

The Weight On Skin by Merry T Chapter 31

Chapter 31

They returned to the Mid-hill Mansion after a good meal.

Rose went back to her room to take a shower and change her clothes, while Nick went to the study to do his work.

Wallop said worriedly, “Mr. Shank, the advertisement will start shooting the day after tomorrow, but with Miss. Chaucer’s current situation, I’m afraid she won’t be able to participate in the shooting.”

“Then delay it.” Nick said indifferently.

Wallop didn’t know what to say. Knowing how much Mr. Shank cherished his newly married wife, he could only accept it. “Well, I’ll inform Starlight Group and Mr. Louisa tomorrow and try to postpone the time for two days until Miss. Chaucer is well enough to work.”

“Until she is fully recovered.” Nick put his longlegs on the table, crossed his ankles, and slowly flipped through the documents Wallop handed over. He emphasized casually, “We’ll shoot the advertisement after she fully recovers.”

Fully recovered?! That would take at least ten days!

Wallop couldn’t help but say, “But according to the contract, if the brand ambassador fails to participate in the advertising shoot on time, it will be regarded

as a breach of contract. By then, Miss Chaucer will have to compensate the Starlight Group for a large sum of liquidated damages...”

“It doesn’t matter.”

Nick didn’t care at all. “You can pay them with the money from my account after you talk to them about how much we need to compensate.”

Wallop was speechless

Well, anyway, Mr. Shank has plenty of money, and this liquidated damage was just a drop in the bucket. It didn’t matter as long as it was used on Miss Chaucer.

“I see. I’ll talk to them as soon as possible.”

The people of the Starlight Group were not fools. Even if Rose really didn’t show up at the

shooting scene, they wouldn’t dare to have any complaints. After all, she was supported by Nick, and they could not afford to offend the Shank family.

As for Mr. Louisa, who was the director, although he had a bad temper, it was not that he was not reasonable. It was not too much trouble to deal with this matter.

“One more thing,”

Wallop flipped through the tablet in his hand. “It’s about the Old Residence. Your grandfather heard that you were married and wanted you to take your wife back to see him sometime.”

Nick paused and frowned slightly. “When did it happen?”

“Around three o’clock this afternoon.” Wallop looked at the information.

“The call was to the office. At that time, you were talking to Mr. Ronald about the development authorization of the land in the suburbs. Because you told everyone not to disturb, the secretariat transferred the phone call to me.”

Nick tapped on the armrest of the chair with his fingertips as he was thinking about something. He had no smile on his face. “I see. Go and call him back yourself. Just say that I will bring his granddaughter-in-law over in two days and tell him to prepare a gift for the new family member. And tell him that I don’t want to see those three people. He knows what I mean.”

“Okay.” Wallop nodded. He was used to Nick’s serious expression at the mention of the Old Residence. After all, the people in the Old Residence... They really did some bad things to him.

After the business and personal matters were all settled, Wallop raised his hand to look at the time and was ready to leave. “Mr. Shank, I’ll leave you to your work.”

Nick did not look at him and waved his hand as if he was fanning away flies.

Wallop turned to leave.

Just as he was about to open the door, Nick’s voice suddenly came from behind. “By the way, find out who Rose met at the company today and what happened. And the man, Mr. Fain, I want to know all about him.”

“I see.” Wallop nodded. “I’ll get someone to investigate immediately.”

Nick nodded and then added, “Also, remember to keep a low profile about the postponement of the advertisement. Don’t let Rose know about it.” He said while looking at him warningly, “I don’t want her to worry, understand?”

Wallop’s reaction to the way Nick doted on his wife had gone from shock to numbness. He quickly said, “Don’t worry, Mr. Shank. I know what to do.”

“All right, you can leave now.”

After reading the documents and finishing all the work at hand, Nick returned to his room and found that Rose was not there. And Nanny Winnie, who was sent by him to help her, was guarding the bathroom door anxiously.

Seeing him, Nanny Winnie could not help but heave a sigh of relief. “Mr. Shank.”

Nick looked around the room. “Where’s Rose?”

“She’s still in the bathroom!” Nanny Winnie said, “She was shy and wouldn’t let me help her shower. She said she wanted to take a bath by herself, but she’s been in there for more than an hour.”

Rose’s feet were hurt, and she had difficulty moving now. She was worried that something would

happen to Rose in the bathroom. She wouldn't know how to explain it to Mr. Shank.

"I see. You can go now."

After Nanny Winnie left, Nick knocked on the door. "Rose, are you okay?"

Rose, who had just got out of the bathtub, heard him and replied quickly, "I'm okay, I'm okay. I'll come out soon!"

She knew that she had been in the bathroom for too long, but her feet were injured, and she couldn't get her feet wet. It was inevitable that she couldn't take a shower fast. In addition, she had to wash her hair, so it took a long time.

When Nick heard her voice, his heart relaxed a little. He couldn't help but tease her, "Mrs. Shank, I don't have anything to do now. If you need help, don't hesitate to ask."

"No need! Nick, I'll be right there!"

Rose stood on one foot on the tile and responded in a loud voice. As she hurriedly took her clothes over to wear, she accidentally pulled the wound on her shoulder. Then her hand, which had been propped up against the wall to maintain balance, reflexively retracted, and her body immediately lost its balance.

She couldn't help but give a cry of pain.

Hearing the sound in the bathroom, Nick immediately got nervous and kicked the door without thinking.

The dense mist floated out of the door. Nick waved his hand so that he could see clearer. He glanced around the bathroom and was surprised by what he saw.

Rose was lying on the ground, face down, her long wet seaweed-like hair draping over her shoulders, covering most of her face.

She was wearing the plain pajamas she usually wore, and the hem of her pajamas flipped up as she slipped onto the ground, revealing her long legs, which were wet and fair-skinned.

Nick's eyes darkened. His stare showed his desire. His Adam's apple moved up and down, and he almost had a nosebleed.

"Nanny Winnie..."

When Rose slipped and fell, she hit her forehead on the sink. She was dizzy for a long time, and she thought it was Nanny Winnie who came in. When she heard the sound, she turned around and saw Nick standing at the door staring at her. She screamed and tried to cover her body.

"Don't look! Get out!"

Nanny Winnie only agreed to let her take a bath herself because she said she would not lock the bathroom door so that if she needed any help, Nanny Winnie could come in and help immediately.

She didn't expect that when she needed help, it was Nick, not Nanny Winnie, who came in. Rose lowered her head and hugged her legs. She was so embarrassed.

Fortunately, there was her pajama covering her body, which somewhat comforted Rose.

Nick also came to his senses at this time. Without a word, he took off his suit jacket and put it on her. He wrapped her up and picked her up.

Seeing that she was still covering her face and not daring to look at him, he couldn't help but feel amused

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“All right now, put your hands down. I didn't see anything.”

Rose's muffled voice came from under her palm. “Put me down.”

Nick ignored her, carried her out of the bathroom, and put her on the bed. Then he pulled down her hand that was covering her face. “Did you hurt your face? Let me see.”

“...No.” Nick's handsome face was right in front of her, and the breath he exhaled as he spoke was so hot that it seemed to burn her skin.

Rose blushed, and her long eyelashes trembled. She lowered her eyes and dared not look at Nick.

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Chapter 32

Nick didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He found a bruise on her forehead and raised his hand to touch it, “Does it hurt?”

Rose shrank. Just as she was about to open her mouth, he had already stood up. “All right, sit still. I’ll get some medicine for you.”

“Okay.” She, who still felt awkward, nodded and kept her head down.

He rolled up his sleeve to the elbow, revealing a strong arm. Then he took out the anti-inflammatory medicine and carefully applied it to her bruise.

She found that the front part of his shirt was soaked in water. She guessed that it was stained when he carried her over just now. Thinking of this, she felt embarrassed and said, “I’m sorry, I got your clothes wet...”

Stopping what he was doing, he stared at her, “Mrs. Shank, we’re couple now.”

She let out an “Oh.” Every time he called her Mrs. Shank, she automatically felt guilty.

She knew he didn’t like that she always apologized, but she couldn’t change it for a while.

“I’ll be careful next time.”

Seeing that she was actually raising her hand to swear, he couldn’t help but laugh, “Okay, I’m not blaming you. I just don’t want you to always put yourself on the humble side. You’re the wife of the president of the Shank Group now. There’s nothing you need to say sorry for.”

She nodded, but she couldn’t help but mutter in her heart, “Is he instigating me to abuse my power to do bad things?”

When he finished applying the medicine to her, she tugged at his wet clothes, pointed at the bathroom with a red face and said, “Well... Nick, you take a bath first. I want to change clothes.”

He raised his eyebrows and said with a wicked smile, “What are you afraid of? Just change. I’ve seen your body before.”

She stammered, “You... Didn’t you say you didn’t see it?”

He hissed and stroked her chin, “I didn’t see it just now. It doesn’t mean I haven’t seen it before.”

She was speechless.

Of course, she knew what he was talking about. Her face was flushed, and even her ears turned scarlet. Her head was almost hanging down to her chest.

His eyes darkened when he saw her blushing from shyness. He bent down and reached out to raise her chin.

She leaned back to avoid it, but he went straight ahead, holding her in his arms on both sides

of her body. And he stared straight at her with sparkling peach eyes.

The air seemed to freeze. Her heart was racing, and her cheeks were hot again.

“Nick... Nick...”

Narrowing her eyes, he approached her more and more and said in a deep voice, “Are you afraid of me?”

She lay on the bed with her hands crossed over her chest, feeling overwhelmed. She didn’t know whether to push him away or let nature take its course, “No... No!”

He lowered his head and his eyes met hers. And the tip of his nose was only a centimeter *away* from hers.

The familiar masculine scent rushed towards her. She reflexively closed her eyes, and her body was trembling slightly, not sure if out of fear or nervousness.

He laughed. He was afraid that if he continued to flirt with her, she would change into a big red “shrimp” first. So, he lowered his head and kissed her lips quickly before leaving.

Feeling the pressure on her body suddenly disappeared, she secretly opened one eye and saw that he had already stood up again with a teasing smile on his face, “Mrs. Shank, I’m going to take a bath first. Hurry up and change your wet clothes so that you don’t catch a cold.”

As he spoke, he raised her hand and blew her kiss.

She was amused. Seeing that he took his clothes and turned into the bathroom, she sat up from the bed.

She touched her lips, as if she could still feel the touch of his lips. Her long eyelashes trembled twice, and somehow she felt... a little sweet.

That was a feeling she had never felt when she was with Hugo.

In the past, when she was with Hugo, she could hold hands and hug with him, but every time he wanted to go further, she subconsciously resisted. At that time, she thought that she was just not used to it. After getting along with him for a long time, she would accept it. Unfortunately, before she could get used to it, he had already hooked up her sister.

Now that she thought about it, she didn't know whether to blame herself for not being flexible enough to push her boyfriend out or to be glad that she didn't hand herself over to a scumbag so casually.

Reaching out to massage her sprained ankle and thinking of Hugo's crazy face today, she sighed and felt scared again.

Fortunately, White arrived in time. Otherwise, she might have been attacked by him.

Just as she was glad that she had survived, Hugo returned home drunk.

Lena, who had been waiting for him, opened the door. When she saw his drunken appearance, her eyes turned red with anger and she said in a shrill voice, "You still know how to come back? Do you know what time it is now?"

Hugo pushed her away irritably and quickly took two steps to sit on the sofa, "Why are you mad again? Aren't you tired of arguing every day?"

“Okay, now you’re tired of me, aren’t you? How did you coax me before we got married?” She pushed him and punched him hard with her hands, “You just think I’m ugly after pregnancy. You want to get rid of me!”

He waved her hand away, “Get out!”

She was pushed to the sofa by him and then screamed angrily, “Hugo! I want to divorce you!”

“No problem!” He burped and said disgustedly, “You’re far from Rose..”

Hearing this, she pounced on him and punched him as if she had gone crazy. “You’re still thinking about that bitch! I’m pregnant with your child. How could you do this to me!”

After being slapped in the face a few times, he woke up from the pain. He looked back at her with a blank look, “Honey, what are you doing?”

Her face was ferocious, “Tell me! Did you go to see that bitch today?”

“Rose?... Yes, yes.” He burped again with a wicked smile, “I saw her in the company today. I almost... Almost had sex with her...”

After hearing that, she screamed, “What did you say?!”

“It’s so noisy!”

He pushed her away irritably and staggered to the bedroom, leaving her alone in the living room. She gritted her teeth in hatred, “Rose

Chaucer! You've already got out of the Chaucer family.
Why are you still appearing?"

No. She had to find a way to prevent future trouble.

He said he saw her in the
company just now, so she was still working at the same company.

Thinking of this, she quickly picked up her phone and called
Martin, "Dad, I know where you can find Rose!"

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Chapter 33

Since Rose's foot was injured, Nick forbade her to go back to work before she was fully **recovered**.

She couldn't talk him out of it, so
she agreed to stay at home for a few days while worrying about her salary deduction.

The Chaucer family, who were kept in the dark, had been
waiting downstairs at the Galaxy Group for several days. Martin and his
wife even shamelessly went to the receptionist and lied that Rose
hadn't been
home for a few days and they were so worried that they couldn't eat or
sleep, and wanted to ask about her new residence.

Since White had reminded the security guards about it, the receptionist also
knew about Hugo's making trouble in the company. They did not dare
to give them Rose's contact information. They could only call and ask
Ann if they could offer them help.

Unfortunately, Ann and the others witnessed how Martin had sold out Rose personally. They were very contemptuous of them who dared to come here. Ann immediately rejected offering them help and also exaggerated it to the receptionist.

“Sorry, Miss Chaucer didn’t come to work these days. We don’t know where exactly she is now.” When the receptionist said so, there was a look of disdain in her eyes.

Martin didn’t notice it, so he patted the table angrily. “Don’t try to fool me. I know that she works here. Call her out immediately!”

The receptionist answered, “I’m sorry, sir. Miss Chaucer is really not at the company at the moment.”

“How dare you lie to me? Do you know who I am?” Martin roared and slammed the table fiercely. “I’m Hugo’s father-in-law! He can just fire you.”

He still remembered that Hugo had promised that he would soon become the department manager of the Galaxy Group. He had no idea that Hugo had already been kicked out of the company.

The receptionist was a little embarrassed by his yelling. “I’m sorry, sir. There’s not a manager named Hugo in our company. Have you mistaken him for someone else?”

“Someone else?” Martin couldn’t wait any longer. He had been keeping the five million dollars these days and couldn’t sleep well at all. If he couldn’t find Rose, it meant that he couldn’t solve the problem. He had had enough of worrying about his money being stolen every day.

Regardless of what the receptionist had said, he signaled Selma and a few other relatives to follow him. “Forget about this bitch. Let’s go in!”

The receptionist was so angry about the bitch thing, but upon seeing that they were about to break in, she quickly called the security guards to stop them. “Sir, if you continue to do so, I will call the police!”

Just as they were at a standstill, the elevator door opened. A man in a suit looked at them, then his secretary standing beside him immediately asked the receptionist, “What happened? Why is it so noisy?”

The receptionist was afraid of being implicated and quickly stepped forward to explain, “They are looking for Miss Chaucer. I told them that she was not here, but they wanted to break in.”

“Miss Chaucer?” When White, who was about to leave, heard this, he suddenly stopped and walked over slowly. “Which Chaucer?”

“Mr... Mr. Fain” The receptionist looked at the tall and handsome man in front of her. Her face flushed and she couldn’t speak smoothly. Then she came to her senses and said, “It’s Rose Chaucer, Miss Chaucer.”

Seeing the thoughtful look on White’s face, Martini immediately concluded that he must know Rose. Martin gave up breaking in and walked to

wards him. “Are you the president here? And you know my daughter Rose?”

“Yes.”

White signaled his secretary to move away: his smile remained.

He had background check on Rose, so he knew they didn't treat her nicely at home, and that she was sold out to Nick by the very man in front of him now.

“Who are you and why are you looking for Miss Chaucer?”

“I'm her father.” Martin said rudely, “What's wrong with the fact that I want to meet with my daughter?”

“So, you're Miss Chaucer's father?” White adjusted his glasses and sneered. He said calmly, “But as far as I know, you seem to have severed your relationship with her, right? Then in what position you are to meet with her now?”

“It's a lie! They lied to me!” Martin couldn't help but roar. “Whether she's alive or dead, she'll always be my daughter!”

“That's right!” Selma stepped forward and said, “We are her biological parents. She has run away with a man now. We are worried about her and want to get her back.”

As soon as she finished speaking, Martin couldn't help but add, “Even if she's not here, we can look for Hugo. He's the manager here!”

“Oh? You mean the scum who offered his girlfriend to his client?” White was still smiling, but his eyes were piercing. “I’m really sorry. I’m afraid you can’t find him. He has been fired a week ago. The Galaxy Group won’t keep an employee like him.”

“What?!” Martin and Selma exclaimed together, “That’s impossible!”

“It’s not up to you. Why don’t you go back and ask your son-in-law?” White lost interest in talking to them and said to his secretary: “Send them off and tell the security guards downstairs that they are making trouble here. Don’t let them in again.”

Martin roared, “How dare you!”

White’s secretary looked at him contemptuously and said to the security guards who had already surrounded him without hesitation, “Take them away!”

Martin and the others cursed all the way and were chased away by the security guards.

White turned around and was about to leave, then he suddenly stopped and said to his secretary, “By the way, call Nick and tell him someone regarded him as some man who kidnapped his daughter. And ask him if he wanted to deal with it himself.”

“Nick?” His secretary thought for a moment and asked. “Of the Shank Group?”

“Yes. The capitalist who you complained to me about yesterday. He monopolized the

cosmetics and jewelry market of the country.” White joked, “Oh, yes, the real estate market as well!”

He was shocked.

White patted him on the shoulder and left, ignoring the shocked secretary.

He didn't want to have anything to do with Nick, but Rose was his friend, so he didn't mind helping her vent her anger.

After all, it had been a few days since she was attacked. He was worried about her injury.

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Chapter 34

Rose was a few hundred times happier living at the Shank family than her life prior at the Chaucer family.

There were people rushing to help her with everything and offering nutritious meals every day to nourish her. Although she was in good shape and did not gain weight, it was inevitable that she would get tired of eating too much greasy and meaty food.

Now casting eyes on various kinds of soups, she can't help but feel her scalp tingle.

Staring at the special nutritional soup in front of her, Rose pleaded, “Nanny Winnie, I really can’t eat anymore. Can I not have it today?”

“Miss Chaucer, don’t make things difficult for me. The doctor said that you are malnourished and must have a nutritional diet. A bowl of soup every day is the most basic.” Nanny Winnie said as she poured out the soup from the stew pot. “Besides, this soup has been cooked in the kitchen for several hours. The medicinal ingredients are excellent, and the chicken is also a specially selected old hen raised in the countryside. If you don’t drink it, it will be a waste.”

Women knew those of the same sex best. Ever since Nanny Winnie was aware of Rose’s thrifty nature, she had specially chosen to persuade her in this way, which was quite effective and made Rose unable to refuse.

Since Rose’s foot was injured, she had been transferred from other places by Nick to take care of Rose’s daily life.

It also proved that Nick was adept at choosing people. Since Nanny Winnie’s arrival, Rose had been taken care of meticulously in every way, except for her little reluctance to eat.

“Come on, I’ve already removed the upper layer of oil. Miss Chaucer, you’d better drink some. It’s good for your health.”

Seeing that the rejection was invalid, Rose could only drink the soup with a wrinkled face.

“By the way, Nanny Winnie, where’s Nick?”

She hadn't seen Nick since she woke up in the morning, and he hadn't come back after dark,

so Rose was inevitably worried.

"Are you worried about Mr. Shank?" Nanny Winnie quipped. "Sure enough, you young couple do share a close relationship."

Rose felt her ears burning. "I was just asking."

"I know, I know." After finishing laughing, Nanny Winnie told her, "Well, Mr. Shank's secretary, called back just now and said that Mr. Shank had some work to attend to, so he might come back a little bit later, and he asked you to have dinner first."

Then, it was about work? No wonder.

Rose nodded and didn't ask any more questions.

Nanny Winnie urged her to walk around the yard to help digestion.

As Nanny Winnie said, Nick was indeed "working overtime," but he was dealing with people, not business.

At the White Night Bar, two rows of bodyguards stood outside the large street box with their hands behind their backs. They were tall, sturdy, and expressionless, showing an invisible pressure to daunt passers-by.

The closed door blocked out the deafening music outside. In the dim and spacious room, Nick sat on the sofa with his long legs crossed, holding a glass in his hand. He was squinting forward through the ruby-like wine, lolling languidly.

In front of him, Hugo, beaten black and blue, was kneeling on the ground with his hands tied behind his back and his mouth stuffed with a piece of rag. He was trembling all over in extreme fright.

He had already recognized Nick. Although he did not know what the ruffian in front of him came for, he was aware that it definitely had something to do with Rose.

“How does it feel to kneel to others?” Nick leered at him, and the smile on the corner of his lips seemed to be tinged with coldness.

Hugo was sweating profusely on the forehead; he wanted to speak, but his mouth was

blocked so he could only whine in vain.

“Do you know why you’re here?” Nick took a sip of the wine gracefully, then slowly shook the glass, his voice was plain and flat. “Originally, I wanted to spare you for the sake of Rose, but I didn’t expect you to be so reckless, daring to attack her again and again...” Nick paused, and the corner of his lip quirked upward. “She’s so kind-hearted and merciful, unwilling to inflict the least pain on others. So, I have to come for her.”

Hugo widened his eyes and wriggled frantically in an attempt to escape.

Two bodyguards pressed his shoulders on each side, untied the rope in his hands, and spread his arms out on the floor.

Nick stood up and walked up to him, raising his foot to trample on his left hand condescendingly. The tip of his shoe crushed the back of Hugo’s hand a few times as he drawled, “Did you drug her with this hand back then?”

Hugo was in so much pain that his tears and snot came out. He shook his head in horror and sobbed, desperately trying to make a sound.

“No?” Nick tutted, then raised his foot to stamp on the other hand. “Was it this one then?”

Before Hugo could shake his head, his right hand was throbbing with pain. He let out a dull wail one after another, as the other hand desperately tried to grab Nick’s foot to push him away, but was held down by the two bodyguards.

“Does it hurt?” Nick sneered. “It hurts? That’s right. Compared to her pain at that time, yours

is nothing.”

Hugo’s veins popped out of his forehead, and he stuck his head on the ground, panting heavily.

“Don’t worry, I won’t kill you. After all, if I kill you, I won’t be able to explain it to Rose” As Nick spoke, he gestured for the two bodyguards to pull Hugo up. “This is your last warning. Don’t appear in front of her again, and don’t even attempt to be on the catch for her again. Otherwise, I will definitely make you wish you were actually dead, understand?”

Hugo sobbed and whimpered, nodding hard. Tears trickled down his face, which had been beaten so hard that it was difficult to identify his expression. That was disturbingly disgusting.

Nick let out a menacing sneer and walked towards the door. Wallop hurriedly took a few steps forward to open the door for him.

As they passed the door, Nick's mouth twitched. The other two bodyguards immediately nodded and turned to enter the box.

Hugo was overjoyed as the rag in his mouth was pulled out. Just as he was about to speak, a piercing grim light flashed in front of him.

“Ah—”

A shrill scream rose to the sky, but soon dissipated into the deafening music.

Done with Hugo, Nick returned home, only to find that Rose was sitting in the living room making a phone call.

With a pillow in her arms, she sat cross-legged on the sofa, wearing a wide grin glowing with delight. He wondered what the person on the other side of the phone was saying that could make her so happy.

At that moment, Nick suddenly became a little jealous of the person on the other end of the phone. He was jealous that this person could keep her guard off, and was able to be bestowed from her such a bright and cheerful smile.

Perhaps due to his focused look, Rose turned around as if she was feeling something. When she saw him coming back, she was taken aback for a moment, then smiled genuinely.

She hurriedly said goodbye to the person on the other end, hung up the phone, and walked towards him with a smile on her face, then she said in a crisp voice. “Nick, you're back!”

Nick calmed down a little, took off his suit jacket, and asked in a pretending indifferent tone. "Just took a phone call?"

"Yeah." Rose nodded and took the suit jacket from him. After thinking for a while, she added to explain, "It's grandma... She asked me how I am doing recently."

It turned out to be the grandmother of the young family who had raised her. No wonder she would smile so happily.

Nick's eyes flashed, and he wiped away the last bit of dissatisfaction in his heart.

Seeing Rose holding his suit jacket in her arms and whispering to Nanny Winnie to prepare dinner for him, he suddenly felt as if his entire heart was wrapped by soft feathers, dancing gleefully in the air

He couldn't help but take a few steps forward to pull her into a hug. Smiling, he said, "Mrs. Shank, I happen to be free tomorrow. Why not take me to see our grandma?"

Rose was taken by surprise.

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Chapter 35

Rose's grandmother, Elder Mrs. Young, failed to attend her wedding because of her poor mobility. The Chaucer family did not tell her about the details. So, Elder Mrs. Young did not know that it was her second granddaughter Lena who held the wedding ceremony

that day. As for her eldest granddaughter whom she raised by herself, she married another man.

Rose has always been worried about her grandma's health. But she was afraid that if she told Nick, he would be unhappy and stop her from visiting her grandma. Rose felt uneasy.

So, when Nick suddenly mentioned visiting her grandmother, Rose was also shocked.

But when she came to her senses, a lump came into her throat.

Nick had investigated her. He must have known that her grandmother was important to her. She was quite touched that he was willing to visit her grandma with her, be it out of sympathy or for other purposes.

“Thank you, Nick.”

Nick bent down and pointed to his lips banteringly, saying, “Mrs. Shank, don't talk nice. If you're truly grateful, be practical. I'll be more pleased as your husband.”

He was just joking because he thought that Rose would find all kinds of excuses to reject him. However, he didn't expect a pair of slender palms to suddenly be placed on his shoulder.

Rose mustered up her courage, put her hands on his shoulders, and kissed him lightly on his lips on her toes. She blushed.

When he felt her mouth at that short moment, Nick was astounded by her tender and warm lips.

However, before he could savor that feeling, Rose had already taken a step back and ran away with her head down as quickly as usual. "I'll see if dinner is ready!"

Although it was just a kiss, Rose finally took the initiative. This was definitely a good sign!

Nick turned up the corners of his mouth, raised his hand to touch his chin, staring at Rose's busy back and smiling meaningfully.

The next morning, Rose got up early to prepare breakfast, and then hurried back to her room to pack her things.

Nick did not rush her. He ate his breakfast unhurriedly and motioned for Nanny Winnie to help her.

Outside the house, the sun had only risen for a short time, and the air on the mountain was very cool.

Rose came down the stairs with her backpack on her back, looking very excited. "I'm done packing!"

Nick heard her and turned around, seeing his newly-married wife's face without any makeup. She wore a simple short-sleeved T-shirt and a pair of light-colored jeans. Her long hair was tied into a high ponytail, and her cheeks were flushed from walking. What a refreshing and energetic woman! He felt a sense of warmth.

His heart skipped a beat. Nick stood up and naturally took her hand. Then he helped her take off her backpack and threw it to Wallop, who was standing next to him. "Let's go."

Rose's heart pounded when her hand was held by his large hand. She blushed and subconsciously wanted to withdraw her hand.

Nick held her hand even tighter and laughed loudly. "Mrs. Shank, it takes more than four hours to get from here to Grandma's house. If you keep dodging me, we probably won't be able to make it in time for lunch."

"But isn't it only seven o'clock?"

Rose wanted to turn to look at the clock, but Nick hurriedly took her out of the door.

The car was already parked at the door. As soon as the two of them arrived, the driver immediately opened the door for them.

Rose was about to sit in when she suddenly thought of something and turned to Nick. "Nick, can you stop on the way? I want to buy something."

It had been a while since she went back to see her grandmother. It was on impulse. She hadn't had time to prepare a gift.

Nick turned around and shouted, "Wallop."

“Right here, sir!” Wallop ran over from the other car and said to Rose, “Mrs. Shank, we have already bought everything, including food, drink, and treatment equipment according to Elder Mrs. Young’s physical condition. In addition, Mr. Shank has arranged for two nurses to take care of Elder Mrs. Young. What else do you need? I’ll get someone ready to deliver it right away.”

Rose didn’t say anything and glanced at the Van next to them, which was full of beautifully wrapped gifts. She was stunned and forgot what she was going to buy.

Nick tried hard to hold back his smile and urged her into the car. “Let’s go. When we get there, we’ll let them send anything we need.”

Anyway, he could solve anything that could be bought.

Rose blinked. Before she could come back to her senses from the shock, they had driven far away and headed straight to nearby TH Town, where her grandmother’s house was.

Nick had asked an experienced driver in advance who used to take this road. So, in less than three and a half hours, they had already arrived at the TH Town boundary.

After driving off the highway, the car turned into a road full of fruit trees on both sides.

There was soothing music playing in the car. Rose looked out the window with her hands pressed against it, narrowing her eyes to enjoy the cool breeze. She

smelled a unique fragrance of fruit trees in the wind, feeling very happy

.

She hadn't seen grandma and her uncle's family for a month and a half. Rose didn't know their recent condition. Her uncle's pitaya field might be about to have a good harvest.

"Is this where you grew up?" Suddenly, Nick's voice came from behind, lazy and a little hoarse,

as if he had just woken up.

Rose reflexively turned around and saw that he had closed his laptop and was staring straight at her with his charming eyes.

Rose blushed and lowered her head, not daring to look at him. Her long eyelashes hung down, and she nodded nervously, "Yes!"

Nick smiled and thought that his wife was still very shy.

"Mr. Shank, we're almost at the entrance of the village." Wallop turned around from the passenger seat and said.

Rose immediately looked happy. She lowered the window again and looked out. "Yes, we arrived! This is it!"

Just then, a motorcycle whizzed past outside, and it was less than a palm away from her.

"Watch out!" Nick's heart skipped a beat, and he leaned forward almost reflexively, grabbing her by the waist and dragging her back in time.

Before Rose could react, she had already been pulled back and fallen into Nick's arms. She screamed in fear and quickly reached out her hands to grab his clothes, her face buried in his chest.

Seeing this, the driver quickly stepped on the brake and stopped the car on the side of the road. Wallop grabbed the back of the chair and hurriedly turned around to ask, "What happened, Mr. Shank?"

However, seeing Nick's warning look, Wallop stopped asking. He and the driver silently turned around, pretending to have heard nothing, and looked straight ahead.

The Weight On Skin by Merry T Chapter 36

Chapter 36

Rose was in Nick's arms, her arms tightly around his waist.

Nick was secretly happy. He glared at Wallop and the driver, signaling them to turn around, and he continued to enjoy the happiness of Rose throwing herself at him.

Rose was dizzy for a long time before she realized that her face was pressed against Nick's chest. She almost couldn't breathe. She quickly pushed him away and looked at the two people sitting in front of her awkwardly. Seeing that they didn't turn around, she relaxed a little and asked Nick in confusion, "... What just happen'd?"

Rose was happy to be back where she grew up when Nick suddenly pulled her over. Her body was out of balance:

she thought something urgent must've happened. So, she just held him tightly. She even screamed, so it was so embarrassing to think about it.

Nick looked regretfully at Rose, who had retreated back to the door, and put on a serious expression. "Don't you know that you can't stick your head out of the window while driving? You almost got hit by the motorcycle."

Rose looked confused. "Ah, when?"

"Eh?" Rose blinked and then realized what he meant, but just now she saw that the motorcycle was still a distance away from her, so it was impossible to be hit.

Rose wanted to tease Nick for making a fuss, but looking at his serious expression, she thought for a while and didn't say anything.

The cars drove into the village together and took a detour to where Elder Mrs. Young lived.

It was time for lunch. Every family was cooking, and the children nearby looked at the cars curiously. When they saw Rose get out of the car, they immediately shouted, "Rose is back, Rose is back!"

Nick raised her eyebrows and looked at Rose. "I didn't expect you to be quite popular."

"Everyone treats me very well"

Rose grinned and walked towards the children with the gifts she had prepared in her hand.

Nick looked at Rose surrounded by the crowd and shook his head. He smiled and motioned for Wallop and bodyguards to take the gifts out of the car. He walked to Rose and stood by her.

With a handsome face and a good figure of a model, Nick soon attracted everyone's attention.

"Rose, is this your boyfriend?" The aunt next door, who was holding the bowl, looked up and down at Nick, and her eyes lit up.

"What are you talking about? They are married, he should be Rose's husband now." The shopkeeper, who was also extremely satisfied with Nick, shouted. And she did not forget to look at Rose to confirm, "Rose, am I right?"

Rose blushed slightly. "He..."

"You are right. Rose and I are already married. This time, we especially came back to visit grandma and bring some gifts for everyone." Nick said with a smile. He put his arm around Rose's shoulder and motioned to Wallop to take out the gifts he had prepared.

Nick was so handsome, and he also brought everyone gifts.

Everyone had a good first impression of Nick.

"Nick is really good-looking. He's much more handsome than the stars on TV and he is considerate." Grandma Ann, who had watched Rose grow up, grinned and patted the back of her great-grandson's head, who was holding a whole bag of gifts happily. "Rose found a good husband!"

“That’s right”

Everyone nodded in agreement, each holding a gift in hand and smiling as if they were celebrating the new year.

After a while, someone suddenly said, “Oh. Rose, you are here to visit your grandmother, aren’t you?”

Before Rose could answer, the man had already patted his thigh and said regretfully, “What a

pity. Your uncle took your grandmother to the city two days ago and she is going to live there for a period of time.”

Rose didn’t expect this and said in a daze. “Uncle took grandma away?”

“Yes, she just left two days ago. Your uncle said he was worried about your grandma living alone in the countryside, so he took her there.” Grandma Ann said,

“If your grandma saw such a handsome grandson-in-law, she would be too happy to sleep at night.”

“I see.”

Rose was still thinking of giving grandma a surprise, but she didn’t expect that uncle had taken her away.

Thinking that Nick made time in his schedule to accompany her, she couldn’t help but look at him apologetically.

After sending the enthusiastic neighbors away, Rose called her grandmother again to confirm that grandma was really at her uncle’s house and that she was doing well. Only then did she feel relieved.

Rose did not tell her grandma that she had returned to the village, but she smiled and told grandma to take good care of herself. Rose also promised that when she came back from the city, she would bring her husband to visit grandma. Elder Mrs. Young was very happy to hear this.

After hanging up the phone, Rose looked up at the locked door and sighed, looking somewhat upset.

the city on the way?"

Rose looked back at him in surprise. When she realized that he was comforting her, she couldn't help but chuckle and shake her head. "No, Nick, that's okay."

Because they were afraid of the "bad luck" she brought, her uncle's family did not treat her well. In the early years, they were even very angry at grandma's adoption of her. The relationship between her uncle and Elder Mrs. Young was very strained, and the situation did not improve much until four or five years ago.

Grandpa passed away early. After she returned to the Chaucer family, her grandma was actually lonely living alone in the countryside. Now that her uncle took the initiative to take grandma back, Rose did not want to disturb them.

Nick gave a meaningful look at her but said nothing.

When they left the village, Nick picked out a few practical gifts for Elder Mrs. Young and sent them to the neighbors nearby. And he asked them to take care of Elder Mrs. Young when she came back

The neighbors received the gifts and guaranteed that they would take good care of her.

Rose was a little astonished, but she was even more moved.

When Nick came back, Rose grinned and gave him a big hug sincerely.
“Thank you, Nick.”

Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Nick knew what to do this time. Without waiting for her to let go, he reached out and wrapped his arms around her waist without hesitation. He hugged her in his arms and turned up the corners of his mouth. “You’re welcome, Mrs. Shank.”

The Weight On Skin by Merry T Chapter 37

Chapter 37

Rose began to get busy again after coming back to GCity.

Rose wanted to go back to work, but she suddenly remembered that she still had a lipstick advertisement to shoot. She was afraid that it would affect Nick’s company. Just as she was feeling uneasy, Wallop happened to come from the company to get something, so she quickly asked him, “Secretary Shaw.”

“Miss. Chaucer, you can call me Assistant Shaw or Wallop,”
Wallop said helplessly.

Secretary Shaw sounded strange.

Rose nodded with a serious expression. "Assistant Shaw, do you know t hat how long will the filming of the Glamorous Lipstick advertisement b e postponed? I remember that we will compensate Starlight for the loss if it is postponed according to the contract."

Previously, her foot was injured.

Nick only told her that she could ask for leave and the filming could be postponed, so she did not ask more. Now she felt that it should not be s o simple, but it's inappropriate to ask Nick in person, so she had to pry from Wallop.

"I haven't received any specific notice yet," Wallop thought for a mome nt and looked sincere. "But Miss. Chaucer, don't worry. I'll find it out when I get back to the company, and then I'll reply to you."

After all, Nick asked for the postponement of the advertisement, and Rose was not allowed to know about it. Wallop naturally did not dare to tell her about it. He could only pretend that all this was decided by the Starlight Group.

"Okay, thank you. Assistant Shaw." Although Rose felt that something was wrong, W allop looked so sincere that she let go of it.

S

"You're welcome. Miss. Chaucer." Wallop said, "If there's nothing else, I'll go back to the company first."

Rose smiled and nodded at him. "Okay, Assistant Shaw, take your time."
”

After Wallop left, Rose received a call from White. "Hello. Mr. Fain."

"Hi. Miss Chaucer." White said

with a gentle smile. "How are you feeling now? Does your foot still hurt?"

"I've recovered." Rose looked down at her ankle. There was only a small bruise left on it and the bruise would disappear soon. "Thank you. If it weren't for you last time, I would have been in trouble."

work?"

Rose was confused. "How do you know that I'm not at work?"

White couldn't help shaking his head and chuckling. "Have you forgotten that you and I are from the same company?"

Rose exclaimed. When she realized it, she felt a little embarrassed. "I'm sorry, I forget..."

"It's okay. You won't forget me when you come back to work." White teased, "Of course, if you can treat me to dinner, I don't mind sending you a text message every day to remind you."

Knowing his implication, Rose couldn't help but laugh. "Okay, I told you last time that I wanted to treat you to dinner. Well, let's go to dinner today."

"No problem. Shall we still go to the food stall?" White also made a quick decision. "By the way, we can see those cats. Do you know that the orange cat has kittens? Both of the kittens are orange."

"Really?" Rose was surprised. "That's great!"

“Of course... Shall we meet at the same place?” White asked.

Rose nodded. “Okay, I’ll be right there!”

Hanging up the phone, Rose went back to her room to change her clothes, took her bag and coat, and walked out the door. When she passed by the kitchen, she did not forget to report to Nanny Winnie, who was busy inside. “Nanny Winnie, I have to go out for a while. I won’t be back for dinner. Please tell Nick.”

Nanny Winnie came out of the kitchen and warned, “Miss. Chaucer, you must be careful

when you go out. Remember to come back early.’

“I see. Goodbye, Nanny Winnie!” Rose smiled and waved at her.

It took an hour and a half to get to the park where she first met White. When Rose arrived, White, who looked very casual in his shirt and trousers, was already sitting on the steps.

He held a paper bag in his hand and was pouring cat food into a row of cat bowls in front of him. Seven or eight stray cats of different colors were meowing around him, showing their tails happily.

Rose walked over to him, “Mr. Fain.”

White turned around and smiled at her. “Hello. Miss Chaucer. When did you arrive?”

“Just now.” Rose walked over and sat down beside him. She reached out to touch the heads of the two tabby cats. “Eh? They’ve all gained a little weight. It seems that Mr. Fain has contributed a lot.”

“Anyway, I have nothing else to do, so I bring some gifts to them.” White spread his hands and

He didn’t wear glasses today. His short hair hung behind his ears and his profile looked very handsome in the sunset.

Rose couldn’t help but look a few more times.

Unexpectedly, White suddenly turned around and noticed that. “What’s wrong? Is there something on my face?”

“Nothing,” Rose shook her head awkwardly and paused for a moment before saying, “I just think... You seem a little different from the others.”

“Really?” White smiled brightly again. “What’s the difference?”

“An indescribable feeling,” Rose thought for a moment. “It’s probably because you’re very good to small animals and make people feel very comfortable.”

“Thank you for your compliment. I’m honored!” White winked at her mischievously and

moved the cat bowls to a less crowded place. Then he stood up and turned to her. “Let’s go. I’ll take you to see the two kittens.”

As he spoke, he shook the bag of cat food in his hand and said, “By the way, give some extra food to the respectable mother cat.”

Rose’s eyes lit up and she quickly nodded. “Yes!”

The orange cat, who had only been a mother for a short time, recognized Rose and White, so the cat did not have much resistance to their arrival. After White poured the cat food into the bowl, the cat ate it happily and left some time for the two to observe the kittens, who had only been born for a few days.

The two kittens had not opened their eyes yet. They probably couldn't find their mother and struggled to move back and forth in the clean cardboard box covered with soft cushions.

"So cute!" Rose resisted the urge to touch the little kittens.

The cat knew the smell. She was afraid that if she touched the kittens, it would make the mother cat dislike her children.

Seeing that she liked them, White asked casually, "Do you want a cat?"

"Yes!"

Rose nodded almost without hesitation, but soon the joy on her face faded.

The Weight On Skin by Merry T Chapter 38

Chapter 38

She used to bring stray cats and dogs back home, but in the end, they almost all got hurt and were thrown away by Mr. Chaucer. One of the kittens even died because of this.

She felt sad and blamed herself for a long time. She stopped bringing any animals back home because she was afraid that they would harm them

.

As for Nick, there were no other animals in his house except those patrol dogs. He probably didn't like cats or dogs.

White felt strange when he saw her expression become gloomy all of a sudden. "What's wrong?"

"Nothing," Rose shook her head and squatted down to look at the two quiet kittens. She looked upset. "I just realized that I can't take them home."

Something in White's eyes flashed. "Are you afraid that someone in your family won't agree?"

"They..."

Rose opened her mouth and remembered their determination when her parents cut her off and their greedy expressions when they as good as sold her to Nick. She wanted to say something but chose not to at the end.

She had long lost her so-called family.

"I was just asking casually. You don't have to tell me." White saw her face and stopped asking. "How about this? I'll take the three of them back to take care of them now. You can feel free to come and play with them if you want."

Rose thought for a moment and decided this was the best way to go.

White also took care of some stray cats when he had time. He seemed to love animals, and the kittens would be well taken care of if they were with him.

“Please take good care of them, Mr. Fain.” Rose thanked him sincerely.

“Please call me White. We are friends now.” White smiled, squinted his eyes while he smiled.

The dimples on his cheeks were showing.” If you don’t mind,” he added.

him. “No problem. Mr... No, White.”

White’s gazes shivered and fell on her face.

She was such a shy, timid, and inconspicuous person. When she stood a side with her head down, it was almost impossible to see her. However, when she looked up and smiled, it felt so warm and beautiful, like the first flower that bloomed in the morning sun after a night of rain. Her smile was clear and full of vitality.

Seeing him staring at her, Rose couldn’t help but touch her face to check. “What’s wrong? Is there something on my face?”

“Oh, no,” White came back to his sense in an instant and coughed awkwardly, “I just thought that you look a little like a friend of mine.”

White held back his smile and replied seriously, “A guy friend.”

Rose didn’t know what to respond.

Seeing her troubled face, White finally burst into laughter. “I’m kidding. I don’t have such a beautiful guy friend.”

It could be counted as a compliment. Rose's face turned slightly red.

White knew that he couldn't push too hard at once. Seeing that she seemed a little embarrassed, he changed the subject. "Well, that's settled then. I'll find a place for them for now and bring them back after our dinner."

"Sounds good!" Rose nodded and gave him a smile again.

White was moved by her smile again. When he came back to his senses, he shook his head and thought her smile must have possessed him.

After dinner, White sent Rose back to the Shank residence.

Nanny Winnie, who was waiting at the door, saw Rose come home with a man, and her

expression was a little weird. She checked White carefully from top to bottom.

White had sensed the hostility of the Shank family. Before Rose could invite him to go in, he

greeted Nanny Winnie with a smile and drove away.

Knowing that he did this not to make things difficult for her, Rose liked White more.

At about seven o'clock in the evening. Nick was home with Dr. Laris, who did Rose's health

check last time in the hospital.

“I knew about the advertisement. Wallop is making arrangements at the Starlight Group.” Nick said, loosening his tie and sitting on the sofa. He pulled Rose, who looked still a little confused, to his side. “Let Dr. Laris take a look at your ankle. I have to make sure you are completely fine before I let you go to the studio tomorrow.”

Rose was slightly surprised but soon came to her senses. She nodded gracefully at Dr. Laris.

“Please, Dr. Laris.”

“I’m just doing my job, Mrs. Shank. You’re very welcome.” Dr. Laris smiled kindly and motioned for the accompanying nurse to lift up Rose’s injured foot.

After checking and making sure that Rose’s feet were completely fine, Dr. Laris left a report and stood up to leave.

room. There were only Nick and Rose left in the living room. Nick was leaning lazily on the sofa, and Rose stood up and prepared to go to the kitchen. “Are you hungry? I’ll go and see if the soup is ready.”

“Wait a second.” Nick suddenly said.

Rose turned around and looked confused. “What’s wrong?”

Nick pulled her back to her seat, coughed lightly, and asked, pretending not to care, “I heard you were out today?”

“Yes. I had dinner with Mr. F... with White.” Rose nodded. She wasn’t hiding anything. “I didn’t

get a chance to thank him for saving me last time. Plus, he helped me adopt Tony. He's a nice guy."

Nick couldn't help but snort. White was a nice guy? Nick was sure he had done it out of his own agenda!

They had just met, and this guy had tricked Rose into first name basis! The guy was good with women.

It seemed that he had to be more vigilant, or else Rose would be lured away before she could realize!

Nick had remembered all these in his heart but didn't show anything on his face. He pretended that he wanted to have a good chat and asked, "Who is Tony?"

Rose became excited, hearing Nick's question. She took out her photo and turned the screen to him. "Look! It is Tony and his children. Aren't they cute?"

All Nick saw were three furry, dirty cats. He didn't know which part of them were cute, but he still said, "Well, not bad. They look good."

Did White use these stupid cats to trick her over?

"You like cats?"

"Yes, they're so fluffy and cute." Rose's expression softened. She took back her phone and stared at the screen. Her eyes were shining, and she looked delighted. "Although no one cared about them, they have been fighting to stay alive. They were nice cats, too. They're friendly to whoever

was friendly
to them. Last time I was in a bad mood, one of them even gave me the
mouse he caught as a present.”

Her tone was full of longing. It was not hard to tell how she felt about cats.

Nick
looked thoughtful. He thought that the book was right. Women did like
furry creatures.

When Rose went to the kitchen, Nick called his assistant. “I’ll give you
two days to get me a pet. It has to be a cub. The more precious and rare
r, the better. It’s best if they’re furry and smart.”

The Weight On Skin by Merry T Chapter 39

Chapter 39

As soon as Rose finished cooking and putting the dishes on the table, she
heard footsteps outside. Then a tall and thin figure rushed in through the
door. “Nick, I’m back!”

Nick raised his eyebrows and turned his head, seeing Zed walking straight
to the dining room. His blonde hair was tousled. Around his neck hung his
headphones and under his arm was his laptop that he brought with him
everywhere he went.

Wasn’t he supposed to be in Iraq?

“Nick, how could you be so heartless to send me to Iraq?

Do you have any idea how dangerous that place is? I spent every day
worrying about getting my head

blown off by the shells flying in the air.” Zed walked quickly to the dining table and banged his laptop on it. Then he continued with a sulky face, “You’d never see me again if I were any less agile... What smells so good?”

Zed cast a glance at the dishes on the table and remarked in a confused tone, “You changed

today.”

As he spoke, he grabbed a baked potato wedge and took a bite. “It’s good,” he commented

“What did the food taste like in the past?” Rose asked curiously.

“Something put on the altar for gods,” Zed jested casually. Then he snapped his head up and gaped at Rose. “A woman?” He exclaimed in an uncertain tone.

Rose was put up short but didn’t feel offended. Instead of deeming Zed frivolous, she found him quite interesting. Besides, he was Nick’s friend.

Rose handed a fork to him and said, “Are you hungry? Knock yourself out.”

Zed was dazed by the stunning smile on her face for a moment.

Nick slapped the back of his head and demanded, “Don’t you look at her like that again! She’s mine!”

Zed groaned in pain and leaned forward wobbly. “Seriously? I’m not going to steal your girl, Nick!” He grumbled.

Nick sneered and raised his hand again. Zed quickly dodged sideways.

Rose's eyes became two crescents as she chuckled. She could tell that they were really close

After putting down the plates and forks, she went into the kitchen again to get the soup.

Nick walked around the table and sat her down on the chair. "Sit down. Leave it to me."

Rose knew how persistent Nick could be, so she took off her apron. Seeing Zed looking at her,

she smiled.

"Have we met before?" Zed asked curiously. Seeing how affectionate Nick was, Zed suddenly remembered that Nick had got married.

Rose looked very familiar to him. He usually wouldn't forget such an attractive woman.

Rose tilted her head and thought for a while. Then she shook her head and answered, "I don't think we have."

If she had met him, she would've had an impression of such an outstanding young man, so it must be the first time they'd met.

"But you really look familiar." Zed fiddled with his hair: his innocent face filled with confusion.

Nick took the soup out of the kitchen at this moment. He glanced at Zed and asked, "What looks familiar?"

Zed ignored him and kept staring at Rose. After a long while, his eyes suddenly lit up and he lurched to his feet. "I remember!"

Rose was startled by his abrupt movement. She blinked and was about to ask something when Zed clapped his hands and said excitedly, "I knew we met before! Nick also said so. You are the one who was.."

Before he could finish his words, Nick elbowed him hard in the stomach. Zed fell back on the

chair with a scream. "Shut up! You're too noisy!" Nick warned.

Being glared at by Nick's brooding eyes, Zed curled his lips and bit back the rest of his words aggrievedly.

Nick actually beat his fast friend for a woman!

Seeing Zed rubbing his stomach, Rose rose to her feet and asked with concern, "Are you okay?"

Zed looked thin but was actually sturdy. He'd been a soldier for years. That punch was no big

"But."

"He's not that weak." Nick shot Zed a glance and gave him a kick expressionlessly. "Still alive? Sit up if you're not dead. It's no fun pretending to be fragile," Nick snapped in a harsh tone

.

Zed was speechless. Apparently, their friendship was of little account to Nick after he got a wife.

Zed rolled his eyes and snorted before he sat up straight. His pained expression disappeared immediately.

Rose couldn't help but be amused. Zed was such a hoot. "Let's eat. Well..."

"My name is Zed Goose. Z-E-D Zed and G-O-O-S-E Goose," Zed rubbed his stomach and said with easy familiarity.

He'd thought that Rose was just a pretty face, less pretty than Jenny, but after spending some time with her, he found himself uncontrollably drawn to her unique and tranquil aura.

Even though he still had doubts about why she'd married Nick, it wouldn't hurt to be friendly to her now.

With Zed livening up the atmosphere, they had a rather pleasant meal.

After the servants cleaned the table, Rose asked them what fruit they wanted to eat and then left for the kitchen.

After she left, Zed swiftly moved to sit by Nick and asked with a sly smile, "That's why you saved a stranger! You've long fallen in love with her."

Nick leaned lazily on the sofa and moaned without speaking, giving Zed a glance.

Zed had long been used to his indifference and continued hilariously without waiting for his answer, “To be honest, she’s not as beautiful as Jenny, but she’s ten times more striking when she smiles. They get completely different auras. I like her.”

Rose’s demeanor was redolent of the noble ladies in the past, so elegant and demure. Simply watching her was a pleasant thing.

Only women from wealthy and influential families had that kind of vibe.

If he hadn’t looked into Rose, he would definitely have taken such a graceful and genial woman as the daughter of some famous family.

“Don’t get ideas. You’ll be finished if you dare lay a finger on her.” Nick darted him a cold warning glare.

Zed was rendered tongue-tied by Nick’s sudden mood swing. No wonder he had a reputation for being unpredictable.

around me.”

Heliked Rose, but he would under no circumstances do such an unethical thing as to covet his good friend’s wife.

good opinion of her but not to the extent of stealing her away.

He would end up dead if he did that.

The Weight On Skin by Merry T Chapter 40

Chapter 40

Zed was born with a pleasing look, and he didn't begrudge his warming smiles towards those he was endeared to, so no one would ever refuse his approach.

Therefore, strictly speaking, although this was the first time they had met, Rose had a rather good impression of him.

She only had one younger sister Lena, but they couldn't quite get along at an early age. Now, Zed, honey-lipped and funny to talk with, appeared all of a sudden, entertaining her as a younger brother, which exhilarated her quite a lot.

ou

Nick could tell what she was thinking at a glance. After much reflection, he gave up the idea of kicking Zed out of the country again.

He knew that Rose attached great importance to kinship, but her family members didn't treat her well. If Zed could make her feel better, he didn't mind allowing the boy to stay for a while.

"Rose is going to the studio for work these days. You should stay with her." Nick said, taking a glance at Rose, who just reached the stairs, and whispered,

"Protect her. If anyone dares to piss her off, you know what you should do."

"Okay, no problem." Zed had been bored recently and was pondering how to kill time. Hearing this, he immediately patted his chest to guarantee, "Bro, don't worry. You have my words."

The next morning after breakfast, Zed scuttled to follow Rose into her car to the Starlight Group, clad in a loose T-shirt and a pair of ripped jeans and carrying his laptop and big headphones.

Rose was still a little surprised at first. When she realized that it was Nick's arrangement, she breathed a sigh of relief and accepted Zed's company with pleasure.

She knew that Nick had his own plan. He probably arranged for Zed to accompany her because he was afraid that she would feel uncomfortable in places she was unfamiliar with. With an acquaintance by her side, she would feel relaxed.

When the car reached the downstairs of the Starlight Group, the receptionist who had

received the message was already waiting at the door. Seeing Rose get out of the car, she immediately stepped forward in her high heels. "Hello, Miss Chaucer. I'm the one responsible for familiarizing you with the entire advertising process this time. My name is Julie Lee."

After saying that, she reached out her hand.

Rose gazed at the opposite woman. She was probably in her thirties, she was lean-shaped with keen eyes, wearing a white chiffon shirt with two buttons open at the collar and black slacks, appearing to be a shrewd and capable woman.

have to trouble you this time."

Julie was slightly surprised, as she deemed that this woman would not be so polite. It wasn't that she hadn't received female stars relying on sug

ar daddies to pull strings for them before, all of whom were rather snobbish and prone to look down upon others.

Just now, she reached out her hand just to show her politeness, she didn't expect that Rose would really respond to her.

Yet she had heard that Rose was not a professional actor, so her previous act might be attributed to a moment of timidity. Who knew if she would act like a diva after she became popular in the future?

At the thought of this, Julie's initial favorable impression of Rose declined a little. She said in a businesslike manner, "That's very kind of you. Mr. Louisa is already waiting in the studio. Please follow me."

"Okay." Rose nodded with a gentle smile.

Just as she was about to keep pace with Julie, Zed jumped out of nowhere and sized up the building critically. "Starlight Group? It's been years since I came here. Why is it still the same?"

Wrinkling her brows, Julie turned around to see a young man dressed casually with blonde hair standing beside Rose, his hands folded around his chest.

Despite her aversion to his conceited words, Julie stifled her urge to fume for the sake of the pretty look of this man. She frowned as she said to Rose. "This is..."

Rose paused a while before continuing. "He's my..."

“Agent” Zed interrupted, raising his eyebrows as he said to Julie, “Hello, my name is Zed Goose. If there is anything you need to inform Rose of in the future, just contact me.”

As he spoke, he handed out a card.

Julie took a glance at Rose, who seemed to be a little helpless next to him, and then at arrogant Zed. If she hadn't seen Rose before, she would have thought that Zed was the superstar, while Rose was just his assistant.

She took the card and took a look. It did read, “Zed Goose, manager of the Nirvana Studio“, etc. So without further ado, Julie put the card away and said to the two of them, “Well, please come with me.”

On the way, Rose couldn't help but whisper to Zed, “Zed, where did you get your business card?” After all, the card was well-prepared. And there was even a studio name on it, which aroused Rose's much curiosity.

Zed chuckled. “I just printed it out.”

So, it was fake?

Seeing Rose looking at him disapprovingly, Zed hastily explained, “Don't look at me like that. This is what your husband means. The business card is real, and so is the Nirvana Studio. Although it was registered recently, it can definitely be found online now.”

Rose felt astounded. “Recently means last night?”

“Exactly.” Zed nodded. “And the office address is right on the 28th floor of the Beacon International building, and it should be renovated by now.”

Beacon International? Wasn't that the city's famous landmark?

now. Was he planning to enter the entertainment business?

"Easy, Rose. Nick definitely has his plan." Zed said, "You don't have to worry about anything.

Just know that I'm your agent now and I'll take care of all external affairs."

"Okay." Rose nodded and didn't ask any more questions.

Even though she didn't understand why would she have an agent and a studio only for an advertisement— was this the standard configuration for being an "actor"?

"Here we are."

They followed Julie to an indoor studio. Waves of heat in the studio were scorching and seemingly offsetting the air conditioner's effect, as people coming and going in hasty steps inside were sweating profusely, probably due to a large number of people inside a relatively small space and the heat dissipated by the photographic equipment.

Seeing Zed and Rose at the door, no one took a second look at them notwithstanding their curiosity.

Not formally trained and lacking professional background, Rose had never seen such a scene before, thus she was inevitably a little nervous for a moment, afraid that she would shame Nick if she did something wrong. So, she decided to keep quiet.

She took several deep breaths to calm herself down.

“Miss Chaucer, please wait a moment. Mr. Louisa is over there. I’ll go and tell him first.” As Julie spoke, she turned around and walked towards the middle-aged man who was staring at the screen not far ahead. She lowered her head and whispered something in his ear.

Then Rose saw the obviously upset middle-aged man turn his head and glared at her.

The next second, his sarcastic words could be heard in the room, “So, our punctual lady is finally here. Oh, thank God. Well, let me give you a little tip. You can come after we are done with the shooting next time.”