

Gu Lingfei 851

Chapter 851 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Grandma May choked and said sheepishly, "I thought that would come naturally and didn't have to be taught."

She added to herself, "A couple only learns to cherish each other by experiencing ups and downs together."

Tania was speechless.

A maid entered.

"Old Mrs. York and Mrs. York, Mr. Zachary is back."

Upon hearing that, Grandma May scurried away like a startled bird. Her movements were so agile that they were not befitting of her age.

"Tania, I'll go back to my room and lie down. If Zack asks, tell him that I've fallen ill because I was too worried about him and Serenity."

Tania was speechless. "Don't blame me if Zack sends you to the hospital."

"I'll be fine as long as he doesn't send me to the crematorium."

Grandma May hid in her room as fast as possible. She lay on the bed and pretended to be sick.

After lying down for a while, she did not hear a knock on the door.

She thought to herself, 'Is that brat so angry that he doesn't even care about my so-called illness? So that's his play?'

Grandma May did not know whether to continue lying down or if she should see what that brat was up to.

What was Zachary doing?

When he came back and did not see his nana, he turned to leave without saying a word.

Tania chased after him. She walked behind him and asked with concern, "Are you okay, Zack?"

Zachary said sullenly, "I'm fine."

"You don't look fine. Did you not rest well? Where's Serenity?"

"She left with her sister."

Tania froze and stopped. When she saw her son was about to walk away again, she caught up to him and continued to ask, "Zack, what do you mean by 'she left'?"

"It means she left."

Zachary finally stopped in front of the outdoor swimming pool.

Then, he took off his jacket.

“Zack, have you gone mad? The weather is freezing. You’ll catch a cold if you swim here.”

Tania could not be bothered to pursue the matter and stopped her son from jumping into the pool and freezing.

“Do you think Serenity will come back if you catch a cold? The two of you are from different worlds. It’s good that she left. With your qualifications, you can marry any girl you want. I’ll help you arrange a meeting with the daughter of the Levine family. What about the Dawson family?”

“There are so many young noble ladies in Wiltspoon, and every one of them is better than Serenity. Zack, you’ve already repaid your nana, so she won’t interfere with your marriage in the future. Just forget about Serenity. Don’t torture and hurt yourself for her.”

Tania thought the young couple had terminated their marriage.

“Zack, just marry a girl from a family which matches ours. Listen to Mom, okay? It’s easy for you to accommodate Serenity, but it’s very hard for her to chase after you. The gap between you two is too great. She can’t catch up no matter how hard she tries, and she’ll get tired from chasing after you. It’s fine if you’ve separated. Think of it as setting her free...”

Zachary looked at his mother speechlessly.

Tania quickly paraphrased, “Think of it as you two letting each other go.”

Chapter 852 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“Mom.”

If Zachary did not explain clearly, his mother would actually arrange a blind date for him and cause misunderstandings.

He said in a low voice, “When I said Serenity left with her sister, I meant she went back for a small period of time to calm down. She’s not leaving forever. I won’t allow her to not come back either.”

God knew how difficult it was for him to let go and allow her to follow her sister home.

“I also need time to calm down, but it’s hard for me, so I want to jump into the pool and take a dip. Maybe that will help cool me down. I’m not trying to harm myself to gain her sympathy.”

Tania blinked and asked, “You’re not divorced yet?”

“Do you want me to get a divorce?”

“Yes and no. I’ve always felt that you two weren’t compatible. Your social circles are completely different. It’ll be very hard for Serenity to squeeze in. Perhaps you two can’t understand that now and don’t know what it feels like, so you’re able to get along well in the beginning. However, you’ll see what I mean when you take Serenity out to socialize, talk about business, and attend various parties, fundraisers, and other activities.

“You may be fine as long as you’re thick-skinned and aren’t afraid of people laughing at you, but Serenity will have it worse. Not even the wives of the nouveau riche can squeeze into the circle of ladies from high society, let alone Serenity. She’ll easily be ostracized, ridiculed, and mocked.

Tania had lived her whole life in a wealthy family and usually befriended noblewomen with a status similar to hers. She would greet the ladies with a status inferior to hers with a nod, but she could not accept them into her circle.

Not many people could be so down-to-earth like Grandma May.

“However, you’ve fallen in love with her, so I don’t want you to divorce. I’m afraid you’ll remain a bachelor for life if you divorce. There’s no mother out there who wishes for their son to be a bachelor forever, let alone such an exceptional brat... I mean man.”

Tania quickly corrected herself when her son looked at her sullenly. It must be because she spent too much time with her mother-in-law recently. The old lady was a bad influence on her.

“You two have been married for almost five months, but you still don’t have a baby. If you did, you could just remain a bachelor. We can die in peace because at least you’ll still have your child to take care of you when we pass on. However, you don’t have a child yet.

“Zack, have you two gone to the hospital to check on your health?”

“We’re capable of having a child, Mom.”

Zachary emphasized that he was in very good health.

“Serenity is also very healthy. We were just a couple in name. How would we have a child?”

Tania choked.

“I’m fine, Mom. Go play chess with Dad. I’ll swim to calm myself down. I won’t abuse myself.”

Zachary took off his clothes, ignoring his mother’s objections, and jumped into the pool.

Once he was underwater... God, it was freezing!

“Zack, Zack! Gosh, you never listen!”

Tania scolded him and shouted in the direction of the house. “Mom, Mom! Your darling grandson jumped into the pool!”

Zachary choked on a mouthful of water.

His elegant mother must have been influenced by his nana.

The distance was far, and Grandma May was lying in her room pretending to be sick, so she could not hear.

When Tania saw that it was useless even after shouting twice, she left her son behind and quickly went into the house.

She could not persuade her son, so she had to ask Grandma May to step in. She felt her son was trying to get sick so that her daughter-in-law would feel distressed.

When Grandma May heard that Zack jumped into the outdoor pool in this cold weather, she could not pretend to be sick anymore. She sprung from bed and put on a jacket while responding to her daughter-in-law, "I'll call him back. That little brat.

Even if he wants me to feel guilty and blame myself, he doesn't have to jump into the pool on a cold day."

Tania thought, 'So this is between the pair of grandmother and grandson?'

Chapter 853 | [Serenity & Zachary]

"Tania, get someone to cook ginger soup for that boy. Add more ginger so that it's spicier."

Grandma May came out of the room and instructed her daughter-in-law as she walked outside.

Tania agreed and instructed the maid accordingly.

When the two women arrived at the pool, Zachary was still swimming around in the water like a fish.

"Zachary York," Grandma May shouted angrily.

Zachary glanced at his nana before swimming to the edge of the pool. Then, he climbed up and sat there.

Grandma May walked around the pool and went to him, saying in distress, "What are you still doing sitting here? Hurry back into the house."

"I want to relax and calm down, Nana."

Grandma May scolded him. "If you want to calm down, you can lock yourself in your room. I can assure you that no one will bother you. Why do you need to jump into the pool to do so?"

"It's quite effective."

Zachary added indifferently, "The cold water cleared my mind and calmed my irritability."

He was telling the truth.

Grandma May was speechless. "Since you've calmed down, put on your clothes and go inside. You'll catch a cold if you sit here for a long time."

Zachary pursed his lips.

Tania brought his jacket and draped it over him, saying, "If you catch a cold, I'll go to Serenity to settle accounts with her. She caused you to catch a cold."

"Mom, you won't do such an unreasonable thing, right?"

Zachary was not worried that his mother would go to Serenity. His mother was just harsh on the mouth because she could not do something that unreasonable.

Tania choked and said, "A mother will do anything for her child."

Grandma May added, "Zack, go back to the house and change. I want to talk to you."

Zachary looked up at his nana and said sarcastically, "I thought you would be sick for a long time before getting out of bed."

When he came back and did not see his nana, he figured that she was hiding. Her usual tactic was to pretend to be sick.

Grandma May had a thick face and was not offended by her grandson's sarcasm. She said, "I'm old but strong. I won't get sick easily."

"Hurry and get up. Go back to the house to change your clothes."

She lightly kicked Zachary and said, "I'll wait for you in the pavilion. I got someone to cook ginger soup for you, so come out after you finish the soup."

Then, she turned and walked away.

Tania advised, "Zack, go change your clothes or you'll really catch a cold. You don't want to get another jab, do you?"

Zachary said bitterly, "Mom, the person who forced me to get injections isn't by my side anymore."

Tania's heart sank, and she said heavily, "Zack, it's normal for Serenity to be angry after finding out the truth. Just give her a few days to calm down. It'll be fine."

"My deception made her lose all her trust in me. I don't know how long it'll take for her to trust me again."

Zachary thought about how he called out to Serenity before coming here. Just by calling her name, she was so frightened she wanted to run away. Zachary's heart clenched in pain.

Tania sighed. "You're still young and have your whole life ahead of you. As long as you don't give up, so what if it takes more time? You have a lifetime to spend."

Yes, they had a lifetime ahead of them.

Zachary was silent for a long time. With his mother's repeated urging, he finally got up and went back into the house to change his clothes.

Chapter 854 | [Serenity & Zachary]

After changing his clothes, Zachary drank the bowl of ginger soup under his mother's gaze. He frowned because the soup was way too spicy.

"Mom, why is there so much ginger? It's so spicy."

"Your Nana asked them to add more ginger. If you don't like ginger soup, then don't do such stupid things again in the future."

Zachary put down the bowl. "I really was just trying to calm down. I wasn't trying to do anything stupid."

“Yes, yes, if you say so. Are you calm now? Go talk to Nana. She’s the one who started it. You wouldn’t have ended up like this if not for her.”

Tania was somewhat resentful of her mother-in-law.

Her son was such an excellent man. It was not like he could not find a wife, but the old woman insisted on him marrying her savior.

At first, they were all grateful to Serenity and wanted to thank her, but Serenity refused.

Later, Serenity and Grandma May got along well, and Serenity won the old lady’s favor. Tania secretly wondered if Serenity refused their large sum of money because she knew of Grandma May’s identity and wanted more.

Her husband had said, “Let’s wait and see.”

As they watched, Serenity eventually became their daughter-in-law.

Serenity was in the dark about Grandma May’s identity and she did not know that Zachary was the CEO of York Corporation when she married him. If not for these facts that Tania only found out afterward, she would have thought Serenity was a scheming woman.

Then, she found out that the couple treated each other like ice. They lived in the same house but rarely communicated and even slept in separate rooms. Her son also told Serenity to sign a contract.

Tania had no idea about the content of the contract.

However, she believed her son would not put himself at a disadvantage. The contract must have been more restrictive on Serenity’s part.

Alas, at some point, the feelings between the young couple gradually warmed up.

Tania admitted that she had been waiting for the couple to divorce. She had always felt that Serenity was not worthy of her eldest son.

She could not care if it was her second son. She would be able to accept it no matter who the woman was as long as her son liked the woman.

However, it was different for her eldest son. Zachary was the successor of the family. As the head of the family, how could he have a wife who was an orphan and had a bunch of horrible relatives? No matter how independent Serenity was, unless she could rely on her own skills to marry into a wealthy family like Audrey did, not everyone would be able to accept her.

Otherwise, the pressure on Serenity would be too heavy.

There were nine sons in Zachary’s generation, and it was impossible for all of them to marry a woman with no reputable family background like Zachary did.

In the future, Serenity’s sisters-in-law would be from rich families. How would Serenity, as the eldest, prove her worth?

Tania felt that Grandma May did not consider that for Serenity. The old woman liked Serenity, so she forced her grandson to marry Serenity. She did not think about what Serenity would face in the future.

Zachary was silent for a moment before saying, "Mom, Serenity and I are fated. If we weren't, we wouldn't have developed feelings for each other even if Nana wanted me to repay her."

It was said that fate brings people together no matter how far apart they may be.

Zachary believed in fate.

There were many people in this world who were not meant to be and could not become a couple even after knowing each other for a lifetime.

That was why Serenity and he were linked by the red thread of fate.

"I don't regret marrying Serenity either. I just feel like I let her down. When she married me, I didn't give her a betrothal gift or host a wedding ceremony for her. I only made up for our wedding ring afterward. She has suffered a lot because of me."

If it were an ordinary person signing that agreement at the beginning, they would have felt extremely aggrieved.

However, Serenity signed it and kept to the contract.

Instead, it was he who failed to do so.

He asked her not to fall in love with him in the contract, saying that he could not reciprocate her feelings.

In the end, it was he who begged her to love him...

Chapter 855 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Tania thought about how most people only married once in their lives. Serenity married her son, but she did not get anything. It was not strange for her to feel wronged.

Tania said, "You can make up for the betrothal gift and wedding ceremony."

Zachary knew that it was possible to make up for it, but indisputably, he had always made her suffer.

He stood up. "I'll go talk to Nana. Don't blame her. Maybe this is a trial I have to overcome. A trial of love."

It was because his life had been smooth sailing since birth and he had never suffered any setbacks.

Thus, God was giving him a trial now.

"Zack, I still have to remind you this—our identity has been exposed to the people in Serenity's circle. Her relatives and sister's ex-husband's family may try to pester you. You can't give them benefits for Serenity's sake. Those people are like vampires; they'll come back for more if you give them anything even for once.

“They’ll cling to you and suck you dry. It wouldn’t be bad to give them benefits if they treated Serenity well, but they’ve been horrible to Serenity and her sister. I can’t stand them. They have no right to call themselves Serenity’s relatives. They’re even worse than neighbors. I feel suffocated just thinking that you’ll give them benefits.”

Zachary’s face was sullen. “I act according to Serenity’s attitude. She’s not willing to reconcile with them, so there’s no way I’ll give them benefits. In fact, the troubles they’re facing now are caused by me.

“As for her sister’s ex-husband and his family, he’s already the past, so they have nothing to do with each other anymore. Is Hank going to run to me and say that he’s my brother-in-law?”

Tania said, “I’m glad you’re aware. If there’s one thing I like about Serenity, it’s that she knows how to discriminate between people who are kind to her and those who aren’t.”

She was not some kind of saint.

Even if some netizens tried to morally blackmail her, she persisted against it.

Tania read online how Serenity bashed the netizens who tried to morally blackmail

her. If the netizens had also lost their parents when they were ten years old, with the insurance payout divided among their grandparents and relatives who drove them out and took over their property, would the netizens be able to forgive their grandparents? If they could not, then they had no right to criticize Serenity and Liberty for not giving money to their grandparents.

In reality, how many grandchildren took care of their grandparents? It was good enough if children took care of their own parents.

Some old people believed that they could not even count on their children, so how could they count on their grandchildren instead?

It was only by wearing another’s shoes that one could understand the experience, but all they did was hide behind a screen and act like keyboard warriors, and even got paid to morally blackmail Serenity.

Serenity hoped that one day, those keyboard warriors who liked to morally blackmail others would have a taste of their own medicine.

Zachary’s expression softened slightly, and he said, “She grew up in a different environment, so her character developed differently.”

Serenity was gentle yet strong. As long as she had moral standing, she would be able to stay firm. If she did not have reason on her side, she would immediately bow her head and apologize.

“What a poor girl.”

Tania was a little heartbroken when she thought about the environment her daughter -in-law grew up in.

If the young couple could make up, as a mother-in-law, she could dote on her daughter-in-law more in the future.

Grandma May sat in front of the stone table at the pavilion. There were many flowers planted around the pavilion. Although the weather was still cold, it was almost spring.

When spring came, the grass and trees would be revived, and Wildridge Manor would be filled with colors.

One could appreciate the blooming of hundreds of flowers while sitting under the pavilion.

Zachary stepped into the pavilion and sat opposite his grandmother, blocking her view of the flowers.

“Your grandfather used to do that too. He would always sit right in front of me when I was admiring the flowers. He was tall like a small mountain even when sitting down, so he would end up blocking my view. I could only admire him instead of the flowers.”

Zachary took after his grandfather.

“Do you want me to talk to Seren? I’ll put in some good words for you.”

Chapter 856 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Zachary pursed his lips for a while before saying, “She wants to calm down, so don’t bother yet. Don’t go for now.”

Grandma May hummed. “Zack, I’m glad you let her go back with her sister. You’ve improved. You’re not as domineering as before and didn’t force her to stay. It’s good that you learned when to let go and how to give each other some space.”

Zachary’s face was sullen.

“I’ll go find Seren in a couple of days, but not to plead for you. I should also apologize to her since I lied to her first.”

Zachary snorted coldly.

The grandmother and grandson took after one another.

“What are you planning to do next?”

“What do you think I should do next?” Zachary retorted.

Grandma May smiled and reached out to touch her eldest grandson’s handsome face lovingly. Then, she poked him in the head. “You have a brain, so think for yourself. Take your time and slowly figure out what to do.

“Loving someone isn’t as simple as falling in love. You need to learn to understand her, trust her, and accept everything about her.

“Your mother complained that your grandfather and I taught you everything except how to love someone. It was something that slipped our minds. By the time we realized it, you were already an adult... Did you know? Your grandfather was still worried about you before he passed.

“He was worried about your marriage. You’re cold and different by nature. When you were a teenager, you had so many girls who adored you but you wouldn’t even give them the time of day. When you

grew up, you brought a group of bodyguards with you wherever you went. You don't allow any young women outside the family to come within ten feet of you."

"Your grandfather saw this and was worried, but he was too sick to care about you. Before he died, he could only entrust me to worry in his stead.

"Actually, I have a superstitious side. After meeting Serenity, I asked for her birthday and secretly consulted a fortune-teller. He said you two are destined to be husband and wife, so I decided you marry Serenity despite what everyone else thought."

Zachary was speechless.

Who was that fortune-teller?

Well, he was quite accurate.

"That fortune-teller was accurate. You two ended up developing feelings for each other. Although there are some twists and turns, I believe you can solve this. What's a little bit of suffering? The bitterness now will only make the rest of your lives that much sweeter."

Zachary tensed his face and did not make a sound.

He already missed Serenity.

After just a few hours apart, he could not wait to go to his sister-in-law's place to pick Serenity up.

Alas, he knew better he could not.

He had to bear with it. He had to endure it.

Let Serenity stay with her sister for a few days.

If she did not contact him first, then he could not bother her. Even if he went, he had to do so in secret and look at her from afar.

Hang on, what if she never contacted him again? Would he not go to her either?

He could not do that. He had to go see her tomorrow... No, later today. What if she forgot about him?

"Zack, everything is achievable with earnestness. Serenity is a bit hard-hearted, but her heart isn't made of stone. I believe you can win her back."

Chapter 857

Grandma May patted his shoulder. "Go get her! You have my moral support in chasing after your wife!"

Zachary said, "Nana, I sense the sarcasm in your tone."

Grandma May's eyes twinkled, but she denied it and said, "Do you, now? How am I being sarcastic?"

"I said before that I won't pursue my wife..."

“Ah, now that you’ve reminded me, you did indeed mention... Either way, haven’t you been eating your words recently? Once you get used to it, nothing would come as a surprise anymore the more you eat your words.”

Zachary was speechless.

Was she his nana or not?

After bickering with Nana and listening to her reminisce about the past he was not privy to, Zachary somewhat understood why she insisted that he marry Serenity.

It was because of his grandfather’s last words and that nameless fortune–teller, who said that Serenity and he were destined to be husband and wife, so his nana stubbornly insisted on him marrying Serenity.

Of course, Zachary was grateful to that fortune–teller now.

If he had not fallen in love with Serenity, he would have smashed that fortune–teller’s stall.

Meanwhile, Serenity left Zachary’s villa with Liberty and first returned to the house in Brynfield. She initially wanted to pack up all her belongings and leave, but after a second thought, she only took a few sets of fresh clothes and moved into her sister’s place.

She left the two cats and one dog behind and called Mrs. Lane to send the pets back to Zachary since he gave them to her.

When Mrs. Lane sent the pets to Zachary, he looked at the three furies, which had been fattened up for a long time, and said, “The missus doesn’t have time to take care of them for the time being. Mrs. Lane, you’re familiar with them, so you’re responsible for taking care of them until the missus returns.

“Take care of the flowers on the balcony as well. They’re Seren’s favorite.”

Mrs. Lane complied respectfully.

As she was preparing to leave with the pets, Zachary added, “Don’t let Snowball eat too much. It’s as round as a ball now.”

Mrs. Lane was speechless, but said agreeably, “Yes, sir.”

In fact, Mrs. Lane was the main caretaker of the pets after they were delivered to Serenity. She thought she had to feed the pets well since they were given by Mr. Zachary to his wife. However, she ended up feeding the dog until it became as round as a ball, causing its master to disdain it for being chonky.

Meanwhile, Serenity was sleeping at her sister’s place.

Liberty knew Serenity was not feeling well, so she did not bother her sister and let her be a little pig at home all day.

Liberty was also relieved after fetching her sister home from Zachary’s place. She could not neglect her store, which was currently being renovated, so she took off to work with Sonny after saying a word or two to Serenity.

Her busyness kept her from home until it was dark.

Unexpectedly, Hank was in front of the building again.

Liberty, who was pushing her e-bike, wanted to crash it into him.

“Don’t look at me like I’m an enemy. I came over to tell you something.”

Hank disliked Liberty’s current attitude toward him.

Liberty was nice to him in the past. Even if they were divorced, they still had a son together. Did she have to look at him so coldly every time she saw him?

“What is it?” Liberty asked coldly.

Chapter 858 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“Daddy,” Sonny called Hank.

Hank took two steps forward, picked his son up, and teased him for a while. When

Liberty parked the e-bike, he said, “Your granddad took some of your cousins to my office to look for me.”

Liberty frowned. “What for?”

She already divorced Hank.

Right before the divorce was finalized, her granddad even took a sum of money from her ex-mother-in-law amounting to several tens of thousands.

She wondered if her ex-mother-in-law managed to get the money back.

Probably not.

There was no way money that went into her granddad’s pocket could come back out again.

Both parties were brazen and shameless. It would definitely be fun watching them tear into each other. It was a shame she could not witness it.

“I’m guessing they came to town to find Serenity after finding out that she’s Mr. York’s wife. They couldn’t find her—Serenity’s store wasn’t open, so they went to Brynfield, but they couldn’t enter. Serenity isn’t answering their calls either.

“They wanted to find you, but they didn’t know where you live, so they came looking for me instead.”

It caused him to be misunderstood by his new wife. He spent a lot of effort trying to coax an angry Jessica.

Jessica hated how Hank and Liberty were still in contact.

“You told them that I live here?”

Hank saw his son’s fair and ruddy face and could tell that Liberty took good care of the boy. He said faintly, “I didn’t tell him. I just said that we broke off contact after the divorce, and I don’t know where you’re staying.”

Those people did not have good intentions. Hank did not care if Liberty was pestered by her family, but he was afraid that the pestering would affect his son's life.

"Two of your cousins have some connections. They'll ask around, so sooner or later they'll find out where you live. If they come to your place to cause trouble, then send Sonny to me. Don't let them scare him."

It had been a while since Hank and Jessica started being intimate, but there was still no change in Jessica's belly.

His mother kept muttering in front of him, saying that Jessica was infertile.

Hank was infuriated by his mother's remark. Jessica and he had only been together for a short period of time, not a decade. There would only be a problem if she could not get pregnant after eight to ten years of marriage.

However, there were exceptions where a couple only got a child after many years of marriage.

There was a janitor at his company who got married at nineteen, but she never got pregnant after the marriage. She took all sorts of supplements, but it was useless. The couple finally gave up and adopted a little girl who was abandoned.

A few years later, they adopted a son. The boy came from a family who already had several sons and he was the youngest. The boy's family felt like it was not worth raising him, so they gave him away.

However, after twenty years, when the janitor was thirty-nine years old, she was suddenly expecting. She had long since given up on getting pregnant, so she did not know that she had a child growing inside her. When her belly grew bigger, she thought she had a terminal illness and cried to her husband that she was dying.

Her husband took her to the doctor, who later told her that she was pregnant. She could not believe it.

She got married at nineteen but only conceived a child at thirty-nine. When her daughter was born, her adopted daughter was already married while her adopted son was in high school. Both her adopted children were filial to their adoptive mother.

Her husband died a few years after their daughter was born, and the adopted children helped her in raising their little sister. The family was living well now. Her biological daughter did not have to worry about school because her adopted son was a top student and was good at making money. He was already earning a living when he was still in university.

With her son taking care of her young daughter, the mother had nothing to worry about. She was too idle, so she found a cleaning job to pass the time and earn some pocket money.

Of course, Hank did not want him and Jessica to be married for twenty years before having children. If that happened, his parents and sister, who were already dissatisfied with Jessica, would definitely cause a scene.

Chapter 859 | [Serenity & Zachary]

As Jessica was not yet pregnant, Hank was afraid that his relationship with Sonny would become increasingly distant.

That was especially so when he saw Liberty and Duncan together. Even if he felt that Duncan could not possibly like Liberty, he was still worried that his son would call another man “father”.

He wanted to take the opportunity to take Sonny with him and raise him for a period of time, so as to cultivate their relationship as father and son.

He wanted to let Jessica get along with Sonny too. If Jessica could not get pregnant, and Liberty wanted to remarry, he would fight for Sonny’s custody and take him back.

Hank was still Sonny’s father, after all. In no way Hank could allow Sonny to call another man his father.

“They already know we’re divorced—why would they pester me? Even if they come, I’m not afraid of them. Sonny isn’t close enough to you all. Besides, you just married that Yates girl. What will she think if you take Sonny back with you?”

“You’ll have a child with the Yates girl eventually, so I’m not comfortable with you taking Sonny. Your parents and wife have many conflicts too. If Sonny goes with you, your parents will definitely spoil him and invariably provoke Jessica. Only Sonny will be at a risk.

“Hank, I hope you can abide by the conditions we agreed on during the divorce.”

“Don’t talk to me about the conditions of the divorce. You got so much money from me.”

Hank thought about how bad his job was going now. He lost his bonus and could barely get by with his basic salary. His extra income was also cut off because those partners did not want to cooperate with Waltham anymore. Thus, he had no extra income.

He was glad he worked hard before and had more than a million as personal savings.

Even if he lost his job, it would not affect his life for the time being.

However, he still hated the person who caused him to lose everything.

It was said that breaking off a person’s financial resources was like killing their parents. Liberty must have told Zachary to do it.

Zachary wanted to help Liberty vent her anger, so it was equivalent to Liberty being involved. That was why Hank was furious with Liberty.

Liberty took her son back from Hank’s arms with a vague smile. “I promised you time and again that I won’t try to retaliate against you. Did you not understand my words? Are you blaming me now?”

“Thank you for coming all the way here to tell me these things.”

After saying that, she carried her son upstairs.

Hank turned to look at her and raised his voice, “Aren’t you going to invite me up for a coffee?”

“There’s no cup for you.”

Hank was speechless.

She took his money and rented such a good place to live in, but she was not even going to invite him over for a cup of coffee.

What a ruthless woman!

“Mommy, why doesn’t Daddy live with us?” Sonny asked innocently.

The little boy realized it was getting harder to see his daddy.

His favorite was his mommy and his aunt.

However, his daddy was still his daddy. There were times he still missed his daddy.

“Daddy’s workplace is too far from where we live now. It’s not convenient for him to go to work if he lives with us.”

Sonny seemed to understand.

He asked, “Mommy, why aren’t we living in our old home?”

Liberty was at a loss for words.

The boy had grown up a little after the New Year’s holidays and was starting to question things.

She thought about it and said, “Our old home is being renovated. The renovations will take a long time, so we won’t move back to our old home for a long, long time.”

Sonny hummed and stopped asking.

When the mother and son arrived home, Serenity had made dinner.

She was bored and sitting in front of the sofa with her drawing board on the coffee table, doodling to pass the time.

“Aunt Seren.”

Sonny slipped out of his mother’s arms as soon as he entered the house and called out happily to Serenity.

Serenity put down the brush in her hand, smiled, and spread her arms. When her nephew ran over, she picked up the little boy and kissed him several times, asking with a smile, “Did you miss me, Sonny?”

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“Yeah.”

Sonny wrapped his arms around Serenity’s neck and returned her kisses with several of his own on her cheek, making Serenity’s heart burst with joy and love for this little cutie.

“Why are you back so late, Liberty? I finished making dinner long ago,” Serenity asked her sister while hugging her nephew.

“The interior designer finished work late, so I had to leave a little later as well. I was thinking of coming back to cook for you, but you already did.”

Serenity said, “I just suffered some emotional hurt. It’s not like I’m sick. You don’t need to cook for me.”

Liberty walked over and looked at the painting Serenity made. It was a hairpin.

“Your drawing sucks when you’re not in a good mood. Stop drawing for now.”

Liberty helped her sister put the drawing board away. “Did you go out for a walk today?”

“I didn’t want to move, so I slept all day.”

“Take a walk tomorrow. You’ll just feel worse if you stay cooped up at home all day.”

Serenity hummed. “I’ll go back to work tomorrow. I need to rush the orders from the online store I got before the holidays.

The students would not start school until next Monday.

Today was Friday, so she could use the weekend to catch up with her orders.

She would not be constantly reminded of Zachary lying to her if she had something to distract herself with.

There was a snowball effect where if that was not on her mind, then she would not get angry and consequently improve her mood.

“Sounds good.”

Liberty did not stop her sister from going back to the store, but she reminded her, “I met Hank downstairs. He came over just to tell me that our granddad went downtown again with his class of grandsons.”

Serenity frowned at that. “Why did they come here? Do they think we have lots of money for them after they found out that Zachary is the heir of the York family and I’m his wife?”

Liberty said faintly, “Do you think they won’t think that?”

Those people had faces thicker than walls—possessing great shamelessness that gave them unsolicited boldness to do and think of anything.

“So what if they do? They can go straight to Zachary.”

Serenity’s conflict with her old family was the most severe.

“They might actually just do that.”

Serenity was silent. Would they really go to Zachary for money? She had no idea.

“They’re having a bad time now. If they don’t pester Zachary for money after knowing his identity, the sun might rise from the west.”

Serenity's voice was cold. "Even if they lose their jobs and fail in their businesses, they have more than enough savings. It's unlikely their quality of life will be affected for the time being, but they're always thinking about asking for money from us. They're shameless to the core!"

They could not bear to spend the money they had saved but never hesitated at the thought of spending other people's money.

Who owed them?

"They wanted a share of the money I got from the divorce too. They called me to borrow money from me, but I refused."

After Liberty helped her sister put away the drawing board, she went into the kitchen and brought out the food that her sister cooked. Meanwhile, Serenity carried her nephew to wash his hands.

The three of them were soon seated at the small table to dine.

Sonny could eat by himself now. Although he dropped food all over the table, Liberty still let him eat by himself.

He would be starting preschool in September.

Ding dong... Ding dong...

The doorbell rang.

"I'll get it."

Serenity put down her spoon. "I guess they might have found their way here."