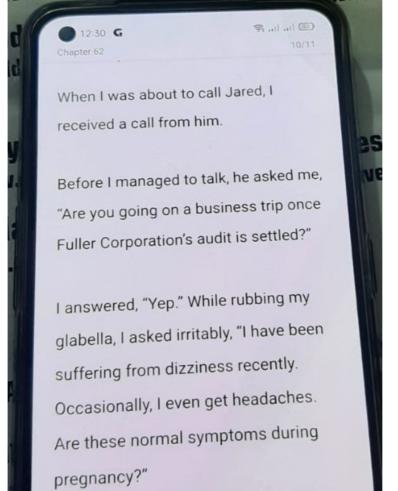




With that, she left with the documents.







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"That's not it. I have something on, too."

"Okay. I'll contact you then!" I replied, feeling reassured. Jared was a great friend—attentive and thorough.

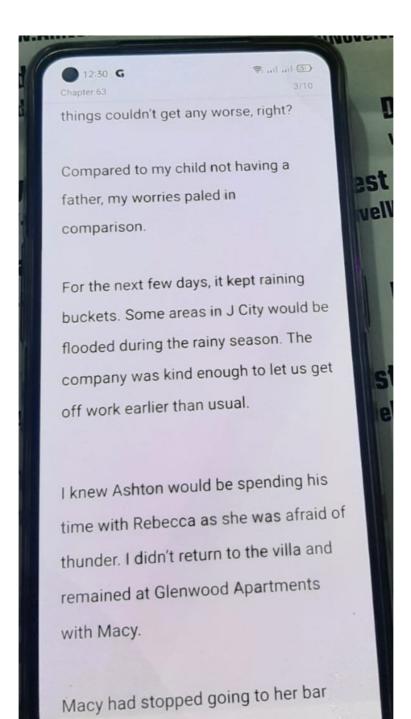
After hanging up, I remained sprawling on the table, utterly drained out. I was two months pregnant by now.

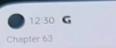
I thought I'd get a divorce and leave J
City after handing off my work. Alas,
life was unexpected. What should I do
now?

If Ashton liked our baby, I could stay.

I've already endured Rebecca's

existence for two years. With my child,





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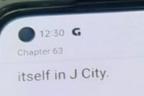
4/10

because of the drug incident. She started throwing herself into cooking at home. I was glad to spend more time with her.

After I thought it through, I stopped clinging to the hope that Ashton would drop by and visit me. However, I'd stare blankly into space sometimes.

Sometimes, my limbs would go numb if I sat for too long. Jared gave me plenty of medicine and reminded me to take them on time, but I'd forget about them. Macy had to remind me every time.

After a week of torrential rain, it finally cleared up. The sun started showing



The audit process of Fuller Corporation had begun, and I was busy with HiTech. Macy, on the other hand, told me she wanted to travel alone for a few days.

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I knew she was frustrated over being wrongly accused of possessing drugs.

If Clinton hadn't helped get her out of jail, she would be serving her sentence by now.

She was frustrated because she couldn't do anything. Even if we knew Rebecca was behind this, Ashton was protecting her.





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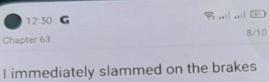
At the same time, my heart broke into a million pieces, releasing the anger and hatred within.

I should slow down by then, but instead, I floored the accelerator, heading straight for Rebecca. My evil side was showing itself.

As long as Rebecca was dead, I would not have to endure her and worry whether Ashton would return or leave.

When I sped toward her, I seriously wanted her to die.

Suddenly, Ashton appeared and stood between the vehicle and Rebecca. His expression was dark.



in a daze. For a moment there, I really wanted Rebecca dead.

Ashton strode to my vehicle and pulled me down menacingly. "Scarlett, what are you doing?"

I crumbled weakly to the ground. He grabbed and steadied me as anger flashed across his gaze.

Tearfully, I gazed at him. "Ashton, ask her to leave, please."

Tugging his hand, I pleaded, "Ashton, I love you more than you can imagine.

Seeing her here is driving me insane.



Please ask her to leave, or else, I don't know what I will do to her."

Yes, I couldn't hold back my emotions anymore. I had ripped my heart open, showing him my cruelty, selfishness, and everything else within.

As our gazes met, Ashton pursed his lips as his gaze softened. He reached out and brought me closer to him.

Pressing his nose against mine, he rasped, "What a fool!"