

Remarry My Ex-wife: Love Heals A Broken Heart Chapter 41

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‘What’s wrong with him? His sentences are always so clipped!’

As she watched him exit her office, Patricia couldn’t help but recall Jayson’s behavior that day.

At seven o’clock in the evening, Patricia and Jayson entered the private room on the first floor of the Glory Hotel.

“You’re late!”

Upon entering the room, they were greeted by Zac’s statement, indicating his displeasure with their tardiness.

Patricia was left speechless by this remark.

However, from the company’s point of view, she could do nothing but placate the situation with Zac.

“Mr.Reynolds, isn’t it now seven o’clock?”

Patricia put her bag on the chair opposite and her coat on the back of the chair.

After sitting down, she lifted her eyebrows slightly while looking at Zac.

The table in the private room was large enough to accommodate ten persons at once.

However, there were three of them in the room – Patricia, who was sitting opposite Zac, and Jayson seated beside her.

Looking at Patricia from across the table, Zac couldn’t help but feel annoyed at her.

‘I came here alone, so why did she bring her secretary! What could be the meaning behind this? Is she afraid that I would do something to her?’ But Zac had to admit that Patricia looked really beautiful.

Her light make-up accentuated her delicate features, making her more three-dimensional.

Her arched eyebrows, clear eyes, fair skin, delicate nose, and pink lips were gathered together like a ripe fruit ready for the picking.

Her black working attire had outlined her body perfectly.

After she had removed her coat, her white shirt and tight black skirt could be seen.

Her tall figure was hidden behind her work clothes, but that simply added a little vigor to her aloof appearance.

Her waterdrop-shaped earrings were crystal clear and swung back and forth on her ears due to her movements.

The milky white color complemented the white clothes on her body, making her more vibrant.

“You are one minute late!”

Zac said as he raised his wrist, pointing at his watch, motioning for Patricia to look at it.

Glancing at Zac’s watch and then her own, Patricia said indifferently, “Your watch is one minute too fast!”

‘Patek Philippe, a true sign of nobility! It’s just a limited edition Patek Philippe watch! Is showing it off that important to him? Is he afraid that others wouldn’t realize that he is rich without resorting to this? Even I have worn a Vacheron Constantin watch on my wrist! But he didn’t see me showing it off like him! Just show off! You should get robbed on your way back today! I hope you get robbed or even raped!’ Patricia cursed Zac in her heart.

The thought was so vivid that she could visualize Zac being robbed on the road and kneeling down to beg for mercy.

This mere idea had her grinning ear to ear.

She so badly wanted to join the robbers and hit him when he was down! Patricia thought about the scene from the bottom of her heart.

The notion of Zac being humiliated brought her nothing but elation.

Her smile increased ten-fold while she speculated on this idea.

While she was happily fantasizing about this, Zac and Jayson were startled by the myriad of expressions crossing her face.

They couldn’t help but wonder what had possessed her! “Miss Sampson, are you okay?”

Jayson’s words brought Patricia back to reality.

He was highly concerned about her well-being.

And given that everyone in the company knew that he was accompanying her today, how would he explain it to them should something happen to her? :
“What?”

Patricia asked Jayson.

“Oh. Is something wrong?”

Patricia’s face flushed with embarrassment as she looked from one man to the other.

Reading their expressions that looked like they’d seen a ghost, the corners of her mouth twitched.

Glaring at them, she said in a sharp, cold tone, “What are you two looking at? There aren’t any flowers on my face!”

Patricia’s words made Zac slightly chipper.

‘No, there aren’t any flowers on her face, but her face is as pretty as a flower, though! Isn’t it said that women are like flowers and need to be nourished by men’s love? still lazily playing with his phone before lowering his head in embarrassment.

‘I’m a man! A normal man at that, and I’m only interested in women! Even if the man sitting opposite me is as beautiful as a fairy, I would not be attracted to him in the slightest,’ Jayson thought to himself silently.

Seeing Jayson’s reaction only made Patricia more frustrated.

She shook her head helplessly and sighed softly.

‘Dear me! Perhaps it is because the world is changing so quickly or because I’m no longer part of that world. But why are all the boys so bashful nowadays? Are they all this quick to blush? No, the man opposite me is just incredibly thick-skinned!’ While absorbed in thought, she glanced at Zac.

At this time, Zac had put down his phone but still gave off a lazy vibe.

He was leaning against the back of the chair, with one hand supporting his chin and the other idly knocking on the table.

All of this was fine with her, but when she saw the meaningful smile at the corners of his mouth, her lips reflexively twitched again, but twice this time.

Judging from the smirk on his face, she knew that he must be scheming something!

“Patricia, why did you ask me out today?” Zac stared at Patricia.

The smile on his lips had been replaced by a look of indifference.

“Don’t you know why I asked you out today?” queried Patricia, raising her eyebrows.

“How could I possibly know your reason for asking me out? Did you want to talk about the good old days with me?”

Zac quipped, with a smug expression on his face, full of intimate innuendos.

Gritting her teeth, Patricia glared at Zac and said, “Zac, you can talk about the good old days with whoever you like. But I don’t have the time for that!”

As she spoke, she withdrew the project plan and contract from her bag and threw them in front of Zac.

She asked boldly, “What exactly was your intention behind this act?”

Without even looking at them, Zac stretched out a finger and pushed the contract and business proposal aside.

With a charming smile, he asked, “What do you mean? It is whatever you think it is! It’s all up to you!”

The corners of Patricia’s mouth trembled.

‘Was he challenging me? Why did he give such an ambiguous response? I have nothing to do with him now, so, how could it be up to me? Will you agree if I ask you to reinvest?’ she thought to herself.

Miss Sampson is challenging and questioning Mr. Reynolds, a leader in his industry, like a shrew.

And he’s responding to her flirtatiously, with a voice full of... intimacy!’ Jayson was stunned by their interaction.

Could someone please tell me what was going on here?’ Patricia is indeed beautiful as a flower, but she is definitely a thorny one.

Whoever touches her would surely get pricked by her thorns!’ Jayson became disconcerted after her remark.

There wasn’t any other meaning behind his words.

He was genuinely worried about her after witnessing her weird expression and glazed eyesight.

He didn't mean any harm by voicing his concern.

Seeing Jayson's blush, Patricia exclaimed, "Why have you been blushing all day? It's not like you're on a blind date!"

Her sharp words made Jayson's face even redder.

He glanced at Zac from the corner of his eye to see he was still lazily playing with his phone before lowering his head in embarrassment.

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'Are they too shrewd, or am I too slow to completely comprehend the situation? No! This wouldn't do.

I need to take a breath and calm down.

Only then could I discern what is transpiring before me.' Rubbing the bridge of his nose, Jayson contemplated what could be done to achieve their goal.

He was well aware of how much effort their CEO had expended to acquire this project from the Reynolds Group.

So, he understood how tragic this would be to the company, should this project fall apart.

But being a witness to Zac and Patricia's exchange, Jayson believed that there was still hope to win back the project.

Realizing this, he suddenly had an idea.

Calling the waiter over, he instructed him to serve their meals as soon as possible.

Since he had ordered the dishes in advance, their dinner was brought out in a matter of minutes.

With the presence of the waiter, the charged atmosphere between Patricia and Zac subsided.

For the moment, there seemed to be a cease-fire between them.

"Mr. Reynolds, it's my pleasure to meet you. On behalf of Miss Sampson, I'd like to raise a toast to our meeting,"

said Jayson sincerely as he stood from his seat and lifted his glass in salute.

Seeing no opposition from Zac, he beamed and said, "This first shot is out of respect for you! After saying that, he raised his hand and drank the liquor in his glass. Seeing the empty glass in Jayson's hand, Patricia's mouth twitched as she wondered, 'Is he a good drinker? The glass may not have been big, but the liquor was strong! He couldn't have mistaken it for water, could he?' But judging by his slim and tall figure, it appeared as though he could handle his liquor.

While Patricia was worried about Jayson, Zac suddenly said in a melancholy tone,

"Why did you have to propose a toast on her behalf? Isn't she capable of doing it herself?"

Patricia turned her head to look at Zac, animosity filling her gaze.

She couldn't hide the disbelief or doubt portrayed on her face.

She knew he must have said this on purpose.

Why else would he have waited till Jayson finished toasting before saying this? Wasn't it evident that he wanted to make a fool of them? "Zac, what do you mean? Are you saying if I proposed a toast to you, you'd forget all the issues about the project and invest in us again?"

Patricia asked despairingly, her eyebrows arched.

"This depends on your performance. If you're a good drinker, then..."

Zac trailed off, leaving Patricia to speculate about the latter half of his sentence.

With her eyebrows tightly knitted, Patricia reflected hard on Zac's words.

Interrupting her thoughts, he continued, "I know how important the project is to your company. Of course, we also wanted to get a share of the interest too. But

we both know about the issues that cropped up and put a stop to everything. Besides, our withdrawal of the investment was decided by the board of directors. It wasn't something I could decide alone!"

Upon hearing his words, Patricia glowered at him.

A board of directors might be an essential part of a company, but things were run differently within the Reynolds Group, and she knew it! At the very least, she was aware that Zac didn't have to take his board of directors seriously.

That being said, he didn't usually heed their opinions on an average day! "Zac, if you have something to say, just say it. Stop beating around the bush!"

Patricia's tone was more expectant as she said those words.

Less harshness could be discerned from it.

"You're a smart woman. If you want to bring the project back to life, then help me manage the board of directors, and I'll do whatever you ask of me!"

Zac was beaming as he relayed that cryptic remark, confusing her all the more.

"What do you mean?"

Patricia was baffled.

She knew those directors were all very stubborn.

And if they had rarely taken her seriously when she was Zac's wife, how could he believe she'd have a way to deal with them now that they were divorced? But Zac wouldn't have made this statement lightly.

He must have an inkling as to what she could do to deal with them.

However, she couldn't shake the feeling that this might all just be a trap! And she knew better than to think that Zac would be kind to her.

"Patricia, I've already made it clear to you. As I said, as long as you help me handle those directors, I'll do whatever you want me to do!"

Zac repeated mechanically, refusing to reveal any hints as to how she could accomplish this.

Hearing Zac repeat himself, Patricia snapped.

With her brows furrowed and an annoyed tone, she said, "Zac, are you out of your mind? Don't you know what those directors of your company are like? Do you honestly think I'll be able to handle them? Do you think I'm fascinating enough to keep their attention as if they were kittens?"

Patricia's words were slightly offensive, but they sounded strangely pleasing to Zac's ears.

"If you want to win back the project, you have no choice but to assist me in this matter. Otherwise, I'm afraid I wouldn't be able to help you! I have given you your options. It's up to you to decide what you will do!"

Zac shrugged and pouted, giving her a crestfallen look.

"Zac, you're doing this on purpose!"

Patricia was enraged at the situation, but she knew his words held some credibility to it.

'But wasn't he always indifferent when in front of others? How could he be so shameless and set me up like this?'

"Oh, I forgot to tell you something. Before you arrived, I'd sent a message to my secretary, ordering her to contact those directors in advance. I guess they should be on the way here now!"

Patricia, already on the verge of losing her cool, felt like she was gutted by a knife when Zac said those words.

Patricia shot him a sullen glare but said nothing.

"How do you like that? I've already set up everything for you!"

Zac said with a wide grin as he stared at Patricia.

Ignoring him, Patricia lowered her head to taste the food, but she couldn't stop fuming with indignation.

This was obviously a trap, given that Zac had already called over the directors.

But the confident way in which he explained it to her had her irritated.

Seeing that Patricia was ignoring him, Zac continued, "I remember clearly that somebody sent me a message stating that if I had the guts, I should come and meet her.

Now, I'm here, and with such good news! Don't you think you should be thanking me?"

Zac said in a very matter-of-fact way, infuriating Patricia all the more.

In her rage, she choked on a piece of chicken and began to cough violently.

Jayson handed her a glass of water in a hurry.

She gulped it down, struggling to keep down the food.

“Zac, you’re shameless! Did you know that?” said Patricia as she angrily accused him.

She was glaring at him while she set down the glass of water.

“Am I really? I’m just telling the truth, though. Didn’t you say those words to me earlier?”

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Zac said, turning his head to Jayson, who was sitting beside Patricia, with a strong warning in his eyes.

Jayson felt flustered when he suddenly became Zac’s target and tried his best to disappear into his seat.

Pinching the bridge of his nose, Jayson turned his attention to Patricia while ignoring Zac’s bold gaze.

He believed that Patricia would come to his rescue.

Seeing Zac glaring at Jayson, Patricia understood what he was trying to do.

So, waving her chopsticks between them, she said, “Zac, what are you staring at so intently? Return to your senses at once!”

Zac was brought back to reality upon hearing her words.

He turned his gaze to Patricia this time.

“I know Jayson is handsome and lovely, but he is still a child. Even if you are attracted to him, you must wait for him to grow up at least!”

Patricia curled her lips and glanced at Zac with disdain before continuing to eat the dishes on the table.

Jayson was shocked.

‘When did I become a lovely man? Why wasn’t I aware of this before?’ Stunned, Zac had to wonder if he really gave off such a vibe that others thought he was interested in men! ‘Also, didn’t I just say that I was looking at Jayson because I liked him? And to wait for him to grow up at least? What is this woman thinking?’

Knock! Knock! Knock! Just as the two of them were left speechless, the knock on the door saved them further embarrassment.

“Come in!”

Zac’s cold voice echoed in the room.

The door opened, and five middle-aged men walked in.

Without having been introduced, Patricia already knew that they were the board members Zac had mentioned before.

As soon as they came in, they greeted Zac first and then turned in her direction.

Patricia was already standing, so after they greeted Zac, she said to them politely, “Please have a seat, directors. We were waiting for your arrival.”

“No need to be so courteous, Miss Sampson!”

After everyone was seated, a short, fat middle-aged man sitting next to Zac stood up, picked up a glass of wine, and walked towards Patricia.

“He’s Sampson, one of the founding members of the Reynolds Group! He’s a typical smiling tiger! So, be careful!”

Jayson said in a low voice, moving a little closer to Patricia.

“Thank you. I’ll keep that in mind.”

Patricia nodded and thought to herself, ‘Fortunately, I brought Jayson along today.

Otherwise, I’d be in hot water since I don’t know any of these men!’ Sampson Cullen came to her side and, beaming at her, said, “I’ve heard a lot about you, Miss Sampson, but today I finally get to see you with my own eyes. You are truly extraordinary! I’d like to propose a toast to you!”

Patricia quickly stood up, picked up her glass, and said, “Mr. Cullen, I’m flattered! I should be the one proposing a toast to you!”

“You can drop the formalities, Miss Sampson. Since we’re on the same page, let’s have a toast! I’ll be drinking first to show my respect to you!”

As Sampson spoke, with an outstretched arm he clinked their glasses together and drank the wine in one go.

He then turned his empty glass over to show Patricia, as if to say, ‘Look, I’ve drunk it all!’ There was an unwritten rule on the table.

If one clinked cups with yours and he drank all the wine, you would also have to consume the wine in your cup as a sign of respect.

As this was the case for Patricia, she was forced to clink Sampson's glass.

The worse part about this situation was that she needed to ask these men for their help! Thus, she was compelled to consume the wine and treat them cautiously.

Glancing at Zac, she couldn't help but glare at him for the predicament he'd placed her in.

Suppressing her displeasure in her heart, she turned to the middle-aged man, plastered a smile on her face, and said, "Mr. Cullen, you're good at drinking! I'm honored. I should have been the one proposing a toast to you, but you beat me to it!"

As she spoke, she raised the glass in her hand and continued, "Since you were so generous, naturally, I can't fall too far behind. I'll be drinking as well!"

As she spoke, she lifted her glass to her mouth and drank it all in one breath.

"Great! Great!"

Sampson said two "great" in a row, with a look of appreciation on his face.

He grabbed the wine bottle on the table, poured himself and Patricia another glass each, and raised his again.

"Miss Sampson, I might be old, but I appreciate straightforward people like yourself. Come on, let me propose one more toast to you!"

After saying that, Sampson emptied his glass of wine.

Patricia was taken aback.

'What was going on? Did he really think he was immune to getting drunk? One toast was enough, wasn't it? And what did he mean by his words? Did he truly appreciate me?' Patricia wasn't foolish enough to believe that this old man really appreciated her.

This was more likely a scheme he'd thought up to use against her! However, she knew that this could turn out poorly for the company today if she didn't give in.

Raising her glass, she drank the contents again. Jayson, who was sitting next to her, was becoming anxious.

He pulled her sleeve worriedly and said, "Miss Sampson..."

"This is nothing! Don't worry."

Patricia patted Jayson's shoulder to relieve his worries.

But the more Patricia behaved like this, the more concerned Jayson was.

It seemed that Patricia was ready to risk everything.

He didn't know what he could do to assist her. If anything happened to her, how would he explain it to the company? Jayson's worries only sky-rocketed when Sampson continued, "Good job, Miss Sampson. You are indeed the female hero in this saga. And as the saying goes, 'A man shouldn't pass the mountain after drinking three bottles of wine.' But looking at you, you seem to be able to drink even ten. Come on, cheers!"

Sampson said easily and poured another glass of wine for her, leaving her no chance to escape. Everyone knew that alcohol can paralyze a man's consciousness and slow down their reaction, and that was how Patricia felt now.

Before she could react, the glass in her hand was filled with wine again.

Seeing this, Jayson was troubled.

He had a feeling that they wanted to get her drunk purposefully.

As expected, before Jayson could react, Patricia drank yet another glass of wine under the encouragement of Sampson.

However, as soon as Sampson left, Palmer stood up.

He was the closest to her, only two steps away from her.

He raised his glass and repeated Sampson's speech, his words forcing Patricia to drink yet another glass of wine.

When Palmer Prescott was about to persuade Patricia to drink again, Jayson suddenly stood up and grabbed the full glass in her hand.

He said in a distressed tone, "Miss Sampson, don't drink anymore! You are drunk!"

Feeling a little dizzy, Patricia stood beside Jayson.

Her face was as red as a dainty flower, which added a bit of charm to her beauty.

As her feet were unsteady, she was like a delicate beauty, making people want to support her.

"Miss Sampson, you are drunk. Let me take you home!"

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Placing his glass down, Jayson reached out to help Patricia up from her seat.

To his dismay, he realized someone had beaten him to it.

“Patricia, let me send you back!”

Pushing Jayson aside, Zac pulled Patricia into his arms.

How could he permit another man touching his woman? “I don’t want to go back.

I’m not drunk! I can still drink more! I want to continue drinking!”

Patricia wailed as she shoved Zac away with one hand while reaching for her glass with the other.

However, Zac held on to her firmly, so she wasn’t able to budge.

“Stop it, Patricia. I will be taking you home now,” said Zac in a gentle voice.

He caressed her back in a soothing motion.

“I’m not drunk! I am not drunk!”

Patricia was unwilling to leave the dinner party, so she kept struggling against Zac.

Now, when Jayson was pushed by Zac, he had lost his balance and had to grip onto the table for support, causing it to shake violently.

After the shaking had ceased, he stood up with one hand on the corner of the table for stability.

Zac’s reaction had taken Jayson by surprise.

Knowing that he was the one who had come with Patricia, he had every intention of keeping her safe.

However, Zac’s shove a moment ago had really annoyed him.

Looking in their direction, he was met by Zac’s glare, a clear warning to keep his distance from them! Jayson was perplexed by this turn of events.

He couldn't figure out what he had done to offend Zac and warrant this behavior.

Was it because he had intended to send Patricia back himself? But Patricia was making it clear that she didn't want to leave with Zac.

And weren't they now divorced? So, why was Zac still pestering Patricia? What was more, it was apparent that these men were following Zac's orders to get Patricia drunk.

Jayson was indignant, but before he had the chance to question Zac, Zac threw the following sentence at the men present, making his heart sink.

"You're expected to continue being a good host to the man. Do try your best to entertain him properly!"

Putting one hand around Patricia's waist and carrying her coat and bag with the other, Zac helped her to the private room door.

"I won't leave. I want to drink! Let me continue drinking!"

Patricia continued struggling and tried to break free from Zac's embrace.

But she had become so dizzy that it was all just a futile struggle.

"Alright, shall we go elsewhere and continue drinking? I'll let you drink to your heart's content today, okay?"

Zac said in a gentle voice while staring at her pretty face.

"Okay. But don't break your promise like Zac. He is such a bastard..."

Patricia uttered, pulling Zac by the tie.

"Sure, I'll keep my promise to you. I won't behave like that bastard Zac, okay?"

Zac echoed her words as they walked out of the private room.

The people behind them were all dumbfounded.

They were wondering whether the man was still their ruthless president.

As the door closed behind them, Jayson knew that his good day had come to an end! After Patricia and Zac's departure, Jayson was forced to continue the drinking party with the directors left behind.

As a result, he had become so drunk that it was already the following morning when he woke up again.

Zac had initially planned on sending Patricia home after they had left the private room.

However, because she didn't want to return just yet, he instead took her to a nearby roadside stall to buy her something to eat in an attempt to sober her up.

But to his surprise, Patricia had ordered a few more bottles of wine to consume while they ate.

And since she was so insistent on drinking, he gave in to her wishes, and they both drank together.

Under the effects of the alcohol, Patricia repeatedly persuaded Zac to drink.

She was already drunk, so now she was trying to make him drink.

But when Zac didn't listen to her, she put the wine bottle directly on his lips and made him drink.

More remarkable was the fact that she guzzled wine directly from the bottle! After drinking for a while, Patricia became highly intoxicated, while Zac was only slightly inebriated at the time.

The number of empty bottles beside them kept increasing.

The more they drank, the more wasted they became, altering their usually inhibited personalities.

So, although they didn't talk much before this incident, they began talking like good friends while under the influence.

"Hey, you know what? That bastard Zac is really despicable! He plotted to marry me and then left me alone in the Reynolds family. But at that time, I had willingly agreed. Hahaha..." With an empty wine bottle in one hand, Patricia gestured in front of Zac with the other hand.

When she spoke of something exciting, her gestures increased.

But when she mentioned something that upset her, she would sob in a low voice, with tears welling up in her eyes.

"He...left me alone in the Reynolds family. He didn't want to sleep with me during the three years we were married. And the one time he did make love to me, I got pregnant. After that, he proposed that we should get divorced. That, I didn't mind...After all, I could still have a good life even without him..."

Patricia faltered as she made random hand gestures.

She then clinked her bottle against the one in Zac's hand and shouted, "Come on, cheers!"

"Cheers!"

Zac responded, clinking his bottle against hers before taking a big sip of the wine.

"That man you're talking about doesn't deserve to call himself a man! You were pregnant, but he still divorced you?"

"Let me tell you...He is a fiend! He has done...so many detestable things!"

Patricia murmured in her daze.

Seeing that the man agreed with her, she stammered, continuing her train of thought, "He has done much more deplorable deeds than what I've told you.

That bastard didn't even want me to keep my baby! Damn it...

We had gotten divorced, so whether I planned to give birth to our baby or not had absolutely nothing to do with him.

However, he threatened me and forced me to have an abortion."

Speaking of this brought Patricia to tears.

"This man is really not a decent human being. You should divorce him! Just as you've said, you can live a good life without him! Don't worry. With your talents, you can excel at any job if you set your mind to it. And if you get turned away by your company, then you can always come to mine! I will arrange a job for you!"

Seeing Patricia's sadness, Zac couldn't help but comfort her.

But in his drunken state, he talked gibberish and might have even been dizzier than her.

"Oh, you are so nice! You indeed are a reliable friend! I...I don't even know your name yet, though."

As she spoke, Patricia touched Zac on the shoulder and said enthusiastically, "Tell me your name and the address of your company. And if I do get fired one day, I will ask for your assistance. So, I'd appreciate it if you could offer me a job at that time."

Hearing her words, Zac, albeit dizzy, delved into his pocket, fishing for a business card.

After searching for a long time, he couldn't find one.

Frowning, he said with an embarrassed expression, "Alas, it seems that I didn't take my business card with me today!"

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Patricia rolled her eyes and said with contempt, "Since you don't want to tell me, then just forget it!"

"No...No, it's not that I don't want to tell you.Look, look!"

Zac said as he turned over the pocket of his coat to show Patricia.

Peering into his pocket, she realized there was indeed no business card to be found.

"Humph!"

Eyes glazed, Patricia picked up another bottle of wine and stared into the distance as she ignored Zac.

"You...you must trust me! I...I wouldn't make a promise lightly.If I've made a promise, then I guarantee I'll keep it!" said Zac seriously as he looked at Patricia's side profile.

But that somber expression on his drunk face made him look ridiculous.

"Don't fool me! I won't believe you.Nope...not one bit! You said you didn't bring a business card, fine.But do you not know your own name? How could you not have a name? And if you are genuinely sincere, then you can just tell me the address of your company.Or do you not know it? Don't...don't you know the address of your company?"

With a disdainful look on her face, which had become flushed because of the alcohol, she suddenly looked beautiful, albeit slightly angry at that.

"Yes...Huh!"

All of a sudden, Zac smacked his forehead and said with a silly smile, "Then I...I'll tell you, I...I'll tell you my name and the address.But you must keep it in mind.And don't forget to meet me later!"

Patricia nodded, her hair shaking with her movement.

"Well, that's perfect.So, tell me!"

“My name is...is...”

When it came time to reveal this crucial information, Zac’s mind went blank.

He touched his head, then scratched it in confusion, as he couldn’t remember his name or where his company was.

After hesitating for a while, Zac finally turned to look at her.

His face turned red as he said, “I seem to have forgotten my name...” Hearing those words, Patricia burst into laughter.

With eyes full of contempt, she laughed, “Hahaha...What a lame excuse!”

Patricia’s remark was evidently made to provoke Zac.

And that unyielding nature of his rose inside him.

“Yes, I forgot my name. But what about you? Why don’t you tell me your name?” stammered Zac, irritated by her earlier comment.

“Of course. I do know my own name! My name is...My name is...”

Patricia had started off confidently, but at that decisive moment, she forgot this critical information as well.

“Hahaha! You laughed at me, but aren’t you the same as me?”

Seeing that Patricia behaved similarly to him, he held onto his bottle with his left hand while pointing at her with his right one and laughed uproariously.

“Well...” This time, it was Patricia who was speechless.

“I really...I really can’t remember my name now. But you did not...You were just pretending!”

Once again, Patricia’s words offended Zac.

He was so anxious that he stood up from the chair and asked, “Who said that? But I...”

Holding the bottle in her left hand and pointing at her nose with her right hand, she stammered, “I said it! Because you were pretending that you had forgotten your name!”

“No. I wasn’t...” said Zac in a booming voice as he put the bottle on the table with a loud thud.

Obviously, he was exasperated.

“How about this? Let’s settle our score using the wine!”

Following Zac’s example, she also put her bottle on the table, waved her fist, and said this provocatively.

“Okay.Let’s compete!”

Zac accepted her challenge without hesitation.

“Let’s drink!”

Her eyes glinted with excitement as if the person standing opposite her was Zac.

As long as she beat this person, it was the same as winning against Zac! Finally, Patricia got blackout drunk.

Seeing that Patricia was inebriated, Zac placed his bottle down and reached out to help her.

“Don’t touch me.I can still drink!”

Patricia was in high spirits, so she felt annoyed at being disturbed.

“Be a good girl, and don’t move!”

Zac rubbed her shoulder, implying she should be obedient.

Patricia actually listened and leaned into Zac. He helped her get into the car and drove away. He wanted to send her back, but he didn’t know where she lived, so he had to take her to a hotel! It seemed that he would need to ask someone to find out Patricia’s address later.

After reserving a room for the night, he carried her into room 206 of the Eve Hotel.

“Be a good girl.Lie down and don’t move!”

Zac comforted her after he gently laid her on the bed.

She didn’t know if it was because of all the alcohol she had consumed or if there was something else at play here, but she kept hold of Zac’s arm as she moved around restlessly.

Zac had planned to lay her on the bed, settle her in, and then leave the room.

But she held onto his arm so firmly that he couldn't leave her side even if he wanted to.

Out of options, Zac seated himself by her on the bed and allowed her to keep holding his hand.

Breathing in the scent of this elegant and attractive woman, Zac couldn't hold back his desire anymore.

His breathing sped up, and the most primitive impulse in his body gradually took hold of him, making him lose what little sanity he had left. Clang! The bag in his hand was tossed onto the ground, and her clothes were taken off one by one.

The following morning, she felt her head was about to explode.

It hurt so much! She pressed her temples and slowly opened her eyes, only to find that she was not familiar with her surroundings.

Her eyes sprang open.

Suddenly, she felt a strong arm pressing on her body.

Following the arm, she saw a man resting next to her, snoring away on the bed.

""Abh!"

Seeing this, Patricia jumped up from the bed and wrapped herself with the quilt.

Her sudden movement exposed the body of the man beside her and jostled him awake.

Turning around slowly, he looked up at her.

Patricia stared at the man's face in horror.

When she realized who the man beside her was, she became infuriated.

"Zac..."

At first, Zac was a little surprised, but when he saw the quilt that was wrapped around her body and his exposed torso, he revealed a charming smile and said to her, "Why are you shouting so loudly? Were you not satisfied with my performance last night?"

His words were so embarrassing.

She blushed and trembled with anger.

She pointed at Zac and stammered, “You! You are shameless!”

However, Zac couldn’t bring himself to get angry.

Last night, he had pretended to be drunk so he could drink with her and learn what her real feelings were when she wasn’t so tight-lipped.

His stomach was still hurting after their escapade last night.

It was fine that she didn’t care about him, but how could she call him shameless? Yet, thinking about the treatment he received last night, he didn’t care anything else anymore.

He even felt it a little remarkable.

If he could enjoy this treatment a few more times, he didn’t mind drinking with her again.

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“Shameless? How could you call me shameless? If I am, then everyone in the world is shameless, too. Otherwise, how would people reproduce?” said Zac in a low voice, arching his perfectly shaped eyebrows.

“You! You’re a bastard!”

At the moment, Patricia felt extremely irate and aggrieved.

The first time they’d had sex, Zac was drunk too.

The only difference was that when he’d woken up then, he couldn’t remember what he’d done with her.

Now, he was drunk once again when it had happened.

In her mind, she thought he was quite unabashed.

‘Didn’t they say that Zac is a man of few words? So, why is he so eloquent in front of me now?’ Sometimes, she couldn’t even win against him in an argument! Of course, she wasn’t the confrontational type, though.

“Patricia, you don’t look as attractive now as you did last night...”

Before he could finish his sentence, Patricia angrily bolted for the bathroom, picking up her discarded clothes along the way. Zac looked down at his beautiful,

sexy body and thought to himself, 'Am I not attractive enough for her?' After a while, she donned her clothes and walked out of the bathroom.

Picking up her handbag, Patricia exited the room, slamming the door shut on her way out.

In a huff, she walked out of the hotel, hailed a taxi, and went home.

After Patricia left, Kareem stepped out from behind a pillar in the hotel hallway.

He glanced in the direction in which she just left and a grin spread across his face.

When Patricia returned to the company, two hours into the workday had already passed.

But she desperately needed to go home and take a shower.

She had washed every inch of her body, dressed smartly in a suit, and then headed over to the company.

As soon as she entered the building, she was greeted by a multitude of stares.

Perplexed, she wondered if something was wrong with her appearance.

But before she left her home, she had checked herself in the mirror.

Her clothes were neat, and her makeup was simple and elegant.

She could think of nothing to warrant these stares.

While Patricia was speculating on what might have happened, she saw Jayson walking toward her.

Jayson approached her and awkwardly said, "Miss Sampson, the president wants to see you."

Patricia nodded and walked forward expressionlessly.

Jayson trailed her as she made her way to the CEO's office.

"Miss Su, last night..."

Jayson badly wanted to explain why he hadn't personally sent her back home, but he was interrupted by her.

"Forget about it!"

Patricia said coldly, but the fire in her heart was about to burn her up.

She had thought that Jayson was a decent man.

That's why she had invited him along to the dinner.

She had hoped that if she had gotten drunk, she could rely on him to stop her from drinking excessively or at least take her home safely.

Never in her wildest dreams did she expect that he would leave her in that bastard's hands and allow him to take her away. Seeing how coldly Patricia was responding to him and the fact that she wouldn't even let him explain himself, Jayson knew that she was furious at him.

But, she had every right to be angry.

After all, he had followed her there yesterday; he was her partner.

So, he was at fault for letting someone else take her home.

"Miss Sampson, I was also drunk last night!"

Jayson attempted to fill her in on the events that had transpired after she left.

He tried to explain that the situation had spiraled out of his control yesterday and how miserable he was when he was forced to drink by the directors.

He wasn't aware of the fact that her predicament was worse than his.

Without saying a word, she continued to walk towards the CEO's office in her high heels.

"Miss Su, I didn't mean to let that happen! Last night, Mr. Reynolds took you away in a domineering manner. And before he left, he trapped me with those directors who forced me to drink..."

Jayson didn't care whether Patricia listened to him or not.

He just needed to get it off his chest, so he continued to complain.

He knew that he shouldn't be blaming others for last night's developments, but he still thought she should be aware that what occurred wasn't intentional.

Jayson lowered his head and kept apologizing to her.

When Patricia heard those words, she stopped unexpectedly, turned around, looked at him coldly, and said in an icy tone, "What if the person who had taken me away last night was not Zac, but someone else entirely? Or the person who had been taken away was not me, but a member of your family. What would you have done then?"

“Well...”

Jayson was stunned! He had never thought about that.

If the man last night had not been Zac but the boss of another company, would he have allowed her to be taken away because he was afraid of that person?

Seeing Jayson lost in a daze and speechless, she glanced at his handsome face before deliberately saying, “A man not only needs to be skillful, but he also needs to be responsible. If a man cannot be held accountable for his actions, can he still be called a man? Since a woman had gone out with you, you were obligated to ensure her safety. But instead of doing your duty, you left her in the hands of another. And then you assumed they would be responsible for her well-being thereafter! To make matters worse, this was someone you saw as domineering! So, your fearfulness led you to forget your obligations towards her...”

She didn’t finish her rant, but her meaning was crystal clear.

She didn’t need to say the following words because Jayson already knew what she wanted to state.

Turning around without any hesitation, Patricia continued the trek towards the CEO’s office.

Along the way, she coldly tossed out the following comment to Jayson, “Just focus on your work. Don’t overthink about the other things!”

Hearing her words, Jayson was left speechless.

He didn’t expect her to help him cover up his mistakes.

After all, if the president discovered this, the punishment would be more than him leaving the company, especially now that she had become the company’s savior.

The only thing he could do now was to help her as much as he could.

Reflecting on this, Jayson quickly caught up with her but fell in line, one step behind her.

In a low voice, he offered, “Miss Sampson, the Reynolds Group called this morning and said that the funding for the project would arrive in our account by twelve noon sharp.”

Patricia halted in her tracks and turned to look at Jayson.

Seeing the mix of seriousness and joy on his face, she discerned he was telling her the truth.

She then spun around and continued onward.

Seeing her respond in this way left him confused.

But he decided to put aside his doubt first and followed her into the CEO's office.

"Boss, what can I do for you?" said Patricia in a low voice as she walked up to the president's desk.

"Patricia, there you are!"

The president was beaming as he raised his head to look at her.

He pointed at the chair opposite and warmly said to her, "Patricia, you are the hero of our company now!"

After she sat down, the president rose, poured a glass of water, and handed it to her.

From the way he was acting, you would think he was in the presence of someone dearer than his own mother.

Patricia quickly stood up and accepted the glass of water from the president.

Keeping her emotions in check, she said, "I'm flattered, but I was only doing my job!"

Hearing what Patricia said, the president was more than pleased.

"Hahaha...I know you are talented, Patricia! And I think very highly of you. You are bound to make some outstanding achievements in your career!"

Obviously, the president was pleased.

Her words were like music to his ears.

The president was overjoyed by how things had turned out, but Patricia was in a terrible mood.

One could even say she was down in the dumps! Lowering her head, she rolled her eyes in displeasure.

She had mixed feelings about how this had all played out.

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"Take a seat, Patricia. Having secured funding to complete this project, you have now become our company's hero! Thus, the board of directors has decided to promote you to vice manager! Congratulations! Keep up the great work!"

The president patted her on the shoulder before returning to his seat.

Surprised by this news, she studied his expression.

But seeing the profound admiration etched on the president's face, she knew he was not joking. However, she would have preferred it if she hadn't been given such a position.

She would have opted to remain who she previously was, but after last night, could she honestly return to who she formerly was? Patricia was lost in thought as the president droned on, singing her praises.

All this meant was that the company valued her input and would reward her for her accomplishments.

Putting her in an esteemed position, they hoped she would use this opportunity to continue working diligently for the company.

Half an hour later, the president finally let her leave his office.

She couldn't remember exiting the CEO's office or how she made her way back to her own.

She vaguely recalled returning to her office, putting her bag down, and stretching out on the big rotating chair behind her desk.

Too exhausted after that meeting, she closed her eyes and fell into deep thought about what had just ensued.

It was not until noon when a knock on the door brought her back to her senses.

"Come in!" she called out.

"Miss Sampson, are you going out for lunch, or shall I order takeout for you?" Lily inquired after opening the door and entering.

"Oh, is it noon already?"

After closing the file in her hand, she raised her wrist to look at her watch.

"Yes, it's almost twelve o'clock!"

Lily affirmed and warmly suggested, "There is a new western restaurant downstairs. I heard that the food there is delicious and inexpensive. How about trying their food?"

"Alright, I'll give them a try."

Patricia nodded, stood up, and walked out of her office.

Noticing that she was not being followed, she stopped, turned around, and looked at Lily.

"You're coming with me!"

Closing the lid to Lily's lunchbox, she grabbed her wrist and pulled her up from where she was seated.

"Let's have lunch together. It's my treat today!"

Patricia dragged Lily off.

Lily wanted to break free of her hold, but she hadn't expected Patricia to be so strong.

And since she didn't want to use too much strength for fear of hurting Patricia, she complied and followed her.

Eyes burning, she felt touched by Patricia's gesture.

Noticing that Lily kept her head down and hadn't uttered a word, Patricia declared, "I am not the type of person who treats others often.

So, you should seize this opportunity given and enjoy yourself!"

"Miss Sampson..."

Lily called out to her in a choked voice but didn't know what to say.

"No need to be so sentimental!"

With a gentle smile, Patricia gave her a tug so they could exit the elevator.

They had arrived at the Manly Sutton Restaurant.

Finding a table near the street, they seated themselves before placing their order.

Both of them ordered the beef, medium rare, and a glass of juice.

While awaiting their meal, they chatted away and enjoyed each other's company.

Patricia sat with her back to the door while Lily was in the opposite seat, meaning that she could see the doorway.

The two of them were merrily conversing when all of a sudden Lily stopped talking, her eyes focused in the direction of the door.

"Lily, is something wrong?"

Patricia asked when she saw Lily's strange expression.

"No, everything's fine! Miss Sampson, I happened to have something to ask you...Ummm..."

Lily had snapped back to reality pretty quickly, so she tried to draw Patricia's attention to her question.

But Patricia, noticing her uncharacteristic behavior, turned around to see who was at the door causing Lily to react in this manner.

One look was all it took for Patricia to turn ashen-faced.

Seeing Patricia turn pale and her smile disappearing, Lily called out in pity, "Miss Sampson..."

'Zac is starting to become really annoying. The Reynolds Group is so far away from our location, so why did he choose to come to this restaurant of all places? And of all the people he could bring with him, why did it have to be Lyndsy? Was he purposefully trying to create problems?' Lily cursed Zac in her heart.

She wished she could walk over to him, give him two slaps in the face, and directly send him away.

That way, he would stop showing up in front of Patricia and pestering her.

Lyndsy was no better.

She could go to hell together with Zac.

After all, they were birds of a feather! "Miss Sampson! Miss Sampson..."

Lily squeezed her hand as she called out to her in a soft voice. "Oh, Lily!"

Patricia returned to her senses and turned to look at the worried Lily.

Wanting to comfort Lily and assure her that everything was okay, she smiled and said, "I'm fine, really!"

They struck up their conversation again until the waiter brought their food over.

“Miss Sampson, let’s dig in!”

Lily said as she noticed that Zac and Lyndsy were walking towards them, but she decided to ignore them.

“Okay! Let’s eat!”

Patricia nodded, picked up the knife and fork, lowered her head, and began to eat.

Lily also followed suit, enjoying the food placed before them.

Just as they were about to have the second bite of their meal, they heard the annoying, shrill voice of Lyndsy.

“Tsk, I was wondered who it was! I didn’t expect to meet you here, dearest sister!”

By the time she had finished her statement, Lyndsy was in front of their table.

Zac wasn’t too far behind.

So, now they were both standing beside Patricia, looking down at her.

Hearing Lyndsy’s sharp and unpleasant words, Lily raised her eyes to look at her with undisguised disgust and ire.

Patricia continued to cut the beef on her plate with the knife.

She picked up a small piece, put it into her mouth, and chewed slowly.

It seemed like she hadn’t heard what Lyndsy had said, but she didn’t intend to speak to her anyway.

Seeing Patricia so calm left Lily relieved.

Turning her gaze to Zac, who was standing there quietly, caused her to see when Lyndsy grabbed his arm.

This action made her frown. ‘What did he mean by doing this? Did he come here simply to provoke Patricia?’ They were sitting next to the window, so people could see everything that happened inside clearly.

So, she was sure that Zac and Lyndsy had come here on purpose to make Patricia feel bad! Lyndsy’s anger sky-rocketed when she realized that Patricia ignored her and paid more attention to her food.

She cursed Patricia in her heart! If Zac hadn't been with her today, she would have definitely taught her sister a lesson.

But now, in order to maintain a good image in front of Zac, she had to endure this humiliation! Rolling her eyes, her gaze locked with Zac's.

Leaning her head on his shoulder, Lyndsy acted like a spoiled child and said, "Zac, did you see my sister's attitude? She didn't even talk to me when I greeted her!"

With a face devoid of emotions, Zac pulled his arm out of Lyndsy's grip and took a step back.

During this time, his eyes were glued to Patricia.

After initially spotting him as he walked through the door, Patricia had ignored him by keeping to herself while she ate her meal.

This reaction made Zac displeased.

'Had she already forgotten what happened between us last night?' Lyndsy suddenly felt empty-handed, and a touch of disappointment flashed across her face.

She then noticed that Zac was staring at Patricia.

She became infuriated with Patricia for attracting Zac's attention! 'She is really a bitch! She and Zac are already divorced, so why couldn't she let her ex-husband go!' Clenching her teeth, Lyndsy glared at Patricia and then turned to look at Zac.

The anger on her face dissipated and was replaced by a conniving smile!

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"Zac, can you please inform my sister that her demeanor is unbecoming? If she keeps behaving in this manner, others will surely laugh at her!"

Lyndsy was unrelenting.

She approached Zac once again and tried to grab hold of his arm.

Zac, noticing this, moved his arms behind his back and dodged Lyndsy's hand as she was about to touch him.

"This is a matter concerning the Sampson family. It has nothing to do with me!" said Zac coldly.

Lily's anger towards Zac fizzled when she heard his response.

For once, he had given an appropriate response to something being said.

Patricia, on the other hand, felt disgusted by Zac's unkind remarks.

Putting down her knife and fork, Patricia took a sip of her drink and glanced in Lily's direction.

"Lily, why aren't you eating? Can watching such a ridiculous person fill your empty stomach?"

Patricia's words annoyed Lyndsy, as expected.

"Patricia, who are you talking about?"

Lyndsy asked angrily after taking a step forward.

"I'm referring to whoever responds to my words!"

Patricia said in a cold voice. Putting down her juice, she picked up her utensils and continued eating.

"You!"

Lyndsy shouted in a fit of rage.

She wanted to criticize her more, but Patricia interrupted her.

"Lyndsy, as your sister, I should tell you that when you find faults in others, they themselves will find faults in you! You have to remember this simple truth. Otherwise, people will say that you are foolish!"

Patricia deliberately stated this while giving Lyndsy a meaningful look.

Even though it was just a quick glance in Lyndsy's direction, it was enough to hint about Patricia's intelligence and character.

After saying that, Patricia returned to consuming her meal.

This time, however, she was chomping pretty hard on the steak.

Sneaking a glance at Zac's leg, she substituted the beef and juice for his leg and blood.

Only by thinking in this way could she vent her pent-up anger.

During this whole ordeal, Zac's eyes were fixed on Patricia.

Today, Lyndsy had come to the Reynolds Group seeking out Zac.

She wanted him to see the damage that was done to her forehead.

At the sight of this, Zac had immediately thought of Patricia, and a tender look appeared on his face.

Believing that Zac was feeling compassion toward her, Lyndsy had taken the opportunity to ask him to go out with her.

Zac, unable to dissuade her, followed her out.

Unconsciously, he had driven to the Veyron Corp..

When he saw Patricia in the restaurant near the company, he became thrilled.

He didn't realize how much he was looking forward to seeing her again.

"Lily, hurry up! We have to head back after we finish eating!" said Patricia beaming and pointing to the uneaten steak in front of Lily.

"Alright! Alright!" Lily, focusing on her dish, started to slice the steak awkwardly.

This was, after all, her first time dining at a western restaurant.

"Hey, Patricia. Why did you make friends with such a bumpkin? She looks so ridiculous that it's easy to tell this is her first time eating western food! She's just a poor guy, pretending to be rich. How laughable!"

Noticing that she couldn't get the upper hand while arguing with Patricia, Lyndsy switched her target to Lily.

It was evident that the relationship between Lily and Patricia went beyond that of the workplace.

And since she couldn't humiliate Patricia, she aimed for an easier target, Lily.

Basically, as long as she could make her feel bad, Patricia would become vexed.

"But you..."

Upon hearing Lyndsy's comment, Lily's hands began to tremble and her eyes turned a bright shade of red.

Unable to defend herself, all Lily could do was look at Lyndsy, embarrassment plastered over her face.

"Lyndsy, you've gone too far! The affairs of others are no business of your own. You have no right to judge anyone. Not when you don't even have a job! At least Lily supports herself through her own abilities. You, on the other hand, are surviving off your family's wealth."

To appear more intimidating, Patricia stood up as she angrily glared at Lyndsy.

Lyndsy wasn't the only one that could be sarcastic! And she was actually better at dropping sarcastic lines than Lyndsy.

That said, Patricia would never let anyone bully her friend! In the past, Lyndsy often bullied Patricia.

But she couldn't bear it now that Lyndsy was trying to humiliate Lily.

Lily was a hardworking woman who managed to support her family all on her own.

She was an admirable individual, so people who didn't know her story had no right to give their two cents or speak nonsense about her! "You're saying I live off my family? What are you implying?"

Lyndsy's face turned red as a beetroot.

She tried her best to keep her small eyes wide open while staring at Patricia.

"Don't deny it. You know very well who it is that's constantly dependent on the Sampson family,"

Patricia uttered bluntly, wearing a sardonic smile on her face.

"Patricia, I know you want to push the blame on me. But you wouldn't have a chance to do that!"

All of a sudden, Lyndsy stopped her livid ranting.

Instead, she looked at Patricia with a complacent expression on her face.

"Ha-ha, you are so shameless. Really, what is the difference between you and a parasite? Lyndsy, I can't help admiring your brazenness."

Patricia spoke, with a trace of cynicism in her voice and a look of admiration on her face, making her look weird.

It almost looked like she was trying to laugh at Lyndsy in an unkind way.

"Patricia, if I'm a parasite, then what are you? Don't forget that you are also a member of the Sampson family!"

Lyndsy, turning her head, realized that everyone in the restaurant had their eyes on them.

This was so embarrassing.

“We may all be members of the Sampson household, but I am different from you! I’ve been independent for so many years now, but you haven’t. You’re just a parasite. A good for nothing!”

In this situation, Patricia didn’t mind retaliating more.

Moreover, she was enjoying putting Lyndsy in her place in front of Zac.

This would also help her save face.

She wanted to let Zac know that she was not a pushover! And that she would protect the people closest to her at all costs. She would never let them be hurt!

“You don’t want to go back to the Sampson family, do you? Just wait and see. I’ll tell father what happened today. You will definitely be scolded!”

Desperate to win this one-sided argument, Lyndsy mentioned Sullivan’s name to rattle Patricia’s bones.

But she made the wrong move.

As it stood, Patricia wasn’t easily upset or worried by as much things as she’d been in the past.

Moreover, since she terminated her baby, she’d become more strong-minded and courageous.

So, she wasn’t terrified of Sullivan or Lyndsy anymore.

“Lyndsy, if you want to tell him about this, then just do it! After all, this isn’t your first time reporting back, and I remember that you were good at telling tall tales. But you mustn’t quarrel with others from now on. Otherwise, you would be putting yourself in an awkward situation if you always mention your parents when you can’t beat the other person in an argument!”

Patricia sneered relentlessly, “Telling your family you are being bullied is what children in kindergarten do! I didn’t expect you to be so weak!”

After saying that, Patricia proceeded to finish eating her steak, completely ignoring the two persons standing beside her.

And though the Sampson family was not the top family in the city, it was still one of the prominent families around.

Of course, Patricia was already widely known.

Because of her and Zac's marriage, she had hit the headlines many a time. As for Lyndsy, many people knew of her from before. But now, she had been on the headlines several times because of her relationship with Zac.

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So, with their fight ongoing within the Manly Sutton Restaurant, they were drawing attention to themselves. And since almost all the patrons knew the two women and the famous Zac, who stood nearby, all eyes were focused on them. Patricia didn't care about the unwanted attention they were attracting.

Over the years, Yolanda and her daughter had made her notorious enough, so this little debacle was nothing she couldn't handle.

It was different for Lyndsy, though.

She had always maintained a noble and elegant image in front of others.

So, this spat she was having with Patricia out in the open must have been humiliating for her.

Lyndsy was rendered speechless seeing Patricia defend herself.

This wasn't the usual Patricia.

Usually, she'd keep quiet when confronted! So, how was she able to argue so confidently now? It seemed that she'd underestimated her before due to her meekness! Lily was deeply touched but surprised by Patricia's words and actions.

She hadn't expected that their team leader could be so eloquent that people would want to applaud her performance.

Zac, who was watching from the sidelines, frowned.

Apparently, he had other thoughts on how this was playing out.

Glaring at Patricia, he said in a reproachful tone, "Patricia, is this how you talk to your sister?"

He was surprised by Patricia's sharp tongue.

Just how much did he not know about her? Zac's retort had only been meant to attract her attention.

'This damned woman! I've been standing here this whole time, and not once did she pay me any heed! Why is she only focusing on Lyndsy!' Zac couldn't tolerate being ignored any longer.

"I thought this wasn't any of your business?!"

Clenching her fingers, Patricia looked straight at him with cold and discerning eyes.

"Zac, have you forgotten that we're now divorced? After that abortion, we have no ties connecting us! So, you have no right to judge what I want to do or how I act!"

From the moment she'd been forced to have that abortion, she'd lost all feelings of love for Zac.

All she felt now was pure resentment! And regarding what had happened last night...

Yes, she'd had sex with Zac, who had killed her baby.

But if she couldn't forgive herself, how could she think to be kind towards him? Zac pursed his thin lips.

An inexplicable light flashed through his deep eyes.

Zac knew now the baby was his, but it was too late now to say anything.

Fortunately, Patricia's health was not affected by the termination of the fetus, so they could try for another in the future. Thinking of this, Zac didn't realize that he had already planned on Patricia being a part of his future.

He chose to ignore their incompatibility that was like fire and ice.

"Patricia!"

At this moment, Lyndsy was still unwilling to give up, especially when she heard the retorts between Patricia and Zac! 'Was Patricia pregnant with Zac's child?' She hadn't heard of this before now.

Fortunately, she'd just said that she'd aborted the child! Lyndsy figured she could use this as ammunition against Patricia.

With a gleam in her eyes, Lyndsy gloated, "My dearest sister, you are aware that you and Zac are now divorced, aren't you? There's no need to continue badgering him like this! After all, you are a useless woman who couldn't even protect your own child! So, you do not deserve to remain standing at Zac's side."

“Zac, take your girlfriend away! Don’t let her affect anyone else’s lunch. Moreover, hasn’t she disgraced you enough?”

remarked Patricia after hearing what Lyndsy had said.

With brows furrowed, Patricia sneaked a glimpse of Zac, who was just standing by and acting as if what Lyndsy had just said was of no concern to him.

But before Lyndsy could comment on what Patricia had just said, Zac gave her a silent warning through his domineering stare.

It was not her place to judge what had happened between Patricia and himself.

Especially when she said that Patricia was too useless to keep the baby.

She was indirectly ridiculing him as well! However, he was more furious at what Patricia had stated.

He didn’t expect Patricia to refer to Lyndsy as his girlfriend.

‘Why did she want to push me away so badly? Damn it!’

“I don’t feel that way!”

said Zac slowly but easily, with a gleam flashing across his sharp eyes.

The sincere look he gave would have fooled anyone else who’d seen it! Patricia’s mouth twitched when she’d heard Zac’s words.

She thought to herself, ‘Zac, how can you be so shameless! It’s no wonder you and Lyndsy are a couple.

You’re exactly birds of a feather!’ Lyndsy, on the other hand, was elated upon hearing Zac’s words.

Raising her eyebrows triumphantly, she looked at Patricia happily.

Her thoughts were written all over her face, though.

‘Zac is on my side! Let’s see how long you can remain arrogant!’ However, Patricia wasn’t paying her any attention. Her focus was fixed on Zac

Curling her lips, she said in contempt, “Shame on you, Zac!”

Hearing what Patricia said, the corners of Zac’s mouth twitched, but he quipped, “She is not my girlfriend. So, it means nothing to me if she loses face here!”

Such heartless words could only come from Zac’s lips.

Everyone knew how cold and ruthless Zac could be.

After all, if he could kick his wife, who'd been married to him for three years, out of his house, then one could expect no mercy for someone who had disgraced him in public.

"Hahaha..."

Patricia burst out in laughter hearing those words, but the mockery hidden in her laughter was obvious.

The newspaper had reported that these two were in love and soon to be engaged.

So, who would believe Zac now when he said that Lyndsy wasn't his girlfriend? Although this is what Patricia thought, she didn't bother wasting any energy fighting this down further.

Taking another mouthful of food, she said, "Whether she is your girlfriend or not, the truth is that she came here with you today. So, please take her away before she further dampens our mood during lunch. We do have to return to work after this!"

"Are you jealous?"

Zac's eagle-like eyes were fixed on her.

He couldn't help but smile as he asked her this.

The corners of Patricia's mouth twitched, and her eyes widened in disbelief.

'How did he arrive at this conclusion? How could I be jealous when all I feel for Zac is hatred? Why would I be jealous of Lyndsy because of him? Didn't he hear how I stressed the words 'have to work' on purpose?' She had stressed those specific words to humiliate Lyndsy before she left.

Otherwise, she would feel wronged.

Lyndsy had already affected her appetite.

How could she let her go like this! "You've misunderstood me. I just don't want to ruin my appetite any further and delay my work. After all, with Lyndsy around, this food has become tasteless!"

"Why are you still mad at me?"

Zac said indifferently, seeing all of her behavior as being angry at him. In an instant, Patricia was sick to the stomach.

'Who was mad? I was only stating the truth!'

Lyndsy, who was listening to their exchange, felt a range of emotions.

At first, she'd felt heartbroken when Zac had said she wasn't his girlfriend.

But now, she was left speechless after hearing Patricia's remark.

She knew that Patricia was deliberately trying to humiliate her, and she didn't have anything in her arsenal to challenge her on this topic.

"Patricia, I'll pick you up after work this afternoon!"

stated Zac in a matter-of-fact tone as he looked Patricia directly in the face.

It came off as an order that no one could refuse.

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"No, I'm busy this afternoon!"

Patricia replied coldly and without hesitation as she continued to consume her meal.

Her beautiful eyebrows were tightly knitted, giving off the impression of annoyance.

Zac's mood turned sour when she said that.

'How could this woman be so rude? So many people are anxiously awaiting my invitation, yet here she is readily refusing me. How could she reject me like that? I have always been a man of my word. So, how could I allow others to confront me like this in public?' His good mood was now long gone.

Thus, Zac's following words were cold like ice.

"Five o'clock, on the dot!" said Zac firmly.

He didn't leave room for discussion or rebuttals.

This time it was an order! Before Patricia could respond, he had grabbed Lyndsy's arm, swung them around, and headed straight for the door.

"Zac!"

Patricia immediately rose from her seat, ready to give him a piece of her mind, but he was almost out the door with Lyndsy in tow.

“You son of a bitch! You’re always like this! Who do you think you are? Why should I have to listen to you? Have you already forgotten? I’ve divorced you. We’re divorced, damn it!”

Looking at their retreating figures, Patricia was so infuriated that she couldn’t help stomping her feet in frustration.

Zac saw this and couldn’t help but think she looked adorable during her little fit of rage.

Seeing Patricia like this made Lily smile in delight. Although she didn’t look good now, Lily could sense a girlish feeling from Patricia.

This was the real Patricia! She would stamp her feet when angry, and she would laugh when she felt happy, instead of being the cold and unapproachable woman she was all day long.

“Bastard! That bastard...”

Having forgotten that she was still in the restaurant, Patricia kept shouting “bastard” towards the retreating figure of Zac.

“Miss Sampson, Mr. Reynolds has left!”

Lily informed her in a good-natured mood as she watched him leave.

“What? Right...”

Hearing this, Patricia was brought back to her senses, restraining her anger for this man.

Turning around, she noticed the patrons watching her.

Red with embarrassment, she sat back down and covered her pretty face with her hands.

After they were finished with their meal, and before leaving with Lily, Patricia signaled to the waiter to bring their bill.

When she was notified that their lunch was already paid for, her mind ran on Zac.

It was then that she was informed that the person who had paid was awaiting her arrival in Room 10.

Patricia frowned in confusion.

She didn't know who this man could be.

Lily called to her worriedly, "Miss Sampson, how about we pay the bill again?"

But even if it was just a meal, Patricia didn't want to owe anyone anything.

The waiter then emphasized, "Miss Su, the guest in Room 10 has invited you over. He explicitly said that if you refused to meet with him here and now, then he would be forced to go to your home instead."

Hearing this, Patricia's eyebrows furrowed even deeper.

'Did this type of domineering and unreasonable behavior really not belong to Zac?' She knew it was pointless talking to the waiter further as she wouldn't gain any more helpful information from him.

In a low, steady voice, Patricia said, "Lily, you can go back to the company first. I'll return a bit later. You don't need to worry. Everything will be alright."

After seeing Lily off, she went to Room 10 alone.

The moment she opened the door and saw who was inside, her subtle expression turned to one of surprise.

"What? Were you expecting someone else to be here?" asked Kareem with raised brows as he twirled his wine glass in his hand.

Patricia quickly calmed herself and said, "I didn't expect that you would come and find me. What's the matter?"

She didn't like beating around the bush nor did she think that there was anything to discuss between Kareem and herself.

So, she chose the direct route, implying that she was ready to end this conversation and leave.

A cold light flashed through Kareem's eyes, but he had a gentle smile on his face.

In a warm voice, he said, "Regarding what happened in the hotel yesterday, would you need my assistance?"

Patricia's heart skipped a beat, and she became vigilant.

"I don't know what you're talking about. If there's nothing else, I'll be going first. I need to return to the office."

"Miss Su, after your divorce, your ex-husband hooked up with your half-sister, which caused a sensation throughout the city, resulting in you being highly ridiculed. Do you not hate Zac for this?"

He deliberately lowered his voice, which sounded strangely bewitching in this confined space.

Patricia bit her lips tightly until a few white spots were peeking out on her rosy lips.

'Do I not hate Zac? Of course I hate him! She could have forgiven him for anything else that he'd done, but that stopped when he threatened to make her abort her baby! She hated him so much! Looking at her expression, Kareem thought he had her hooked, so he continued, "After your divorce, Zac intentionally got you drunk and forced you to have sex with him. By law, this is a crime. And you can take him to court for this!"

Although she didn't know much about the law, she was aware of such crimes committed against females.

Hearing Kareem voice this option, she lowered her head and dropped her eyelashes to hide the contempt displayed in her eyes.

She did hate Zac, but she was not foolish enough to be taken advantage of by Kareem! > The rumors said Kareem and Zac got along well and the former didn't mind solving any problems that cropped up around Zac.

The truth was there was a conflict of interest between Zac and Kareem as the head of the family and the Reynolds Group hadn't been determined yet.

"Mr. Reynolds, this is a matter between Zac and myself. Please don't get involved!" declared Patricia coldly.

Turning around, she was about to leave when Kareem's following words stopped her in her tracks. "This is no bother to me, but Miss Sampson, do you want to be bullied by Zac forever, or do you want to be Mrs. Reynolds again in the future?"

Kareem asked in response to Patricia's pause.

"I'm telling you the truth. Since I knew I was coming to see you today, I made preparations! If you don't agree to my terms, Mrs. Lowell will have a hard time."

Spinning around, she glared at Kareem angrily.

"Are all men in the Reynolds family so shameless?!"

In order to achieve his own goals, he was bringing out the big guns.

Yet again, her mother was used as a bargaining chip, as they knew this was her biggest weakness! "This depends on you!"

There was no sense of shame on Kareem's face.

"Aren't you worried that I will relay this to Zac? At that time, for the sake of me providing this news and refusing to sue him, he will provide protection for my mother. It's not difficult for him at all!"

With a cold expression on her face, she tried her best to calm down and find an advantage for herself in this situation.

She wouldn't give in easily nor would she be used as a tool by others again! The smile on Kareem's face faltered, but he was still sure to win this round.

"Really? Miss Su, will you really go to Zac and ask him for help?"

Patricia was speechless.

She really didn't want to ask for Zac's help.

She couldn't give up her hatred for him, let alone asking him for help.

With her pride, how could she be willing to sacrifice her dignity and beg Zac for his help?

However

"Don't be so confident just yet! Sometimes people are forced to do things they don't like doing! If you push me to my extreme, do you think I wouldn't fight back with everything I have?"

After saying that, she stormed out.

She didn't want to stay with him anymore.

This man was like a cold and poisonous snake that could bite her at any time.

Staring at her back, Kareem smashed the wine glass in anger, but he didn't intend to give up.

Patricia had spoken with conviction, but inside she was worried as hell.

Apart from that, she was very much tempted by the prospect of prosecution.

Or at least when she'd first heard it, her heart had fluttered at the thought.