

Although the steak had already turned cold, it was the type of steak where the taste would not affect as a result of the temperature.

Shane handed a napkin over to Natalie.

Just as she reached out to receive it, his phone rang.

"Sorry, let me get this call," he said, quickly pushing the napkin into her hand before taking out his phone.

Noticing that it was from Jackson, he frowned before answering it. "Hello?"

"Shane, bad news. Something's happened to Jacqueline," Jackson said anxiously.

Shane abruptly tightened his grip on the napkin in his hand. "What did you say? Speak clearly. What happened to Jacqueline?"

Hearing him mention Jacqueline, Natalie froze as she looked at Shane. "What happened to Ms. Graham?" she asked.

However, he did not answer her question and instead waited silently for Jackson's reply.

At that moment, Jackson was wearing a sterile suit while walking to the emergency room.

He hurriedly replied, "She drank alcohol and vomited blood. She was on the brink of death when the nurse found her. She's now in the emergency room."

"She drank?" Shane asked, gritting his teeth. "Why did she drink?"

"Why else?" There was a flash of ridicule in Jackson's gaze as he replied, "Because you got married today!"

Shane was left speechless at that.

Two seconds later, he closed his eyes. When he reopened them again, there was a deep, faraway look in his eyes, as if he had decided on something. He then stood up from his chair.

At once, Natalie realized what he was doing and asked in a sharp tone, "Are you going to the hospital?"

He was not the least bit surprised that she guessed his thoughts. Gripping his phone tighter, he said, "Jacqueline's in the emergency room. I'm going to visit her."

"Can you not go?" Natalie asked, clenching her fists as she looked at him.

Shane frowned slightly. "I'm sorry. But I have to go. Otherwise, I won't be at ease."

"We just got married today," she replied, standing up as well.

Hearing her words, his frown let up, and there was a trace of apology in his gaze. "I know. But I'll be back soon."

Natalie did not reply after that. Her eyes were downcast as she pondered about something.

A few seconds later, she took in a deep breath and looked him in the eye. "I know that no matter what I say, you're going to go anyway. Fine, go then. I won't stop you. But only for this time."

"Huh?" Shane's eyes widened slightly.

She gave him a slight smile and explained, "I heard the call just now. Ms. Graham drank and got sent to the emergency room because she heard the news of our marriage. But if she does the same thing the next time she hears that we have a child or when we go on a date, are you going to abandon me and go see her every time?"

Her words stunned him. It was only then that he realized that he had been too impulsive for deciding to rush over as soon as he heard of Jacqueline's accident.

He reached out and pulled her into a reassuring hug. He said, "No, I'll explain it clearly to her so that she won't do this again next time."

"I only hope she listens to you," Natalie said with a sneer.

Natalie did not believe that Jacqueline would not pull the same trick again the next time.

Jacqueline had said that she would give the couple her blessings, but as soon as she heard that they were married, she got herself into the emergency room. She was the only person who would know whether her actions were really from actual sadness or she was out to ruin

the couple's wedding night.

"Okay, go on then. Come back soon." Natalie sighed lightly and pulled away from the hug. Shane looked at her before he pressed a kiss to her forehead. Subsequently, he picked up his coat and left the dining room.

She followed after him, walking him out and watching him drive off before she returned inside alone.

The place was empty and quiet. Despite the festive decorations, Natalie did not feel any warmth and instead felt somewhat cold. Her good mood had all but disappeared.

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Rubbing her arms, Natalie walked back to the dining room and sat down again. Her smile was wry as she stared at the untouched food. "A husband leaves his wife to meet another woman on their wedding night. What kind of nonsensical situation is this?"

Picking up the knife and fork, she proceeded to prod at the steak weakly.

She could understand why Shane went to see Jacqueline. After all, they grew up together, so it would only make him look bad if he did not go.

Nonetheless, she still felt upset. It was her wedding night, and no one expected it to turn out that way.

She finished the steak bitterly, then brought the plate to the kitchen to wash.

Afterward, she went back to her room to take a shower before lying down on the bed. She was going to draw out some blueprints while she waited for Shane to return.

Natalie was already yawning by one o'clock in the morning, yet Shane was still not home. As a result, she felt irritated.

"Didn't he say that he'd be back soon? It's already been about five hours," she muttered to herself. At the same time, she took out her phone and called Shane, intending to ask when he would return.

However, she soon found out that his phone was turned off.

Feeling helpless, she put down the phone and massaged her temples before pulling the sheets over herself. She stared at the ceiling in a daze, wondering what he was doing at that moment.

Before long, her vision gradually blurred, and she fell asleep.

Shortly afterward, the sound of an engine came from outside the villa.

The room door was pushed open after that. A figure walked in, the moonlight casting a tall shadow on the ground. Without turning on the light, he headed straight for the bed.

Standing by the bedside, he looked at the sleeping woman before bending over to kiss her on the cheek. Then, he walked into the bathroom.

When Natalie woke up the next day, she felt an arm around her waist, hugging her tightly. She froze for a moment, and when it clicked in her brain, she turned to her side.

She saw that Shane was sleeping soundly beside her. Widening her eyes, she said, "He actually came back!"

She had not managed to catch him before she fell asleep.

She even thought that he would not return. However, he did in the end, although she did not know when he returned.

Looking at his frown and the faint dark circles under his eyes, she knew that he was exhausted. Otherwise, it would have been impossible for him to sleep so soundly.

Usually, even if she only moved a little, he would wake up instantly.

Who knows what he did for Jacqueline last night that made him this exhausted.

A wave of jealousy surged within Natalie at that thought.

After all, it would be strange if she felt happy to see her husband busily taking care of another woman.

She could not wait to wake him up and make him explain everything that had happened the previous night.

However, seeing how tired he was, she could not bring herself to do it in the end.

Natalie gave a faint sigh before removing his arm that was wrapped around her waist. Afterward, she got out of bed and tiptoed to the bathroom to wash up before changing her clothes and leaving the room.

When she went downstairs, she saw that Mrs. Wilson was already. The older woman was cleaning the coffee table with a rag and removing the living room decorations when she heard footsteps. "You're awake, Madam."

Natalie was not used to being called "Madam." Although she had already seen it written on the note the previous night, it was very different from actually hearing the word.

Therefore, at that moment, she felt a little awkward and embarrassed. However, she still nodded in acceptance. "Morning, Mrs. Wilson."

After all, she had married Shane and was indeed a madam of the Thompson family.

"Good morning, Madam," Mrs. Wilson said, wiping her hands on her apron. Then, she looked behind Natalie and asked, "Is Sir not awake yet?"

Natalie shook her head. "No. He's still sleeping."