

A Life Debt Repaid Free Online

- Chapter 861-870

Chapter 861

Everyone at the press conference were in awe and admiration as they expressed their blessings to Zoe when she said that she did not have any regrets.

She did not say much, and she said it casually, but through her words, everyone could sense the beauty of their relationship.

The key was the happiness in Jay's smile as he sat next to Zoe.

Everyone could tell that he was in a fabulous mood.

And that was despite the fact that Jay was one who never wore his heart on his sleeve.

They must really, really love each other.

The reporters' reactions made Zoe suddenly feel awkward.

She simply followed what Jay had prepared for her to say. Did they need to react so strongly?

She suddenly felt inexplicably shy at that moment.

"Mrs. Parker, why did you decide to make a comeback then? Is it really because of your passion for the industry?" the reporter asked.

"Yes, it is." Zoe nodded. "It's been my dream to be an actor since childhood, and I've sacrificed a lot for this dream of mine. Although I chose to give it up because of many other reasons, I will persist down this road. I hope to have everyone's blessings and support as I continue on this journey," Zoe said courteously.

She really wanted, from the bottom of her heart, to maintain good ties with the reporters and media partners. After all. Jay would only be around for the moment, while her relationship with the news and media outlets were for life. She could not afford to offend them.

"Mrs. Parker, that is very kind of you to say that. In the future, if you have any updates or news, remember to inform us right away and well be very grateful for that." 1

The reporters teased her.

It was not much of an exaggeration, in fact.

Zoe's popularity was rising wildly, and she would be an A- lister in no time.

What was more, now they knew that Zoe and Jay were husband and wife, it would go without saying that she would be an important figure in the industry.

"Director Parker, do you intend to produce a movie or drama series for your wife?" a reporter suddenly asked.

"When I decided to participate in Actors on Set, although I selfishly wanted to accompany Zoe, my true objective was to select suitable actors. I have a movie on hand that I am preparing to film. I won't share its specific genre as it is confidential information that is currently embargoed. As for who the main leads of this movie are, we'll have to see how Zoe performs in the later part of the competition."

"So strict, Director Parker? Aren't you afraid of being made to sleep on the couch when you go back home?" a reporter joked.

"Mrs. Parker is even more integrous and upright than I am," Jay said immediately.

Zoe mumbled to herself inwardly.

She did not care to be described as 'integrous' and 'upright'.

She did not mind going through the back door, okay?!

She did receive some minor engagements, but to date, she had not received any scripts for movies or drama serials.

She often dreamed of filming once again, but Zoe did not dare to say that in front of so many reporters.

She simply faked a smile while her heart bled.

"We have come to the end of our press conference. Once again, thank you everyone for gracing our event amid your busy schedules. Thank you."

Jay concluded the press conference and left the venue with Zoe.

Jay leaned against his walking stick and stood up. However, he lost his balance and tipped toward the side.

Zoe instinctively wrapped her arm around Jay.

Their intimate posture triggered a wild flurry of camera shots.

They were clearly giving the reporters a lot of material to work with.

They left the press conference venue and went to the car.

The moment they were out of the reporters' sights, they kept their distance once again.

Zoe even sat slightly further from him out of habit.

Jay pretended not to notice and said, "Next up, I'll have my PR team follow-up online and they will make sure that things go according to plan."

"Okay," Zoe responded.

Things remained awkward between them when they were finally alone. Many times, Jay wanted to speak, but he did not know what to say. The two of them ended up surrounded by silence until they finally reached home.

Chapter 862

Jay unlocked the door with his fingerprint.

Suddenly, he thought of something. "Zoe, come and leave a record of your fingerprint."

"There's no need for that. Just tell me the passcode." Zoe found it troublesome if she had to delete her fingerprint after a while.

"You're not good with numbers and always forget your passcode.

Recording your fingerprint will be more convenient," Jay insisted.

Zoe kept feeling that Jay had become more aggressive nowadays.

In the past, as long as she rejected him, he would usually just accept it.

"It won't take long, and it's not troublesome at all," Jay added.

Zoe did not want to argue with Jay over something so trivial, so she walked over and recorded her fingerprint with Jay's help.

After making sure that she could open the door with her fingerprint, Jay finally walked through the door with Zoe.

He even said, "Let your mom record her fingerprint later, too. N

Zoe paused for a moment.

His address of Clara as her mom had never been used in describing her relationship with Clara.

Jay noticed the change in her expression.

"Are you and her still estranged?" Jay asked.

"No need for you to bother about my affairs," Zoe said coldly.

She walked past Jay in great strides into the living room.

She stopped in her tracks the moment she entered.

Jay took some time to remove his shoes and he only saw Nancy and Cora in his living room a while later.

The two of them spotted Jay and Zoe.

At once, one could cut the air with a knife.

Zoe did not react to their presence. She had already warned Jay that he had to explain things to the Levines about their marriage. She did not want to be involved with them in any way.

She walked past them, seeing no need to even greet them.

She headed straight for Yelena.

Where were Yelena and Clara, if they were not in the living room?

Were they in their room?

Zoe's attitude made Nancy's face darken with displeasure.

"Zoe York, I've really underestimated you. You were driven out of the Levine household and you stopped at nothing to come back! Don't you find it embarrassing to come back via such underhanded means?"

Nancy looked at Zoe's retreating figure and sneered. '

Zoe bit her lip.

She did not know how to feel about Nancy right now.

She probably should avoid Nancy like the plague.

As such, she decided not to react in any way and simply forced herself to remain calm as she left.

"Zoe York!"

Nancy flared up upon seeing Zoe ignore her.

"I initiated the marriage. It has nothing to do with Zoe. Talk to me if you have anything in mind," Jay's cold yet authoritative voice sounded.

Nancy looked at Jay.

He was standing in front of her, blocking her view.

Smack!

Nancy suddenly slapped Jay.

Zoe was opening the room door, about to head in, when she heard the loud slap.

It did not stop her from entering the room anyway and slamming the door behind her.

What was going on was between the Levines and had nothing to do with her.

"Jay Parker, have you forgotten who you are?!" Nancy raged.

She looked at him with eyes reddened with anger, "Do you really think what you achieved today could have been possible without the Levines backing you up?"

Chapter 863

"Calm down, Mom." Even Cora was frightened by Nancy's reaction.

It had been a while since Nancy threw a temper like this.

She was furious.

She trembled with anger when she saw news about Jay and Zoe being married and even having a child between them.

How could she accept Jay and Zoe being together?!

How could she allow Zoe to appear before her once more? Zoe's existence was a humiliation and a blemish in her life. In her entire life, she wanted nothing more than to destroy Zoe!

"Jay Parker, I order you to divorce Zoe immediately and announce to the media that you have nothing to do with her!" Nancy screamed.

"Impossible," Jay said simply.

"Jay Parker!"

"I can announce that I have severed all ties with the Levines," Jay said emphatically.

He was firm and unyielding, leaving no room for negotiation.

"What did you say?!" Nancy could not believe her ears. "You want to sever ties with the Levines? Do you still have a conscience, Jay Parker?! Have the Levines ill-treated you over the years? Have I ill-treated you? I accepted you despite your status and past, and I've treated you well from the bottom of my heart, yet now you want to sever ties with the Levines just because of Zoe York?!"

She yelled so loudly at the top of her voice.

Jay looked in the direction of the room that Zoe just entered, checking if the door was shut.

He had promised Zoe that he would not let Nancy cause trouble for her, and he did not want her to hear anything upsetting.

Thankfully, the soundproofing in the house was excellent.

As long as the door was closed, nothing could be heard across the walls. He looked back at a livid Nancy and repeated himself firmly, "I'll sever all ties with the Levines."

"Jay Parker!" Nancy could not accept what Jay said as she accused him with red-rimmed eyes, "Do you know who you are? Do you know your true identity?! How dare you say something so traitorous..."

"My true identity?" Jay counter-questioned Nancy. "The illegitimate son of the Levine household."

"You!" Nancy suddenly lost her tongue.

Cora was stunned to the core.

Jay was an illegitimate son?

Whose illegitimate son?

Mark, John's father, who had died?

It was no wonder her mom treated Jay so well. Was it because Jay was a relative in the first place?

But rumors had it that Mark had a happy marriage. Did he really have an extramarital affair?!

"Should I be grateful to the Levines? Yes, when my mom was on her deathbed, she knelt and begged him to bring me back to the Levine family, and he agreed to it. Otherwise, I would have been sent to the orphanage with no home to return to," Jay said sarcastically.

"It was his mercy that Dad decided to bring you back to the family. You have no idea how much your mom schemed to make your dad sleep with her so that she could have you! It's reasonable even if your dad decided not to acknowledge you as his son, but he eventually relented and allowed you back into the family, and he never once ill-treated you!"

Nancy said self-righteously.

Cora was taken aback by what Nancy said.

Jay was not Mark's son but Alan's. Jay was the biological son of the highly respected patriarch of the Levine family.

Come to think of it, when Jay was in a serious accident a few years back, Grandpa did become a lot more haggard and worn out.

Back then, she thought that Grandpa was simply being compassionate for someone he had taken care of, even though they were not related by blood. It turned out that Jay was Grandpa's biological son.

In other words...

Jay was the true heir of the Levine family.

Chapter 864

The moment Cora figured out what that meant, her heart jumped.

No.

She could not let the Levines' assets end up in Jay's hands. She could not see Zoe leading a better life than she did.

She had suffered for so many years in order to end up with what she had today. What right did Zoe have to take back everything she had eventually?

"Acknowledge me? Did he acknowledge me as his son?" Jay sneered.

"If he did, why did he keep me by his side as his adoptive son? He brought me back simply because there was no one else to take care of me, simply because having one more mouth to feed was nothing to the

Levine household. To the Levines, having me around was no different from having a dog!"

"That's enough, Jay!" Nancy could not bear to hear more.

She would not allow Jay to say that of her father.

"I think it's quite enough too." Jay looked coldly at Nancy. "I've had enough since many years ago. Now is a great time for us to make a clean break." i

"Do you really want things to go so far for Zoe's sake? We are the only family members left in the Levine family. Can you really not care about us?!"

"I'm not the one who wants things to go so far-you are!" Jay refused to compromise.

"Fine, Jay." Nancy did not want the argument to go on any longer, "Since you want to sever ties with me because of that woman, I have nothing further to say. I hope you'll never come to regret your decision today."

"I never will!" Jay said bluntly.

Nancy gritted her teeth as she said to Cora, "Let's go. Take it that I never came here!"

Jay looked on coldly as they left.

Nancy slammed the door heavily, the loud bang of the door an outlet for her to vent her anger.

Nancy was wild with rage.

She was someone who placed much importance on kinship.

When she first found out about Jay's true identity, she was not able to accept it. She could not accept that the father she had always respected would do something so immoral and that he would let her mom down so terribly. But back then, her mom had passed away a long time ago and her father was advanced in his years. Having lived with Jay for so many years, she had grown close to him and she knew that Jay himself was innocent in the entire affair.

As such, she managed to accept Jay's presence in the family.

Especially over the past few years, when more and more of their family members departed, Nancy had completely accepted Jay and even treated him as her own brother. To her, she and Jay only had each other left.

She never expected Jay to cut ties with her because of Zoe!

Nancy's face fell.

Since Jay insisted on being so cold-hearted, he could not blame her for being ruthless!

Jay sat back down on the couch.

He did not immediately go to Zoe's room to explain things to her, for he found it difficult to compose himself at this moment.

Over the years, he could sense how well Nancy treated him.

But Nancy was too extreme, especially toward Zoe. If he had to choose between them, he would choose Zoe without any hesitation.

Nevertheless, he felt an inexplicable sense of pressure inside of him.

He only found out very recently that he was Alan's son.

Back then, when Alan brought him back home, his mother only told him that Alan was a friend of hers. He was very young back then and did not think too much of it. He never wondered why his young mother could be friends with someone as old as Alan.

But his mother made him follow Alan back home and he had no choice but to obey.

When he stayed with the Levines, everyone was very friendly to him, especially Zoe.

Chapter 865

Zoe would always chase after him, calling him 'Old Mister' when he was clearly only a few years older than she was.

Initially, he felt nothing for Zoe.

To be accurate, in such a new environment, he was pretty much cold toward anyone.

He did not know how to act around them, and he was very careful to stay within boundaries and know his place, causing as little trouble to others as much as he could.

But Zoe was overly warm and friendly.

She had boundless energy when she was young. No matter what he was doing, she would never fail to run over and butt in.

When he was doing his homework, she would sprawl at his feet and play by herself.

When he was practicing at the piano, she would sit next to him and listen intently. She would even sing a few lines in unclear words and imperfect pitch.

When he was sleeping, she would sometimes climb into his bed and make him read her bedtime stories.

Whatever he did, she would be following behind him.

She would either chatter on incessantly or wait quietly by his side. Zoe made him feel less uneasy and less cautious in the Levine household, and it made him like being part of the Levine family a little bit more.

Their relationship gradually changed as they grew up and spent more time with each other.

Jay did not know when he started having feelings for Zoe. Perhaps it was when girls started pursuing him.

That was when he was in junior high, during which girls began confessing their feelings for him.

Each time a girl confessed her feelings to him, Zoe would come to his mind.

Zoe was still a young girl at that point in time. He even felt anxious for her to grow up faster.

Why was it taking her so long to grow up?

In the end, before she truly matured, she confessed to Jay when she turned seventeen.

Her confession was bold, to say the least.

She gave him a hug and a kiss.

Jay was truly frightened by what she did.

He knew that she was still too young to be in a relationship, but he was greatly tempted by her.

That night, they shared a passionate, lingering kiss.

To him, that sealed their relationship in stone for the future.

Yet, when he returned to his room, Alan called him into his study.

Alan said that he saw Jay kiss Zoe.

Just when Jay was about to confess his feelings for Zoe and promise to take responsibility for her, Alan told him something earth-shattering.

He was not Alan's adoptive son, but his illegitimate son instead.

Because it was not appropriate to announce his identity, Alan could only bring him back to the Levine family under the name of an adoptive son.

Jay did not care whether he was Alan's biological son or not -the only thing he cared about was that things were no longer possible between him and Zoe.

He was Zoe's biological uncle, and it was impossible for an uncle to be in a relationship with his niece.

That day, Alan told him many things but he heard none of it. The only thing he could hear was the sound of his heart breaking.

He was wondering if Zoe could accept it if he told her the truth. How could she accept the fact that she had fallen in love with her biological uncle?

That was probably more disgusting than eating a cockroach.

So, he chose to share a passionate kiss with another woman by way of telling Zoe that whatever happened between them last night was nothing but an accident.

He had to make it clear that he saw her as nothing but an accident and had no feelings for her whatsoever.

Zoe was deeply hurt by him, for many, many years.

He himself refused to concede defeat, and he secretly did many DNA tests, no less than five times over the years.

Each time, the result showed that he was undeniably related to Alan by blood.

He finally resigned to his fate.

Chapter 866

Until now, he told Zoe nothing.

He would rather she hate him for life than go through the torment that he did.

But he never expected that Zoe was not a member of the Levine family by blood.

The moment he found out, he did not know whether to be happy or not.

He had hurt Zoe so much, after all.

All right, he admitted that he felt truly happy.

It meant that he was not related to Zoe by blood and they could be together openly.

But that required some time, because Nancy could not accept Zoe's existence.

Zoe was evidence of her husband having an affair. For someone as proud as Nancy, she would never accept Zoe's existence.

So, if he wanted to be with Zoe, his only choice was to sever ties with the Levine family.

He looked Alan up to lay all his cards on the table without any hesitation.

Alan did not immediately agree; instead, he simply said that they would talk again after some time.

He agreed to Alan, thinking that there was still time and by way of thanking him for raising him over the years.

But life never went according to plan.

Before he could start life anew with Zoe, she had gotten together with Bob.

He was always late by a step, and he was fated to pass her by. Once again, he had to bury his own feelings and give Zoe and Bob his blessings.

As long as she was happy and as long as they genuinely loved each other, that was enough for him.

As for himself, he had gotten used to it over the years.

He had gotten used to dreaming of Zoe in the depths of the night, waking up in tears and to an aching heart.

For a very long time, he looked on at the sweet moments between Bob and Zoe, silently accepting the fact that she had really fallen in love with another man.

If it were not for Bob's mother threatening Zoe, he would probably have nothing to do with Zoe for the rest of his life.

Upon knowing that Zoe was being threatened by Bob's mother, he did his best to brainstorm ways to help Zoe preserve her relationship with Bob. It was not that he no longer loved Zoe, but that he knew that Zoe no longer loved him and he did not want to kick her when she was down. Most importantly, he didn't want Zoe being upset and heartbroken over breaking up with Bob.

But Zoe had made a clear decision.

To avoid putting Bob in a difficult spot, she decided to ask for a break up. That night, when he was together with Zoe, he truly felt that it was the most wonderful night of his life.

He had never felt so satisfied and so wild...

But the heavens loved playing him for a fool.

He got into an accident during the happiest time of his life.

By the time he woke up, a few months had passed.

He was lying on the bed with multiple tubes sticking out of his body, struggling between life and death.

He did not even know if he had a complete body or whether he had lost a limb.

Subsequently, after undergoing treatment abroad, he managed to preserve his life despite being crippled in the right leg.

He wondered if Zoe would despise him with his disability.

She did not love him in the first place, and now, he was riddled with this disability.

He did not want to do her injustice. 2

He really thought for a very, very long time before he took the initiative to give Zoe a call.

Yet, when he finally did so, he found that her number was no longer in service.

At that moment, all was clear to him.

Zoe was not waiting for him-she had completely given up on him and no longer loved him. 1

He no longer dared to look her up, for fear that she would despise him.

Chapter 867

The door opened, and Jay snapped back to reality as he sat up straight on the couch.

Zoe brought Yelena out. "Yelena wants to go to the playground for a while."

She could not stand Yelena's whining any longer.

Since they just moved here, they didn't bring much of Yelena's toys. She gave Yelena her phone to use but Yelena got bored of it after a while and insisted on going downstairs to play.

When they were on their way here, Jay mentioned that there was a playground for the children in this district, and Yelena kept it in mind.

"Okay, I'll bring her there." Jay picked up his walking stick and stood up.

"No, you've been running around the whole day. I'll go instead. I can also take Yelena around the neighborhood and get to know our way around," Clara immediately said.

"Thank you." Jay did not insist on his way.

He had done a lot of work today.

Of course, most importantly, he wanted to explain everything to Zoe. i

"It's no trouble at all, go be busy. Yelena, come with me to the playground."

"Yay, we can finally go out!" Yelena dashed happily to the door.

The infectious joy of children made a smile break across Jay's face.

After Yelena and Clara left, Zoe asked, "They've left?"

"Yes." Jay nodded before adding, "I'm sorry."

Zoe was stunned for a moment before saying, "It's fine, you can call the shots."

Zoe had expected this, although she did not expect Nancy to come charging at them so soon.

But it was only a matter of time, and she had mentally prepared herself.

Nevertheless, she refused to face up against Nancy. She had agreed with Jay that he would be the one to deal with her.

Zoe turned around to leave.

“Zoe,” Jay suddenly called out to her.

“Is there something else?”

“Nancy might target us soon.” Jay went straight to the point.

He hesitated to tell Zoe about it. He was worried that telling her would make her choose to go her separate ways from him.

She had no reason to get herself involved in this mess.

However, he could not hide it from her.

Nancy was not just targeting him, but Zoe as well, and he wanted to remind Zoe to mentally prepare herself.

‘Til do my best to protect you, but I can’t promise that I can completely avoid implicating you...”

“Okay,” Zoe said, not reacting very strongly to his words.

Yes, she did mention before that she did not want to deal with Nancy.

But she knew clearly that Nancy would not let her go so easily and would definitely cause trouble for her. Jay was not a deity and certainly did not have the power to stop Nancy from making a move on them.

What she said to Jay previously was simply a casual remark.

The fact was that the moment she agreed to marry Jay, she knew she could not shake Nancy off. i

Zoe returned to her room again, and her phone rang all of a sudden.

It was Cordy calling.

She had successfully avoided Cordy for two days. If it were not because Cordy was not in North City, she would probably have rushed over with Quinn to find her.

She answered the call, but she did not hear Cordy yelling at her as she had expected.

If she were Cordy, she would have lost her cool for sure.

Cordy’s gentle and soft voice sounded from the other end.”

Congratulations, Zoe.”

Zoe’s heart leapt.

Chapter 868

Of course, she knew that Cordy was congratulating her on her marriage with Jay.

“It’s not what you think it is,” Zoe said. “We were forced by circumstances and it’s all very complicated. It’s hard to explain

everything over the phone. In short, it's a fake marriage and well get a divorce after a while."

A low chuckle sounded from the other side.

"You find it outrageous too, don't you? But... I don't seem to have a choice," Zoe said helplessly.

"I don't find it outrageous," Cordy explained. "I just think you're being wild again."

"What do you mean?" Zoe did not really understand.

"Why would you get a divorce when you finally managed to get married?"

"I did not 'finally manage to get married'..."

"I mean for Jay."

"You and Quinn are overthinking things." Zoe was flabbergasted.

"There's nothing between Jay and I."

"That's between you husband and wife. There's no need to explain things to us." Cordy chuckled. "I'm just sending my blessings, that's all."

"It's all fake, what's there to send your blessings for?"

"Zoe, there's actually nothing wrong with being a little more honest."

"I'm very honest," Zoe insisted.

"There are many things that I don't want to say explicitly and would rather wish for you husband and wife to resolve between yourselves and open up to each other. Whatever it is, on this tumultuous journey of romance between you and Jay, you're definitely not the most aggrieved one."

Cordy knew a lot about things between them because John had shared with her previously.

So she knew how much Jay was holding himself back.

In this relationship, the hurt that Zoe experienced was all on the surface.

She could vent it out, be upset, and express her hatred.

But Jay could only bury his hurt within. Not only was he unable to talk about it, but he even had to pretend he did not care... i

Thankfully, the two of them were finally together after overcoming all the hurdles. 1

Cordy was not one to be easily fooled by their claim that they got married because they had no choice.

Whatever it was, the cracks in their relationships could only be mended by themselves.

“Oh yes, I must visit your daughter once I’m back.” Cordy suddenly thought of Yelena.

“Sure.” Zoe immediately agreed, i

“Zoe, you hid it very well, huh? You have given birth to a child behind Quinn and my backs.”

“You two are so smart that you’ll know that the child belongs to Jay the moment I tell you two. And you two are so good to me that you’ll definitely make Jay take responsibility for the child. I don’t want to force him to be with me for the sake of the child.”

“You’re afraid that Jay will only be with you because of the child,” Cordy said bluntly.

Zoe felt helpless. “I already told you that’s not so. When I said that I no longer have feelings for him, it’s the truth. I don’t know since when I stopped loving him. The moment I stop loving someone, it will be impossible for me to reignite my love for him again...”

Zoe’s eyes shifted.

She saw Jay standing at her door.

Jay looked unperturbed, as if he did not hear what she just said, or perhaps, he did not care.

He did not care because he did not like her.

“I’ll head down to find Yelena. Would you like to come with me?” Jay saw that Zoe spotted him and offered.

“No.”

“I’ll be off then.”

With that, Jay left.

Zoe looked at Jay’s retreating figure which somehow looked slightly forlorn.

Forlorn?

It was probably because he walked with a limp.

Physical disabilities never failed to invoke pity in others.

“Did Jay come just now?” Cordy asked Zoe over the phone.

“Yes, he did.”

“Just when you said that it’s impossible for you to love him?” Cordy asked for confirmation.

“Yes.”

“Is that fate playing a cruel trick on you two or what?!” Cordy could not help but smile bitterly.

Chapter 869

"It's true," Zoe said indifferently. "Jay and I have been a mistake from the start. No, we never started-everything was just an accident, even our marriage now. Whatever it is, well go our separate ways one day."

"Not necessarily so."

Cordy thought that now that Jay could finally be together with Zoe, even if Zoe did not fancy him, he would never let her go so easily. True love would not give up so easily, especially since they were already together.

"I can't be bothered to talk more to you." Zoe did not want to say anything further, finding it pointless, anyway.

Cordy smiled as she said, "I won't say more, I'll just sit here and wait for good news."

"Go on and wait," Zoe said dismissively.

Anyway, getting a divorce was good news to her.

Cordy did not dwell on the subject further. She said, "Send me a picture of Yelena. I think it'll be tough for me to return anytime soon, and I already can't wait to see what she looks like. We're relatives, after all."

"Relatives? Oh, I almost forgot that Jay is a Levine. Strictly speaking, Yelena is more senior than Dicky in terms of their generations." Zoe found it hilarious just thinking about it.

"That's true." Cordy agreed.

"Thankfully Jay isn't related by blood to the Levines, otherwise Dicky would find it so strange. Cordy, did you know? After I gave birth to Yelena, I even considered having Yelena and Dicky get engaged. Dicky is the most handsome little boy I've ever met. Given how good looking both John and you are, I'm sure Dicky will only grow to be even more dashing when he gets older. You've got to keep your eye on him from a young age..."

"I advise you to kill that thought."

"Are you looking down on my Yelena?" Zoe was mad.

Her Yelena was a decent choice, all right?!

Although she was a little capricious at times, she was such a lovable girl!

"I've never seen Yelena, how can I look down on her?" Cordy was almost rendered speechless by Zoe's response.

She was being accused of something and she could not find the words to defend herself!

"So do you think the age gap is too large? Yelena is only three years old while Dicky is already ten. I'm fine with it, older men are more thoughtful

and know how to take better care of others. I like men who are older,” Zoe said.

Cordy was thinking how she could break it to Zoe.

Relatives should not get married.

She chose her words carefully. “Zoe, I think you’d better ask Jay and see what he thinks about this.”

“Why should I ask him?” Zoe did not understand. “Yelena is my daughter.”

“Just do as I say.”

Zoe remained silent.

“Can’t talk anymore, I have something else to attend to. I shan’t bother you two newlyweds!”

“There’s nothing between us for you to bother.”

“Bye!” Cordy ignored Zoe’s rebuttal.

Cordy just hung up on Zoe, leaving the latter speechless.

Zoe put her phone down and suddenly was at a loss as to what to do next.

She felt like everything was in a mess, but when she composed herself, she found herself unsure of what to do next.

She looked around her unfamiliar surroundings and felt lost.

“Zoe.”

Clara suddenly called her from outside her room.

“What’s the matter?” Zoe turned to look at her.

“I came back to prepare food. Jay is downstairs watching Yelena. She’s going crazy, playing downstairs for the first time here. I’m worried that Jay might not be able to catch up with her given his leg. What if Yelena gets lost in the neighborhood? If you’re not busy, can you help watch Yelena

too? I’ll give you a call when the food’s ready.”

Zoe did not want to go.

One adult was enough to look after Yelena as she played by herself.

Were two people really necessary?

That was too much.

But at the thought of Jay hobbling on his walking stick chasing after Yelena...

Zoe decided to head out after all, despite her slight annoyance.

Clara looked at her leaving the house and smiled.

She hoped that Zoe had really found the right man for herself.

At that moment, Nancy suddenly came to mind...

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Clara sighed helplessly.

She would just have to contend with the fact that all good things took time.

Zoe went downstairs and searched around for a long time before finding the children's playground.

This was a high-end estate, comprehensively equipped with all sorts of facilities.

She originally envisioned it to just be a small playground, but she knew she had underestimated it when she saw how large-scale the three-story playground was.

It was no wonder that Clara was worried that Jay might not be able to handle Yelena. If she were to run around this huge place, it was very likely that Jay might not be able to catch up with her.

Right now, she was unable to spot Yelena. She could only see Jay standing at the side of the playground, focusing on a particular spot.

Zoe walked over.

She followed Jay's line of sight and saw Yelena climbing up and down the playground like a little monkey.

"Head back first. I can look after Yelena," Zoe suddenly said.

Jay jumped in shock.

Zoe was not very pleased.

Was she that frightening?!

Jay was too concentrated on watching Yelena and did not notice Zoe.

He had also assumed that Zoe would not come anyway, which was why he was shocked when Zoe suddenly spoke.

"There's no need for that. I don't feel tired anyway," Jay quickly composed himself and said.

"Then go over there and take a seat."

There were chairs right there-did he not feel tired standing with his cane?!

"No need... or why don't we go over and sit there together?" Jay suddenly changed his mind mid-way through his rejection.

Zoe saw Yelena having lots of fun at the playground and was assured that all safety measures in the playground were in place with no cause for concern before agreeing to sit with Jay on the chair.

The two of them were seated on a bench, with a marginal gap between them.

Things began to feel slightly awkward.

“Cordy called me just now.” Zoe spoke first.

She did not know why she took the initiative to break the silence.

Hadn’t she gotten used to being alone with Jay with nothing to say?!

But Zoe was not someone who would get all obsessed about something in particular.

Since she had spoken, so be it.

She went on saying, “I think Dicky is great. He’s handsome, sensible, and smart to boot. He’s a rare gem.”

“Yeah.” Jay nodded in agreement.

“I was just thinking, why don’t we keep the goodies in the family and matchmake Yelena and Dicky...”

Jay choked and coughed upon hearing Zoe’s suggestion.

Zoe furrowed her brows. “Is there a problem? Why are you so agitated?”

Of course, there was a problem.

There was a huge problem.

Things were almost wrecked between them precisely because of ‘kinship’ issues.

Richard and Yelena were certainly relatives, unless Yelena was not his child.

He had suspected that perhaps Yelena was not his biological daughter.

But now, he had no doubts about it whatsoever.

If Yelena were not his child, Zoe would never have agreed to marrying him.

She was very principled in nature.