## the state of the S

Still Loving You Nonetheless

had encountered this.

And the hypnosis actually worked.

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he calls."

change Charlie's mother's mind.

Meredith was rendered speechless.

"You better be, if not I'll never forgive you," Charlie's mother warned.

the same aim, don't we? All we want is for Charlie to get better soon."

Meredith then walked out of the lounging room.

"Charlie, try some of this, hmm? I bought this, especially for you."

Charlie's mother shouted, "Stop right there!"

For the sake of saving her face, she scoffed, "You're threatening me with Josiah?"

than I do. I'm only telling you this so that I can stay by Charlie's side without any worries."

"Yes." Meredith nodded.

front of her.

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"It's better than how he was hurt last time," Charlie's mother glanced coldly at her and said, "Meredith Leighton, do you really think that he can accept the fact that his wife ran away with another man and the fact that he is crippled? I managed to save him once when he was at death's door, but what about the next time? Would he be that lucky?"

Even though she had heard of erasing someone's memories through hypnosis, this is the first time she

"Mrs. Larson, wouldn't this hurt Charlie? I've heard that things could easily go wrong if we're not careful."

"But of course, he's not your son. Why should you care?"

"Mrs. Larson, I know that your intentions are good and you're doing this for Charlie's sake. But what you did is too dangerous. I hope you won't try this again."

She then added, "I've promised that I would stay by Charlie and take care of him. I will not let him have the chance to do such a foolish thing anymore."

"Meredith, tell me, are you convinced by what you say?"

"Yes."

"But Charlie and I, we don't believe you. I think that your heart and soul will leave with Josiah as soon as

"If not, what else? Tell him that his wife had spent the New Year with another man?"
"..."

Looking at the coldness in her eyes, Meredith knew that there was nothing else that she could say to

She inhaled softly and said, "Then what do you plan to do? Keep Charlie this way? With his memories lost?

Charlie's mother said with a straight face, "Even though Charlie has lost his memories now, who's to say

Meredith though, was unfazed by her taunts. Instead, she took two steps forward and stopped right in

"Mrs. Larson, there's something that I need to clarify. I only choose to stay with Charlie not because of

that he won't remember them again? So you better keep your promise, stay by his side, and create new memories together. In case one day he really does remember everything, it would not break him down too much. Do you understand?"

your threats or orders, it is because Charlie is my husband. I want to stay with him and I am doing this willingly."

Charlie's mother's face darkened. "Meredith Leighton, is this the way you talk to your elders?"

"No," Meredith shook her head and went on, "you're Charlie's mother and I used to respect you. But it should go both ways. Since I don't think that you respect me, there's no need for me to keep receiving your cold shoulders."

"So I hope that from now on, you can be more polite to me when you talk to me. After all, both of us have

"And, I am after all Nia's mother. I hope that you would stop hiring people to inflict harm on me. It's not because I'm scared to die. But this would only trigger Josiah to want to protect me and keep me next to him."

Charlie's mother's face was distorted in anger.

"I'm just speaking the facts," Meredith looked down and went on, "I'm sure you know how Josiah is better

Meredith ignored her and continued making her way out.

She had made it clear that she did not make the decision to stay simply because of Charlie's mother's orders.

When Meredith returned to Charlie's room, she heard a familiar voice.

Was it...Kimberly Jackson?