

## Chapter 15 Try Me

Yara said the words to the two men standing beside her.

Neither came from a family that could stand anywhere near the Wards. They had always trailed after her, desperate for a chance to please her.

After only the slightest pause, they marched toward Evelyn with mean looks on their faces.

Violet lowered her head to conceal the pleased curve at the corner of her mouth. In a gentle voice, she said, "Yara, maybe this isn't the right thing to do. She will become your brother's wife, after all."

"That's nonsense." Yara spat onto the ground. "What claim does she have to that spot? You're too soft, Violet. That's why she keeps trampling all over you. She hit you, but you're still defending her."

She continued after a pause, "Stop speaking up for her. If you say another word, I'll be angry with you. I'm going to slap her twenty times and destroy her face."

Violet moved aside as though she was unwilling yet the smile at the edge of her mouth only became clearer.

She could already imagine Evelyn beaten until her face was swollen beyond recognition.

Just then, two heavy thumps cracked through the yard.

They were followed at once by shrill screams of pain.

Those cries were not Evelyn's. They came from the two men.

The smug looks on Violet's and Yara's faces hardened into shock.

What on earth had just happened?

Why were the two men writhing on the ground while Evelyn stood there without a scratch?

A moment later, Violet noticed the pepper spray in Evelyn's hand.

So that was it.

Evelyn had come prepared.

If she had not, today would have ended in disaster for her.

The two worthless men had been sprayed once, and they were already howling like little kids.

They could not even deal with one woman.

Next time, real professionals would be needed.

While Violet was still lost in her thoughts, Evelyn walked straight toward her.

The coldness in her eyes sent a shiver through Violet.

It felt as though a beast had fixed its gaze on her.

Violet's voice shook. "What do you want?"

Evelyn stopped right in front of her. "Where's the rest of my stuff?"

Violet stumbled back in fear. "I... I don't know what you mean. Evie, everything of yours is here!"

In one quick motion, Evelyn seized her collar and yanked her upward. "I'll ask you one more time. Where is my father's keepsake? Give it to me."

"Ah! What are you doing? Let me go!" Violet cried out in panic.

"Evelyn, are you crazy?" Yara wanted to step in, but the terrifying aura pouring off Evelyn rooted her to the spot.

Evelyn's eyes were red with fury. A frigid smile touched her lips as she looked at Violet. "I've run out of patience. You crawled into my fiancé's bed and pinned the blame on me for harming your unborn baby. I can let that pass. But if you laid a hand on what my father left me, I won't show you any mercy."

She dragged Violet to the pond's edge and bent near her ear. "If I drag

you down with me, do you think that baby will live through the fall? If that child is gone, do you still think you'll keep your place in the Ward family?"

Violet screamed, "You wouldn't dare do that! If you hurt me or the baby, Carsten and the Ward family will never let you off!"

Evelyn laughed.

It was fierce and completely unrestrained.

"Try me."

With that, she made it look as though she was about to hurl Violet into the water.

"Stop! Please!" Violet finally relented. "I'll return everything, I'll give it all back. Please, don't hurt my baby!"

Evelyn halted, but she did not let Violet go. Instead, she said in a cold voice, "Tell Yara to bring it over. I want to see my father's things exactly as they were. If even one item is missing you'll learn just how freezing the water is at this time of year."

The look in Evelyn's eyes made it clear she meant every word.

Violet pressed a hand to her belly, all color drained from her face.

She could not risk losing the baby inside her.

The baby in her womb was the prize she had fought so hard to secure, the very thing that would help her enter the Ward family.

She could not afford to lose it.

A short while later, Yara came back carrying a storage box, her face clouded with reluctance.

At once, Evelyn saw the dark wooden case she knew so well lying on top.

She let go of Violet, snatched up the box, and checked the keepsake with care.

Violet fixed her eyes on the wooden case in Evelyn's hands, bitterness blazing in her gaze.

From the very first time she had seen it, she had wanted it for herself.

She had been convinced there was something precious hidden inside.

But the case had no lock, no hinge and not even a visible crack.

She had tried slicing it open and even burning it. Nothing so much as scratched it.

That only made her more certain that whatever was inside had to be valuable.

At that moment, she suddenly noticed something from the corner of her eye.

Violet's gaze shifted. She hurried toward Evelyn and caught hold of her hand.

Evelyn, still focused on checking the box, flinched back in disgust. "What are you doing?"

Tears welled in Violet's eyes, and her voice trembled. "I already gave everything back. Please stop hitting me. My stomach really hurts!"

Then, her body suddenly lurched backward, as though someone had shoved her.

Before Evelyn had the chance to respond, rushed footsteps came from behind her.

In the very next second, Violet fell into the arms of a tall man.



"Help me, and I'll give you a special reward!"

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