

Luckiest Bride

### **Chapter 361 He couldn't Understand Himself**

When Ethan had told Laney about Garrett's words, it made her feel wholly uneasy and unsettled. Instead of feeling comforted, she was even more worried and restless than before.

On the next day, and as a consequence of their chat, she looked utterly listless when she went to work. The instant Janet laid eyes on her, she sensed that something was amiss. "Are you still thinking about what happened between Garrett and his girlfriend yesterday?" Janet asked tentatively, touching her arm gently. Laney didn't feel like there was any need to hide anything. "I feel so overcome by guilt. I was the reason for their breakup."

For her entire employment as a bodyguard, she had never become entangled in any of her employers' private affairs, let alone accused of being a slut. But Ethan was her boss, and she had no option but to follow his instructions.

Janet didn't want to see her take all the blame for what had transpired between the couple. She peered around before she whispered in Laney's ear, "To be honest, I think Mr. Harding is partly to blame. There was nothing between you two, and we all know that. But he has a reputation of being a player, so even if it wasn't you, he would have been having a meal with another woman yesterday, and the same thing would have happened to that woman." When Laney heard this rationale, she nodded. Even if she tried not to think about it now, she would inadvertently do so when she met Garrett later.

After this incident, her impression of Garrett had become slightly marred. 'He is definitely a playboy. He dumped that woman so readily, which must mean he hasn't taken their relationship seriously. No wonder he changes girlfriends so fast, like how some people change clothes,' she thought to herself. 1 After saying goodbye to Janet, she made her way to Garrett's office to work. In order not to look suspicious, she had begun to learn about her job as a secretary. She thought that at least she should look the part of a secretary. As soon as he entered the office, he saw Laney sorting through the documents and arranging his meeting schedules. "You don't have to do all these things. Just leave them to my assistant to attend to," he said. Garrett walked to Laney and tried to take the documents from her grasp, but she quickly dodged him with a blank expression on her face.

Laney left with the documents in her hands and said in an icy tone, "Mr. Harding, this forms part of my job as your secretary. Besides, please keep a distance from me from now on. Thank you." She didn't want to stay in his presence a moment longer, so she turned on her heel and was about to leave.

For no reason, Garrett felt annoyed. Laney's attitude towards him was now obviously colder and more removed than before.

"Don't mind what happened yesterday." Garrett's voice came from behind Laney. + Laney looked sideways and frowned, "Mr. Harding, you don't need to explain this to me. Your behavior now will only make others misunderstand the relationship between us." She then closed the office door, leaving him standing alone in the room. He didn't know how to explain the true situation to her, nor did he know why he actually wanted to explain it to her. She was just there to be Janet's bodyguard. Garrett took a seat in his chair in an irritable mood. He didn't even understand why he handled what had happened yesterday the way he did.

Indeed, he liked to date young, energetic and beautiful women. Although he had never fallen in love with any of them,

he was good at buttering women up and charming them.

It was simply a misunderstanding and all he needed to do was to spend some time charming the pants

off Tracey, which would be an easy task for him. With just a few new luxury bags, Tracey would forgive him. Moreover, he and Tracey had only been together for two months and there hadn't been many problems. Even if there were, they would be easy to solve. However, after they had got home and he tried to explain the situation to Tracey, she still wouldn't let it go. Somehow, he felt exhausted and soon lost his patience. That was when he really wanted to end things with her.

### **Chapter 362 Fell Into The Water**

Laney had been in a bad mood the entire week after the incident. Janet knew that she was still blaming herself for the problem between Garrett and his girlfriend. Therefore, she planned to go shopping with Laney on Saturday to cheer her up. She bought some chicken nuggets from a shop on the street. It was a cold wintry day; the perfect season to enjoy hot, fried chicken. Janet put a chicken nugget into Laney's mouth. "Stop sulking! It has been one whole week. Perhaps the misunderstanding between Garrett and his girlfriend is cleared by now. They might have gotten back together already." After eating the nugget, Laney let out a weary sigh. "I don't think so. They have really broken up, you know."

Janet was taken aback. "Even so, it's no big deal," she comforted Laney. "It was just a misunderstanding. None of it is your fault. Anyway, Garrett changes girlfriends faster than he changes his clothes. Perhaps he was just tired of his girlfriend again."

Laney smiled but didn't say anything. She understood that Janet was trying to make her feel better. However, her words didn't seem to help. She had to figure this out herself. 1

After shopping, they went to a scenic spot that had recently opened in Seaisco. Janet pointed at the lofty mountain and said, "I heard on the news that the snow would rime the mountain, making it look like a huge ice cream cone."

She wanted to somehow make Laney feel better, and nothing better could uplift one's mood than the beauty of nature.

Unexpectedly, a crew was filming there. As soon as they reached the foot of the mountain, they saw that people had gathered around to watch the shoot.

Janet wasn't interested in celebrities. But if Laney liked them, she didn't mind joining her. "Do you like stars?"

"I only like action movie stars." Laney smiled.

It seemed like they were shooting a soap opera. A huge crowd had gathered, and they couldn't squeeze their way inside.

At last, the two of them found a quiet place by the lake and sat down. Just as Janet wondered what to say to make Laney feel better, she heard someone call her name.

"Janet!" The voice sounded familiar. She turned around and saw a female star greeting her from a distance. As the woman walked closer, Janet recognized her. Emani's contract with the Larson Group had just expired. She was no longer the spokesperson of the Larson Group's clothing brand, which meant Emani didn't have to try being friends with Janet anymore.

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"You just saw me. Why didn't you come and talk to me? Luckily, I have good eyesight, so I recognized you from afar." Emani was wearing bright lip gloss. She smiled, revealing her pearly teeth that made her look kind and innocent. 1 However, Janet was on guard. Emani was acting weird, and weird meant dangerous. The woman had never liked Janet. Why would she be so nice to her all of a sudden?

Something seemed fishy. Janet had no intention of talking to Emani. However, a group of reporters and fans had already gathered around Emani, taking pictures.

If Janet were rude or impolite, Emani's fans would wreck her life. "There were too many people, so I didn't want to disturb you." Janet smiled and turned to leave. However, Emani immediately grabbed Janet's hand and sat beside her as if they were great friends. "We haven't seen each other for a long time. How have you been? Have you gotten over what happened?" A frown lined Janet's forehead. 'What's wrong with her? Why is she asking such stupid questions? We don't even really know each other.'

### **Chapter 363 She Pushed Emani**

With a resounding slosh, the lake water splashed in all directions from the impact. "Emani!" Janet was wholly taken aback by the unexpected incident. The fans and reporters around were all flabbergasted by what they had just witnessed. "What happened?!" "Everything was fine a moment ago! What happened?" Emani screamed and thrashed about in the water as she bellowed for help. "Help! Somebody help! Please! Help me!" Several of her die-hard fans immediately rushed over and jumped into the lake without a second's hesitation. They managed to grab hold of her by her arms and swim back to shore with her safely in tow.

The crowd surged forward and surrounded them. One of the fans shouted with anxious urgency, "Call an ambulance! Stop! Stop shooting!" Meanwhile, Laney sneered from the spot where she had remained seated. These people were really making a disproportionate deal of this. For crying out loud, it was a man-made lake. It was actually very shallow and people really couldn't drown in it. Further, Emani was over 5.5 ft tall. If she stood up, the water may not have been able to submerge her. <sup>1</sup> However, had been bitterly cold for the last few days. It had snowed a few days ago and the temperature was still around zero degrees Celsius. Because of this, it had really been a traumatic ordeal for Emani.

When Emani's fans took her to the shore, she was soaked to the bone. She was shivering with cold, and her face was pale. Her long, usually voluptuous and curly hair was plastered flat against her face. Her makeup was ruined, and she looked utterly haggard and miserable. "What happened?" Hearing the noise, Emani's assistant and the other crew members rushed over. The assistant quickly wrapped her with a blanket and asked anxiously, "Miss Gomez, what happened? How did you fall into the lake all of a sudden?" Emani drew the blanket tightly around herself and trembled, as if she was still in a state of shock. She kept shaking her head, and then looked through the crowd at Janet, who was standing beside the lake. Emani looked hesitant, as if she wanted to say something but decided it best to keep mum. Someone in the crowd pointed at Janet and said, "That woman pushed Emani on purpose!" <sup>3</sup> Emani's assistant also turned to look at Janet. Emani's fans and the reporters also looked at her. After a few seconds, Emani said with an unnatural, slightly wry smile, "I am fine now. Don't gather here. I should get back to work now. There's still a lot of work to be covered later. Don't let me slow you down."

Her assistant rolled her eyes at Janet and pulled Emani to her feet carefully. Emani's fans glowered at Janet with deep-seated contempt.

"You are so raw! You didn't even offer an apology."

"Everyone saw it clearly. She pushed Emani."

"Well, Emani is too kind-hearted. She decided to let it slide. We don't want to get Emani in trouble."

"She did it just because she knew Emani wouldn't fight back!" The crowd all whispered under their breath and left the lake area behind Emani. Watching them leave, Janet felt a little unsettled. "Let's go

back too," Laney said, holding her arm and walking with her when she noticed how awkward she looked. "Don't think too much of it. I know you didn't push her." "But they all think I did it." Janet felt wronged. She had the feeling that it hadn't been an accident at all and that Emani purposely threw herself into the water of her own volition. 2

Emani didn't get along with Janet. In all likelihood, Emani did this to set her up and cast her in a bad light.

### **Chapter 364 Besieged By Fans**

Having heard Laney's remark, Janet forced herself not to dwell on it too much. Considering the fact that there were a lot of people here, she figured that at least half of them should've seen that she didn't push Emani. Sadly, she completely underestimated the power of Emani's fans to incite public opinion. Not only did they have bad eyesight, but they were also selectively blind. The next day, Janet went to a hairdresser to get a haircut. She felt that her bangs were getting too long, so she took Laney with her to a salon. The hairdresser was a handsome man in his early twenties. He had short spiky hair, and he was quite adept at flattery. "This hairstyle suits you perfectly. Hold on a second. You're an actress, aren't you? I think I've seen you somewhere before!" "Has that pickup line ever worked for you?" Janet bantered. It was indeed an old pickup line. The next second, the hairdresser took out his phone, opened a video, and handed it to Janet. "I'm serious. Have a look at this! You look exactly the same. Is she your sister or something?"

When Janet saw what was on the screen, she was taken aback. Someone had secretly taken a video of her and Emani by the lake yesterday, and it had been posted online.

Janet logged onto Twitter to read more about the news. After a few minutes, she had fully grasped the entire story.

There was an entertainment news report regarding Emani falling into the water while she was taking a break on the set. And now, she had caught a cold and had to stop filming.

Many fans were concerned about her health and left many comments regarding this matter. Most of them guessed that someone must've pushed Emani into the water. The video showed that Janet and Emani were just sitting by the water at first. Without the intervention of outside force, one wouldn't easily fall into the water. When they took a closer look, they noticed that Janet moved her arm slightly. It was as if she was trying to break free of Emani's grip. Moreover, Emani's reaction during the situation was quite odd. If she didn't fall into the water by accident, the only reasonable explanation was that the person sitting beside her had pushed her into the water. And that person happened to be Janet. Janet scowled while reading through the comments. She then checked Emani's page again. There, many fans had already left numerous impassioned comments. "Emani, everyone is waiting for you to recover! Tell us what happened. Shed light on the situation." "We'll always support you!"

"Did that woman shove you?"

"Who even was that woman? We should dox her!"

"Right. We should dox that bitch. I want to know what's going on between her and Emani. How dare she do something like that? I'm gonna rip her head off!" However, Emani didn't provide any explanations. It was as if she had acquiesced to her fans' sentiments,

At this point, Janet really wanted to speak up. Just then, she got a call from Gerda. "Girl, have you seen the trending video on Twitter? The woman in the video looks like you," Gerda said anxiously "It is me,"

replied Janet. Surprised by the response, Gerda said, “Seriously? I don’t believe you’d do something like that!” She was one of Emani’s fans. There was a time when she was so enamored by her looks. She had even joined her fan club, so she could hear firsthand news on Emani. Gerda took a deep breath and said to Janet, “You should be careful. I saw some of Emani’s fans discussing something in the fan club’s group chat. They said that they intend to dox you!”

### **Chapter 365 Slander And Abuse Directed At Janet**

Clenching her teeth tightly, Janet said, “There’s more to the story than what’s on the video.” “I believe you. But Emani just so happened to be a popular actress who had starred in several hot trending TV shows. Now she has a huge following. Also, most of her fans are young and radical. This means the cards are stacked against you. There are very few people who would believe your story.” Gerda let out a long sigh.

She paid a lot of attention to what people were gossiping about in the entertainment circle. She knew firsthand that many stars liked to incite their fans on purpose in order to fight their battles.

It was not shocking at all to see these tricks in the trade, but she felt that it was a little off that someone would use this to deal with a nonentity like Janet.

“I want to clarify this matter on Twitter.” Janet wasn’t willing to give up without a fight.

“I wouldn’t do that if I were you. Now, what those fans are trying to do is dox you and dig up any dirt they can find on you. If you show them your Twitter account, they’ll hunt you down and make your life a living hell!” Gerda exclaimed in a loud voice. 1

After a few seconds of silence, she finally said, “Janet, you have no idea how serious the situation really is.”

Gerda’s meaningful silence told Janet that there was more to this matter than just the video and reports.

After hanging up the phone call, Gerda sent over a bunch of screenshots and messages to Janet.

“The fans are discussing this here. They have uncovered a ton of things about Emani and you.”

One of the things about the Internet was that anything that happened there left behind traces. Janet swiped her phone screen to see what Gerda had sent her. Emani’s fans had done some investigating and found out what had happened to her and Emani at the ball – that she and Emani had on the same dress, but she had refused to change her outfit, going on to embarrass Emani in public.

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Other than that, they also discovered that she had gone out of her way to humiliate Emani in the jewelry store.

From the fan’s perspective, this was all Janet’s fault. Emani was the innocent victim here.

They also discovered that Janet was one of the designers at the Larson Group. So they easily came to the conclusion that she must’ve been picking on Emani at her job, and that must be the reason why the Larson Group did not renew their contract with Emani. 1 Of course, these were all groundless rumors.

Altogether, Janet believed that the gossip was too ridiculous and illogical. She was only an ordinary designer. How could her words have any weight on Emani’s contract? As time passed by, more and more of Janet’s personal information was exposed to the public. The type of things being discussed included her family background, the conflict between her and the Lind family, and the vicious rumor that she had sex with a senior partner of the Larson Group.

These rumors and slanders circulated on the Internet and before long, they became viral.

The netizens who had no idea about the truth all thought that Janet had been a scheming bitch her

entire life. Even some netizens who initially were neutral came to believe these baseless rumors and joined those fans opposing her to criticize her. The more Janet watched behind the scenes, the more restless she got. After that, she reopened the chat history Gerda had sent her. "She's really so ungrateful. She actually sent her foster parents to prison. This fact alone is really chilling" "I can hardly believe it. This kind of thing is actually happening in our time and age. Sure enough, bad people everywhere are all heartless creatures. I can see that Janet is a born bitch." "This woman deserves to die a painful and lonely death. It's been rumored that she has had an affair with a senior partner of the Larson Group. She's a perfect example of someone using her body to get her way to the top." \*Do you have any clue where she lives?" The chat was filled with slander and abuse toward Janet. Noticing Janet's extremely pale face, Laney took her phone away and said in a serious voice, "Don't look at or listen to those people. We can't do anything about them now. They're just brainless automatons out to get you. You don't need to pay any attention to them."

### **Chapter 366 Being Surrounded**

Janet had been treated unfairly ever since she was a child. But, not once in her life had she ever been slandered by so many people at once. The malicious comments online made her furious. She had to take several deep breaths before she managed to calm down. "I know what to do. There's no need to argue with people like them. They're biased and paranoid. Besides, I'm not the kind of person they think I am. If I were to break down and argue with them, Emani would be thrilled." Despite looking gentle and timid, Janet had grown to become a strong woman because of all the hardships she had gone through since she was a child. "We should go home as soon as possible. Brainless fans like them are capable of all sorts of crazy stuff. It's not safe for you to stay outside." Laney happened to read some of the comments online just now. It was difficult for good people to triumph over evil ones, because the latter had no morality whatsoever. 1 Once their haircuts were finished, Janet and Laney left the salon in a hurry. The shopping mall was crowded. While Janet was walking with her head down, someone recognized her.

"Janet Lind?" the person exclaimed from behind her.

"Don't look back." Laney sensed that something was amiss. She wanted to stop Janet, but it was all too late.

Janet looked back instinctively and saw that several girls that were behind them rushed over and stopped in front of them.

"Humph! It really is Janet Lind. How dare you come out on the streets, you bitch?" The girl was holding a poster of Emani, which only meant that she was one of Emani's diehard fans. Six seventeen-year-old girls were now surrounding Laney and Janet. They pointed at the two ladies and shouted, "Apologize to Emani, bitch!" "We should push you into the lake and make you feel just how cold it is to be soaked in ice-cold water!"

"Emani caught a cold and was sent to the hospital, while here you are, shopping with not a care in the world. Don't you have a heart? Don't you feel even a little bit guilty? You deserved to be abandoned by your parents, you jinx!" "Get the hell out of our way and talk shit somewhere else!" Laney stood in front of Janet with a stern look.

With her strength, she could easily kick these little bitches' asses. But right now, Janet's reputation was already at rock bottom. If word got out that they hit Emani's fans, it could get even worse and things would become even harder to clear out. 1 "You think you can just run away after what you've done? Hell no! Call them over, Jane! We're going to avenge Emani today!" one of the resentful fans said. The

other girl took out her phone and began to make phone calls. 3 Fearing that it would become harder for them to escape once the girls' friends arrived, Laney grabbed Janet's hand, intending to take her away. However, the other girls blocked their path and made phone calls. In just a few minutes, Janet and Laney were surrounded by more of Emani's rabid fans. "Sisters! Those are the two demons who pushed Emani down the lake! Don't let them get away!" Laney swept her eyes across the crowd and clenched her fists. 'If I don't make a move now, we might not be able to escape this place unscathed!"

### **Chapter 367 Saved From The Angry Mob**

"Don't act as though we're the bad guys here. Emani is still in the hospital. She's such a kind-hearted woman! How could she ever offend you?" a girl said loudly, glaring at Janet. Right after she spoke, the fans grew more emboldened and agitated. "Yeah! Emani never hurt you before, you bitch!" "No wonder your parents deserted you! I heard that you even put your foster mother in prison! What an ungrateful child! Sisters, let's bring Emani justice today!" From the very beginning, Janet had lowered her head and didn't dare to provoke them. She didn't want any trouble and thought that she could put up with this. However, she didn't expect that the girls would bring up her family. "You don't know what really happened. I've never hurt Emani." Finally, she raised her head and confronted them head on. However, these fans were like rabid dogs. One of them even threw an egg at Janet, cursing, "You fucking bitch! You still won't admit to your crimes?" "Beat her! Sisters, somebody needs to teach this bitch a lesson!" "Why are you acting like the victim? Do you think you can talk your way out of this?" Before Janet could defend herself, the crazy fans threw more eggs at her face. Someone even shoved her from behind. Unable to bear it any longer, Laney snapped impatiently, "Can't you talk like decent human beings? You don't have to resort to violence!" "What're you saying? She can push Emani into a lake and we can't hit her? Looks like this bitch's friend is also a bitch!"

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"Enough with the bullshit! Beat the crap out of them already!" Chaos ensued. The angry mob kept throwing whatever they had at Janet. Janet and Laney were definitely outnumbered and there was no way for Laney to protect Janet well while fighting their way out. What with all the projectiles being thrown at them, they didn't have the chance to call Ethan. As the two women were anxiously trying to escape, several security guards showed up. "Enough! You're in a shopping mall. If you have any personal problems, solve them outside!" The security guards began to forcibly evacuate the crazy fans. Before Laney and Janet could make their escape, one of the security guards singled them out and took them to the mall's administrative office.

Still shocked from what happened, Janet followed the security guards in a daze and didn't even bother to wipe the eggs in her hair.

"What on earth happened?" The man's voice sounded familiar. She looked up in surprise. Sure enough, it was Kent. Seeing the shocked expression on Janet's face, Kent couldn't help but chuckle. The woman before him looked so goofy at the moment. Removing the egg shells from her hair, he asked, "Why are you so surprised?"

| When Janet finally gathered her bearings, she turned her face away and murmured, "Thanks." Kent threw the pieces of egg shells on the ground and frowned with disgust. While wiping his fingers carefully with a handkerchief, he teased, "You're always getting into trouble, aren't you?" "Why are you here?" Janet answered his question with another. "I own this shopping mall. I came here today on a routine inspection and I happened to see you being besieged by those girls, silly." As Kent spoke, there was a trace of affection in his eyes, which he himself didn't notice. Knowing that Janet didn't like him

and didn't want to spend any more time talking to him, Kent pointed to an exit and said, "You can leave through there instead of the front. Emani's fans might be outside waiting for you." Staring at the exit, Janet felt somewhat uneasy. She reached for Laney's hand and turned to leave. Just before she pushed the door open, she looked back hesitantly and mumbled, "Thanks, Kent. I owe you one."

### **Chapter 368 Unrequited Love**

Kent turned to look at Janet's delicate face.

She wasn't the most beautiful woman he had ever seen, but there was something about her eyes that made her

stand out. What was it about her that obsessed him? • Janet saw Kent looking at her steadily, as though he was thinking about something. . she couldn't understand what that look meant, but she couldn't help but feel a little uncomfortable, what with Kent's eyes being glued to her. Unable to hold his gaze any longer, she raised her voice and asked awkwardly, "Did you hear me?"

Her question brought Kent back to his senses. He felt as though he was going insane. Recently, he hadn't been himself. He wasn't exactly sick, but he had been feeling listless until he saw Janet.

He didn't know how long it had been since he had last been with a woman.

Ever since he met Janet, he hadn't even looked at another woman. At first, he thought it was because he couldn't get Janet to fall in love with him that he felt drawn to her, prohibiting him from moving on to the next woman. He didn't want things to be like this. Wasn't it better to keep playing the game than to commit to one woman who didn't even like him? 2 Wanting to go back to his old self, he started going to all kinds of clubs and bars, but something felt different.

Kent hadn't noticed it at first until one of his friends made a casual comment about it.

"So, Kent, when did you change your type?" "What do you mean?" Kent looked at him in confusion.

"You like young and innocent girls with big, bright eyes now! That wasn't your type before." As if waking up from a dream, Kent blinked and stared at the woman in his arms carefully. After a moment's pause, Kent had to down a bottle of wine.

Since then, he had been having trouble getting Janet off his mind. The harder he tried, the more stuck he was.

One day, he had one bottle too many. It suddenly occurred to his drunk self that a friend of his had once predicted that he'd be in love with someone who didn't love him back, and that was the price he had to pay for breaking too many girls' hearts. 3

Now, his friend's prediction had come true.

"Of course you owe me one-a big one, at that. Since you brought it up, you should start thinking about how you can repay me. How about more than just a dinner this time?" Kent smiled at Janet gently.

However, this only made Janet feel even more uncomfortable. The look in Kent's eyes was so strangely affectionate. Rubbing the goose bumps on her arms, she skirted around the topic and said, "Let's talk about it later. We have to go now. You don't want Emani's crazy fans to keep waiting at the gate, do you?" "Be careful," Kent said politely. His affectionate tone sent a shiver down Janet's spine. She hurried out, Laney in tow.

The exit led to a back alley behind the shopping mall.

After they made it to the street, they hailed a taxi and went straight home. A mob of reporters and Emani's fans were blocking the entrance to their neighborhood. The fans held up placards as though they were in a rally. "Janet, you bitch!" "Come out and apologize!".



## Chapter 369 Hiding At Home

Janet and Laney hid in a convenience store near the neighborhood. Janet popped her head out to sneak a look at what was going on outside. The gate was completely blocked. Not even a fly would be able to sneak past without getting caught. "I think I underestimated the Internet. I had no idea those brainless fans would find your address so soon." Laney frowned. She wished they could force their way in. She was skilled at combat, and she knew she could defeat all of them in minutes.

Janet bit her lower lip in frustration. Just as she was about to say something, however, her phone buzzed in her bag. The worry on her face melted away when she saw the caller ID. "Ethan," she said, with relief in her voice. "I noticed you downstairs. Take the path behind the store. I've told the security guards to open another door for you." From where he was upstairs, Ethan parted the curtain and watched what was going on downstairs.

Janet did as he suggested and headed towards the back of the store. Thankfully there was no one there. Dragging Laney behind her, she rushed through the back gate quickly. "You shouldn't take the elevator since you might bump into someone. The stairs are safer," Ethan reminded her over the phone. With an obedient nod, Janet started climbing the stairs. She dropped Laney off on her floor and continued on her way up. By the time she reached the 22nd floor, she was out of breath.

She headed to her apartment and the door opened from the inside before she could knock. Ethan glanced around behind her to make sure she wasn't followed before dragging her in.

"What on earth happened to you?" A frown scrunched up Ethan's face as he looked at the messy state her clothes were in. "I accidentally bumped into someone and their eggs went all over me. Why didn't you go to work today?" Janet gave a tired smile.

"Today is Sunday. Did you forget?" Ethan said, looking down at her.

Janet did forget. Her mind was still disorganized after dealing with those brainless fans outside.

"Right. Anyway, I need to take a shower." She was stinking.

"I saw the video and the posts on Twitter." Ethan walked over to help her take off her coat, then headed to the bathroom to prepare the hot water for her. "You should take a shower first. Let's talk when you're done."

He was being so calm and gentle. It was strange. Janet gave a meek nod. She was exhausted and needed a relaxing shower.

She came out of the bathroom to the smell of delicious food in the living room. Ethan who was wearing an apron looked so domesticated and sweet as he set dishes on the table. "Come, let's eat," he said. "I don't really feel like eating right now..." Janet said softly as she wiped her hair, looking depressed.

"I already know about how you were abused by Emani's fans. Refusing to eat won't get you anything except for a stomach ache." Ethan said, putting the plate in front of her. "Sit and eat." After a few seconds of initial hesitation, Janet pulled out a chair and sat down. She only managed to get a few mouthfuls of food down before tears welled up in her eyes. She said in a weepy voice, "I didn't do it." It was only in front of Ethan that she stopped pretending to be tough. She had been really scared. When Emani's fans attacked her, she really wanted to cry but tried her best to hold her tears back. "If this goes on, I wouldn't be able to live a normal life. Gerda called me today, and I'm sure everyone in the company knows about it already. I think I'm going to take a day off tomorrow."

Janet was at war with a very large group of unreasonable people. She tried explaining to Emani's fans today, but no

one listened to her. They had been instigated and didn't care what she had to say. They only believed what they wanted to believe. Ethan's eyes darkened as he thought of the situation. "Take two days off

for now. You should stay at home since it's safer here." :

Janet asked for a leave, and Tiffany approved it quickly. Ethan didn't go to work either. He stayed at home with Janet and kept her off the Internet. He didn't want her to see the negative comments since they would only make her more depressed.

### **Chapter 370 The Beginning Of The Issue**

Emani was browsing Twitter at her residence to check the latest news. She was stretching and yawning in the meantime as if she didn't have a care in the world. In fact, she was not sick. She had eaten well, slept peacefully, and wasn't suffering from any ailment. She had asked for leave and abstained from going to the shooting site just to manipulate public opinion. "Emani, Janet is completely doomed now." Emani's assistant handed the iPad to her with a smile. A piece of a thin cucumber slice she had kept on her face as a skin care mask fell down. She casually tossed it into her mouth and read the news on the iPad as a smug smile emerged on her face. "She deserves it!" The assistant felt relieved. Seeing Emani wandering in the living room in a sleeveless dress, she advised, "Emani, you better go back to your bedroom. I heard the paparazzi are waiting outside your house. If they see you wandering in the living room, looking agile, they would make a fuss." Emani grew vigilant. She immediately picked up her coat and put it on. "I have no more work for you here. You can go back now. I'll contact you if something happens. And I don't think we need to do anything about public opinion on the Internet for now. Just tell everyone that I have a high fever and am hospitalized."

With that, Emani hurried upstairs and returned to her bedroom.

"Great!" Emani was grinning from ear to ear. She was happy to hear that everyone disliked Janet. She had to thank Ritchie Lester of Lester Silk Fabric for this. Otherwise, a trivial problem like this wouldn't have blown out of proportion this way. Not long after she met Janet in the jewelry store last time, her contract with the Larson Group expired. She had thought they would renew the contract. After all, she was now a popular star in the entertainment circle. Many companies wanted to sign her as the spokesperson. Unexpectedly, the Larson Group decided not to renew the contract with her. They gave a vague reason that she was not suitable to be the spokesperson of the Larson Group's clothing brand. Emani was upset when she heard it. After all, it was the biggest humiliation of her life. Besides, she had refused to collaborate with other companies, stating she would renew the contract with the Larson Group. A popular actress like her was always the target of competition. She didn't expect the Larson Group wouldn't want to renew the contract with her. It was no different from kicking her out.

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After terminating the contract with the Larson Group, Emani listened to her agent's advice and signed a contract with Lester Silk Fabric. On the day of signing the contract, Emani saw Ritchie and talked with him. Both of them mentioned Janet. That was when she knew Ritchie also had a grudge against her nemesis. People with the same enemies were likely to become allies. Ritchie and Emani then cooperated in a tacit understanding. Emani had some scruples before. She had seen the blue diamond ring on Janet's finger in the shopping mall last time and suspected that Janet had a powerful background. After talking to Ritchie, she learned that Janet's husband, Ethan, was a member of the Larson family. Although the Larson family had collapsed, it was customary for them to keep their family heirlooms. Therefore, Emani felt relieved. She had thought that Janet had some special identity or backer to own such precious jewelry as "the Ocean". After knowing the truth, her attitude towards Janet changed into disdain and contempt. Back then, Ritchie had probably figured out what she was thinking. He also implied she could take advantage of her huge fan following to deal with Janet. That way, she would be

safe and cause more damage to Janet's reputation. In return, Ritchie promised to give her the best resources and make her more famous. Emani thought for a while and agreed. She decided to wait for the right time and opportunity. After all, the Lester family was powerful. She could make steady profits without losing anything. Emani believed even God was helping her. The other day, she saw Janet from afar when they were filming. Emani came up with a plan and fell into the water, making it seem like Janet had pushed her.