

A Love Forgotten (Arianna and Elijah)

Chapter 111

Chapter 111

The the of us stepped outside where three flashy Ferraris were waiting the same friends who'd been playing chess with Norman earlies

They strolled ever, prinning

"tr. Wood, where to with Arianna?"

Norman casually mentioned a spot, and with a chee, they hopped into their cars. Naturally, each car had a stunning young woman riding shotgun Teri tugged on my sleese "These pays are total playboys."

Inodded. "Well, for the evidence, we'll just have to put up with it for a bit."

Touldn't help but glance at the black bag Teri was clutching tightly-a bog stuffed with Stateside notes.

"And besides, there a lot of money here.

Mentioning the money parked Ternight up. Her aches and pains disappeared, and any complaints about these playboys vanished aswell

Norman decided to dich his Ferrari and instead found a convertible that could fat the three of u

Four cars oned down the road, tearing through the streets and blazing through red lights. It was like a scene from the movie Earing Legends-a high-speed showdown of pure adrenaline. After leaving Halton City, we finally stopped at a small seafood shack in a fishing village.

It seemed they were well-acquainted with the restaurant's owner as they all called out their seders Loudly upon arrival.

The owner, Nelson Hiller, a sun-tunned, no nonsman in his sos, locked every bit the seasoned fisherman

He broke into a broad smile when he saw Norman "Mr. Wood! You're here just in time-I caught a huge Norwegian Salmon this morning! This one could easily go for tem to 20

grand at the Nelson proudly brought out the fish for us to see, and sure enough, it was enormous, its scales glistening a golden hue..

Norman grinned, patting Nelson's shoulder. "Perfect. Let's give Arianna a taste of the best"

Nelson noticed me by Norman's side and beamed "is this your girlfriend, Mr. Wood? She's so pretty! She has the look of a sweet munchkin!"

In the local dialect, "munction" was an affectionate term for a sweet, beloved girl-term of pure endearment

Norman Laughed. "I wish! But no se's my brother's girlfriend" Then he raised an eyebrow with a grin. "Isn't she just beautiful and classy?"

Nelson Laughed heartily "Ah, Mr. Logan's girlnd Well, he finally has one! This calls for a celebration. Don't you worry, munchlin, I'll cook up the best salman just for you!

ith a festive air, he bustled off to the kitchen.

down, sipping tea and waiting for the food to arrive. The gentle seats, carrying a hint of salt, brought back childhood memories

I wandered over to the seafood stuck's terrace, gazing at the distant horizon where small fishing boats bobbed, their lights flickering as they cast nets in the shallows

Footsteps sounded behind me, and the familiar scent of cigarette smoke told me it was on. With a cigarette in his mouth, he asked, "So, Arianna, what's on your mind? Are you feeling

I used to face the striking young man, realizing just how perceptive he was."

was. "How did

Norman exiled a put of this for-like eyes narrowing with amet. "You and bun's local dialect. You must've lived in a place like this before."

1 uided. "Wire deduction, but I know you probably did your homework. You know I was raised by my grandmother."

Norman smiled, taking another drag of his cigarette. Twatched his curfree stance, noting the air of elegance he exuded, even in a casual setting like this.

k, you'd still

iration had classes, Logan would be in the top tier. He carried an unmistakable, natural-barn elegance, like some out of an old legacy family. Even if he wore a potato sack,

Transfer was something extraordinary

Norman, even while slouching in:

checked his phone, grepping it a few taps.

and drinking beer, nosented a charming prince straight out of a fairy tale, vibrant and
Seizing the moment, I asked, "I desperately need the evidence to prove that Elijah was
unfaithful in our marriage." Norman Bone cut

Chapter 112

Chapter 112

My phone burned, and I quickly opened it to find an array of photos and videos. After just a few glances, I couldn't bring myself to look further.

"There you go. And there's plenty more where that came from," Norman said with a mischievous smirk.

"So, do you really want to take Elijah down? Is your head on straight? Or are you just feeling extra bold lately?"

From his tone, I could tell that Norman was aware of my "history"-all the times I'd been blind to Elijah's true nature.

Feeling awkward, I mumbled. "I-1 just don't want to be humiliated anymore."

Norman raised an eyebrow, chuckling dismissively. "You're lying"

He stared at me with his intense, hawk-like eyes. "Come on, be honest with me, and I'll give you the juiciest stuff I've got"

Hesitating, I recalled Mr. Webb's advice from earlier.

Seeing my conflicted expression, Norman teased. "Still not telling the truth? Hmm?"

Finally, I admitted. "I-1 lost memory, and I don't love Elijah anymore."

For a moment, Norman froze, then burst out laughing so loudly that his friends waiting for food nearby turned to see what was going on. Embarrassed, I tugged at his sleeve.

"Stop Laughing What's so funny?" Norman tried to control his laughter, grinning, "Alright. That's good. If you've forgotten him, that's even better."

I quickly added, "But you have to keep it a secret. Otherwise, I might lose the divorce case."

Seeing how cautious I was, Norman could resist utilizing my hair, leaning in close to blow a caressing breath by my ear "Don't worry, Arianna. Your secret's safe with me

The mature of his unique cologne and faint cigarette scent stirred an unexpected spark within me

With a playful wink, he slid his hands back into his pockets and entered ahead

Teri, sensing something was up, came over. "What did Mr. Wood say to you?"

I showed her the evidence on my phone-photos and videos of Elijah's indiscretions. Teri beamed. "Well, this trip was worth it!"

But I couldn't shake

frowning slightly. "Why do I feel like there's something odd about Norman?"

that

Teri raised an eyebrow, smirking. "Are you kidding? He's been flirting with you the whole time! He keeps calling you Arianna, but the way he looks at you. Well, let's just say he's got that mischievous gleam in his eye." I stammered. "No way!"

But despite my words, a hint of discomfort lingered.

Norman was the type who thrived in nightlife and knew exactly how to charm. Few women could probably resist him. Luckily, he wasn't my type.

Just then, we were called over for the meal Teck eagerly pulled me along to join the others for the late-night feast

It was my first time having a seafood meal at a beachside shack with strangers. The dishes were far from fancy, but they were incredibly fresh and flavorful.

Sea folk enjoyed simple cooking, much like my grandmother had. To my surprise, I ended up eating quite a bit.

After everyone had their fill, Norman took me back to Halton Cry

When we reached by apartment, he opened the door and glanced back, noticing Teri, who was fast asleep, still clutching the bag full of cash,

He duckded uddy, "Your friend bere is quite something"

ltrased, "Are you interested in her? I could introduce you!

In a will move, Notman pag the car door froze, arms instinctively crossing over my chest, staring at him in shock.

With Botlands braced beside me, kus tall figure towered over me, caging in gazed down with a sly smile, like a well-fed, lazy leopard eyeing his prey, curious to see if it would make

Chapter 113

Chapter 113

My voice stammered, "Mr. Wood, what are you trying to do?"

Norman gave a larg smile. "Nothing"

I managed to gather my composure, "Then what do you want to say?"

He kept staring at me intently as if trying to read my thoughts. Suddenly, he asked, "Do you really like my brother?"

I started blushing "Uh, I think your brother's a good person."

Norman chacked softly. "I'm not so bad miselt, you know?"

Treplied awkwardly, "You're differ

from your brother."

He cabeda perfectly arched brow "How so? Have you tried me out?"

I was left speechless. His words felt flirtatious, yet I had no proof. Blushing furiously, I nervously pushed against him. don't know. Let me go- can't breathe"

But instead of backing. Non leaned in even closer, his smirk growing. My heart skipped a beat.

Here was this devastatingly handsome man, wuding that maddening charm. Honestly, it was a bit overwhelming

I stammered. "Th-this isn't okay. What someone catches us on camera?"

He looked entirely bothered. "No one cares enough to take photos of us. And even if they did, my family's used to ignoring my scandals," Frustrated, I said, "Tut I care about my reputation..." Norman laughed. "Trust me, your reputation isn't much better than mine."

I was momentarily speechless upon hearing that. Finally, he relented, letting me go

"Alright. I'll stop teasing you. But make sure you get that divorce from that maniac Elijah I don't want Logan to have any loose ends."

I nodded, eager to make my escape.

Wait a second," Nocmum called out

I turned back, confused

He smirked, pointing to the car, where Teri was still sound asleep, clutching the bag of money. "Did you forget something? Your maid, the one who wouldn't let go of the money, sleeping in my car." His description was teasing but accurate.

Thurried over, opened the door, and gently shook Trl awake. "Come on. We're here, "Isaid.

Teri poggly wiped the drool from her mouth. "Oh, we're here already? Man, I'm on the clambered out, giving Norman a sleepy smile,

I quickly tapped her away, and as we stepped into the elevator, I glanced back involuntarily. Norman was still leaning against his ear, watching us with a lazy smirk.

I tell my fare flush as I turned back. When the elevator arrived, I pulled Teri in quickly.

is still

The next morning, Teri woke me up again, bouncing on my bed like a monkey that had just eaten a banana.

"There Liendag toples! Jocelyn's career is tanking now. Even if she survives this, she'll be a public laughingstock"

She shoved her phone in my face. I rubbed my eyes and looked at the screen, suddenly spotting the third trending tople-It had my

My twat skipped a beat, and I quickly clicked on it. To my relief, it was just a statement Ma. Webblad posted from my account

The statement was straightforward in simply announced my intent to end my five-year marriage with Elijah. Nothing else was mentioned. But underneath that simple statement as a whole world of commentary

Chapter 114

Charter

There were comments supporting Jocelyn, saying I clung to Elijah obsessively in the past, which was why I'd become Mrs. Linden, and that she'd been deceived because of my interference. Others supported me, saying that since Elijah chose me, he should be responsible. Cheating on his wife was an act of disloyalty to the marriage.

Then there were the un-called "neutral" comments, suggesting that although Elijah had cheated, perhaps I also bore some blame.

Reading that made me laugh in exasperation.

Honestly, maybe it was because I was still mentally stuck at 15, but couldn't understand why victims were often asked to self-reflect on whether they'd done anything wrong. This world had really become unfamiliar to me.

I pushed my phone away, not wanting to read more. Ter, on the other hand, was fully invested. "Good. Ever since Norman posted those videos exposing Elijah, people have been turning on Jocelyn, calling her a fake sweetie." She smiled with glee. "She's definitely going to crash and burn."

Ter smiled back, "She still just that solo concentrating up. This might actually make her more famous."

Teri scoffed, "Infamous, maybe. Let's see how long her lurk lasts. And she was planning that celebratory hangout too, wasn't she? Bet that's out of the question now. Serves her right." Teri's comment reminded me of that banquet. Maybe Jocelyn, realizing Elijah wouldn't back her anymore, had decided to just burn all bridges.

Seeing my lack of enthusiasm, Teri shook me. "You should fight back! Make sure they have to get what they deserve."

Teri gave me a disappointed look. "Norman gave you all that data online and destroyed them with a"

I shook my head. "There's no need for thi

Teri shot me a glare. "Arl, you've changed"

Treplied, "Chaven't changed-I'm just seeing things dearly.-

I thought for a moment and then asked, "What if I found a job?"

Trailooked at me in shock "Tuh You want to work?"

I sighed, "Or maybe take some classes? Tran't just around all day"

Teni nodded thoughtfully. "Yeah, why don't you go back to class? Didn't you pour your memory? Or aybe pick up design again, the thing you loved mo

You worked so hard to get into the School of Arts and Design at Halton University, but for Elijah, you let your grades slip: What a waste."

Tringed was young and clueless"

Teri gave a dramatic sigh. "Love couch the mind tragic."

I pushedbei playfully, "Enough about me! You should be looking for a job, too."

Teci pouted dramatically. "Oh, I see how it is. I'm just the third wheel in your romance with CLD Mr. Wood, huh?"

I slammed, "N-no, it's not that-let me explain!"

Frowning hurt, she clutched her heart and walked out of the door, but then turned back with a grin

"Hey, finding a job is easy! You can just get CM. Wood to set me up at Wood Group. It's miles better than my lousy old job"

Thesitated "Are you sure?"

Te quickly asked her college transcript and tume

"Come on, ask him today! You've got nothing else to do anyway Consider it a little perk for your best friend who's been caught up in all this drama "

Reluctantly, I messaged Logan. He didn't reply immediately, which made sense-he was probably busy

By the afternoon, Logan's call finally came through. He asked, "Does Ms. Stuart have a resume ready?"

I glanced at Teri, who nodded eagerly. "Yes, she does."

Logan seemed to smile on the other end. "Have her bring it to the headquarters this afternoon for an interview in the HR department." I blinked, surprised "Thadass?"

Logan replied, "Isn't she in a hurry to find a job

All I could do was mumble a quick "okay" before hanging up and relaying the news to Teri

She rolled her eyes. "Well, CED Mr. Wood really is a capitalist at heart. He couldn't even let me for a day before

I quickly defended him, "He's just trying to help you settle in as soon as possible."

Teri smirked, "Look at you, defending him already. And you're not even mailed to Mr. Wood yet! It's like you've already tram Logan "

Chapter 115

Chapter 115

Realizing she might have overdone it, Teri quickly focused on

iso drastically

By after him, with her resume polished and ready, she dragged me along to the towering headquarters of the Wood Group

My memory of Halton City was still stuck seven years in the past, and I hadn't expected the city center to have transformed so

A new high-end CBD area had been developed, with gleaming skyscrapers conveying nothing but pride

We both felt a bit nervous as we approached the Wood Group building. For me, it was the thought of winging it for Teri. It was the job interview

The receptionist, Ms. Caroline Ross, noticed us and greeted us politely. "Hello, ladies. How can I assist you?"

I hesitated to a moment, stammering. "I'm here to see... Mr. Wood"

Sass blinked in spam. "Mr. Wood Do you have an appointment?"

I quickly started scrolling through my phone.

Teri chuckled beside me, giving an apologetic smile. "It's our first time here-we didn't realize we needed one."

Ms. Runs kindly showed us to a nearby seating area and even brought over some water. She smiled as she explained, "Since it's office hours, anyone visiting needs an appointment unless they're constant employers." I nodded in understanding

Just then, the elevator doors opened, and a group of five people stepped out. Leading them was a striking woman in a black business suit, her tall, slim figure and perfectly styled hair making her impossible to resist. Three assistants followed her, and as she walked past, she spoke to the person escorting her out

"Please let Mr. Wood know that our company is sincerely interested in partnering with the Wood Group. If there are any questions, he can reach out to me directly."

The man she was speaking to appeared to be a middle-aged manager from Wood Group, who responded with utmost courtesy

"Of course. Have a great trip, Ms. Bryant."

The elegant woman addressed as "Ms Bryant" seemed like she wanted to say more, but with the clear signs of a formal send-off, she held her tongue.

As she walked past us, a wave of her sophisticated perfume wafted in the air.

I couldn't help but admire her. She was at least five feet nine inches tall, with fair skin, striking features, and long, elegant limbs - true beauty. Teri nudged me out of my daze. "Come on Let's head up."

I quickly informed Ms. Russ that Mr. Russell from the CEO's office would be coming down to escort us.

She looked surprised "Mr. Russell? Oh understood."

Her demeanor immediately shifted to be even more welcoming "It seems you two are important guests of Mr. Wood I apologize for the wait."

She promptly replaced our water with fresh coffee and offered us some snacks.

A few moments. Later, a young man with glasses hurried over. Upon spotting us, he quickly apologized.

"I'm so sorry. I was in a meeting with the representative from Regal Corp and completely forgot about Mr. Wood's instructions."

Apologizing once more guided us toward the elevator

brimming with curiosity, Teri asked, "Was that

young woman just now the manager of Regal Corp?"

He nodded. "Yes. They've been eyeing the logistics sector

recently and are looking to collaborate with Wood Group. But our

1. Russell adjusted his glasses, giving away a smile as he buster doesn't really align with that, so

Teri shook her head in wonder "Regal Corp! They're one of the city's top 20 companies specializing in shipping-a well-established enterprise. Just seeing that stunning woman, feeling powerful and no wonder she works for a major company." He smiled, trying to

further, but couldn't resist adding, "She really does command a presence- seven feet tall with the confidence to match. She walked in demanding to meet with Mr. Wood. She's not an easy person to deal with."

As we continued our casual conversation, we were at the 22nd floor,

Chapter 116

Chapter 116

Mr. Russell personally escorted Teri to the HR department while I waited in the nearby lounge. But once they left,

left, curiosity got the best of me, and I took the opportunity to look around. Standing by the large floor-to-ceiling windows on the 22nd floor, I looked down at the busy street below. The cars and people looked like tiny ants from this height. I sighed. Even York Group back then didn't have offices this high up. The Wood family's business was clearly on another level

I was lost in thought, the door swung open

"Who are you?" A sharp voice startled me from behind.

I turned to see yet another

her stunning, tall woman. The abundance of beautiful women in this high-end CBD area was

Darex was starting to feel sumural.

This woman was a manager named Julia Spencer. She stood around five feet five inches tall and had an impeccably maintained figure. Her hair was styled in a reddish-brown up-do. I nodded politely. "Hello, I'm here to see Mr. Wood." Ms. Spencer strode over, giving me a quick, assessing look. Her brow furrowed. "Mr. Wood? Which Mr. Wood?" "Lohan Wood." "I clarified."

Her expression shifted, eyes narrowing. "You're here to see Mr. Wood? And who might you be to him?"

Her question caught me off guard.

Upon seeing my hesitation, Ms. Spencer's expression shifted from surprise to disdain. "Mr. Wood is on an international conference call and won't be seeing anyone. You should leave." I frowned slightly. "I can wait."

Unconvinced, she pressed on. "Which company are you from? Do you have an appointment? If not, there's no way you'll be able to see him. Mr. Wood's schedule is very tight."

I sighed, "No, I don't have an appointment, but he asked me to wait for him here."

She looked at me once again, and her frown deepened. "What? Then how did you get up here without an appointment?"

Ms. Spencer turned and started calling for staff to come over. Her tone was grating, and I felt a growing irritation.

After speaking with a staff member, who also didn't seem to know what was going on, she strode back over to me, her heels clicking, her attitude even more overbearing. "Miss, who exactly are you to Mr. Wood? If you don't answer, have security escort you out." I frowned. "I'm his friend. Mr. Russell brought me up. Why don't you ask him?"

She scoffed, looking at me with hostility. "Mr. Russell isn't here right now, so how can I verify that?"

I started to lose my patience at this point, but I simply sat back on the couch and said, "If Mr. Russell is here, then I'll wait for him to return. He brought me up, and without him, I wouldn't have been able to use the elevator."

She hesitated, considering my point. In a large organization like this, elevator access was restricted on each floor, and only authorized personnel could escort visitors up.

Her face softened slightly. "Fine then. Please wait here while I go look for Mr. Russell."

Just as she was about to leave, she stopped, turned back to me, and scrutinized me closely.

Confused by her behavior, I sat there under her intense gaze.

Suddenly, a look of realization crossed her face. "I think I know who you are." Her eyes widened, and she blurted out, "You're Mrs. Linden!" Chapter 177

Chapter 117

Chapter 117

Honestly, being recognized as Mrs. Linden was both embarrassing and infuriating. No one in this world hated the word "Mrs. Linden" more than I did.

I felt like an identity being imposed on me—a title that everyone seemed determined to label me with despite my lack of memory of it. Along with it came judgment and disdain, none of which I wanted.

I pursed my lips, not intending to say anything to this woman.

Upon realizing who I was, Ms. Spencer's eyes filled with a look of contempt thinly veiled by a fake smile.

"Oh, so you're Mrs. Linden. Forgive me—I didn't recognize you at first. What brings you here? Didn't Mr. Linden come with you?"

Her questioning felt accusatory, and I had no intention of humoring it. I simply wanted Teri to finish her interview quickly so we could leave.

Upon seeing my discomfort, Ms. Spencer only smiled more eagerly. "Mrs. Linden, I remember seeing you once at a business gala three years ago. You and Mr. Linden seemed so happy together back then."

I responded with a noncommittal "Oh."

She watched my face, clearly hoping to elicit some response. I could feel my patience thinning, so I picked up my phone and began scrolling through it, pointedly ignoring her

Her expression hardened, then shifted back to her polite facade. Remember when Mr. Linden was nominated for Top Ten Influential Figures and Most Stylish Gentleman. "It was all thanks to you, wasn't it?" [frowned. "Warn?"

With a smirk, she added. "Yes I believe you had a close relationship with the event organizer, Mr. Tucker, back then."

I owned again, sensing some veiled insinuation in her words, but without memories of the past seven years, I couldn't fully grasp it.

Seeing my puzzled expression, she asked, "Mrs. Linden, have you forgotten?"

Just as I was about to respond, Ten burst into the room, beaming "Ari, I passed the interview!

I stood up quickly, grabbing her hand, only then realizing my palms were clammy with sweat.

Ten looked at me with concern. "What's wrong? You don't look well. She squeezed my hand. "Are you feeling sick?"

I shook my head. "No. I'm fine. Since you're done, let's go "

Ten was even more confused. "Aren't you waiting for Mr. Wood? Hasn't he come out to see you?"

Her distaste seemed to irritate Ms. Spencer. The woman cleared her throat. "Excuse me, please keep it down, There's a conference room for department managers right next door." Ten glanced at her. "And who are you?"

The manager straightened, pride evident in her posture. "I'm Julia Spencers, head of Public Relations and Deputy HR Manager. And you are?"

Ten nodded politely. "oh, so you're Ms. Spencer. Nice to meet you"

She gave me a brief nod before turning back to me, continuing to ask about my well-being, practically ignoring Ms. Spencer

Being tired didn't sit well with Ms. Spencer, and her displeasure was obvious. She frowned and asked, "Miss, did you say you just passed an interview? Which position did you apply for?" "Assistant to the General Manager I just completed the interview, so it should be finalized." "you apply for?"

Ms. Spencer scoffed at her confidence, pausing for a moment before replying, "Our recruitment process has three rounds. If you've only passed the first, there are still two more to go. Kuswing Terr's temperament, I could tell she was holding back plus annoyance, probably only because Ma Spencer seemed like a senior manager in the company.

But Ms. Spencer had interrupted her one too many times, so Teri retorted, "Thank you, Ms. Spencer. Actually, I passed all the rounds today, so I'm set to join. HR told me to start the day

Ms. Spencer's disbelief was written all over her face. Impossible! Our department doesn't operate that way. That's not standard procedure"

Teri replied sullenly, "If you don't believe me, go and ask HR. I passed all three rounds, and they've already confirmed my start date." Muttering about how it couldn't be possible, Ms. Spencer stumped off to verify it.

With the space finally quiet, I grabbed Teal's hand. "Let's go"

Teal asked "Wait what? But you haven't even seen Logan yet."

She looked around and asked, "Honestly, he's got some nerve, asking you come here and then not even showing up. Is he really that busy?"

Chapter 118

Chapter 118

I couldn't wait to get out of there, so I grabbed Teal's arm and headed out. As we walked, Trai pressed, "What did that woman say to you? You looked upset

I hesitated for a minute and then said, "She recognized me as Elijah's wife and brought up some business deal from three years ago. She even said "Even said what?" Teri demanded, tightening her grip on my arm

I sighed. "She claimed that Elijah's awards for Top Ten Influential Figures and Most Stylish Gentleman were all because of my help."

The moment I said it, Teal's expression darkened, and her voice sharpened. "What else did she say?"

I thought back "She mentioned I was supposedly close with the event organizer, Mr. Tucker "

"Fuck" Teri's anger flared up immediately. She grabbed my shoulders and asked, "Did she say anything else?"

Startled by her reaction, I went pale

"N-no... that was it" I tried to calm her down. "Don't be mad. She didn't really do anything."

However, Teri's eyes were red and fiery.

She yelled, "She was literally humiliating you, Anil! Don't you realize that she made a total fool of you right in front of everyone?"

At that moment, Ms. Spencer walked back into the room. She looked thoroughly displeased. "Ms. Stuart, I've confirmed that you did pass the interview, but

before she could finish, Teri stormed on and, without hesitation, delivered a sharp slap across her face.

The slap echoed in the room, and Ms. Spencer staggered, nearly falling. Holding her cheek, she stared at Teri in shock.

However, Teri wasn't done. She grabbed Ms. Spencer's hair, yanking it. "You think you can humiliate my friend? Let's see how you like it now!"

"Damn you, you trash-talking snake! Spitting poison everywhere you go-I'll teach you a lesson!"

Teri's outburst left me stunned, while Ms. Spencer's hair came undone, her perfect updo now a messy tangle. Her face was bright red, and her clothes were being torn as Teri went at her with surprising ferocity.

The whole lounge was in chaos. Upon hearing the commotion, staff outside rushed over to see what was happening.

As they arrived, someone yelled, "Get out! There's a fire!"

I snapped out of it and hurried to pull Teri back. I always knew Teri had a quick temper, but I hadn't expected her to go this far.

Teri pushed my hand away and shouted, "Don't stop me! I'm gonna beat the shit out of this bitch! She's nothing but trouble."

Desperate, I tried to separate them. Teri, stop! You'll use your job-don't make things worse!"

Mr. Spencer was screaming, her voice high-pitched and filled with tear. She yelled, "Call the police! Get this lunatic away from me! We can't let someone like this work here! Oh, my hair- the demons, they're expensive-stop!" Teri had already yanked out a good chunk of Ms. Spencer's extensions. The more Teri fought, the fiercer she became, shoving me away every time I tried to hold her back

A couple of male employees finally managed to restrain Teri, though none of the female staff seemed willing to help Ms. Spencer

Finally, Logan arrived, flanked by a few assistants.

Upon seeing him, I instinctively shrank back Logan took in the mess and glanced

"Don't worry. It's okay," he murmured soothingly

and glanced at my pale face before rushing to my side wrapping me in his arms.

He surveyed the room and ordered the security guards, "Separate everyone. Let's cool off first. He added firmly, "No one calls the White House that, be quickly led me and Teck out of the lounge

Chapter 119

Chapter 119

In the expansive president's office, Teri was still visibly agitated I tried several times to get her to sit and drink some water, but she couldn't calm down.

She turned to Logan, practically fuming "That woman, Julia Spencer-what kind of manager is she here? You need to fire her immediately!

I panicked and covered her mouth. "Stop, Teri Logan can't just do that. Please, let's not make a scene.

Teri pulled my hand away, her eyes red and furious. "Ari, just be quiet! Do you understand what I'm doing here? I'm protecting you!

"You have to listen to me. If Logan can't protect you, then he's no better than Elijah. You'd be better off living alone than ending up with a man who won't stand by you!"

I was stunned I'd never seen Teri like this.

In all my memories, Teri had always been fiery and straightforward, but her anger was never directed at me. She'd never spoken so harshly to me

The two of us had always been each other's support, never exchanging bitter words

But today, something was different. She was scolding me

me...L...".

Tears welled up and fell before Toldeontrol them, and 1 chokedout, "Teri, tell me what's going on. Don't be mad at me.. Maybe i was the sight of my bears that pulled her back to reality

Teri took a deep breath, struggling to calm down, and after a feir moments, she turned to Logan, who had been silent, and said, "Mr. Wood, this was my mistake today. I apologize to you an your compan

Logan's expression remained calm and composed. "There's no need to apologize just yet, Ms. Stuart, I understand something serious must have happened. Could you tell me exactly wha

Terl was clearly holding back her anger, but she replied, each word measured, "The truth is that woman, Julia, bullied my friend."

Logan turned to me. "Ari, what exactly did Ms. Spencer do?"

1 wiped my eyes, whispering, don't really know. Her attitude was a bit off, but it wasn't anything too had nothing major happened."

Teristeped forward, try rekindled. "Ari don't even realize she was mistreated because she's lost her memory! She has no idea when people say things or do things out of malice!" Upon hearing this, Logan's expansion became serious, and he reached for my hand it looked at me intently.

"Ari, what did Ms. Spencer way? Or do?

His hand was warn, a stark contrast to my cold fingers.

1 shook my head I don't understand. I couldn't really sell"

Logan took a moment, then nodded. "Alright. We have surveillance footage. You don't need to explain anything I'll have someone retrieve the video."

Then, be moved to make a call.

However, Teri grabbed my arm and spoke to Logan in a tense tone. "Mr. Wood, I appreciate the opportunity to have the interview today, but I no longer wish to work here, and I don't want Ari to suffer any more harm."

She turned to me, her voice strained "Ari, I don't think he's right for you. I want you to break up with him

I stood there, completely stunned, when Teri said she wanted me to break up with Logan

Feeling overwhelmed, I stammered, "Teri, what are you saying?"

I suddenly understood what Teri was trying to do, and a deep sense of unease settled in

Teri took a deep breath. "What I'm saying is, I don't approve of you being with Logan. I'm giving you two choices. Either choose me, your lifelong friend, or choose him."

Her voice cracked. "Ari, I know I'm putting you in a difficult position, but I can't stand to watch you get hurt anymore. I can't go through another night where you're drowning in ONET. Both the mud and the hugging hurt you." Then she looked down, sobbing, "Ari, my mate is not good. Why do you keep running away from love?"

Why do you keep running into the wrong ones? Why can't you just find someone simple, someone who truly loves you, and live a

simple life? Watching you go through one heartbreak after another, I feel so lost and helpless."

Teri was leaning down, right then and now, over something that might seem so simple

Her tears and anger overwhelmed me, and soon, I found myself crying with her, holding her close, apologizing to her over and over again.

I didn't know when to say anything, so all I could say was, "I'm sorry,"

Logan watched as we huddled together, both of us a mess of tears, and sighed. He gently pulled Teri away and pulled us to sit

on the couch. Then, after a pause,

he made a phone call,

Chapter 120

While we waited, Logan sat beside us, silently offering us tissues.

Once Teri and I finally exhausted our tears, we realized the floor was littered with crumpled tissues, Logan was calmly opening a second pack of rose-scented tissues,

and I whispered "Thank you."

However, Teri didn't say anything

Logan looked at me with a hint of exasperation, noting my swollen eyes. "Ari, why don't you rest here for a bit? I'd like to have a private conversation with Teri next door. Is that alright?" I hesitated, looking over at Teri. Teri seemed reluctant but eventually nodded. Logan's one grew firm. "Ms. Stuart, if you're unwilling to tell me, I can always investigate on my own. But I think you know I'll find out everything regardless."

Teri wavered.

He continued, "Instead of me piecing together information that may not be fully accurate, wouldn't it be better if you told me the truth yourself?"

"I trust that someone who cares about Arias much as you do would give me the most accurate version of the story."

Teri eventually agreed "Alright. I have a word with you."

Confused, I asked, "Why can't I see? Teri, what's going on? You can't just keep me in the dark."

Teri shook her head "Ari, please don't ask it's really nothing, I promise" With that, she stepped out.

I wanted to follow, but Logan gently held me back

He looked me in the eye. "Ari, do you trust her?"

I nodded

He asked again, "When Teri asked you to choose between us, who would you pick?"

I sighed, feeling to "I'd choose both."

A faint smile graced Logan's face. His smile was always enchanting, one that was graceful and serene. He gently tousled my hair before heading out of the office

The wait for Logan and Teri felt endless and restless.

I paced, sat, and leaned by the window, yet every position was uncomfortable, and nothing could capture my attention. Even drinking water felt aggravating. I peered through the frosted glass door toward the room next door.

The glass was just opaque enough that I could only make out shadows moving, and the excellent soundproofing thwarted any attempt to shop. Giving up, I slumped back onto the couch.

After what felt like ages, the door opened, and Teri walled in She looked much calmer and more composed than before, and more importantly, she no longer seemed angry. The fiery Teri from earlier almost felt like a figment of my imagination. I cautiously tapped her arm. "What did you guys talk about?"

Teri met my eyes with a beating smile. "Nothing much. I just explained a few things."

I pressed. "Explained what? Come on! Tell me I have no idea what's going on."

Terbrushed off my question with a light laugh "Don't worry about it. The CEO, Mr. Wood, will handle it fairly and squarely. You can trust him."

Sold not to worry, but it felt like she was pacifying a child.

Moments later, Logan entered the room, followed by Ms. Spencer, who had just finished fixing her hals and adjusting her clothes

Seeing her again, the tention in the room spiked. Ms Spencer's expression was filled with venom as if she wished she could hul diggers at us with her eyes. Teal, of course, and right back, equally defiant