

My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 215

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Chapter 215 Why Are You Here

This was Dere International's underground parking lot. For a moment, I was intrigued. Did that mean that the person stalking me worked for Dere International?

I also wondered if Derek knew that I lied to him yesterday.

As the thought of the stalker working for Dere International became more and more certain in my mind, I became even more troubled. In fact, I'd only been to Dere International very few times, and there weren't many people there who knew me. So I couldn't figure out who in this company would have a reason to harass me.

The only person I actually knew closely in that company was Derek. Suddenly, I felt my heart clench in my chest and my breathing quicken as a terrible thought crossed my mind.

However, I quickly dismissed the thought. That couldn't be. Derek had no reason to stalk me.

I turned on my heels and continued to head for the exit. Just as I was about to leave the underground parking lot, I felt someone grab my arm and pull me back. I had a shock when I saw the face of the person who was holding my arm firmly. Alvaro was staring at me intently. "Why are you here?" I asked nervously.

He smirked and replied, "Don't be so surprised. You will know how lucky you are to meet me here later." "What do you want from me?" I asked again. This man made me really nervous. I avoided looking away for a moment in order to control his every move.

Hearing what I said, he frowned and sighed, pretending to be annoyed.

"I just wanted to help you out of kindness, but you treat me with such contempt... So am I such a bad guy in your eyes or am I just a loser?"

I stared at him blankly, without saying a word.

He actually helped me yesterday, but right now, I didn't believe he was helping me. What did he mean?

Alvaro then turned around and leaned against the wall lazily. With a faint smile on his lips, he said, "I guess you must have seen the car just now, right? Despite the fact that I destroyed the camera yesterday, the troubles are not over yet. I

doubt that the stalkers had only taken pictures with that camera. They certainly had other copies or had taken pictures of us with their phones. I think they came to Dere International today to show them to Derek.”

Hearing that, I was utterly shocked.

I had to admit what he said held true.

I didn't tell Derek about the incident yesterday because I didn't want him to misunderstand me. I was also afraid that he would prevent me from going to the driving school because of that. I did nothing wrong! •

But if Derek were to find out that I deliberately hid the fact that I was with Alvaro from him, he would definitely get some ideas. He would certainly have doubts about that kidnapping that day, and also about the unequal deal he signed. Damn it! I was so nervous about what would happen that I dared not think about it any longer. Of course, Alvaro, who was carefully scrutinizing my face, noticed each of my reactions. He then raised Are you nere his wrist to look at his watch.

“Five minutes ago, I was informed by a reliable source that Derek was still in a meeting. We can only hope your stalker hasn't had a chance to see him yet. Alas, nothing is certain, because as I told you, I got the information five minutes ago. I don't know whether Derek is still in a meeting right now or not.” I didn't bother asking Alvaro who was his source. I just turned around and ran away as fast as I could. I rushed into the lobby of Dere International and quickly headed to the elevator. I guessed that my frenzied air earned me puzzled looks from the employees. For the first time, I had the impression that the elevator was extremely slow. I wished I could fly. After what seemed like ages, the elevator finally arrived at the top floor. As soon as the door opened, I walked out. When Derek's assistant saw me, she kindly told me that Derek was still in a meeting. At this moment, the anxiety in me had reached its climax. I couldn't wait another second. So I rushed to the meeting room and pushed open the door. The people in the meeting room all turned their heads and stared at me. Even Derek, who was seated at the head of the conference table, raised his head and looked at me. At that moment, I didn't care if what I just did was reckless or not. I was sure everyone in the room could see the anxiety on my face. Derek certainly noticed it as well. He closed the documents in front of him and looked at the people in the room. “The meeting is over,” he said firmly. As soon as he said that, people in the room started to come out one after another. The last person to exit closed the door behind him, leaving Derek and me alone. Derek gracefully stood up and walked over to me. His tall figure in this tailored suit gave off an imposing

air.

His presence was so imposing right now, not to mention his serious gaze. I didn't dare to look him in the eye. After all, he was a man of principles at work. I felt a little guilty for having disrupted his meeting. It wasn't until he leaned me against the conference table that I finally looked up. There was a playful smile on his lips as he stared intently at me. “Why are you in such a hurry? I'm not sure this is the right time to have sex,” he teased. I felt so embarrassed. In fact, last month, I had rushed the same way to his company. I was then afraid of missing what was

definitely a golden opportunity for me to have a better chance to get pregnant. I didn't explain it to him at that time. I only told him later that I went to the hospital for examination. It was therefore normal that he thought that my sudden appearance was for the same reasons as last month. After all, I had acted the same way. But right now, I wasn't in the mood to think about that. I had something more serious that troubled me.

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Chapter 216 I Didn't Want You To Worry About Me

"No, Derek, listen to me. I met Alvaro yesterday."

As soon as those words crossed my lips, the smile on Derek's face froze. His gaze suddenly turned as cold as ice and his hand around my waist tightened.

"Did he hurt you?" Derek asked in a voice that barely concealed his rage.

I chose not to beat around the bush and I told him everything. I told him about my recent discovery that Alvaro was actually a student of Denzel. I also told him how Alvaro destroyed my stalker's camera. However, I didn't mention what Alvaro had said on the viewing platform.

As I spoke, Derek relaxed a little. He sat next to me on the conference table and crossed his legs. Then he took a cigarette out of his breast pocket and lit it without saying a word. His face was expressionless and he just listened to me. I had no idea what was going through his mind right now. Swallowing hard, I continued, "You know, when you picked me up yesterday, I had just escaped from my stalker. I didn't tell you about it yesterday because I didn't want you to worry about me." Derek took a puff of his cigarette before turning his face to look at me. I could see extreme tenderness in his eyes. "Why are you telling me now?" he asked. At this moment, the image of the black car in the parking lot earlier flashed through my mind. I was so scared that I grabbed Derek's arm in a hurry. "A few minutes ago, I saw this car that was following me yesterday. It was in the Dere International underground parking lot. I'm afraid that person isn't just after me. I'm afraid he wants to hurt you and the company." Derek frowned and took my hand gently. "So don't you trust your husband anymore? Do you really think I'm that easy to reach?" I was stunned by his calm after what I had just told him. However, I did not share his serenity and his optimism.

Why was that person after me? Why was that car here at Dere International? Besides, who was Alvaro's source in the company? Did he infiltrate people around Derek? Several questions were popping up in my mind the more I thought about this whole issue.

Derek must have noticed that I was quite pensive, because I felt a slight pinch on my hand, which pulled me from my thoughts. "Don't think too much," he said gently.

Then, he led me out of the meeting room to his office.

I was about to enter the office, when I had a shock.

My eyes widened as I stared blankly at the person sitting at the desk and reading some documents. It was Derek's father, Gifford. The man must have heard our footsteps as he suddenly looked up. When his eyes fell on me, I could read surprise in them. He definitely didn't expect to see me and Derek at the same time. Of course, I didn't expect to see him there either.

Derek probably felt my uneasiness as he held my hand more tightly and calmly walked in. "Why are you here?" Derek asked coldly to Gifford. From his tone and attitude, you wouldn't think that the man to whom he was talking was his father. Gifford was probably used to it because he didn't seem surprised or annoyed at all. He simply replied casually, "What's wrong with me coming to visit my son's business?" Derek didn't say anything. Gifford leisurely leaned against the back of the chair. The man acted like there was only him and Derek in the room. He completely ignored my presence. "I have something to talk to you alone," Gifford said finally. Hearing that, I immediately said, "I'll leave you alone." However, Derek didn't loosen his grip. He rather held my hand more tightly. He looked at me gently and said, "You don't have to leave." Then he looked back at his father. "If you have anything to say, go ahead. Eveline is my wife. I don't need to hide anything from her." When he said the word "wife", I felt my heart leap in my chest. For the first time, I had the impression that this word came from the bottom of his heart. I didn't protest and sat down on a nearby sofa. When I raised my head again, I met Gifford's sharp eyes. I quickly averted my gaze. However, at the sight of Derek's imposing figure, I felt my fear lessen drastically. Gifford leaned against the chair with a smile on his face. Of course, Gifford being Gifford, there was nothing friendly about his smile. He looked a little haughty as always and seemed a little angry at his son's stubbornness. Gifford glared at me. His gaze was as cold as ice and it sent chills all over my body. After a while, he finally decided to speak. "I won't beat around the bush. Derek, you have always protected her, but do you know her well? I always thought she only wanted your money. But now it seems her intentions are even more complex."

I was confused. What did he mean? Judging by his smugness and solemn tone, you'd think he had a scoop that would soon expose me. I was seething right now. However, I did my best to keep my composure and looked Gifford straight in the eye. "What do you mean?" I asked curtly. Gifford sneered. "What do I mean? You tell me!" With that, he stood up slowly and raised a photo in his hand.

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Chapter 217 The Photo

I was completely in shock. I never would have thought it was Gifford who was stalking me yesterday.

I finally understood why I felt like I knew this car. In fact, I had been to Gifford's house several times and this black car was parked in the yard. Although there was nothing catchy about this car for me to particularly remember, its image still etched itself into my subconscious. That was why I seemed to know this car so much even if I couldn't tell where I had seen it before. Holding the picture like a trophy, Gifford continued gravely, "Did you really think that by destroying my camera, I won't have any more evidence of what you did? You might have destroyed most of the photos, but I don't need all of them. Just one is enough." In the photo, we could see me and Alvaro walking side by side down the alley. It was right after we got out of the car at the abandoned airport. Judging by the blurry nature of the photo, Gifford must have taken it in a hurry.

If I hadn't been able to meet Derek a few minutes earlier and explain the situation to him, I would have panicked at such overwhelming evidence.

I got really lucky on this one.

I didn't say anything to defend myself. I just looked silently at Derek. Gifford certainly took my resigned attitude as if I was admitting my guilt, as his smile grew more confident.

"Do you have nothing to say? Derek, I told you this woman is not what she seems. It is now clear that she is in collusion with Alvaro..."

"Enough!" Derek's cold, firm voice suddenly interrupted Gifford's jubilation.

The smile on the old man's face froze instantly. "Dad, Eveline is your daughter-in-law! How can you follow her and take pictures of her without her knowing?" When he was serious, Derek was a man of few words. However, his words seemed to be chosen carefully, such that each of them conveyed exactly what he meant. Hearing what his son just said, Gifford was so angry that his face turned red in an instant. He slammed the photo on the table. "Damn it! Derek, what on earth did this woman do to you that made you so blind? The evidence is there before your eyes, but you chose not to see it! Why do you insist so defending her?" "I know what this is all about," Derek said curtly. All this while, his face was completely expressionless.

Their topic was about me, so it was best that I said something. I stood up and looked at Gifford. I asked in a neutral voice, "Why do you have to be so paranoid? It is clear that whatever I do, you will never accept me as your daughter-in-law! You've already made up your mind about me, haven't you?" Seeing our reactions, Gifford understood that he had come a little late. His centerpiece was no longer useful. He stared at me for a moment with a vicious smile. It looked like he was looking at an opponent who had just won a battle. I knew from his look that he wasn't going to give up anytime soon.

Gifford eventually admitted defeat and tore up the photo in a fit of pique. Then without a word, he turned

around and strode away,

As he left, I heaved a sigh of relief. I had won. However, this victory had a bitter taste. It was not the result I wanted. I definitely didn't want to cause more trouble between Derek and his father. After Gifford left, Derek sat behind his desk and began to deal with his business casually. He acted as if nothing had happened just now. A few hours later, Derek had finished for the day. We left together. We headed to the parking lot hand in hand. Once in the car, my phone vibrated. When I took it out to check, I saw that I had received a message from an unknown number. The message read, "Don't worry. You'll leave very soon." I immediately knew who the message was from. Who but Gifford would send me such a warning? I wondered at the time what this man could possibly have against me that he hated me so much. Why was he trying so hard to keep me from being with Derek? I didn't know the reason at that time. Someday in the future, when I knew the reason, I finally realized that no matter how rich I was or even how hard I tried, I would never be good enough in his eyes. I put away my phone as if nothing had happened. I decided not to give this message any importance. This wasn't the first time that Gifford said such words to me, so I was not surprised anymore. I just couldn't understand why he was so desperate to get me to leave. He even went so far as stalking me and taking pictures of me secretly. That was really inappropriate for a man of his age. It was then that I began to think more seriously about this matter. Earlier at Derek's office, I was so shocked to find out that it was Gifford who had followed me yesterday that I forgot important issues. For example, Gifford knew Alvaro. Moreover, on the viewing platform, Alvaro had talked about the Sullivan family owing him more than one million dollars. What kind of feud did he have with the Sullivan family?

Little did I know at that time I had something to do with all this.

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Chapter 218 Gifts

Once I told him what had happened that day, Derek forbade me from going to the driving school, and also asked me to stay away from Alvaro. I had expected this much, to be honest, especially since the incident had cast a pall over our relationship. This was exactly why I wanted to keep it a secret from Derek in the first place.

But I had come this far. I was already halfway to the whole driving course; I didn't want to give up now. And so, with a lot of coaxing on my part, Derek finally agreed to make some time and accompany me during my driving lessons in the near future. This was good enough. Even though Alvaro had come to my aid a couple of times before, I had always been apprehensive around him, and felt that he was a dangerous person. From now on, I should be careful not to get close to him. To my surprise and great relief, I didn't see him again for several days. All the while, Derek stayed by my side.

Just as Denzel had said, it seemed that Alvaro's attendance was quite rare. In any case, it was great that I wouldn't have to interact with him. It would be even better if he didn't show up until I got my driver's license. These past few days,

Becky came home late almost every night. Sometimes, she wouldn't even return at all. She would leave very early in the morning, too. As it was, we didn't get to meet as much, which lessened the probability of conflicts arising. Life at home was peaceful. I must admit, I was a softhearted person. It didn't take long for me to forget unpleasant events in the past, and I didn't hold grudges for long, either. I even made a point of reminding Becky to take it easy and look after herself before she left for the day.

She was just a simple and naive girl. She might dress up in a deliberately mature fashion sometimes, or pretend to be an experienced woman, but she was still young. Her facade would almost always crack, exposing the child in her. It no longer mattered much that she was Sybil's sister. In fact, if she weren't so presumptuous, I might even consider treating her as my own sister.

One night in late November, Becky came home early in the evening. She told us that the next competition would be broadcast live the next day, so the facilitators had asked them to retire early and get a good sleep to prepare for tomorrow's activities.

"Your hand is still injured, isn't it, Eveline? Let me cook dinner tonight. I haven't made your meals lately. Now that I have the time, please let me do this for you." She seemed so sweet and kind. If I could only tell for certain that her actions were in line with her real thoughts and feelings, then I would like her very much, indeed.

I agreed, of course. If she wanted to cook, then I had no business stopping her.

Both she and Derek would be sharing the meal, anyway, so I wasn't worried about her poisoning the food.

Dark fell quickly after dinner.

Just as Becky finished washing the dishes, her phone rang. She wiped her hands and took the call in the garden. Coincidentally, I went out to the balcony to fill Ugly's bowl with food, Becky had her back to the living room, so she didn't notice me, "Have you sent out the gifts I have prepared? I've been reminding you again and again. Don't make any mistakes, okay?" "Right, make sure that they know it was me who sent them, got it? Becky, Number 12. Number 12, do you hear me?" "Well, they're not much. Just little presents, really," I went back inside once Ugly's bowl was filled to the brim, Derek was sitting on the sofa, watching TV. I plopped down beside him. The current political news was on, but I wasn't interested in it. I stared blankly at the screen, After a while, Becky finished her call and returned to the living room. She jumped into an armchair and leaned forward, looking excited. "Derek, Eveline, you must come and see me at the competition tomorrow. You guys are like my family, you have to be there."

At the back of my head, I couldn't help but recall that she had told us she would be nervous if we went to her audition last time. She appeared confident this time around, however. It was probably because of those gifts she had spoken about. I did see her spend a huge amount of money on some perfume at the mall the other day. I just wasn't sure if her tokens would please the judges enough to make them help her win. "All right, go to bed and have a good rest," Derek said.

“You’ll perform well tomorrow, I believe in your talents.” Becky visibly brightened at that. His words were, without a doubt, the biggest encouragement she could ask for. She said goodnight and bounced up the stairs in high spirits,