TMBA 301

Chapter 301 Its Up To You Now

"What do I want?" Debbie sneered. "If you keep protecting Megan, I'll abort your son." After saying that, she hung up and turned off her phone. There was a certain finality to it, as she held the power button down, saw the option to either restart or shut the phone down, and opted for the latter.

Carlos was frightened by her threat. He called her several times, but to no avail. Each time it went to voicemail. He got tired of hearing the robotic voice, so he called Emmett. "Find Debbie! She just left my office. By now, she may be on her way to the hospital where your girlfriend is!"

"Yes, Mr. Huo," Emmett answered despite his confusion. 'Find Debbie? Hospital?' he thought.

Carlos got in the driver's seat of his own car and started the engine. He headed for the hospital where Kasie was staying as a patient.

More than ten minutes later, his phone rang. It was Emmett, who panted, "Mr. Huo... bad news... Mrs. Huo asked a doctor to reserve an operating room!"

While speaking, he scampered up the stairs to the floor where the operating rooms were located. "She's in the operating room now!" he added.

Carlos closed his eyes. When he opened them again, he said in an icy tone, "Stop them at any cost. If something happens to my wife and son, no one in the hospital will live to see another day!"

Then he sped up and drove to the hospital at top speed. Barely missing some cars as he maneuvered through the streets, and hitting the street lights just right.

Sensing something was off, Emmett immediately contacted the director of the hospital. He was going to convince him to stop Debbie from aborting the baby.

Debbie, on the other hand, lay on the operating table, staring at the ceiling. The attending doctor, who had been forced to do this, hesitated and asked, "Mrs. Huo, does Mr. Huo know about this?" The doctor felt more than a little scared.

'The baby in Mrs. Huo's belly is a member of the Huo family. What if Mr. Huo knows nothing about the abortion? I can't take the consequences!' she thought.

Debbie stroked her flat belly and told her in a soft voice, "Doctor, don't worry. I won't abort my baby. I'm just doing this to teach someone a lesson." There was no way she'd go through with this.

She was just trying to frighten him and th

d it would be Megan.

But he needed the green light, and Carlos had just given him free reign. He wouldn't do a thing without his boss's say-so, especially since Carlos used to dote on Megan. Now, Emmett heaved a long sigh of relief. "Yes, Mr. Huo," he answered in a grateful voice.

Debbie was also happy about Carlos' decision. She cradled his neck and gave him a kiss on his cheek. 'He loves me more than Megan, ' she thought.

Carlos sighed in defeat. Debbie knew his sweet spots, and knew just what to do to make him give in.

In the elevator, Carlos cornered Debbie. Ignoring another couple's curious eyes, he asked her, "Why didn't you ask me to go to the doctor with you?"

He didn't understand why she had gone to the hospital alone before coming to see him.

Debbie reached out and touched his chest. In a light voice, she said, "What if I wasn't pregnant? I didn't want to disappoint you."

Carlos smiled and kissed her on the forehead. She was devoted to him, and he to her.

"Hey, I've been in England for three months. Aren't you afraid the baby's not yours?" Debbie asked in a whisper as she stood on tiptoe.

His grip on her waist became tighter. Debbie felt she was almost lifted in the air.

"That had better be a joke!"

Debbie snorted, "Actually, he's not yours." She said that to piss him off.

"Then whose is he?" His tone was tinged with menace.

"He's... a handsome guy's." 'Carlos is a handsome guy, ' she thought. 'Come on, get the hint.'

"What's his name?" he asked.

Chapter 302 Megans Future

"His name is... Carlos Huo! Haw-haw!" Before Carlos could respond, Debbie burst out laughing herself.

Ignoring the other couple in the elevator, Carlos kissed his wife on the lips. The other young couple stared at each other, their faces red. Luckily, the elevator reached their desired floor. The two fled from the embarrassing scene as fast as they could.

Debbie pushed Carlos away from her, panting. "Can't you keep your hands off me for five seconds? We're in public. Behave yourself!"

"I don't care," Carlos answered with a raised eyebrow.

Debbie rolled her eyes and cursed him inwardly.

They went to Kasie's ward. Pausing outside the door to the ward, he asked Debbie to go inside first. He had a phone call to make. He walked a little ways down the hall, and then pulled out his phone to call Ashley.

"Hi Ashley. I'm putting my wife on a diet. What she eats has to be harmless to pregnant women. Redecorate the room next to my bedroom in the manor and make it a baby room. Make sure it's well equipped. Remember to send some nutritionists to the East City Villa. Oh, and some fashion designers..."

Ashley realized that Debbie must be pregnant, and wrote down everything he asked for, checklist-style. "Yes, Mr. Huo. I've written them down. Congratulations! You'll be a father soon."

"Thank you," he answered with a laugh.

After hanging up, he entered the ward, wearing a serious expression.

Inside the ward, Megan was apologizing profusely to Kasie and her parents. Before Carlos had even left for the hospital, he had his people drop Megan off here.

Kasie was now awake, and Debbie sat at her bedside. Kasie still had an incensed expression on her face. It was obvious she wasn't about to accept Megan's apology. "I told you! Quit apologizing over and over. It won't help. You did the crime, now do the time!" Kasie said impatiently.

When they saw Carlos, Kasie's parents immediately stood up to greet him.

Megan was about to try and argue for herself again, bu

!"

Trying his best to suppress his giggle, he came back with, "Snitch on you? No. I'll snitch on the woman who threatened me with my son. You don't know her, do you?"

Debbie beat his chest and yelled, "So this is how you treat your son's mom? You jerk!"

Carlos pulled her into his arms and kissed her on the lips for a long time. Then he let go of her and coaxed, "Honey, you know I love you."

She smiled smugly at his words. "I love you too, but I'm still mad. Oh, one more thing." Remembering something, she straightened herself and looked him in the eye. "Megan bullied me a lot, and you turned a blind eye to it. If you let her off the hook this time, I'll...I'll cry!"

Her threats amused Carlos. Actually, he had already made up his mind to exile Megan from Y City. Plus, he decided to not treat her as family anymore.

"Honey, trust me. When she's out, I'll send her to A Country. She won't be allowed back in Y City unless it's a must." He decided to treat her like a stranger from now on.

Yes, her parents had saved his life before. But he had done everything for her. Instead of feeling grateful, Megan always tried to get between him and his wife.

Before Debbie could respond, he added, "If that's not enough, we can have her behind bars here in Y City. She won't be released until you're good with it."

Chapter 303 Youre Overreacting

When she heard that, Debbie sighed with resignation. "Forget it." Carlos' words indicated he'd break all contact with Megan. Debbie thought this was enough. After all, the car accident was not that serious.

Carlos kissed her forehead. "You're so kind."

"Ha! Hardly!" Debbie retorted, pouting her mouth. "If I were, I wouldn't have always tried to drive her off."

Her reaction amused him. "She made her own bed, and now she has to lie in it. You were kind enough to her."

Debbie heaved a sigh of relief. "Since you made up your mind, let's not talk about her. Hey, old man, we should have a name for our son. You're smart—you name him."

"Sure it's a boy?" he asked in confusion. Since Debbie knew she was pregnant, he always heard her refer to the baby as "son."

"Thought you liked boys," Debbie answered. He had once said that he wanted a son, so she called the baby "son" to make him happy.

Carlos now remembered what he had said before. He explained, "You know I'll love it, boy or girl. If it's a boy, that'll be better. Because there will be two men to protect you."

Debbie rubbed her face against his chest. "Really? But rich people like your family prefer boys to girls, right? Your grandparents, your uncle and aunt, and your parents all gave birth to boys."

Even Frasier and Gloria had a son. Carlos had no biological aunts, female cousins, or nieces to speak of.

"Just think. That's why they'll be happy if you have a girl. Grandma will finally have a granddaughter."

Debbie was struck speechless. 'Makes sense. But he said he wanted a son before, ' she thought. She still didn't quite believe him. "How about this? Pick a boy's name and a girl's name."

"All right."

They didn't stop talking about it until midnight, but they still hadn't decided on anything. Carlos pulled her into his arms and said, "You should go to bed. You're pregnant! We can pick this up tomorrow."

"Okay, okay. Um... Yeah, I'm kinda tired."

Within thirty seconds, Debbie dozed off. Carlos smiled when he looked at her sleeping face, and quietly turned off the light.

swer her. "Now that you've held him for a while, return him to his mom."

The others burst out laughing. Adriana was about to take her son back, but Damon stepped in. "Hey man, you're overreacting! My son is less than five kilos. And your wife is sitting down. She won't get hurt."

"Exactly. Don't worry, honey. Look! He's so cute. Do you want to hold him? He's so soft and chubby." Debbie put the baby into Carlos' arms before he could respond.

Carlos, who had never held a baby before, wanted to turn her down immediately. What if he hurt him by accident? What would he do if the little guy soiled his diaper? But his heart softened when the boy looked at him with his doe eyes.

'He's so small! Will our son be this small too? Will he be more adorable than Damon's son? Will he look more like Debbie or me?

People say that boys look more like their mothers. I guess our son will look more like Debbie.'

Carlos' face was so serious that the boy was frightened and burst out crying. Debbie rolled her eyes at her husband. "Can't you give him a smile? You scared him. Give him here."

She took the crying boy from Carlos. Sensing her soft arms, the boy immediately stopped crying. She bounced him up and down and rocked him back and forth, talking to him in cooing tones.

The others were all amused. Debbie reached out her fingers and pinched Carlos' cheek. "Come on! Smile!"

Chapter 304 At The Wedding

Carlos twitched his mouth awkwardly, trying to force a smile. He almost never smiled, but now he did it just to make Debbie happy. It didn't look convincing, it looked sad.

Before the wedding ceremony started, Megan arrived at the venue. She called Wesley at the entrance, and he left the table to guide her inside.

He hadn't brought Blair with him today, so Megan took a seat next to him, cautiously.

She greeted the others. They responded stiffly, as if it were just a formality. There was little warmth left there. Soon, their minds were on something else. Debbie went on talking to Adriana, and Carlos continued watching over Debbie nervously. Damon talked to him from time to time, but Carlos barely acknowledged him.

Then the emcee announced that the wedding ceremony was about to begin.

This was the first time Debbie had ever been to a wedding. She was amazed at how sumptuous and dreamlike everything was. The music, the lighting, the decorations, the wardrobe. It was incredible.

When Colleen appeared in her wedding dress, Debbie's eyes glistened with admiration. The sacred white wedding gown was so beautiful that any woman would think it was the perfect wedding dress.

Noticing that she seemed engrossed, Carlos gave her hand a light squeeze. Debbie glanced at him and turned her attention to the bride and the bridegroom again. "Colleen is so beautiful today! Her dress is amazing. Look at them. They're so perfect together!" she said excitedly.

"You like that dress?" Carlos asked. And that was when he suddenly realized what a lousy husband he'd been.

He hadn't even given Debbie a proper wedding, the most treasured thing in a woman's life.

"Yes, it's gorgeous!" Debbie responded without looking at him. Drawn in by the sweet moment when the bride and the bridegroom exchanged rings, she didn't sense the subtle changes in his tone and expression.

Carlos said nothing else. He was putting together a plan.

When the new couple's parents were asked to come up on stage, the happiness and excitement drained from Debbie's face.

The couple that stepped onstage were her grandparents, the ones she resented.

For the first time, she would be face to face with them, in public. Her grandpa, Elroy Lu, was an 82-yearold man with gray hair and a gray beard. His creased face wore a wide smile. His wife, Sy

om afar.

Debbie had been a freshman back then. When Curtis discovered what Ramona was doing, he had someone look into Debbie's background and found out that she was a Nian. That was how he found out that Debbie, the girl who Elroy Lu had bullied Ramona into abandoning, the girl who was so humble in front of her boyfriend, was Ramona's daughter, and his niece.

He had started to help her out, influencing things behind the scenes, ever since. She'd never know the extent he had gone to.

That time at the cruiser party, Elroy Lu had wanted to kill her. Curtis protected her secretly.

Although the Lu family was powerful, they couldn't hold a candle to the Huo family. So, after Curtis had learned that Debbie had married Carlos, he didn't have to hide it anymore, and he had started to be good to her openly.

Elroy Lu had warned him a million times to leave her alone, but Curtis didn't give a damn about the old man's warnings. So right now Curtis' relationship with his father couldn't be worse. And Curtis didn't care, because he had a strong sense of wrong and right.

Today, if it weren't Curtis' wedding day, Elroy Lu would have outright refused to appear in the same place as his son.

But Debbie knew nothing about all this.

She thought that Curtis felt bad about her because her mom had never been around. That was all. Then the issue was the last thing on her mind. She didn't think much more about it.

When the wedding ceremony was over, Elroy Lu, Sybil Qin and the newlyweds took their positions, and were ready to offer some toasts.

Chapter 305 Broke Up With Dixon

Then Elroy sauntered over to Carlos' table. This was the first time he and Debbie had seen each other face to face. Slippery as an eel, he remained composed when he stood in front of Debbie, as if he were simply looking at a stranger. He even raised his glass and toasted her and Carlos cheerfully.

Debbie, on the other hand, could barely maintain her composure. After congratulating Curtis and Colleen, she lowered her head and stared at the glass of juice in her hand to hide her feelings her face was about to betray. She remained silent, listening to them talk.

Carlos held her hand tightly.

Elroy noticed it and understood that Carlos was doing it not so much to reassure her, but to warn the older man not to think about harming Debbie.

On the way home from the hotel, Debbie had mixed feelings.

She was happy for Curtis and Colleen, but she was still sad about her own life story.

Carlos took her in his arms and kissed her forehead. "Just sleep. When you wake up, maybe you can tackle all this fresh," he said.

She was tired, she couldn't deny that. She decided not to fight sleep. She nodded her assent and closed her eyes in his arms.

Tabitha flew out to Y City for Curtis' wedding. She stayed at East City Villa for two days and flew back to New York with news of Debbie's pregnancy.

When she told James, he decisively told her to tell no one else. Told her? No, he warned her.

James had to take hypertension meds three days in a row thanks to the anger caused by Debbie's pregnancy. The odd thing was, he said and did nothing about it.

Soon after the wedding, Megan paid the Zheng family a million for the injury. It was painful to her finances, but nothing compared to what Kasie had been through.

When Kasie discovered it was Megan who had run her over, she refused to settle.

But considering Megan was just a little girl and she was related to Carlos and Wesley, Mason decided at the last not to be so cruel. She was only sentenced to 15 days detention.

Carlos had decided to send her to A Country when she got out of lockup, and she was banned from coming back to Y City unless it was vitally important.

After the wedding, Curtis and Colleen enjoyed their honeymoon. They traveled to Guilin to take in the amazing views, and stayed at a sumptuous bed and breakfast

er two were drawn into it by her question. "What is it?" Debbie queried.

Kristina poured herself another glass of beer and told them in a low voice, "Dixon and I... we broke up."

Everyone was stunned. Dixon had just left. Kasie asked, "Why? Did he do something? Tell us. If he did, I'll fly to the U.S. when I'm better, and kick his ass."

Kristina shook her head dejectedly. "No, he was good to me. But it just didn't feel right. We just drifted apart. No biggie."

After dinner, Emmett drove Carlos to the place where Debbie was waiting. Kasie climbed into the passenger seat.

Since her place was closest to the restaurant, they dropped her off first.

But Emmett had to drive Debbie and Carlos home, and so having to drop her off first was sad for him. Kasie didn't let him go until he promised he would take her out for a meal the next day.

When he was back in the car, Debbie lay in Carlos' arms, teasing their driver. "When are you going to marry Kasie, anyway?"

Emmett laid it all out for her, "When this semester is over. If it ended today, I'd propose to her tomorrow."

Debbie was happy to hear that. "Good. Treat her right. Or I'll ask your boss to exile you to D Country. I hear gay marriage is legal there, and I'm sure you'll find the right guy."

"You have nothing to worry about, Mrs. Huo. I love Kasie with all my heart and soul."

"Ha ha..." Debbie laughed complacently.

Carlos played with her hair and said, "I can be his chaperone."

Emmett protested loudly, "You two are bullying me. Not cool."

Chapter 306 The Car Crash

Debbie gloated, "Of course. Now you know how powerful Kasie's backup is. You'd better treasure her."

When the lights turned red and the car stopped, Emmett turned back to look at Carlos and Debbie. "You're such a heartless couple," he complained. "I should tell Kasie to stay away from you two."

"Kasie always puts her friends first. Even though you are her boyfriend, she still loves me the most," Debbie retorted.

As the lights turned green again, Emmett looked straight ahead and concerned himself more with driving. "Mr. Huo, see how Mrs. Huo wants to bully me around?" he grumbled.

Stealing an affectionate look at Debbie, Carlos wanted to lean closer and give her a peck on the cheek.

But just then, a sharp blaring horn interrupted him. Instinctively, Debbie snuggled close and grabbed at him, her hands shaking like aspen leaves. Ahead, she could see the oncoming 24-wheeler truck. The truck driver had overtaken from the wrong side of the road and was hurtling like a maniac, dead in their lane.

Reacting to the looming danger, Emmett swirled the wheel to the right. "Mr. and Mrs. Huo, a truck running the red light! Be careful!" he shouted in a panicked voice.

Meanwhile, Carlos turned and pushed Debbie down in the back seat. He held her tight in his arms as he shielded her with his body.

It all happened so fast. The next thing they heard was a deafening noise, and an impact that left Debbie with harrowing pain in the limbs.

The anguished groans of Emmett and Carlos alarmed her all the more. Although Carlos was shaken to the core, he said something, trying to assure her. "Honey... I love you..." he mumbled.

But soon, her head went blank. For a moment, she was as deaf as a doorknob.

Outside, it was total mayhem. As onlookers screamed and cursed in distress, more cars knocked and piled up, brakes squeaking and horns blaring.

In the car, Carlos, as if in a spasm, squeezed her so tight that he almost suffocated her. "Honey..." She tried to make a sound.

But something sticky fell on her face.

Trying her best to summon some strength, she stammered something, but all that came out was feeble inarticulate mumbling. Responding, Carlos sounded so weak by now, even though he still held her tightly.

Debbie tried to move, but her body wouldn't budge.

"Ambulance...the police..." Carlos said, his voice on and off over her head.

'Right, call the ambulance, ' she remembered. But she could barely move. She tried to reach her bag to get her phone.

At this point, a lot of people were milling around the car. "Somebody is in the c

om's and her sister's anxious-looking faces, Gail had a grudging expression. It didn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that she must have been dragged to the hospital against her will.

Lucinda had been crying. Seeing Debbie come around, she wiped her puffy eyes like greased lightning and said with great relief, "Debbie, it's good that you're awake." Then she turned to Gail and ordered, "Quickly, go get the doctor!"

While Gail moved slowly to the bedside and pressed the nurse-call button, Sasha walked to the other side of the bed, her eyes also red and puffy. Debbie realized all of them must have been crying. "Debbie, how are you? How did this happen?"

Sasha asked between sobs.

Debbie raised her hand to stroke her belly. "Are they all right?" she asked, deeply worried.

The smile on Lucinda's face froze. "The baby is fine..." she hesitated. "Mr. Huo... he... he is still in the emergency room."

"It's been so long. Why is he still in the emergency room?"

Debbie tried to sit up. Just then, two doctors walked in.

They stopped her immediately when they saw what she was doing. "Mrs. Huo, your placenta isn't steady. You can't move around."

"Carlos! I must go see Carlos!" She demanded, her anxiety growing by the minute.

"Listen Debbie. Don't go yet. Mr. Huo is in the emergency room. You could only stay outside the room even if you went there. Why don't you have a rest? As soon as he is out of the surgery, I'll take you to see him, all right?"

Shaking her head, Debbie protested, "No, I must see him. By any means, I have to know how he is, Auntie. He got hurt while trying to save me. Please, take me to him. Let me wait for him to wake up..." Her sobs drowned out her words.

Chapter 307 He Promised Hed Marry Me

The doctors comforted Debbie as they examined her, "Mrs. Huo, we understand. But think about the baby. It's not just you we're worried about here."

When Debbie heard this, she started breathing deeply, trying to slow her heartbeat down and banish her anxiety. She tried to relax and lay back in the hospital bed. She grabbed Sasha's hand tightly and said, "Can you stay in the ER? I want to know how Carlos is. Sasha, please..."

Tears welled up again in Sasha's eyes when she heard Debbie. "I will. I'm going now," she promised. She paused at the door. "Get some rest, Debbie." And then she left.

Debbie was relieved. But she still couldn't stop worrying.

She prayed for her baby and Carlos.

Then, once again, she thought of Emmett. Her eyes became moist and it was getting hard to see. The world existed through tear-blurred eyes. "Auntie, may I borrow your phone?" she asked Lucinda.

'Kasie must be devastated, ' she thought.

Lucinda took out her phone and dialed the number for her.

Debbie heard it ringing on her end, but no one answered. Debbie called a lot, but every time it was the same result. No answer, and it would go to voicemail afterwards.

Lying in bed, she tossed and turned restlessly, too worried about Carlos to sleep. Once the fluid in the IV ran out, she got out of bed anyway.

Before she reached the emergency room, Sasha ran toward her, shouting, "Debbie! Carlos is out..." Her excited shouts echoed through the hospital and even spilled into the hallways. The girl was so loud everyone stopped what they were doing to look.

"Shush! You're too loud," Lucinda reprimanded.

Sasha grabbed Debbie's arm, jumping up and down anxiously. "I can't. It's been eight hours, but it doesn't look good. They moved him to the ICU."

'Eight hours... doesn't look good...' These words struck Debbie hard. Her legs shook, and finally she collapsed into Lucinda's arms.

Lucinda caught her, and Sasha ran over to lend a helping hand. Together they got her back to her feet.

Debbie didn't know how she managed to walk to the ICU. When she got there, many people were already outside the ward, fo

in pajamas sat beside the bed, too heartbroken to notice Debbie was even there.

"Kasie..." Debbie called in a hoarse voice.

Kasie raised her head, her eyes red and swollen. As soon as she recognized Debbie, she ran toward her and hugged her. "Debbie..." she sobbed.

This was the first time Debbie had seen Kasie so heartbroken. She held the girl tightly, her heart aching. Her tears wouldn't stop falling. Kasie's sobs racked Kasie's body as well as Debbie's. "Debbie, Emmett is a liar! He... he lied to me! He said he'd marry me. He said he'd propose to me when this semester is over. But now... why is he just lying here? I can't wake him up. Wake up, you liar! Liar! He lied to me, Debbie... how could he?"

she shouted hysterically.

He promised he would propose to her.

He insisted at the jewelry exposition that she agree to marry him when he proposed.

How could he bail on her like this?

Now that he wasn't around anymore, how could she marry him?

Debbie patted Kasie on the back. The only thing she could think of to comfort her was to shed tears with her quietly.

Kasie went on listing all the promises Emmett had made to her. "He said he'd come to my house to propose to me after this term. I was so happy I told my mom. She even prepared my dowry.

Emmett... Oh God, Debbie. What am I going to do?" Kasie almost fainted from the hysterical crying. She hadn't remembered to breathe.

Chapter 308 Sign This

Debbie looked at the scene. Kasie was absolutely hysterical, and denying reality. Debbie held Kasie tightly and consoled her gently, "Don't cry, Kasie. Don't cry. Emmett wouldn't want to see you like this."

Hearing Emmett's name, Kasie suddenly pushed Debbie away and ran over to Emmett's body. She grabbed his cold hand and said hoarsely, "Emmett, wake up! Why did you lie to me? You don't want to marry me anymore, do you? Answer me! Answer me!" With the last phrase, she pounded her fist on the table he lay on.

Debbie walked over to her and put her hand around her shoulder. "Kasie, pull yourself together."

'Pull myself together? How?' Kasie gazed at the white sheet, under which lay the body of her one true love. Now cold, lifeless, an empty shell. "Emmett, you said you loved me. Then wake up. I'll marry someone else... Emmett... you lying sack of..." Her voice trailed off, a muffled sob obscuring the curse word that doubtless ended the phrase.

Her wails echoed through the morgue.

It broke Mia's heart to see Kasie crushed like this. She decided to take the initiative and lead Kasie out of there.

Before she left, Kasie hugged Debbie and cried for what seemed like forever.

When Debbie returned to the ICU, the Huos were already gathered there, including Frasier's son.

It was a sad day for everyone.

Wherever Debbie went, she could hear someone crying.

Valerie sobbed in Connie's arms. Tabitha was wiping her eyes. Miranda stood with her back to the rest, staring off into space with worried and melancholy eyes.

When he saw Debbie, James snorted loudly and cursed as he pointed at her. "What happened? Why is my son injured and Emmett dead, while you're safe and sound?"

Lucinda was shocked by James' attitude toward Debbie. 'What a dick! The way he treats Debbie is just awful, ' she thought. She pulled Debbie behind her to protect her. Then she struggled to keep an even tone as she said to James, "Debbie is pregnant. Yelling at her like this isn't good for the baby. It was an accident, and hardly her fault..."

"Zip it!" James interrupted

to the door, two stout bodyguards stepped in her way.

James' voice sounded from behind her, but this time his tone had changed. Hoarse from yelling, his voice sounded grim and creepy as if it were from hell. "Want to see my son?"

Debbie nodded.

"Then sign this. You can see him one last time,"

he said, handing a document to her.

Her heart tightened at the sight of its title—Divorce Agreement.

"No. I won't," she refused firmly. They just never stopped.

She didn't believe Carlos was dying. It had to be a trick James was pulling to break them up.

And that was when James pulled out another piece of paper. "Look carefully. A DNR notice. The doctor told me they'd done everything they could. They turned off Carlos' oxygen. You can see it for yourself."

One of the bodyguards moved aside so that Debbie could see. Carlos lay in bed, motionless. The oxygen mask he had been wearing the day before had been removed, just as James claimed.

"No! This can't be true! I don't believe you! Let me see him!" Debbie shouted. Then she dropped into a fighting stance, and prepared to leg sweep one of the bodyguards.

James spoke indifferently. "I'd be more careful, if I were you. The baby? You might miscarry."

Debbie hesitated when she heard that. Just then, the bodyguards grabbed her. She couldn't move at all. She struggled, but in vain. The men were too strong.

Chapter 309 I'm Sorry, Honey

Debbie yelled desperately, "James Huo, you don't deserve to be a father! Oh, I forgot. You're not Carlos' father, are you? That's good. Because you're not worthy of the title."

James cared nothing for what she said. Once again, he held the divorce agreement in front of her. "Sign it, and you can see him."

Suddenly, there seemed to be a strange force surging inside her. A renewed sense of purpose, and a strong sense of self. She wrenched free from the bodyguards' arms and stalked toward James, who had a look of fear on his face. She snatched the divorce agreement, tore it into pieces and threw them in James' face. "You don't get a say in this. Not at all. Carlos and I are a couple. Now and forever! You can just drop dead!"

The scraps floated like snowflakes as they landed lightly on the floor.

Furious, James raised his hand and smacked Debbie hard.

Her face jerked aside because of the force, her head continuing in the direction of the slap. She felt a little dizzy for a moment. Slowly, she righted her head, turning to James. Her eyes turned dark and cold. "How many times is this now? This is the third time you hit me, right?"

James was frightened by her expression. "So what?"

Debbie sneered, "I only put up with you because you were Carlos' dad! But I can't even..."

With that, she aimed a roundhouse kick at his face. His head rocked, and blood flew. Before anybody else could do anything, she clenched her teeth and kicked his fat belly. He crumpled, moaning in pain, blood pouring from his mouth, pooling on the floor. Debbie was like a machine programmed to humiliate James. She pounced on the man, showering him with punch after punch. The bodyguards stirred themselves, but it was too late.

"Ah! Debbie!" Tabitha had been in a daze. When the two bodyguards rushed over to stop Debbie, she finally came to her senses. She screamed and attempted to pull Debbie off of James.

But before she could reach her, the bodyguards already had it handled. Debbie drew her arm back, ready for another strike, and one of the bodyguards had trapped her arm between his

insist we get a divorce? Carlos is dead. What's the point?" she asked.

James gave her a creepy smile. "You married into the family. You became one of us. Divorced, you're not."

'Psycho!' Debbie thought. She gritted her teeth, refusing to say anything else. James gave the doctors a look, and one of them picked up a syringe and filled it with some kind of clear fluid.

He pressed the plunger to clear the air from it, and it squirted a bit. The doctor then started walking towards her.

Terror took hold of her. "What do you want? Let me go!"

James said, "This is anesthetic. I'm too soft-hearted to let them do this without anesthetic. You should thank me."

"James Huo, you asshole! I'll kill you!"

Debbie tried to kick the doctor approaching her, but a few more came over and held her legs.

Cold fluid was injected into her veins. Debbie despaired.

"Okay. I'll sign." She had to compromise to keep her baby safe. Her and Carlos' baby.

The doctor withdrew the needle then, when the syringe was half-empty.

A tear left her eye and streamed down her face. 'I'm sorry, old man. I'm sorry, honey. I failed. I failed our marriage, ' she wept inside.

She dully took the pen the doctor handed her. Under James' gaze, she signed her name on the last page of the agreement.

The drug took effect very quickly. Everything began to melt away as soon as she signed her name.

Chapter 310 The Old Son Of A Bitch

James was pleased to see her capitulate. "Don't make trouble. Remember, Carlos isn't around to protect you. Killing you and your baby would be like squashing ants underfoot," he continued threatening her.

Debbie cursed through gritted teeth, "You bastard!"

Now that he had gotten what he wanted, James was as happy as a clam. He didn't react to her cursing. He even said, "When you wake up, you can see him one last time," as if he were merciful.

Debbie closed her eyes, ignoring him. He didn't mind and left the room with his minions before Debbie fell into a dreamless sleep.

When Debbie woke up, she found out that she was in a room next to the ICU. She changed into scrubs and a mask, then dragged herself into the ICU weakly.

A nurse followed her inside, watching her like a hawk. The moment Debbie saw Carlos, grief overwhelmed her.

She grabbed his hand tightly. "Old man, it's me, your wife. Wake up! Look at me. Look at me."

His hand felt icy cold, like he truly was dead. Debbie put it to her lips with trembling hands and kissed it gently. "Old man, I miss you so much. I'm worried about you. Open your eyes and look at me, all right?"

But Carlos didn't respond at all. He was indeed as quiet as a dead man.

Just when Debbie felt his forehead, the nurse reminded her, "Your minute is up, miss. Please leave."

'My... minute? ' Debbie realized that she had traded her marriage for a single minute with Carlos. "Can you give me a few more minutes? I need more time,"

Debbie pleaded.

However, the nurse wouldn't budge on this. She shooed Debbie out of the ward.

Once she stepped out of the ICU, Debbie sat on the bench dejectedly. Till now, she still couldn't believe Carlos was gone. It had to be a trick. James was behind it.

But it still didn't feel real. Debbie left the hospital temporarily. She borrowed a phone and called Jared.

When it all went down, Jared had gotten blind stinking drunk and was crashing at a friend's place. His phone was dead. When Debbie called, he had ju

arlos had died just like that.

Then she asked Jared to call Curtis. But Curtis' phone went straight to voicemail. Maybe just as Damon said, Curtis was on a plane bound for Y City.

Debbie pressed her head against the car window, mumbling, "Damon never liked me. I don't trust him. I'll ask Mr. Lu when he comes back. He's a good guy, and wouldn't lie."

However, a few minutes later, another big news item shocked the entire city.

It was about Debbie. And it had gone viral. The headline read: "Mr. Huo injured in accident. Wife files for divorce and gets abortion." Reading further, the subheader detailed how his assistant died at the scene and she cheated on him. Jared clicked on the link to read the details.

It claimed that after Carlos' accident, the CEO went to the ER. Debbie ignored him and cheated on him with another man. She even filed for divorce. Later when she found out that she was pregnant, she went to the hospital and had an abortion.

As proof, the article had pics, which stunned Debbie.

One of them was taken when she was in bed. She was sleeping in a stranger's arms, with bare shoulders. The last one was taken when the doctors walked out of the ward where she had been forced to sign the divorce agreement.

Those doctors had told the press that Debbie had come to the hospital willingly to have an abortion.