

A Shotgun Marriage

Chapter 17

However, Lewis said nothing and only looked at Tia with a face that said, 'I'll stay if you say yes, but it all comes down to you!

Elizabeth looked toward Tia as well. She gave her granddaughter a tug and a hinting gaze while she whispered, "Tia, say something."

What was she supposed to say, though? Was she supposed to ask him to go home?

Clearly not! Thus, with a smile, she glanced at Elizabeth and Lewis before she

suggested, "Um, why don't you stay for the night?"

Please say no. Please say no. Please say no... she prayed.

Meanwhile, Lewis continued to stare at her, and he pulled a rare smile after hearing her words. "Actually, I still have something to get to tonight, but—"

"In that case, you should go. Don't let us delay you from your business!" Tia butted in before he could even finish his words.

She spoke with such urgency that it looked as if she wished he would leave immediately.

With that, Lewis' gaze at her turned ruminative.

Elizabeth, on the other hand, glared at her granddaughter while grumbling, You child!

Then, she turned to Lewis and was about to say something when he spoke up. "I do have something to attend to, but it's not important, so I can still deal with it tomorrow morning if you guys want me to stay."

"Of course we do!" Elizabeth exclaimed, feeling elated. "Since it's not important, just leave it until tomorrow and stay for the night. What couple lives apart after just getting married? Speaking of which, it's your first night as a wedded couple!"

Meanwhile, Tia was rendered dumbfounded. First night aside, she wasn't in a hurry for what that entailed!

Lewis smiled in response, then looked over at Tia as he said, "It seems that Tia doesn't want me to stay, though."

"Of course she does!" Elizabeth retorted. At that, she looked toward Tia and gestured with her eyes, telling Tia to say something.

How dare Tia say no at this point? Hence, she smiled awkwardly and said, "Of course I do. Why wouldn't I?"

At last, Lewis nodded. "I'll stay for the night, then."

"That's what I'm talking about," Elizabeth said as she grinned ear to ear.

It wasn't appropriate for Elizabeth to be staying up late. Thus, when she began feeling tired after a short chat with the newlyweds, she asked Tia to help her back to her room.

Before leaving, she even made Lewis promise to stay for the night and finally retired with an ease mind after receiving his affirmation.

After reaching the bed, Tia patted the bed and lifted the covers before letting Elizabeth lie down.

"I'm going to fetch some water for you to wipe your face with," Tia said as she turned around to head out, but Elizabeth grabbed her hand and stopped her.

Reflexively, Tia turned around to see Elizabeth patting the spot beside her. "Sit here. I

have something to tell you.”

“What is it, Grandma?” Tia asked as she sat and held Elizabeth’s hand.

It suddenly struck her when she looked closely at Elizabeth’s haggard face that she seemed to have aged in a heartbeat after the heart attack.

Meanwhile, Elizabeth sighed. “You know what I want to say.”

Tia nodded in reply, but she said nothing. What else could it be other than between her and Lewis?

Elizabeth held Tia’s hand in return and stroked her knuckles. “Lewis is really an excellent kid. He’s so caring and thoughtful.” At that, she shook her head while chuckling under her breath.

“I’ve been thinking these couple of days. It really feels like you struck gold by meeting Lewis. Looks-wise, he’s just as good-looking as Lance is, isn’t he? Character wise, look at how much he has helped us. Not to mention that he’s so caring and thoughtful.”

“Grandma, I’ll do my best and be a good wife to him. Don’t worry.” She agreed with Elizabeth, for it was like she had really struck gold. With what Lewis had, she didn’t have to worry about eventually finding the right one.

Elizabeth nodded in response. “I know that our Tia isn’t someone greedy. I just want to tell you that since you’re married, don’t lock your heart up and throw the key away.

Learn to care for him and learn to communicate. Not all husbands and wives will stay together forever, but there are still many who stick together to the very end. You get what I’m trying to say, do you?”

“I get everything you’re trying to say, Grandma. Please don’t worry about me. The doctor said you need proper rest.”

“I’m fine,” Elizabeth reassured Tia while patting her hand. “You should pack your things up and move over tomorrow.”

“Move? Where?” The conversation took such a sharp turn that Tia didn’t quite get her grandmother for a moment.

“You child. What kind of stupid question is that? You’re married to Lewis, so you should be moving to his place. From now on, this is no longer your home-you’ll live with him instead!” Elizabeth said.

“Huh?!” She had been so focused on finding a guy to marry off to so that Grandma would stop worrying about her that she had completely forgotten about this. After marrying, she’d have to leave this home and Grandma! “Then... You have to move over with me.”

“You foolish child. Do you even hear yourself? Which married woman brings their grandmother with them to their matrimonial home?” Elizabeth reproached.

“How can I let you live alone, though?” This was the one thing she would never agree with.

“What’s wrong with me living alone? I can move around just fine, and I’m not senile either. Do you think I’ve gotten useless and need someone to take care of me to survive now that I’m old?” Elizabeth retorted purposefully, causing Tia to get worked up.

“Grandma, you know that’s not what I mean!”

At that, Elizabeth chuckled. “Of course I know what you mean. I’m just telling you that I’m still young enough to look after myself. You don’t need to worry about no one taking care of me.”

“But,”

“What’s the matter? Haven’t I been the one to cook for you every day? Who exactly is taking care of who here? Now that you’re moving out, I can finally do whatever I want.” Elizabeth retorted with a hint of derision. Ultimately, she just wanted her granddaughter to move away and live a normal married life.

“Grandma!” Tia whined. She began regretting now that she realized her beloved grandmother would be living alone. “I swear I wouldn’t have gotten married if I knew this was coming,” she grumbled.

“You child! Do you even know what you’re saying?” Elizabeth knocked Tia’s forehead lightly at that. “How do you think Lewis will think if he hears you?”

However, Tia refused to give up. “Grandma, please move over with me.”

“Why are you so stubborn?” Elizabeth poked her forehead this time and decided to end their conversation at this. “Get out of here. Go spend some time with Lewis, and don’t leave him hanging out there.”

Tia sighed, knowing she could only leave things at that when Elizabeth didn’t want to continue on this subject. “I’ll fetch some water for you to wipe your face with.”