

Chapter 22 Only Doctor Zero Can Save The Baby

"No!" Jenessa said in a sharp voice. "That baby carries the Ward family's future. How could you even suggest terminating the pregnancy?"

Violet clutched her stomach and collapsed into Carsten's arms, crying hard. "Carsten... what are we supposed to do now?"

Her voice trembled as panic took hold. "I can't lose my eyesight. I can't end up paralyzed. But our baby..."

Carsten turned toward the doctor with a dark, serious expression. "There has to be another way," he said firmly. "Isn't there any way to perform the surgery without putting the baby in danger?"

A long pause followed before the doctor spoke, his expression hesitant. "The procedure itself already carries a very high level of risk. With a patient who is pregnant, the complexity increases significantly. The surgical team would need to control potential bleeding stabilize her blood pressure, and maintain proper blood flow to the fetus throughout the entire operation. Cases like this require an exceptionally skilled lead surgeon. Honestly, with the situation the way it is... I can't think of a single surgeon in this country who could safely take this case. Unless..."

Carsten quickly asked, tension sharpening his voice, "Unless what?"

The doctor replied, "Unless you can bring in Zero—the most legendary figure in neurosurgery. For any ordinary surgeon, a procedure like this borders on impossible. But for Zero... it would probably be a piece of cake. Cases far more complicated than this one, she has handled them all without even breaking a sweat. Bring Zero here, and saving the baby shouldn't be an issue."

At once, Violet abandoned her delicate pretense. She clutched Carsten's hand tightly, panic flooding her voice. "Carsten, please, you have to save our baby!"

With a calm gesture, Carsten patted the back of her hand, his voice steady and reassuring. "Relax. I'll make sure Zero handles your surgery."

Afterward, he turned back toward the doctor, his expression sharpening with resolve. "What exactly do I need to do to get Zero here? Have her set the price herself. No matter what she asks for, the Ward family will cover it, as long as she operates on Violet."

The doctor slowly shook his head, his expression grave. "No one really knows where she is," he admitted quietly. "Zero has always been an enigma. Her identity has never been confirmed by anyone. And for the past two years, she has completely disappeared. No cases. No sightings. Nothing."

"What do you mean by that? If Zero's missing then what the hell am I supposed to do now?" Fear finally snapped whatever fragile composure Violet had left. "There has to be someone else! Isn't there another surgeon who can perform the operation?"

No matter what happened, she couldn't lose this baby.

She knew perfectly well that the baby was the only bargaining chip securing her place in the Ward family.

Still, she refused to accept a future where she lost her sight, or worse, spent the rest of her life trapped in a bed, paralyzed and helpless.

After a brief pause, the doctor spoke again, his tone cautious. "There is another option. The surgeon isn't Zero, but he's still among the top neurosurgeons in the field. With his skills, the operation might still succeed."

Hope surged through Violet's chest like a sudden spark. She leaned forward quickly. "Who is it?"

Carefully, the doctor answered, "Dr. Leon Carter. However, he has been practicing overseas for the past several years—"

Light flashed through Carsten's eyes, and he interjected before the doctor could finish, "No, Dr. Carter's already back in the country. I just heard that the Martins flew him in from Meridia a few days ago. In three days, they're even hosting a welcome-back banquet for him."

His gaze drifted down to Violet's rounded belly, the hard edge in his features softening with quiet resolve. Resting a protective hand over it, he said gently, "When the banquet comes around, we'll go together and personally ask Dr. Carter to take your case. Don't be afraid. I won't let anything happen to you or to our baby."

Violet leaned against him, clinging to him with trembling fingers as she said softly, "Carsten, you're the best."

Jenessa released the breath she'd been holding, the tension finally easing from her shoulders.

Still, a trace of irritation crept into her tone as she frowned. "Violet, honestly, have you been taking care of yourself at all? How did you end up with something this serious?"

At the question, Violet's body stiffened. A heartbeat later, thick tears spilled down her cheeks, dropping in frantic, helpless streams.

"I'm so sorry. I truly didn't expect things to spiral like this. When Evelyn pushed me, it felt so light at the time; I honestly thought it was nothing serious. Never in my worst nightmare did I think it would turn into something this dangerous, something that almost took Carsten and me our baby."

Shock flashed across Jenessa's face as she leaned forward. "Wait, what did you just say?" Her tone sharpened instantly, the question snapping through the room like a whip. "Are you telling me Evelyn is the one who caused all of this?"

A sharp shudder ran through Violet. "N-no, I never said that," she stammered, her voice thin and unsteady.

Carsten's expression hardened at once, a dark storm gathering across his features. "Tell me exactly what happened," he said.

Under his relentless questioning Violet shrank in on herself. After several tense moments, she finally began speaking, her voice trembling as though every word cost her strength. "It... it happened about a month ago. Not long after you and Evelyn set the wedding date, she came to see me that day and told me to stay away from you." A shaky breath slipped from her as she lowered her gaze. "She said if I didn't do that, it meant I had no shame, chasing after a man who was already promised to

someone else. I got angry and talked back a little. Then, she suddenly shoved me. I fell straight to the floor, and my head slammed into the sharp corner of the table. The pain was awful; it lingered for days.

She paused for a moment. "But I honestly thought it would fade after a while. I never imagined it could be something serious. How was I supposed to know that a single push from Evelyn would leave me with a brain hemorrhage and nearly cost me our baby? Carsten... I'm terrified now."

Carsten wrapped his arms firmly around her trembling frame, his jaw tightening as a dark look settled over his face.

From the edge of his vision, a passing silhouette by the doorway snagged his attention, one he recognized instantly—Evelyn.

A chill swept across his features, his expression hardening to ice as he released Violet and strode after Evelyn without saying a single word.