

## A Lifetime Love chapter 5

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### Chapter 5

Tilting his head to the side, Lucien leaned against the round pillar in the room and lazily responded, "It's simple. I don't want to be taken advantage of by someone irresponsible." At that, Seraphina blushed. *That was my first kiss too! The pastor had said it out loud, and everyone was watching. How could I have said no? Who knew this guy is going to be as petty as this? Is he seriously asking me to bear responsibility for that kiss?* "Mr. Riviere, that was an act I had to take. If you think that you've suffered a loss, feel free to return it," Seraphina refuted, barely concealing her anger. "Return it? Are you asking me to kiss you? Keep dreaming!" Seraphina fell silent, but her mind was loud. *How can there be such a shameless man in this world? He's trying to play victim even though he's benefited from the situation. Yet, he makes so much sense that I can't refute anything!* There was nothing else she could do but endure in silence. Noticing the little stray cat's fury, Lucien continued, "I know the Hoult family is facing a financial crisis, so you need a large amount of money. Otherwise, you wouldn't have been in such a rush to agree to a union with the Salisbury family. What the Salisbury family can give, we, the Riviere family, can offer as well. Seraphina, you won't lose out on anything if you marry me. I can't say how excellent I am, but I'm definitely better than Denver." "You're willing to help the Hoult family?" That surprised Seraphina. She had been away from home since young, so she was not close with her parents and sisters. However, she had a strong relationship with her grandmother. Now that their family was in a crisis, her grandmother had been wearing a frown at almost all times of the day. In fact, she had even been hospitalized, her body unable to take the stress. Otherwise, Seraphina would not have sacrificed herself and agreed to a union for the sake of her family. She was not a saint, after all. Lucien nodded. "What are your terms?" Seraphina queried. "Be my wife. Since we're already at this step, we might as well just go on with it and make this marriage real," Lucien replied honestly. "For how long?" That question stumped Lucien, as it was something he had never thought about. However, to put Seraphina at ease, he mumbled, "Three years at most. If you still don't want to stay in the Riviere family after three years, I'll return you your freedom." "I need this in print," Seraphina added. "We can have a written agreement for this, but we'll have to keep this a secret from everyone else," Lucien stated. After a five-second silence, Seraphina agreed, "Deal." For some reason, Lucien's heart skipped a beat when she finally agreed. *Of course, my heart did a flip. She's an interesting girl. I'm sure we'll be even closer to each other after three years.* "Well then, I look forward to spending the rest of my life with you," Lucien remarked in a half-joking tone. Getting to her feet, Seraphina slowly turned around and solemnly replied, "Three years." The message behind her words was clear; she was reminding him that their marriage would only last three years, and not the rest of their lives, as he had just said. However, that was not important. What was important was that Lucien finally saw Seraphina's face. The kiss earlier had been too quick for him to catch a glimpse of what she looked like. Moreover, when they were speaking earlier, she had her body sideways the entire time. Now was the only time they were actually facing one another. Studying her face, Lucien only knew of one word he could use to describe her looks—heavenly. It was rumored that Seraphina stuttered, but the true Seraphina was a witty woman. Other than that, it was also rumored that Seraphina was hideous, but her looks were heavenly. Therefore, rumors were not to be believed. Lucien was not a womanizer, but the moment he laid eyes on Seraphina's face, he could not look away for a long time.