

## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 9**

Sophia's POV

My heart pounded fast in my chest. I clutched my phone, where Kayla's face was framed by the tidy office background of her new workspace.

"I'll be right back," she hissed anxiously, glancing off-screen.

I nodded, trying to muster a semblance of calm.

The minutes stretched on, each one feeling like an eternity. I stared at the screen, willing my breathing to slow, my heart to quiet. Did Elijah hear us talking?!

Finally, Kayla returned. "Elijah's gone," she said. "He didn't seem to hear me talking. He's meeting with Serena again, who's happy to kiss his ass."

A bitter laugh escaped me. Then Kayla leaned forward and spoke, her voice low and confiding.

"I don't know what's so great about Serena that Elijah would choose her over you. And, Sophia, I know you drafted the divorce settlement without including the division of property. Are you really willing to give up everything—the property and all of your supposed share in Elijah's assets, and the man you love—for Serena?"

I swallowed hard, my throat tight.

"It's not really about Serena," I began, my voice trembling but growing stronger with each word.

"After I lost my child the first time, Elijah wasn't the same. He wasn't as nice, or as present. I mean, we didn't marry out of love in the first place but at the beginning, he seemed to care about me, you know? Then I had a miscarriage and he was just... gone. He buried himself in work, and I was left to fend for myself every day."

Kayla's eyes widened, and she leaned in closer, her attention rapt.

I went on. "Elijah's house, it wasn't a home for me. His stepmother treated me like a maid, abusing me at every turn. There was no warmth, no love. Just coldness and neglect. I started thinking about divorce then... I eventually talked to a lawyer and started preparing the papers."

I paused, the memories washing over me, painful and raw. "Serena's arrival was just the last straw. She made me realize, once and for all, that Elijah didn't give a damn about me. He could never learn to love me..."

Kayla's eyes glistened with unshed tears. "Sophia, I had no idea it was that bad already. I'm so sorry."

I offered her a weak smile, feeling a strange sense of relief. "That's why I filed for divorce. Not because of Serena alone, but because of everything that came before. Honestly I don't even know if they had an affair while we were still married. But it doesn't matter... I just couldn't keep living a life where I was constantly neglected, constantly hurting. I had to take control, for myself, for my sanity."

Kayla's eyes widened. "Soph, I just can't believe it. Serena really took advantage of everything falling apart between you and Elijah. No wonder he's been working late ever since you left. But honestly, I never saw him flirt with her after you left. Even Connor didn't notice anything like that."

I sighed, the old wound aching anew. "It doesn't matter, Kayla. None of it matters to me anymore."

Kayla's expression softened, sympathy etched in her eyes. "I know, it's just... it's frustrating. And by the way, Serena has been rejecting every single program I submit. Every. Single. One. She's clearly got it out for me."

I frowned, leaning closer to the screen. "Why don't you go directly to Elijah? He's professional and doesn't let personal feelings interfere with his work."

Kayla nodded thoughtfully. "You're right. Maybe that's what I need to do. Thanks, Soph."

I gave her a small smile. "Anytime, Kayla. You've always got my support."

Suddenly, I noticed her gaze shift slightly, her eyebrows raising in curiosity.

"Sophia," she said, her voice laced with amusement, "is that Daniel outside your door?"

I glanced over my shoulder, seeing Daniel's silhouette lingering in the hallway.

Kayla giggled. "He really can't stay away from you, huh? You guys spend so much time together, helping each other out... really, won't you get attached?"

I rolled my eyes. "You know we're just friends, really..."

"Maybe for now," she said with a wink, her tone playful. "But seriously, it's nice that you have someone around. Must make things a bit easier."

"It does," I admitted, smiling softly.

Kayla glanced at her watch and sighed. "I hate to cut this short, but I need to head out soon. We'll talk again soon, okay?"

We put the phone down just as Daniel knocked and made his way in through my slightly open door. "Hi, Sophia!" He greeted me cheerfully. "Have you eaten dinner yet?"

I shook my head and explained that my conversation with Kayla had unexpectedly stretched longer than I'd expected.

"Oh, you know you can't be missing your meals or eating too late," Daniel said. "Let me make dinner for you."

He strolled over to the kitchen before I could stop him.

"Hey, it's fine," I told him. "I'm pregnant, but I can handle that myself. Don't stress yourself out too much."

He smiled gently at me. "Yes, I know that. You're truly an amazing woman, Sophia, and very much capable of taking care of yourself. But I like doing things for you, really. I enjoy being able to look out for you..."

I didn't know how to react. He came forward and took my hand in his. "You know, ever since high school..."

I could sense where this was heading, and my heart raced. I quickly interrupted, needing to set boundaries before he could continue. "Daniel, I'm really focused on school right now," I said, my voice firmer than I felt. "I just got divorced, and I'm pregnant. I can't think about anything else right now."

He nodded, understanding but undeterred. "You're right," he agreed, though his eyes held a hint of persistence. "Your focus should really be on your studies and on your baby."

He finally let go of my hand, to my relief. "Just know that I'm always here for you."

## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 10**

Elijah's POV

It's been weeks now since I last heard from Sophia. I couldn't shake the unsettling thought of the man who had answered Sophia's phone. His voice was unfamiliar, and I was certain I didn't know him. The realization that Sophia was with someone I had never even met was unacceptable.

Desperation gnawed at my resolve as I reached out to her adoptive mother and brother, only to be met with the chilling news that they too had lost contact with Sophia. She

must have changed her contact number! Was it because of me? How could she just cut off all ties with me like that?

That whole day, I couldn't focus on anything. I was still thinking about Sophia when I saw a familiar woman running across the lobby of our office, holding some huge envelopes. Kayla Davis, Sophia's best friend.

"I can't believe her! She keeps rejecting all the programs I've submitted!" I heard her say furiously. That's when I noticed that my assistant Connor was walking beside her, trying to catch up with her fast pace. "She doesn't even review them thoroughly. Maybe she doesn't look at them at all!"

Connor looked at her sympathetically. That's when Kayla suddenly looked up and saw me. Her eyes immediately lit up. "Just the person I wanted to see!" she exclaimed excitedly. "Hello, Elijah! I've been meaning to book an appointment with you, that's why I was talking to Connor here..."

"Kayla, hey," I greeted casually. "What can I do for you?"

"Well, Serena hasn't been seriously considering the designs I've submitted," she told me with irritation. "I think she just wants to spite me or something. So Sophia said I should come to you because you have integrity and surely you'll handle this matter impartially."

My heart skipped a beat at the mention of my ex-wife. I couldn't deny the flutter in my chest. "Sophia? Did she really say that?"

Kayla rolled her eyes. It seemed like she didn't want to flatter me by answering the question. But eventually, she said yes.

I felt pleased. And suddenly, I had a great idea. "Okay, hand those over and I'll review them and deal with Serena... But..." I trailed off.

"But what?" Kayla asked, puzzled.

"You must tell me where Sophia is at the moment," I finished.

Her eyes grew wide. "I can't do that! Elijah, even though you're my current boss, I can't tell you anything about my friend."

I tried to keep my frustration in check. "Come on, Kayla, I'm not asking for state secrets. I just need to talk to her."

Kayla shook her head, her expression resolute. "I'm sorry, Elijah, but I can't help you."

"Please, Kayla," I pressed, "it's important."

She sighed, glancing around the lobby before leaning in closer. “Alright, I’ll tell you this much—she’s in Paris. To study art.”

I raised an eyebrow. “Paris? Art studies?”

Kayla nodded, then quickly covered her ears with both hands, her eyes wide. “That’s all I can say! I really can’t say anything more.”

I couldn’t help but smile. “Okay, thanks.” I took her designs and began walking away, with Connor following behind me.

When Kayla was finally out of earshot, I turned toward my assistant. “Book me a flight to Paris, Connor. I must go there on a business trip.”

We stepped into the elevator together. He looked doubtful but he nodded at me. “Right away, sir. I’ll book your flight to Paris.”

Just then, a familiar voice spoke up. “You’re going to Paris?”

I was surprised to find Serena standing inside the elevator too. I didn’t realize that she’d already been there when we had come in.

“Why do you need to go there immediately?” she inquired, looking at me suspiciously.

“I have a project to take care of with our partners there,” I answered nonchalantly.

She suddenly grinned at me, linking her arm with mine. “Oh, what a coincidence! I just got off the phone with our partners there, and it just so happens I’m the head designer coordinating with them at the moment. Let me come with you, Elijah.”

And before I could even respond to that, she turned to Connor with a huge smile. “Book my ticket as well, Connor.”

## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 11**

Sophia’s POV

During the three months I’d spent in Paris, I had gradually settled into the rhythm of life here and discovered some joys in my daily routine, such as going to the mall with my friend Daniel.

“Don’t you need a new kettle?” Daniel asked, pointing at the display of kitchen equipment. We were strolling in the mall together after our classes at the university, picking out additional stuff for my apartment.

“Okay, let’s check it out.”

After a successful purchase, I was surprised when Daniel suddenly suggested that we visit the mother and baby section. But I knew I had to face it sooner or later, so I agreed.

Would Elijah want this baby? I wondered as I strolled among the cribs, strollers, and tiny outfits. He probably wouldn't care if he knew. I'm glad I went to Paris where I can be far away from him.

"Oh, wow! Such charming teeny outfits!" a familiar voice exclaimed in a rather sarcastic way.

I turned around in dread, hoping it wasn't who I thought it was. But my heart dropped when I saw Serena Foster approaching me with a big, fake smile on her pretty face.

"Look who it is!" she said, eyeing me warily from head to toe. I was suddenly very conscious of my growing belly which was now a little obvious even with my loose clothes. "So this is where you've been hiding, Sophia..."

I pretended not to hear or see her as I walked in the opposite direction. "Oh, come on. Aren't you glad to see me?" she said, following behind me. "Or are you trying to hide that pregnant belly from me?"

My eyes grew wide. I froze, my heart pounding. I didn't want to engage with her, knowing that anything I said would likely find its way back to Elijah. Ignoring her, I continued to examine the baby items on display, hoping she would take the hint and leave me alone.

"Are you pregnant, Sophia?" Serena asked directly as she caught up with me and faced me squarely with a smirk. "It's okay, you know. Your secret's safe with me."

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in her eyes, she stood up and came closer to me. "Anyway, she couldn't care less, for sure. Can you believe she was in the maternity section, picking out baby stuff with her boyfriend?"

I felt like my heart had suddenly been anatoled from me. "What do you mean?" I asked. "She's pregnant? Are you sure?" I couldn't help the change of lone in my voice. I was greatly affected,

Serena nodded, looking very happy about it. "I'm positivel And they looked so sweet and happy together, going through the tiny outfits and shoes and cribs and all..."

My blood simmered, a raging storm of anger brewing within me. "No, It's not possible," I said through gritted teeth. "We haven't even been separated for a long time. She can't possibly love someone new already!"

"Well, maybe they were already together before you got divorced," Serena suggested seemingly unintentionally.

I was livid, and she could see it in my face. I felt like a volcano about to explode. anytime now.

Serena narrowed her eyes at me then. "Why are you so affected, Elijah? Do you still care about her?"

"No," I quickly replied. "I just can't take this betrayal. I can't believe she'd do that to me!"

"But she already did," Serena said smoothly. Slowly she stood up from the bed and came closer to me, a seductive smile on her face.

"Why not just stop thinking about Sophia and instead just get back with me? That way, you can get revenge and at the same time, I'll be sure to make you happy, to make you forget her completely."

She went on saying other things, but I had already tuned her out. I stepped back and saw her frown, but it was the least of my worries. All I could think about was the fact that Sophia was pregnant with another man that she had probably cheated on me while we were still together!

I recalled the night before our divorce, when suggested having a baby and Sophia resisted. At the time, I thought she didn't want to get pregnant. Now, knowing she was pregnant with someone else's child, it felt like a cruel twist of fate.

My chest literally ached as I leaned over the dresser and clutched the edges tightly with my hands, my knuckles turning white. "You should go back to your room now,

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## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 12**

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## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 13**

Sophia's POV

I was in a cafe just outside the school campus, enthusiastically discussing a big project with my classmates, when I noticed a luxury car parked on the other side of the street. My heart lurched when I saw a man step out and cross the street toward

me

Elijah?! I thought incredulously, squinting through the glass window of the cafe. I had tuned out the voices of the group as I slowly stood up and focused on the man striding in my direction.

Is it really him? My mind whirled with confusion. I gasped as he came into focus. Oh, my god. It's him. What's he doing here?

Without thinking, my hand went to the bulge on my stomach. "Excuse me, I'll be back," I muttered to my classmates and felt an urgent need to escape. I had to get as far away from him as possible!

Just then, I saw Serena come out of the car behind Elijah. Her beach waves blew gently in the wind as she joined him and linked her fingers with his.

I can't believe they came to Paris together, thought bitterly. This is supposed to be my safe and happy place. They had to come and ruin it.

I rushed in the opposite direction, hoping they wouldn't see me or catch up to me

"Sophia?" I heard Elijah call my name. I froze, but I didn't turn around.

I heard the jingle—jangle of the bell on top of the cafe door

"Sophia, let's talk," his familiar deep voice urged. I had no choice but to face him.

"There's nothing to talk about," I said in a monotone

He dropped Serena's hand and approached me, but I moved farther back. "What do you want? Whatever you need to say, just say it right here.

He looked greatly pissed. "Well," he started sarcastically, raising his voice and making some heads turn. "Congratulations on getting pregnant... by the man you betrayed me with while we were married!"

I was dumbfounded, my mouth gaping in shock. I could hear gasps and hushed whispers in the crowd

"Let's talk in my apartment," I told them flatly, I had no choice as I didn't want to cause any spectacle. "It's nearby."

They followed me quietly. I picked up my pace and never looked back until we were right in front of my unit.

was great seeing you the other day," Serena remarked as I fumbled with my keys. She probably wanted to piss me off or throw me off balance. I did not say anything.

Once we were inside, Serena began loudly commenting on my furniture. Meanwhile, I noticed how Elijah appeared to be looking for someone. Finally, he asked, "Where's your... companion?"

"Huh?" I was puzzled. "I live alone."

"So you

don't live with the man you're seeing now?" he demanded to know.

I was certain that Serena had already told him about Daniel. But before I could explain anything, Elijah took a menacing step forward, the rage showing in his eyes.

"Tell me, Sophia. Are you seeing another man? Because if you are, then you're cheating on me because we're not fully divorced yet!"

I was taken aback. What did he mean by that?

“You must have been seeing this man even before, so you were already cheating on me before you came here,” Elijah continued. I have never seen him this angry. He came closer and gripped my wrist tightly. “Are you pregnant?!”

I was so furious that he was treating me this way that I spat out, “So what if I am?! It’s none of your business!”

I saw his eyes flash with wrath. “Whose baby is it that you’re carrying?”

My heart felt like it would burst anytime. I just stared up at him and said nothing. I couldn’t make myself lie.

“Whose baby is it, Sophia?!” He repeated angrily and began shaking my shoulders frantically, hurting me already.

Serena just gaped at us as he continued to shake me. Tears began streaming down my cheeks.

When Elijah saw my tears, he immediately stopped shaking me but continued to grip my shoulders with both of his hands. “Tell me the truth, Sophia. Were you already

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with this man when we were married? Did you betray me a His voice

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crackled with emotion.

I couldn’t believe what he was asking me. Apparently, he never loved me or even trusted me! Hence, I didn’t say anything.

Elijah opened his mouth again to say something, but he was interrupted by a loud male voice.

“Let her go!”

## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 14**

Sophia’s POV

Daniel barged into my apartment. “Let her del” he shouted at Elijah.

Elijah reluctantly stepped away. More tears filled my eyen,

"What's happening. Sophia?" Daniel asked as he came over to my side, looking like he wanted to punch Elijah.

"It's nothing." I whispered, brushing away my tears with the back of my hand and trying to control my overwhelming emotions.

As Daniel arrived, a wave of calm washed over me, settling my restless mind. In that moment, I realized that without him, I might have crumbled and confided everything to Elijah.

Daniel turned toward Elijah, I could see his mouth twitching, as if he was trying to hold back his angry, sharp-edged words. His stance showed that he was doing his best not to cause any more trouble. And yet at the same time, he wanted to protect

me.

Elijah began to calm down, to my relief. I could see him struggling to control himself, "You and I have got to talk," he said sternly to Daniel. "Outside."

"Fine," Daniel answered.

I was surprised that he was now acting this way, I wanted to stop Daniel from talking to him, but they were already exiting my apartment. My heart pounded as a wave of anxiety washed over me.

Once they were outside, Serena turned to me immediately, narrowing her eyes and staring at me suspiciously. "You never answered his question," she said in an accusatory tone. "Whose baby is that you're carrying?"

"And why should I tell you?" I snapped.

"You're such a..." She didn't continue, but I could tell that it wasn't going to be a pretty word.

"I can't believe how you've been using these men, seducing them, sleeping with them, and then hurting them... Wow, you're really something else, Sophia! You act so innocent, and yet you're just doing this routine over and over! Admit it, you love how they follow you around like puppies after you sleep with them! You're just playing

with everyone's feelings!"

I wanted to slap her. "Don't insult me, Serena! You're in my territory. You have no right!"

But she just kept on going. "You've got yourself a new boy toy who's willing to protect you at all costs! Wow, poor Daniel! He is sooo pathetic!" She rolled her eyes to emphasize her point.

I was so furious that I couldn't help myself anymore. "This baby isn't Daniel's We Elijah's, alright? Daniel and I are just friends. We go to different schools within the same campus. That's it. Are you happy now?"

At first, Serena looked bewildered. Then she let out a sort of evil, exaggerated laugh So you're keeping this baby to try and get back with Elijah? No way! You're not getting away with this, you know. We're already together, and he loves me more than he ever cared for you. The fact that he brot me along with him when he came to talk to you means that he doesn't want me to suspect him of wanting to reconness with you..."

She was on a roll, rattling on. "There are no secrets between us, Sophia. Your child poses no threat at all

I couldn't help but scoff, finding it hilarious that she was acting so defensively. I've never harbored any inclination to reconcile with Elijah, and I'm not keen on getting involved with them again. If she hadn't divulged all of this to Elijah, perhaps our paths wouldn't have crossed at all!

"We're already divorced, remember? I don't care anymore, Serena, He's all yours! I have no intention of blackmailing him or being with him again for this baby, I wil raise this child properly without his help, so if you want to keep him, you better not tell him that he's the father."

"Fine" Serena said sharply. Crossing her arms across her chest, she regarded me with disdain.

1 don't want him to ever have anything to do with you. So let's just live on with our own lives. After this, we're dead to each other. And you and Elijah are never going to contact each other again. Is that clear? Do we have a deal?"

"Of course," Tagreed.

1 don't ever want to see you again!" Serena snapped, her face full of hatred

"Good" I answered coldly 1 don't ever want to see your face again ether. And

## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 15**

Sophia's POV

I was glad when Elijah and Daniel came back in, so that I did not have to deal with Serena anymore Yet at the same time, I was worried and curious about what they had talked about

Glancing at Daniel, I noticed he avoided meeting my eyes Elijah, on the other hand, seemed composed but his gaze on me was intense, as if he had something

important to say

"We better go now, Elijah," Serena suddenly pipped, sounding more cheerful now. She grabbed his hand and began pulling him to the door. "Bye, everyone. It was great talking to you."

I looked at her incredulously, wondering how she could act like that after everything that had occurred.

I let out a sigh of relief as soon as they were out of sight. I felt tired and stressed, so I plopped down on the sofa and leaned back, closing my eyes for a little bit.

"Are you alright?" Daniel asked with concern, sitting beside me.

I opened my eyes and gave him a faint smile. "Just tired, but I'll be fine."

He nodded. "Maybe I should leave you now to rest. You and your baby need it."

"Wait!" I quickly said, stopping him. I straightened up and looked him in the eye. "What did you and Elijah discuss outside?"

He shrugged. "It was nothing."

"It's surely not nothing. What was it?"

"Well, he was accusing you of cheating on him, right? So I just... told him the truth..."

"That we're not a couple?"

"Yes. He was just.... He jumped to conclusions, got carried away by his emotions, probably..."

I nodded, remembering how Elijah had acted. A chill ran through my limbs. It was actually a little terrifying to see him like that because he'd always been cool and composed.

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"Sophia..." Daniel suddenly started, hesitating a bit. I looked at him expectantly, waiting for him to continue. "That baby... Is it Elijah's?"

"Yeah..." I answered truthfully. "He's the father. But we're divorced now and I really didn't want to give him any reason to connect with me again."

"But he's not going to stop until he finds out the truth. I don't even know if he believed me when I said there's nothing going on between us."

"Well, let him continue thinking we're together. It doesn't matter. It might even make him leave me alone."

"Yes, perhaps," he answered, though he didn't sound too sure. For a while, we just sat there beside each other quietly.

"How about I fix you up some salad and soup instead? And a cup of hot chocolate, perhaps?" he then offered, motioning to the kitchen. anything to eat yet."

"Thanks, but it's okay. I'm not really hungry."

suppose you haven't had

"You know, I came by earlier because I wanted to ask you if you'd like to watch this new comedy film showing at the local cinema... Imagine how shocked I was when I came in here and found someone harassing you."

I actually chuckled. "Surprise, surprise. My ex-husband managed to ruin my day again, even though I'm supposed to be miles away from our old home."

"Hey, it was bound to happen, Sophia. But it could be over now. We may never hear from them again."

"I do hope so," I said, feeling the fatigue engulfing me. I stifled a yawn. "I'm really tired, Daniel. But we should catch that movie another time. Maybe next week?"

As always, Daniel smiled with kindness. "Sure, no worries. Whenever you're up to it, Sophia. I'm just here."

I felt truly grateful. We gave each other a friendly hug before he said goodbye.

That evening, I turned and twisted in bed, wanting to sleep early so I could rest and recharge for a full day in school tomorrow. But my mind was still troubled, preoccupied with thoughts of Elijah and Serena.

Why did they have to come here? I was living a good life already.

All of a sudden, my phone lit up and sounded with a notification. When I checked it, I was surprised at Kayla's message:

I'm #0000000 sorry! I accidentally told Elijal that you went to Parts to study. I really hope you forgive me. Don't be mad, please.

I was stunned, but I didn't feel any anger toward my best friend. I knew that one of these days, Elijah would probably be able to squeeze out such information from her. It wouldn't be her fault if she found herself with no choice.

Lying on my bed, I raised my phone over my head and began to type a reply. But then, before I could finish it, I saw an email notification coming in. When I saw the subject line and email address, I sat up in alarm.

Holy smokes! It's from Urban Next Design Studio!

I remembered how I often stopped in front of their display window and even explored the studio a few times. I liked it so much because it had been founded by an American, but had risen to success fast here in Paris.

The subject line of the email jumped at me, making my heart race:

RE: Interior Design Internship Program Application

## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 16**

Elijah's POV

"Let her go!"

Those were the words that came out of Danjel's mouth when he stormed into Sophia's apartment. The way he rushed to her protectively and how he looked at her lovingly, was just all too familiar.

Sophia's boyfriend, I thought bitterly. As I watched them interact, I could tell how close they were and how deeply in love this man was with my wife.

I wanted to push him away from her, to punch him in the face repeatedly until he bled. But I knew it wouldn't help my situation with Sophia. So instead, I looked away. and took a few deep breaths, trying to calm down. I tried emotions that threatened to overwhelm me,

Finally, I told Daniel, "You and I have got to talk. Outside."

control the surge of

As Daniel and I stood in the hallway outside Sophia's apartment, I couldn't hold back. the question burning in my mind.

"Are



you and Sophia... dating?" I asked, trying to keep my tone casual despite the knot of emotions in my chest.

He didn't answer at once, so I spoke again as my heart pounded hard. "Listen, man. Sophia and I aren't officially divorced yet, alright? We are still legally married. So if you're seeing each other, that means she's cheating on me, and that's still answerable by law

"Hey, it's fine," Daniel Interrupted me, looking annoyed. "We're not a couple. We've never dated or anything like that. I'm just trying to support her as a friend."

I

I peered closely at him, trying to determine if he was lying. But he seemed to be telling the truth. And suddenly, I thought of Serena who acted as if we were actually. together. I'll have to be careful about that too, so they can't turn the tables on me.

Nevertheless, I was filled with relief and joy, knowing that Sophia wasn't with any other man. Did this mean that he's not the father of the baby Sophia is carrying in her womb? Could that child be mine?!

But then, why does he look at her that way?

"You're spending a lot of time together," I started in a suspicious tone. "And you seem pretty close..."

"Yeah, we are," he admitted, sighing. "I care a lot about her and I don't like seeing her get hurt."

Taken aback, I didn't know how to respond. could tell that he was secretly harboring feelings for her. I felt confused and anxious, my mind full of questions.

What if she eventually falls for him? What should I do?

"I've cared about her since our high school days, but I never told her that," Daniel continued. I was surprised by this revelation, "She was always so busy with her studies, so I didn't want to bother her or destroy her focus. And when I went to college abroad, we lost touch with one another..."

He hesitated before going on and giving me a sely stare. "I heard she'd gotten married, and I was happy for her. I always thought she was living a good life... But it turns out she wasn't really taken care of. She wasn't happy. Who would have thought we'd end up meeting again and coming here together?"

I narrowed my eyes at him. I've heard enough. I didn't want to listen to any more of this shit. But I was still doubtful. Are they together or not? Maybe he's just playing

with me.

"You had your chance, Elijah. And you ruined it." His tone of voice was angry and accusatory.

"It's none of your business. You don't know anything about our marriage or our lives."

"Now God has given us a second chance and-"

"Shut up," I cut him off. Then I stormed back into the apartment without saying another word. If I'd stayed there another second, I would have given him a black eye.

As Serena and I left Sophia's house, I couldn't shake the anger that simmered inside me. Serena, on the other hand, looked oddly satisfied, and that only added to my frustration.

As we drove back to the hotel, Serena began to speak, her tone light as if she was sharing a juicy piece of gossip. "You know, Elijah, I found out something interesting from Sophia today."

I glanced at her, still seething. "What?"

"She's really pregnant," Serena said casually, but her words hit me like at

What? Lexclaimed, my hands tightening

what i was hearing "Daniele? But there even togeth

"Maybe not officially, but they're definitely more than use treats ske

I shook my head, refusing to believe it

Serene shrugged, seemingly unfazed by my disbetet "Do you way thank would tell you the truth? Believe what you were, tush, tot f'm just sating pay that Sophia told me "

I fell silent, the weight of Serena's word

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indeed pregnant with Daniel's child, a treadthen she bad wwwdo bugu

Suddenly she gave me a lopsided gm and led CAM

You've heard of friends with benefits, hwerk pun stejar visIEVE to have a baby"

I felt greatly betrayed. The fury was none many chest standard Sophia. It's not like that," I muttered, trying to

co

Serena laughed. "There's always a first and pathysome befeyong to have a child together, they'll start being a dog to bomb treguje soise gee

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I didn't even realize that my knuckles had turned white on the best this o

She sidled up to me and placed a hand on my thigh, siding towers and making

I went rigid. My initial reaction was to morefute sway "MbljØ "logso protest

"W's okay" Serena suddenly uttered with a sive smile can help you ther regard, and you'll surely forget her only 980, Brestby, why don't you and I start

## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 17**

Sophia's POV

ONDE

"Oh, boy. "I whispered with great exEKS HAMITA email from Urban Next Design Studs This is my deg

I truly admired their work and have heard boy wear W AWAY wonderfully and given great oportunes fey were

and learn from them. Will be an

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I scanned the email with eager arogon the youy portfolio and wanted to schedule an intervien av, ker gAAN weekend at the Goldwell insured ba

Excitement bubbled up inside me. On goh Corneq.com, kaly

The weekend was approaching, and was ooking two N YERAN

I hoREGINAZUMAKIS on campus. It had become a place I loved, as we wont we voet were

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supposed to come with me, but he had to get used important school project

I hear to As I entered the auditorium, loould feel the ba

speakers were engaging, discussing the key trends and molGMEN design. I listened attentively, taking notes and absorbing as much a could.

ty

After the presentations, I wandered over to the exhon area to see the meaty cas works. They were avant-garde and impressive, sows the Ay and aer of the studio's artists.

One of the designers, a girl with a striking pile on came admiring her work. "Your designs are amazing I sad, genuinely messes.

"Thank you!" she replied, a smile lighting up her face. "he you a designe

I nodded, feeling a surge of pride "Yes, it's my passion."

We chatted for a while, exchanging ideas, I've never fet more alive. I'm truly in my turf, and this journey has just begun.

I

bowsn't vaga When I moved on to the next displayed work, my eyes were tooove on't wagen ahead. I didn't notice at once the young women coming toward my dre2000s rush.

Boom! We collided without warning. And before new it, I was knocked off balance, instinctively protecting my stomach as I fell to what I thought would be a painful impact. To my surprise, I landed stendily in warm hug.

"Are you alright?" a concerned low voice asked. It belonged to a strange man who happened to be the one who had caught me in his arms.

Awkwardly, I straightened up and pulled away, giving him a sheepish smile, "Yes, I'm fine. And I'm so sorry."

"Oh, it's no problem at all. Glad I was here just in time to break your fall." The striking man towered above me with a kind smile.

Just then, I noticed a woman standing beside us. She'd been the one I had crashed into.

"I'm so sorry too," I told her. "I wasn't looking where I was going. I was 100 preoccupied with the beautiful works."

She grinned in a friendly manner. "Don't worry about it. It was much my fault as yours. I wasn't paying attention, either." She extended her hand to us and added, "By the way, I'm Julia,"

"I'm Sophia," I responded. "Nice to meet you"

"Well, I'm glad to see that you both appreciated the displayed works so much that you almost had an accident," the man quipped, chuckling, "But I hope no one is hurt."

Julia and I smiled, shaking our heads.

"Good to know," the man replied. "I'm Trevis Miller, the director of Urban Next Design Studio."

My jaw dropped, "Oh, wow, Hil It's good to meet you, sir."

"Yes, it's so good to meet you," Julia echoed, looking as awestruck as I was feeling.

"You two look like talented designers who miny just be what we're looking for at the moment," Trevis said.

"Thanks!" I answered. "I'm actually here for an interview for your internship program. My name is Sophia Bennett."

"Miss Bennett," Trevis said, his eyes brightening at the mention of my name. "I remember the work you submitted. Totally impressive. Excellent portfolio for

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## **My Ex-Husband is Out of Control Chapter 18**

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surprise and apprehension through me. What the heck is he doing here? We had already discussed everything

“Hi, Sophia,” he greeted me with a smile, sounding very pleasant and a lot different than the last time I saw him. “How was your day?”

I couldn’t just pretend everything was fine. “What are you doing here, Elijah?” I asked in exasperation, not bothering with any pleasantries. “Just get to the point.

He moved closer toward me, but I stepped back, finding myself leaning against my front door while he towered over me.

“I just.” he began, his eyes looking desperate. On th urface, though, he appeared confident. “Please... Just tell me the truth. Whose baby is it that you’re carrying?”

I was confused by the way he carried himself, and the tone of voice he was using. He was sending mixed signals. What is he thinking? Maybe he feels it in his gut, that he’s the father. He’s smart, after all. He’ll figure it out easily no matter what Serena

told him.

But upon meeting his gaze, I could sense the unease emanating from him. He was rattled, uncertain, distressed. And that was why he showed up here today. All this time, I was hoping they would have left Paris already.

I frowned, not knowing how to answer him. So I simply said, “I figured Serena would have told you.”

The keys to my front door were in my hand, but I didn’t want to open the door and let him in again. I wanted him to go already. I wanted to get back to my new peaceful and happy life.

“Sophia, I need to hear it from you,” he said earnestly. “You’re the only one I can trust with the truth. I won’t believe anyone else’s words except yours.”

I wanted to laugh sarcastically. Are you damn crazy? I wanted to scream at his face. When we were married, you hardly paid attention to me! You never listened to me! And now you’re telling me that you’ll listen to and believe?!

Taking a deep breath, I remained quiet while I tried to calm down. I bit

my lower lip, holding back on what I really wanted to say to him. What the hell are you up to, Elijah?! Just leave me alone..

“Sophia...” he whispered, taking another step forward and lightly touching my arm. I recoiled, pulling away. I looked down at my feet, wanting to avoid his eyes. He’d always been good at being able to tell whether I was lying or not.

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## CHAPTER 15

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“Sophia, you haven’t answered my question. And that only means one thing, which I’ve felt in my heart from the moment I heard you were pregnant...”

He used a finger to lift my chin up, forcing me to meet his gaze. “Sophia, I know that this baby is really mine. It is, isn’t it?”

My heart was pounding wildly. I refused to answer.

“Let’s give our marriage a second chance,” he went on slowly, taking my hand in his. “Maybe... this is a sign that we should try again. I’m willing to take care of you and our baby. Our child, Sophia! Together we can raise this baby, provide a good home, be at happy family...”

Wide-eyed with disbelief, I pulled my hand away. “We’re divorced, Elijah! It’s over!”

I could see the frustration building up inside him. His calm, gentle demeanor was getting stripped away. “No,” he said firmly. “Connor didn’t file the papers like you requested, because I took them from him. So we are not legally divorced yet. Your and I are still married...”

I gasped, not knowing what to say.

me. Only I can take care of both of you. Even a man like Daniel wouldn’t marry a woman carrying another man’s child!”

He went on bitterly. “You belong to me, Sophia. That baby Ox

The fury in my chest exploded. Unable to hold back my anger, I slapped him hard across the face.