

A Shotgun Marriage Chapter 13

Chapter 13

The office personnel wasn't in when Tia and Lewis arrived at the subdistrict office, and just when they thought they wouldn't be able to get registered that day, they bumped into Mrs. Gray on the way back. In fact, she was the one who had introduced them to each other. Mrs. Gray's daughter-in-law operated a matchmaking agency, and when she learned that Tia was in a hurry to find a partner, she brought it up with her daughter-in-law, who then recommended Lewis. It was only after asking that Mrs. Gray realized Tia had come to the subdistrict office to get a reference letter for their marriage. With that, she enthusiastically offered to help, pulling out her phone to make a call. It turned out that Mrs. Gray would come to the subdistrict office to chat whenever she had nowhere else to go. Hence, after getting Mrs. Gray's call, Mrs. McCain, who was playing with her grandchild at home, immediately came over and wrote the reference letter for Tia immediately after understanding the situation. When she handed the letter to the two, Mrs. McCain even deliberately told Lewis that Tia was a sweet girl and that he should cherish her. When Tia walked out of the Civil Affairs Bureau, she suddenly felt that all of this was somewhat surreal, and she looked at the red booklet in her hand, having trouble recalling how she had walked into the building a few minutes ago. "Are you beginning to regret this?" Lewis asked as he fixed his gaze on her. His voice pulled her back to reality, and she looked at the man standing beside her. When she saw his usual straight face, she smiled and said jokingly, "If that's the case, can we go back in and change to a different colored booklet?" Lewis smiled at her joke, then shook his head. "No." As she smiled, Tia opened the red booklet in her hand. The word 'married' looked exceptionally loud next to her name, and she chuckled self-deprecatingly. "I just find this a little surreal; it takes a little getting used to, after all." Just then, Lewis took her red booklet, stacked it with his, and kept it in his shirt pocket. "I'll keep both together lest you get fearful and start to regret after staring at it for too long," he explained when he saw her dumbfounded look. Tia burst out laughing after hearing his words, and she asked amusedly, "Are you telling a joke?" "Does it not look like it?" Lewis asked with a smile as he lifted a brow. Tia shook her head while smiling. "You're too serious." Who would pull a straight face when they joked around? No matter how funny it was, the joke wouldn't work without a hint of a smile on his stern face. Meanwhile, Lewis smiled and ended the topic as he checked his watch. With that, he grabbed Tia's hand and said, "Come on, we can still eat with Grandma if we go back now." Tia, however, felt a little uncomfortable at his touch, and she tried to withdraw her hand, only to be held tighter. Then, Lewis turned around and said gravely to her, "It'll be real to you if we hold hands, and you can slowly get used to it like this." Since he had already put it like that, what else could Tia say and do but let him lead her to his Jeep, which was parked by the entrance?! When they came across a supermarket on their way home, Lewis pulled the car over and glanced at Tia while killing the engine. "Come on." Although she had no clue what he was going to do, she still got out of the car and followed him. "Are you getting something?" "There's nothing to eat at home. We should buy some ingredients now," Lewis explained as he walked. It was only then that she remembered Lewis was the one who got their lunch from a restaurant nearby her home after picking Elizabeth up from the hospital at noon. There was nothing they could eat when they had been living in the hospital for about half a month. "You can cook?" Tia got curious as she watched him pick the produce while following behind him. Lewis nodded and said while taking a fresh fish from the counter, "It's not restaurant-standard cooking, but it's edible." An idea suddenly popped into Tia's head when she watched his stalwart back while following behind him. Should I consider my marriage to him a win? He might not exactly be gentle, but he was attentive and thoughtful. Although he looked overly serious and aloof, his firm shoulders gave her an inexplicable sense of security. More than that, he could even cook! For someone who couldn't cook at all, the best thing Tia could ask for was a husband who could cook. Tia became so lost in her thoughts while walking that she didn't notice Lewis had stopped, and just like that, she bumped her forehead and nose against his muscular back. It was so painful that she nearly cried. "Ouch..." She rubbed her forehead while looking up at him. "Why did you suddenly stop?" she whined. Lewis had the urge to chuckle upon seeing her piteous look. He had merely stopped to grab some vegetables off the rack, but who'd have thought she wasn't paying attention to where she was walking and bumped straight into him? At that, he rubbed her forehead and asked, "Is it really that bad?" "Do you have to get so ripped?" Tia mumbled as she looked at him with misty eyes. It really hurt, and it felt like she had hit a lamppost. A smile escaped his lips as he rubbed her forehead for a while before bringing his hand down to hold her hand. "I'll hold your hands." Tia blushed instinctively, feeling abashed. "I-I can walk on my own." Her voice was soft and gentle, making it sound like she was whining. However, Lewis didn't release her hand. "Is there anything you want to eat? I'll make it for you later." As if Tia could think about eating now! Her eyes latched on their intertwined hands as she tried to wriggle her hand free. With that, she looked up and found him looking at her with a frown and a stern face. "Behave," he said, sounding as though he was reprimanding a child. An intimidated Tia immediately stopped struggling, thinking he was genuinely pissed. Hence, she let him lead her around the supermarket. When they passed by the health and beauty aisle on their way to the checkout, Lewis turned around, grabbed two small boxes, and put them into the cart. "What did you get?" Curious as to what he had grabbed, she picked up one of the boxes only to flush bright red and instantly chucked it back into the cart when she finally had a good look at it. "Y-You..." She stared at him with wide eyes and a flushed face, having trouble putting her thoughts into words. What was it that he got? It was two boxes of condoms!