

Dumping My Billionaire Ex

Dumping 1 -

Chapter 1

“Edwin, please, come back with me, Sharon Stanley pleaded in a subdued tone. She ignored the mocking glances around the private room in the nightclub.

Her husband, Edwin Stanley, stilly rose with his face darkened, dragging Sharon into another room.

*Thave no interest in celebrating the so-called wedding anniversary with you. Take this and get whatever you like by yourself.” He coldly toyed a credit card onto the table in front of Sharon. Then, he left without hesitation

“Edwin!” Sharon anxiously grabbed his coat sleeve and asked, “I didn’t break the promise for myself back then. Do you believe me?”

“Believe you?” Edwin sneered. “Don’t tell me it was for me.”

Yeah, it was indeed for you, Sharon retorted inwardly. If only Edwin could remember the past, he would understand everything. Unfortunately, it had slipped from his memory, making Sharon’s explanations seem absurd and humiliating. She slumped in despair.

Suddenly, Sharon’s alarm clock went off at midnight, marking the end of their anniversary and also reminding her of her resolve to let go of her attachment to Ediwin and their past..

Even so, Sharon still wanted to make one list effort to win him back. As she called out his name, seeking to defend herself further, her words were abruptly silenced by the sound of a notification. Sise unlocked her phone to find a jarring image of a sleeping man with another woman intimately in bed, wrapped in each other’s arms. To Sharon’s utter disblief and heartbreak, the man was none other than her husband, Edwin.

At that moment, She was repulsed by Edwin’s act of infidelity, and a deep sense of disgust washed over her; she no longer desired to be with him. T want a divorce, she declared, her voice firm and resolute. With that, she silently let go of his sleeve.

WOOLEN who had just moments ago

Edwin looked back at Sharon. He was taken aback by the sudden and drastic change in her demeanor—from the pleaded with him to celebrate their anniversary to someone who was now determined to divorce him. In his eyes, Sharon was cunning and calculating, so he saw her decision to divorce him as nothing more than a tantrum. The password is eight zeros,” he said, stepping out of view.

Sharon’s gaze fell upon the card, and a wry smile crossed her lips. Throughout the four years, she had busted her butt trying to show Edwin that her love for him was genuine and that it wasn’t about being some fancy “Mrs. Stanley or his money. Yet, all her efforts went down the drain

For the past fifteen days, she had patiently waited for him to make up his mind between their marriage and his side piece. And still, she ended up on the losing end. She had poured her heart and soul into this relationship, giving it everything she had. Obviously, it was time to throw in the towel, and she wasn’t gonna waste a single second. She was ready to walk away and never look back.

Sharon hurried after Edwin. She intercepted Edwin at the elevator and pressed a divorce agreement into his hands. I’m serious about divorcing, I’ll take nothing from you.” With that, she heard a thud as the agreement was tossed into the trash.

“Get your facts straight. Are you losing your mind?” Edwin snapped, clearly impatient.

Sharon knew he, like the rest of the Stanley family, thought she would face a challenging and difficult life and wouldn’t be able to land a job without him because of her limited education and ordinary background.

“Don’t worry, I know my facts very well.” She picked up the agreement, tapped it, and stuffed it back into Edwin’s hands. “It’s too late to process it tonight. See you at the city hall at nine tomorrow morning, No excuses

With that, Sharon walked away, leaving Edwin behind. Downstairs, she leaned against the wall, gasping for air. It took courage to act against the accustomed deference she showed him. She wiped her face as tears streamed down. Despite her resolve to part ways with Edwin, whom she had been deeply in love with for nearly ten years, Sharon felt as if her heart was being torn out.

Sharon let out a weary sigh. Eventually, she straightened herself up, gazing mockingly at her reflection in the glass. It had taken her four long years and fifteen agonizing days to finally come to the realization that Edwin would never truly love her. Reflecting on this, she couldn’t help but consider it the most regrettable deal she had ever made in her entire life.

Early the next morning, Sharon went straight to the city hall. By eleven o’clock, there was still no sign of Edwin. Despite calling him numerous times, there was no answer.

Knowing he was busy, Sharon decided to go to his office, hoping to get it over with within a day

Just as

Sharon reached Edwin's company, her eyes fell upon a disheartening sight Edwin stood next to a car, his head lowered, and helped a woman get inside. When that woman looked back, Sharon got to see her face clearly; it was Edwin's first love, the very person who held a special place in

his heart.

A sneer crept across Sharon's face. She had initially assumed that Edwin's absence this morning was because of his busy schedule. However, now it dawned on her that he had deliberately brushed her off to be with his lover instead.

She thought to herself, 'His first love returned for half a month, and he stuck to her like glue all the time, It's incredible how he cannot get enough

of her

After they waved goodbye, the car drove away. Sharon finally approached Edwin when the car was out of sight and said, "I've been waiting for you this morning. Let's get it over with. It won't take long, anyway!"

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Chapter 1

When Edwin saw Sharon, his expression turned sour, his face creased with impatience, a familiar sight. "I have some important projects," he responded, his tone laced with frustration. "I can't afford any negative news circulating right now.

Sharon couldn't help but find Edwin's reason laughable. She pondered, 'Isn't the news of his infidelity with his lover more negatively impactful than simply divorcing me?

Before Sharon could speak her mind, Edwin's assistant hurriedly approached, informing him of urgent work that required his immediate attention. Then they left hurriedly.

Since then, Ed

once again became unreachable, leaving Sharon with a growing impatience. She resorted to texting him, proposing a suggested meeting time to proceed with the divorce in the light of their four-year marriage.

In the afternoon, Sharon arrived at the city hall promptly as planned. To her surprise, she saw Edwin standing in front of his car, his usual air of handsomeness and composure on display. Despite the impending divorce, Sharon couldn't help but feel captivated by him once again. However, a bitter pang of emotion washed over her as she pondered, 'If I had known that our journey would lead us to this moment, would I still have made that impulsive decision?'

Sharon couldn't help but touch her left eye, a reminder of her loss of sight, but few people were aware of her condition. Suppressing her complex emotions, she quickly walked over and handed the divorce agreement to Edwin again. 'I've already signed it. Once you sign it, we can move forward with all the necessary paperwork.'

This time, Edwin only hesitated for a moment before signing it silently.

They proceeded to fill out a few additional papers. Once completed, a staff member attentively stamped each document before saying, "Thank you for submitting your divorce paperwork. We will process it accordingly. Please note that there is a thirty-day cooling-off period. If either of you wishes to cancel the divorce within that time, please inform us promptly!"

They

were then informed that they would not be able to obtain the official divorce decree until the cooling-off period had elapsed.

"Can we skip the cooling-off period and get the divorce decree directly?" Sharon asked, expressing her desire to sever ties with Edwin as quickly as possible.

"I understand your desire to expedite the process, but unfortunately, the cooling-off period is a mandatory requirement in our jurisdiction. I'm sorry." The staff member replied, shaking his head.

Sharon's gaze fell upon Edwin, who remained silent before abruptly walking out. As such, she had to take the consent form and sign it. She believed that Edwin had no intention of canceling the divorce, so she regarded the cooling-off period as nothing more than a temporary delay in obtaining the final divorce decree.

Then, she quickly caught up with Edwin and said, "So, Mr. Stanley, see you in a

month", Edwin had already gotten into his car, slamming the chilling breeze.

The door shut, leaving Sharon standing there in the wake of a

Sharon shook her head with a sense of helplessness, finding Edwin's behavior after the divorce to be petty and disappointing. After a moment of contemplation, she made a call. "I'm divorced. Come and pick me up," she said.

Chapter 2

In less than ten minutes, a red mini sports car pulled up in front of Sharon. Then, a lively young woman got out of the car.

"Sharon, did you really get divorced?" the woman, Sharon's close friend Alanna Jensen, asked with an excited expression.

"Yeah." Sharon nodded slightly. Then she slid into the passenger seat

"Congrats"" Alanna exclaimed dramatically, hopping into the driver's seat. She turned to look at Sharon and said. "You used to be so proud, but for that jerk, you ended up sacrificing your dignity. Since you're married, you've bent over backward for his family like a servant. However, not only do they not appreciate it, but they also think you've taken advantage of them, constantly targeting you. I'm so sick of seeing that!"

Sharon pursed her lips, staying silent.

Sensing her sadness, Alanna hugged her tightly. "It's okay to cry if you want," she said.

Sharon hugged her back silently. After a while, she wiped away her tears and smiled. "Well, today is a good day. I want to celebrate at the amusement park

Half an hour later, at a certain amusement park in Rosaria City, Sharon sat in the drop tower, feeling the exhilarating free fall and screaming loudly. Afterward, she went on a series of thrilling rides like the rotor, the roller coaster, and the freefall slide. As she screamed and cried freely, flashes of the intersections between her and Edwin over the past ten years kept running through her mind.

Thrilling rides truly did wonders for the soul. After a round of excitement, Sharon felt much better. Wiping away the last tear, she finally banished Edwin from her heart.

After that, Sharon went shopping with Alanna. She did it complete overhaul of her wardrobe and changed her clothes from head to toe. Then, she swung by a salon and transformed her plain straight hair into golden wavy curls.

Looking at the refreshed Sharon, Alanna nodded approvingly and snapped her fingers. "Now, that's the Sharon I know," she exclaimed

Sharon looked at her reflection in the mirror. She was elegant, beautiful, and confident. No one could ever link the timid, silent, pitiful Mrs. Stanley of the past four years to her now. "It's been a while, Sharon Cress, she murmured.

After all these activities, it was already seven in the evening. With growling stomachs, the two headed to the restaurant.

“Just wait in the seat for a moment. I’ll go talk to the chef and get some of his specialties.” Alanna patted Sharon’s shoulder before turning and walking away

Then Sharon headed toward the reserved private room, where a couple was approaching. It was none other than Edwin and his beloved Tilda Gill.

During their marriage, Edwin was often unreachable, and Sharon could hardly catch a glimpse of him for weeks on end. But now they bumped into each other right after the divorce. Sharon sighed inwardly, wanting to avoid them.

However, Tilda noticed her and said with a charming smile, “ML. Cress, you’re here to see Edwin, aren’t you?”

Just as Sharon was about to deny it, Tilda added, “Sorry, I just asked Edwin to go near the city hall to pick up something for me. I didn’t expect it to lead to your divorce.”

Sharon sneered and thought, “So even the divorce is indirectly caused by Tikla. I thought that Edwin still had a bit of affection for me after four years of marriage. Guess not. If she hadn’t decided to completely let go of Edwin, she would have been deeply hurt.

“Fortunately, there’s a cooling-off period, Edwin. Make sure to clear up any misunderstandings, okay?” Tilda said gently, nudging Edwin before walking away.

Sharon didn’t want Edwin to misunderstand, so she explained, “I didn’t come for you. It’s just a coincidence.”

“Playing hard-to-get won’t work on me at all,” Edwin said. He stared down at Sharon and thought, ‘New hairstyle, new clothes, looking radiant. In she trying to catch my attention?’

Edwin didn’t believe that Sharon truly wanted a divorce. He thought she was just using the cooling-off period as a tactic to win him back. He felt repulsed by her tricks,

“Playing hard-to-get?” Sharon sneered. She hadn’t expected but even after their divorce, Edwin would still have such thoughts. She was annoyed by his words. Thinking that he never believed in her anyway, she couldn’t be bothered to explain further and simply shrugged. “Think whatever you want” With that, she walked straight into the private room

Edwin thought Sharon would justify herself and didn’t want to hear that. He was about to leave when he heard her answer. He paused involuntarily and turned to look at her. All he saw was her retreating figure. She actually left?’ he thought inwardly.

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10:56 AM

Chapter 2

After dinner, Alanna said with a meaningful look, "It's not just about looking good. You have to have that aura too. I'm going to make our queen a grand comeback

Sharon was puzzled by Alanna's words until she was brought to the largest bar in Rosaria City.

"Are you sure you want me to dance like this Sharon looked at the sensual dances happening on stage, feeling a bit out of place.

"It's not like you haven't danced before. What are you afraid of? Alanna tossed a red dress to her. "With your skills, once you get on stage, those professional dancers will all have to step aside."

Sharon was amused by her words and chuckled. She took a more conservative outfit instead. "I'll choose classical dance"

After changing her clothes, Sharon danced on stage. With the vigorous music, her movements were fluid and elegant. Her attire perfectly accentuated her gracefulness as she leaped lightly, resembling a princess.

"What's going on? Someone's actually dancing classical in a bar someone in the audience exclaimed.

"This dance actually matches the beat of the music, another one commented.

"Wow, she is so charming, so professional!" a third one shouted.

People who had initially criticized Shareas changed their attitudes when they saw her professional moves. Their eyes widened in admiration. They had never seen someone interpret explosive music with classical dance in such a perfect way.

As for those who were originally dancing on stage, they were mesmerized by Sharon's graceful movements. They stopped and moved aside to enjoy her performance.

The crowded dance floor gradually cleared, leaving Sharon alone under the spotlight, spinning and leaping, her dress billowing. She was so dazzling. The four scantily-clad pole dancers on the poles were instantly overshadowed.

Alanna, who had been worried about Sharon being criticized for dancing classical, couldn't help but lift her chin in admiration at this scene. Indeed, Sharon shines wherever she goes," she said.

Sharon was lost in the dance, completely oblivious to the gazes around her. After four years without dancing, all her pent-up emotions exploded in this moment. She just wanted to unleash herself completely

Her supple and alluring figure, coupled with her agility, made her dance exhilarating. Feeling the excitement, she decided to take it up a notch and leaped onto a pole, dancing gracefully.

Her pole dance was not like the provocative routines of pole dancers, but it was certainly refreshing. Watching her effortlessly execute one challenging move after another, the crowd below erupted into continuous cheers

"Wow, is that a new dancer! Quite skillful," someone said.

Down in the audience, Edwin and a few friends walked over, and one of them was immediately drawn to the figure on stage. The more he looked. the more something seemed off. That woman... looks like your wife," he said to Edwin.

Chapter 3

"Impossible. It can't be her, another person replied with disdain. "If she really had any skills, she would've used them to seduce Edwin long ago. She can't compare to these dancers at all."

Edwin looked up indifferently, seeing only the woman's silhouette, slender and graceful. It did bear some resemblance to Sharon. But in his view, Sharon was full of schemes and lies. She had been careful with her words and actions to maintain their marriage. She couldn't come to dance such a bold dance.

Edwin couldn't help but recall her behavior when they met at the restaurant. He stepped aside and made a call home, asking, "Is Sharon at home?"

"She hasn't come back since she left in the morning..." the servant replied.

Edwin's face darkened. In the next moment, he smiled coldly and thought, 'Does she think I'll pity her because of these tricks? She is mistaken. Fool

me once!

Edwin calmly walked into the private room and sat down. One of his friends approached him. "Edwin, you shouldn't have gotten involved with someone like Sharon in the first place. Just throw money at her and make her disappear. It would have been over then.

Look, on the surface, she claims it's just an accident and won't pursue it further. She goes out and tells the reporters you're engaged, about to get married. She's so shameless!"

This remark touched on Edwin's sore spot. He frowned, and his expression turned extremely gloomy.

"Hold your tongue, the person opposite him interjected. "When that incident happened, Edwin should not have acted too harshly as a man. relationship was just an accident. Giving her money is too much."

"Ask Edwin if that was an accident. This whole thing was intentionally designed by Sharon, the first one replied.

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"Even if it was her design, without the follow-up incident, it wouldn't... Before the second person could finish his sentence, he stopped abruptly. casting a furtive glance at Edwin

Edwin lowered his gaze and drank silently, his face darkening considerably. The atmosphere became somewhat awkward.

One of his friends patted him on the back. "Edwin, you've been married to her for four years, but you probably can't even remember what she looks like. If that's the case, you might as well kick her out early. It's not worth wasting your youth on a trashy woman like her. Without you, she'll probably only have those old, poor, ugly guys willing to take her. That's all she's worth."

Following that mocking laughter echoed inside the room.

Outside the door, Alanna and Sharon were just passing by and unexpectedly heard these remarks. Alanna was so angry that her eyes turned red. With her fists clenched, she wanted to rush in and argue. However, Sharon forcefully pulled Alanna away.

"Why are you stopping me? Those self-righteous bastards treated you like that. I can't swallow this!" Alanna yelled angrily.

Sharon patted her shoulder calmly. "We're already divorced. Let them say what they want."

Before the divorce, she always couldn't help but defend herself, trying to change the impression in Edwin's and his friends minds. But it was futile. At that time, it was for the sake of family harmony. But now that there was no need, she wouldn't care about what others said anymore,

Alanna was still furious. "You endured so much humiliation for him over the years. He didn't believe in you, didn't even remember what you looked like, and even thought you are only fit for the old, poor, and ugly. I'm going to make them see how outstanding you are and what kind of man you

deserve."

Sharon thought she was just venting, so she didn't take it to heart and comforted her before leaving.

The next day, considering that there were still important things left at Stanley Manor, Sharon went there to retrieve them. She didn't go in but called the servant to help bring them out.

As soon as she finished the call, a car pulled up in front of her. Edwin got out of the car with a cold expression. His impatient gaze swept over her. After all the fuss last night, he thought she had come back obediently after being ignored. "Have you had enough of causing trouble! Go in," Edwin ordered coldly.

Sharon was slightly taken aback. Then, she understood what was going on. Edwin probably thought she still had feelings for him. With a slight smile, he reminded her, "Mr. Stanley, it seems like your memory is failing you. We got divorced yesterday"

Edwin frowned. "When there's a way out, you should take it. After causing all that trouble, you only end up embarrassing yourself"

Sharon thought inwardly, "A way out! His words are just cold and mocking, so where is the way out?"

She was about to speak when she suddenly heard a loud noise. She couldn't help but turn her head to look, and what she saw was a huge banner

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Chapter 3

saying. "Congratulations to Sharon for breaking free from suffering and divorcing successfully!" Besides the banner, there were also some small signs with words that said. "Sharon, happy divorce?"

Sharon was stunned by this sudden change, her mouth slightly agape. Before she could react, someone handed her a bouquet of roses and said, "Sharon, can you consider me now

Sharon looked up and saw an incredibly handsome man. Besides, he was 6 feet tall and had a perfect figure.

Before Sharon could say anything, the man dropped to one knee and said affectionately, "I can't promise the world, but I swear to cherish every moment we spend together. I'll hold you in the palm of my hand, listen to you, make you smile, believe in you, stand by you, and never, ever let you feel alone."

As Edwin heard that, his face darkened.

Chapter 4

"What's this? Accusing me of neglecting her? Everything she brought upon herself. What right does she have to complain here? Edwin thought. Despite Sharon's surprised expression, he still believed it was all her acting. He turned and walked away. She doesn't want the way out I offered, yet insists on playing this game. She'll only stop when she's utterly embarrassed herself and slinks back home!"

"Mrs. Stanley, the butler greeted, noticing Sharon trailing behind

Edwin slowed his pace, feeling it necessary to remind Sharon that her endless antics would only lead to trouble. He said coldly, "Listen."

"Thank you." Sharon didn't stop but went straight to a maid who handed her a small bundle. Then she turned to the butler and said, "From now on, call me Ms. Cress. Also, I don't need anything from the room. Dispose of it as you wish." With that, she turned and walked away.

Edwin was stunned. Sharon talked to the butler and the maid, but she completely ignored him.

The butler and maid widened their eyes, looking at Sharon as if she were a stranger. In the past, whenever Edwin was around, Sharon acted as if on thin ice, cautious and eager to please. But today, she changed.

Once outside, Sharon addressed the young man still standing there, "Let's go."

The young man quickly opened the car door for her and replied, "Alright. Then they both got in the car.

"Alanna's gone mad, and what happened to you?" Sharon scolded with a stern face. With such a grand spectacle, she knew that it was al

all orchestrated by Alanna

Putting on a sheepish look, the young man rubbed his chin and said, "Alanna just wanted to surprise you

Alanna

Sharon was not surprised; it was totally a shock. However, she knew it wasn't his intention, so she didn't say much and just

ust called Alan

On the other end. Alanna sounded lively. "How was it? Did Edwin get rattled? Don't worry. This is just the beginning. I'll roll them out one by one. each more impactful than the last. Let him see clearly how popular you are."

Hearing that, Sharon was speechless.

At Stanley Manor, Sharon left for a while, but Edwin remained rooted to the spot

"Why did Mrs. Stanley leave with that man?" a servant asked, puzzled. "Mr. Stanley, is she ch... you know. She didn't dare utter the word "cheating" but everyone understood.

Edwin frowned and remained silent. Then he walked away.

Back at the residence, Sharon received a call from the Stanley family's servant "Mrs. Stanley, you better come back soon. Mr. Stanley looks furious. You should apologize and explain to him properly. Don't let things get out of hand"

Listening calmly to the worried servant, Sharon replied, "Thank you for your concern, but didn't Mr. Stanley tell you? We've already finalized our divorce.

"Divorce?" The servant was shocked, glancing at the brooding Edwin beside. Seeing the banners earlier, she thought it was just a joke. Now she realized it was real.

The servant quickly pieced together Sharon's previous reactions and almost dropped the phone in shock. She thought, 'Mrs. Stanley dumped Mr. Stanley?

Edwin, impatient with the servant's failure to provide a specific return time for Sharon, walked over and snatched the receiver. Just as he was to speak, Sharon's voice came through. "Tell him not to worry. After the divorce, he can go his way, and I'll go mine. I've sent him a bank card. Consider it a gift for his future remarriage."

alsout

Before he could react, the butler arrived with a delivery person. The delivery person handed over a bank card. Edwin was imitated as he recognized the card she was referring to—the one he had given her on their anniversary day.

The delivery person, sensing his dark and ominous aura, hastily left without asking for a signature.

Meanwhile, at Alanna's apartment, Alanna listened to Sharon's words with amusement, "Oh, Sharon, you're something chet Giving him a remarriage gift like this, Edwin must be furious. Well done!"

She snapped her fingers, jumping up from the sofa. "Let's arrange the second round immediately. The last time was just a warm-up. This time, well use our star player. Let's drive Edwin crazy?"

10:38 AM

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"Don't go overboard Sharon pulled her back. "Returning his bank card was just to clear any debts between us. If you keep this up, he'll think I'm still hung up on him. I just hope that one month flies by so I can completely sever ties after getting the divorce decree."

Alanna relented at Sharon's words. "Alright. Let's lay off this scumbag for now. Oh, is sweetie coming back soon?" She suddenly remembered something.

The word "sweetie seemed like a magical incantation Sharon's otherwise expressionless face softened, and she smiled warmly. She nodded, her eyes sparkling "Yes"

The next afternoon, around four o'clock, Sharon and Alanna appeared at the St. Judas Kindergarten.

Before long, a girl in a princess dress walked out, her shoulders hunched, with a shy beam shining from her big eyes.

Chapter 5

Trene!" Sharon called out

As the girl heard that, her face lit up. She ran toward Sharon and exclaimed, "Mommy!"

Sharon bent down to embrace her daughter, Irene Stanley.

Alanna approached Irene. "Hello, Irene. I'm Alanna Jensen. Can I be your friend?"

Irene was Sharon and Edwin's child, also referred to as "weetie" by Alanna. She was conceived after Sharon and Edwin's pre-marriage encounter. Sharon had given birth to her after marrying Edwin.

For four years, Edwin had never touched Sharon, and their relationship was frosty, which contributed to Irene's timid nature. Considering the unfavorable family environment, Sharon had to enroll Irene in a full-time daycare center. Therefore, Irene only came home on weekends.

Irene looked uncertainly at Alanna until Sharon gave her an encouraging look. Then she nodded shyly. "Okay?"

"Great, I will treat you to a feast" Alanna took Trente into her arms and asked Sharon to drive.

Sharon didn't hesitate and took the driver's seat. After all of them got in the car, she stepped on the gas pedal, feeling the joy of driving in the wind after a long absence.

Shortly after they left, the Stanley family's car also arrived at St. Judas Kindergarten. On the passenger seat, Edwin, busy with paperwork as usual, kept his head down with a stoic expression

The butler got out alone. Then he returned soon after and said, "The teacher said Mrs. Stanley has already picked up Irene.

Edwin was stunned for a moment. His eyes turned cold as he heard that

"It's obvious Mrs. Stanley doesn't really want to divorce you. Taking Irene should be a signal to you that she wants to come back the butler said, relieved. He stared at Edwin and waited for Edwin's order to bring Sharon back.

"Go home," Edwin replied coldly and frowned. He wanted Sharon to come back herself, to let her know that playing tricks with him and making a fuss wouldn't work. She had better simply live honestly.

In the blink of an eye, thirty days had gone by. Tomorrow, Sharon and Edwin would collect the divorce decree.

Perhaps because she had already accepted the reality of the d

divorce, Sharon appeared extremely calm. After putting Irene to bed, she and Alanna sat in the living room, drinking wine and chatting.

During this time, Sharon had spent almost all her time with Irene, trying to make up for the years of neglect. Seeing Irene's smile grow day by day, she felt relieved and more convinced that leaving Edwin was the right decision.

"People are curio

curious why I came back, but it's simple. This is my home, where I belong. As they talked, a sweet voice suddenly sounded.

Sharon looked up at the television. On the screen, Tilda was smiling charmingly, her eyes full of affection. Flashbulbs blinked, many reporters standing opposite her.

"So, Ma. Gill, you have found your man, right here in our city!" The reporters, ever sensitive, caught onto her implications quickly.

Tilda smiled but remained silent. Her happy expression spoke volumes.

"Back then, with all that scandal, if it weren't for you, she'd be ruined by now. Yet, here she is, shamelessly coming back to wreck your family. Shame on her! Seeing Tilda, Alanna couldn't hold back her anger. "That disgusting woman! Edwin actually treats her like a treasure and falls in love with her again. Shameless!" She slammed her glass onto the table. If it were me, I'd always choose you over her.

Sharon listened, smiling wryly. Perhaps that's the difference between love and not loving."

In Sharon's view, Edwin forgave Tilda's betrayal four years ago because he loved her. He didn't love Sharon, so even if there were hidden reasons behind the "forced marriage" four years ago, he couldn't be bothered to listen.

"Even if you divorced, you can't let these scumbags off the hook." Alanna was straightforward and clear-cut in her personality. With her hands on her hips, she exuded a commanding aura.

Sharon appeared more indifferent. Whether they live well or not has nothing to do with me. I just want to live happily with Irene." However, the thought of not having told Irene about the divorce weighed heavily on her mind.

10:58 AM

Chapter 5

The next morning, Edwin walked downstairs as usual and meticulously adjusted his sleeves, his expression blank.

"Mrs. Stanley is calling for you, Mr. Stanley. The bellman approached with a smile.

Edwin took the call but remained silent.

On the other end, Sharon's voice was calm and distant. "When are you free? I'm at the cafe below your office."

Edwin glanced at the calendar on the wall and thought, 'After enduring for more than twenty days, does she finally give in

Sharon suggested meeting at the cafe, so Edwin assumed she wanted to apologize and make amends. He didn't respond and hung up without listening to the rest.

Not hearing his response, Sharon couldn't figure out what he meant. Although she knew Edwin would definitely agree to the divorce, she hoped for a quick resolution and decided to wait for him downstairs at his company

When Edwin arrived by car, he immediately spotted Sharon outside the company building. He snorted disdainfully and frowned with disgust. He thought Sharon's current eagerness to apologize for reconciliation was as repulsive as her arrogant behavior when she initially caused a scene.

As Sharon saw him, her face lit up. "You're here:

Edwin's expression remained cold. "If only you knew better from the start."

Sharon paused, not quite understanding his meaning. But she didn't bother to ask, simply saying, "Let's talk at the café.

Edwin had no mood to waste time with her. "Whatever it is Just say it here."

"Fine, Sharon replied. Since he didn't care about keeping their divorce private, she didn't mind either.

Sharon quickly opened her tablet and then connected to a video interface. The city hall has introduced a video working system to make it easier for everyone. The staff can verify our identities through video, and once we confirm, they'll send the divorce decree straight to our homes. It saves the hassle of going to collect it. To be honest, this service was extremely thoughtful.

Edwin paused, taken aback. He thought Sharon was here to apologize and reconcile, but she was here to get the divorce decree.

"Edwin, Sharon, are you sure you want a divorce?" A middle-aged woman's face appeared on the screen.

Because the woman used a microphone and the tablet's sound was loud when played through the speakers, the pedestrians passing by on their way to work all turned back, surprised by the announcement.

"Sure." Sharon pressed the confirmation button without hesitation.

Edwin was speechless. He looked at the button and then at Sharon. His eyes darkened.

“It’s your turn,” Sharon urged, her eyes sparkling. She nodded and looked at Edwin with a smile as she motioned for him to confirm.

Across from Edwin, the staff on the screen were also watching. All around, employees slowed their pace, watching his reaction

Edwin stared at Sharon intently and thought, She is so straightforward with her confirmation. Is it because she thinks I’ll let her stay for the sake of our child?” He slowly lifted his finger. Sure enough, he noticed Sharon’s widened eyes and nervous expression. Then he thought, Tm right. She is playing her last card, hoping to stay by making me back down.”

Sharon hadn’t even considered this. Her nervousness stemmed from a desire for Edwin to hurry up, not wanting the divorce proceedings to become a public spectacle.

Edwin took a while to press the confirmation button. He thought Sharon would reveal her true colors and call it off, but to his surprise, she remained silent until the end. With a sour face, he clenched his fist silently.

Just then, a sweet voice rang out. “Edwin” Tilda, accompanied by her assistant, walked over with a bright smile. She happened to see the staff

stamping the document and displaying the divorce decree in the video. She covered her mouth and exclaimed, “Are you two really getting divorced”

Sharon looked at her with a sneer. In her view, Edwin, who was initially displeased and frustratingly slow in his action, quickly confirmed the divorce upon Tilda’s arrival. He must care a lot about Tilda

Without dwelling on it too long. Tilda took Edwin’s arm I rushed over and haven’t had breakfast yet. I heard there’s a nice breakfast place nearby. Edwin, would you accompany me there?”

Sharon, uninterested in their public display of affection, turned to leave.

“Ms. Cress, care to join us?” Tilda called out from behind. Resting her head on Edwin’s shoulder. Tilda leaned against him. “Even if you are divorced, we’re still friends.”

Sharon realized Tilda’s attempt to show off her victory and found it extremely boring. She couldn’t be bothered to act with Tilda, saying casually, “No need I’m not in the habit of being friends with exes.”

“How about exchanging contact information” Tilda’s assistant chimed in. “Tilda has quite a wide network, knows many big shots, and can introduce suitable ones to you in the future. She won’t let your quality of life suffer after the divorce.

“What are you saying?” Tilda solily rebuked, lacking any real intimidation

What a hypocritical woman! Sharon looked at Tilda and couldn't help but sneer. With my assets, I could easily support hundreds of people at her level. Does she really need to worry about my quality of life?

“Ms. Gill, Sharon's life doesn't need you to worry about” A male voice sounded before Sharon could speak.

Then, the man rested his hand on Sharon's shoulder. “I could buy ten Dreambeds Groups with one month's sales profit. I have enough money to support Sharon,” he continued.

Dreambeds Group was the company Tilda currently worked for. He mocked Tilda's overestimation of herself,

“Mr. Jensen!” Tilda's expression changed, her eyes widening in disbelief. “You...”

Edwin's face darkened as he stared at the hand resting on Sharon's shoulder. He finally understood; Sharon truly wanted a divorce. And the reason for her divorce was this man before him.

Sharon couldn't have just seduced him in just a few days. She must have been cheating on me during our marriage, Edwin thought. He felt Sharon's betrayal. He was even more enraged than when she forced him to marry her

Tilda sensed Edwin's anger, and her heart skipped a beat.

“Let's go.” Rocky Jensen stared at Sharon and said softly.

Sharon nodded. “Alright.” Then they ignored the others and left.

Behind them, everyone who witnessed the scene was d

scene was dumbfounded.

Isn't that Rocky Jensen, the live-streaming e-commerce guy?” one of them exclaimed.

“He sold a rocket earlier this year, making a fortune for Hisory Entertainn

le's incredibly famous now,” another one replied

“Nowadays, everyone knows him. His monthly sales are over 200 billion dollars, a third one commented.

“Not only dut, but his father is the second–ranked entrepreneur in our city. Despite his wealthy background, he is hard–working”

TUSS Am

Chapter 6

Hearing that. Tilda thought inwardly. Even if Rocky can’t surpass Edwin, he was on par with Edwin. Does Sharon just step out of a wealthy family and immediately step into another one?’ She tightened her fingers silently. ‘She ruined my marriage four years ago. She hasn’t faced any consequences. Instead, she is chosen by an eligible bachelor like Rocky, What the hell’“

“Was it Alanna who asked y you to come again?” In a secluded place. Sharon finally pushed Rocky away. S

She was somewhat speechless.

Rocky had a handsome face, always smiling, which made him particularly likable. He said with an earnest expression. “It’s got nothing to do with her. I came on my own. I wasn’t joking earlier. If you’re willing. Jet’s get married right away”

“Cut it out. I don’t want your dad coming after me with a club. Life is good. I want to live for many more years. Sharon looked at him with disdain. After years of knowing each other, they no longer held back and said whatever was on their minds.

Rocky chuckled. Then the two of them exchanged some lighthearted jokes before parting ways.

Sharon went straight to Bisney Entertainment and found Alanna. She said, “Rocky caused quite a scene today. Who knows what trouble it might stir up? Keep an eye on it”

Alanna put the tablet on the table. “Too late. Something’s already happened”

Sharon picked up the tablet and looked down. She sucked in a breath at what she saw.

Someone had swiftly posted a photo of her divorce from Edwin, along with Rocky’s advances, online. They had even put a mosaic over her face, but the news was enough to stir up a wave on the internet. Sure enough, within twenty minutes, it had already garnered over three hundred

thousand views.

Sharon felt a headache coming on. She murmured. “That brat Rocky, he won’t be satisfied until he ruins his life.”

Alanna casually patted her on the shoulder. “You know the PR skills of Bisney Entertainment. Don’t worry. We’ll handle this without a hitch.”

Alanna shifted her attention back to Sharon and continued, “But now that you’re divorced, you can’t stay hidden forever. How about we start with our old business? Everyone’s been missing you!

Sharon’s eyes lit up. “Okay, but I want to bring Irene along”

Chapter 7

Twenty minutes later, Sharon showed up at Bisney Entertainment

Irene.

“Your gear’s all set. Here Alanna handed over a snow white fox mask, eyes twinkling. “If folks know Foxy’s back, they’ll go wild”

Sharon quietly accepted and slipped it on

“Mommy, that mask looks fun. I wanna wear one 100, Irene exclaimed.

“Sweetie, got one for you 100. Alanna took out a pink fox mask and handed it to her.

Irene’s eyes sparkled as Alanna assisted her in putting on the mask. “Mommy, are we playing dress-up?” She ran to Sharon’s side, tugging at her

Sharon patted her head. “We’re doing a live stream

Meanwhile, Alanna had already set up the livestream.

Only a few people were watching, but Sharon was still thrilled. She felt a magical pull, even after four years. She said. “Hey, everyone, it’s your buddy Foxy Damon. You must be curious why I vanished for four years. Let me fill you in.

Sharon briefly explained her marriage and motherhood. Then she introduced Irene to everyone. After a while, the once quiet livestream room buzzed with excitement.

“Whoa, am I seeing things! Foxy Damon’s back?” someone commented.

“Could someone be faking her to fool us?”

“It’s likely. After all, Foxy Damon is a big influencer with tens of millions of fans. No way would these people give up on such a lucrative opportunity.”

If it’s not the real Foxy Damon, what’s the point? I’m out of here

As the comments flooded in. Sharon just smiled faintly. Then she began to sing a song. Afterward, she performed a magic trick, accompanied by joke.

“It’s Foxy Damon. It’s really her! I used to watch her live streams religiously. I could recognize her style blindfolded”

“Yeah.

ah. I can tell, too. She’s really back!”

“Foxy, love you!”

The livestream room erupted with excitement, various static comments popping up, and some people crazily sending gifts.

Back in her college days, Sharon had already started livestreaming. She was a certified internet sensation, as popular as any mainstream celebrity. But after marrying into the Stanley family, they disapproved of her internet fame, so she stopped. Initially, she was wholeheartedly dedicated to Edwin, believing any sacrifice was worthwhile. But looking back now, she realized how naive and foolish she had been.

Sharon turned off the gift function. “It’s been four years. Thank you all for remembering me. Today’s about catching up

up. No need for gifs.

Hack in the livestream, Sharon suddenly came alive. Sometimes silly, sometimes innocent, sometimes cute, sometimes aloof, she effortlessly switched styles, showcasing her talents.

Trene was initially shy. However, seeing Sharon having fun, she joined in, singing, dancing, and doing magic tricks. They both had a blast,

Meanwhile, Edwin’s mood was far from good. Since the morning’s upheaval, he had become somewhat of a celebrity. Everyone knew about his divorce.

Throughout the morning. Edwin received several calls from close friends. However, their first reaction wasn’t congratulations. They just commented, “You split up? What a pity”

ity about a commiving woman? Edwin thought inwardly.

y? What a joke! What’s there to pity

Pity!

To add to Edwin’s irritation, Rocky defending Sharon inade headlines.

Later, during Rocky's live broadcast, he was asked about their relationship. Hocky claimed he had admired Sharon for a long time. However, initially, the gap between them was too significant, and he lacked the courage to confess his feelings. Learning of her divorce, he hoped to spend time with her and would do his best in the future.

Edwin sneered and thought. The woman I discarded is his longtime favorite. Is he implying I am blind?

0

Chapter

Edwin stormed off to Nexus without even having lunch. He drowned his frustrations in alcohol.

Seated beside Edwin was Ray Gildon, who swiped through a tablet displaying news about Rocky, "Can't believe your wife is such a hit, he said with

smirk.

Edwin winced at the smile, his mood sinking further. He retorted coldly. "Ex wife."

"Yeah, ex-wife. But thinking about it, it's still quite a pity. Despite her scheming ways back then, she's been pretty low-key these years. And honestly, what she did back then might've even benefited you... Well, forget it Ray, usually chatty, sensed Edwin's hostility and quickly shut up. He knew he'd touched a nerve.

Edwin rubbed his temples, his thoughts lingering on the divorce. He wondered. "Where does Sharon, that worthless woman, get the nerve to divorce me! What right does she have?"

There's nothing to regret about divorcing a woman like her, Edric Greenwood chimed in with disdain "She left with nothing, not even a word. about custody of the child, Clearly, it's a strategic move, keeping her options open, I bet within three days, she'll come crawling back with the kid, begging you to reconcile. If you cave in, you're playing right into her hands".

As Edwin heard Edric's speculation that Sharon wasn't sincere about the divorce and might even be planning a remarriage, his mood inexplicably lightened. However, after a while, he sank into annoyance again. He thought, Sharon is just a conniving woman. I should've divorced her long ago!

"Huh, Foxy Damon's back!" Ray suddenly exclaimed. He handed the tablet to Edwin with excitement. "Edwin, our plans for entering the Satisetion might be hopeful now

Though Edwin was thoroughly annoyed, he never slacked off in work matters. He glanced at the person on the tablet and said, "You handle this matter first."

"Got it" Ray nodded. Then he nudged Edwin. "Don't you think Foxy Damon looks kinda like your ex-wife?"

Chapter 8

"Why the hell do you see Sharon in every woman? Edric, who had been disengaged, playing cards on his phone, shot a glance over and asked.

Every time Sharon's name came up. Edric visibly cringed. Just like that time Ray spotted a dancer in the ballroom and made the same snarky

comment

Already in a foul mood, Edwin couldn't sit still anymore with the ongoing discussion about Sharon. He abruptly stood up and left the booth.

After an engaging livestream that lasted over an hour, Sharon and Irene were still riding the high.

Irene removed her fox mask, and her eyes sparkled as she looked at Sharon. "Mommy, that's the happiest I've ever seen you smile. You're so pretty when you smile!"

Sharon froze for a moment, a sharp realization piercing her thoughts. Four years into this marriage, and I've damn near forgotten how to crack a

"You were amazing. Irene, I had no

d no idea you

Blushing, Irene looked down. "I've always loved dancing, but Grandma and Auntie hate it. I didn't want them to scold you, so I stopped..."

could dance like that," Sharon complimented, pinching her cheek gently.

Sharon's eyes welled up with tears as the realization struck her hard.

After Sharon got married, she and Irene continued to live with her mother-in-law, Jasmine Stanley, and sister-in-law, Tina Stanley.

Ever since she was just months old, Irene had shown a natural talent for dancing. As a toddler, she'd choreograph her own dances. But over time, she danced less and less. Sharon had thought Irene had simply lost interest. Now she understood the real reason was fear of getting chewed out

Overwhelmed with guilt, Sharon hugged Irene tightly. "From now on, you can dance whenever you feel like it, and don't worry about anything else." She reassured her. Then, hesitantly, she added, "There's something else, honey. We won't be living with grandma anymore, and I've separated from your dad. Is that okay with you?"

The notion of divorce hadn't been discussed with Irene, leaving Sharon extremely anxious,

"Does this mean we don't have to stay at Grandma's anymore?" Irene paused briefly, then her face brightened with joy. "That would be amazing

"You don't want to stay there either?" Sharon asked, taken aback by Irene's enthusiastic response.

"No." Irene shook her head firmly "Grandma and Auntie don't like you or me. I don't like them either!"

Sharon felt an even deeper guilt. Being the daughter of a humble shoemaker had made her subject to the Stanleys' disdain, which they extended to Irene. Irene's existence had been kept a secret for three years, a source of shame to the Stanley family.

Sharon pondered regretfully, "What if I hadn't made that impulsive decision back then? What if I had raised my child alone after finding out about the pregnancy? Would things be different?"

Soon after. Alanna told her that the apartment she needed was available. Sharon took Irene to the new apartment, a place she had secured with her earnings from her pre-marriage live-streaming career.

The moment they opened the door, a respectful and enthusiastic voice greeted them. "Hello, host; my name is Eddy, your most devoted, amari. butler. Just give the word, and I'll be at your service."

Sharon burst into laughter. "Alanna, have you lost your mind? I left that house to forget all about them, and here you are setting me up with an

"With everything you endured there, since we couldn't get your money back, at least let's get some revenge. I've programmed this smart butler not just with that jerk's voice but his mom's and sister's, too. Switch them up when you want to give them a piece of your mind!" Alanna declared fiercely, as she knew all too well the pain and humiliation Sharon had suffered these past four years and felt indignantly on her behalf.

goff to her new plak, Lace-filled bedroom fillest

Sharon gave her a resigned eye-roll as they entered the apartment, with Irene happily scampering

with doll.

As they settled by the coffee table, scrolling through their phones and sipping coffee, Alanna suddenly asked, "With all those villas in your name, why pick this tiny apartment?"

After four years in the vast, cold mansion of the Stanley family, Sharon was d

was done with the emptiers. She looked around her modest living space and shrugged. "Smaller feels cozier. It doesn't feel so hollow. Besides, I bought this place before I got married. I want to get back to who I was before

Moved almost to tears by Sharon's determination, Alanna felt a wave of relief wash over her "Tut's the spirit."

10:50 AM

Chapter 8

They resumed browsing on their phones. The buzz around Sharon and Rocky Jensen hadn't died down yet, and Alanna couldn't help but let out a chuckle. "Everyone seems to think you two would be great together. Honestly, Rocky is leagues better than that scumbag Edwin."

"Rocky is great, but let's not play matchmaker. I just want to enjoy life with Irene right now, I'm not interested in romance," Sharon said, clearly resigned.

ith Edwi

After the emotional torture she had endured with Edwin, Sharon had given up on love,

"Damn it!" Amid their conversation. Alanna suddenly slammed her hand on the coffee table, making the cups rattle. "That Edwin is the ultimate lowlife! His divorce papers are still warm, and he is already planning to get engaged to Tilda Gill

Sharon looked over and saw Tilda's Twitter page on Alanna's phone. It showed a photo of her beaming and holding hands with someone. Although the man's face was obscured, a distinct red mole on his middle finger made it clear—it was indeed Edwin.

The caption boldly declared. "Spring has sprung, perfect for getting engaged

Sharon glanced at the screen, offering a faint, dismissive unile, "To me, they're just strangers now. Whether they're getting engaged or married, it's none of my business. With that, she turned away, refusing to look again

“Still, it pisses me off!” Alanna slammed her hand down on the table, her voice seething with anger. “If it weren’t for you speaking up back then, Edwin would’ve faced utter humiliation, and the Stanley Group might’ve tanked!” She continued, “He’s not only ungrateful but also totally ignores you. And flaunting his thing with Tilda so publicly, what’s that about? It’s like he is saying everything you did for him was a waste, and you deserved all the pain

harsh reality.

“In his eyes, that’s exactly it.” Sharon sighed, having long resigned herself to o that h

“That fucking asshole! Alanna grabbed a coffee stirrer and furiously scratched at the table, pretending it was Edwin. “We might have lost in love, but we won’t lose in life. If he thinks he can just stomp all over you, we’re going to stir up some trouble to make him pay. I’m deploying Randall this time, his unmatched noble charm will totally crush Edwin!” She clapped her hands decisively and grabbed her phone.

“Cut it out, will you?” Sharon pleaded, worn out by Alana’s schemes. “You’ve already set me up with two guys this month people are going to start thinking I’m a serial dater. Plus, Randall is different from Rocky—so untainted and upright. I just couldn’t bear to drag him into this.”

“All right. All right. Alanna looked at her with a mix of frustration and affection. Knowing she couldn’t sway Sharon, she reluctantly dropped the subject with a sigh

Although she hadn’t planned on involving Randall, upon hearing he had returned to town, Sharon decided to take Irene to visit him.

Chapter 9

Randall Silva was a rising figure skater over the last couple of years.

When Sharon and Irene showed up at the ice rink, Randall was chilling by the railing, skates on, and still in his practice gear. Tall and slender, his clothes billowed in the wind like he was straight out of a fairy tale. His face, especially, was a knockout—like he’d just walked out of a masterpiece, with strands of hair falling softly, framing that noble air of his perfectly.

Upon seeing Sharon, a shy smile appeared on Randall’s handsome face as he greeted her gently. “Hey, Sharon?”

Sharon pulled Irene closer and introduced, “Irene, this is my friend, Randall.”

“Randall, you’re so gorgeous, like Adonis, Irene blurted out, finally free from the restraints of the Stanley family and speaking her mind.

Randall chuckled, slightly embarrassed, and handed Irene a delicate white bracelet as a gift.

Irene was delighted and started playing with it immediately.

Once Irene stepped away, Randall looked at Sharon with concern. "Sharon, I heard about what happened. Are you okay?"

Sharon shrugged casually. "It's all in the past. I'm good now"

Randall's expression flickered with understanding. He could tell Sharon wasn't entirely over her past marriage but chose not to press further.

"Why don't we put on a skating show?" he suggested thoughtfully, hoping to lift her spirits.

The idea tempted Sharon. Although her skills were not as polished as Randall's, she had taken the sport seriously enough to persuade him in the past and had grown to love it herself,

"Sure, let's do it. It'll be fun. Plus, I'd like to bring Irene along. Sharon responded with a smile.

Randall had no objections

Hearing she was going ice skating with them, Irene clapped her hands and spun around in excitement.

Randall then collected skates and practice outbus for them and led them onto the ice.

He began by showing Irene around, teaching her simple moves while Sharon warmed up on the side.

To everyone's surprise, Irene quickly mastered the basics and soon was skating confidently under Randall's guidance.

Sharon skated over, took Irene's other hand, and the three of them glided across the ice together.

Their striking appearance—a handsome man, a beautiful woman, and a charming child—caught the eyes of onlookers who couldn't help but admire.

Music filled the air overhead at some point, and instinctively, Sharon spun Irene out toward Randall who caught her silently on the other side.

Irene giggled with joy, pleading for more.

Sharon lifted her up, and Randall, following behind, respectfully supported her waist while spinning her around,

Confident in Randall's skating prowess, Sharon let loose to the lively music. Her dance background shone through as she moved rhythmically,

her every motion in synch with the beat. Her body, graceful and lithe, swirled in Randall's arms like seaweed drifting through the water. It was effortlessly alluring.

Randall's gaze grew tender, his arms gently embracing as he allowed Sharon and Irene to whirl in his arms, his smile radiantly affectionate.

Meanwhile, Tilda and Edwin arrived at the ice skating rink. As she observed them effortlessly gliding across the ice, Tilda exclaimed, "Wow, look at that picture-perfect family!"

Edwin glanced up:

and noticed their elegant figures skating. He didn't initially recognize Irene and Sharon due to their helmets. Like Tilda, he was struck by the beauty of the scene.

As the music stopped, Sharon unclipped her helmet and swung her long hair around with a flourish, cheering. "That was freaking awesome!"

When Edwin saw Sharon's face, surprise was written all over his. He had never known Sharon to skate, especially not with such

grace. In his eyes, she was always the manipulator, blatant in every other way.

Irene also took off her helmet and excitedly shouted, "Mommy, that was so much fun!"

Unaware of Edwin's presence, Irene was totally smitten with Randall, clutching his hand tightly. "Randall, why don't you be my daddy?" she suggested.

Chapters

Recalling what Alanna had told her, that Sharon would find a better man after the divorce, she thought. I really like Randall. He would be an awesome dad.

Kids would say the darndest things, but that comment made Edwin's face turn stone cold.

Though silent, Tilda sensed the icy tension building around them, her heart pounding

“Randall, can you keep an eye on Irene for a minute? I need to hit the restroom,” Sharon said, oblivious to Irene’s earlier remark, as she handed off her and headed for the restroom.

Just as she entered, the door slammed shut with a loud bang. Startled, Sharon turned around to see Edwin’s dark, brooding face looming behind

her, his eyes sharp and foreboding.

Chapter 10

Running into Edwin here caught Sharon off guard, yet she managed a polite smile. “Mr. Stanley, are you lost? This is the ladies’ room. The men’s is right next door.”

“I don’t care who you’re screwing around with, but keep Irene out of it. She is my daughter, send her back right now!” he barked, as usual..

Sharon’s polite smile twisted into a cold smirk. “Your daughter Mr. Stanley, do you even remember if Irene was born in the morning or afternoon? Was it cloudy or sunny? What exactly happened the day she was bom?”

Edwin was stumped and unable to reply.

After marrying Sharon, Edwin was hardly home, spending most of his time at the office or traveling, accounting for two-thirds of the year. All he remembered was that when he returned from a business trip, Sharon had already given birth.

Sharon’s mood soured as she remembered a book about a woman who faced pregnancy, prenatal visits, and childbirth all on her own, and how pitiable the protagonist seemed.

But only when she had to sign a critical condition notice for her newborn daughter while bleeding out did she realize that her own ordeal was barely a tenth of what she’d read. After Edwin had failed to answer her call for help during her direst moment, she had kept that painful episode to herself.

“What’s the use? He’d probably laugh it off, claim all my suffering was just desserts for screwing up his relationship with Tilda, Sharon mused sarcastically.

Brushing aside her heartache, she smiled up at Edwin. “Dan’t worry, Mr. Stanley, Irene is my treasure. I won’t let her be treated like dirt. She will live with dignity. With that, she stepped past him and walked away.

Life soon settled into a quieter rhython.

Randall returned and started live streaming sales every day. With his unique charisma and status as a figure skating champion, he quickly drew a huge following for Disney Entertainment.

Irene was now Randall's biggest fan, shadowing him daily. Rocky, green with envy, was pulling out all the stops to charm her. With two hunks by her side, Irene was living the dream.

Freed from daily duties with Irene, Sharon had a lot of spare time. Early one morning, Alanna Jensen dragged her out shopping.

As a big shot in the live-stream sales world, Alanna was immediately recognized when she entered the mall. Salespeople swarmed her, eager to

dress her in their finest.

Used to keeping things low-key, Sharon watched the fuss from a distance then slipped quietly into another shop, where she quickly spotted a simple yet stunning pink dress.

"Could you wrap this up for me?" she requested.

"Of course," the employee replied, fetching the dress.

Just then, a snide voice called out, "Isn't that Sharon Cress, the high and mighty!"

Sharon turned to see a woman flanked by several others approaching.

The woman stared her down with spiky disdain, her sneer full of scorn.

to

It was Tina Stanley, Sharon's former sister-in-law, who never missed a chance to belittle her. Spotting the dress in the clerk's hands, Tina scoffed. "Look at yourself, How dare you shop here? Do you have any idea how expensive this place is?"

"They can't be that pricey," Sharon shot back coolly. A few thousand dollars were nothing to her now.

"Oh, playing the big shot, huh? I guess you knew I'd come by and decided to wait here for me to pick up your tab, maybe cry poor, beg me to drug you back to the Stanleys!" Tina was sure of herself.

From her perspective. Sharon, stripped of everything and jobless, couldn't possibly afford the boutique's prices unless she was setting up a scene.

“Get on your knees and beg. Maybe then I’ll consider it, Tina snarled, arms crossed, an evil glint in her eye as she sat smugly in front of Sharon.

Though Tina had no real intention of letting Sharon come back, bullying her had become a habit, one she relished a little too much.

Sharon had long seen through Tina’s petty maneuvers, and couldn’t help but smile faintly to herself. She had tolerated Tina’s bullying in the past. – not wanting to cause any issues that might distract Edwin. But now, with the divorce behind her, why should she care about Tina’s ranting?

Striding past Tina, Sharon approached the counter. “Til pay for this”

10:58 AM

Chapter 10

Seeing Sharon ignore her, Tina was furious to the point of bursting. She rudely snatched the dress from the employee’s hands and slapped it on the counter. “Tim taking this dress!”

“It was in my hands first.” Sharon countered coolly

Tina, ever the drama queen, retorted, “So what? I’m a Stanley, I could buy this entire store if I wanted!”

“Where’s the manager? Kick this broke–ass woman out right now!” she demanded as if she ruled the place.

“Not so fast. Why not buy the store before you start giving orders?” Before Sharon could even respond, Alanna’s voice sliced through the tension. she sauntered over, designer bag in tow, her gaze dripping with contempt for Tina.

Tina had just been bluffing about buying the store. Seeing Alanna intervene, her face turned beet red.

“This is a family issue. Ms. Jensen. You should really keep out of it. Tina snapped, well aware of Alanna’s reputation.

Alanna let out a derisive snort. “Sharon’s the only family she has. And who the hell are you to call yourself her family? Plus, she is my best friend. Her business is my business”

Tina stared at Alanna in disbelief. She had assumed Alanna was merely a concerned onlooker, not expecting them to actually be close friends. How is that possible she thought, shocked, ‘Sharon is just a cobbler’s daughter. How could she know someone like Alanna Jensen?’

“This store? I’ll buy it for twice its price,” Alanna announced carelessly, dropping a black card on the counter with a thud.

The room went silent at the mention of millions of dollars, everyone stunned by Alanna’s audacity.

“The store might not be for sale, but we’re happy to follow any instructions from Ms. Jensen. The astute manager quickly recognized that Alanna was simply challenging Tina.

Alanna nodded in satisfaction, glanced disdainfully at Tina, and leisurely began to speak...