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My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 21 - 25

Chapter 21 Can't Be Paid Off By A Glass Of Beer

Derek seemed amused by how shocked I was. The smile on his face behind the smoke was quite beguiling.

"I don't want to sleep with you, either, missy. Not every woman gets the chance to sleep with me. Besides, do you even think you're worth that much?"

I was delighted to see how dejected Vivien looked right now.

In the past, she belittled everyone else in the hospital, because her father was the hospital's director. She had always thought of herself as the prettiest among the women, and was always showing off her charms by all means. Not once did I see her button up her doctor's gown. Perhaps she wanted to reveal her cleavage. Many staff of the hospital had secretly said that some men would take her bait sooner or later, but I never imagined that Shane would be the fool to

take the temptation.

As the daughter of Virtue Hospital's director and the most beautiful employee in the hospital, she used to be so confident. But now, she couldn't even utter a word.

Even if they were to force Shane to pay, he would never be able to pay for three million dollars. I wondered if he would have to cut off one of his limbs just to settle the debt. I suddenly thought of the means to deal with gamblers who couldn't afford to pay for their wagers in TV series, and it left me shocked to my core.

Truthfully, I wasn't sure if Derek would do something so awful.

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It was then I turned my head towards him, wanting to speak. But before I could utter a word, Derek suddenly said to Felix, "Take them downstairs and give them something to eat."

Understanding what he meant, Felix got up and stretched his limbs. "You know what? I'm hungry, too. Come on, pretty ladies. Let's go get something to eat. It's

"Sure! I'm starving." Louise immediately stood up and pulled me with her.

She dragged me to the elevator. As we stood in front of it, I turned around and saw Derek say something to Shane. Not long after, the latter stared at Derek in horror. After a while, Derek walked towards a private room, followed by Shane, leaving Vivien all alone at the table.

"Eve, can you stop that? Why do you still hold onto hope for a scum like Shane?" Louise shouted at me.

In truth, I was not hoping anything from him, nor did I sympathize with that fool. From the bottom of my heart, I loathed him. But it saddened me to know that a young man like him, who had gone through so many hardships just to gain a foothold in the city, would lose everything he worked hard for just because of one impulsive gambling decision.

"Look, I'm not expecting anything from him. I just know that he can't afford to pay three million dollars," I told Louise.

"Yeah, so? What does that have to do with you?"

When the elevator door opened, Louise dragged me into it.

Felix followed us in. He had one of his hands inside his pocket, and then he pressed the elevator button with the other.

"She's right. If he can't pay the wager, Derek has other ways to deal with him," he echoed.

"Other ways, you say? What do you mean?" Sensing something ominous, I turned my attention to Felix. It frightened me that Derek would violate the law just to avenge me.

Sadly, Felix did not answer my question. He just smiled at me in silence.

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Soon, we went back to the bar on the second floor. He led us to a booth and asked a waiter to bring over some food.

After a while, all sorts of food and beverages were served on the table.

Louise and Felix chatted happily while eating. It was as if they had known each other for a lifetime.

But, I, on the other hand, did not eat anything. I just waited, feeling uneasy. About half an hour later, Derek finally showed up.

My eyes followed him until he sat next to me. I could not find any clues from his expression.

“Where is he?” I asked.

“He left,” he said.

Shane had left? It was impossible for him to pay three million dollars. And it had been made clear to me that Derek would not let him go unless he had settled all accounts. After all, it was not a small amount of money.

“How did you settle the debt?” I asked again.

Felix opened a bottle of stout beer and put it in front of Derek.

The latter did not respond to my

question. As if extremely thirsty, he picked up the beer bottle and gulped down most of its contents before putting it down. Then, he slowly lit a cigarette while unbuttoning the top button of his shirt and leaning down on the sofa to look at me.

His expression was nigh unreadable. He looked as though he was confused and angry altogether. His lips were curled, but to me, he didn't seem to be smiling.

“You know, Eveline, I'm curious about something. What were you going to do if you hadn't run into me in Tonyin that night?” he asked me.

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I didn't know if it was just my illusion, but I could sense that Derek was angry by how soft-hearted I was.

"Oh, so that was you, huh? At the time, I didn't think you'd be this beautiful." It seemed that Felix only recognized me just now, and it appeared as though he had only understood what had happened to me.

I didn't respond to Felix, nor could I answer Derek's question. Truthfully, I

had no idea what I would've done if I hadn't met Derek that night.

He wasn't responsible for helping me out, but he did it anyway. In my opinion, he was an upright and responsible man. If it were possible, I would thank him for the rest of my natural life.

"Of course, that situation is just hypothetical, isn't it? I met you. You were a blessing in my misfortune. So, thank you from the bottom of my heart." I poured myself a glass of beer and raised my glass to him with a straight face.

Derek seemed dazed for a moment before he picked up his bottle of beer and clinked it with my glass.

He then drank the remaining beer in his bottle, and said, "Honestly, Eveline, sometimes blessings and misfortunes could change depending on how you make a choice."

After drinking the whole glass of beer, I put it down. I had no idea what he meant.

I paid his statement no mind, for I was more curious how Shane managed to settle the three million dollars.

"Oh, come on! Don't make such puzzling remarks. I'm too stupid to understand such things. Be more considerate when you speak, bro!" Felix interrupted us abruptly.

"Oh, that's right. You've already hugged each other and even kissed. Why do you have to say thanks as if you're still strangers?" Louise seemed to be stirring up trouble as well.

This time, Derek didn't explain himself. He just took a drag of his cigarette and smiled at me.

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“Eveline, what you owe me can never be paid off by a glass of beer.” 2

My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 22

Chapter 22 He Was Fated To Lose

My heart skipped a beat when I realized that there was something more to what Derek said.

To be honest, I had no idea what kind of man he was. My preliminary evaluation of his character was solely based on my intuition

Seeing that I fell silent, he leaned forward and filled my glass again.

“Show me how thankful you are by how much you can drink,” he said with a smirk.

It was then that I realized that I thought too much of his statement. I felt so embarrassed of myself.

“That’s right, Miss! ‘Thank you’ is a very hypocritical statement. You need to do something more concrete. Show us your sincerity through drinking!”

As Felix echoed Derek’s sentiment, he opened several bottles of beer and lined them up in front of me.

Frightened by their proposal, I waved my hands in dismissal. “I rarely ever drink on normal days. I won’t be able to drink that much!”

“Oh, but this is no normal day! Don’t you want to show my friend how sincere you are?” Felix responded.

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"I really can't drink that much. Louise knows about my alcohol tolerance." I signaled to Louise for help.

But she just smiled at me and tried to persuade me. "You know, they're right. If you want to thank someone, you should show your sincerity. Alcohol isn't a poison. Drinking has nothing to do with your drinking capacity!"

I never thought that the day would come when my best friend in the world would betray me.

In fact, I had a vague idea of what she had in mind. She was probably thinking that Derek was an excellent man and she

wanted me to ensnare him.

But both Derek and I knew that he did all those intimate things just so he could humiliate Shane for my sake. Derek was excellent in all aspects. If I were to divorce Shane, I would be branded as a divorced woman. That title alone would create a gigantic gap between me and Derek

But I really felt grateful to him, so I had to give in and drink.

I picked up the glass of beer that Derek had poured for me, and drank it down in one sitting

While filling my glass again, Felix shouted, "Whoa! You're incredible."

He was quite good at riling people up to drink. He kept on pouring beer for me and Louise. To show just how sincere I was, I didn't hesitate to drink all of the beer Felix had poured for me.

During the entire endeavor, he was chatting with Derek.

"By the way, that guy was incredibly

pathetic. Why the fuck did he enter our casino without any money?"

I noticed something with his statement. "Your casino?" I asked.

"It's his," Derek replied, pointing at Felix. Felix glanced at him, his cheeks twitching

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“So, you teamed up to play tricks on him, huh?”

“Nah. He was fated to lose,” Derek said while lighting another cigarette.

“Fated to lose?” I frowned.

Derek puffed out a smoke ring, leaning against the sofa. As the smoke rose from his fingertips, he said, “I’m not God. I didn’t make that situation happen. Truthfully, I wasn’t sure I would win. But if I had lost, I would lose money, yet it meant that I’d have fun. However, he was different. He cared too much about winning or losing, because once he had lost too much, his fate changed. I’m sure you know that those who can’t afford to lose will definitely lose!”

The sound of his voice was so forceful that it stunned me for a while. “Then, how on earth did you settle the debt?”

Derek looked at me for a time, and chuckled. “I wasn’t interested in sleeping with his mistress.”

Dazed yet again, I scratched my head in embarrassment. “That’s not what I meant.”

“Do you really want to know?”

he asked just when I didn’t want to ask again.

“Yeah,” I answered honestly

After all, three million dollars was not a small amount of money. How would Shane ever solve that kind of problem? It was natural for me to be this curious.

Derek filled my glass with more beer. “Well, then, show me your sincerity and I’ll tell you. Drink this.”

Later on, several men suddenly came to greet Derek one after another. They sat down and poured themselves a glass of

beer. Perhaps due to the fact that they saw me sitting next to him, they also proposed a toast to me.

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While the other men kept on drinking and playing boisterously, Derek was quietly smoking on the sofa, cross legged.

He didn't stop them from persuading me to drink. I could tell in that moment that he was observing my show of sincerity.

Not once did I refuse a drink. In the end, I poured myself another glass and drank it down. I had no idea why I suddenly wanted to get drunk at the time. Perhaps it was because I finally found a way to vent all my grievances that had been repressed these past few days. Maybe I was banking on the chance that I might be able to forget everything after getting drunk.

Soon enough, I became very intoxicated. My vision was so blurred that it was like I was looking through a layer of frosted glass. But it was wonderful to feel this dizzy.

As if going crazy, I suddenly sprang up,

pointing at the empty bottles of beer in front of me with a sense of accomplishment

I turned to the man at my side and asked, "Derek, have I been sincere enough for you? Come on! Tell me the answer already!"

Sadly, I could barely keep myself standing. It took only a few seconds before I fell back down. Fortunately, a pair of arms held me in time. Gradually, the blistering music faded away as I began to lose my consciousness.

My Unexpected Marriage to the CEO by Pumpkin Witch Chapter 23

Chapter 23 Recording As Evidence

It seemed as though I was restless. At last, I grabbed the hem of his clothes, and asked, "I've shown my sincerity, right? How did you settle it in the end? Tell me."

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But before I could even hear his answer, I lost my consciousness.

By the time I woke up, I felt thirsty, and my head felt like it was breaking.

I struggled to sit up and the thin quilt slipped from my body. Soon, I found myself naked. My mind went blank for a

few seconds.

I couldn't seem to remember much of what happened after I got hammered. As I looked around, I found that I was somewhere I had never been to before. I had too many questions in mind.

Then, I saw a folded bath towel on the bedside table. I grabbed it and used it to

cover my nakedness. Afterwards, I opened the door and walked out barefooted.

The house was quite big, and there were faint noises coming from downstairs.

The second I arrived at the stairway, I saw a group of people playing cards in the living room downstairs. They were the same people who joined our table last night. Felix was among them, but I didn't see Derek

One of them noticed me and coughed. Thus, the others followed his sight and looked over at me.

They all smiled with meaningful grins. I guessed that they must be imagining all sorts of erotic scenes.

Hurriedly, I turned around and ran back to the room where I was just now. Leaning against the closed door, I tried to catch my breath

Thinking that Derek must've been the one to take me here last night, I decided to call him to ask.

I grabbed my phone from the bedside table and saw that it was powered off. When I turned it on, the clock displayed that it was two in the morning.

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As soon as the call connected, I heard a ringtone coming from the balcony.

Nobody was answering, and the ringtone kept on ringing. Thus, I drew the curtains and walked towards the balcony. Sure enough, Derek was there, wearing a night robe. He was lying on a deck chair on the balcony.

It was still dark outside. Under the faint moonlight, I could see a small garden outside the balcony.

He was holding a cigarette with one hand, and his phone in the other. He must've checked the caller ID, so he didn't answer it.

"You're awake?" he asked. Then, he took a drag on his cigarette before turning his head to me. The sound of his voice was deep and hoarse.

My mind became a mess. I wanted to ask him a lot of things, but I had no idea

where to begin.

With a faint smile, he eyed me from head to toe.

I was so embarrassed to be in the presence of a man I didn't know very well with only a bath towel to cover myself. His penetrating gaze didn't help either. Subconsciously, I grasped the bath towel on my chest.

Seemingly amused, he chuckled.

"Why are you being so nervous? I've already seen everything. You have a good figure, by the way," he remarked.

I felt so ashamed of myself.

Derek was my benefactor, but I ended up sleeping with him. To put it bluntly, I was the one at fault, for I had drunk too much. We were both adults, so I couldn't ask him to take responsibility for me.

this

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was

far

too

But even so, embarrassing!

I just wanted to hide myself and be alone.

“Sorry to trouble you. I’ll be taking my leave now.”

Having said that, I turned around, intending to run away. However, Derek pulled me back and pressed me against the wall

He took the cigarette from his mouth, and slowly lowered his head. He stopped just inches before my face.

“Since you’ve slept with me, you need to take responsibility for it,” he said in an intoxicating voice.

My heart skipped a beat.

I didn’t ask him to take responsibility for me, but he was the one who did.

Afterwards, he added, “Last night, you wrapped your arms around my neck and never let go. Then, you pressed me onto the bed and rode me like a wild woman. Eveline, I’m only a man. Since you needed me that much, I had to help you.

I stared at him, gulping down my own saliva.

He raised an eyebrow at me, grinning like an imp. “What? You don’t believe me? I have a recording to prove it. Do you want to hear it? I recorded it because I was afraid you’d deny it later on.”

There was recording? It was then that I imagined what had happened last night according to Derek’s description of it. If he weren’t lying, I would feel too ashamed to live any longer.

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He smiled and unlocked his phone. It seemed that he was intent on letting me hear the recording.

Thus, I immediately covered my ears. "I don't want to hear it!"

The second I covered my ears, the bath towel wrapped around me suddenly slipped down

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Chapter 24 The Feeling of Home

I quickly bent over to pick up the bath towel, but Derek grabbed the other end of it faster than I could.

My face instantly turned red. I held onto the bath towel with all my might and said, "Let it go!"

But he didn't. He just kept on holding it. While I was deathly embarrassed by what was happening, he wrapped the bath towel around my body.

My heart began to race. I pressed my hands together, daring not to look him in the eye.

All of a sudden, he pulled me into his embrace as he raised his phone. Then, I heard a click

"What did you do?" I panicked when I saw the picture on his phone.

In it, he was wearing a night robe, and I

was wrapped in a bath towel while we were embracing. This picture alone could make people think all sorts of things.

He smiled at me and said, "I'm going to keep one more evidence, so you won't be able to deny it!"

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“You...”

I was interrupted midsentence when we heard the sound of the door opening. Louise was the one who pushed it open and walked in

“Hey, Eve, you awake?” She then put on an obscene smile. She must’ve seen him holding me just now.

Surprised to see her here, I asked, “Lulu, what are you doing here?”

Confused by my question, she asked, “What do you mean? I’ve been with you all this time, okay? I was just thirsty, so I went to the kitchen to get some drinks. I’ve been watching them play cards for a while.

Oh, by the way, would you like some?” She showed me two cans of beverages.

It was then that I realized that I had been fooled by Derek. With a face as red as an apple, I glared at him and said, “Why did you say that...”

“That what?” He leaned against the glass door lazily, looking at me with a smirk.

I lowered my gaze, held my breath, and refused to respond.

Derek suddenly leaned close to my ear, and soon, the sound of his magnetic voice resonated in my ears.

“It’s true that you were so wild after you got drunk. Your friend can even testify. If I didn’t hold onto my principles and refuse to give in, you would’ve raped me.”

The word “rape” left me flustered. But the truth of the matter he indirectly revealed to me made me breathe a sigh of relief.

Perhaps noticing my expression, Derek smiled, slowly turned around, and walked away from me.

It wasn’t until he had disappeared from

my sight that I realized there was another room connected to the balcony.

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Back in the room, I asked, "Lulu, are you sure you stayed with me all this time? Did you help me take off my clothes?"

Leaning against the headboard, Louise opened a can and took a few sips before glancing at me with amusement.

"Who else would do it? Did you think that Derek was the one who helped you take off your clothes? Did you even ask him that? Eve, you really are something."

Louise's mockery of me reminded me of the embarrassing scenes that transpired moments ago. Not a moment later, I blushed yet again.

"I allowed you to drink last night because I was with you. I would never leave you alone! You vomited all over me last night. I had to take off your clothes and clean you before I could take a shower. I was drenched in sweat and vomit, Eve! Do you think it was easy?"

What Louise revealed to me warmed my heart. I then crawled under the quilt

from the other side of the bed and held her arm.

"You're the best, Lulu."

"Actually, Derek was here when I took a shower," Louise added, throwing the empty can into the trash bin.

My heart skipped a beat. She chuckled and nudged my arm when she saw the look on my face.

"Do you know how conflicted I was when I took the shower? On one hand, I wanted him to sleep with you, but on the other hand, I was scared that he would do it. I took my time in the bathroom, but he was already gone by the time I came out."

I was so embarrassed to hear it that I began to scratch her armpit.

"How could you have such thoughts?"

Louise dodged my hand and smiled. We kept on playing for a while. When she spoke again, she became more serious.

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“I’m just thinking that Derek is far better than that scumbag, Shane. If you divorce

Shane and leave the bastard for Derek, it’ll be good for you.”

I hid beneath the quilt, thinking of what happened at the balcony earlier. To be honest, my mind was in shambles right now.

An excellent man like Derek could have any woman of his choosing. He would never fall in love with someone like me. I didn’t want to have any fantasies that I shouldn’t have. But I must admit that he was a very attractive man. Each time he flirted with me inadvertently, I couldn’t help but feel flustered.

Because of the hangover, I felt really bad. After a while, I drifted into sleep again.

Later on, I was awakened by a knock on the door. When I opened my eyes, I found that it was already dawn.

Louise opened the door, carrying a set of clothes. She told me that the clothes were sent to me by Derek.

It was a new dress, and it still even had its tag on it.

Why did he have a new dress at home? Was it his girlfriend’s? Or his wife’s?

I barely knew anything about him. What kind of work did he do? Had he already been married? I knew none of those things.

I was worried that our staying in his house all night could spell trouble for him. After all, I was so heartbroken when my marriage was destroyed by another woman. I didn’t want to cause any misunderstandings, nor did I want him to have any conflicts with his family because of it.

The dress was a perfect fit for me. Perhaps his girlfriend or wife had the same body type as me.

When I went downstairs, I found that the living room was in a mess. I had no idea when the men playing cards last night left.

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Louise had to go to the Taekwondo dojo early in the morning, so she took a cab and left. I was too embarrassed to leave as soon as I got up, so I cleaned up the living room for Derek.

Once I was done, I still didn't see the hostess that I had imagined. Derek wasn't around either. I was hesitant to make some breakfast.

After hesitating for a while, I went to the kitchen.

When I turned around and threw the broken eggshells into the trash can, I found that Derek was leaning against the kitchen entrance.

His hair was wet. Clearly, he had just taken a shower. He looked quite cool and charming in a clean white shirt and suit pants.

I was embarrassed by his gaze. "I didn't see you around, so I helped myself to your kitchen without your permission. I have no idea what you like to eat. There were some eggs in the fridge, so I figured I'd make some egg sandwiches."

He kept on leaning against the kitchen entrance with a gentle smile on his face.

"Seeing a woman cook in the kitchen makes me feel like I have a home."

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Chapter 25 How Could A Married Woman Be As

I was trying to focus on frying the eggs in silence. But in my heart, his words had left me befuddled, and at the same time, it saddened me.

I wondered if he even had a woman at this house. Nevertheless, I refrained from asking him the question, for fear it might be offensive.

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Derek didn't leave yet. I could feel someone staring at me from behind, and it made me quite nervous.

"The dress suits you well," he remarked abruptly.

I glanced at the beige dress I was wearing, and suddenly blurted out, "Won't your girlfriend get angry that I'm wearing her new dress?" Oh, how I wished I could bite my tongue off after saying that!

He did not respond to my question, nor

Chan 25 Howe did I turn around. Within an instant, I felt as though the air in the room had frozen. My mind became chaotic. I couldn't imagine what kind of look he had on his face right now.

"Who says that I have a girlfriend?" he said, sounding quite amused.

His remark left me wondering why he had a dress, since he didn't have a girlfriend. I stopped asking questions. My face turned bright red because of how embarrassed I felt.

I had no idea when he left the kitchen. By the time I got out, he was already at the dining table, staring at his phone.

I put down two bowls of noodles and some sandwiches on the table. Afterwards, he pushed a cup of brewed tea towards me

"This tea is a good hangover cure," he remarked

My head was indeed aching. I took the cup of tea and expressed my thanks. As I held it in my hand, I felt that its temperature was optimal. Both my palm,

and my heart felt warm.

At this moment, I wondered once more what kind of person he was. He was as strong as a thousand-year-old wine, but he was more complicated than that. On the surface, he seemed easy-going, but sometimes, he was stern and cold. It was as if he had an invisible wall between him and strangers. He didn't seem to be lacking in friends, but I sensed that sometimes, he was lonely.

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As he put down his phone, he leaned back against his chair and stared at me. "A woman should cherish her dignity. Don't get drunk in front of strange men, Eveline. There are all sorts of men in this world, and not all of them are gentlemen." 3

Defiantly, I responded, "Weren't you the one who said that I needed to show my sincerity? Frankly, you indirectly forced me to drink."

A playful smile appeared on Derek's lips. "How could a married woman be as simple-minded as a maiden? You drank just because I indirectly forced you to do

it? Are you stupid?

His words left me speechless. I had no rebuttal to that.

Indeed, I was quite stupid to do it.

"So, in a way, you were giving me a lesson last night?"

Derek grabbed the cup of tea in front of him, but he didn't drink it yet. He just swiveled it slightly, staring at the leaves of tea floating inside.

"Eveline, don't judge a book by its cover. There are many things in this world that aren't as simple as they seem to be."

There was a deeper meaning to his words.

As a matter of fact, I already had a feeling that he wasn't as simple as he seemed to be. Given the fact that he was able to afford a magnificent villa, and owned a luxury car, it was obvious that he was doing big business.

After that brief interaction, we ate our breakfast. Derek praised me for my cooking skills. Meanwhile, I let out a sigh

Back then, in order to win Shane's heart, I studied all sorts of recipes to sate his appetite. But not once did he praise me for my cooking. I never won his stomach, nor his heart.

"There are two things in this world that I'll never do. One is to loot a burning house, and the other is to take advantage of other people's peril. I do have a clear distinction between

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gratitude and hatred. And I will never show mercy to my enemies,” Derek remarked all of a sudden.

I figured he was implying that I was being too soft on Shane last night.

Truthfully, it wasn't soft-heartedness, but it was sympathy.

After breakfast, I refused Derek's offer to drive me home and just hailed a cab back to the alley where my old house was.

I didn't expect that Shane would be waiting for me at the entrance of that alley.

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