on him marrying Joye, she wouldn't have allowed her son to marry this woman.

"Speaking of which, you want the shares, don't you?"

The sharp voice made Joye snap out of the self-blame and pain she was feeling. A sneer appeared on her pale face. "Sorry, I respect Baird's choice."

Even if she didn't want the Richard family's shares, she wasn't stupid enough to return them, because the shares were not only money but also the only thing that could help the Leonard Group get through this crisis.

"Ha!"

Xaria was stunned for a moment but then said coldly, "It seems that Miss. Leonard always pretended to be noble and virtuous. She has actually been calculating ways to get the shares of the Richard family from the start!"

More than half of the Richard family's shares were in Baird's hands. Originally, the shares would be split after he died. No one had expected that he would transfer all his shares to Joye because three people in her family died.

It was ridiculous!

"Aren't you the same?"

The corners of Joye's mouth curled up slightly. Although her face was pale, her eyes were full of pride. Her parents and sister were gone, but she was still the eldest daughter of the Leonard family.

"You!"

Xaria was exasperated to the point of madness. She raised her hand and was about to slap her, but was stopped by someone. "Xaria, Baird wants to see you."

Joye looked at the newcomer calmly and proceeded to pack her luggage.

"Yvon, you came right on time." Xaria snorted and turned to leave with a meaningful look on her face.

"Did I interrupt you two?" Yvon awkwardly stood there. When Xaria was going to slap her, Joye had already reached out her hand to stop Xaria, but Yvon was faster.

"No, thank you for what you did just now."

Joye looked up with a sincere and grateful smile. Any woman would want someone to protect her, even a little help would suffice.

She had hoped countless times for Shawn to become that person, but it was clear that she was wrong.

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Yvon's signature smile appeared, but then he immediately frowned. "I just came back and heard from the servants that you are going to move out? Is that true?"

Joye replied affirmatively. Time would pass quickly if she didn't see Shawn. A month later, she would be a free bird after the divorce procedures were completed.

"Since you have decided to move out, I support you. I happened to drive here. Pack up, I will send you to your new place."

Yvon's smile was gentle. He behaved like a gentleman. If it wasn't for his uniform reminding her of his identity, it was hard to imagine that the warm man in front of her was a heroic big shot.

Joye wanted to refuse, but she looked into his sincere eyes and agreed instead. "Sorry for troubling you."

After packing up her luggage, Yvon helped to carry it to the car. Baird did not want her to leave, but he patted her hand with a smile and told her, "Be careful when you're living alone out there. Also, remember to visit Grandpa sometimes."

Joye nodded hard, and her eyes couldn't help but tear up a little. Even if there was one day when she had nothing to do with Shawn anymore, she would always cherish Baird's kindness and try her best to be filial to him.

The luggage was put into the trunk, and the car started. Her eyes unconsciously swept through the crowd, but she did not see that familiar figure.

"Let's go."

She quickly withdrew her gaze and nodded in agreement.

The car started slowly and soon they reached the highway. Then, Yvon said, "When I came back, I saw Shawn driving away. It seems that he has something urgent to deal with."

"Really? He has nothing to do with me."

Joye's hand froze and she turned to look out of the window with a smile. She knew him well. He would not stay and see her off.

"Let's listen to some music. There are a lot of new catchy songs lately."

As he spoke, he pressed play on the radio, but his hand that was holding the steering wheel tightened. It was true that he met Shawn just now, but Shawn didn't rush out.

They were listening to a happy song, but Joye didn't feel happy at all. On the contrary, she felt more and more depressed as if her heart was locked inside a cage. It looked like she had broken free, but she felt empty.

After 20 minutes, the car finally stopped downstairs of her rented apartment. She unfastened her seat belt, got out of the car, and went to the trunk to get her luggage, but was still one step behind Yvon.

"It's pretty heavy. Let me help you."

"All right then."

Taking the elevator upstairs, Joye thought that he would leave after putting down her suitcase. She didn't expect Yvon to stay and help clean up the house all afternoon.

The messy house soon became neat and tidy, even the dusty floor was mopped clean.

"Is cleaning part of your training?"

Looking at the clean apartment, Joye felt much more relaxed and couldn't help joking with the sweaty Yvon.

"Every minute and second of a soldier are a drill."

Yvon raised his head and took the towel she handed him to wipe the sweat from his forehead. He looked around with satisfaction and smiled. "I passed."

"You've helped me so much. To express my gratitude, let me treat you to dinner."

Joye never liked to owe others favors, let alone the Richard family.

Seeing that she insisted, Yvon didn't refuse. They locked the door and took the elevator downstairs.

"I'm not familiar with the restaurants nearby. Let's just pick one."

After reaching a restaurant with the most cars parked in front, the two of them walked in, side by side. Joye sat down near the window. The waiter handed them the menu and asked enthusiastically, "What would you like to eat?"

"Shawn, we haven't been here for a long time. For the past three years, I've been thinking about the food in this restaurant every day."

An elegant and pleasant voice came from the door. Joye was about to order when she raised her head and looked towards the door in reflex. She saw Shawn walking in with a woman holding his arm.

The beige suit she wore was sweet and elegant. It wrapped around her exquisite figure and revealed her long legs. Her long silky hair gave a casual and sexy vibe. She had an indescribable charm.

With those perfect facial features, a faint smile on her lips could charm every human being on the planet.

The woman's outstanding appearance and temperament startled Joye. This was Vivian!

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She was Shawn's girlfriend from college, the woman he truly loved.

Shawn had always been sensitive. In addition, Joye was sitting in a conspicuous position, so he saw her as soon as they entered the restaurant. His unruly eyes swept across Yvon's face, and a frown appeared on his face.

He looked away and lowered his head while pinching the hand holding his arm. "You don't have to think about it anymore. As long as you want to, I'll come with you every day."

His gentle voice was accompanied by a doting gaze as he pretended not to see Joye.

"Yvon, how nice to see you here. What a coincidence."

"Vivian, what a coincidence. We haven't seen each other for years."

Only then did Yvon recognize who the woman in front of him was. Surprise flashed across his eyes. Didn't she go abroad a few years ago? Why was she beside Shawn now?

He didn't have time to figure out the answer to his confusion. He subconsciously looked at Joye, who was sitting opposite him, but he couldn't do anything about the awkward atmosphere.

Joye's face darkened when she saw her ex-husband's ex-girlfriend. The one he had always been in love with. She put down the menu in her hand and was about to get up to dine in another restaurant. Suddenly, the person who should've kept silent spoke.

"Yvon, is this your girlfriend? She's so beautiful. You two make a perfect match."

Then, she reached out her hand to Joye with a smile. Her clean fingernails were painted a baby pink color, while the perfect smile on her face expressed one thing.

Her smile said, I don't know who you are. So, let's get to know each other now.

Shawn furrowed his brows as the atmosphere became weird.

"You've misunderstood. She's not my girlfriend. She's..."

Yvon wanted to reveal Joye's identity, but she stopped him with a smile. "Miss. Hilary, you've misunderstood us. I am just a friend of Yvon's."

Shawn's lips parted a little. His gaze was filled with danger. Unexpectedly, she did not use her status as Mrs. Richard to pressure others today.

"I'm sorry, I might have said something wrong, but I really thought you two were a couple. You guys look good together. Shawn, am I right?"

After saying that, Vivian turned to look at the man beside her with a faint but happy smile.

Shawn's smile carried an ambiguous meaning. "It's not easy for the men of the Richard family to find a perfect match. Women who hooked up with other men before they get divorced are not a match for us."

Joye's face turned pale when she heard that. He was now accusing her of hooking up with a man without getting a divorce?

Shawn flirted with women of all kinds every night in bed. And what did she say?

"Miss, I'm sorry. This is how Shawn speaks sometimes. He is not considerate enough. Please don't mind him."

Vivian took the initiative to apologize and gently pinched Shawn's arm. This simple action made Joye's heart ache. What she had longed for the most in a relationship was to hold his arm and pinched it like a spoiled child.

"Joye, shall we try the Japanese restaurant next to this one?"

Before she could answer, Shawn sat down beside him with a smile and said, "Yvon, what kind of Japanese food are you eating? It's fate that we met at this restaurant, so why don't we eat together? Who's paying the bills, you or your friend? You wouldn't mind paying for two more meals, right?"

"Shawn?"

Yvon furrowed his eyebrows. It was one thing to hide Joye's identity from Vivian, but what was Shawn thinking? Did he want to embarrass Joye?

"I don't mind. Excuse me, we need two more sets of cutleries please."

Joye said to a waiter calmly, with a smile, but under the table, her fingernails had dug deep into her palm. She couldn't be a coward in front of Shawn, nor could she retreat from the woman he loved.

She had to take her stand!

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Shawn seemed to have expected that she would say that. He took the menu from the table and smiled. "Thank you. Oh, right, I suggest you buy more stocks of the Richard Group. That way, you can afford this meal."

Joye knew that he was mocking her for accepting Baird's shares. She clenched her fists tightly but managed to hold back her anger.

"Give me one of your most expensive specialties."

After glancing at the menu a few times, he impatiently handed it to the waiter beside him. The smile on Vivian's lips froze for a moment before it slowly recovered.

After the meal, Joye felt she had gone too far this time. When she was paying the bill, she couldn't help but frown when she saw the numbers on it.

She couldn't sell any of the Richard Group stock, but this meal was worth a lot of money.

The four of them walked out of the restaurant in pairs. In front of them, Shawn was holding Vivian, and his eyes were doting as he looked at her. "How was the meal?"

When Vivian was about to answer, he suddenly touched her lips. "Look at you, your lipstick is ruined." As he spoke, he gently rubbed her lips with his fingers.

"Shawn, stop fooling around. Yvon is watching."

Vivian avoided him and blushed. Joye was walking behind them, so she could watch as her so-called husband flirted with another woman.

"I'll send you back."

Suddenly, she felt someone else's warmth and strength. She turned her head and saw Yvon looking at her with a smile.

Shawn happened to turn his head and his eyes narrowed when he saw Yvon holding Joye's hand.

"Okay."

Joye smirked. This was a good moment for her to take revenge! Even if it was a little one.

They got into their cars and drove off. Once the familiar car plate number could no longer be seen in the rearview mirror, the smile on her lips disappeared. Yvon slowed down the car and opened the window so that she could take a breather.

"You know Vivian, don't you?"

Just now, he noticed her gaze when she saw Vivian.

"Of course. If she hadn't gone abroad and left Shawn back then, I wouldn't have enjoyed the glory of being Mrs. Richard for three years."

A self-deprecating smile appeared on her face. If it wasn't for the fact that Shawn had broken up with Vivian, no matter how persistent Baird was, she wouldn't have become Mrs. Richard so easily.

"Let's not talk about this. I wanted to treat you to a good meal to return the favor. Now it seems that I owe you another one."

He looked at Yvon apologetically. What he did just now was very disrespectful.

"Then find some other time to treat me to a meal."

Yvon smiled and parked the car on the side of the road. He bent down and opened the door for her. "Do you remember this place? Do you want to go and get some fresh air?"

Joye followed his gaze. This was the riverside where she vented her pain after realizing that her family was dead, and he thought she wanted to commit suicide and had saved her.

"That's a good idea."

She got out of the car and held the guardrail by the river. The salty wind blew on her face. Although it was not pleasant to smell, her mind was much clearer.

Yvon didn't get out of the car. He simply sat quietly in the car and looked at her slender figure. The setting sun shone on her, making her forlorn figure look even more beautiful.

His suppressed emotions exploded, and there was determination in his eyes

Joye, if you and Shawn are separated, I hope to be the person who can protect you and not make you sad.

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The Man She Loved Never Loved Her

After an hour of enjoying the cold wind blowing at her face, Joye went back to the apartment and took a warm shower. She slept comfortably until dawn, got up, turned on the TV, and went to the bathroom to brush her teeth and wash her face.

"The president of the Richard Group and a mysterious woman returned to his villa in the middle of the night. It was seen that he took great care of her. This mysterious woman has grasped Mr. Richard's heart entirely."

Joye's hand, which was holding an electric toothbrush, froze as she was going to insert it into her mouth. It was not until her lips were stung by it that she came to her senses and emerged from her suffocating feelings.

She turned around and saw on television, Shawn and Vivian getting out of the car. They walked hand in hand to the entrance of a three-story villa. She coquettishly kissed him on the cheek, and he responded with a deep and passionate kiss.

What a wonderful scene. If the man wasn't Shawn, she would be smiling happily and waiting for more exciting scenes to be exposed.

"This reporter stayed outside for an entire night. Mr. Richard and the mysterious woman didn't come out after entering the villa. I wonder how Mrs. Richard would feel while staying all alone in the mansion?"

The reporter's fake concern was like a knife stabbing into her heart again and again. She felt a sharp pain in her chest.

Last night, her husband slept with another woman! What should she feel?

This wasn't the first time this kind of thing had happened. She thought that she was used to it, but when she saw Vivian's face, she couldn't calm down at all. In the past, she was only angry. She was proud and confident. Those women in the past weren't worth mentioning, and they couldn't snatch her position as Mrs. Richard.

However, Vivian's appearance was like a fierce slap to her face. She suddenly understood that it didn't matter whether someone could steal her position of Mrs. Richard or not. The man she loved never loved her back!

"Young Madam, are you up? Breakfast is ready."

The sound of knocking on the door and Sherry's gentle voice forced the bitterness on her face to disappear quickly.

She spat out the foam in her mouth and washed her face with cold water. Only then did her pale face regain some color. Looking at herself in the mirror, she calmed down by taking a deep breath.

Joye, you just have a month to go before you divorce Shawn. What's the difference between another woman and Vivian?

“Young Madam?”

Sherry couldn't hear an answer, so she couldn't help raising her voice. Only then did Joye respond.

“I'll be downstairs in a minute.”

After washing up, Joye chose a black suit and put it on. Her long hair was tied into a simple ponytail. She looked calm but not dull. She spun in front of the mirror and maintained a professional smile.

“Joye, from today onwards, you have to take on the heavy burden of the Leonard Group, even if that means you have to be unscrupulous!”

After breakfast, as soon as Joye picked up her handbag, Sherry handed her a pink and still warm thermos. She was stunned for a moment before she took it with a smile.

“Young Madam, this is Baird's order. He said that you can't eat too much takeout. He told me to make porridge and some light dishes that you can keep warm. It will still be hot at noon.”

“Thank you, Sherry.” Her heart became warmer because of the weight in her hand. Sherry just smiled lovingly and saw her out.

As soon as she arrived at the company, the secretary knocked on the door and came in with bad news “Miss, the stock price dropped again today.”

On the day the president, his wife, and their younger daughter died, the Leonard Group's stock fell drastically. It had been several days, and the original trend should have been eased. Unexpectedly, it dropped again.

Joye opened her financial app and saw that the horizontal line did not budge. It made her frown. In just a few days, the stock price of the Leonard Group had dropped by 40%. The fall this morning had something to do with the scandal regarding Shawn last night.

If she could not make the investors trust her, the Leonard Group stock price would continue to drop wildly.

“Prepare a car. I'm visiting the Richard Group.”