Marriage Beyond Redemption by Lesley Harte Chapter 23

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Chapter 23 Peytie, Pay for Your Father's Debt

In Peyton's impression, her father was a loving father and a kind man. Besides sponsori ng students, he regularly donated money to charitable funds.

All reports depicted her father as a nice, humble, almost perfect man.

As Peyton bent down to pick up the scattered papers, her face grew darker with each p aper.

Nolan had done his work. There was clear evidence of Kason's affairs, including those with one-night stands with him.

Over the past decade, Kason had had multiple mistresses. All were pretty young wome n.

It wasn't difficult to understand why Kason was handsome and kept shape even as he g rew older thanks to his regular workouts. With his tall, well– built figure and good looks, he was a popular choice for many young women in the city.

However, Kason seemed to prefer those with humble backgrounds and had little exposu re to worldly affairs.

It seemed that their innocence was a desirable quality to him.

Nolan confirmed this. "Do you think he sponsored kids in rural areas for noble reasons? He sees them merely as his prey. Kason is a patient hunter who slowly preys on his victi ms."

"These young women, who had looked up to him, slept with Kason willingly when they c ame to the big city. That's why ninety percent of the students he has sponsored are girls . The remaining ten percent are

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Just cover-ups.

Peyton wanted to deny it, but the evidence was right in front of her. Alarmingly, sixty percent of the sponsored girls had se x with him when they were grown–ups.

Kason would soon grow tired of them, dump them, and find new prey. Some women co uldn't take it, developing depression and taking their lives by jumping off buildings or sel f-harm.

Finally, Peyton's eyes fell on the file about Leilani. She was the one who had been with Kason the longest, a year. After Leilani got pregnant, their relationship changed. Leilani wanted to marry him and start a family, but Kason didn't.

In addition to the photos, there was a video clip of their fight, captured by a CCTV in a r emote corner of the hospital.

On the night when Leilani had the accident, Kason had gone to her apartment and left w ith a large suitcase just at 2:00 p.m. when it was still dark.

Leilani was slim enough to fit in it. There had been reports of murders – conducted in thi s way before.

From that day, Leilani was nowhere to be found. Her apartment was rented to another t enant shortly after. All remaining evidence vanished. Her body was found by fishermen half a month later and the case was reported to the police.

Nolan was contacted by the police as he once provided his DNA when his sister was mi ssing. He found out the truth during the police investigation

Peyton looked at the scattered pictures of the women, their smiles so bright.

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Most of these women were dumped. A few had even taken their lives. Some managed t o continue their education but became somewhat isolated.

Peyton's fingers trembled as she held one of the photos. She recalled her father's smilin g face.

"Peytie, good girl. Stop crying Daddy will always be there for you."

"Even when you're eighty years old, you'll still be my little princess." "Sweetie, Daddy wil I always love you."

Kason had given her the best of everything, yet he had hurt other

Women.

Tears fell onto Leilani's picture. Peyton could finally relate to Nolan.

Leilani was as important to Nolan as Peyton was to Kason.

"Kason may be a good father, but he's not a good man. Beneath that hypocritical mask l ies a devil's heart. Peytie, I don't want to hide that fact from you."

Nolan dropped to one knee and cupped Peyton's cheek with his hands. A sick, paranoid smile flickered across his face.

"I once thought you were my whole world. I loved you beyond. anything. But you are Ka son's daughter. I hate you more than anything now."

Peyton felt a chill run down her spine when seeing his smile.

She asked, "When Helena and I were almost drowned, did you save her first on purpos e? Did you want to kill our child in exchange for Leilani's baby?"

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"An eye for an eye," murmured Nolan.

Peyton grabbed his collar, tears streaming down her cheeks. "Are you mad? It's our bab y! It hasn't got the chance to see this world. What did it do wrong? It's innocent!"

Nolan tilted his head with a wicked smile, "What did Leilani do wrong? Wasn't her child i nnocent?"

Peyton stared at Nolan, who revealed his evil side. It seemed they could never solve thi s issue.

"Nolan, I know how painful it is to lose your sister."

Nolan's expression suddenly changed. He snapped, "You don't know! There's no such t hing as empathy! Leilani was born prematurely and was a sick girl from a young age be cause of her heart condition. She was the pearl in our palm. But she died a tragic death! She was such a kind, beautiful girl, who would be sad if I stepped on her hairpin. But sh e left the world in such an undignified manner."

Nolan slowly reached out and caressed Peyton's check. "You'll never know how I felt w hen I saw her body. The despair I felt when I lifted that white cloth. I would rather never have found her than have her gone forever."

Peyton moved her lips, but no words came out. It would be an insult to Leilani to say an ything.

She understood why Nolan had been so emotional during that time and why he had loo ked at her in such a way.

Nolan must have put in a great deal of effort to prove it was not Kason.

Nolan wanted to overturn Kason's case. But he only got more and more evidence that p ushed Peyton further from Nolan. Nolan's attempt was proof of his love.

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Nolan had struggled. But in the end, he couldn't overcome the mental barrier and be wit h her.

He wanted to seek revenge for his sister's death.

Peyton knelt on the ground, gripping his collar and resting her forehead against his. Tears streamed down her cheeks. "You must be heartbroken, honey. We lost the baby. My dad is unconscious. Let's stop torturing each other. Okay?"

Nolan's body trembled slightly as Peyton hadn't called him honey in a long time. He was overwhelmed by emotions, but Peyton didn't know what he was thinking.

She waited for the outcome in fear. Peyton didn't want him to live in selfblame every day. Why couldn't they make peace?

After a long while, Nolan raised his head. The corners of his eyes were red, as he fough t back tears.

He gently caressed her cheeks and his long. His dark eyelashes concealed the emotion s in his eyes.

He said, "Peytie, pay for your father's debt."