

Chapter 7 Property Division

All eyes darted toward the door, where Theodore had just arrived.

He was adorned in clean, comfortable, light-colored clothing and sitting in a wheelchair with a soft blanket on his lap. Despite being seated, he had an air of power and nobility that commanded the room.

He shot lasers at Brielle.

"What did my wife do to deserve you pulling her hair?" he demanded.

Brielle, who had been feeling self-important, was caught off guard and began to stutter. "... I didn't pull her hair."

Theodore wasted no time and barked, "Horace!"

Instantly, his assistant, who had been standing silently behind him, sprang into action and grabbed Brielle's arm.

"Ah! It hurts!" Brielle screamed in terror as Horace dragged her away from Ariana, but she couldn't free herself from his grip. Horace only released her when they were a safe distance away from Ariana.

Brielle quickly scurried behind Glenda, cowering in fear.

Theodore rolled his wheelchair toward Ariana, his eyes reflecting concern. "Are you okay?" he asked, his touch sending shivers down Ariana's spine.

She couldn't understand why the same man who so coldly dismissed her yesterday was now being so gentle and kind.

Ariana tried to pull her hand away from Theodore, but he held it tightly, not letting go.

"It's okay," he said. "I know I'm late. But I can't move fast in a wheelchair. Don't be mad at me, okay?"

Confused, Ariana stared at Theodore.

Meanwhile, Glenda saw an opportunity to save herself and quickly went to Theodore, apologizing profusely.

"It was all a misunderstanding. Brielle was just playing with Ariana. She's Jasper's fiancée, and Ariana's younger sister."

As Glenda's words hung in the air, a tense silence filled the room.

Theodore turned to Ariana and asked, "Is she really your sister?"

"half-sister." Despite her reluctance to acknowledge the familial connection, Ariana nodded her head affirmatively.

But before she could utter another word, Theodore let out an audible sigh and made a disparaging comment. He muttered, "So ugly."

The tension in the room heightened to levels unknown, and Brielle's seething rage was almost palpable. Her hands were balled into tight fists, and her nails were digging deep into her palms.

She couldn't believe that Theodore was coming to Ariana's defense. After all, Jasper had claimed that Theodore was planning to divorce Ariana.

Glenda struggled to understand what was happening and reluctantly spoke up. "Theodore, I'm glad you've awoken. As her mother, I'm relieved to know that you'll be taking care of Ariana from now on."

Theodore's voice was icy as he replied, "Mother? Ariana informed me that her mother passed away a long time ago."

Ariana couldn't help but let out a laugh. She found Theodore's caustic wit amusing when it was directed at someone other than herself.

Glenda's face fell, but she didn't want to risk losing her temper, so she forced a smile and asked, "Theodore, what brings you here today?"

Theodore chuckled in response. Without wasting any time, he got straight to the point and declared, "Ariana is now a member of the Anderson family since she married me. As a result, her assets are now mine as well. It's best to distinguish them from the Edwards family's assets."

His piercing gaze had the power to make Glenda cave in, even though he hadn't raised his voice.

Ariana was stunned to know that Theodore was helping her to retrieve her part of the family property. She was unsure of how to react.

"The Edwards family doesn't have much property left..." Glenda's attempts to resist Theodore's frightening gaze quickly crumbled, and she reluctantly added, "We can cooperate and involve a lawyer for the accounting, if needed."

But even as Glenda spoke, Ariana knew she was merely stalling for time, hoping to avoid the inevitable confrontation.

However, Theodore wasn't fooled. "That won't be necessary. I've already consulted my lawyers beforehand," he said with a smirk.

Horace strode up confidently, brandishing two thick folders from his leather briefcase. He extended one to Glenda and Brielle, the other to Ariana.

"Contained in here is the personal property that belonged to Ms. Edwards' birth mother and a breakdown of the share allocation for the real estate left by her father. Our legal team has already confirmed the details with the late Mr. Edwards' legal representative. If everything is satisfactory, kindly sign the documents."

As they scrutinized the papers, Glenda's and Brielle's

complexions turned pale.

They couldn't believe how thorough Theodore's lawyers had been in crafting an airtight agreement. It was clear that Theodore had spared no expense in hiring the best legal minds to ensure everything was executed precisely.

Even after half an hour of combing through every word, they couldn't find a single weakness to exploit.

Eventually, Glenda and Ariana signed the documents while the lawyer bore witness.

Four copies of the agreement were prepared, with Ariana pocketing one and Theodore keeping another. As Ariana put away her copy of the contract, she couldn't help but notice the expensive earring hanging from Glenda's left ear. "And return the rest of my mother's belongings," she demanded.

Glenda's blood boiled with anger, but Theodore's presence and his imposing assistant prevented her from losing her cool. She reluctantly took off the earring, her expression dark with resentment, and threw it toward Ariana.

Fuming with rage, Glenda reluctantly spat, "Fine. I'll ask the servant to pack your and your mother's things up."

However, Ariana was not willing to trust Glenda's words. "No need," she said firmly. "I'll do it myself." She was determined to ensure that all of her and her mother's possessions were returned to her safe and sound.

Glenda, intimidated by Theodore's earlier display of power, could only comply as Ariana went to her room to pack up.

As Ariana packed, she suddenly felt something obstruct her foot. Looking down, she was startled to find the wheel of Theodore's wheelchair, only to realize that he had silently entered the room behind her.

"Sorry, I didn't see you." Quickly stepping back, Ariana apologized for the unintentional collision. As she peered around the room, she realized that Theodore's assistant had not followed him in, leaving them alone in the enclosed space.

Her heart raced with uncertainty, unsure of what to expect next.