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My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 121 - 125

Chapter 121 The Only Woman I Have Truly Loved

I hugged myself as the salty breeze brushed against me.

Derek took the last drag of his cigarette and flicked it out.

After battling my inner struggle, I finally asked the questions that I had always wanted to ask.

“Why do you have a grudge against Shane? What happened between you and Sybil?”

Derek’s body stiffened; the blood on his face drained in an instant.

I could see the helplessness in his eyes. Subconsciously,(This novel will be daily updaed at www.noveljar.com) he reached for the cigarette box and quickly lit up another cigarette.

He remained silent for a long time.

I knew that talking about Sybil was off-limits, but I decided to ask the question anyway.

Regardless of how difficult it was for us, I had to ask the question because I couldn’t be with him unless the doubts and questions in my heart were fully cleared.

Just as I thought he wouldn’t answer, Derek spoke, “She is the only woman I have truly loved.”

His words stung my heart, but I liked his honesty.

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It was better for him to share the truth with me, even if it broke my heart, rather than keeping everything in his heart.

After taking a deep breath, he told me about his past with Sybil. It made me finally understand the man beside me.

Just like what Aaron had told me, Sybil used to be a singer at a bar. Aaron had told me that they got to know each other because Derek had fought for Sybil. However, Derek said a different story. Apparently, they had known each other even before he stood up for Sybil.

They had first met each other on a mountain. Derek rode to the mountain top alone and saw Sybil singing and playing the guitar.

He had fought for Sybil later because of their meeting at the mountain top.

The two shared the same hobbies and interests and were both young and good-looking. Therefore, they instantly got attracted to each other.

Sybil was a talented girl. She had a unique voice and usually wrote her own songs. Although she was creative enough to write her own songs, she never got the chance to play her own composition. Sybil didn't prefer singing the songs her guests requested but had to do so anyway to make a living.

Although Derek wasn't from a very wealthy family, he looked handsome and had a good background that made him popular in school. Sybil felt they were poles apart. Moreover, Derek's father had heard about their relationship and strongly objected to it, which made Sybil feel more inferior to him.

Gifford didn't like Sybil because she was just a singer at a bar. It made him feel that she was a lewd woman who entertained indecent people.

Derek didn't get along well with his father. Therefore, he didn't take Gifford's words seriously and insisted on being with Sybil.

Back then, Sybil had many pursuers. Men were after her for her beauty and talent, (This novel will be daily updaed at www.noveljar.com)and Shane was one of them.

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One day, Sybil had proposed to break up with Derek. When he asked her why she had made such a decision out of the blue, Sybil had told him that she had fallen in love with someone else, and that was Shane.

Derek was young and arrogant. He was mad at Sybil for betraying him and breaking his heart. Therefore, he accepted the proposal of another girl out of spite.

Coincidentally, when Derek took the girl to a bar, they met Shane and Sybil.

Derek didn't scream or shout; he didn't show his anger in any way. Instead, he walked up to Shane and said, "Since you chose to be with the woman I fooled around with, I hope you live a happy life."

Derek had said those words out of anger, but Sybil was heartbroken to hear him say such a thing.

That night, Derek was completely drunk. Therefore, he didn't hear the phone ring. When he accidentally took his phone at midnight, he saw the countless missed calls and messages from Sybil.

"We're from two different worlds. We shouldn't have gotten together in the first place. But I love you so much. Now, our relationship is broken beyond repair. I don't deserve you, Derek.

I just want to say goodbye to you. I'm going to end everything where it all first started."

Derek had sensed something was wrong, so he quickly sobered up.

His intuition led him to the mountain top where they had first met. He looked for Sybil everywhere but couldn't find her.

The next morning, he got the news of Sybil's corpse lying at the foot of the cliff. The police concluded that she had committed suicide.

Derek said that Sybil was a strong-minded girl. If not for a strong reason, she wouldn't have chosen to take her life.

He had an inkling that it had something to do with Shane. Therefore, he tried several ways to investigate it. As expected, Shane had taken Sybil to the hotel that night. According to the

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waiter's report, Sybil was drunk; Shane had helped her into the room.

Derek confessed that he had never slept with Sybil even though they had been in a relationship for a long time. However, Shane had ended up raping her.

I believed Derek didn't sleep with Sybil because he respected her.

The next day, (This novel will be daily updated at www.noveljar.com) Derek found Shane at school and beat him up.

He was so angry that he had beaten Shane until he was unconscious. Seeing that, the teachers and the school leaders dragged Derek away.

On account of his rage, he was expelled from the medical school.

However, Derek didn't care about it. He didn't like studying medicine anyway.

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Chapter 122 His Confession

Derek had narrated the story of his relation with Sybil in detail. Every part of the story made my heart ache.

Aaron was right. They were madly in love with each other back then. If it weren't for Gifford's intervention and Sybil's self-abasement, they would've been together for a long time, and they would've been a couple envied by others.

None of what happened was Derek's fault, nor was it Sybil's. All of it just happened because it was fate.

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Young love was always the most unforgettable, so I understood why Derek couldn't seem to forget her. It only meant that he was a man who truly valued love.

I was so moved by his story that somehow, I felt bad that their relationship ended.

"You still love her, don't you?" I asked.

Now that he had told me the story, Derek seemed to feel relieved. It was as if a heavy burden had been lifted from his shoulders.

He put a hand on my shoulder, smiling at me.

"I would never forget Sybil, but I've moved on. (This novel will be daily updated at www.noveljar.com) The only reason I exacted revenge upon Shane was because God gave me an opportunity. But I'm not deceiving you. I told you everything today, because I couldn't bear to see you torturing yourself over it any longer."

Now that he had confessed everything to me, all the knots in my heart had been untied. 1

Perhaps he might've come up with another lie just to make me feel better, but I chose to believe in him. 0

And maybe Sybil would remain in his heart for a lifetime, but that was a normal thing. Each person, without exception, would always have someone at the bottom of their heart. 1

All of a sudden, I realized that the reason I was bothered by it before was because my expectations were too high.

However, there was nothing I could do to control how I felt.

How could I not expect anything from a man as excellent as him?

After returning to the sea-view villa, Derek went into the bathroom to take a shower. (This novel will be daily updated at www.noveljar.com) It was then that I heard his phone repeatedly ringing. Someone was sending him text messages.

I had never once checked his phone before, but for some reason, I picked it up this time.

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And as I read through the messages, my heart began to race because of the shock.

The messages contained several nude photos of me.

It turned out that this was the thing that could destroy me, which Shane had mentioned to Derek earlier.

Judging from the background in the photo, these pictures must've been taken in the bathroom of Shane's parents' house. 2

I now understood why I found the door slight open after I finished my shower that day.

Realizing that the bastard had taken nude pictures of me in secret, I immediately felt my scalp tingle.

Shane wasn't just using the photos to blackmail Derek into giving up pursuing the matter of ruining my reputation, he was also using them to extort fifty million dollars from him.

I glanced over at the bathroom door, hearing that the sound of running water had not stopped.

After a moment of contemplation, I replied to Shane, "Ten o'clock, tomorrow morning, at Sky Restaurant."

Then, I sent all the screenshots of the pictures and messages to my phone, (This novel will be daily updaed at www.noveljar.com)and quickly deleted all the traces on Derek's phone. When I heard that the water in the bathroom had stopped falling, I put the phone back to where it was.

The bathroom door soon opened, and Derek walked out while drying his hair.

As I thought of what had happened, my heart could not stop from beating fast and my palms began to sweat.

"I'm going to take a shower as well." I got up and ran into the bathroom.

After closing the door, I splashed some cold water onto my face.

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Those photos were probably the reason Shane had asked me to go with him to his hometown.

I was so naive to have believed him again. That bastard destroyed me before, and yet I didn't learn my lesson. I allowed myself to fall into his trap again.

In the past, all I knew was that he was hypocritical and vicious, but I never thought that he would also be shameless and greedy.

There was no way I would let him use my nude pictures to earn fifty million dollars!

When I came out of the bathroom, Derek was already in bed.

I saw him checking his phone, and subconsciously felt nervous.

Fortunately, he didn't seem to find anything based on his reaction.

Afterwards, he looked at me with a playful smile. "What's the matter? Are you afraid of me? Too scared to come to bed?"

When I climbed onto the bed, he quickly put down his phone and turned over to hug me. Instantly, I tensed up.

The night was eerily quiet, and only the sound of the swashing tides could be heard. Derek placed one of his arms on a pillow to support his head, and caressed me with the other. "I've answered all your questions. Now, I think it's time for me to ask you. That seems fair,

right?"

I had no idea why I became nervous. Perhaps it was because I could sense that his questions wouldn't be so simple.

"Why did you go back with Shane? Did he use that opportunity to sleep with you? (This novel will be daily updaed at www.noveljar.com)And how did your feet end up getting hurt?"

Derek barraged me with questions.

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I could've given him a blunt answer, but when I thought of the nude photos, it made me feel guilty.

I managed to delete the photos today, but if Derek were to see them someday, would he still believe that I was innocent? 1

To hide my panic and dodge his question, I suddenly wrapped my arms around his neck and began to kiss him.

Somehow, he looked stunned, and he didn't kiss me back.

I kissed him so randomly that my tongue must have revealed how nervous I was.

Fortunately, when I was out of ideas on how to go on, he placed his palm at the back of my head and pressed my face against his.

Soon enough, I became the passive one and he took control.

Having sex in a sea view villa while hearing the sound of the tide was a different kind of experience.

I could not control my body's instinctive reaction to his advances, (This novel will be daily updaed at www.noveljar.com)but I couldn't concentrate that well on the sex either.

"Focus," he said.

Slowly, my mind went blank and I was in no mood to think of anything else other than to relieve my burning desire.

It was lucky that he didn't ask me any more questions after we had sex. He just held me in his arms and fell asleep.

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Chapter 123 Three Days

The following day, I told Derek that I wanted to see Louise, so he drove me to the Taekwondo gym.

When I got out of the car, he asked me to call him once I wanted to leave.

After he left, I walked towards Sky Restaurant which was located near the gym.

It was a high-end restaurant, so setting up an appointment under Derek's name for this restaurant was fitting. Shane probably wasn't suspecting that I was the one who replied to his message.

Soon after I went in, I saw him. He was staring at his watch from time to time, looking anxious and uneasy.

I took a deep breath before approaching him. Once I was at the table, (This novel will be daily updaed at www.noveljar.com)I pulled out the chair across him and sat down.

He was surprised to see me. "What are you doing here?"

I asked the waiter for a glass of orange juice, and then I turned my attention back to Shane with a faint smile on my face.

"He's a bit busy at the moment," I told him.

"I see. Take your time, then." Shane got up, intending to leave.

I picked up the glass of orange juice and said, "Fifty million dollars is a small amount for Derek."

Upon hearing what I said, he sat back down.

After taking a sip of the orange juice using a straw, I cast him a stern gaze.

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“Naturally, my husband can afford fifty million dollars. But you need to delete the photos first and sign a confidential agreement that you will never reveal those photos to anyone else.”

Shane broke into laughter.

“Don’t think you can fool me. I’m not a child.”

“What makes you think I’d treat you like a kid? In the first place, a kid would never do something that despicable and perverted. Dr. Hayes, you’re also an experienced and well informed individual. You probably know that what you’ve done is against the law.”

“You forced my hand to do that. I’ve already gone this far, so I’m ready for anything that comes my way. (This novel will be daily updaed at www.noveljar.com)The worst thing that could happen is that I could end up dying along with you. Derek is a good businessman. I’m sure he knows what’s best for you,” Shane argued without

After he said that, he changed the subject. “But that doesn’t mean I don’t care about our previous relationship. Thus, I have a counter offer. You can sleep with me, once to offset ten thousand dollars from the total price owed. That amount is already very high, because I can sleep with a C-list celebrity for that amount.” 3

The obscene smile on his face got on my nerves, and I couldn’t remain calm anymore.

“You bastard!”

Shane leaned over the table, resting his elbows on it. “Don’t worry, Eveline. My dick is safe and sound. You didn’t break it.”

I glared at him and growled, “If you do something drastic, Derek won’t hesitate to banish you from Souden!”

However, my words proved to be useless, as the smile on Shane’s face didn’t disappear. (This novel will be daily updaed at www.noveljar.com)He just tilted his head, seemingly unafraid.

“Then I guess I’ll just have to wait and see what happens,” he remarked.

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I realized that Shane was ready to fight against Derek and me to the very end this time.

Thus, I stood up, turned around and left.

When I got out of the restaurant, I turned off the recorder on my phone.

Along with the screenshots of the messages I took last night, this recording took just moments ago would be irrefutable evidence against Shane. I wouldn't have trouble suing him for extortion.

But the moment I sued him, it could spell doom for my reputation as well. Would Derek still be able to accept me after seeing my nude pictures? Would he forgive me for negotiating with Shane behind his back?

As I walked towards the police station, I hesitated to move.

After weighing the pros and cons, I figured it was necessary for me to report this case to the police. (This novel will be daily updated at www.noveljar.com) I couldn't allow Shane to blackmail Derek like that.

After a while, Shane gave me a call.

I didn't want to answer it, but I wanted to hear what he had to say, hoping that he had changed his mind.

In a casual tone, he said, "If you want to talk to the police about this, there's nothing I can do to stop you. But before I go to prison, I'll definitely post your pictures online for the whole world to see. You may not be afraid of losing face, but I do wonder what kind of effect this has on Derek's reputation. I wonder... is he scared of ruining his reputation? My patience is limited, Eveline. You have three days to decide."

"You asshole!"

Before I could even finish scolding him, he disconnected from the call.

I held my phone so tightly that I could feel the strong sense of hatred surging through my chest.

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I stood amidst the bustling city center, feeling like I had hit a dead end. (This novel will be daily updated at www.noveljar.com) My hands were tied, and I felt completely defeated.

At this time, Derek called me and said that he would pick me up.

As soon as I hung up, someone patted my shoulder. When I turned around, I saw a familiar face.

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Chapter 124 My Aunt

"Eve, it really is you! It's me, your aunt."

Naturally, I recognized her. She was my father's younger sister, making her my aunt. But after my father passed away, all my relatives had distanced themselves from me. My aunt was afraid that our family would get her into trouble, and even moved away in secret. These past few years, I hadn't had contact with her.

During that period of time, I realized the true nature of humanity.

"You've grown up so fast, my dear. You've changed a lot! How beautiful you've become." My aunt was staring at me with such excitement.

Even when my dad was still alive, she had never been this kind to us.

There was a man standing next to her. He was her son, making him my cousin. Although he had changed a lot since I last saw him, I could still recognize him.

I hadn't seen them for many years, and I never once felt close to them.

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My aunt held my hand, hoping to catch up on the old days. However, I felt uncomfortable and just wanted to walk away..

“What’s going on, honey?” Derek said from behind me as he gently placed his arm over my shoulder.

Both my cousin and my aunt looked at him, and their eyes lit up.

“Eve, this is your husband?” asked my aunt.

“Who are these people, my love?” asked Derek.

Thus, I had to introduce them. “This is my aunt, and the guy beside her is my cousin. Auntie, this is my husband, Derek.”

My cousin broke his silence and reached out his hand to Derek with a smile on his face.

“I’m honored to meet you, Mr. Sullivan. I’m Eve’s cousin, a construction contractor. Since we’re family now, I do hope that you help me in the future.”

I now realized that my aunt and my cousin probably saw the statement that Derek had released, and that was why they were being so kind to me today.

Dere International was engaged in real estate. Since my cousin was a construction contractor, having a connection with Dere International meant that he could have steady flow of income in the future.

If a reason like that never existed, I was certain that they would avoid me if they ever saw me

Derek didn’t shake my cousin’s hand, and just looked at me.

“Honey, why didn’t I see any of your relatives when my mother-in-law passed away?”

My cousin withdrew his hand awkwardly, and my aunt became embarrassed after hearing

Derek’s remark.

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“My sister-in-law has passed away? Eve, why didn’t you tell me? I would’ve attended your mother’s funeral if you had informed me!”

Informed her, huh? How would I even begin to contact them? I felt ashamed for having relatives like them.

Derek glanced at his wristwatch and said to my aunt and my cousin, “Sorry about this, but we have something else to do, so we won’t be able to accompany you any longer.”

Just before we could leave, my aunt stopped me. “Eve, tell me your phone number. Your parents are dead, and that leaves me the task of taking care of you. From now on, you can contact me more often. If you even run into any difficulties, don’t hesitate to come to me.”

I scoffed at them in secret. Where were they when I was at my lowest point back then?

But in the end, I gave my aunt my phone number.

After I got in the car, my aunt ran to the car and put on a flattering smile, saying that she wanted to keep in touch with me more often. 1

I saw my cousin staring at the car. Even if my aunt had no idea what kind of car it was, I knew that my cousin probably knew its value since he was a man who had worked in society for many years.

Their snobbish behaviors made me feel ashamed in front of Derek.

Once the car drove away, I finally felt at ease.

“You know, my aunt’s family has lost contact with me for many years,” I said to Derek.

He seemed to understand why I looked ashamed and smiled.

“That’s human nature. Those who really care about you will help you in your time of need. Just treat them however you want and follow your heart. Don’t stress yourself out. Even without those fools, you still have me.”

His words warmed my heart, but when I thought of my discord with Shane earlier, my heart sank again.

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“My father asked us to drop by at his house for dinner,” said Derek.

My heart sank even lower than it already was.

He glanced at me and added, “He specifically asked me to take you along.” When I thought of what Gifford told me last time, I felt like I was sitting on pins and needles. “Your father isn’t very fond of me,” I muttered.

Gifford must’ve seen the statement that Derek had released.

Because of me, the stock price of Dere International fell. I’m sure his father must be very angry.

But since I chose to stay with Derek, I had no choice but to face his dad.

He seemed to have sensed how uneasy I was and suddenly held my hand.

“Eveline, you’re my wife. You should never think of backing down.”

When he said those words, I had a strong hunch that the dinner would be daunting, and that something ominous was about to happen.

That night, when I left with my luggage with my head held high while Gifford was staring at me, I never thought that the day would come when I would stand before him again as the daughter -in-law he didn’t approve of.

I was even more nervous now than I was the first time to visit him.

Gifford trampled on my self-esteem, and his contemptuous gaze had been imprinted in my mind.

And now that I got back with his son, he was probably thinking that I had an ulterior motive.

At this moment, I believed that I had fallen in love with Derek. If I didn’t believe in the power of love, I would never have the courage to step into Gifford’s house again.

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Chapter 125 I'm The Most Embarrassed Person

While my mind was still clouded, the car stopped.

I looked out the window and found that the car had been parked in the yard of Gifford's house.

As I got out of the car, I felt so nervous that I had no idea where to put my hands. Suddenly, I realized that I should've bought a gift and held it in my hands, so that I would be less embarrassed to be here.

There was a brand new car parked in the yard, and it didn't even have a license plate yet. I gathered that it was newly bought from a shop. 2

I didn't know much about cars, but I could tell that it was a good car.

I had no idea what Derek's father did for a living when he was young. I guessed that he must've had a successful career. The only explanation he had enough confidence to belittle someone at the bottom of society like me was because he used to be a man of high standing.

Derek's stepmother, Belinda Woods, walked out of the room. The smile on her face was bigger than the last time we came here.

But I could sense that her smile was fake.

Derek must've sensed my nervousness, and he walked on as he held my hand.

The warmth of his hand had the power to put me at ease.

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The moment I entered the living room, I noticed Gifford resting leisurely on the sofa.

He was wearing a light gray sweater today. The soft texture of his clothes made him seem less strict.

Another reason he didn't seem so strict was because he was smiling. There was a young lady sitting across him, talking and laughing with him. They seemed to be enjoying each other's company.

Perhaps hearing our footsteps, they stopped talking and looked at us at the same time.

I didn't dare to look at Gifford's face. Somehow, I felt like I was treading on thin ice, and I was extremely uneasy.

Fortunately, he wasn't as cold as he was when he visited Derek's villa that day. "Oh, you're here! Have a seat!" he said lightly.

Once I had taken a seat next to Derek, I glanced over at the young lady sitting nearby.

She looked younger than me. Her eyes and smile were filled with vigor, which could never be found in a woman who just crawled out of a failed marriage like me.

The woman wasn't particularly beautiful, but her face and demeanor made people feel comfortable around her. Her legs were crossed in an elegant posture, and the exposed part of her legs looked amazing.

As I looked at her carefully, she kind of looked familiar. I searched in my memory to know where I might've seen her, but I couldn't think of anything.

"Hey guy! Long time no see."

She eyed Derek from head to toe, smiling at him.

"Hi, Charlene," he replied.

Belinda stood aside, staring at Charlene reproachfully.

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“Charlene, how could you address Derek like that? That’s impolite. He’s older than you, so you should show him so respect.”

Charlene grinned with disapproval, showing us her neat, white teeth.

“Mom, you’re old, so you probably don’t understand how young people like us get along. We aren’t bound by so many rules. Besides, Derek isn’t that much older than me.” 1

Charlene was calling Belinda Mom? Was she her daughter? All of a sudden, I realized why Charlene looked familiar. She resembled Belinda somehow.

Gifford broke into a hearty laughter upon hearing their conversation.

“Charlene is right. Just leave the young ones alone, Belinda.”

With a bright smile, Charlene took out a well-packed box from her bag and handed it to Gifford.

“Happy birthday, Uncle Gifford. This is my gift for you. It may not be worth much, but it represents my best wishes for you. I hope you accept it,” she said.

Upon hearing how she addressed Gifford, I figured that she must be Belinda’s daughter with another man.

Despite their seemingly awkward relationship, it was a surprise that they got along so well.

At this moment, I was the one who was the most embarrassed.

Today was Gifford’s birthday, but Derek didn’t tell me about it in advance, so I didn’t prepare any gift.

I glanced over at Derek. He was smoking on the sofa, and he rarely spoke. Judging by the look on his face, he knew that today was his father’s birthday.

Perhaps sensing my gaze, he looked at me and understood how I felt just by looking at my eyes. Quietly, he held my hand to comfort me

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Gifford already had a bad impression of me. And since I came here empty-handed on such an important day for him, he would probably hate me even more.

I could feel my face burning at the moment. I didn't even need to look at myself in the mirror to know that I must be blushing from embarrassment.

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