

## Chapter 772 Winter Hunt

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Initially, they suspected Cowan was up to something. He gave them a box of outdoor cold-repelling products, which was abnormal and unreasonable at first glance. But now, it seemed that their suspicions were right. He did, in fact, have other motives in his mind.

At first glance, Cowan was not a very friendly and enthusiastic person. So naturally, he would have his own purposes for giving these products. It was absolutely impossible for him to provide them with such things without having ulterior motives. After all, they were not even friends and had never met each other before.

"Actually, they are the new products of our company, which are also welcoming gifts for you, but for a more important purpose." Cowan directly spoke out his point without hiding.

"My brother is inviting you to join his winter hunt in the snow forest. Whether you are interested, it's a rare opportunity. People like you may have this chance only once in a lifetime." Abigail walked out from the side with a smug look on her face, looking at them with a sense of superiority.

From Abigail's point of view, this group of people from the south must be people who had never seen the snow forest or the winter hunt.

Therefore, she assumed that they would be very intrigued if they learned about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. She felt a bit proud and superior simply by thinking so.

Inexplicably, this sense of superiority made her mood feel a little better after all the humiliation she had endured because of these people. She couldn't just bite the bullet.

"Winter hunting?"

Alexis looked at Abigail and Cowan with a puzzled expression.

"Yes. The Schmidt family has the largest snow forest in Snowland. Now that my brother is here, we can let you all go to the snow forest for winter hunting. What do you think? Are you looking forward to it?" Abigail put on an air of superiority.

Alexis was at a loss for words and looked at Abigail with an indifferent expression. He really didn't know where this girl's sense of superiority came from. Was it worth it to be so proud of having a snow forest?

She was acting so arrogant and cocky as if her family owned the entire world.

They knew what winter hunting was and had done it before, even more than once. Not just within the country, they even used to go overseas for serious winter hunting.

The forest there was even larger than the entire Snowland, so Abigail had nothing to be proud of. However, this arrogant girl was treating them as if they had never seen the outside world. She really looked down upon them so much.

"Are you looking forward to it? Have you ever had a winter hunting experience before?" Abigail asked once again, breaking the silence. Still, no one answered her question, and she began to feel uncomfortable.

After all, she had always been the center of everyone's attention. No matter what she said, everyone would respond. But now, although she had already said a lot, no one had replied. This sort of atmosphere, which she was unfamiliar with, made her feel very uncomfortable.

This reaction right now was completely different than what she had expected. She thought that they would be very excited and eager to go once they learned about the winter hunting. But why they were so indifferent?

Could it be that they had no interest at all? However, there were many people who came to Snowland for winter hunting but did not get a chance. After all, the Schmidt family didn't let people enter the snow forest casually.

No ordinary people would have the opportunity to come to the snow forest and hunt in the winter. 'Shouldn't they feel happy and excited now that they have such a chance?'

Abigail couldn't help but feel something off. Those people didn't even have any reaction. It shouldn't be like this!

"Yes, I've never had such an experience," Gabrielle said calmly, her tone showing confusion and yearning for winter hunting.

After all, she had never gone to winter hunting. She didn't even know what normal hunting was like, let alone winter hunting. But she felt that winter hunting sounded more high-end.

"Well, it's understandable that you haven't hunted in the winter. After all, even making a snowman is the first time for you. But since you've arrived in Snowland and come to the Schmidt family, you'll undoubtedly get a wonderful experience. You won't regret coming here. The snow forest of the Schmidt family is very large. In ancient times, it was the hunting ground of the princes of the royal family." Abigail's demeanor changed suddenly, and she raised her head proudly, even though she was talking

about a mere loyal hunting ground. Gabrielle instantly regretted answering the girl's question after seeing her attitude. Abigail would still be standing awkwardly on the spot if she hadn't answered. ❶

"Well, it's indeed my first time making a snowman, and I can't keep up with the snowman you specially made for me. It's really beautiful. It seems that I have to learn more from you in the future," Gabrielle said earnestly.

What Gabrielle said really irritated Abigail. Abigail had clearly warned Gabrielle by smashing a snowman, and she would never do such a shameful thing again in her life. But now that Gabrielle spoke it out deliberately, Abigail felt ashamed.

Her expression darkened instantly, and she gave Gabrielle a sharp glare, a warning not to say anything further. Such kind of shameful thing was not something she, Abigail, would do.

"Gabrielle, whether you want to make a snowman or not is your own business. It has nothing to do with me," Abigail said coldly. She didn't want to have anything to do with Gabrielle.

"What's the matter, Abigail? You made a snowman for Gabrielle? Very good! Are you two friends now? I told you! You two can be good friends." Wilton was really happy that the two of them could become friends.

This was what he expected the most. He hoped that the two of them could become good friends, and then Gabrielle would have a good influence on Abigail.

In this way, Abigail could change her temper and become a lady of the Schmidt family with a better character.

"Grandpa, we are not friends." Abigail firmly denied what her grandfather said. She had no intention of becoming friends with Gabrielle.

She hated this woman so much. There was no way she could treat her as a friend.

"Abigail, what nonsense are you talking about? Of course, you and Gabrielle are good friends. You even made a snowman for her. You have never made a snowman for anyone else," Wilton said seriously.

Abigail was always arrogant and conceited. Because of that attitude of her, she constantly ended up offending others and got herself into a lot of trouble.

That was why Wilton wanted Abigail to be friends with Gabrielle. In this way, her character could be changed a little bit, and she could learn how to restrain. If so, she could less offend others in the future.

"Grandpa, I'm not..."

"Dad, Abigail really made a snowman for Gabrielle. That's it. You know her temper. If she doesn't want to talk about it, don't say more," Clifton quickly explained to Wilton.

# Chapter 773 Don't Believe Him

Wilton didn't want to embarrass Abigail further since she refused to say anything else.

"Well, since you've all come, let's eat first." Wilton welcomed everyone and invited them to supper.

Since Wilton announced the start of the dinner, everyone soon started eating.

"Cowan, will you kindly tell Westley and his friends about the snow forest and winter hunt?" Wilton asked Cowan to tell them about winter hunting.

Wilton encouraged the young people to cultivate their ties in this manner. Winter hunting was a traditional activity in the Snowland, and it had developed into a family tradition for the Schmidts. When Wilton was a child, he also enjoyed winter hunting. He asked a few pals to join him in hunting while they cultivated their connections. This was an excellent social way.

As a result, Wilton later urged Clifton and Cowan to join their brothers in winter hunting.

It had now become an integral part of the Schmidt family tradition. Each year, as soon as winter arrived, they entered the winter hunting season, which began when the snow forest was blanketed in heavy snow.

They hunted once a month or once a week, depending on their schedules. They could hunt whenever they pleased.

When Westley and the others came, Wilton wanted them to experience winter hunting in the snow forest as well, but he hadn't anticipated Cowan returning to prepare for it.

Young people appeared to be better effective in communicating with other young people in a more straightforward and pleasant manner. He believed he was out of sync with the times as an elderly guy.

"Allow me to tell you something about winter hunting, Mr. Morris. To begin, are you interested? If you're not interested, willingly acknowledge them as presents. If you are interested, that's the best. We can go hunting in the winter together. I will go into depth about it." Cowan spoke quietly, yet his tone conveyed an air of superiority.

Indeed, Cowan behaved identically to his sister. They were so adamant about identity that they seemed superior to anybody who paid the Schmidt family a visit.

"Would you like to go winter hunting, Gabrielle?" Westley was not in a hurry to express his opinion. He had just turned to inquire of Gabrielle.

Gabrielle was well aware that Westley despised Cowan's haughty demeanor. If it had been in Antawood, he would already have taught him a lesson or simply ignored him.

However, this was the Schmidt family's residence in the Snowland. Westley would not go too far for the sake of Wilton. A man like Westley had enormous endurance and an amazing knack to conceal his thoughts.

When there was no need to have a conflict, he would not allow himself to lose his temper.

"Is winter hunting enjoyable?" Gabrielle was unfamiliar with hunting and was thus looking forward to going, despite her dislike for the Schmidt family's two pompous siblings.

"It's wonderful to hunt in the snow. If you like, we can go." Westley would give importance to Gabrielle's thoughts. He would agree to do everything she wanted, and he wouldn't do anything she didn't like.

"It sounds pleasant. I'm awaiting it." Gabrielle was intrigued. This was her first trip to the Snowland. She was solely familiar with skiing. She had not imagined winter hunting, which she found to be more fascinating and engaging than skiing.

She wanted to experience it now that she was here. It was not a common experience.

"All right, let's go snow hunting with Cowan tomorrow." Gabrielle's plea was approved by Westley.

"How about you go hunting in the snow forest tomorrow?" Westley made eye contact with Alexis and the others.

"Because you and Gabrielle are going, we will automatically accompany you. He has bestowed upon us gifts. We will be truly sorry if we do not accept his gracious invitation," Alexis noted with a smile. His statements lacked any trace of joy.

Indeed, Alexis disliked it in his heart. In the event that Cowan invited them to go hunting in the winter, he would be very happy to do so.

However, Cowan's attitude was truly arrogant, and Alexis was unhappy.

Cowan was only a wealthy member of the Schmidt family. Why was he so self-obsessed? Alexis would have a problem with him if it weren't for Westley.

Alexis was the most forthright of them all. If he admired or despised someone, he would not conceal his feelings and would express them clearly.

"That is an agreement. I'll take you to the snow forest tomorrow morning to prepare for the winter hunt. I'm excited that you're able to join the winter hunt," Cowan said with a smile.

"Yes, we are also quite pleased. After all, this is a really uncommon opportunity for us to visit the snow forest and participate in winter hunting in the Snowland." Alexis pretended to smile.

"Then cheers for tomorrow's winter hunt." Cowan lifted his glass in a toast to everybody.

Everyone rose to their feet and clinked glasses with one another.

"I'm delighted to see you and Westley getting along so well. I hope you have a fantastic day hunting tomorrow when you enter the snow forest. The Schmidt family has a sizable snow forest. There is a hunting lodge that is equipped with everything. If you are happy to stay there, you may extend your stay a few days. You may return early if you are not okay with staying there." Wilton was happy to see that young people could stay peacefully together. However, he was aware that Westley and others were from the south, and they had seldom seen such cold weather in the north, and so he would consider their condition more carefully.

If they didn't like the cold, they could come back.

Wilton was emphatic on this point.

"Mr. Schmidt, we already know. Winter hunting is a really entertaining sport. I suppose we can extend our stay in the snow forest for a few additional days. Additionally, I think that nothing will happen under Cowan's supervision." Westley cast a particular glance towards Cowan.

"Do not be afraid, Grandpa. The Schmidt family has been running the snow forest for generations, and there has not been an accident. Nothing will occur," Cowan said, looking at Wilton.

"If you don't trust my brother, Grandpa, you should believe the Schmidt family's security facilities. The Schmidt family's whole snowy woodland is monitored twenty-four hours a day. What is possible?" Abigail said, dissatisfied.

"Okay, okay. I'm far too concerned. I am secure in the knowledge that Cowan is with you," with a smile, Wilton said. He enjoyed seeing how nicely the visitors got along with the hosts.



# Chapter 774 Not Interested

When they returned to their room in the evening, Gabrielle stood in the corridor and looked at the snowman. That was her most memorable snowman. Westley made it, especially for her.

"What are you observing?" Westley, who was holding Gabrielle's hand, could only laugh when he noticed her looking at the snowman without blinking.

"Is the snowman I built so attractive?" in a quiet voice, Westley asked.

"It's stunning. My husband's snowman is, of course, the most beautiful in the world," Gabrielle said proudly and kissed him on the cheek.

"Am I more attractive or is it more attractive?" asked Westley, his gaze fixed on the towering and chubby snowman.

Gabrielle gave a weak smile. This man was truly capable of being envious of anything, whether it was a real person or a snowman, not to mention the snowman was made by himself.

He had no reason to be envious.

"Have you forgotten, honey, that you created the snowman?" Gabrielle asked.

"Of course, I am aware that I built it, but I still want to know whether I am more important in my wife's eyes than this snowman," Westley said seriously.

Hearing this, Gabrielle was compelled to respond to his query, despite her reluctance. "Of course, you are the more attractive one. Without you, how would the snowman have been made?"

"I like your response," with ease, Westley responded and kissed her on the lips.

"Would you kindly do me a favor now that you are content and happy?" Gabrielle made an instant request.

When he heard this, Westley felt as though he had been duped by his wife, but he was ready to let her do it. Whatever the case, as long as she was content, everything would be alright.

"What sort of favor?"

Gabrielle let go of his hand and dashed into the snow. Then she took a position alongside the snowman and made a 'Yeah' motion toward Westley.

Westley understood straightaway that his wife wanted him to photograph her with the snowman. She just stated that he was the more attractive of the two, but she then proceeded to snap photographs with the snowman.

"Take a photo of me, honey. This is your first snowman for me. I want to retain it as a memento in perpetuity," Gabrielle shouted at him.

Although Westley was a little jealous of the snowman, he complied with his wife's request. ①

He shot many images of Gabrielle with the snowman and let her choose the best one for herself.

"Are you done?" Gabrielle yelled at Westley, eager to see what type of photographs he could capture.

After all, it was the first time Westley shot serious photographs of her. She was anticipating it.

"Sure, I have. Come have a look," Westley said to Gabrielle.

Gabrielle couldn't wait to hurry over and excitedly examine the photos on his phone, attempting to determine how she appeared in Westley's photographs. She had heard that some men were bad at photography and that their girlfriends looked unattractive in their photographs.

Gabrielle was afraid that she would appear unattractive in Westley's photographs, and hence would have no images to share with her friends.

However, when Gabrielle viewed the photographs taken by Westley, she was pleased. She looked stunning in each one. While his technique was not as refined as that of a professional photographer, it was far superior to that of the average person. One may argue that each photograph was good.

"What do you think?" asked Westley immediately. He was curious as to whether the photographs he had shot were truly stunning. After all, it was the first time he had shot photographs for Gabrielle in a serious manner, and he naturally hoped she would appreciate them.

"They're rather lovely. You enhanced my beauty in the photographs. Your photographic ability, honey, is equivalent to that of a professional photographer. It's very remarkable." Gabrielle did not say anything to make Westley happy, but to congratulate him on a job well done.

"You mean?" Westley grinned contentedly. He had not expected such glowing compliments from his wife.

"Intuitively, this is true. They're all rather lovely, and I want to look after them carefully. Meanwhile, honey, how about we snap a photo with the snowman? There are very few photographs of the two of us." Gabrielle cordially invited him.

"We can, of course, snap a few selfies. I will cooperate with you in whatever gesture you choose," Westley said seriously.

Indeed, he disliked taking photographs, but he could accommodate Gabrielle's request.

"All we need is to be closer." In fact, Gabrielle was nervous. After all, she had never shot photographs with Westley in such close proximity.

"Okay." After activating the front camera mode on his phone, Westley began snapping images with Gabrielle in his arms.

Gabrielle then got his phone and carefully examined the photographs. She was pleased with each photograph and had then transferred them to her own phone.

"You have taken some excellent photographs of us, honey. We'll return and take a family shot with Star. Regrettably, we have yet to take a family portrait with Star." Gabrielle was reminded of Star at home when she saw the two's group photographs.

As this was Star's first visit to their house, they should snap a few group shots to preserve as a keepsake.

"Okay. When we return, we'll take a family portrait with Star." Obviously, Westley concurred.

"Let us begin by entering. Then you may tell me of the winter hunt." They removed their outerwear and sat on the sofa upon entering the house.

Gabrielle was inquisitive and enthusiastic about winter hunting. After all, this was her first introduction to winter hunting.

Westley had engaged in several winter hunting expeditions overseas, and as a result, he was uninterested in winter hunting in the Snowland. Additionally, there should be less wildlife available for winter hunting at this time period, so he was less interested.

However, if Gabrielle liked, he would go to any length for her.

"Westley, have you ever hunted in the winter? Or are you truly uninterested in winter hunting at the moment?" Gabrielle asked him seriously.

Westley embraced her in his arms and spoke plainly. "I've hunted in foreign cold forests numerous times. It's a large snow forest teeming with prey. This time of year, I'm not interested in winter hunting."

"So it is inappropriate for me to request permission to hunt in the Schmidt family's snow forest. Wouldn't you be happy?" Gabrielle asked seriously.

If he truly did not wish to go, she might retract her statement. In any case, they would most likely avoid contact with the Schmidt family in the future, and she was not frightened about upsetting them.

## Chapter 775 Childish Couple

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Westley knew what Gabrielle was thinking about, so he patted her on the back gently to comfort her.

"Honey, even though I'm not usually interested in the winter hunting, I would still be happy to go hunting with you," Westley stated calmly. ❶

After all, there was a big difference between going hunting with her and going hunting by himself. The feeling of happiness he felt wasn't the same.

As for Westley himself, it didn't matter whether he went or not. But if it was with Gabrielle, he was very interested in it. He would like to go hunting with her no matter how boring the winter hunting was in his opinion.

"So, when we go hunting tomorrow, what should I pay attention to? Since it's my first time to go winter hunting, the excitement I am feeling right now is so magical." It was obvious that Gabrielle was so eagerly looking forward to tomorrow.

In fact, Gabrielle had only known about the winter hunting from some costume dramas. In these dramas, every autumn and winter, the royal family would hold a hunting activity. This was practically their tradition as they sent their heirs to hunt along with the heirs of the ministers.

The hunting scenes shown in the costume dramas were very exciting as some conflicts were involved as well. Gabrielle did not like the scenes of fighting and killing. However, if she could participate in this kind of exciting event, it would be a memory that could not be forgotten for a lifetime.

"You don't need to pay attention to anything. Just be mindful not to get far away from me. You can do the things that you want to do, but you should tell me ahead for your safety. Or you can just stay with me the entire time," Westley said as he understood the cautions and risks. He simply didn't want Gabrielle to get hurt and that was his main priority.

"Really? I don't need to do anything at all? I thought I should hunt a rabbit or something like that. At least, I need to capture a prey to show that I have hunted in winter, right?" Her eyes were full of expectation as she questioned.

"Honey, all you need to do is to stay with me and be safe. As for the prey, you don't have to hunt for it. I will hunt whatever you want for you." Rubbing her head, Westley reminded her gently. ❷

For Westley, nothing mattered than the safety of Gabrielle. As long as she was safe, he felt rest assured.

"Dear, you are so considerate and kind. I love you very much!" Gabrielle exclaimed happily and raised her arms before hugging him and kissing him.

"It's enough that you love me," Westley responded and deepened the kiss.

After a long while, he finally let go of Gabrielle who was already breathless, put his arms around her waist and stared into her eyes. At the sight of her flushed red face, Westley chuckled and said, "Honey, let's call it a night now. We need to wake up early tomorrow morning."

"Okay, honey. Let's sleep." Even though she said so, because she was so excited to go hunting in the snow forest tomorrow, she couldn't sleep at all.

She tossed and turned on the bed the whole night and only fell asleep when it was past midnight. She also woke up early in the morning.

"Good morning, dear." Westley chuckled in amusement, seeing the happy look on her face.

"Good morning to you too, honey." Gabrielle returned the greeting happily.

Seeing her so giddy in the morning, Westley couldn't help thinking that his wife was like a child. He even felt that this situation was if he was going to take a child to go on a spring tour. Nonetheless, if she was happy, he was also happy. ❸

"Honey, you got up so early. Did I wake you up?" Gabrielle frowned and asked, feeling a little guilty. After all, it was barely six o'clock now and the sky hadn't even brightened properly in the northern city.

"No, I got up earlier than you, so I wasn't woken up by you. What about you? Did you sleep well last night? You got up so early, too. Don't you feel tired?" rubbing her head, Westley asked her seriously. He knew she hadn't slept well last night, but knowing that she was so excited, he couldn't bring himself to say anything.

"No, I'm not tired at all. I got up early for the winter hunting." At the moment, the only thing in her mind was this event. She didn't care whether she slept well or not. She only looked forward to having fun.

Westley could see how happy and impatient Gabrielle was right now.

"Honey, go wash first. After breakfast, we will go to the snow forest as we planned." Westley chuckled as he urged her.

"Okay, shall we do it together?" Gabrielle suggested playfully before she held his hand and walked into the bathroom.

Westley was amused by her and didn't refuse. He let her drag him into the bathroom.

The sky remained the same when they came out. It was still early in the morning. The two of them happily played with the snow for a while. When Alexis and others came, the first thing they saw was this kind of lovey-dovey scene as the two of them kept playing in the snow ground as if they were only the two of them in this world. They thought that this scene was really beautiful.

The couple seemed so happy even if it was as simple as making a snowman.

Alexis stared at them and felt more and more confused. Indeed, Westley had changed a lot after he got married.

"Westley, you seem to be in a good mood in the early morning," Alexis remarked loudly. His intention was for them to hear him so that the couple could stop making them feel bitter.

Westley became very childish after he got married. Alexis had a feeling that people wouldn't even recognize or believe if he announced that this was Mr. Morris.

"Well, you can't understand this feeling," Westley retorted nonchalantly. This was like a jab to the other person.

He didn't care about the opinion of other people as long as he and Gabrielle were happy.

"Yeah, yeah. We don't understand, nor do we want to understand either. You two can keep having fun. After this, we will go to have breakfast together, and later, we will go to the snow forest with Cowan." Alexis couldn't deny that it was good to see the couple being happy like this. As a result, he was also in a good mood due to the atmosphere here.

"Westley, let's go to have breakfast first. After that, we are going to the snow forest." Hearing what Alexis said, Gabrielle was not in the mood to play anymore. Her main focus was on the hunting and she played the snow with Westley just to kill time as they waited for the arrival of others.

Now that she heard what Alexis said, she realized that the two of them had been really childish. They were obviously two adults, yet they were having fun playing with the snow early in the morning.

Seeing that she wanted to leave right away, Westley nodded and held her hand. "Okay then, let's go."

"Dear, are you satisfied with the snow battle? If you are not, we can do another round in the snow forest," he looked at Gabrielle and suggested. Despite his ambiguous words, in fact, he wasn't challenging her or provoking her at all.

However, Gabrielle challenged deliberately as she said, "Sure. I won't show mercy to you later. Is that okay?"