

Calob POV

As soon as I leave our condo, I rush to my car. My stomach churns with guilt. How did I let myself get here? How did I let myself get caught up in an affair with Lucy of all people? I love my wife and I can't lose her. After the thirty-minute drive, I pull into my assigned parking spot in the hospital parking garage. I take a deep breath because no matter what she says, today I'm done. I can't keep doing this to Briar. It should have never happened. I have no feelings for Lucy. It was just s*x. I make my way to my ooe on the third oor to get ready for the surgery to save a seven-year-old girl by removing an operable brain tumor. Once all the paper work is in order, I head into my bathroom and start to change into my surgical scrubs. I look up to the sound of the door opening and my heart sinks when I see Lucy step inside. "Good morning, Dr. Martin" she says in her attempt at a seductive voice. "Lucy, you need to leave. I already told you this is done. It should have never happened. I love my wife and I will not throw away everything I have for a meaningless ing with you." "I know you don't mean that. I know what we shared was more than just f**king. I know you care for me, Calob" she says, taking a step closer to me. "No, I don't. I love Briar and I plan on telling her everything and begging for her forgiveness. Leave Lucy and don't approach me again."

"Fine, I'll leave, but you owe me more than this ve-second conversation in your bathroom. I need a real conversation, so I can put this behind me, Calob. You owe me at least that much," Lucy says. "Fine, I will nd you after my surgery. I should be done around eleven." She nods and leaves the bathroom without another word. I exhale a breath and pray that I haven't destroyed the best thing that ever happened to me by thinking with my d**k. Once I reach the OR and scrub in, I push my problems from my head and focus on the little girl lying on the table. After three hours, I'm able to remove the tumor and my patient is taken to recovery. The feeling of knowing I was able to save this little girl's life is amazing. I leave the OR and head to the locker room to shower and change into a fresh pair of scrubs. As the hot water rushes over my stiff muscles, the thoughts I had pushed from my mind come rushing back. First, I need to deal with Lucy and then I have to nd my wife. She should almost be done with her rounds by now. I make my way up to the fourth oor. Lucy is sitting behind the nurses station when she notices me stepping off the elevator. She stands up and walks down the hallway and I follow at a safe distance. When she reaches the on-call room used for doctors to sleep, I'm apprehensive about following her. I can do this, I say to myself, before I push the door open.

"F**k" I say when I step inside and Lucy is standing only in her panties. "Lucy, what the hell are you doing? I made myself clear this was not happening anymore. Put your f**king clothes back on." She starts to saunter toward me. "You owe me one last f**k Calob. We can call it a goodbye f**k, but I need to feel you inside me one last time." She presses her bare breasts against my chest and her hand brushes against my clothed c**k." "Come on Calob, you know you want to feel my p**sy squeeze your c**k one more time. I promise I won't bother you again after today." I can feel my c**k hardening under her touch. All logical thought leaves me and I reach up, gripping her throat with my hand. "Never talk to me after this Lucy. I mean it or you will regret it." I lift her, carrying her over to one of the beds. She is on all fours in front of me with her pert round a** is on display. I rip the panties from her body before I free my erection from my pants. I push my hard c**k inside her wet p**sy without warning. She moans out my name. I start to slam into her body, but she doesn't feel near as good as Briar did this morning. The thought of my wife is like having a bucket of cold water thrown on me. My motion stills and the sound of the door opening makes my stomach roll. When I look up into the eyes of the woman I love, my heart breaks into a million pieces.

She turns and leaves without a word. I pull myself out of Lucy and stuff myself inside my pants. "At least now she knows and you can keep f**king me" Lucy says with an evil grin on her face. "You did this on purpose you b**ch." I don't even wait for a response as I rush out of the room. I can here her steps as she follows me but I don't look back. I make it to the elevator just as it's about to close. I stop it with my hand and slide inside. Briar looks so broken and it's my fault. I have to stop myself from pulling her into my arms. I take a step toward her, but her words stop me in my tracks. "Briar, I will do anything to make this right." Her words are like a knife in my heart. When she says our marriage is over, I feel like I can't breathe. "No" I yell and I follow Briar's eyes to see she is staring at our boss standing outside the elevator. "F**k, could this day get any worse."

Derek POV

"Mr. Coleman, what would you like me to make you for dinner tonight," Monique, my housekeeper/cook asks me. She is a lovely woman I hired three years ago. She is in her late fties and her children are grown. She does an amazing job, and she was more than happy to sign the NDA I requested. "Monique, are you ever going to just call me Derek?" She smiles "probably not." I shake my head but smile. "Roast chicken and vegetables with a baked potato will be ne. Thank you, Monique." She nods and heads back to the kitchen. I grab my coffee and briefcase, heading to the parking garage where my silver Audi is waiting. The drive to the hospital only takes fteen minutes. My father could never understand why I was so hell-bent on purchasing a pediatric hospital, but that's because he tries to forget all memories of my younger sister. It's like she never existed to him and my mother. I lost her when I was ten to a rare condition I couldn't even begin to pronounce. I have never forgotten Deidre and running the hospital that helps children is my way of honoring her even when my parents try to forget. I pull into the parking garage and take the private elevator that takes me directly to the fth oor. My secretary already has my coffee and my day's itinrary waiting on my desk. Chelsey is very good at her job, but she looks at me like I'm her next meal sometimes.

I ignore it because she does her job well and has never crossed the line. I sit behind my desk and push the intercom. "Chelsey set up a meeting at eleven thirty with Dr. Briar Martin to discuss the changes to the inpatient pediatric unit." "Yes, Mr. Coleman. Is there anything else you need me to do for you" she says, and I roll my eyes. "No that is all" I say cutting off the interaction. My morning ies by, and I'm walking Julius Morgan to the elevator after our meeting when I hear yelling. When the doors open, I'm surprised to see both Calob and Briar standing inside the elevator with pained looks on their faces. That look on Briar's face pisses me off, and I'm not even sure what the hell is going on between them. Briar steps out rst. "Mr. Coleman, I need to speak to you about a rather important matter." "Of course, Dr. Martin." She winces when I use her name and I look back at Calob. "I'm coming with you Briar, we need to talk about this." Before she can respond, I direct them to wait for me in the conference room. I say my goodbyes to Julius and turn to Chelsey. "We are not to be disturbed." She nods and I head for the conference room.

"Briar, do you want to tell me what's going on?" "I would like to use some of my vacation time that I have let build up. I realize that it is short notice, but given recent circumstances, I cannot be around Calob. I also need to make alternate living arrangements." I would be lying if I said I wasn't intrigued about what is happening between these two. I've been pretty much obsessed with Briar Martin since the moment I laid eyes on her three years ago. Not obsessed like fatal attraction, just comparing every woman I date to her. "Do those circumstances have any bearing on the operations of this hospital?" I see Calob stiffen and I already know my answer. "I believe that is a question you will have to ask Calob and Lucy Costel" Briar says like the words taste bitter on her tongue. I turn to Calob waiting for an answer. "I made a mistake that is between me and Briar. With all due respect, Derek, it's none of your business. The only person I need to explain myself to is my wife." I throw my head back and laugh. "Look around you Calob, you are in my hospital. Anything that happens here is most certainly my business." I reach over pushing the intercom. "Chelsey call down to the fourth oor and have Lucy Costel sent up to the conference room." I see Bryer's st clench and my eyes meet hers.

"Briar, your request is granted. How long will you need?" "I believe two weeks will be enough time to get my affairs in order" she says not sparing Calob a second glance. I know that shouldn't make me happy seeing the pain on Briar's face, but it does. Not because she is in pain, but it is very evident that Calob has f**ked up in a colossal way. "Briar, you do not have to stay for the rest of this meeting. I believe that I can get what I need from Calob and Lucy." "No, I want to stay" she says. A few minutes later, a very smug looking Lucy steps into the conference room and takes a seat next to Calob. He doesn't say a word but gets up to move away from her. The smug smile slips from her face and I draw her attention to me. "So, Lucy, do you want to tell me what's going on between you and Dr. Martin in my hospital?" For the rst time, I see a ash of fear in her eyes and she drops her head. "We have been having s*x for the last month" she says. "You have been having s*x inside my hospital." I look between the two of them. The anger I feel more directed at Calob for hurting Briar. "It just happened sir. I didn't want to hurt Briar, but I love Calob" Lucy says. "I don't love her. I made a mistake and I want nothing more to do with her. I love my wife" Calob shouts. "Enough," I yell and they both quiet down.

"I'm disgusted by both of your behavior. Calob, you are suspended for three days after your surgery this afternoon. I will not punish a patient for your reprehensible behavior. As for you, you're red effective immediately." Lucy's eyes get big and for the rst time out of the corner of my eye, I see the hint of a smile on Briar's face. "You can't do that. I will sue you for wrongful termination. You can't re me and just suspend him. We both broke the rules." I smile "I can and I will. His contribution to this hospital far outreaches yours. It is the only thing saving his a** from being red right along with you. Please do try to sue me because I will provide the lawyers with the video that I'm sure exists from our cameras of you being railed on my property." She goes white as a sheet. I turn to Briar. "If you need a copy for your lawyer in the future, I will provide you a copy of the video that I'm sure exists." She nods and I stand. "Security is waiting for you in the hallway Ms. Costel to escort you off my property. If at any time, you are caught inside this hospital, you will be arrested for trespassing. Calob, I suggest you go get ready for your surgery before I forget what a skilled surgeon you are and have security walk you out too." "I need to talk to my wife, Derek" he pleads. "Soon to be ex-wife and there is nothing more to be said between us. Thank you, Mr. Coleman" Briar says as she heads for the door. Calob tries to follow but I step in front of him.

I wait till we are alone in the room before I speak my next words. "Only an id*ot gives up a gem for a piece of glass. I never expected you to be that id*ot, Calob." He laughs and I can see rage in his eyes. "You think I don't know you want my wife, Derek. I see how you look at her, but just remember it's me that she loves. She will never be with you." "Loved, you mean. You'll nd sticking your d**k where it doesn't belong can turn love into hate rather quickly." I turn for the door and take a few steps before I turn back to face him. "You are absolutely right that I want Briar and up until today, I would never have crossed that line but now, all bets are off. I will do everything in my power to show her that I am a man that will never betray her. That I will cherish her for the rest of my days if she allows it." I don't even give him time to respond before I make my way back to my ooe. "Chelsey, call human resources and get me Briar Martin's home address." "Yes, Mr. Coleman" she says.