

## Chapter 154 A Man's Charm Fades Quickly

The floor was mostly empty, with few patients or staff passing by.

With no one around, Lilliana's insults became sharper. "Women like you are just toys for men. They throw you away once they've had their fun. And you really think you matter?"

Alicia remained unaffected by her insults. "So, Miss Green, in your view, whenever a man is involved, the woman is always the one who loses. When Joshua cheated on me during our marriage, did he see you as just a tool to fulfill his needs?"

Lilliana's expression darkened. "Do you really think you're in the same league as me?"

Alicia let out a quiet laugh.

Her eyes shifted toward Joshua.

Alicia said slowly, "Your fiancé must be something special for you to become a mistress and get pregnant while he was still married to another woman. But what about Caden?"

She paused briefly before continuing with confidence. "Caden's capabilities outshine Joshua's in every way. So now that I'm with him, tell me, who's really benefiting here?"

Lilliana sneered. "You're so naive. You actually think you and Caden are together? He'll get tired of you in no time. Just wait, you'll be thrown out like garbage."

Alicia shrugged. "Even if it's just a week, I'd still come out ahead. I'm not the one putting in the effort."

Lilliana's composure began to crack.

Alicia smiled as she met Lilliana's gaze. "But what about you, Miss Green? After two years with Joshua, how much have you gained?"

Lilliana found herself speechless.

Alicia pretended to look regretful. "Oh, I forgot. In your world, women exist only to serve men. I should be asking Mr. Yates about this instead."

She turned to Joshua, whose face was dark with anger. "In terms of bedroom skills, I'm nowhere near your level. You've got the Green family's daughter pregnant, and she's willing to give you hundreds of millions. Tell me, who else in all of Warrington has talents like yours?"

Joshua's fury surged.

Alicia hadn't directly called him a freeloader, but every word hit the mark.

His clenched his fists, and he glared at her with pure rage.

Despite the fact that he was staring daggers at her, Alicia was unperturbed.

"Mr. Yates, you should think ahead. A man's charm doesn't last forever, and you can't rely on good looks for long," she stated.

That was enough to push Joshua over the edge.

He stepped forward, closing the distance between them.

Alicia didn't move, her expression blank as she stared at him.

Joshua glared at the face he had once known so well but now found unfamiliar and infuriating. "You'll regret your decisions, Alicia."

Alicia let out a small laugh. "Regret? There's no regret greater than marrying you."

Joshua's eyes blazed with fury.

Alicia's face showed plainly that their marriage had been nothing but a source of shame for her.

The sound of a nurse's cart echoed from down the hallway.

It shattered the tension in the narrow corridor.

Lilliana cared about her reputation, so she quickly put her sunglasses back on and forced herself to seem calm.

Alicia turned away and walked off.

Joshua watched her leave, struggling to breathe as anger surged inside him.

Every fiber of his being was filled with anger.

Or maybe, what he felt was regret and heartbreak.

There were all sorts of conflicting emotions welling up inside him.

Lilliana's anger showed clearly as she clenched her teeth. "When Caden leaves her, I'll make sure she suffers."

Joshua tightened his fists slowly, feeling his frustration grow even stronger.

Joshua regained his composure and put his arm around Lilliana's shoulders. "Let's go. We should head back."

As they turned to leave, Gina stepped out of the break room.

Joshua stopped in his tracks upon seeing her. "Gina, is that you?"

Gina felt a sudden jolt of surprise, and the glass in her hand shook for a moment.

She steadied herself and quickly adopted a composed demeanor. "Miss Green, Mr. Yates, what brings you both here?" she asked, keeping her tone as neutral as possible.

Joshua's thoughts briefly wandered to Alicia, who had just walked away. For some reason, he couldn't shake the connection between Gina and Alicia in his mind, though he didn't know why.

"Lilliana wasn't feeling well. Her doctor is having a meeting on this floor, so we thought we'd stop by," Joshua explained. "Harley has a brain tumor, doesn't she?"

Gina nodded. "Yes, Harley has a brain tumor," she said with visible concern on her face.

"How is she?" Joshua asked.

Gina's grip on the glass became firmer, and a serious look crossed her face. "She's doing fine. Thank you for asking."

Lilliana's impatience bubbled over as she insisted, "We have to leave now! Why are you even asking?"

Joshua decided to end the conversation and left with Lilliana by his side.

His mind drifted into thought, lost in his own concerns.

Noticing his distraction, Lilliana's irritation deepened. "Are you really enchanted by every woman you meet now?"

Joshua brushed off Lilliana's pettiness and focused on Harley's information.

He discovered that she had already undergone surgery.

"Gina earns \$20,000 a month, but her expenses are substantial. How could she afford Harley's surgery?"

Joshua's question immediately put Lilliana on edge.

"What do you mean?" she asked.

Then, a thought crossed her mind regarding Alicia.

"Are you suggesting that..." Lilliana's confusion deepened. "Was Alicia here because of Gina?"

She recalled that Alicia had indeed come from the direction of Harley's ward.

Joshua couldn't see the connection.

"It strikes me as odd. They are strangers, yet suddenly, they're familiar with each other." He had always been a suspicious person, and he intended to dig deeper. "Gina is your assistant, so I need to look into this."

However, this wasn't the only thing on his mind.

He planned to keep a close eye on all of Alicia's future actions.



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