His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 3

years, while being married to Casper, Eliza wasn't allowed to work, yet he refused to give her any money for household

For the past two y

expenses.

She had to eat whatever the servants made, and if they took a day off, she'd be stuck with leftovers or go hungry. It was absurd.-

"Hang on for a sec; I need to make a call," Eliza said.

Stepping

into a corner, Eliza scrolled through her contacts to Casper's name, hesitated for a moment, then kept scrolling on.

"Chelsea, it's me."8

"Elle?" The woman on the other end sounded surprised, her voice rising. "You finally decided to reach out."

"Sorry." Eliza composed herself. "Can you do me a favor?"

Chelsea's voice tightened, "What's going on??!

"My mom's hospital bills are due, and I don't have the money. I was hoping you could... Eliza rarely showed her vulnerable side, but shet was desperate.

Chelsea responded quickly, "How much do you need? Til send it to you.

"No, no." Eliza studied the bracelet adorning her wrist, captivated by its exceptional clarity and exquisite craftsmanship. I was hoping you could help me sell my bracelet. I know you have the connections to get a good price for it."

There was a moment of silence on the other end.!!

Chelsea was Eliza's best friend. She knew more than anyone else that Eliza and Casper weren't happily married. But she never imagined Eliza to become so financially strapped that she needed to sell her jewelry to pay her bills.

Despite feelings of injustice, Chelsea swallowed anger. "Okay, I'll help you."

The bracelet was a wedding gift from Casper's mother to Eliza. It was the only valuable thing Eliza had

Chelsea managed to sell it for \$250,000, just enough to cover the hospital bills. After settling the bills, Eliza transferred her mom to a local hospital. The medical facilities weren't the best, but they were sufficient enough to keep her stable.

After handling everything, Eliza felt exhausted and returned home.

t

Sitting on the bed in her beautiful, spacious, and sunny bedroom, Eliza felt no reluctance to leave. Two years in this house were enough. After packing her bags, she headed downstairs.

Marian noticed and, sensing trouble, asked, "Ma'am, where are you going? Does Mr. Casper know?"

Before Eliza could respond, the glare of headlights flashed through the glass of the floor-to-ceiling windows, followed by the sound of a car engine shutting off.

Casper's polished dress shoes were the first thing Eliza saw. Marian, sensing the mood, quietly withdrew

Casper was dressed in a meticulous black suit, and his handsome facial features were shadowed yet steady and reserved under the lamplight. His gaze fell on the two suitcases in Eliza's hands, his brows furrowing

Watching Eliza before him, he said, "Throwing a tantrum?!

"No." She didn't look up, her voice cold.

"What's this about then? Casper took out the bracelet Eliza had just sold and slammed it onto the table.

Eliza didn't know how the bracelet ended up back with Casper. She simply replied, "I sold it.

"Sold it?" He was furious, his hand gripping Eliza's neck. "Who gave you the right to sell this bracelet?"

"It's mine. Why can't I sell it?

For the first time, Eliza spoke up to him with such firmness.

His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 4

Casper chuckled derisively, easily shrugging her off. "Do you think it became yours just because you wear it? The Welton family owns it, and at best you only have the right to use them... that's all."

The right to use?

They were married for two years, but she never touched or used anything from the Welton family.

The only one with the right to use anything was Casper.

"Are you talking about yourself, Mr. Casper?"

Casper's eyes turned cold, suppressing his anger. "Then I'd like to hear, what did you sell that bracelet for? What did you need the money for?"

Eliza felt that, at this moment, Casper was playing dumb with her. Clearly, he had ordered the hospital to demand she pay the money.

"To pay back the hospital bills."

"And the rest?" Casper asked.

"The rest is a little over ten thousand dollars. If you want it, I can transfer it to you?

*Transfer it." He opened his payment app, tossing his phone onto the table in front of her.

Eliza transferred the remaining money, not a cent less, into his wallet!

Then, she took out a divorce agreement, handing it over to him. "Casper, let's get a divorce."

Casper was visibly taken aback. Eliza had always been submissive in his eyes, and was unlikely to bring this up on her own.

Was it because he had the hospital collect her mother's hospitalization fees?

Or because he had forced her to consume a half bottle of birth control pills?8

His gaze towards her was scrutinizing, mixed with mockery. "What tired of being a parasite in high society and ready to become a corporate slave?"

"You think I've stolen this life anyway, isn't it?" she said, her voice filled with resentment!

"You do like stealing other people's lives, don't you?"

Eliza scoffed. Yeah, in Casper's eyes, she was nothing but a thief, and what she stole happened to be Nova's life. He hated Eliza, always did.

She was now returning the 'stolen life to him

"Me getting swapped at birth was the hospital's mistake. How could I, a baby in swaddling clothes, have decided for myself? Casper, I know you care for Nova. I'm stepping aside for her now so you two may have years of happiness together."

She wanted nothing more

If she had a choice, she might not have chosen to grow up in the Henderson family. Twenty years in the Henderson family weren't as blissful as the two years spent in the Pinotti family.

Eliza didn't know which remark angered Casper. He grabbed her wrist, dragged her upstairs, and threw her onto the large bed with force.&

Eliza got up from the bed, angrily taking off the wedding ring on her ring finger.

"Don't you dare throw it away," his voice was ice-cold.

Eliza paused for a moment, then forcefully threw the ring onto the ground. "Here's your ring back and your marriage too, Casper. I don't want you anymore. I want a divorce."

She was so definitive.

Casper was furious. The next second, he pushed her down and pinned her beneath him.

"Back then, you insisted on marrying me. This Mrs. Welton title isn't something you can just not want."}}

"What? What kind of Mrs. Welton am 17" She glared at Casper full of hate, scoffing derisively, "A Mrs. Welton who doesn't even have the night to sell a bracelet I've worn for two years? I don't care for such a title."

"So defiant." His eyes blazed, wanting to devour her. "Do you think you have a say?"

"Am I not allowed to have regrets?"

Tears welled up in Eliza's eyes. If she had known her stubbornness at the time would bring disaster to her and her family...She wouldn't have sought her own demise.X

Not even for love.

The word 'regret' once again provoked Casper. He bit down on Eliza's smooth neck.}]

His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 5

Her subtle fragrance quickly drew him in, and he turned his bites into kisses. She passively endured his overpowering presence. As usual, he sought his own pleasure, completely indifferent to whether she was enjoying it or not. Afterward, he tossed her a pill, which she promptly threw in the trash.

He was taken aback. "Why aren't you taking

"Do you think after you made me take half a bottle of birth control, I can still get pregnant?" she replied, her voice devoid of emotion.

He was stunned. More than shock, a complex, unreadable emotion flickered in his eyes. "What did the doctor say?"

"Nothing much, just that I can't have kids anymore." She nonchalantly wrapped her clothes around herself, adding, "When you have a moment, we should get our marriage certificate."

Casper didn't say anything more. Silence hung heavily between them.

Marian rushed upstairs, her voice urgent, "Sir, there's a call from the Welton family mansion. Jeffrey is seriously ill. You need to go there Immediately."

Casper grabbed his coat and turned to Eliza. "Before we get divorced, you're still my wife. Come to the Welton mansion with me."

The Weltons weren't particularly kind to her but weren't overly harsh either. Eliza had no reason to refuse,

When they arrived at the mansion, the hall was filled with close friends, family, and other guests visiting Jeffrey. Casper was called into the inner chamber. Eliza stood alone in the outer hall, feeling somewhat lost!

Casper's grandfather Jeffrey was over ninety years old and had been in poor health for years. The Weltons had tried everything to extend his life. It seemed he couldn't hold on much longer.

Casper was the only grandchild allowed to visit him. He came out of the inner chamber, and Tristan pulled him aside. "Will your grandfather.. make it?"

"Aaron said, at most, half a year."

"What are you waiting for then? You need to get Eliza pregnant. Once she gets pregnant, her blood can save your grandfather"}

Jeffrey's illness required a complete blood transfusion, and Eliza, with her rare genetic makeup, was the best candidate. If Eliza got pregnant, the antibodies in her blood would increase exponentially. With her blood, Jeffrey could live at least another decade.

Casper remained silent. Tristan was dissatisfied by Casper's reaction and continued, "It's been two years of marriage without any sign of pregnancy from her. Is it your problem or hers? Casper, you need to understand that without your grandfather, the Welton family's fortune will suffer for over a decade. You need to act fast."

Back in the outer hall, Casper looked at Eliza. She behaved properly, merely lowering her gaze, looking more like an indifferent outsider.

On the way back, he kept glancing at Eliza while gripping the steering wheel. After several glances, she turned her face away, staring out

the car window.

"You sent your mother to a rural hospital. Do hospital. We can defer the medical bills."3

you think she'll get better treatment there? Maybe you should bring her back. I'll talk to the

Eliza remained silent. This afterthought felt meaningless.!

"There's no need to sell your bracelet over a medical bill of a few thousand dollars. If you need money, just tell me."

Eliza's expression flickered slightly. For the first time in their two years of marriage, she heard him say, "If you need money, just tell me."

Then, he handed her a credit card. "For your everyday expenses, you can use this card."8

Eliza looked down at the card but didn't take it. With a cold and slightly mocking tone, she replied, "No thank you."

"Come on, stop messing around and behave for once."

His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 6

Casper thought Eliza's request for a divorce was just her throwing yet another tantrum.8

Eliza was someone who rarely made decisions, but when she did, she stuck to them. As for their marriage? Well, a marriage involving three people was just too crowded.

Casper didn't love her, and she couldn't keep loving a man who'd left her with nothing but emotional scars.

"Casper, I'm not throwing a tantrum," she said, her voice steady. "I've thought this through. I don't want to be your wife anymore. Let's get a divorce."&

'Do you really have to divorce me?" He asked, his tone turning icy. "Eliza, you think you get to decide?"?

Tm willing to step aside."}

A heart doesn't turn cold overnight. For two long years, she poured her soul into being the perfect wife and future mother, working harder to please him than any servant ever would. Time and again, she convinced herself to wait just a little longer. She thought he'd come around, and he'd see her worth.

How laughable it turned out to be. It was nothing but a pipe dream.

Half a bottle of birth control pills had stolen her chance to be a mother and also made her see her marriage for what it truly was.

Casper had taken up her entire youth-she was finally ready to let him go.

A sudden jolt made Eliza almost hit the windshield.

"Get out," he said impatiently.

She unbuckled her seatbelt and pushed the door open. The moment her foot hit the ground, the car sped off

Her phone buzzed. It was the Welton family doctor

Aaron was Casper's childhood friend and went to the same university with her.

"Hi Aston. 2

"Eliza, I need to talk to you about some things to keep in mind to get ready to conceive. Write this down."

Conceive?

"Why are we talking about this all of a sudden?" she asked, bewildered.

"Casper didn't tell you?"

No.7

"Jeffrey's condition can only be treated with a blood transfusion, and your blood carries a rare genetic marker that produces the highest antibody levels during pregnancy...

Eliza heard nothing after that. Her heart grew colder with each word.

Even under the blazing sun, any remnants of warmth drained away, leaving her feeling like she was standing in an ice cave.

So, Casper's recent kindness, the card, the sudden reluctance for a divorce – it was all because she e still had some use to him.

Draining her last drop of blood was her final mission.8

"Eliza, are you listening?"

Eliza nodded. "Thanks, Aaron. I get it.

"I'll talk to you later then."

Eliza returned to the house she shared with Casper and grabbed her suitcase, ready to leave.

Marian approached her. "Malam, are you really leaving?"

"Yes, I've left the divorce papers on the bedside table. Remind Casper to sign them and set a time for us to finalize everything."

Marian bit her lip. "Does he know?"

"He knows."T

"Ma'am

Eliza walked out of the place she'd called home for the past two years.

Well,

In truth, it was never really a home. There was no loving husband, no sweet memories to cling to.

In those two years, she had seen Casper less often than the employees at Welton International S

It was just a cage, and escaping it was the best thing she could do.!!

Eliza returned to her family's apartment. It was built in the early '90s, and their place was on the third floor. It wasn't big, but it was enough for the four of them.

After her father was arrested and everything they owned was confiscated, they'd had to make do.

After settling her suitcase, she took a taxi to Mercy Hospital

His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 7

The hospital was tucked away behind tall birch trees, keeping it in the shadows year-round. The iron gate was locked tight, and every now and then, a chilling scream would break the silence.

Eliza pressed the worn—out doorbell at the entrance. A small hatch in the door slid open, revealing an unfriendly voice, "Who are you here for?"%

"Hi, I'm here to see Robin.7

"It's not visiting hours." The hatch slammed shut.X

Eliza knocked again, more urgently this time, "Please, I just need to see him for a moment."

The hatch opened slightly, and the voice was now clearly impatient. "I already told you, it's not visiting hours."

"Then, when can I see him?1

"Friday."

The hatch closed again, and Eliza's heart sank. As she turned to leave, a gut—wrenching scream echoed from inside, making her grip her coat tighter

No. She couldn't let her brother stay in there any longer

When she got home, she cleaned out a room and stocked it with some essentials. She hadn't earned a dime in the two years since she married. Robin would occasionally send her some money, a few thousand here and there. She hadn't touched any of it!

After doing some quick calculations, she realized she had saved up tens of thousands, enough to cover part of her mother's medical bills at the local hospital. She couldn't afford better treatment, but she could at least keep her mother alive. As long as her mother was alive, Eliza felt like she still had a sense of purpose.X

Grabbing her purse, Eliza hailed a cab to her mother's hospital.

"Doctor, I'm Rose's daughter. I'm here to-

The doctor looked up from the medical records, eyes narrowing slightly. "Eliza?"

Eliza froze, more surprised than anything, "Aaron? What are you doing here?"

"I came over because well, why are you here?"

"My mom's hospitalized here. I'm here to pay her bills."

by the bills

Aaron adjusted his glasses, puzzled. "Wasn't your mom at Casper's hospital? Why'd she move here?"

"The costs were too high. I couldn't afford it, so... Eliza forced a sad smile, "Aaron, I need to go pay

Aaron stood up, taking the bill from her hand. "I know this place well, I'll take you to the payment office."

"Thanks."3

Everyone in the Welton family, including Aaron, the family doctor, knew Casper and Eliza's relationship was strained. But moving Eliza's mother out of a top–notch hospital didn't sit night with Aaron. On the way to the payment office, he asked, "Did you and Casper have a fight?"

"No."3

"At Welton International's hospital, your mom might have had a chance to recover. This place doesn't have the same facilities, she might not

"I know"

Of course, Eliza knew. But did she have a choice? Casper could even stop the treatment here at any moment.

After paying the bills, they walked out of the payment office. From a distance, they saw the most prestigious car in Falconridge, unmistakably Casper's

Casper got out of the car first, then went around to the back seat to lift Nova out, handing her the crutches. Throughout, he was incredibly patient and gentle

In a moment, Eliza understood why Aaron was there. "Did Casper send you?"

"I'm here because Casper wanted the medical records for Nova's knee surgery before sending her abroad for treatment. Don't overthink

Eliza scoffed lightly. Casper really was going all out for Nova. Nova's knee injury was an accident. Back then, she was still the daughter of the Pinotti family X

His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 8

The Pinotti family wasn't rolling in dough, but somehow, they scraped together enough to get Nova a joint replacement surgery.

But luck wasn't on their side. The hospital back then just didn't have the chops, and the surgery bombed. Nova was left with a limp, and the meds they pumped her with messed up her heart and kidneys, making it impossible for her to ever have kids.

Casper knew deep down that another surgery on Nova's leg would be a lost cause, but that didn't stop him from scouring the globe to find a solution for her!

When you loved someone, it was crystal clear.k

When you didn't, it was even clearer.

'Til leave e you to your work, Eliza said, turning to Aaron. "I'm heading

"Okay"

Eliza was just about to step away when Nova's voice, sweet and lilting like a nightingale's song, called out to her, "Eliza."

Eliza took a deep breath, trying to keep her cool as she turned back around.

"I told Casper it was you, but he thought I was mistaken." Nova leaned into Casper, her face a picture of pure innocence. "Eliza, don't get the wrong idea. Casper's just here to help me pick up my medical records. You know my leg's not great."

Eliza felt a stab of bittemess in her chest. "Yeah, Casper is always so helpful, not just to you" she said."

Nova's smile faltered. "Yes, Casper is a good man,"

A good man? How ironic.

As Casper helped Nova inside, he turned to Aaron. "Did you find the medical records?"

"Still looking." Aaron replied, clearly flustered.

"Why are we wasting time here then?

Nova didn't forget to say goodbye to Eliza as they went in. "We'll be heading inside"}

Eliza caught a glimpse of Casper's tender care for Nova, and her eyes filled with tears.

The man she had poured her heart and soul into was giving all his gentleness to someone else

Friday rolled around.8

Eliza made her way to Mercy Hospital. The place was locked down tight, with high walls and electric fences that screamed "no way out."

She recognized a lot of faces there—once-famous celebrities, trust fund kids who were always in the news, and some officials she'd seen on TVB

It was even more

complicated than she had thought. Getting Robin out of this hospital on her own would be a Herculean task.

She took a number and was led to a cold, empty room. There weren't many visitors and those who were there looked like they had the weight of the world on their shoulders.

"Number 04, has Robin's family arrived?"

"L.. I am here." Eliza said, raising her number excitedly. "Tm number 04,"3

The staff member barely glanced at her. "Follow me."

Eliza trailed behind the staff, navigating a labyrinth of hallways and stairs, until they finally reached a room with just a table in it.

"Wait here."

"Oh, okay."2

She sat down, nerves jangling, clinging to her bag like a lifeline.X

Ten minutes later, Robin was wheeled in

"You've got half an hour, so make it quick," the staff member said before leaving.

Robin was in the wheelchair looking like a shadow of himself–vacant eyes, hunched shoulders, bent back, hollow cheeks, and patchy stubble. Eliza's heart broke, and her eyes filled with tears.

"Robin," she said, kneeling in front of him, her voice gentle.

"Robin, can you hear me?" She took his large hand into hers, rubbing it gently, her eyes brimming with tears. "Have they been mistreating you? Tell me."

"Robin, what did they do to you? Why are you like this? Please, say something"

"I'm your sister. Look at me. Did they hurt you? Are they not feeding you? Did they do something to you?"

His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 9

Eliza lifted Robin's shirt, her eyes scanning his body for any signs of harm, Rumors swirled about this hospital being a front for an underground organ trafficking ring, and she was terrified of what could happen to her brother.8

"Thank goodness, they haven't touched you yet. Don't worry. I'll find a way to get you out of here. Just take care of yourself, okay?" she reassured him.]

Robin remained silent, his eyes vacant, like a puppet devoid of strings. He neither spoke nor caused any trouble, neither cried nor laughed. Only as they were being separated did he whisper, "Don't worry about me."

Robin was led away, and Eliza was forced out of the hospital.!

That evening, Eliza returned to the home she shared with Casper. He lounged in the living room, his pajama top lazily unbuttoned, exuding a casual yet magnetic allure. His fingers played with a glass of red wine, swirling it slowly, lost in his own thoughts.

Eliza approached him cautiously, her posture humble, her voice soft. "Casper, please, let my brother go. I'm begging you"}

Casper suddenly laughed, a cold, disinterested sound. "Doesn't he like where he lives?"

"That place isn't fit for anyone," she pleaded, sinking to her knees. "It could drive anyone insane. He's already lost the function of his legs. Can't you show a little mercy?"

"It's just treatment, Eliza. I'm not killing him," Casper replied, one hand toying with the wine glass, the other gripping her chin. "What's got you so worked up?"

"He's not sick in the head. He's a normal kid. Why are you trying to break him? If this is about Nova, then take it out on me."

Casper was obsessed with blaming the Pinotti family for Nova's condition, and Eliza was ready to bear the brunt of it.

"You? Ha." He pushed her away roughly, finishing his wine in one gulp.

Eliza wiped her tears, her voice steady but desperate. "Set your terms. Just let my brother go."

"What right do you have to negotiate with me?" His eyes gleamed with disdain. "Eliza, do you really think you're all that?"

She knew she was nothing to him. She had no illusions about her worth in his eyes.

"Whatever you want, I'll do it," she said, swallowing her pride and gently holding his arm. "If you want my life, take it. Just spare Robin."

Casper swung his hand, sending the wine bottle crashing to the marble floor. Glass shards scattered like a macabre rose in the pool of red wine.D

She looked up, meeting his gaze, and she got it. He wanted her to feel Nova's pain.

Without hesitation, she knelt on the shattered glass. The shards pierced her knees, and the stabbing pain made her clench her eyes shut. Her fingers curled into trembling fists, blood seeping through her beige pants.!!

"Sir," Marian Interrupted, rushing in with the cordless phone. "Ms. Nova is on the line."!

Casper took the phone, exchanged a few words, grabbed his coat, and headed out. Before leaving, he turned to Eliza. "You figure out the divorce first. Then we'll talk about Robin."

As Casper's car drove away, Marian hurried to help Eliza up. "Ma'am, why do this to yourself?"8

As she watched the blood on the floor, Marian's heart ached. 'How could any couple live like this?'

Eliza, barely able to stand, requested, "Marian, please, get me the first aid kit."

His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 10

"Ma'am, you really should go to the hospital. Your knee is full of glass shards. How are you going to take them out on your own?"?

"Don't worry, I can do it.

Eliza did her best to patch up her wound and left the house limping.

She sat in the taxi and stared blankly at the huge display screen in the square. On it, a man was carrying a fragile woman up the stairs, one hand around her, the other clutching a distinctive cane.

Yep. It was Casper and Nova.

They were on the second floor of the Falconridge Grand Theatre, where an art exhibition took place.

They didn't shy away from the paparazzis flashing cameras, their eyes locked in a tender gaze.

Once upon a time, Eliza had dreamed that Casper would look at her like that, but her joyous pursuit only ended in cold stares and mockery.

His love was stingy, reserved only for Nova.

Eliza's phone buzzed in her hand. She tore her eyes away, "Hello?"

"Elle, I just saw Casper on the news" Chelsea's voice was cautious. "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine." Eliza's voice was cool, with a hint of suppressed endurance.}

Over the past two years, Chelsea had never pried into Eliza's feelings, much less her marriage.X

Chelsea knew that once Eliza set her mind on something, nothing could change it. But today, she couldn't help but add, "Aren't you completely fed up yet?"%

"I do look like a joke," she said with a bitter laugh.

"You don't have to be a joke. If you want, I can get the best lawyer in Falconridge to handle your divorce."

Chelsea just feared Eliza wouldn't want to leave.

"Chelsea, I've already decided," she said, looking back at the large screen in the square. The video of the couple on the screen felt like a knife to her heart. "I will get a divorce.

"Really?" Chelsea almost screamed, her voice tinged with excitement. "Has he agreed?"

"Not yet."

"It's okay, take your time. He e won't drag it out for long. He probably wants to make things official with Nova

Even the Falconridge paparazzi could guess Casper wanted to make Nova his official wife. But Jeffrey needed Eliza's blood, making Casper hesitate

Unfortunately, Eliza probably couldn't have children, dashing the Welton family's hopes.8

"Chelsea, there's something else I need your help with"}

"Anything."

"Mercy Hospital."

Chelsea knew as much about Mercy Hospital as Eliza did. Unsure why it came up, Chelsea asked, "What about it?" "Casper had Robin admitted to Mercy Hospital. I went to see him today, and he's in a bad mental state..."7

"Is it because of Nova again?"

Everything Casper did against the Pinotti family was for Nova. That was a given.

A sharp pain shot through Eliza's knee, reminding her that she was being treated this way because of Nova, too.

"Who else but her

"Your family did everything they could for Nova's knee back then. What more does she want? It's ridiculous. If Casper has a problem with the surgery or any complications, he should take it up with the hospital, not blame your family."3

Casper's love was too intense; every bit of Nova's pain pierced his heart.

Moreover once Nova returned to the Henderson family, one misfortune after another struck them.

First, Mr. Henderson died of a sudden heart attack, and Mrs. Henderson, unable to cope, attempted suicide in the middle of the night!

His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 11

The sudden deaths meant Eliza was left with the wealth of the entire Henderson family, and overnight, Nova found herself a penniless orphan. Casper was heartbroken, blaming both the Pinotti family and Eliza for the tragedy.

Eliza, rubbing her aching forehead, felt her knees throb with numbing pain, and she felt nauseous and dizzy. "Chelsea, I can't talk right now. Something urgent has come up," she said, hanging up the phone.!!

Weakly, she turned to the driver. "Take me to the hospital, please."

Under the harsh operating lights, the doctor painstakingly removed thirty—seven shards of glass from Eliza's body, each piece soaked in blood. She developed a high fever, and her knees swelled up painfully. She spent three lonely days in the hospital, hooked up to an IV drip before she started to feel better."

"Doctor, am I staying in this room?" It was Nova's voice.

Eliza, looking haggard, turned towards the door. Nova entered, leaning on crutches, and did a double—take upon seeing Eliza. "Eliza, why are you also in the hospital? Are you alright?"

Eliza didn't answer, her gaze shifting to the man who followed Nova into the room.

Nova quickly explained, "Casper was worried I'd have trouble getting around, so he came with me. You're not upset, are you?"%

Eliza let out a bitter chuckle and closed her eyes. Her lawful husband was always by another girl's side, but she didn't even have the right to be angry, Where was the justice in that?

"Casper, Eliza is sick. Why didn't you tell me?" Nova's voice had a playful whine, like a wife nagging her lover

The sunlight streaming into the room highlighted Casper's chiseled face, making his features even more striking. He glanced Indifferently at Eliza before turning to Nova. "Do you want me to find another room for you?"

"The hospital is already short on beds. Let's not bother. Staying in the same room with Elle means we can look after each other, saving you some worry."

Nova was always known for being considerate and generous. She never sweated the small stuff, but her pretensions imitated Eliza to no end.

"Casper, I'm thirsty," Nova rsaid.

Casper handed her a glass of water. Nova took the water and then handed a fruit to Casper. "Casper, peel this fruit for Eliza."

"She won't eat it," he replied.S

"If you peel it, she will," Nova insisted, smiling as she handed him a fruit knife. "Please."2

Unable to bear it any longer, Eliza threw off her covers and got out of bed. Her bandaged knees offered little support, and she stumbled forward. Her hands hit the slippery floor, twisting her wrist painfully. The dual pain from her knee and wrist made her cry out involuntarily, "Ah, ssst...

The wound on her knee started bleeding again from the fall. The pain was so intense she could barely stand. She thought Casper would at least come to help her up, but he didn't. In despair, Eliza gripped the bed, struggling to stand upright!

"Eliza, are you okay? Casper, come on, go help her. Is she alright?," Nova's sharp voice, seemingly taking pleasure in Eliza's misfortune, pierced her ears..

Casper remained still, his brow slightly furrowed, his gaze on Eliza intense and thoughtful. Feeling utterly defeated, Eliza limped slowly out of the room, leaning against the wall for support. A nurse saw her and hurried over to help.

Nova sighed, "How did she hurt her knee? I know knee injuries are really painful." She looked down at her own legs, tears dripping down."

His Destructive Toxic Love Chapter 12

Casper pulled his gaze away, his voice gentle and reassuring. "Don't worry, I've already arranged everything with a hospital abroad. Your leg is going to get better."

"Will you come with me, Casper?" Nova asked, her eyes hopeful.

"Of course," he replied.

Nova's tears turned into a smile. "Thank you, Casper, W

Eliza made her way to the nurse's station. "Nurse, can I switch rooms?"

"Ms. Eliza, all our rooms are full right now. We can't make a switch for you, the nurse said apologetically

"Then... II check out, Eliza said. She just couldn't stay another minute here.

The nurse was taken aback. "Ms. Eliza, your knee isn't fully healed yet. Why do you want to check out? If you really need a different room, let me see what I can do."8

"Thank you for your help."

"Please go back for now. Walking around isn't good for your knee. It could cause complications."

The nurse escorted Eliza back to her room, Casper was chatting with Nova, making her laugh uncontrollably.

When Eliza entered, Nova grinned. "Elle, Casper is such a jokester! I'm so jealous you have such a funny husband."

"My husband?" Eliza scoffed. "I thought he was yours."

Nova's face tumed red, "Eliza, are... are you upset?"

She glanced nervously at Casper. "Casper, please talk to Eliza. I don't want any misunderstandings because of me."

Eliza held back her anger. She didn't want Casper to hold this against her. She and her family couldn't afford that

Soon, the nurse found a new room for Eliza, placing her at the end of the hallway. Her new roommate was an elderly lady. "Come on, this medicine isn't bitter. Take it, and then you can have some candy," an old man coaxed the lady, his voice full of patience, tenderness, and love!!

Eliza watched them with a pang of envy. The elderly lady must have been spoiled her whole life.

After the lady took her medicine, the man handed her a rainbow lollipop. "Here's your reward,"

Then he turned to Eliza, offering her a lollipop too. "Here, young lady, this will make the medicine less bitter."

Eliza tried to refuse. "No, sir, L...

"It's okay. Take it," the old man insisted, placing the unwrapped lollipop in her hand. "It's very sweet"

Eliza was touched, accepting the lollipop and putting it in her mouth. The sweetness spread through her mouth instantly.

'So this is what sweetness feels like, she thought. After years of bitterness, she had almost forgotten the taste of sweetness.

With the lollipop in her mouth, she opened her tablet to work on her resume. She had a degree from the Art Academy of Falconridge Though she had little work experience, finding a job teaching art to children shouldn't be too hard.

Her focus was entirely on the resume. She didn't notice a man walking in until his eyes fell on her tablet, making her realize he was there. Panicking, she closed the tablet.!

"Looking for a job?" Casper's face darkened.

Eliza didn't hide it. "Yes.

"Who gave you permission to look for a job?" He was clearly displeased.

Eliza didn't see what she had done wrong. She was divorced and needed to support herself. "Why can't I look for a job?"

"Eliza, you need to know your place."

Eliza laughed coldly, meeting his angry gaze. "And what about you, Mr. Casper? What's your place? Are you my husband or Nova's?"

"Are you comparing yourself to her?" His face twisted with disdain. "You think you're even in her league?"