

## TRIPLETS

ARIEL

The divorce was processed quicker than I thought, but it doesn't matter anymore because it is done. I should be grateful that everything happened as it was because I would have been a fool all my life.

It is time that I pick myself up and be who I am made of. I am no longer responsible for myself but also the seed growing inside of me.

I place my hands on my stomach and exhale.

"Are you a girl or a boy? Well, it doesn't matter because I am going to love you anyway. Daddy left me for another woman, so it is just you and me now. I am feeling down right now, but I hope that you'll help me rise because I am not going to sit back and do nothing." I say in my heart, rubbing my fat belly.

I was undermined by the Coles because I am clueless about business. Well, I am a qualified professional doctor, so I have decided to go back to doing just that.

"You are a medical practitioner, not quite clever when it comes to an economic business, so stick to your lane."

Chase's words were mean, but to be honest, he was right. Will they apprehend me to give up the shares? Hell no! I have plans for those shares. They belong to me for now until my baby is old enough to obtain them.

Now, what is left for me to do is tell my father about the divorce, but I am not going to explain anything. I just hope that he'll accept it without getting angry.

It has been a month already, and I am already up for my first doctor's appointment. I am going for an ultrasound to see the progress of my baby who has been giving me endless morning sicknesses. I do not feel pregnant yet, but the thought of having a baby growing in me is beyond my imagination.

I wanted to tell Chase, but I thought I should keep it to myself until the baby was born so that he did not feel like he had to stay with me for the sake of our baby.

.

I have just arrived at the hospital in the pregnancy ward. After reporting to the receptionist about my appointment, she led me to the Obstetrician's office and entered before me.

"You may enter and sit there. The doctor will be here in a moment. Please wait patiently," the receptionist says before she leaves.

I have decided to approach a different doctor who is not close to the Coles. I do not want them to receive the slightest detail about me. I have kept my distance from them this past month, and they also respected my space.

The door finally opens, and a tall figure walks in.

He stood tall and broad-shouldered, exuding an aura of strength and power. His eyes were sharp and piercing, demanding attention. His jaw was strong and square, his expression one of authority and command. His hair was thick and dark, styled with a disciplined elegance. Dropping my eyes down to his finger, he is not wearing a ring like I am.

Why the hell do I still have my ring on?

I fold my left hand into a ball of a fist, then drop it on my lap under the table.

"Mrs. Ariel Coles, right?" His deep voice asks.

"That is correct, but I would appreciate it if you call me by Ariel Lopez," I say.

"Oh, um, please pardon me. I'm Doctor Fernando. Let's proceed with your appointment; please follow me to the bed," He says.

I lie on the bed after his instruction while he sets up the computer for my 4D ultrasound. He then asks me to lift my shirt up, whereby I only realise that I am wearing a long sleeve jumpsuit.

Embarrassed, I sit up and ask the doctor to look away while I detach it from my upper body.

I then realise that another man will have to see my body. To be honest, I am very insecure with my body. I have am just out of shape and embarrassed about my body! I was really fat when I was still a child, and growing up, I did not get any better. I am voluptuous, little to no butt, and a big bellied, curvy woman. No wonder Chase only had s\*x with me late at night with the lights off.

"I am sorry about this. I forgot about this part, honestly,"

"It's understandable, Ms. Lopez." He hands me a black clean handkerchief with his initials embroidered on it. "You can use it to cover your chest," He says without looking.

I accept it and smile. He is a gentleman.

Although I am wearing a bra, I lay the handkerchief on my cleavage before I announce to him that I am done.

The cologne on the handkerchief is so intoxicating but in a very seductive way. I can't help but drift my mind to Chase because it is the exact cologne he used.

As much as I want to believe that I am strong, I miss him every day. Who'd have imagined that I would be a divorcee and pregnant when I'm twenty-three?

My thoughts are interrupted by a cold liquid falling onto my stomach, startling me.

"Are you okay?" The doctor asks.

"Yes, sorry. Please continue,"

The doctor proceeds with the ultrasound, and I keep my eyes focused on the computer screen. This is a 4D scan in a clear picture and in colour. I can already see something in my womb as the doctor moves the wand on my stomach.

"Oh, wow... this was unexpected," the doctor says, sounding surprised.

"What is it, Doc? Is my baby there?" I ask, darting my eyes back and forth between him and the computer screen.

"That's the thing. Do you see this empty circle here with a raspberry sized shape in it? That is a sac with your first baby," He announces, confusing me.

"Is that my baby? Is he okay?" I ask, concerned.

"They look there, but they are not alone because there is a second and a third sac. Can you see them?"

My face immediately frowns, unable to process what he just said.

"Third sack, as in there is not just one baby but three kids in my stomach? Is that what you are trying to tell me?" I ask, panicking.

"It's been a while since I have had patients carrying triplets. Congratulations on your successful eight weeks and three days of pregnancy."

This can't be.