Born As Kidney Donor For My Sister Chapter 16

The taxi driver didn't respond and, after a brief silence, started the car.

I watched Elijah through the rearview mirror as he stood there, bewildered, until he was out of sight.

At that moment, my phone rang-it was Elijah calling. I hung up immediately.

Suddenly, a deep voice broke the silence in the car. "Did you two have an argument?"

The voice was oddly familiar. I looked up at the driver's seat and was stunned.

It was Liam Osborne!

The son of the Osborne family, the rival of the Terry family.

I felt a surge of wariness and frowned as I asked, "How are you here?"

Liam looked both distressed and amused. "Mrs. Terry, you're the one who got into my car."

I then realized his car was similar in color to a taxi. In my haste to escape Elijah, I hadn't noticed and had gotten into the wrong vehicle.

I gave an apologetic smile. "I'm sorry, just find a place to pull over and let me out."

Liam joked, "Given your current state, if I

2/7

drop you on the side of the road and you suddenly dart into traffic, Elijah might come after me."

I managed a weak smile.

He curiously asked, "Elijah's known for being a devoted gentleman. How did you two end up arguing?"

"Don't forget, I'm deaf, so he naturally wouldn't hold anything against me."

"But now, his fiery rose has returned, I suppose it's time for me, the flawed one, to step aside."

The last line felt more like a musing to myself.

"Actually, I envy you, Liam suddenly said.

I looked at him in confusion, my brow furrowing in bewilderment.

He explained, "To hear or not to hear, it's all up to you. My parents are always nagging me; my ears are practically calloused from it."

I couldn't help but smile at that.

He really is quite humorous.

He suddenly said, "I'll take you somewhere."

Without waiting for my response, he pressed the gas pedal, speeding up the car.

Soon, we left the city and arrived at a villa in the suburbs.

He led me to the backyard, where a small basket was filled with silkworms.

"I haven't fed them for two days; they must be starving," he said, placing some mulberry leaves into the basket.

I was puzzled. "You brought me here to see silkworms?"

He smiled. "Not exactly. I wanted to show you fireworks. It's prohibited to set them off in the city!"

We then went to the riverbank to light up the fireworks.

He said, "Look how beautiful the fireworks are!"

Later, since it was too late, I stayed at his villa.

After a tiring day, I fell asleep quickly in bed.

The next morning, when I opened my phone, it was filled with WhatsApp notifications.

Elijah's chat had reached ninety-nine unread messages.

"Ashie, where are you and Liam?"

"Ashie, where are you right now?"

"Ashie, please reply once you see this message."

I ignored him and didn't respond.

At that moment, another message came in.

It was from Liam.

He had sent a drawing of me holding a magic wand and smiling brightly.

"Even the most beautiful fireworks have imperfections."

"Ashley, let your beauty shine."

Born As Kidney Donor For My Sister Chapter 17

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"Ashley, let your beauty shine." Born As Kidney Donor For My Sister Chapter 18 Liam dropped me off at Elijah's house.

Since my hearing aid needed charging, it had a specific connector.

As soon as I opened the door, I saw Elijah slumped on the sofa, looking dejected. His eyes, vacant at first, flickered with some life when he saw me.

"Ashie, where did you go last night? Liam didn't do anything to you, did he?"

His face was haggard, and the concern in his eyes made me wonder if any of it was genuine.

I stared at him coldly and said, "Elijah, I had a great time with Liam last night!"

He looked taken aback. The worry on his face was quickly replaced by forced composure as he managed a strained smile.

"Ashie, that's not a funny joke."

I kept my gaze fixed on his face, not wanting to miss any nuance, even the slightest.

"He didn't mind that I'm deaf."

He laughed in disbelief, with a hint of disdain in his eyes. "Ashie, you know as well as I do that the Terry family and the Osborne family are rivals. Why would he talk to Mrs. Terry?"

I didn't answer him and simply said, "He said I... am beautiful!"

He was stunned, and I chose not to engage further. Instead, I went to my room to pack my things.

Seeing me drag out my suitcase, he realized I wasn't joking.

As I passed by him, he suddenly grabbed my suitcase and shoved it aside.

The suitcase hit the ground with a thud.

He could no longer hide his disdain and impatience, his voice tinged with irritation.

"Ashie."

"It was just a few words."

"I only said it casually."

"Can't you just pretend you never heard it?"

Act like I've never heard it? I couldn't help but laugh.

How dare he say such things?

I said, "Elijah, I'm deaf, but I'm not stupid!"

"Never heard it? Haha, I really can't convince myself of that."

He came forward and hugged me tightly, breathing heavily in my ear.

"Ashie, I was really afraid you might be with Liam yesterday."

"I thought you might never come back."

"Ashie, those words weren't from my heart..."

His voice grew hoarse and choked:

"Yesterday, when I heard you say you wanted a divorce, I was really scared..."

"Please forgive me this time, okay?"

"I promised I wouldn't abandon you. Are you going to abandon me first? I can't live without you!"

As I listened to him, I couldn't tell if it was sincere.

But it all seemed absurdly laughable.

The mocking words he used when talking to Hallie echoed in my mind.

I could even remember the tone.

I pushed him away, looked up at his refined face, and couldn't help but smile:

"Elijah, but I really can't forget..."

As I spoke, tears began to fall.

Those few words had already become sharp daggers, accurately stabbing into my heart, still twisting inside.

I wiped away my tears and looked at him without warmth.

"Elijah, let me go, and I'll let you go."

"Let's consider it a mutual release."

"You can go pursue the bright and proud red rose of your heart..."

His eyes were red, and he seemed at a loss for

words.

"Ashie, are you really going to do this to me?"

"Can you truly be so heartless as to divorce me?"

"Give me one more chance, please?"

The last plea came in a desperate whisper.

gave a cold smile. "Elijah, let's part ways amicably."

With that, I didn't look back. I bent down to lift my suitcase and walked away without a second glance.

Born As Kidney Donor For My Sister Chapter 19

After I married Elijah, I rented out my own apartment.

For a while, I had nowhere to go.

My father passed away when I was young, and my mother aged rapidly after I lost my hearing. When she learned about my marriage to Elijah, she stared at our marriage certificate for a long time, then sighed deeply and said:

"Ashie, now Mom can finally have a peaceful sleep."

Her voice was weary, her smile even more so.

At that time, I didn't understand what she meant.

That night, she went to bed and never woke up again.

By the time I rushed her to the hospital, the

doctors declared her brain dead.

But I couldn't bring myself to let go, so, at my insistence, she was kept alive on life support for two months before she passed away naturally.

Perhaps she just didn't want to suffer any longer.

The cold wind at the street corner snapped me back to reality. I took out my phone and called my college best friend, Mina.

I could only stay with her for the time being.

Points

She came to pick me up immediately, and when she saw me sitting miserably by the roadside, she asked with concern, "Did you and Elijah have a fight?"

Seeing her was like seeing family–I let all my defenses down, stood up, and hugged her tightly, bursting into tears.

I told her everything that had happened over the past two days.

After listening, she took my suitcase and said, "Come on, let's go home."

On the way, she ordered a whole table's worth of takeout. By the time we got back to her place, I had taken a shower, and the food had arrived.

After we finished eating, she told me to get a good night's sleep.

I have to say, it was the most restful sleep I'd had in a long time.

When I woke up, it was almost five, but Mina wasn't home.

I called her to ask where she was, and she said she was out running errands.

But I heard Hallie's voice in the background.

And then, the sound of someone ordering: "One cup of 'Forget Me Not,' please."

I guessed they were at the Café on Melrose Avenue, a place known for its flowerthemed coffee.

So I quickly freshened up, changed clothes, and took a taxi.

As I approached the café, I heard Mina's voice.

She was angrily yelling:

"So what if you're Elijah's first love? Ashley is Mrs. Terry now-what are you even doing here?"

"Your innocent act might work on Elijah, but it won't fool me!"

"What's meant to be yours will always be yours. If it's not, you won't get it no matter how hard you try. Even if Ashley wasn't in the picture, you and Elijah would never end up together!"

Hallie chuckled nonchalantly and replied slowly:

"And who are you, exactly?"

"Let's be real-Ashley's deaf now."

"What normal man would want a deaf woman?"

I listened quietly, stunned that those words came from Hallie's mouth.

In a daze, I saw Elijah rushing over. Quickly, I found a corner to hide in.

As I had expected, when he came in, he didn't notice me at all.

I stood by the door, continuing to eavesdrop.

"Hallie, you have no shame!" Mina, with her blunt nature, seemed at a loss on how to deal with Hallie. So, she picked up the coffee on the table and flung it toward her.

But it ended up splashing all over Elijah, who had hurried over.

Elijah immediately shielded Hallie behind him.

"Oh, Elijah, you really do care for her, huh?" Mina scoffed coldly.

Elijah frowned, trying to stay calm. "Mina, this has nothing to do with her."

Seeing him so protective, Mina grew even

angrier. She picked up Hallie's coffee and threw it at Elijah.

"Elijah, what do you take Ashley for? You marry her on a whim, and now you're ready to just throw her away?"

Elijah tried to explain, "I didn't abandon her. She's the one who asked for a divorce."

Mina laughed bitterly, pointing at Hallie. "Ashley loves you so much. If it wasn't for her meddling, would she have been so heartbroken to ask for a divorce?"

"You two really are a shameless couple!" With that, she stormed off through another door.

I stayed where I was, watching as Hallie pulled out a tissue and gently dabbed the coffee off Elijah.

Her eyes filled with tears, and she looked at him tenderly for a long moment before speaking softly:

"Eli, when I chose my college, I was just being stubborn."

"When I heard you were attending the same school as Ashley, I regretted it so much."

"If it hadn't been for my childish tantrum, we wouldn't have fought, and you wouldn't have accidentally called Ashley."

"If that hadn't happened, then it would be us who were married now, wouldn't it?"

"For six years, I've silently watched your life from afar."

'Eli, I'm waiting for you to get divorced, so we can get back together. Will you come back to me?"

Elijah looked at her thoughtfully. I braced myself, expecting him to agree.

But then, Elijah refused. "Hallie, there's no chance for us anymore."

Born As Kidney Donor For My Sister Chapter 20

Hallie's eyes widened in disbelief, her head shaking. "No way! Eli, you're lying to me."

"We were so in love in high school."

"You promised you would marry me. If it weren't for that accident, I would have been your wife!"

"You've taken care of Ashley for six years, made up for her for six years. The guilt should be paid off by now."

"You came to my performance, you brought me roses–wasn't that because you couldn't let go of me?"

He was silent for a long time before answering, "No."

That single word made Hallie's pupils contract sharply, disbelief flooding her face. "What did you say?"

Elijah continued, "I thought I would still love you."

"But after six years of living with Ashie, I fell in love with her."

"The things I said to you on the phone... I only said them to provoke you."

Hallie didn't respond, instead, she suddenly threw her arms around Elijah.

He was just about to push her away.

"Don't push me away!" Hallie cried out.

His hands paused mid-air.

"I just want to hug you, like in high school!"

"I've been dreaming about us in high school these past few days."

She lifted her head, looking up at him with tearful eyes, her voice filled with hurt. "I just can't stand it, that my boy has become someone else's!"

"Elijah, I love you... I can't forget you!"

Before he could respond, she pressed her lips against his.

Elijah froze for a moment, and I realized I had overestimated him.

I thought he would push her away without hesitation.

But he didn't. Instead, he returned her kiss in front of everyone.

That sight truly made me feel sick.

Elijah, I never thought your love... could be so cheap...

So utterly worthless.

Hallie smiled triumphantly, wrapping her arms around Elijah's neck, and whispered coyly, "Eli, will you stay with me tonight?"

Her words seemed to fracture in my mind, and after that, I could hear nothing else.

My cochlear implant was gone. I turned around to see Liam standing there.

He signed to me, "Shall we go somewhere?"

I paused, surprised that he knew sign language.

"Where to?" I asked.

He didn't answer, just smiled and took my hand, leading me out of the café. As I glanced back, my eyes locked with Elijah's. The joy on his face had vanished, and he was shouting something, panic in his eyes.

But none of that mattered to me anymore.

The sunset painted the entire city in shades of crimson, unusually beautiful. Liam ushered me into the car, and we sped away, escaping the city, leaving behind the high-rises that had swallowed my soul.

That night, under the darkened sky, I saw the fields stretching endlessly. The wind rippled through the lavender, catching the glow of the setting sun.

It was a beautiful sight...

He brought me to a farm, alive with animals. Inside a small house, there were rows of white

cocoons. One of them was just beginning to crack, and out came a butterfly, shedding its last remnants of confinement.

Liam looked at me intently and said, "Ashley, maybe it's time for you to break free and become the butterfly you were meant to be."