

Chapter 19

In addition, there was another reason for buying the gifts—she knew Jessica's mother-in-law too well.

If she went empty-handed, she would most probably make life difficult for Jessica behind her back.

Katty saw that they were reaching the mall soon and insisted, "I won't buy a lot. Hurry up and tell me. Or else, it'll be a shame if I got something too small."

"Katty!"

"Come on," Katty insisted.

Jessica caved in the end and told her her daughter's dress size.

After ending the call,

Tally looked at Katty. "Your sister lives in Harborlean, but you only see her once a month."

Katty explained, "She's married. I do not wish to cause any inconvenience to her."

Katty learned—from seeing Jessica—that once a woman got married, it was no longer just something between a man and a woman.

There were too many people and stuff involved!

This was also the reason why, when Markus said that she had to marry Mr. Albert, she instinctively rejected it.

This was because right now, even though Mr. Albert was very fierce, she only had to face him—just one person; her big boss.

But if she had to be in another totally different social strata, she was afraid that she would not be able to handle it.

Tally's heart ached for her when she heard this. "What do you mean by 'cause any inconvenience'? She's your sister!"

Katty's father died when she was young, and her mother did not love her...

The only people who loved her were her grandmother and her elder sister. One had passed away while the other was in a family swarmed with never-ending chores.

Katty said, "Exactly. Because she's my sister, I do not wish to put her in a tight spot."

Her sister loved and doted on her since she was young. She would secretly give her any good food that she had. She would even let Katty have the only new pair of socks every winter.

Whenever she visited her, Jessica would always make some soup or something nice for her. If Katty visited too often, Jessica's mother-in-law would definitely have something to say.

They reached the mall.

Tally wanted to accompany her, but was rejected by Katty. Katty knew that whenever Tally was around, she would definitely pick up the tab.

She had already received a lot of help from Tally and she wanted to avoid adding on to the debt of gratitude if she could help it.

However, Tally tossed her a credit card and said, "If you don't let me come along, it's fine. But use this card."

"There's no need for that. I have money."

"You do? How come I am not aware of that?" Tally teased

Katty said, "The relief sculpture job that you recommended me for the other time was more than 100 square feet, and I made 30,000 dollars!"

"That's great. I'll recommend you for more such big jobs in future then."

"Okay." Katty nodded.

She loved such big jobs too. Small jobs could only fetch three or four thousand dollars at most.

Seeing that she indeed had money, Tally did not insist anymore.

Katty bought three sets of clothes for her niece and some snacks that children loved to eat. She spent more than two thousand dollars in total.

She carried all the stuff and took a 30-minute trip on the subway and then transferred to a bus ride of five bus stops, before she reached her sister's house.

Knowing that she was coming to visit, Jessica had been waiting for her at the bus stop.

When Katty alighted from the bus, she immediately saw her, dressed in a cotton shirt and pants that were very worn out.

At the sight of her, Jessica called out, "Katty."

Katty held in the sadness in her heart and smiled as she waved to Jessica.

Jessica held her daughter's hand as she made her way towards Katty. The two sisters hugged while the little girl said in a crisp voice, "Aunt."

Katty bent down and pinched Kelly Quinton's rosy cheeks. "Kelly, why are you not in school today?"

Jessica took the shopping bags from Katty and said, "She's having a cold today and took the afternoon off."

On hearing that Kelly was having a cold, Katty gave the little girl a hug and only realized then that her face was red not because of the rosy cheeks as she had initially assumed.

She touched her forehead and sure enough, it was rather hot. "Do you feel unwell?"

Kelly nodded. "Yes!"

"If you feel unwell, why did you come out here with your mother then?"

"I miss you, Aunt," The little girl said softly.

Tenderness brimmed from Katty's eyes.

The three of them walked along the long lane before entering a house. There was an orange tree filled with ripe and juicy fruits hanging on it in the backyard.

The smell of chicken soup wafted from the house.

Jessica put the shopping bags aside and got busy in the kitchen. Katty followed her into the kitchen and said, "Sis, you've cooked too much food. I can't finish so much."

She wanted to say that she was not staying for dinner. But, it had been a long time since the three of them saw one another. If she left without staying for dinner, Jessica would definitely be angry.

When Katty saw how familiar Jessica was with the household chores, she felt even sadder.

Jessica said, "You hardly come to visit. I must make you some nutritious food."

Warmth filled Katty's heart as her nose tingled.

Jessica let her hang out with Kelly. But the little girl was having a fever and so she fell asleep not long after.

Katty carried her to her bed and went to help Jessica.

Jessica quickly stopped her. "Don't. You'll dirty your clothes."

Katty said, "It's fine. I don't have to go to the office today. If it gets dirty, then I'll just wash it."

With that, she picked up some leeks and helped Jessica to wash them.

Jessica looked at her and smiled.

Not long after, Jessica's husband—Madden Quinton—and her mother-in-law—Karen Quinton—came home. Madden saw Katty and smiled politely. "Katty, you're here."

"Madden."

Katty greeted her brother-in-law politely,

Jessica's mother-in-law—Karen—put down her things and took a look at the pot on the stove. Then, she smiled and said, "It's indeed different when Katty is here. We have not had chicken for nearly a month."

Jessica's face instantly darkened.

Katty knew what kind of person Karen was as well. But, she still greeted her, "Mrs. Quinton."

A hint of disdain flashed across Karen's eyes. "Eat more later. It's tough for you people who are not locals to eke a living here."

Katty maintained the smile on her face.

The local people of Harborlean do not welcome outsiders; it was as if non-locals were here to beg for food.

Even though the Quintons lived in this three-room house, they were snobbish.

Because of Madden and Karen, Katty barely ate the food that Jessica cooked.

The moment the food was served, Karen immediately gave the two chicken drumsticks to Kelly and Madden respectively.

When Jessica saw this, her face darkened but she did not say anything in the end. She just kept piling food on Katty's plate.

"Sis, you eat!" Katty said to Jessica tenderly.

Jessica shook her head. "I always eat home-cooked food. But you are different. You eat out all the time; it is not healthy. You hardly get to eat home-cooked food, so you should eat more."

The meal was not enjoyable but Katty still forced herself to eat a little more on account of Jessica.

Meanwhile at Rivery, Chris returned to his apartment.

When he went to get changed to go out, something fell out of the closet when he opened it.

Chris bent down to pick it up. When he took a closer look at the thing in his hand and saw the brand name on the box, his face frozen instantly.

"Condoms?" It was only him who came here usually. Well, there was Katty who came to pick things up too!

Chris instantly gave a meaningful smile.

He whipped out his cell phone and called Katty!

At the Quintons.

After dinner, Karen and Madden both left the house. Jessica explained that they went out to play poker.

This was the typical life of a local Harborlean—the idle petite bourgeoisie.

When she saw the call from Chris, Katty quickly went to the backyard to answer it. "Mr. Albert."

"Where are you?" His low voice emanated from the phone.

Katty's heart jumped instinctively as she replied, "At my sister's place."

For some reason, every time she answered Chris' call, she would be very nervous.

Probably because he was too fierce and stern!

"Send me your location."

"Huh? Why?"

He hung up in the next second.

As Katty heard the sound of the disconnected call, her face froze. She did not understand what Chris meant.

So, should she send him her location?

After some thought, she sent it.