

## **My Parents Neglected Me Until I Died Chapter 16**

The hospital test results came back quickly. I had leukemia. .

When I saw the diagnosis, a chilling cold ran through my entire body.

My daughter was dead, and now I had a terminal illness. I fell into utter despair.

Soon, the police had news. They found a lead through the kidnapper's DNA. His name was Mike, and he had a criminal record...

Seeing the information hit me like a lightning bolt.

Mike was a classmate of mine in high school, and apart from Tom, he was the closest person to Betty.

When Betty got pregnant, I once asked Tom if the child could possibly be Mike's.

Tom had looked furious at the time. "Betty's relationship with Mike is just like mine. They're friends, nothing more. How could you even think that? Why are your thoughts so filthy?"

Tom's reaction had seemed like jealousy back then, so I never brought it up again.

But now, I was more certain than ever.

Monica's kidnapping must be connected to Betty and her daughter!

After learning about my illness, the female officer who had been in touch with me started visiting during her off-hours, helping me out of sympathy, a bond shared between women.

Determined not to die before that wretched woman, I began to cooperate actively with the treatment. The hospital soon found a matching bone marrow donor.

Everything seemed to be going well, however, all my money had been swindled by Tom, and I couldn't afford the treatment.

Desperate, I called Tom.

"Has the payment for your project come through? Transfer some money to me."

It was the first time since our marriage that I had asked Tom for money, and he responded with cold sarcasm.

"Aren't you the independent woman? Don't you earn more than I do? And now you're asking me for money?"

“I need it urgently.”

I was in no mood to argue with him. “Just give me back the money you fraudulently obtained from me before.”

“For the last time, that was our joint marital property. I didn’t cheat you out of anything.”

It was as if Tom finally found something to use as leverage against me, his tone smug. “If you’re asking as my wife, requesting that I support you financially, I could transfer you a little. But I need the rest of the money.”

I hung up the phone immediately and borrowed enough from my friends.

Since I paid too late, I found out that the matching bone marrow had already been given to someone else. Now, I could only wait for the next available matching donor.

That day, after undergoing the bone marrow biopsy, I was on my way to line up for tests when I passed by a patient room and saw Tom, who had been missing for days.

Julie was lying in bed, while Tom and Betty were by her side, making her laugh.

The room was filled with flowers, gifts, and snacks. Julie was treated like a little princess, pampered and adored.

Not like my Monica, who had been thrown away in an abandoned factory, her face unrecognizable. The sight tore at me.

Thinking about Mike, I entered the room with a cold expression.

Julie started trembling violently the moment she saw me. “Daddy Tom, I’m scared.”

Tom noticed me, and his face darkened.

“I’ve only been away for a few days. Did you really need to chase me all the way to the hospital?”

“I’m here for treatment.”

Tom paused, startled. “What kind of treatment?”

“Leukemia.”

After I calmly uttered those words, Tom’s expression shifted from concern to disgust.

“Jessica, you’re doing this on purpose, aren’t you?”

“What?”

“Did you come here on purpose to curse Julie with leukemia, knowing she just had a bone marrow transplant for her aplastic anemia?”

## **My Parents Neglected Me Until I Died Chapter 17**

A bone marrow transplant? No wonder Tom refused to give me any money when I asked him. I recalled the bone marrow that had been taken from me, and the thought made me sway on my feet, almost losing my balance.

Across the room, Betty was already holding Julie, crying.

“Jessica, I know you’re angry that Tom has been spending time with me and Julie, but we are really just friends. I even tried to persuade him to repay you once the project funds came through, but it was his love for Julie that made him insist on this.”

“If you have any complaints, take them out on me. Please don’t curse my daughter!”

Though Betty was begging with her words, her expression, out of Tom’s sight, was filled with defiance.

Remembering why I had come, I stormed over to Julie’s bedside, yanking a handful of her hair roughly.

Thinking of how Monica’s death might be linked to this mother–daughter pair, I slapped them both with all my strength.

“Two vile women!”

“Tom and I aren’t even divorced yet, and the money used to save Julie is from our joint marital property! You owe me that, and now you just owe even more!”

Betty, who always claimed to be tough, was now weeping uncontrollably, her tears ruining her once–perfect makeup.

Tom couldn’t take it anymore. He stepped forward and yanked me away by my hair.

“Have you lost your mind? I must have been blind to marry a shrew like you! If I hadn’t been seduced by you back then, maybe Betty and I would have already...”

Tom finally revealed the truth. After falling out of love, he regretted the marriage but still blamed me for it all.

He must have forgotten how he had pursued me relentlessly, despite my parents' objections, in a sea of other suitors who were far better than him. It was me who defied all opposition to marry him.

Tom threw me out of the hospital room, and my back slammed hard against the floor, just after I had undergone the bone marrow biopsy. The pain made my whole body tremble.

“Stop pretending! You lied to me about Monica's death when Julie was kidnapped, and wouldn't let her answer my calls.. And now, you're putting on this act just to upset Julie after her surgery. Jessica, what has happened to you?”

“Julie only had surgery, but you—you cost your wife and your own daughter their lives because of it!”

People in the hallway began to stare, and as Tom noticed the growing attention, his face darkened with embarrassment. Furious, he kicked me again just as I struggled to get up.

My back slammed hard against the chair, and the sharp pain nearly caused me to lose consciousness.

Just then, the female officer who had arrived from work witnessed the entire incident. She rushed forward to help me up. “Who is he? I'll take him to the station right now!”

“He's my husband.”

The officer looked at Tom with disbelief in her eyes. “You're the father of the little girl who passed away?”

## **My Parents Neglected Me Until I Died Chapter 18**

Tom had been restraining himself upon seeing the police, but the officer's words left him stunned.

“What little girl? Jessica, it's not enough for you to lie to me—you've brought someone to play a cop? Do you really think I won't report you both and have you arrested?”

Though Tom was trying to keep up his tough act, the tremble in his voice betrayed him.

Even the officer seemed shocked by how outrageous this was, so she pulled out her badge.

“Sir, your daughter was kidnapped, and when the ransom wasn't paid in time, she was assaulted and murdered. Are you telling me you didn't know about this?”

Tom was speechless, his face draining of color. Enraged and embarrassed, he tried to shift the blame onto the police.

“If something like this really happened, why didn’t you contact me? Why did you leave everything to her?”

Tom still clung to the belief that he should be the head of the household. But aside from Monica and me, who had always spared his ego by not exposing the fact that he was an incompetent father and husband, no one else would indulge him.

The officer could hardly believe what she was hearing. “In a marriage, both partners are equal. We contacted the person we could reach first. Your wife told us you were already aware of the situation and had taken the ransom to save Monica, so we didn’t continue notifying you.”

“Furthermore, your wife’s income significantly exceeds yours. We believed that reaching out to her first would have increased your daughter’s chances of survival. Sadly, that didn’t happen, but all this time you really didn’t know?”

The officer’s words kept hitting Tom’s most sensitive nerves. He finally started to recall the things I had said, as well as the urn he had knocked over at the amusement park.

“I’m sorry, Jessica. I didn’t know. I swear, I didn’t know.”

Tom finally realized the enormity of what he had done and shakily helped me to my feet.

“But even so,” he pleaded, “you could’ve just talked to me. Why did you come to the hospital just to curse and mock Betty and Julie?”

“My God, what are you even saying?”

The officer looked at Tom in shock. “Not only do you not know your daughter is dead, but you’re also unaware that your wife has leukemia and just underwent a bone marrow biopsy? You don’t stay with her, and instead, you hit her? How can someone be as absurd a husband as you?”

## **My Parents Neglected Me Until I Died Chapter 19**

The officer’s words seemed to be the final straw that broke Tom.

In the midst of his breakdown, he finally remembered the onset of my unexpected nosebleeds.

He recalled late one night, weak and feverish, I asked him to take me to the hospital for a check-up. But instead, he rushed off to Betty’s side because Julie had called and said she missed him.

He remembered the cruel words and sarcasm when I had asked him for money.

Suddenly, Tom scooped me into his arms. “Where’s the doctor? Save my wife!”

“I’m sorry, Jessica. I’m worthless. I deserve to die. Please, just give me one more chance to make it right!”

I couldn’t bear it any longer and passed out.

When I woke again, Tom was seated beside my hospital bed. As soon as he saw me stir, he nervously asked, “How are you feeling? Does anything hurt?”

“Get out! I don’t want to see you.”

“Don’t be like this. I know you’re mad, but I need to stay and take care of you.”

“Who needs your care? Once we settle everything between us, we’ll get a divorce.”

Tom looked at me with disappointment. “Is money all you care about? Even though you’ve never acted like a wife, I never thought of leaving you because I love you and Monica.”

“Love me?” I scoffed. “You just didn’t have a better option.”

The only reason Tom didn’t divorce me and run off with Betty was because he cared about his image. In public, he needed a respectable wife.

Betty was the woman he couldn’t show off, so he kept her hidden under the guise of friendship, relishing in the thrill of their secret affair.

Seeing his pitiful expression only filled me with disgust.

Tom was embarrassed that I had exposed him, but he knew how outrageous his actions had been, so he tried to keep his composure. “I know you hate me, but what’s done is done. We have to figure out how to move forward.”

“After what you did to me and Monica, how can you even suggest we ‘move forward’?”

“What do you mean, ‘what I did’? I didn’t cause your illness, and Monica’s death was an accident. I admit I share some of the blame, but if you had listened to me and quit your job to be a stay-at-home mom, picking Monica up from school every day, none of this would’ve happened.”

Even now, Tom believed I was more responsible for everything that had gone wrong.

I sneered. “Betty stays at home with your money, taking care of Julie, and yet, didn’t she still get kidnapped?”

Tom was at a loss for words. “We’re talking about us! Why bring Betty into this?”

“Fine, let’s talk about us. Give me back the money. I need it for my treatment.”

Tom hesitated for a while, his face turning red. “I used the money for Julie’s surgery, but I can borrow some. Fortunately, you haven’t found a matching bone marrow yet.”

“I have.”

Tom’s face lit up with hope when he heard there was a match and he was about to say he’d borrow the money. But my next words sent him into a cold sweat.

“I found the match the same day I called you. If you had given me the money then, my surgery might already be a success. But now, both the money and the bone marrow are gone.”

“Tom, you gave everything to Betty and her daughter, who weren’t even in urgent need. Are you satisfied now?”

## **My Parents Neglected Me Until I Died Chapter 20**

Tom was clearly shaken by my words but still tried to defend himself..

“What do you mean, they didn’t need it urgently? I’ll figure out a way to help with your illness, but the ransom-believe me, I didn’t do it intentionally. If I hadn’t gotten the money that day, Julie would’ve died.”

“Do you know who kidnapped and murdered Monica? It was Mike! That same ‘good brother’ of yours, Betty’s other man!”

“What are you saying?”

Looking at Tom’s face, filled with disbelief, I found him truly pathetic.

“If you really want to make things right with me and Monica, get Julie’s DNA tested. Let’s see if she’s actually Mike and Betty’s daughter!”

“Watch your mouth! Are you implying that this was all some plot between Betty, her daughter, and Mike? That’s impossible!”

Even now, he remained firm in defending Betty and her daughter.

I didn’t have the strength to be angry anymore. My voice was eerily calm.

“You’ll know the truth after a test.”

“There’s no need for a test! It’s definitely not true! Betty might be careless and a little rough around the edges, but she’s kind-hearted. And Julie? She’s a good kid, no way they’d do something like this.”

“If it’s not true, what harm is there in getting a test done? Tom, do you really believe Betty and Mike are innocent, or are you just afraid to find out the truth?”

“Deep down, we both know who Julie’s father is, don’t we?”

When Julie was little, it wasn’t obvious. But as she got older, she began to resemble Mike more and more, with his sharp, rat-like face.

Tom clearly realized this and protested, “Even if Julie is Mike’s child, it doesn’t prove that this matter is related to them! If it turns out that Julie has a murderer for a father, her life will be ruined.”

Tom was so determined to protect Julie’s reputation that he refused to investigate the cause of Monica’s death.

I laughed coldly, and my demeanor frightened Tom.

He came forward, embracing me and weeping, “Monica is already dead. I won’t pursue your failures as a mother. Please, forget about the mistakes caused by my unintentional actions.”

Seeing that I remained silent, Tom made another promise. “I promise you, if you focus on your treatment, I will cut all ties with Betty and her daughter and take care of you for the rest of your life.”

His tone was patronizing. Before I could respond, the door to the hospital room was flung open.

It turned out that Betty and her daughter had been eavesdropping outside. Upon hearing that Tom was abandoning her, Betty completely broke down and no longer addressed Tom as a brother.

“Tom, don’t listen to her nonsense...”

“Be quiet!”

Realizing what Betty was about to say, Tom tried to intervene, but it was too late.

Betty looked at me with a provocative gaze. “Julie is my daughter with Tom! One time, we got drunk and accidentally conceived Julie. I didn’t want to ruin your family, so I kept it a secret, but you went and sowed discord between Tom and me!”

Family vacation packages

Tom turned pale and suddenly fell to his knees beside my hospital bed.

“Jessica, I am sorry. I didn’t mean to hurt you. I love only you; my feelings for Betty and her daughter are nothing more than guilt.”



Perhaps I had been through too much recently; no news seemed to affect me anymore.

It made sense now why Tom reacted so strongly when I first suspected Julie was Mike's child.

"Tom, don't you want to know if Julie is really your daughter?"

Seeing that I remained unshaken and calm, Betty lost her composure entirely. "Jessica, as a woman, how can you be so vicious, tarnishing my reputation? Tom, say something!"

Tom was visibly moved by my words. "Betty, why don't you go and investigate?"

Betty looked at him with a broken heart. "Tom, I gave birth to Julie without asking for anything in return, and you still doubt me? If you can't tolerate me, then my daughter and I might as well die!"

With that, Betty prepared to jump from the building. Tom rushed from behind and held her tightly.

"I believe you, of course I do! But I can't be responsible for you and your daughter. The people I love are Jessica and Monica. I won't pursue the matter with Mike any further; consider it my apology to you both."

Tom finally confessed his true feelings in front of Betty.

He had pursued me for seven years, and I still remembered how overwhelmed he was with excitement when I agreed to be with him.

Yet, the more he loved me, the more insecure he became. Betty, who had always acted the part of a man, played the submissive role, filling the void in his heart with her feminine ways.

Now, he chose to make amends by giving up his plan to avenge Monica, apologizing to Betty and her daughter instead.

It was truly pathetic!

I had no interest in watching their pitiful performance in front of me. I picked up the water cup from the bedside and threw it forcefully.

"Get this wretched woman out of here!"

Before Betty was escorted by Tom, she gave me a provocative eyebrow raise, as if to say that even if I had guessed the truth, Tom would protect her and Julie.

The room fell silent. I pulled out a recording pen from under my pillow and a strand of hair I had plucked from Julie's head.

Since I had no one to rely on and didn't know how much longer I had to live, I couldn't delay avenging Monica!