

## Chapter 382 She Is Dead

Divya's regret gnawed at her like a relentless storm, knowing she should have swiftly deleted the ill-fated messages the moment they were sent.

Once Forrest saw the messages, he confronted her with an intensity that shook her to the core.

"Someone had me under their thumb, blackmailing me. I made a promise to pay them off, all in the hopes of exposing this devious person who dared to threaten me," she defended herself.

"Why did they single you out for blackmail, and not anyone else?" Forrest tightened his grip on her wrist, his voice seething with suspicion. "It's because you're hiding something, something that they uncovered and are now using against you..."

"No." Her voice held a resolute edge. "I haven't done anything wrong. I agreed to pay the blackmailer as a means to catch them, not out of guilt." Divya fought back, her eyes locking with Forrest's.

His brow furrowed deeply as he retorted, "You liar!"

"I swear I'm not!" Divya knew she had to deny any wrongdoing.

Else, if she admitted even the slightest hint of guilt, Forrest's trust in her would develop into hatred she couldn't imagine.

Furthermore, she couldn't keep her secrets about Laura from him any longer. The truth would surface sooner or later!

"I can confront the person who sent me the messages. I swear upon my life that I have never acted inappropriately. If I'm lying, may the most terrible fate befall me! Please believe me!"

Divya raised her hand as if swearing.

Forrest hesitated, torn between doubt and the desire to believe in his wife.

"Divya, we're bound by marriage. I don't want animosity between you and Laura. Tell me, do you know where the hell she is?"

your trust? I am willing to go to any lengths to gain your trust," Divya pleaded, realizing that Forrest could be the one behind the messages she received.

Perhaps he sent them to gauge her reaction, to test her loyalty.

Perhaps he had made a finding.

However, without concrete evidence, he couldn't confront her outright.

If he had solid evidence in his hand, he would have thrown it in her face!

Instead of just questioning her!

This offered her a chance to turn the tables.

But she needed to remain composed and articulate her defense.

She regarded Forrest with a mixture of pity and desperation. "Someone is framing me. If you have any evidence, show it to me now."

Forrest fell into silence, his thoughts spinning.

"You responded to the messages. That much is true..."

"Yes, I did respond. I promised to pay that person. But what does it prove? I've already explained that I only intended to trap them by going along. I feared that others would follow suit if the blackmailer succeeded in extorting money from me..." Divya countered, her tone laced with frustration.

"Humph!" Forrest glared at Divya. "Even without concrete evidence, I'm not naive. Your agreement to pay the blackmailer implies guilt! You know deep down whether you've done something that haunts your conscience. If you want my forgiveness, tell me where Laura is. Perhaps then I will consider forgiving you."

Divya couldn't afford to confess. She had to stand her ground, though this guy wasn't as stupid.

"Don't you believe me?" Divya spoke sorrowfully, her eyes brimming with emotion.

Deep down, she knew admitting knowledge of Laura's whereabouts would give away her involvement in hanging the banner on their wedding day.

"If you wish me to believe you, divulge Laura's location!" Forrest squeezed her wrist tightly. "Tell me, is she safe?"

"I genuinely don't know..."

Divya staunchly refused to confess.

"What's all the commotion about?" Hana's voice interrupted their quarrel, drawing her attention to their presence. Draped in a silk shawl and dressed elegantly, Hana exuded an air of sophistication.

Hana held a fondness for Divya, who clung to her like a lifeline upon seeing her. "Mom, I need your help! Forrest accuses me of hanging the banner on our wedding day and kidnapping Laura, but I swear I have no knowledge of these things!"

In Hana's eyes, Divya remained oblivious to Laura's whereabouts.

After all, it was Hana who orchestrated Laura's disappearance with the help of Divya's parents.

Hana had never breathed a word about it to Divya.

And Divya expertly played her role, pretending ignorance in Hana's presence.

Furious at Forrest's interrogation, Hana shielded Divya, fixing her gaze on her son.

"Forrest, what's gotten into you? Can't you see Laura's true nature?"

Before he could respond, she continued, her disappointment palpable, "Divya lost her child; my grandson and your son because of that Laura! Isn't that enough to show you Laura's true colors? Why are you so insistent on finding her?"

"She's missing, and I'm worried about her..."

"What you should be concerned about is your wife's well-being!" Hana scolded, her disappointment etched on her face. "Are you blind to the point of folly? You're forsaking your wife for a treacherous woman. Do you even deserve Divya's love?"

Clenching his fists, Forrest lacked the evidence to prove Divya's knowledge of Laura's whereabouts.

Thus, he couldn't argue with his mother about it.

Alick couldn't have been more right.

Forrest now had no choice but to seek help from Isaac.

"Divya knows full well what she's done. Both of you have let me down."

Having finished speaking, he strode past the two women, his resolve unyielding.

"Forrest, where are you going?"

Divya chased after him.

But he continued as if he heard nothing.

She had been nothing short of a disappointment and source of mistrust for him!

In his eyes, his entire world had been constructed on a bed of lies.

Those he trusted the most had betrayed him with their deceit, and by unimaginable degrees.

How absurd life could get!

"Mom, please stop him," Divya pleaded, her desperation evident.

"Let him calm down. Perhaps he's heard unfounded rumors that have clouded his judgment. Pay no mind to him. Take care of yourself and focus on conceiving a child. Once that happens, he will never leave you and won't obsess over that deceased woman." 🗨️

Divya had already learned from her parents that Laura was dead.

But she had to feign innocence in front of Hana, acting all shock.

"What? Did I hear you right? Laura is dead? What happened?"

"Don't concern yourself with it. In any case, your parents and I will ensure that anyone who threatens your relationship with Forrest is dealt with accordingly. I only hope you can make him fall in love with you as soon as possible, so he won't harbor thoughts of Laura."

"I will try my best," replied Divya.

As she spoke, her eyes fell, concealing her true intentions.

It was Divya who had told her parents about Laura, urging them to persuade Hana to rid her life. 🗨️

As the only child, her parents wanted nothing but her happiness.

And so they did it for her!

Laura posed a constant threat to them all.

Fortunately, she lacked any substantial support.

Erasing her was a simple task.

Divya played pitiful before Hana. "Mom, I was raised in the loving embrace of my parents, shielded from any grievances. But I lost my child because of Laura. Can you fathom the pain I endure? And now, Forrest accuses me of hanging the banner and causing harm to Laura?!"

"Don't worry. I will help you," Hana comforted, patting Divya's shoulder. "Don't dwell on it all day and night."

"I won't. I'll take care of Forrest. My father has even mentioned entrusting the company's affairs to him soon," Divya complied, knowing exactly what Hana desired.

"That's a wise decision. Your parents are aging, and with Forrest by your side, they can retire peacefully," Hana affirmed, pleased with Divya's response.

"I believe so," Divya agreed, her intelligence guiding her to say what Hana wanted to hear.

She said that to Hana to make her happy.

"I've instructed the maid to prepare nutritious soup for you. Let's get some!" Afterward, Hana led Divya downstairs.

Meanwhile, Forrest found Alick.

However, Alick...