

Becomes 60

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Bill's POV

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The video begins with Serena organizing her jewelry-making space. She looks directly into the camera, her expression thoughtful, and says, "Have you ever felt like you're invisible to someone you love? Like you're right there, but to them, you might as well be a piece of furniture?"

I admit to myself that maybe I did get too caught up in growing my empire and didn't give Serena the attention she deserved. I always thought she'd never leave, that we had more time to fix things. But I was

wrong.

Serena continues with her story, using the pliers to bend a thin piece of metal into a loop for a necklace. "If your partner always sees you and makes you feel important, you're lucky," she says.

Then, she looks up from her work and says, "Because today, I'm going to talk about a dinner that changed everything for me."

I shift uncomfortably in my seat as Serena goes on. "My ex-boyfriend's mom had arranged a family dinner, but what I didn't know was that my ex had also invited a colleague of his," she reveals.

"During the dinner, my ex sat across from me, and he was with his colleague. They kept laughing and whispering to each other, and meanwhile, nobody was talking to me," Serena explains.

Look, I never meant for Serena to feel left out that night. But it was just then I found out Doris was an old childhood friend of mine. We got caught up in the moment, trying to catch up on lost time. I didn't realize how it looked to everyone else, especially Serena.

"That wasn't even the worst part," Serena continues. "His family was all over his colleague, showering her with attention and making her feel super welcome. I never got that kind of warmth from them."

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I knew my mom didn't really like Serena much. I didn't do much about it, hoping they'd eventually get along. But they never did.

"They kept praising his colleague for studying abroad," Serena says, threading beads onto the wire. "I studied abroad too, but they never acknowledged it. Not at this dinner, not ever."

"excused myself to go to the bathroom, limping," she adds. "Oh, I

forgot to mention, before the dinner, I tripped on a bump on the sidewalk and sprained my ankle. So, I limp to the bathroom, but no one. even asked why I was walking like that. Even my ex-boyfriend just

stared at me."

Okay, I didn't realize she got injured before the dinner. I should have. -rushed to help her, but I held back because I didn't want to cause a

scene with my family there. Now I realize it was my fault.

"So, I took a moment to gather my thoughts in the bathroom. And when I returned to the table, his colleague was heading to the bathroom. She tripped as I passed her, and hit a waiter carrying an iced tea. It spilled all over my dress."

Serena takes a deep breath before continuing. "My ex-boyfriend didn't even try to help me. He went straight to his colleague instead. She even said I tripped her, but I didn't touch her. I'm pretty sure of it."

Now that I know how Doris really is, I should've backed up my wife. Believing Doris was a big mistake.

The pain is clear on Serena's face as she tells her story. "My ex- boyfriend and his mom insisted I apologize to her, even though I didn't do anything. I refused, so his mom asked me to leave. And my ex? He just stood there, not defending me," she says.

"So I did what I had to do... I left and didn't apologize. The funny thing is, his colleague ended up doing so much worse in her attempts to replace me... But that's a story for another time," Serena says.

Chapter 6

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I find myself wondering what other schemes Doris pulled off that I wasn't aware of. How many times did she manipulate situations to her advantage? Were there moments when Serena needed me, and I blindly sided with Doris?

"Anyway, I left him a few days later and decided to start fresh. That's when I made up my mind to build my business," she concludes with a smile on her face.

"So, if you feel like you've always been neglected, don't settle for it. There's so much more you can do on your own. You need to explore and figure it out," she encourages. The video ends with a shot of the finished piece of jewelry she's made.

I didn't bother scrolling through the comments. What other people think doesn't matter to me right now. What's important is having a long, overdue conversation with Serena once she wakes up.

Am I mad that Serena posted that video? No, I'm not. Instead, I'm just filled with regrets. I realize now that I should've been a better husband.

Now, all I see is how Serena must have felt unheard and neglected during our time together. I was so wrapped up in my own world, my work, that I missed the signs. She was right there beside me, and yet, I made her feel invisible.

I want to win Serena over again, not just to make up for the past, but because I genuinely care about her and her happiness. I know it won't be easy, and it might take time, but I'm ready to put in the effort.

I want to show her the person I can be the partner she deserves.

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