

Gu Lingfei 711

Chapter 711 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Who was here bright early in the morning?

Serenity went downstairs and found the keys to open the main door. She then walked out of the house to find a figure standing at the gate. The person was carrying two bags. By the looks of it, he must be a food deliveryman.

“Morning, Ms. Hunt.”

Mr. Zen gleefully greeted her.

“Oh, it’s you. Good morning.”

It never occurred to Serenity that it was the lobby manager of Wiltspoon Hotel.

Raising the bags in his hands, Mr. Zen uttered with a smile, “Mr. York called me last night to order two sets of breakfast. I’m here to deliver the food at the requested time. Sorry to bother you this early in the morning, Ms. Hunt.”

Serenity wondered when Zachary found the time to order breakfast from Mr. Zen as she was with him the whole night.

Zachary often got Wiltspoon Hotel to do the delivery too.

Although Zachary enjoyed discounts at the hotel as an employee of York Corporation, he should not pour all his money into the place.

Serenity kept a smile on the surface as she opened the gate and thanked Mr. Zen. She took the breakfast and asked, “How much is it, Mr. Zen? I’ll pay.”

Zachary mentioned that he only paid the deposit and had a mortgage to pay for the villa. Even though Zachary later saved more money, he went on to buy a house in Brynfield. He probably did not have much money left in the bank.

Yet, he squandered money on breakfast from Wiltspoon Hotel.

Serenity would often grab him to go breakfast from stores or cook for him in the past.

“Mr. York will pay for it.”

Mr. Zen could not possibly let Serenity make payment.

“Mr. York is my husband. We’re family. His money is my money. It doesn’t make a difference who pays. You know me, Mr. Zen. Tell me. How much is it? I’ll pay. I won’t ask for a big discount.”

Seeing that Serenity insisted, Mr. Zen mentioned a number.

Well, it should cover the price of the breakfast. He kept the price not too high and not too low. The price was just right.

"I don't have cash. Can I do Apple pay?"

Mr. Zen answered, "Sure."

He pulled up a portable machine from his pocket that accepted cards and Apple pay.

It was a good thing he came prepared.

Mr. Zen brought the payment device along in case Mr. York did not get up early because the missus would ask about payment if she came out to collect the food.

Serenity tapped her phone on the device and thanked Mr. Zen before carrying breakfast made by the chef of Wiltspoon Hotel into the house.

She waltzed into the house to find Zachary descending the stairs.

"You're up."

Serenity went to the dining room and put down the breakfast delivery on the dinner table. Turning on her heel, she entered the kitchen and brought out the plates and cutleries. She set the food up on the plate, so they did not need to eat straight out of the disposable containers.

"Let me know what you fancy for breakfast next time. I usually get up around this time. I can cook for *you*. It's expensive to get food deliveries from the Wiltspoon

Hotel."

Zachary was buttoning his cuffs as Serenity nagged. He approached her and locked her in his arms.

After stealing a kiss, he tenderly uttered, "I don't want the work to wear you out, so I ordered breakfast. You like the breakfast there. It's expensive, but it's worth it to see you relishing the food."

"I know you're on a high income, but you have a mortgage. Besides, you wire me a lot of money for household expenses. We don't have children yet, so there's no need to give me so much. You have expensive taste too. Sure, you get what you pay, but we should save some money.

Chapter 712 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Since no children were in the picture yet, the couple could enjoy the finer things in life.

The expenses would become costly when the family grew. It would take a lot of money to raise children.

"I have an income, and I'm part of the family. I'll pay for some of the household expenses. Save some money and clear the mortgage early if you can. At least then, you'll have spare cash once the house loan is out of the way."

Serenity did not propose chipping in on the mortgage.

Zachary bought the villa before they were married, and he was still paying the mortgage like Hank.

Even though Serenity and Zachary were no longer married in name and could not be in a better place in their marriage, Serenity did not want to end up on the same path as her sister. It was his house, and she would not covet it nor help with the mortgage.

What if she and Zachary were not meant to be? The divorce would be ugly with the division of assets and quarrels.

It was better to keep their assets apart right from the start.

Propping his chin on her shoulder, Zachary affectionately said, "Don't worry about the mortgage, Seren. Although I don't have a lot in savings, I can manage the payments. Besides, New Year is coming. I'll get a year-end bonus. The bonus is pretty good for senior executives.

"I told you when I married you that I will provide for you. I won't go halves with you.

"Although I'm still paying for the villa, I put down a hefty sum for the down payment. The mortgage fee isn't too bad. Don't forget that your husband makes millions a year."

Serenity pried open his hand over her and turned around to face him squarely. She said, "So long as you know what you're doing."

Being in the high-income bracket, Zachary was used to dining at high-end restaurants and paying the premium price for things.

She had pointed it out to him. It was not her place to speak more on the matter if he did not want to listen.

"I'm going back to our house in Brynfield when you get to work later. I'm more comfortable living there. It's much more accessible."

While the environment here was better, the villa was far from the places she hung out.

With a smile, Zachary replied, "Both places are our home. We can live in Brynfield if you prefer there. We can take short breaks over the weekend or festive holidays. here."

"Okay," Serenity answered. It was a waste to get a villa if it was only for a short stay.

Zachary probably would not buy a property in Brynfield if it were not for their whirlwind marriage.

Ultimately, he kept the villa from her because he suspected that she was a conniving gold digger. Zachary thought twice before letting her know that he brought home millions in income.

Serenity had not once asked about his salary since they tied the knot.

"What are your plans today?"

Zachary drew a chair back for her to sit down. He then took a seat next to her.

"I'm on my leave now. I don't have much to do other than my crafts, but I intend to visit my sister's rented shop to see what I can do to help."

Zachary nodded.

"Jasmine and I are checking out an Italian place tonight."

Zachary said, "I'm not free tonight."

"I didn't say I'm taking you."

Zachary was lost for words.

“Jasmine and I agreed that it’ll only be the two of us. We can eat to our hearts’ content. She said she’s been tagging along to Drake’s dinner appointments while I wasn’t around. She didn’t have enough to eat.”

Zachary buried his head in his breakfast. It got nothing to do with him anyway.

Chapter 713 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“It’s my company’s annual dinner in a few days. I’ll get an invitation for you. You need a gown for the event. I can come back and pick you up, or you can drive there.

“Why should I go to your company’s annual dinner? I’m not an employee.”

Serenity was not keen on attending social events.

The only reason she would ever go was for the food.

Nevertheless, as Jasmine said, Serenity would have *to* curb her eating if she was there as Zachary’s plus-one.

Serenity would rather check out new eateries with Jasmine..

“We can bring a family member to the company’s annual dinner. Others would bring theirs, so why can’t I?”

Serenity had no words as she stared at Zachary.

“I’ll be helping out a little at the dinner. It might be a little later if you want me to pick you up. I’ll come straight after I’m done.”

“Alright. Let me know on that day itself. I’ll head over myself, so you don’t have to rush back. You can come out to bring me in when I reach your office. You can’t expect me to enter the event like a deer in headlights.”

Relieved, Zachary replied, “Of course. Ms. Stone will probably be attending too. Mr. Bucham doesn’t have a girlfriend, but he’s interested in Ms. Sox. It’s likely he’d invite Ms. Sox to be his plus-one.”

In the past, Zachary would usually give his speech at the company’s annual dinner and leave right after.

The employees would not be able to let loose and enjoy themselves with him there.

As the life of the party, Josh would party with everybody until it was over.

Many female employees would try to partner with Josh for the company’s annual dinner, hoping Josh could see their beauty and assets and fall in love with them.

Although Josh was gentler, chattier, and easier to get along with compared to Zachary, he did not enjoy being attacked by a pack of hungry female employees.

Subsequently, Josh would hire a young woman in his family to be his plus-one for the company’s annual dinner to ward off the female employees’ enthusiastic pursuit.

Now that Jasmine was around, Josh was likely to ask her to be his plus-one.

Serenity wanted to give her two cents that Jasmine might not agree to go with Josh. but decided to bite her tongue.

She was not Jasmine, so she could not make the decision for her.

After breakfast, Zachary drove Serenity back to Brynfield before rushing to work.

Serenity got back home and asked Mrs. Lane to get ready because they were going to Liberty's place.

Alas, Liberty was not there. She had gone to the shop first thing in the morning.

Serenity then drove to her sister's shop.

Renovations had not started on Liberty's shop as the workers were mostly off for the holidays.

Liberty had basically bought the material needed, so there was no need for her to come to the shop right now. However, she could not sit still and needed to keep her hands occupied.

Time went by faster when she was busy.

Sitting behind the table in the shop, Liberty kept herself busy while Sonny ran around in the shop. A glass door was installed at the entrance. Since the door was heavy and closed, Sonny did not have the strength to push it open. Hence, it was safe for him to race around the place.

"Mom. Mom."

Sonny, who was happily entertaining himself, dropped his toy in horror when he saw Duncan approaching. Turning around, he ran to Liberty and called for his mother. He appeared scared.

"Why are you so afraid of me, Sonny?"

Duncan held a pinwheel in his hand. It was a gift for Sonny.

It was awkward for Duncan to scare the little guy until he went crying to his mother. Was the scar on his face that frightening?

"What brings you here, Mr. Lewis?" Liberty asked with a smile as she picked Sonny up.

"I pass by this place every day. I always see your shop open, so I thought I should come in for a look."

Chapter 714 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Duncan went and gave the pinwheel to Sonny.

Sonny refused to take the pinwheel from him.

"Mr. Lewis, Sonny has a lot of toys already."

"It's not much. I was passing by a toy store and thought the pinwheel at the entrance was nice. I bought him one since the wind's strong today, and he'd probably enjoy it."

He dropped by to give Sonny the pinwheel. Otherwise, Duncan would not have come in.

Handing the pinwheel to Liberty, Duncan said, "Hold it for Sonny."

Since the pinwheel did not cost a lot, Liberty accepted the gift and thanked Duncan on behalf of Sonny before handing the pinwheel to her son.

Sonny took the pinwheel.

Duncan said hesitantly, "Sonny's scared of me. I gave him the pinwheel, but he didn't want it. He took it the moment you gave it to him."

Serenity replied amid chuckles, "I'm his mother. I have been with him since he was in my womb till today, so I'm his closest person."

Duncan laughed in delight. "Sorry, that came out wrong."

Looking around the shop, he remarked, "You come here every day. What are you busy with?"

The place looked spotless.

However, the shop would be turned upside down anyway when the renovation started next year.

"I bought materials for the renovations. I just tinkled around here, and that's a day well spent."

In other words, she was just passing the time.

"I see." With his gaze falling on Liberty, Duncan teased, "You're losing weight faster than when I first asked you to run five rounds at the office."

"I still run every day, but I put myself on a strict diet, so no sugar and fats for me. I don't have full meals either. My weight is dropping now. I lost twenty pounds since I asked Hank for a divorce."

Duncan believed Liberty looked nicer now that she had shed twenty pounds.

With her height, Liberty needed to drop another eighty pounds to reach the recommended weight.

"That's good. Keep it up."

Liberty smiled. It hit her that she bought some fruits and kept them in the shop. She asked, "Would you like some fruits? I bought them today. Let me get you some."

"It's okay. I'm off to a meeting. I should leave you to your work."

Seeing that Sonny had good fun with the pinwheel, Duncan swiftly gave Sonny a squeeze on the cheek. By the time Sonny realized it, Duncan had withdrawn his arm.

Sonny sulkily glared at him.

Mr. Lewis snuck up on him.

"Sonny, Mr. Lewis is going to work. Say bye-bye."

With the sneak attack a success, Duncan happily said goodbye to Sonny. Sonny reluctantly waved his arm in response to Duncan's friendly goodbye as his mother insisted.

While exiting Liberty's shop, Duncan ran into Mrs. Brown who had just gotten out of the car.

Through the glass window, Mrs. Brown saw Duncan stroking Sonny's face. He waved and bade Liberty and her son goodbye before leaving the shop.

Mrs. Brown put her guard up at the sight of Duncan.

Was this man not the boss of Liberty's previous workplace? Was he pursuing Liberty?

Mrs. Brown could not believe that a divorced woman like Liberty was desirable.

Nevertheless, Mrs. Brown thought she had it figured out when she saw the scar on Duncan's face. The man had trouble in the marriage department because of his disfigured looks. Since young, beautiful, and single women would not want to marry him, the man must be setting his sights on a divorced woman like Liberty.

Chapter 715 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Even so, Mrs. Brown did not like it one bit.

Duncan was the boss of a company. Although his face was ruined, the man was loaded.

Mrs. Brown and her daughter stood in front of Lewis & Co.'s office building the whole morning while waiting for Liberty back then.

She heard from her son that Lewis & Co. was one of the biggest corporations in Wiltspoon and a more influential company than the place her son was working at. Her son mentioned that he himself might not pass the interview and become a senior executive at Lewis & Co.

It did not sit well with Hank that Liberty was employed by Lewis & Co. as he realized Liberty could get back on track to a successful career when she returned to the workplace.

It was a good thing that the couple was divorced now. Hank did not have to worry about being overshadowed by his wife.

Since Jessica was his secretary and she relied heavily on him, it fed his ego as a man.

Having recognized Mrs. Brown, Duncan stopped in his tracks and shot a glare at Mrs. Brown. He curtly questioned, "Why are you here?"

He cocked his head to the mother and son inside the shop before giving Mrs. Brown a stern warning. "I rent the shop to Liberty. I won't play nice if you stir up trouble here. It's not going to end with just compensation."

Mrs. Brown retorted with more questions, "What are you doing here? Are you trying to chase my daughter-in-law?"

"I own half the commercial spaces on this street. You can call me Liberty's landlord. It's none of your business what I do here. Why do I recall that Liberty and your son are divorced? What? Didn't he marry his mistress?"

"You should be rushing them to get married. That way, you have a new daughter-in-law. Liberty has nothing to do with the Browns anymore. Stop calling her your daughter-in-law."

Mrs. Brown choked.

The last thing she wanted was for her son to marry Jessica. However, her son would not listen to her and instead had a date picked to get a marriage license with Jessica.

Jessica's parents, brother, and sister-in-law came today, asking both families to meet and discuss the wedding over a meal.

Mrs. Brown felt the pinch for her son at the thought of the Yates family coming to talk about contributing to the wedding and family support.

Liberty got so much money from the divorce.

At least, Liberty gave Mrs. Brown a grandson. Sure, Liberty had the money, but she would use most of it on her grandson.

After much deliberation and advice from her husband, Mrs. Brown accepted the fact. What more could she do? The money was already in Serenity's bank account.

Nevertheless, Jessica had yet to carry the Browns' bloodline in her, and she stole someone else's husband. Her son somehow wanted to give her and her family a sum of money and pay for the wedding. It was a hard pill for Mrs. Brown to swallow.

That was why she ended up here to look for Liberty.

She stalked Liberty and knew the latter rented a shop here to start a business. Mrs. Brown had not figured out what sort of business Liberty was going to venture into.

"How does she have nothing to do with the Browns? Sonny is my grandson, and Liberty's my grandson's mother. How are we not related?"

Duncan frowned. "What on earth do you want?"

Straightening her back, Mrs. Brown righteously uttered, "I'm here to see my grandson. Liberty said during the divorce that we can visit Sonny anytime we want. What? Is this a problem for you?"

Duncan was speechless.

Mrs. Brown grabbed her purse and walked past Duncan with her chest out. She added. "My son will get back together with Liberty. You stand no chance."

Duncan wanted to laugh. It was not like he was after Liberty. Duncan was fond of the little man and brought him a pinwheel. How did it turn into him pursuing Liberty and standing no chance?

Liberty would never get back together with a dirtbag like Hank even if Hank wanted to rekindle the relationship.

It was Hank who stood no more chance.

Duncan turned his head and watched Mrs. Brown open the glass door and enter the shop.

A brief moment later, he chose to take off.

He was not that close with Liberty. Duncan could care less unless Mrs. Brown was trying to raise hell.

Chapter 716 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“Sonny.”

Mrs. Brown entered the shop smiling and pulled up a toy car from her purse. She said to Sonny, “Look, Sonny. I bought you a toy.”

“Grandma.”

Sonny had no idea what happened among the adults, so he would still acknowledge his grandparents’ and father’s presence.

Liberty held grudges against the Browns, but she was ready to move on after the divorce. So long as the Browns stayed out of her business, Liberty could keep her cool when meeting her ex-husband’s family.

She never spoke ill about her ex-husband’s family while Sonny was around.

No matter what, Hank was Sonny’s father.

Liberty put Sonny down.

Mrs. Brown crouched to get to Sonny’s eye level. She handed the toy car to Sonny in exchange for the pinwheel which was a gift from Duncan.

Call it her killer instinct but she had the feeling that Duncan was trying to get to

Liberty through Sonny.

For a divorced single mother to find a second chance in love, the most important thing was to see whether the man was willing to accept her child. Would the man see the child as his own?

Sonny was the grandson of the Brown family. There was no way he could call

Duncan his father.

“I want this.”

Sonny did not care for the toy car Grandma gave him as he owned many of the same.

Aunt Elisa had given him so much that he had not gone through all the toys.

He preferred the pinwheel from Mr. Lewis.

It looked nice.

Sonny grabbed the pinwheel back.

“What’s fun about a pinwheel? Sonny, I can take you to get a new one if you like pinwheels. Just throw this one away.”

Mrs. Brown tried to take the pinwheel away, but Sonny refused and pouted his lips, a look he made when he was about to cry.

In the end, Mrs. Brown gave up on getting rid of the pinwheel.

She was displeased with Duncan's shameless effort to steal her darling grandson's heart with a measly pinwheel.

Picking Sonny up, Mrs. Brown rose to her feet and asked, "Did your boss come by just now, Liberty? Is he pursuing you?"

Liberty gave Mrs. Brown a look as if the latter was joking before faintly replying, "Mr. Lewis dropped by to give Sonny the pinwheel. Why do you think that? Besides, it's my personal business and that has nothing to do with you."

Mrs. Brown grinned awkwardly. "I was just asking. Fine, if he's not. You're a divorcee with a son. Who's going to raise someone else's child? Liberty, be careful of anyone who wants to pursue a romantic relationship with you. They're just trying to trick *you* and get money out of you.

"You're a millionaire now."

It was her son's money.

Liberty turned away to keep her hands busy and said, "I said it's my personal business, and it's none of your concern. You should be fussing over your son and Ms. Yates' wedding if you don't have anything to do."

"Don't bring up that woman. She makes me mad."

Mrs. Brown somehow started to complain about Jessica to her former daughter-in-law.

"What's the point of being young and beautiful? She's extravagant with her spending. I doubt her salary can keep up with her spending, so my son is footing all the bills.

"There are so many expenses involved with the wedding. The house needs renovation, and still, she demands Hank to pay for the wedding and her family support. Hank said that the Yates are asking for at least three hundred and eighty thousand dollars and jewelry. Hasn't Hank given her enough gifts in the past?"

Chapter 717 | [Serenity & Zachary]

'Jessica wants the reception to be at Wiltspoon Hotel. How much is that going to cost? We're paying for the reception. Instead of marrying for love, Hank is marrying himself into debt.'

Mrs. Brown whined, "It's not like she can lay a golden egg."

Liberty grabbed a cloth and wiped the table. All the while, she listened to whatever Mrs. Brown had to say without giving her two cents.

Her former mother-in-law came to her to vent about Jessica because the latter was demanding and did not hold back on splurging.

If Jessica was foolish like Liberty for paying for the renovations and refusing the Browns to pay for the wedding and family support, her ex-mother-in-law would probably brag about Hank marrying someone younger and more beautiful right after the divorce.

Mrs. Brown would laugh at her for being fat and ugly. No one would want Liberty after she left Hank.

“Liberty, have you been thrifty and skipping meals lately? You seem to have lost a lot of weight.”

“Mrs. Brown, I’m no longer married to your son. You’re not my mother-in-law anymore, so you don’t need to show me concern,” Liberty retorted, not in the mood for a conversation with Mrs. Brown.

Mrs. Brown laughed awkwardly. “I’m used to it. It’ll take some time to kick the habit. Don’t be too thrifty. You can put the money from Hank in the bank to get the interest, but you lost a lot of weight. Sonny’s heavier. It’s getting harder to carry him.

“Liberty, your aunt... I mean, is your aunt financially supporting you to set up the shop? Your aunt is wealthy and can offer you better help than we could.”

Mrs. Brown came here today because she missed her grandson, besides finding favor with Liberty and finding out how much help Mrs. Stone was giving to Liberty and her sister. Would the family get anything if her son rekindled his marriage with Liberty?

Hank had been whining about the work stress lately. Someone was out to get him. and undermine him at work. Hank’s boss was picking on every mistake to the point Hank was worried he might not be able to keep his job. He planned to hand in his resignation when he married Jessica the following year.

He would look for another job after his honeymoon.

Stone Group was only second to York Corporation. It would be great if her son could get a job at Stone Group.

“I am able and have the startup cash. Why do I need my aunt to finance me?”

That was all it took to shut Mrs. Brown up.

It took a while before Mrs. Brown found her voice again. “That’s foolish of you, Liberty. Your aunt had been looking for your mom for decades. You’re her only surviving relatives since your mom is gone. Your aunt is rich. She’ll be glad to help you financially now that she has you in the family.

“This is a chance of a lifetime. I can’t believe you didn’t ask your aunt for help.”

Liberty stopped wiping the table and faintly replied, “My aunt wanted to give a villa with a front and back garden to me and Seren each. She also proposed to give us a lump sum of money to start a business.”

Mrs. Brown beamed. “I told you your aunt won’t give you anything less.”

“We turned down the kind gesture. We don’t want our aunt’s money. We’ll buy a house with our own means, and if we can’t, we can just rent.” Mrs. Brown was speechless.

Liberty was a fool!

An utter fool!

How could Liberty say no to a free villa?

Yet, Liberty wanted a piece of her son’s two-million-dollar assets.

“Liberty. Sonny.”

Serenity and Mrs. Lane pushed the door and entered the shop.

Seeing that Mrs. Brown was here, Serenity put away her smile and came at the old lady while rolling up her sleeves. Serenity questioned Mrs. Brown, “What are you doing here? I’m warning you. I’ll break your arm if you come here for trouble.”

“I’m here to see Sonny, Serenity. I’m not here for trouble.”

Mrs. Brown knew that Serenity was adept in the art of self-defense, and she was not afraid to turn violent due to her resentment toward the Browns. Mrs. Brown wasted no time explaining herself.

“You can ask your sister if you don’t believe me. I came to visit Sonny and even brought Sonny a new toy.”

Mrs. Brown remarked as she handed Sonny to Serenity. She uttered, “I’ve been here long enough. I should head back.”

Chapter 718 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“Liberty, I got to go. I’ll visit you and Sonny some other time.”

Mrs. Brown left these words before making the run for it.

Serenity carried Sonny out the door as they watched Mrs. Brown get into a taxi. Serenity clicked her tongue once it was confirmed that the old lady had left the building.

She shot off. “She’s never been so eager to see Sonny before, so why change now?”

Sonny was holding the toy car that Mrs. Brown stuffed in his hands before leaving. Taking the toy car from Sonny, Serenity asked, “Do you like the toy car, Sonny?”

“No.”

Shaking his head, Sonny replied, “I have a lot of toy cars.”

All of them could move whereas the toy car that Grandma gave him could not.

“Why don’t we throw it away?”

After much thought, Sonny answered, “For Lucas.”

He believed Lucas would not go after his toys if he had his own toy car.

“Sonny, Lucas will never fight with you over your toys anymore. If you don’t want to throw the toy car away, we can give it away to other children but not to Lucas.”

“Um... I want to give it to Jenny.”

Serenity carried her nephew into the shop and asked her sister, “Who’s Jenny, Liberty?”

“My neighbor’s little girl. She has play dates with Sonny.”

Serenity put the toy car from Mrs. Brown on the table. “Sonny said that the toy car is for Jenny.”

Liberty would not make the decisions for her son.

Since Sonny did not like the toy car given by his grandma and did not want to throw it away, Jenny could have it.

It did not matter to Liberty.

Her son had a pile of toys at home anyway. Elisa was generous, showering Sonny with toys every time she dropped by.

Elisa doted on Sonny.

Afraid that everybody might spoil Sonny too much, Liberty became stricter at raising him.

“Liberty, what did the old hag want?”

Serenity did not buy it that Mrs. Brown was here to see Sonny.

Liberty smiled sarcastically, “Do you think her story about visiting *Sonny* was legit? She came to whine about Hank and Jessica’s wedding. The family has to pay for the wedding, family support, and jewelry for the bride. It’s always about money.”

“They deserve it. Jessica better steps it up and spends all of the Browns’ money.

Liberty was considerate of the family and never demanded anything excessive. The only thing she asked for was for Serenity to live together with her.

What did Liberty get in return for her understanding?

Betrayal.

“I hope for a lot of drama in the Brown family. I hope Hank and Jessica’s wedding will be ruined. Liberty, find a better man to marry. The happiness and success of your next marriage will be the best revenge on them yet.

“I can let Zachary’s nana and Aunt Audrey know if you’re looking for a second chance in love, Liberty. They’ve been there. They know a good man when they see one. They can check out the man for you.”

Liberty remarked, “Another marriage is not on the table.”

All she could think of now was to make money to buy a car and a house. She would be happy if she could raise her son well to get into a good college and find a good job.

Chapter 719 | [Serenity & Zachary]

Serenity said, “I understand that another marriage isn’t on the table now, but I’m speaking in terms of the future. You’re young, Liberty. Are you planning to be single for the rest of your life?”

“Why not? I think I’m doing fine. I don’t need to wait on my in-laws hand and foot or deal with any issue with a mother-in-law and a sister-in-law. I can do whatever I want and spend on whatever I want. I feel free.”

Thanks to her newfound freedom, it dawned on Liberty why more and more women did not want to take the marriage route.

Serenity was speechless.

“Don’t worry about me, Seren. My life can’t be better. Don’t you think I’m happier now that I’m divorced?”

Serenity nodded her head.

“Don’t you wish I’ll always be happy?”

“Of course.”

“Don’t bring up the possibility of a second marriage. I just escaped from hell, but Seren, this shouldn’t be a reason for you to be afraid of marriage. Yours is different from mine. Zachary seems like a reliable guy.

There was no guarantee that people would not change down the road.

“Has Zachary gone to work?”

“Yes.”

Liberty grabbed a wrap to strap her son on her bag while speaking, “Remind Zachary to put on layers when the weather is cold. Don’t let him work too hard. Health is most important, and the rest comes second.”

“He’s a grown-up. He should know how to take care of himself. He must have gotten the flu from overworking himself. Stress doesn’t go well with building body immunity. The viral flu comes around this time of the year.”

Serenity did not have the guts to say that Zachary got a cold from taking cold showers and that the cold showers were because of her.

“Where are you carrying Sonny, Liberty? Mrs. Lane and I can watch Sonny here. You can go and get the stuff you need, or should I drive you instead?”

“I don’t need to get anything more for the shop for now. I was thinking of going to the market to get some spices to make my own sauce. I can use it when I’m open for business.

“And appetizers. I wonder if I should get them store-bought or make my own.”

Assisting her sister in strapping Sonny on her back, Serenity uttered, “It’ll be troublesome to make them all on your own. You should buy the ready-made from the store but get the trusted brand. They might be expensive. Breakfast can give you small profits and quick returns, so you should watch the costs.

“I’ll go with you to the market, Liberty.”

Liberty did not refuse.

With Mrs. Lane in tow, the sisters went to the market and bought a lot of spices.

They then returned to Liberty’s rented apartment.

Liberty started making condiments and appetizers to use for business after New Year.

“I want to talk to you about something, Liberty.”

“Do tell.”

Lifting her head, Liberty glanced at her sister and went back to her work preparations.

“Zachary kept something from me.”

Joining Sonny in his play time, Mrs. Lane overheard the conversation and looked over.

She thought to herself, ‘Did Mr. Zachary come clean to the missus about everything?’

Liberty stopped what she was doing and asked her sister, “What did Zachary hide from you? Get his side of the story if it’s something important. You don’t have to start a fight. Everybody has their own secrets. Even married couples don’t share about every single thing.

Chapter 720 | [Serenity & Zachary]

“Zachary owns a villa in a high-end residential area. The villa is huge with a front and back garden. The view is breathtaking. I did my research and found the price of the villas starting from ten million dollars.”

Liberty was speechless.

“Zachary said he makes millions in annual income and doesn’t have big spending. He saved quite a bit of money to buy the villa, but it’s still on a mortgage.”

“How much does he have to pay for his mortgage?”

“I didn’t ask. It’s his house. The mortgage is his business. I won’t demand a share of his house if we end up separating.”

“Don’t jinx yourself. What do you mean separate? Your marriage has only begun. You should invest in your relationship. Don’t be like me.”

Liberty wanted nothing about a divorce coming from her sister’s mouth.

Since she failed in her marriage, she hoped her sister had a better chance at spending the rest of her life with Zachary.

“It’s right for you to think so. His house is his unless he offers to put you in the title deed. We shouldn’t expect things that aren’t ours. Did you have a fight over this?”

By now, Mrs. Lane knew that Mr. Zachary backed out and had not been completely honest about who he was.

All he did was let the missus know that he had a villa under his name and even told her a new lie.

Mrs. Lane was anxious for Zachary.

Zachary was not one to flinch in anything he did, but he could not seem to find the courage to be truthful to Serenity. So what if he was the richest heir?

It was understandable why Zachary wanted his identity kept a secret then.

Mrs. Lane was on pins and needles for Zachary's sake. Although Zachary was a bit of a coward in handling this, Mrs. Lane knew it was not her place to jump into the conversation.

"I was angry when I first found out. I felt like he kept his guard up with me, but I later could see his point of view. He told me he has a villa and wanted me to stay there, so I did. I won't go if he doesn't want me there. There's no point butting heads over this.

"Besides, for him to talk to me about it, it means he trusts me completely now"

Judging by Zachary's income, it made sense why he could afford a villa. It was on a mortgage anyway.

Liberty was a little unhappy for her sister because her brother-in-law was distrustful of her sister. Nevertheless, her sister did not mind it anymore. Liberty said, "It's amazing how a different point of view lets us see things differently. No point in splitting hairs. Apart from the villa, is there anything else he's hiding from you?"

"Who knows? We'll never know what's going on in the minds of men."

After much thought, Liberty probed, "Seren, have you ever suspected if Zachary is who he says he is?"

Mrs. Lane's heart dropped.

Dumbstruck, Serenity inquired, "Do *you* mean if I think Zachary is not a salaryman? The wealthiest family in Wiltspoon is the York family. There are many people with the same last name working in York Corporation, but they are not related to the wealthiest Yorks."

Serenity added with a smile, "Do *you* think Zachary looks like he's the heir of the wealthiest Yorks? A senior executive of York Corporation takes home millions of dollars in annual income. It's not strange that they can afford a villa."

Liberty had a feeling that her brother-in-law would have more to hide if he could keep his ownership of a villa from her sister.

She never once suspected that her brother-in-law and the heir of the Yorks were the same people even though they shared the same last name. Liberty believed it would not be easy to marry into the wealthiest family of Wiltspoon, and the heir could not possibly marry her sister.

Although her sister was the best to Liberty, the sisters were not born into privilege. It was all about social standing when it came to the marriage of the rich and powerful. The Cinderella story was nothing but a fairytale.

Hence, Liberty never questioned her brother-in-law's identity.

It was mainly because she had met her brother-in-law's family.

The Yorks were the nicest and friendliest bunch. They dressed like everyday people without adorning labels and jewelry.