

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

chapter 1429

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Zachary replied nonchalantly, "Actually, you don't need to tire yourself out since others are around to prepare our meal."

"What? Are you telling me to stay away from the kitchen because of my subpar culinary skills?" Charlotte brought up something else for a change of mood.

"You know what? Just cook whenever you feel like it. I'll finish everything you make."

Zachary was no longer the arrogant and indifferent man—he had no intention to spend the last moments of his life arguing with the ones he held dear in life.

It's fine as long as she's around to keep me company. As awful as it might taste, I'll finish everything she cooks.

"Speaking of which, you're not really against the idea of them getting into a relationship with one another, are you?" Shortly after she directed the question at him, she took a peek at Lupine and Ben as well as Morgan and Marino.

Zachary rolled his eyes and asked rhetorically, "Do I really have a say when you're the one in charge of Northridge, Southridge, and the family?"

"You're right, but are you against the idea of them getting into a relationship?" Charlotte guffawed in a mischievous manner.

Halfway through their conversation, Zachary mentioned something in a suggestive tone, "Well, you need to show your sincerity if you want me to agree to it."

Unaware of the filthy thoughts he had in mind, she asked, "What do you want?"

"What do you think?" Zachary leaned over in an intimate manner and started running his fingers across her arms.

Once she returned to her senses, she stuttered, "Y-You! There's no way I'm allowing it since you're not fully recovered yet!"

"Go ahead and see for yourself if I have fully recovered or not!"

He pressed her hands against his pecs, allowing her to feel his heartbeat.

"Cut it out! Aren't you aware we're in the middle of a banquet with a lot of people around us?" Charlotte reprimanded the man with reddened cheeks.

"I'm going to teach you a lesson to behave yourself once we're back in the room."

Zachary pinched her face before turning around to savor his meal.

It was a great night for everyone. As the adults continued drinking after the meal, the children gathered around for some fun in the courtyard.

Marino and Morgan, who had tagged along to keep an eye on the children, couldn't stop themselves from flirting around with one another.

On the other hand, Ben was next to Lupine throughout the banquet. Occasionally, he would turn around to check on Zachary.

Zachary thought it was too much of a hassle for Ben to tend to him and his significant half at the same time. Thus, he said, "Just take good care of our guests and leave me alone."

"Thank you so much, Mr. Nacht!" Ben was thrilled and thought Zachary was also a caring employer at times.

"Lupine, how are you feeling?" Charlotte asked concernedly.

"I'm doing fine, Ms. Lindberg. You're the one who seems to have lost quite some weight."

"Are you serious?" Charlotte started examining her face when she heard the remark.

Zachary interrupted the duo's conversation and said, "It might have something to do with her exhausting herself for my sake over the past few weeks. She hadn't been eating properly since oatmeal was the only thing available for us."

"Shall we forget about it since you no longer have to consume those on a daily basis? With that being said, you're not really supposed to have too much greasy food. Most importantly, you're not allowed to drink," Charlotte warned.

"See? She's going to nag on me over something trivial again! How have you guys been dealing with her all this while? Is she different in front of you?" Zachary directed the question at Lupine.

Lupine defended Charlotte, "I'm sure she's merely trying to remind you to take good care of yourself. She's one of the most caring employers out there."

"Mr. Nacht is a pretty great employer as well," Ben remarked when it had nothing to do with him. As a result, Lupine turned around and shot daggers at him.

What's wrong with him? Is he trying to prove he has a better employer than me? Is it even necessary?

Aware he was the one at fault, Ben turned around and looked elsewhere to avoid the confrontation awaiting him.

Charlotte couldn't resist the urge to laugh because of the duo's interaction. Similarly, Zachary played along with Charlotte and remarked, "At the end of the day, it's doesn't really matter since we're a family."

"What are you talking about?" Charlotte asked in a sarcastic manner, but she was all smiles.

Instead of answering her question, Zachary held her firmly in his arms and kissed her in front of others.

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After the banquet, the group drove up to the mountain for some fireworks.

Ben had made prior arrangements for someone to get an array of fireworks ready at the peak.

When the fireworks were displayed, they bloomed brilliants across the horizon, illuminating Rokan Hill.

The children were enthralled by its beauty. They jumped for joy while clapping and cheering gleefully.

Little Fifi hid inside Ellie's hoodie, trembling in fear. Yet, from time to time, the curious parrot would pop its head out to admire the night sky.

As for Fifi the eagle, it rested on a tree branch steadily, as if nothing in this world could ever startle it. However, its claws gave it away. They were seen clenching on the branches tightly, quivering a little.

Animals were generally afraid of fire. On the contrary, men, be it young or old, would always be thrilled by fireworks.

The two couples, Marino and Morgan as well as Ben and Lupine, enjoyed their romantic moments.

"Folklore has it that when you wish upon the fireworks, your dreams will come true. Let's make a wish!" Morgan pointed at the sky and yelled happily like a little girl.

"Oh, really?" Everyone followed suit.

Charlotte pressed both hands together, shut her eyes, and made a wish.

Zachary was hugging her while quietly appreciating the colorful skies above their heads. Though his lips were curled up, his eyes had gradually lost their sparkle.

He had been undergoing intensive training to inherit the family business since he was eight years old. To date, twenty years had passed.

Zachary attained fame at a very young age. Over the years, he had been very active in the business world, living by his own rules arrogantly. There was absolutely nothing that he was afraid of; neither had he lost any battle.

However, fear had crept up on him all of a sudden. He was worried that all the success that he had was just a dream. Besides, he was also disturbed by the thought that he would not live long, and soon, he would leave his beloved family and lover.

Although he did not believe in fate, he made a wish with the hope that he could stay alive.

I don't want to die. There are many things I wish to do. More importantly, I don't want to leave Charlotte and the ones I love...

"I'm done." Charlotte opened her eyes and kissed Zachary.

"What did you wish for?" He gazed at her gently. She looked exceptionally enchanting under the illumination of the fireworks.

"I want us to be together forever," Charlotte said with a pair of smiling eyes as she doted on Zachary.

He did not say much but proceeded to hug her tightly. I really want to tell her the truth, to pre-empt her that I may not be able to continue this journey of life with her. Perhaps, she needs to shoulder the responsibility of leading this family on her own. All that I owe her can only be repaid in the next life.

Unfortunately, he did not have the heart to ruin the blissful moment for her. It was also his selfish desire to cling on to the precious moment as long as he could.

"Zachary..." Charlotte was feeling sentimental while hugging him. She tried to control her emotions and put on a bright smile. "Will you marry me?"

"Of course!"

Zachary heard her enunciating the words clearly in the midst of the loud fireworks.

He did not doubt his hearing, neither did he pursue further. Instead, he seized the opportunity to share the feelings that had been buried inside his heart for years.

On a serious note, he said, "Let's get married. I'll hold a perfect wedding ceremony!"

"Sure!" Charlotte's eyes welled up. No matter what happens in the future, I just want to cherish all of our time together. Even if it means we only have a day, two days or a month left. Every second counts as long as we're together.

The decision made them both extremely delighted. Immediately, Zachary shouted, "Ben!"

"Yes, Mr. Nacht?" Ben hurried over.

"Tomorrow, no, go prepare for my wedding now! I'm getting hitched!" Zachary declared loudly to ensure that everyone present heard it.

Ben froze for a moment, but quickly caught on and blurted, "Is that for real? You two are seriously tying the knot?"

"What nonsense!" Zachary glared at him. "Hurry up and go get ready!"

"Got it. I'm on it now." Ben nodded.

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"That's great news! Congratulations!" Everyone was ecstatic.

Clapping her hands, Ellie was teary. "Aww... That's great! Daddy and Mommy are getting married!" she choked up.

"Hehe, I'm going to be the first person in my class to attend his own parents' wedding ceremony." Jamie was so worked up as he began to imagine the wedding. "I want to invite all my girlfriends to the banquet!"

Robbie, on the other hand, fell silent. Grinning from ear to ear, he looked at his parents lovingly. He had actually waited for this day for a very long time.

On the other hand, the triplets were sitting on a big rock, admiring the fireworks. When they heard the news, they widened their eyes with utmost curiosity. Then, they questioned, "Ms. Morgan, what does 'getting married' mean?"

"It means..." Morgan pondered before explaining, "It means that two people will stay together forever and never part ways with each other."

"Whoa! Then can Beta and Gamma get married?" asked Alpha, cupping her chin.

"No, no, no..." Morgan quickly corrected, "Getting married is for two adults who love each other; who want to give each other the promise of a lifetime."

"Oh, I see." The three children were inquisitive. Beta continued, "So, can our Daddy and Mommy get married?"

"Of course, they can, as long as they are willing to." Morgan chuckled.

"Daddy doesn't seem to like us." Alpha felt sad at that thought. "He always fights with Mommy."

"They don't behave like Aunt Charlotte and Uncle Zachary who kiss and hug all the time. They aren't very nice to each other." Beta looked glum. "Does it mean that they won't get married?"

"Hmph! Mommy wouldn't want Daddy." Gamma added, "Daddy is so fierce, and he doesn't smile. On the contrary, Mommy is cute. She should be with someone who's equally cute."

"You're right!" The three little ones started counting with their fingers and discussing names of more suitable candidates for their mother.

Morgan was amused by their antics.

The glorious fireworks continued to light up the night sky, enhancing its beauty while adding joy and blissfulness to the wonderful evening.

Zachary embraced Charlotte warmly underneath the vibrant fireworks.

They had decided to let bygones be bygones. Henceforth, their only goal was to cherish each other and treasure each moment spent together.

The two had an amorous night following their surprise decision.

The dimly lit lights, alluring breaths, and shadows on the bedroom wall were witnesses of their passionate love. Everything looked so perfect like a nicely painted masterpiece.

Zachary continued his fervid advances into midnight. As he lay entwined in her arms, he could not stop kissing her.

"Are you tired?" cupping his face, Charlotte asked gently.

"Silly girl, how is that possible?" Zachary bit her lips softly. His desire for her was endless!

"The doctor said that you shouldn't exhaust yourself." Charlotte was worried. "Get some sleep, okay?"

"It's only been two times..." He was yearning for more. "Give it to me..." He rubbed his palms against her body, trying to explore further.

"No way." She stopped him. "You haven't fully recovered. Don't overwork yourself. It's been one whole night... Mmm..."

Charlotte's words were cut off when Zachary sealed her lips shut with a rough kiss.

Without further ado, he pinned the woman underneath him and smothered her once again with wild and hot kisses...

"Mmm... Ah..." Charlotte attempted to push him away, but she dared not use too much force.

"Just one last time," Zachary muttered as he savored her neck. "I'll let you go after this..."

"But your body..." Her voice was weak and soft.

"Be good and listen to me. Then, I won't be as tired..." He instructed her, "Come on top of me!"

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"Mmm..." Though Charlotte was almost in tears, she had no choice but to give in to him.

She was not very experienced in this field despite her identity as a mother. After all, she lacked practice. Actually, it was the same for Zachary. The only difference was that men had an innate talent for this sort of thing.

The next morning, Charlotte slept in till ten. When she opened her bleary eyes, she realized that Zachary was no longer resting on his pillow.

She heard the water running in the bathroom, so she assumed that he was in the shower.

Upon rubbing her eyes, she glanced at the clock, only to jump out of her wits. It's already past eleven?

Instantly, she hopped out of her bed and put on her nightgown. When she entered the bathroom, she was surprised to see the tap was left running while no one was inside.

Feeling anxious, she quickly searched the dressing room as well as the study for Zachary, but to no avail.

Right when she was about to leave the room, she bumped into Hanna and the food cart at the door. "Oh, you're awake, Ms. Lindberg. Great, I've prepared some breakfast for you—"

Charlotte interrupted her, "Where's Zachary?"

"Mr. Zachary went to the office early in the morning. He said that you were tired, and he warned us not to disturb your sleep." Hanna giggled a little as she spoke. "He has also instructed me to prepare something nutritious to send your way once you get up."

"Oh, thank you, Mrs. Rawlston." Charlotte blushed while cursing Zachary in her heart. How could he say something so private to others?

"You're most welcome. It's my duty to do so." Hanna wheeled the cart in and served them on the table. "Shall I get someone to assist you in your bath?"

"Oh, there's no need for that. I'm good." Charlotte was slightly embarrassed.

"In that case, I'll arrange for housekeeping, okay?" As a wise and experienced person, Hanna suggested subtly. "Please go ahead and take a bath. The room would be cleaned after your bath."

"All right. Thanks!" Charlotte took a quick glance at the messy bed. Turning scarlet, she scurried into the bathroom.

When she saw the puddles on the floor, she felt a bit uneasy. Zachary has always been a careful man. Why didn't he turn off the tap before he left? Is he just being forgetful? Was it because he was too exhausted from the night before and fell unwell this morning? Or did his health condition worsen?

Insecurity and anxiety washed over her. She took a quick bath and exited the room to get her phone.

"Ms. Lindberg, is there anything I can help you with? Are you looking for something?"

At that moment, the room was already tidied up. The maids were replacing a new bouquet for the vase.

"Where's my phone?" Charlotte asked.

"It's charging over here." A maid handed her phone over.

Coincidentally, Zachary called. "Hello?" she answered at once.

"You're up?" His doting voice sounded from the other side of the line.

"Yup." She felt shy.

Seeing so, the two maids bowed and left the room.

"You must be hungry. Go ahead and have something to eat." Zachary was extremely caring.

"Will do. Why didn't you wake me up this morning?" Unknowingly, Charlotte acted coquettishly. "I didn't see you when I got up, and I thought that you were taking a shower..."

I've gotten enough sleep during my recovery. So, I couldn't sleep more nowadays. I didn't have the heart to wake you up when I saw you sleeping soundly." Zachary coaxed her affectionately, "Be good. Enjoy your breakfast and bask in the morning sun. Your Hubby will be home soon to keep you company."

"All right." Charlotte felt comforted upon hearing his voice. Hence, she did not speculate further. "Don't push yourself too hard at work, okay? Take care." A warm and fuzzy feeling rose within her.

"Sure. I need to reserve some energy to serve my Queen tonight," Zachary teased her.

"Stop it, will you?" Charlotte's face turned red.

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"Haha..." Zachary guffawed at her remark. "Fine, I won't tease you. Hurry up and eat something now, okay?"

"Yup, I'll cook dinner tonight and wait for your return," Charlotte said under her breath.

“Nice!” His heart was full.

All that he longed for these days was to see the entire family gathering for meals, supporting and caring for one another.

After hanging up, Charlotte was still reminiscing about the sweet and wonderful feeling. She regretted not letting go of her past sooner in order to embrace all the positivity she now received.

Sometimes, we were the ones to put the shackles on and constrain ourselves. We will learn and grow from experiences.

After breakfast, Charlotte went downstairs to prepare some ingredients to make the dishes that she was familiar with. She also prepared to bring the kids over to have a meal together.

Hanna and a few maids assisted her in the kitchen. The ladies seemed to have fun cooking.

In the evening, the house was bustling with life when the children showed up.

The bodyguards and maids were super happy to see the kids. They even prepared snacks and juices for them in advance.

Charlotte spent some time chatting with the trio and realized that they took the eagle to school and scared the living daylights out of their teacher.

It made Charlotte laugh boisterously. Nonetheless, she did not forget to reprimand the kids, “Alpha, Beta, and Gamma, do you remember what you’ve promised me? You’re not supposed to bring Fifi to school. We need to be considerate. Your teachers and classmates might not have seen an eagle before. That’s why they were frightened to see such a bird.”

The children sighed in unison.

Feeling wronged, Alpha pouted. “I told my friends yesterday that we have an eagle at home. I did ask if they wanted to see it, to which the whole class responded enthusiastically. That’s why I brought Fifi to school.”

“That’s right. A few of our classmates even indicated that we’re telling lies if we don’t bring the eagle to school.” Beta frowned and continued angrily, “That’s the reason why we brought it to school to show it to them.”

“Yes, that’s true.” Gamma nodded. “Mommy says that we ought to be trustworthy, and we did exactly that!”

Charlotte struggled to come up with an appropriate response. Well, the kids do have a point. It’s just that...

"Who knew that the teacher was a coward and fainted on the spot," Alpha complained with a disdainful look on his face. "And so did a few kids in the class. In fact, those were the ones who taunted us the loudest!"

Beta nodded firmly. "Exactly!"

"Here you go, that's what happened. We didn't tell lies." Gamma exclaimed in delight, "We are good children!"

Upon hearing that, Charlotte did not know what to do with them. Before she could say anything, Ellie came out from the bathroom and lectured them with a straight face, "Alpha, Beta, and Gamma, what did I tell you when we were on the way here?"

"We..." The three kids exchanged glances with one another. They stuck out their tongues but kept quiet.

"It's good to keep your promise. However, we must be mindful of the situation." Ellie gave them a piece of her mind, "For example, if a thief or a bad guy leads you to do something nasty, and you happened to say yes. Do you think you should still help him?"

A brief reprimand caused the kids to be stumped.

"We must first weigh the consequences and find out if it's the right thing to do before we act, right?" Ellie went on.

"But it's not a bad thing to bring Fifi to school, is it?" Alpha raised her hand and asked softly.

"Aunt Charlotte has addressed that just now." Ellie explained again patiently, "Regular people have never seen an eagle in real life, so they are bound to get scared when they actually see one. That's why a few of your teachers and classmates fainted on the spot. Don't you feel bad upon seeing what your action has caused them?"

"Yes..." The three children said in unison.

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"Good. Now, come on over and have some snacks." Jamie eased the situation and ended the topic.

As an elder brother, he was always doting on his three little sisters.

"Hmm... Jamie did it again. He's the one spoiling them instead of teaching them a lesson." Ellie shook her head helplessly and proclaimed like an adult, "I have no choice but to be the bad guy here."

"Haha! It must be hard on you." Charlotte caressed her face and urged, "Go ahead and have some snacks."

"All right, I'll bring them to wash their hands first." Ellie had become very responsible ever since she was made a big sister.

Jamie assisted her to take care of the three younger girls whereas Robbie headed upstairs with his laptop. The latter even requested the maid to deliver some snacks to his room.

"Robbie, don't you want to hang out and eat with us?" Charlotte was concerned.

"My laptop is running out of battery. I need to go back to my room and work on something," Robbie replied briefly and then darted to his room.

Charlotte was well aware that he was anxious about Francesco. Her heart ached when she saw him behaving in that way. Desperate moments call for desperate measures. I have to try whatever that works...

Charlotte took over the snacks from the maid and decided to personally deliver them to Robbie.

When she opened the door, Robbie was typing speedily on his keyboard. He heard someone coming in and simply responded without lifting his head, "Just leave them on the table. Thanks."

Charlotte did exactly what he asked for, but she did not leave the room. Instead, she sat down quietly next to him.

"You may leave..." He stopped when he raised his head. "Oh, it's you, Mommy."

"I came to bring you some snacks." Charlotte gazed at him lovingly. "Don't be so stressed. Have some snacks before continuing your work."

"Okay." Robbie saved his document, washed his hands, and returned to eat.

"Robbie, how is the lead on your aunt?" Charlotte brushed some hair off his forehead.

"Yes, I am. I could clearly see the clues right below my nose, but I keep getting stuck at the same spot." Knitting his brows, Robbie vented his frustration.

"Daddy's health is getting worse. I heard from Mr. Ben that he has only sixteen days left to live. During this critical period, we must locate Francesco. But first,

we must find Aunt and contact Uncle Dan via her. Then, we'll be able to get to the doctor. We're running out of time..."

"Don't get too worked up, Robbie," Charlotte comforted him, "Mr. Ben and Mr. Bruce are coming up with a solution, and so am I. This is not your burden to bear for you're only a child. You just need to do your best."

"But I want to save daddy..." Robbie choked up as he thought about his father's illness. "It wasn't easy for the both of you to make up. Now that your wedding is just around the corner, Jamie, Ellie, and I are going to have a happy family soon. I don't want to lose daddy at this juncture, he..." Tears streaked his little face.

"Oh, Robbie!" Charlotte hugged him tightly. Her heart wrenched seeing him so downcast. "It's all my fault. If only I had detected the issue earlier and stayed in H City for the treatment instead of bringing Dr. Felch to Erihal... Perhaps things would be different for your daddy..."

"Mommy, we don't have time to lament now. We need to find a way soonest possible." Robbie panicked. "Can you try contacting Uncle Gordon and Uncle Sean?"

"Sure." She nodded. "I've been trying to get in touch with them, but..."

Charlotte was in a dilemma. If I don't reach out to them, Zachary's life is at stake, and we'll lose our last trace of hope. If I do, I might get Danrique implicated in the process.

"Are you out of contact with them? Is someone tracking them down through the communication device that they are using?" It was a piece of cake for Robbie to see through the dilemma Charlotte was in.

"Yup." She nodded. "It's been an extreme challenge to do so lately. Anyway, I'll try my luck and make a trip to Mount Phoenix."

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"What do you plan to do at Mount Phoenix?" Robbie was completely baffled. "Dr. Felch is no longer there."

"I was just thinking that Dr. Felch might have some books or records of some sort left in his house, which could shed some light into providing a cure for the poison."

She added, "Also, Hayley and the rest are quite knowledgeable in medicine. I would like to invite them over to check on your daddy. Whether they could heal him completely, that's secondary. We could really use their help and expertise, especially during an emergency. It's better than just letting it be," Charlotte shared her thoughts openly.

"All right. You go ahead and do that, Mommy." Robbie nodded firmly. "Rest assured that I'm with you all the way."

"I'll discuss with your daddy tonight." She hugged him. "Now, be good and finish your snacks. Don't overwork yourself, okay? I'm heading downstairs."

"Sure, mommy."

When she went downstairs, Zachary was already home. He was instantly surrounded by the children because he brought along with him a ton of snacks and a handful of beautiful dolls.

"Whoa, these are so pretty!" the three children sang in unison. "Uncle Zachary, are these for us?"

"Yes, all of these are my gifts to you. Welcome to our home." Zachary bent down to the child's eye level and patted their heads gently.

"Thank you, Uncle Zachary!"

"Ellie, Jamie, go and pick your favorites too. See if there's something you'd like to eat."

"It's fine. I'm a boy. I don't play girls' toys and neither do I like junk food," Jamie straightened his back and declared his stance like a man.

"Hahaha!" Zachary burst into laughter. "I'll play soccer with you later."

"Yeah, awesome!" Jamie nodded repeatedly.

"No way," Charlotte objected to the idea. "Your daddy needs to keep me company tonight. Jamie, you can play with Mr. Marino."

"All right. I get it. Mommy comes first." Being an obedient child, Jamie winked at his father and reminded him, "Daddy, stick with Mommy. You'd better be nice to her."

"Haha, you cheeky rascal!" he chortled while pinching his son's face.

These few days were perhaps the most he had ever laughed in his life. He felt extremely positive and delighted at everything.

Seeing how happy he was, Charlotte could not help but feel a tinge of sadness.

She was of the opinion that he was just trying to keep his spirits up, seeking joy amidst his sorrows. With each passing day, she was truly afraid of losing him completely...

"What's the matter?" Zachary reached out to pinch her cheek lovingly when he saw how preoccupied she was. "Are you sulking because I didn't get you any toys?"

"Tsk!" Charlotte smiled sheepishly. "How come you're home so early today?" Habitually, she ran her arms around his.

"Because I missed you." He leaned over and kissed her.

"Oh dear, this gives me goosebumps." Ellie covered her eyes and scurried away.

"Hahaha..." Jamie chuckled and went out to play.

"How could you do that in front of the children? Hmm..." Before she could push him away, he acted fast and sealed her lips with another kiss.

Hugging her in his arms, he lifted her head and planted yet another passionate kiss.

Although it only lasted for several seconds, it was enough to make Charlotte's heart skip a beat, especially when it happened in the living room in front of so many pairs of eyes.

"Let's return to our room," he said suggestively as he nibbled on her earlobe. "I've got something to tell you..."

"Mmm-hmm." Blushing, Charlotte nodded. "I have something to discuss with you too."

With that, both of them interlocked their fingers together and strode upstairs.

The maids and bodyguards turned green with envy. Everyone was really happy at how things had turned out for them.

Back in the room, Zachary took out a stack of documents. He then passed her a pen and instructed, "Sign them."

"What are they?" Charlotte wanted to read first but was stopped by Zachary.

He placed his hand on the documents and urged, "Quick, sign it."

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“What is it? Why are you so fearful for me to read them?” Charlotte was amused.

“Hurry up and sign it already.” Zachary was getting impatient. “Are you worried that I might trick you?”

“No, it’s not that.” She knew he had no malicious intention against her. So, she signed her name on the document as he had requested. Subsequently, Zachary handed her a stamp pad for her to affix her thumbprint.

As soon as she had completed the signature, Zachary removed his hand on the contract. Charlotte was stunned when she read the title. It was a stock transfer agreement!

Baffled, she asked, “What’s this? What are you trying to do?”

“Are you scared that I’m selling you off?” he teased her while packing away the contract. “Don’t worry, a skinny woman like you isn’t worth much. Moreover, I’m reluctant to let you go.”

Then, he kissed her forehead and left the room.

“Where are you going?” Charlotte called out for him.

“To the study room. I’ll be back in a jiffy.” He did not even turn his head.

All he wanted to do as soonest possible was to sort out his post-death matters, including matters related to his will.

Otherwise, he was afraid that the remaining time he had was not sufficient for him to list down the handover matters for such a big corporation.

Although Charlotte did not see what was written on the papers, she was well aware of his intentions and purpose in doing so.

He knows that he doesn’t have much time left. So, he’s making all the necessary arrangements within the limited time that he has.

The more she thought about it, the more worked up she became. Coincidentally, Hayley called.

"Hi, Hayley," Charlotte answered right away.

"Charlotte! It's great to hear from you again. Is everything okay?"

Many things had happened after Charlotte was rescued from Louis who kidnapped her. She had not had a proper chance to call Hayley and only had her subordinate pass a message.

"I'm fine," Charlotte replied. "I'm sorry for not calling you sooner, Hayley. These couple of days have been crazy. Nonetheless, did you get the message I sent via a subordinate?"

"Yes, I did. I was informed that you were fine, but I still wanted to verify it with you in person." Hayley heaved a sigh of relief.

"Thank you." A fuzzy feeling rose within Charlotte. "Hayley, did Dr. Felch leave behind any books related to medicines? Is there anything written about curing poisons? Additionally, do you know if he had a way to contact Francesco?"

"He did leave some books behind, but I'm unsure if they are helpful to you." Hayley continued, "As for Francesco's contact, I really have no idea. Let me go look for it. Coincidentally, I'm sorting out Dr. Felch's belongings lately."

"I'll pay a visit one of these days." Charlotte was feeling hopeful. "Don't chuck away his stuff, they might come in handy."

"I know." Hayley nodded. "Be more vigilant when you're out and about. Fingers crossed nothing untoward will ever happen again. Sam and I are still frightened to our wits from the last incident that befell you."

"No worries. I'll be fine." After assuring Hayley, Charlotte went to see Zachary in his study.

Right when she was about to knock on the door, it opened. Rodney walked out and greeted her politely with a bow, "Mrs. Nacht."

"Huh?" Charlotte was startled. Before she could connect the dots, Zachary's crisp laughter sounded from the room. "Haha, you've got a brilliant future!"

Rodney courteously nodded at the duo and left.

With her face turning scarlet, Charlotte entered the room and asked, "What did he address me as?"

"Mrs. Nacht." Gazing at her, Zachary was all smiles. "People around me are aware that we're getting married. There's no turning back, Mrs. Nacht."

"How did Mr. Williams find out about it when you haven't even announced the news?" Charlotte's beaming face had given her true feelings away.

“Well, the upper management knows it.” Zachary pulled her into his embrace. “Wake up earlier tomorrow. Dress up nicely and accompany me to the office.”

“To the office?” Charlotte was nervous. “Why do I need to go there with you?”

“We’re tying the knot, so I should formally introduce you to the various departments. In addition, you can assist me with some work since you’re not that busy recently.” Zachary pinched her cheeks. “You should learn how to share my burdens. Get it?”