Married At First Sight Chapter 3806

Chapter 3806

Serenity's attitude toward Hank and his family was growing colder. If Hank wasn't Sonny's biological father, it would be tough for him to see his son. Maybe Liberty and Serenity believed he was feeding Sonny negative ideas.

Hank spoke firmly to Sonny, "Don't listen to your grandma or Aunt Chelsea. Your money is yours, and you don't owe anything to your cousin Lucas. You earned it, and you shouldn't feel obligated to help him. Why can't he work hard himself? Chelsea's family isn't poor—they just want to take advantage. She's really stubborn."

He continued, "When I go back, I'll talk to your grandma. In the future, I'll come to see you instead of taking you to their house so she won't fill your head with nonsense."

Hank was already aware that his mother had asked him for money to give to Chelsea. Chelsea had taken her entire family, including her in-laws, out for hot pot but didn't invite her own parents. She expected Serenity to cover the bill just because Serenity happened to be there. When Serenity refused, Chelsea called her mother for money.

Was Chelsea broke? Not at all. In fact, all of Hank's parents' pension and the living expenses he provided were used to support Chelsea's family, allowing her and her husband to save their own earnings. They likely had millions in savings.

Hank used to earn a high income, so he didn't care much about these things. But now, working as a driver, money mattered to him. Even though Chelsea was injured while trying to save him during Jessica's attack, and he appreciated it, Chelsea's constant attempts to exploit both him and their parents were infuriating. It was one thing to deceive Hank, but it was unacceptable for Chelsea to target Sonny as well.

Hank had already confronted his mother about it, and she promised not to support Chelsea's family anymore. However, he suspected that she and Chelsea were trying to mold Sonny into someone who constantly supported Lucas without question.

How could Hank not be angry?

Sonny and Liberty's current well-being was largely due to Serenity's marriage into a wealthy family. While Serenity was loving, she had her limits. If Sonny were to grow up prioritizing his cousins over himself without boundaries, Serenity would not continue to support him.

Serenity's dislike for the Brown family was strong.

Hank advised, "Sonny, don't take what your grandma or Aunt Chelsea says seriously, okay?"

Sonny nodded and replied, "Aunt Seren told me to treat their words like hot air—just ignore them."

Hank smiled and said, "Exactly, treat it as nonsense. Just remember, Dad doesn't mean any harm. From now on, you only need to see Dad and Grandpa, and even less of Grandpa since he tends to favor them."

Sonny nodded in agreement.

Hank's guests started calling for him.

He had to walk Sonny over to Serenity and the others. After giving Sonny a reluctant kiss on the cheek, Hank handed him over to Zachary, apologizing, "I haven't seen Sonny in a while, so I talked to him a bit longer. Sorry to keep you all waiting."

Zachary took Sonny and replied calmly, "You're his father. You're always welcome to see Sonny, but please, don't take him to your house."

Every time Sonny returned from the Brown family's house, he seemed unhappy.

Hank smiled and explained, "I'm busy driving every day, so I don't have much time. But I may not be working during the New Year. I'd like to take Sonny out for a couple of days then."

Zachary nodded in acknowledgment.

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"Goodbye, Sonny."

"Goodbye, Dad," Sonny replied, waving his small hand at Hank.

Hank turned and walked back to his car, apologizing to his guests for keeping them waiting before getting in and driving away quickly.

Shortly after, Zachary, Serenity, and their bodyguards got into the car that had come to pick them up.

As the car started, Serenity noticed Sonny curled up in Zachary's arms, looking downcast. She reached out and gently touched his shoulder.

"Aunt," Sonny said, reaching his arms out to her.

Serenity held him close and asked softly, "Sonny, why are you feeling sad? Did your dad say something to upset you again?"

Sometimes Serenity didn't want Sonny to spend time with Hank, who was often bitter about Liberty and Duncan's relationship and would speak poorly about Duncan in front of Sonny. But Sonny had grown close to Duncan, seeing him as a father figure.

Sonny looked up and asked, "Aunt, when my mom marries Uncle Duncan, will they give me a brother or sister?"

He remembered once telling his mom that he wanted a little sister, like Avah, Titus's sister, who was adorable. Serenity was expecting a baby boy, so Sonny hoped his mom could give him a sister.

Serenity replied gently, "Do you want a brother or a sister?"

In the past, Sonny would eagerly nod and say he wanted both. This time, he hesitated.

"Aunt, if my mom has another baby, will she still love me? Will she forget about me? And what about Uncle Duncan—will he still be nice to me?"

Serenity comforted him, "Of course, Sonny. No matter how many children your mom has, she will always love you just as much. And Uncle Duncan won't change how he feels about you. You have to trust your mom's love; it won't fade, and she won't be unfair. If anything, she'll likely love you even more."

Since Sonny's father didn't live with him, it was just him and his mom. If Liberty had a second child with Duncan, that baby would have both parents at home. Serenity knew Liberty well enough to believe she wouldn't favor the second child. In fact, Liberty might become even more attentive to Sonny.

Sonny looked up again and asked, "Aunt, will you still love me like you do now? Or will you only care about my little brother or sister?"

Serenity pressed her cheek against Sonny's and said warmly, "I will always love you, Sonny. Even if you have little brothers or sisters, my love for you won't change. We'll all love you just the same."

Hank's constant negative remarks in front of Sonny were clearly affecting the child, making him worry about losing his mother's affection.

Serenity seethed inwardly at Hank's behavior, but she couldn't voice her anger in front of Sonny.

Before Liberty divorced Hank, he didn't seem to care much for Sonny. He'd only play with him when he was in a good mood. When he wasn't, he'd brush off Sonny's attempts for attention. He hardly ever took the initiative to help.

For instance, when Liberty was cooking, Hank and Sonny would be in the living room. If Sonny asked for water, Hank wouldn't pour him a glass but would call Liberty from the kitchen to do it.

A complete hands-off dad.

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Now that Liberty and Duncan are finally getting married, Hank has started making comments in front of Sonny, pretending to be a loving father but really just planting seeds of doubt. He talked about the possibility of Sonny losing his mother's affection, which left the child worried and unsettled.

Serenity couldn't help but feel angry, but she held her tongue in front of Sonny.

"Aunt," Sonny murmured, resting against Serenity's chest, "I love you and Mom the most."

Serenity hugged him tightly. "Aunt loves you the most too, Sonny."

Sonny hesitated for a moment, then quietly said, "Dad asked me if Mom was going to marry Uncle Duncan. He was worried that if Mom had a baby with Uncle Duncan, she wouldn't love me anymore."

He looked up at Serenity, his voice wavering. "But I don't believe what Dad says. I know Mom loves me, and Uncle Duncan is good to me. Aunt, can I trust Mom and Uncle Duncan?"

Serenity nodded firmly. "Of course, you can. Your mom loves you more than anyone, and Uncle Duncan cares for you deeply. Your dad... well, just listen to what he says but don't take it to heart, okay? And when you visit your dad's house, no matter what your grandparents or Aunt Chelsea say, you don't owe them anything. You're still a child; you're not expected to give them money."

She added gently, "When you grow up and earn your own income, if you want to give them something out of respect, you can give a little. But remember, they need to look after you, not the other way around."

Sonny nodded, understanding. "I don't like listening to them, Aunt. They always say bad things about Mom and Uncle Duncan, like Mom won't be happy marrying into a wealthy family. But that's not true. Mom will be happy."

"Exactly," Serenity agreed. "Your mom and Uncle Duncan will make a great family, and they both love you. Don't pay attention to their negativity. Sometimes, people just can't stand seeing others happy."

Sonny nestled deeper into Serenity's embrace, whispering, "Aunt, I'll listen to you. I believe in Mom and Uncle Duncan."

Serenity smiled and kissed his forehead. "You're such a good boy, Sonny. We have a long drive home, and it's been a long day. Do you want to rest a little longer?"

"I'm not sleepy," Sonny replied softly.

"Try to rest," Serenity coaxed. "When we get home, you can play with Uncle Rowan. He's on his winter break, and I know you love playing with him." Sonny looked up, surprised. "Isn't Uncle Rowan riding with us?"

"No, he's in the car behind us," Serenity explained.

"Oh," Sonny said, nodding thoughtfully. "Then I'll sleep a little longer so I won't have to sleep when we get home. Does Uncle Rowan have homework? He always has a lot of homework."

Serenity chuckled. "He just started his vacation, so he can relax for a few days. He doesn't have much homework right now. He'll have plenty of time to play with you."

She gently laid Sonny's head back against her arm, coaxing him to rest. He had napped a bit on the plane and was still groggy when they landed, but after Hank woke him up, he hadn't fully relaxed.

Now, even as Serenity encouraged him to sleep, Sonny fidgeted with closed eyes, unable to drift off. After a while, he opened his eyes again, sat up, and declared, "Auntie, I'm really not sleepy anymore."

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"Then don't sleep. Come, uncle will hold you." Concerned that Serenity was tired, Zachary picked up Sonny. He started chatting with Sonny, finding ways to keep him happy.

As Zachary patiently engaged with Sonny, answering all his questions with care, Serenity watched him with gratitude and warmth. She felt truly blessed to have married Zachary.

Serenity's eyelids grew heavy, and before she knew it, she drifted off, leaning against the car seat.

When she woke up, she was back at Wildridge Manor, in her and Zachary's room. The room was quiet—Sonny wasn't there, and neither was Zachary.

Serenity sat up and reached for her phone on the bedside table. It was two in the afternoon. She had slept longer than she realized.

Upon waking, she felt a familiar pang of hunger. As her belly continued to grow, her once good appetite had only increased, making her feel perpetually hungry. During her prenatal checkup, the doctor advised her to eat small meals frequently.

Serenity got out of bed and walked to the window, pulling open the heavy curtains. Sunshine poured in. Winter in Wiltspoon was fickle. When the sun was out and cold fronts weren't blowing in, it barely felt like winter. But when the cold air came, temperatures would plummet. On some days, she would be sweating in long sleeves, wishing for summer clothes. By nightfall, she'd be shivering, bundling up in layers.

The inconsistency of Wiltspoon's winter often left her in a dilemma. She'd rush to buy warmer clothes, but by the time they arrived, the temperature would climb again, leaving her with clothes she couldn't wear.

After lingering at the window for a few minutes, Serenity turned away and headed downstairs to find something to eat. Just as she reached the door, it swung open.

Zachary stood there, about to enter. When he saw her, he smiled, "You're awake, wife. You must be hungry. I was just about to come up and tell you to eat something before going back to sleep."

"I just woke up," Serenity replied. "I'm starving. I'll head downstairs now."

Zachary took her hand. "I made a fresh meal for you. It's ready."

Since Serenity had fallen asleep after they returned, Zachary didn't want to wake his tired wife. They had eaten without her, and Julian had brought his fiancée, Kiera, to visit the old lady. Naturally, the old lady invited them all to stay for the meal. Zachary hadn't asked the kitchen to save leftovers for Serenity. Instead, after everyone had finished, he checked the time and prepared a new, hearty lunch just for her, so she could enjoy a fresh meal when she woke up.

"You didn't have to go to the trouble. I don't mind eating leftovers," Serenity said, already knowing he didn't want her to eat anything that wasn't freshly made.

"It's been a while since I've cooked for you," Zachary replied. "This was a good chance for me to brush up my skills. Tatum's been cooking for his fiancée every day. When you love someone, cooking for them is a joy."

Serenity smiled. "How's Tatum's progress with Elora?"

"Not much yet," Zachary said. "But he told me that Elora admires him. As long as she admires him, winning her heart won't be too hard. Give him a year our York men are all exceptional and charming."

When Zachary praised Tatum, he couldn't help but compliment himself as well.

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Zachary believed he was quite charming, and it wasn't just his imagination—it was true.

Serenity glanced at him and smiled. "Yes, yes, all of your brothers are very charming. But what's most attractive is your family tradition. The men in your family are devoted to their wives and loyal to their feelings."

A good family tradition, a good man, and a loyal relationship were rare and desirable. Any family with a marriageable daughter hoped she could marry into the York family—not for their wealth, but for the loyalty of their men.

"Where's Sonny?" Serenity asked.

"He's off having a wild time with Rowan," Zachary replied. "I'm not sure if they're in the villa or down by the mountain, but Rowan's watching him, so you don't need to worry."

"I'm not worried about him. There are always so many people looking after him here," Serenity sighed. "It's his father who frustrates me. Hank keeps saying things to Sonny that make him think my sister doesn't love him anymore or that Brother Duncan won't like him. He even tells Sonny that if my sister has another child, she won't want him. I wanted to yell at him in the car, but I had to hold it back because of Sonny. It was so infuriating." She took a deep breath and continued, relieved, "Thankfully, my sister divorced Hank."

Zachary was quiet for a moment before responding, "He's just bitter that your sister's doing better without him. If she wasn't happy, he'd act differently."

Revenge on a cheating husband, Serenity thought, was simply living a better life than him.

"You're right," she agreed. "He and his family are all just jealous." She smiled again and looked at Zachary. "But my husband is the best. A good family tradition makes a good man. Thank you for marrying me without hesitation. Without you, my sister and I wouldn't have been able to change our lives."

Zachary spoke tenderly, "This is mutual, my love. We were destined to be together, even in our past lives. In this life, we'll love each other for the rest of our days. Meeting you and falling in love with you is my greatest blessing. Without you, I'm not sure I would've gotten married."

"You're so exceptional, you could get married whenever you wanted," Serenity said.

"Maybe," Zachary replied thoughtfully, "but marrying without love is easy. The challenge is finding someone you truly love, someone you can cherish, trust, and spend your life with. Thinking back on our whirlwind marriage, if it had been anyone else, I wouldn't have been interested. Maybe I would've divorced after my grandmother passed away. But because it was you, I was drawn in. And now, we're in this for life."

"Husband," Serenity said, smiling, "you're getting so good at saying sweet things. It's like drinking honey."

Zachary chuckled. "I'm just speaking from the heart, not trying to fool you."

"I know," she replied. "I'm not accusing you of lying."

Serenity affectionately took his arm.

As they made their way down the stairs, they saw the old lady sitting on the sofa in the hall. Julian and Kiera were seated across from her, and Tania was by her side. The group was chatting cheerfully.

The old lady clearly liked Kiera. Knowing that Kiera was Julian's destined partner, she had accepted her. However, given the close ties between the York and Bucham families, Kiera was expected to call her "Grandma York," as she would soon be part of the extended family.

Hearing the footsteps on the stairs, the group looked up to see Zachary and Serenity descending. The old lady and Tania's smiles grew even brighter.