

Chapter 135 Drink It

Outside the room, Georgia and Shelia had been listening in on the entire situation.

Alicia tried to catch up with Joshua, but he shoved her back without hesitation.

He handed her phone to Georgia. "Don't let her leave until I return."

Georgia didn't hesitate to follow his orders.

She grabbed the phone and stashed it away. "Yes, Mr. Yates!"

Alicia made a desperate attempt to get her phone, but Joshua forced her back into the room and slammed the door shut, locking it behind him.

She pounded on the door, and made verbal threats.

No matter how much she yelled, Joshua ignored her.

He had bigger issues on his mind, and this was something he felt he had to do.

Keeping her locked up for a day or two wasn't a problem.

It wouldn't change anything, but it allowed him to release some of the frustration boiling inside him.

Lilliana saw the red mark on his cheek and immediately asked, "Who slapped you?"

Joshua had almost forgotten about the handprint on his face.

He touched his cheek and quickly came up with an excuse. "My dad."

"Why would he hit you?"

"It was just a small disagreement. He's been unstable because of his

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"Why would he hit you?"

"It was just a small disagreement. He's been unstable because of his illness, so I didn't take it personally."

Lilliana studied the mark on his face. Whoever hit him had delicate fingers.

The handprint looked more like a woman's than a man's.

Although she still had her suspicions, she hid it well and gently rubbed his cheek.

Nearby, Gina excused herself.

But Lilliana gave her a quick instruction. "Bring me a glass of hot water first."

Gina nodded in response.

The water had just finished boiling and was still dangerously hot. As Gina brought it in, she reminded Lilliana, "Miss Green, the water is very hot, so be careful."

Lilliana was too distracted by her own thoughts, so she didn't pay attention to Gina's warning.

After massaging Joshua's face, she grabbed the glass, only to let out a sharp cry as the heat burned her hand.

Joshua took her hand and kissed it gently. "Didn't she just tell you the water was hot? Be more careful."

Already feeling frustrated by the burn, Lilliana became even more irritated by Joshua's comment. "Who said the water was hot?"

"Calm down. Let me cool it down for you," he said.

Lilliana was still fuming from the burn, so she angrily called for Gina to return.

"It's boiling hot! How do you expect me to drink this?" she shouted.

Gina bowed her head. "I'm sorry, Miss Green. The water just finished boiling, and I did warn you."

"Stop making up excuses!"

Lilliana couldn't tolerate being disrespected in any way, so she demanded that Gina drink the boiling water right then.

Gina's face turned pale. "Miss Green, I..."

Even Joshua felt it had gone too far. "Just let it go. Why don't you have her grab your favorite coffee and leave it at that? Calm down!"

However, Lilliana had made up her mind. "Fine, but she still has to drink it first."

Gina begged, "Miss Green, the water is far too hot. It'll burn my throat."

"Oh, now you're concerned? What if I had drunk it? Does my throat not matter?"

Gina nervously fidgeted with her fingers. She was too afraid to step forward.

Lilliana's irritation grew as she watched Gina stand there, helpless and afraid.

She hated how Gina always played the victim, making it seem like everyone owed her something.

The longer she stared at Gina, the more her anger grew. "Drink it right now, or you're fired!"

Gina refused to move from her spot.

Her silent refusal felt like open defiance to Lilliana.

It was the first time Lilliana had ever seen Gina stand up to her.

Lilliana taunted, "What's the matter? Did Harley die? You still need money for her medical bills, don't you?"

Upon hearing that, Gina looked up at once.

Her eyes were burning with hatred.

She could endure any insult, but she refused to let anyone curse Harley.

Lilliana continued with a sneer, "Don't bother glaring at me. It doesn't faze me. I'm the one keeping you and Harley alive. I pay you twenty thousand dollars a month. No one else would do that for you. So, what's it going to be? Your pride or Harley's life?"

Joshua remained silent.

He let Lilliana behave however she pleased.

The light in Gina's eyes dimmed until it was completely gone.

Even so, she still didn't move.

Lilliana stood up, grabbed the glass of boiling water, and threw it at her.

Gina didn't even flinch, as if she couldn't feel the pain. She simply stood her ground.

Joshua noticed her reddened hand and turned to Lilliana. "That's enough. You've already made your point."

Then, he told Gina to leave.

Gina stepped forward, picked up the glass without hesitation, and said, "I'm sorry. I'll bring you another glass of warm water. This time, it won't be boiling hot."


Lilliana scoffed at her.

"Relax. I hired her to take the hits. This is nothing," she told Joshua.

Joshua offered some advice. "Even so, be careful. Don't let this come

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back to haunt you. You don't want her using this against you, right?"

"You really think she'd do that?" Lilliana scoffed again. "She only gets paid because she works for me. If something happens to me, she'll be the first to suffer. Anyone might try to take me down, but not her."

Outside, Gina tightened her grip on the glass and stared at it blankly.

She filled it halfway with hot water, mixed it with tap water, and placed it aside.

Ignoring the burns on her hand, she pulled out her phone and ordered a portable recorder.

She had decided it was time to help Alicia, and herself.