

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

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"What the hell is wrong with you?" Zachary furrowed his brows at her.

Charlotte said nothing as she glanced at his phone.

He traced her gaze, and noticed that his phone was still buzzing and the flashing caller ID screen. He hung up the call and turned his phone off.

Still, Charlotte said nothing as she kept her head low.

He did not seem like he had the intention of explaining things to her and kept driving.

The car reached the Happy Avenue residential estate in no time.

Charlotte removed her seatbelt to get off the car. Zachary reminded her again, "Ten o'clock tonight."

She was burning with fury but she tried her best to hold it in. "Noted."

Then, she rushed back home.

Zachary sat in the car, watching her silhouette getting further and further away from him. Suddenly, a sense of crisis washed over the man. I... am getting more and more smitten with this woman.

Charlotte rushed back home. The nurses were keeping her triplets company as they played. Ellie dashed in her mother's direction when she noticed the latter coming home.

She squatted down and greeted Ellie with a warm hug.

"Mommy, you're finally back." Ellie circled her small arms around her mother's neck and pouted. Sobbing, she said, "We thought you don't want us anymore."

"Don't be silly," Charlotte hurriedly explained herself. "Sorry, no more next time."

"Mommy's had a hard day," Ellie held back her tears and massaged Charlotte's shoulders. "Let me give you a massage."

"Thank you, Ellie." Charlotte planted a kiss on her cheeks.

"Mommy, did that bad boss bully you again?" Jamie clenched his fist and asked angrily, "I will beat him up if he bullies you again."

"No, he did not bully me."

Charlotte shook her head, afraid that the triplets might misunderstand Zachary further. This would make things awkward when they meet each other in the future.

"Okay, as long as you're fine." Robbie scanned her mother and made sure that she was fine. The boy finally heaved a sigh of relief after confirming.

"Ms. Windt, we wanted to make lunch but the triplets insisted to wait for you to come back. We've prepared all the ingredients. Do you think these will do?"

Two nurses came out of the kitchen.

"Thank you for helping out." Charlotte carried Ellie and headed to the living room, and gave Robbie and Jamie a hug. "You guys must be hungry. I will go make lunch right now."

"Thank you, mommy..."

She noticed that the nurses had already prepared all the necessary ingredients. There were only a few finishing touches.

Charlotte thanked the nurses and started cooking.

It did not take her long to finish preparing a scrumptious meal. "Robbie, Jamie, Ellie, time for lunch."

"Mommy, you have to eat too."

"I still need to work on the lentil soup so that we can take it for Mrs. Berry."

“Right, Robbie and Ellie, please feed Fifi too. We’re going to bring it over to visit Mrs. Berry later. She said it’s been too long since she last saw Fifi.”

“Sure!”

Robbie held Ellie’s hand as they headed over to the balcony. They stood on a small stool so that they could reach Fifi and feed it.

Ellie patted its wings gently and said, “Fifi, you have to be good. We’re bringing you to visit Mrs. Berry later.”

“Mrs. Berry! Mrs. Berry!” The parrot flapped its wings and chanted animatedly.

As she was working on her soup, Charlotte was actually checking on her bank account on her phone. She bagged tens of thousands working at Sultry Night these few days. Fifty thousand for the hospital fees last time and another fifty thousand today still would not be enough to cover it all...

It was impossible for her to head back to Sultry Night after the ruckus yesterday. Zachary would have arranged for people to watch her back.

It seemed like the only way out was for her to contact the financial advisor from S Nation so that she could withdraw an amount for emergency use.

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Charlotte threw the thought to the back of her mind, deciding that she would deal with it after she came home tonight. Now her focus would be on the lentil soup and accompanying her children for a scrumptious meal.

After lunch, Charlotte took the soup and her children to the Kindness Hospital to visit Mrs. Berry.

In order to prevent the nurses from finding out about her relationship with Zachary, she gave the three nurses half-day off. She excused their absence by saying that Mrs. Berry needed quiet rest and that it would be inconvenient for too many people to be present in the ward.

The nurses were worried about her handling all three children alone. However, they could do nothing since Charlotte was adamant that she could handle it alone.

Charlotte called for a cab and took her children and Fifi to the hospital.

She texted Olivia on the way and reassured her friend that she was doing fine and told her friend to quit worrying about her.

However, Olivia still felt the need to call and confirm. "Charlotte, what happened last night really scared the wits out of me. Are you really alright?"

"I'm really fine. I'm now heading to the hospital with my kids to visit Mrs. Berry," Charlotte reassured her friend. "What about you? Are you alright?"

"I'm fine, too. Just a bit swollen on the face. I'll put some ice on it." Begrudgingly, she said, "Charlotte, Peter asked me to tell you not to work at Sultry Night anymore."

"I know..." Charlotte sighed. "Is he alright?"

"He's alright but your boyfriend said he wouldn't be if he ever lets you work at Sultry Night again. By the way, your boyfriend is so fierce. Does he bully you?"

"No..." Charlotte could not bring herself to go into details in front of her children and did not divulge further. "Right, Olivia. I'm with my kids and we're heading to the hospital right now. Let me call you back later."

"Sure." Olivia felt a pang of guilt. "I have some leads on a piano performance gig, and I will watch out for you. I'll introduce you if an opportunity comes up."

"That's great. Thank you, Olivia."

"Don't worry about it. Go get busy. We'll talk later."

"Sure."

Charlotte realized that they had actually arrived at the Kindness Hospital after hanging up the phone. The driver stopped the car by the sidewalk.

She carried her children off the car and pushed Jamie's wheelchair.

Robbie and Ellie tagged along by her side.

Fifi was quiet in Jamie's embrace. It craned its neck and glanced around curiously.

"Robbie and Ellie, you guys have to stick close to mommy."

Charlotte pushed Jamie's wheelchair and reminded the other two.

There were some sundries, fruits and lentil soup hanging on Jamie's wheelchair.

Onlookers could not help but divert their attention toward the young and charming mother with her triplets and a pet parrot.

Some were thinking that it must have been difficult for the mother to raise the triplets while some were awed by the cute triplets, not to mention the pet parrot...

At that point, Charlotte was already used to those curious glances. She smiled as she acknowledged them all before she headed toward the elevator.

She was beyond grateful that they were at a private hospital, and the crowd was not too overwhelming. If they were at a public hospital, there would be a real concern about her losing her children.

The little family soon arrived at Mrs. Berry's ward.

The woman was on the drip. As she heard the children's voices, she almost fell from her bed. "Robbie, Ellie and Jamie! Is it really you guys?"

"Mrs. Berry!" Robbie and Ellie ran toward her.

"You guys are really here," Mrs. Berry was excited at their presence.

"Mrs. Berry!" Robbie grabbed her by the hand and caressed her wrinkled face. "You've gotten thinner."

"Haha, yes! I've lost over thirty pounds," Mrs. Berry burst into a laugh. "I've tried so hard to lose weight in the past but it took hospitalization for me to finally lose all those weight."

"Mrs. Berry, is it painful?" Ellie asked as she looked at the woman's hands pierced with a myriad of needles. Gently, she blew on it. "Let Ellie blow on it so that it doesn't hurt."

"Good girl, Ellie." Mrs. Berry was moved to tears with a glad smile on her face.

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"Mrs. Berry, Mommy brewed you lentil soup," Jamie placed the thermal flask on the table and said casually, "Mommy's cooking skills have really improved ever since you're warded. This soup smells so good but she wouldn't allow us to have a taste, and insisted to keep it all for you!"

Mrs. Berry chuckled aloud. "Miss, have you really improved your cooking?"

"Oh, yes I have." Charlotte shifted in unease. "I'll be sure to cook for you every day once you're good to go home."

"That's great..." Mrs. Berry heaved a sigh of relief and smiled. "You're going to be able to take good care of yourself and the kids when I'm gone."

"Nonsense!" Charlotte's eyes brimmed with tears. "How could you say that? Your condition is nothing serious and you'll recover in no time."

"Mrs. Berry..." Robbie cradled her hands, his voice getting croaky, "You will always be around, always."

“Yes, Mrs. Berry. You’re going to live a long and healthy life.”

Tears welled up in Ellie’s eyes as the girl pouted.

“Mrs. Berry, you have to watch me get married.”

Jamie’s eyes were also brimming with tears but he cracked a joke in an attempt to lighten the atmosphere.

“Married! Married!” Fifi flapped its wings and chirped.

“Haha! That’s right... I have to watch my three babies get married and be happy!”

Mrs. Berry smiled as she hugged the triplets one by one.

Every single one of them was her precious little baby.

She earnestly wished for speedy recovery so that she could go back and take care of the triplets.

Fifi flew to her side and rubbed its furry little head against Mrs. Berry’s face. It was as if it was using its own way to comfort her.

Tears streamed down Mrs. Berry’s cheeks but she wiped it away in a swift motion. She put on smile and said, “The tears just come when you’re old like I am... I’ve promised not to cry but I just can’t help it when I see you guys...”

“We will come to visit you more often,” Charlotte said as she wiped away the tears on Mrs. Berry’s face. “A lot of things happened recently. Plus, Jamie is undergoing treatment. We really haven’t been spending much time with you.”

“Mrs. Berry, we promise to come visit you after school in the future,” Robbie hurriedly said. “I’ll bring you an iPad so that you can send us videos when we’re not around.”

“Yes, that’s right.” Jamie rolled his wheelchair closer. “Mrs. Berry, I will bring you your favorite green pea tartlets next time I come to visit you.”

Raising her little chubby hand, Ellie chimed in, “I’ll bring my little pink comb and wash your hair.”

"Alright, my good babies." Mrs. Berry hugged the triplets and grinned from ear to ear.

Charlotte was overwhelmed by feelings at the heartwarming sight. She wished that Mrs. Berry would recover soon and that they could live together as a family like they used to.

"Ms. Windt!"

Right then, Raina did not disturb the children reuniting with Mrs. Berry, and merely beckoned at Charlotte by the door.

She followed Raina out into the hallway. Raina explained Mrs. Berry's condition to her. Fortunately, her condition was looking good because she had received proper treatment in time.

However, the treatment was a long journey, and the results would not be immediate. Even after Mrs. Berry had been discharged, she would have to come back for appointments every now and then.

Charlotte then hurriedly told Raina that she would spare no expense for the treatment. As long as Mrs. Berry could fully recover, it did not matter how much time or money it would take.

Then, she mentioned that she had brought along fifty thousand to pay for the hospital bills, and that the rest of the bill will be paid for by the end of the month.

Raina was stumped. "What hospital bills? I've signed for all invoices involved for Mrs. Berry's treatment. No bill should ever be issued to you. Did someone ask you to foot the bill?"

"No, you shouldn't sign the invoice. I will pay for any expenses incurred for the treatment. You're not supposed to bear all the expenses involved. Please don't reprimand your subordinates as I insisted on doing so. Otherwise, I really cannot bear to trouble you further."

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"No, I cannot let that happen. Mr. Nacht will blame me for this," Raina anxiously said.

"I really need to draw things clear because of him." Charlotte suddenly put on a stern face.

"I hope that no matter what happens between him and me, we can still be friends with each other. That's the only way I can continue to let Mrs. Berry undergo her treatment here. Otherwise, she's going to be in danger if our relationship goes down the drain."

"This..."

Raina was rendered speechless. She could see where Charlotte was coming from. If the latter was fully dependent on Mr. Nacht for Mrs. Berry's treatment, the man reserved the right to terminate his sponsorship as he pleased.

However, if Charlotte was seeking treatment as an ordinary patient, then the hospital would be liable for the patient, and to answer to Charlotte.

"Let's just go with this. Don't worry about the money. I can still cope with the hospital bills." Then, Charlotte steered the conversation in another direction, "About my friend's mother's condition, I brought her medical records today."

Charlotte handed over Olivia's mother's medical records to Raina.

She skimmed through the records and said, "This is a tad complicated. I need to run this through my team for a discussion. I'll come back to you on this in two days' time, alright?"

"Sure, thank you." Charlotte nodded her head. "I'll accompany Mrs. Berry then."

"Sure."

Charlotte and the kids accompanied Mrs. Berry for the whole afternoon. They had only left the hospital at about five in the afternoon when the kids were getting hungry.

Before leaving, Charlotte settled the fifty-thousand hospital bill and went back to Mrs. Berry's ward. "Mrs. Berry, we will come visit you again tomorrow. Get a good rest."

"I'm alright here. There are medical staff and Dr. Langhan looking after me. It must be tough for you to handle three kids alone. There's no need to rush here and there."

"It's okay. The kids miss you. Besides, it's Sunday tomorrow and we still have time to spare. I can't say the same for Monday when the kids have to go to school. You'd better get some rest. We'll get going first."

"Take care."

"Goodbye, Mrs. Berry!"

"Be good, the three of you and Fifi! You guys have to listen to your mom!"

"Yes, Mrs. Berry."

The triplets were famished after they headed out of the hospital. Charlotte called for a cab to take the kids home and promised to make them dumplings.

The triplets were thrilled by the idea and vowed to help Charlotte with the dumplings.

Right then, Robbie's smart watch buzzed. He gestured for the others to shush, and whispered to his mother, "Mommy, it's a call from Mr. Henry."

"Well, pick it up then." Charlotte nodded.

"Hello, Mr. Henry."

"Robbie, where are you guys? I want to come to pick you guys for dinner." Henry was beaming on the other end. "Let's not go to Fairytale Land today. I'll take you guys to the beach. It's really pretty there..."

"Mr. Henry, hold on." Robbie covered the microphone and looked at Charlotte.

She glanced at the other two. Jamie and Ellie nodded animatedly. They liked Henry, and wanted to spend more time with him.

Charlotte decided to go along with the kids' wishes.

"Sure, Mr. Henry. Mommy said yes."

Robbie was excited at the prospect of seeing Henry again. He could not wait to share what he recently learned at school.

"That's great! I'm right downstairs. You guys take your time and get ready. I'll go upstairs and fetch you guys later," Henry said lovingly.

All color drained from her face when she heard Henry. He's right downstairs? Their cab was about to reach home.

Charlotte turned around and was greeted by the sight of a Rolls-Royce parked right opposite her place.

Spencer helped the old man get off the car. Henry was grinning from ear to ear as he walked over to her building.

Charlotte signaled for the driver to stop.

However, the cab driver did not notice her signal and stepped on the pedal instead.

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Charlotte was frightened out of her wits as she lay low in the car.

Noticing his mother's peculiar manner, Robbie immediately said, "Mr. Henry, we are out buying some stuff right now. Why don't you wait for us at the garden in the residential estate? We'll get home soon."

"Sure, no rush. Take your time," Henry said before hanging up.

Robbie stood up and stole a glance outside. "Mommy, Mr. Henry is already heading to the garden."

Charlotte had only found the courage to sit upright. After paying the cab driver, she got off the car along with her kids. She did not head toward her building. Instead, she turned to Robbie and said, "Robbie, mommy is not going inside with you guys. You wheel Jamie to the residential estate entrance and let Mr. Henry pick you guys up from there."

"Yes, mommy." Robbie nodded his head.

"Mommy, why are you so afraid of Mr. Henry? He's a really nice person."

Jamie did not understand why his mother kept avoiding Henry.

"Yes, Mr. Henry will never hurt us." Ellie cocked her head to one side and said innocently, "Mommy, you can come with us too."

"I have my own reasons, and it's really difficult for mommy to explain it to you guys right now. Anyway, you guys have to keep this secret for me, and listen to Robbie, alright?"

"Yes, Mommy." Jamie and Ellie nodded their heads.

"Mommy, drink something while you're waiting for us to be picked up by Mr. Henry. Don't worry, we will call him as soon as we are at the entrance," Robbie said.

"You're a good boy, Robbie." Charlotte gave her boy a hug.

Robbie then wheeled his brother, as Ellie and their pet parrot tagged along. The gang made their way toward to entrance of the residential estate.

The neighbors could not help but beam with delight at the cute sight. "Where are your parents, kids?"

"My mom is busy while our grandma is in the hospital."

"Did you guys come out here all by yourselves?" The neighbors were curious and asked, "Don't you have anyone watching you guys?"

"Yes, Mr. Henry is waiting for us in the garden." Then, Henry's voice rang, "Robbie!"

Henry wanted to meet the triplets as soon as possible. Hence, he thought he would try his luck at the entrance. Sure enough, he spotted the triplets right there.

Robbie was wheeling Jamie with much difficulty while Ellie was holding the parrot as she trailed behind her big brother. Henry was disheartened at the sight and ordered, "Quick, help them out."

His two bodyguards then rushed forward and took over the wheelchair and held Ellie and Robbie's hands.

"Where did you guys go? Why isn't there any adult around?" Henry furrowed his brows.

"We went to visit Mrs. Berry at the hospital, and we just got back," Robbie replied.

"Why didn't the nurses follow you guys there?" Henry crouched and hugged Robbie and Ellie. "Where's your mommy?"

"Mommy said that a hospital is a quiet place, and it's not so nice for us to bring along so many people. So she brought us there on her own. She went to the drugstore to buy some medicine. We're waiting for you here because we want to see you sooner."

There was no loose end with Robbie's explanation.

"Good boy." Henry hugged Robbie. "I should have fetched you guys from the hospital if I had known about it."

"It's okay to fetch us here too. Mr. Henry, let's get into the car," Robbie said.

"Don't you need to wait for your mommy?"

Henry lifted his head and noticed the usual hustle and bustle of the neighborhood. Some people were even engrossed in hushed whispers, but there were no signs of the triplet's mother.

"It's okay, mommy will get home on her own."

Robbie only wanted to leave earlier so that his mother would not have to hide out at the café, and that she could head back earlier to get a good rest.

"Yes, Mr. Henry. I'm hungry. Let's go." Ellie resonated her brother's words.

"Mr. Henry, I'm hungry too." Jamie chimed in as well.

"Sure, let's go now." Henry then helped the three kids get into his car.