

Gu Lingfei 1161

Chapter 1161 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Zachary consoled his wife, "Don't read too much into it. I believe things will only get better for your sister."

After much thought, Serenity uttered, "That's true. I don't see sparks going on between my sister and Mr. Lewis. I guess whatever happens, happens. As you said, Mr. Lewis is his own person. He takes control of his own life' I trust he'll make my sister happy if he sees her that way."

"Yeah, whatever happens, happens. We don't want to get ahead of ourselves."

Zachary grabbed her a fresh set of clothes. "Go and take a bath."

Serenity took the clothes and kissed him on the face before going into the bathroom.

Half an hour later, the couple lay in bed, chatting about their day.

"Honey, when are you coming with me to social events?" Zachary asked.

"When do you need a plus-one for social engagements?"

Serenity believed the trial runs with her aunt at social parties had built up her confidence. Well, she also had Zachary to thank as he had given her a lot of support too.

It would not be much of a problem to accompany him to business dinners now.

At least, she would not freeze up during the social interaction. She could walk like a lady in heels.

With Aunt Audrey taking Serenity under her wing, Serenity learned everything she needed to know. Aunt Audrey was forthcoming with her knowledge.

Elisa could not be bothered with the whole nine yards in social etiquette, but so long as she was willing to learn, Aunt Audrey was more than ready to pass down decades of experience to her.

Mrs. Stone hoped her nieces could become strong and independent women.

Elisa was born into privilege where her father and brothers had her back all the way. It did not matter if she became strong or independent because no one would step on her toes. Nevertheless, Mrs. Stone's nieces were a different story. These girls had to secure their footing in society to earn respect from others.

"I have deals to close every day. We're occupied with our own things during the day, so I won't take up your time then. I'll take you to evening social engagements that I find right for you."

Some venues where men talked business were not proper for women.

Zachary did not want to take his wife to these places.

"Alright. Tell me when you need me. It's time I carry out my duties as Mrs. York."

With a smile, Zachary lowered his head and kissed her lips before dotingly saying, "I'm sure my wife will pass with flying colors. Have a rest, honey."

Pulling Serenity into his arms, Zachary gave her a tight squeeze and let go of her. He tenderly uttered, "I won't touch you tonight. You can enjoy a nice sleep. No need to tense up."

Zachary practiced self-restraint when it came to the couple's intimacy. He would not go too far.

Last night was the only time he got carried away.

He must have scared her.

Heaving a sigh of relief in secret, Serenity sweetly mewed, "Goodnight, babe."

Zachary brushed his lips against her forehead. "Goodnight, honey. Sweet dreams."

Serenity smiled.

Since the day the couple kissed and made up, Serenity's reality was as sweet as her dreams.

The following day, Duncan went downstairs to find his best friend wearing an apron and making breakfast in the kitchen. That was a real eye-opener for Duncan.

He teased Zachary, "Zachary, you always boast to Josh and me about having a wife, saying that married men are different because your wife cooks for you every day. You come home to a warm home after a hard day of work.

"Well, it can also be quite the opposite."

Zachary turned around and gave Duncan a look before going back to searing his steak.

Chapter 1162 | [Serenity & Zachary]

"Married men are different. You cook for yourself, but I'm cooking for me and my wife. It's sheer happiness to watch my wife eat my food. It's the type of happiness you single people will not understand.

"Even a nice lobster won't taste as good as when you're having a meal alone. The simplest food tastes delicious when I eat with my wife. It's just not comparable."

Duncan replied, "That's a new way of looking at men who cook. You're talking as if those who never cooked a day in their lives will never find happiness. I can't cook like you, but I can find a wife who does. The results are still the same."

Zachary said, "Are you looking for a wife or a cook?"

Stumped, Duncan changed the topic. "Make me one too."

"Do it yourself. You should practice and gain experience. I can guarantee your future wife will be happy if you cook her a steak. It's romancing her."

Duncan pursed her lips. "Zachary, I'm a guest in your home."

"An uninvited guest who won't leave is not a guest. You can ask the chefs if you don't want to do it yourself. They can start on your breakfast once I'm done."

While Zachary was hogging the kitchen, the chefs were chatting away with the gardeners in the yard.

“Fine, fine. I’ll do it myself. Do you think I can’t cook? I’ve learned a lot being out there in the world, you know.”

Duncan started from the bottom back when he was on the other side of the law. It was common for the henchman to be on kitchen duty to serve the boss.

After making his wife a sumptuous and nutritious breakfast, Zachary went into the garden to cut a bunch of blooming roses. He trimmed the edges and wrapped the red roses into a bouquet.

He put the bouquet on Serenity’s seat before going upstairs to wake her.

Watching everything Zachary did for Serenity, Duncan secretly snapped a photo and sent it to their mutual best friend, Josh. Duncan even attached a message: [Take notes, boy.]

Josh was quick to reply: [Shouldn’t you watch and learn? I’m a natural when it comes to romance. Zachary is taking notes from me. I’m his love guru.]

Duncan grinned. “Oh, right. Josh has the highest EQ.”

Josh and Jasmine’s love life had been smooth sailing without any turbulence.

“Duncan, why are you at Zachary’s place?” Josh sent a voice note.

“I’m here to take cover.”

Josh sent a LOL emoji.

Needless to say, the pressure from Duncan’s mother for him to get married forced him to seek refuge at Zachary’s home.

Duncan was speechless.

Slipping the phone back into his pocket, Duncan began eating his steak.

Hmm... It tasted fine.

Duncan had no problem eating alone.

He could not experience the happiness Zachary was talking about. Nevertheless, Zachary and his wife soon opened Duncan’s eyes to the joy of married life.

With Zachary and Serenity flaunting their love during breakfast, Duncan lost his appetite.

He wanted to get a taste of Zachary’s steak as Serenity ate with great gusto.

From then on, Duncan decided never to have breakfast with the couple. They enjoyed a great feast, but he did not—oh wait, all he had was an unwelcome visual feast.

The couple went out hand-in-hand for a stroll after breakfast.

Zachary used to get to the office first thing in the morning.

Now, he was no longer in a rush to leave.

Holding a mug of coffee, Duncan stood at the door and watched as the young couple held hands and shared laughter and talk, roaming a distance away. For once, loneliness was getting to Duncan.

Should he consider entering the next big phase of his life?

Chapter 1163 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Duncan was passing by All You Can Eat at eight o'clock when he stopped the car.

He paused for a moment before getting out of the car. Halfway out, Duncan was struck by a thought and retraced his steps. He unlocked the car and retrieved one of many boxes from the backseat.

It was a box of Legos.

He was fond of Sonny, so he bought a lot of toys and stashed them in his car. That way, he would have something for Sonny every time he dropped by the diner. It went without

saying that his trips to the diner were for the boy and not Liberty.

Duncan used to give Sonny pinwheels, but the boy had grown out of them.

That was why he bought new toys.

With a box of Legos in hand, Duncan stepped into All You Can Eat.

"Morning, Mr. Lewis."

Seeing that Duncan entered through the door, Liberty greeted him with a smile and asked, "Same order?"

"Yes. The same old."

Duncan believed breakfast at his buddy's place did not fill his belly. With his workload heavy in the morning, how could he go on on an empty stomach?

It was best if he had another meal at Liberty's place.

"Sonny."

Spotting Sonny drawing behind the cash register, Duncan made his way there and handed the box of to Sonny. He ingratiatingly said, "Sonny, this is my gift for you today."

Sonny had grown accustomed to getting gifts from Dunc.

He took the shoppingmode Lego and thanked Duncan.

"Open it up. I can help you with the Lego build."

Sonny opened the box and poured out the bricks. It was a set for a robot. It was difficult for Sonny's age to accomplish such an intricate build.

However, Sonny was into Lego bricks.

The boy could be at it the whole day when given a box of Legos. He would explore the bricks on his own.

Duncan had his reason to give Sonny a build that was not quite for his age. He could jump in and play with Sonny since the boy was too young to finish the build all by himself.

It was a great way to bond while building bricks with Sonny. By then, Sonny would warm up to Duncan. At least, Duncan could finally get his hugs.

“Mr. Lewis, Sonny has a lot of toys. Stop buying him more.”

Seeing that Duncan had given Sonny another toy, Liberty helplessly uttered, “He has enough toys to open a toy shop.”

She glanced at the while set on her way to serve a customer.

“The set is too hard for Sonny right now.”

“It’s fine. He can take his time. I can help him when I’m free,” Duncan said and sat behind the cash register to lend Sonny a hand.

Once Liberty made his breakfast, Duncan dug in while guiding Sonny to assemble the bricks.

“How’s business?” Duncan asked.

Now that the morning rush had eased, Liberty could take a breather and answered with a smile, “You can tell how busy we are when you pass by every morning. The morning rush really runs us off our feet. We only have time to tidy up and go home for a rest after the people who get off their night shifts are done.”

Those on the graveyard shift would often finish their meals at about nine o’clock in the morning.

Liberty and two employees would start tidying up and cleaning around ten o’clock.

By the time they finished the tasks, lunchtime would roll around. Liberty was occupied the whole morning.

“You came later than usual today.”

Duncan would usually turn up at the diner at a little past seven o’clock.

Gu Lingfei: Married at First Sight Novel Chapter 1164

“I was up late today.”

Duncan lied. He did not tell Liberty that he had breakfast at his buddy’s place and it was just not quite enough.

The loving couple had him lose his appetite, but now that they were out of sight, the hunger caught up to him, so Duncan had to drop by Liberty’s diner to fill his belly.

Seeing that Duncan was showing her son the ropes in the middle of breakfast, Liberty drew close, sat next to her son, and said, “I’ll help you, Sonny.”

She picked up the assembly instruction for a look and stared at the pile of bricks, feeling at headache coming.

Oops. It seemed bricks were not quite her thing.

Serenity was good at it though. She was nifty with her hands at crafting, so bricks were not a problem for her.

With a customer entering the diner, Liberty put down the assembly instruction and told her son, "Take your time, Sonny. I'll be right with you."

"Mom, you don't know how to do it, but Dunc does."

Sonny was attached to Duncan when they assembled Lego bricks together as Duncan had a knack for it.

"Do you want to come with me later? You can assemble the bricks over at my place, and i can teach you if you get stuck."

Sonny pondered the offer before asking, "Will my mom go too?"

"Your mom is busy, so she can't come along."

Sonny declined. "I won't go if Mom doesn't go."

Running his fingers along the little man's hair with affection, Duncan said to Liberty, "Sonny has his guard up."

Liberty smiled.

A while later, Duncan finally ate his fill. Although he was tempted to stay and help Sonny build a robot, his schedule was packed.

He told his secretary to push his itinerary into the afternoons so he could spend a bit of time at Liberty's diner in the mornings.

"Liberty, I sent the money via Pay."

Rising to his feet, Duncan said to Liberty and to Sonny, "I got to go to work now, Sonny.

We'll pick this up once I'm off."

"Bye, Dunc."

Sonny was a lot nicer now that he received from Duncan. At least, he was saying goodbye to Duncan without being told.

Duncan gently pinched Sonny's little face. Oh, the boy was adorable. If only he could nibble on the face.

After a quick chat with Liberty, Duncan was on his way out.

He was walking to his car when the person inside the car parked next to his wound down the window. The person greeted him with a smile.

"Duncan."

It was Lily.

That ruined Duncan's mood.

He went up to her with puckered brows and asked, "What brings you here, Ms. Harmon?"

"I made you breakfast, but you didn't come home last night, so I went to your office. I thought I was seeing things when I saw your car parked here."

Lily was forthcoming about the reason she was here.

Fixing her gaze on the breakfast place Duncan came out of, she asked, "Duncan, is the food good at that place? Is the hygiene at the breakfast diner up to standard?"

She was not one to dine at a small business like that. The hygiene upkeep would be atrocious for all she knew.

Nevertheless, Lily understood that Duncan was ungallant and laid-back as he had mingled with alternative crowds before. Duncan was happy to get a meal from a food truck, much less a diner.

"The hygiene is definitely up to standard, and there's a health permit to prove it." Duncan did not divulge to Lily that Liberty owned All You Can Eat.

Gu Lingfei: Married at First Sight Novel Chapter 1165

Duncan's mother had mentioned Liberty to Lily before.

Lily was most focused on Serenity though, as she wanted to get into Mrs. York's good graces.

Nevertheless, Duncan was certain that Lily kept an eye on Liberty since Liberty was Mrs. York's sister.

"I own the space and rent it out," Duncan added in case Lily thought he was standing up the restaurant owner.

Lily smiled. "No wonder you have breakfast there. You own the place."

"I'm full. I can't eat anymore. Ms. Harmon, thank you for the breakfast, but I don't need it."

The last thing Duncan wanted was to take Lily to the office.

Lily uttered with a smile, "I'll bring it back later. I want to get a tour of your office, Duncan. I didn't just come to Wiltspoon for this. I'm here to talk business with a few major corporations too."

The Harmons operated their business on a large scale.

Mrs. Lewis was hoping to have a union with the Harmons while Lily wanted to penetrate Wiltspoon's market by having business ties with major corporations like Lewis & Co. Not only could Lily bring profit to Harmon Corporation, but she could also bond with Duncan over the business collaboration.

The way she saw it, although Duncan may be a brusque man, he had a delicate side to him. Lily would find her happy-ever-after with Duncan if she could conquer his heart.

Having dwelled in the business world for many years, Lily loved a challenge, and the conquest for Duncan's heart summoned her interest and gave her great motivation.

Since Lily wanted to visit Lewis & Co. under the guise of a tour, Duncan was not in the position to turn her down. She was the daughter of his mother's best friend after all.

Duncan got into his car and hit the accelerator, driving away pretty fast.

Lily quickly went in pursuit of his car.

In the diner, Liberty had no idea what had happened outside.

Not long after Duncan left, the Browns paraded into the diner.

The whole circus was here, including Chelsea, her husband, and Lucas. Mrs. Brown called everybody to the city so they could take a trip to the zoo.

Lucas was supposed to attend kindergarten, but now that he was away from his grandparents' care, he often fell ill. Since he was sick again, Chelsea took him out of school for two days to see his grandparents.

Jessica was not too happy about so many coming along to the zoo. On second thought, the Browns invited themselves. The heat would be taken off Jessica, as the stepmother, if the kidnapping plan was a success.

It would be the Brown family's fault for not having a closer eye on Sonny.

"Sonny."

Seeing that Sonny was playing with Lucas let go of his mother's hand, ran, climbed up the stool like a monkey, and sat next to Sonny.

"What are you playing with, Sonny? I want to have a go."

The familiar voice pushed Sonny to stuff all the unassembled bricks back into the box.

By the time Lucas sat next to him, Sonny had packed away all the things. Sonny clung to the box and replied, "Dunc gave me Lego."

"I want to play with Lego too."

Lucas put his hand out to grab Sonny's bricks.

Leaning to one side, Sonny dodged Lucas's grubby hands. He jumped off the stool and took cover by his mother's side.

Lucas always took his stuff and picked on him. There was no way Sonny would want to play with Lucas.

Although his mother and aunt's love and concern helped Sonny move past the trauma at the Reptons' last year, Sonny had never forgotten about the incident.

Chapter 1166 | [Serenity & Zachary]

"Mom, Sonny has a toy, and he's not letting me play with it. I want a toy, Mom! I want Sonny's toy!"

Lucas took quick paces to his mother and tugged on Chelsea's clothes, demanding Sonny's toy.

Chelsea always thought the world of her children while other people's children could suck it. Putting her hand out at Sonny, she said, "Sonny, hand over your toy."

“This is mine!”

Sonny latched onto the box like glue.

Chelsea went ahead to pull the toy off of Sonny when Liberty grabbed a kitchen utensil and slapped it on Chelsea’s wrist. The pain caused Chelsea to recoil her arm.

“What are you doing, Liberty?”

Liberty put on a sour face. “I should be asking you that. That is Sonny’s toy. He can decide whether he wants to share it with Lucas. Why are you taking the toy from a child?”

Chelsea was lost for words.

With a scowl, Mr. Brown gave his daughter a dressing down. Once Chelsea pulled her son to a corner, Mr. Brown apologetically said, “Liberty, it’s fine if Sonny doesn’t want to share. It’s his toy anyway.”

“Why are all of you here?”

Liberty glanced at the family and asked.

Hank jumped in. “Didn’t my parents tell you last night? We’re taking Sonny to the zoo to see the tigers today.”

He then asked his son, “Sonny, do you want to go to the zoo with Dad?”

With sparkling eyes, Sonny inquired, “Is Mom going too, Dad?”

Hank glanced at Liberty before replying with a smile, “Mom is going too.”

“Liberty, you should close shop early today. We can have breakfast at yours and set out to the zoo. It’s an hour’s journey to the zoo, so we must leave early. The children can enjoy more time there.”

Wiltspoon Zoo was huge and home to many animals.

Hank had gone to the zoo once on a weekend when he first started dating Liberty. Serenity was still a teenager back then, and she tagged along.

Liberty was going to let her son go on the zoo trip with her former in-laws. Nevertheless, she changed her mind when her eyes fell on Lucas. She was worried that Lucas might pick on Sonny if she did not go along. Getting to her son’s eye level, Liberty asked, “Do you want to go, Sonny?”

Sonny blurted, “I want to go, Mom. I want to go with Mom and Dad to the zoo.”

He looked at Jessica, unable to fathom why this lady was always around his father.

Mom always stood by Dad in the past.

Hank persuaded, “Come on, Liberty. We’ve never taken our son to the zoo. Let’s go together. Sonny has been wanting to see the tigers.”

Mr. and Mrs. Brown echoed their son’s idea, trying to convince Liberty to join the family trip.

Truth be told, Liberty was not interested in going out with her ex-husband's family. Nevertheless, she did not want to put a damper on her son's idea of fun. She faintly uttered, "I can leave after the customers are finished with their meals."

Seeing that Mom had given the green light, Sonny leaped in joy and then proceeded to urge his mother, "Phone Aunt Ser, Mom! Tell Aunt Ser to join us!"

The Browns were speechless.

The only son of the Brown family did not forget to include his aunt in everything.

"I don't know if your aunt has the time," Liberty said. Still, she listened to her son and gave Serenity a call.

It would be nice for Liberty if her sister came along. At least, she would not feel awkward going on the trip with her ex-husband's family.

Chapter 1167 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Serenity took a ride in her man's Roll Royce to the shop.

She had just collected the craft goods from the crafters she hired. After examining the quality, Serenity complimented her employees on a good job and paid them based on the agreed rate.

"Serenity, it's good money since we're only working on crafts when we take a break from caring for the kids. Our families are pretty supportive. You know what? My mother-in-law stopped giving me an attitude."

"Me too. My mother-in-law is now looking after my child for me. I was shocked that she was happy to do it for me. Serenity, you can accept more orders. We are more than able to finish the task."

They ventured into the world of crafting together. Although there had not been a lot of contact among the ladies, they had always kept in touch. The ladies were well aware of Serenity's position in society now too.

Of course, they were envious.

However, Serenity gave them a job and paid every time they handed in the crafts. It was a lucrative job for stay-at-home mothers like them.

If that was not enough, their boss was Mrs. York.

Their in-laws were nicer to them, knowing that they were working for Mrs. York but it was mainly because they could contribute financially to the family.

Serenity uttered with a smile, "I had a pile of orders to fulfill before the new year, and the pile built up after I hurt my hand. It was a good thing you ladies came to save the day. I'll bring you more supplies and the sample products of the orders."

"Sure, sure."

The lot was over the moon to get immediate payment after delivering the goods.

Serenity got the materials ready and distributed them to the ladies before seeing them out. She then contacted the courier service to pick up the items. The orders could finally be dispatched to the customers.

Once she made the phone call, Serenity received a call from her sister.

“Liberty.”

“Aunt Ser.”

Sonny took the phone from his mother the moment the line was connected. His voice could be heard over the phone. “I’m Sonny, Aunt Ser.”

Serenity answered with a smile, “I know I recognize that voice. Do you miss me? I told your Aunt Elisa to pick you up on her way here.”

Since Elisa said she was coming in the morning, Serenity asked if she could do the pick-up to save Serenity the trip.

Elisa was happy to do it.

“Aunt Ser, Dad is taking me and Mom to the zoo. A lot of people are going. Do you want to come, Aunt Ser?” Sonny asked Serenity.

Hearing that Aunt Elisa was picking him up, he told Serenity, “I should ask Aunt Elisa if she wants to join us too.”

Hank was at a loss for words.

All he wanted was to take his son to the zoo and have a nice father-and-son day out, not a group trip.

Never mind his mom called his sister’s family to come along, but Sonny was asking his aunt and Ms. Stone for the trip too.

How was he supposed to bond with Sonny?

Jessica scowled.

She had no problems with Serenity coming along. In fact, Jessica was delighted as Serenity would rescue Sonny at all costs. Those people could lure Serenity to see that mystery woman.

In return, Jessica would complete the mission and save her family.

Nevertheless, Jessica was displeased that Sonny wanted to add Elisa to the mix.

Elisa came from a prominent family. Even if Ms. Stone was without security when out and about, the woman was not one to be messed with.

Jessica was irritated. Although her family was fine right now, Jessica knew that they were being watched. A chunk of her mother’s hair was chopped off because those people barged into her mother’s home in broad daylight and subdued her mother to cut her hair.

She had asked her mother who these people were, and the answer was that they were big men in black masks and sunglasses. Mrs. Yates could not get a look at their faces, and everything happened so fast. Before she knew it, Mrs. Yates had lost a chunk of her hair. The group of men then swiftly left.

Gu Lingfei: Married at First Sight Novel Chapter 1168

Sure, Jessica's mother only lost a chunk of hair, but it was enough to scare the hell out of Jessica. It would not take much for these people to come after her family's lives.

Although Jessica was not on good terms with her family due to the bridal gift, this was her family. She could not allow anything to happen to her family just to save an outsider like Sonny.

Today looked most promising to carry out the plan.

Serenity asked, "Is your mom going?"

"Yeah. Mom's going. Are you going, Aunt Ser?"

After much thought, Serenity replied, "What time are you leaving? I'll see if I can make the time."

"Mom said we can leave in about half an hour. Aunt Ser, please go with us. I want to see the tigers in the zoo."

Sonny had been wanting to go to the zoo since the last time. However, it did not happen because the boy later chose to go out with his aunt.

The zoo was still a magical place for the boy.

Now that he had the chance today, he really, really wanted to go.

"Alright then. I'll go too."

Serenity could not put up with the idea of an outing with the Browns, but she was more concerned about her sister.

The Browns changed their minds though. They were trying to spend some time with Sonny and fight for his custody.

The whole family was in on this. With her sister going there alone, what were the chances she could win against a big group of them?

Although Serenity was only one person, she was lucky to marry Zachary. Her social status should be enough to intimidate the Brown family.

At least the Browns would think twice before doing her sister dirty when Serenity joined the outing too.

Sonny gleefully uttered, "Hurry up and come here, Aunt Ser. I see Aunt Elisa. I'll ask her if she wants to go too. Hurry here, Aunt Ser. I'm hanging up now."

Serenity dotingly said, "Okay. I'll be right there."

Sonny returned the phone to his mother and ran out.

Elisa had gotten out of the car when her nephew came running in her direction. Before she could say anything, the boy drew close and clung to her leg. Lifting his chin, Sonny cried, " Aunt Elisa."

The handsome and cute face could melt Elisa's heart.

Bending over, Elisa picked Sonny up and said with a smile, "You must miss me since you ran out to welcome me."

"I miss you, Aunt Elisa. I miss you and Aunt Ser every day. I need to tell you something, Aunt Elisa."

With Sonny in her arms, Elisa took strides to the diner and asked with a grin, "Oh, really? What do you need to tell me?"

"Dad is taking me and Mom to the zoo. I asked Aunt Ser, and she's going too. Do you want to go, Aunt Elisa? Let's go together."

Elisa raised a brow.

So Hank would like to take Liberty and Sonny to the zoo?

Elisa scowled upon entering the diner and seeing the Brown family there. She asked, " Liberty, did they do anything to you?"

"Ms. Stone, we're here to ask Liberty and Sonny to go for a family trip. We don't mean any harm."

Hank jumped in to explain.

He was afraid of Elisa.

Serenity had become Mrs. York, but she was once Hank's sister-in-law, so she did not strike fear in Hank.

In fact, the Hunt sisters would not give the Browns much of an attitude for the sake of Sonny.

Chapter 1169 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Elisa looked at Liberty. Once she was sure that the Browns were here to go on a family trip with Liberty and Sonny, Elisa's straight face softened into a smile. The smile was for Sonny, not for the Brown family.

The sight of the Browns made Elisa sick to her stomach.

"Since you want to go to the zoo, I'll go with you, Sonny."

Elisa readily said yes to her nephew's invitation.

It had not registered in Sonny's head that his parents were divorced. Liberty had a heart of gold. She never spoke ill about Hank in Sonny's presence despite her grievance with her in-laws.

No matter what, Sonny and Hank were father and son.

It would not do Sonny any good to hate his father. On the contrary, it would impede Sonny's mental growth.

Half an hour later, Serenity, Liberty, and Sonny took a ride in Elisa's car as they set out for the zoo.

Serenity's two bodyguards took another car and tagged behind.

The Browns were split into two cars, and they drove behind the bodyguards.

Jessica nagged the whole way, telling Hank off, "We're trying to spend some time with Sonny, but your mom called your sister's family to join us, and now Sonny invited a few more people.

"Tell me. How are we supposed to bond with Sonny?"

With the Hunt sisters around, Sonny would only hang around his mom and aunt.

As a stepmother, Jessica had to step back and away from them.

Sitting in the back seat, Mrs. Brown picked up on Jessica's nagging and said, "What's wrong with asking them to go on the family outing? We're not spending your money. You can stay away from them if you don't like them. You don't have to make a fuss throughout the journey."

Jessica turned around and snapped back, "Remember what you said. Don't let them spend Hank's money. They have more money than Hank now."

"Even if we do spend money, it's Hank's and not yours. You're spending my son's money now, you know." The thing Mrs. Brown could not get over was her son handing the purse strings to Jessica.

"Hank and I are married. His money is my money."

"Your money should be Hank's too then. Why didn't you contribute to the home renovation? You were on a high income when you were working. I bet your money went to your mom."

"It's none of your business. I'm free to give the money to anyone and spend however I want."

"Spendthrift!"

With the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law bickering, Hank cried in distress, "Cut it out, Jessica. That's my mom. You don't always have to win. Stop fighting. We're going on a trip. We're supposed to have some fun."

Hurt, Jessica said, "Babe, you're taking your mom's side, but it's your mom's fault. Can't we just go on our family trip? Why must your sister's family be involved too? Your sister always takes advantage of you. I bet we'll foot the bill for her today."

"How much can the tickets cost? Just leave it."

Hank was annoyed.

Jessica pouted and shut up.

She looked out the window sulkily and refused to engage further with her in-laws.

By the time everybody arrived at the zoo and parked the cars, Jessica still had a sour face. She tucked her purse under her arm when it came to getting the entrance tickets. Hank had to pay for his sister's family.

They could forget getting money out of her.

Unlike the Browns, Serenity's group did not experience any problems.

They bought the tickets and took Sonny in.

Sonny was over the moon. The moment he stepped into the zoo, he was running wild with the other children. He did not need his mother to hold his hand.

The boy was amazed by people riding by in horse carriages.

"Don't take off so fast, Sonny. Don't wander off on your own. Don't leave your mom and aunts behind."

Catching up to her nephew, Serenity pulled Sonny back and urged, "There are a lot of people here. You're a small boy. You never know when you'll get lost in the crowd. Won't you be scared if you can't see your mom and aunts?"

Sonny was too excited to process whatever his aunt was saying. With his eyes zoning in on a children's playground nearby, he exclaimed, "Aunt Ser, I want to go there."

He then broke free from Serenity's grasp and bolted right ahead.

Gu Lingfei: Married at First Sight Novel Chapter 1170

Serenity had to chase after the little guy.

It was crowded in the zoo, and children like Sonny were everywhere.

Not in the mood to appreciate the scenery, Serenity was exhausted just running after Sonny.

Sonny had been watching the shop with his mother day in and day out, and his mother would take him home for a rest after work. Liberty did not have time to take him out to play. Now that he was at the zoo, Sonny unleashed the unruly nature of children.

It was a good thing Serenity had the habit of working out. At least, she could keep up with the child's activeness.

Since Liberty had been jogging to lose weight, her stamina was at an optimum level. Only, Ms. Stone rarely engaged in such an activity. The long walk hurt her feet.

As for the Browns, God knew where they were.

Sonny had a great time at the playground, going several rounds at the age-appropriate facilities until he was sweating all over. His aunt then picked him up to see the animals.

The zoo was a huge place. It was lunchtime by the time they were done looking around the birds' area.

The group picked a restaurant to dine in.

"Where's Dad?"

It was only now Sonny recalled his father.

Liberty answered with a smile, "You ran so fast and left your dad way behind."

Sonny looked around and could not see his father.

He said, "Give Dad a call, Mom."

Liberty acted like she dialed Hank's number.

She then uttered, "Your dad and grandparents are dining somewhere else. We'll see them later."

Sonny believed his mother.

The Brown family had arrived where Serenity's group was. They were able to make up for the lost time by stopping Lucas from playing at the playground.

Jessica had a fight with Hank and sulkily ditched the Browns to go off on her own.

For once, Hank did not console her.

Sure enough, Jessica's thoughts were confirmed. Hank no longer cherished her now that he got her.

Hank gave her everything when they were sneaking around. Now that Jessica went from mistress to wife, she started slipping into Liberty's former shoes.

Jessica was turning into the former Liberty while Liberty was living her life to the fullest.

Liberty no longer had to tend to her in-laws or become her mother-in-law and sister-in-law's punching bag.

She was free to spend her own hard-earned cash, and no one could have a say about it. The world was her oyster.

For the first time, Jessica regretted her choices.

She regretted coming between Hank and Liberty's marriage.

Jessica thought she would not walk the same path as Liberty when she married Hank.

Yet reality gave her a slap in the face.

The pair had not even had their wedding, and Hank was already not as loving as before.

She thought it was because he did not get along with her family.

Someone bumped into her, nearly tipping her off balance.

"Watch where you're going!"

Jessica yelled at the man

Seeing that the person was covered in a black mask and sunglasses, Jessica got a sinking feeling in her stomach