



60 Chapter SIXTY

Theme: Forgiveness and Peace 1

WINSLOW, ARIZONA

Driving into her hometown, Winslow Arizona, Ivy Rivera remembered why she had left. Being the subject of rumor was now an old hat to her. She was back into the town that never loved her. And when she had left ten years ago, she had nothing but a few clothes that could be likened as rags. But here she was again, a little touchier, with a son, a man that loved and cherished her so much and with a child growing in her womb.

Ivy Rivera has a life that anyone could wish for. She wasn't the "Rivera girl from the wrong side of the river anymore." She has pushed back her past life and made a decision to forgive her parents. A reason why she was back to her hometown.

The latest model of Limousine pulled a stop in front of old Rivera house. It looked like the house would collapse anytime soon. But it was part of Ivy and Ace plans to rebuild it.?

Emily stood by her mom, the old and wrinkled Mrs Rivera by the window pane. They were patiently waiting for Ivy and her family.?



As the expensive cars passed different areas, people stopped to stare and they wondered who was in the car.

Ivy and her family had dropped by at Golden Hotel to drop off their luggages before heading to the Rivera's home. And it didn't take long for rumors to spread around the town. Those who recognized Ivy knew who she was. Ivy Rivera was only back in town to pay respect to her father's dead body.

Panic set in Mrs Rivera when her eyes fell on Ivy and her family through the window. A child she had once cursed at was now a totally different woman. Elegant, beautiful and happy. Ivy was dressed in the most expensive designers wears. Ace Clark had taken out his time to look for a stylist to dress his wife. He hired two body guards and also purchased the latest car for his wife although she had said it wasn't necessary. He didn't do these things to impress anyone but to make his wife happy.

It was a promise he had made to fulfill the moment Ivy agrees to visit her hometown again.

Some people who were close to the Rivera's home stared, whispered but she didn't care or even acknowledge them. They had whispered about her life for the first eighteen years of her life right up until she had left the town, broke



and alone, for the sake of the unborn child she had carried.

The fact that they started talking about her so readily, even after all this time came as no surprise to her. She might have been back into town for only few hours but Ivy knew how this town worked. Their gossiping skills was on the high side. Some things can never change. But this time there was something good to talk about.

Emily came down from the stairs to welcome them.

"Aunt Emily!" Leroy screamed as he rushed off to embrace her.

Emily spread out her arms with a happy smile on her face to welcome him.

"My....boy..." Emily giggled while Leroy tightened his arms around her.

"I miss you so much....Aunt Emily." Leroy looked up at her.

"I miss you too. And it is good to see you again." Emily hugged him again.

She waited for Ivy and Ace to meet up to their spot and then Leroy withdrew from her.

"Are we late?" Ivy asked.

Emily giggled as she embraced her sister. "You are looking gorgeous!" She complimented.

"Forgive us for turning up late, we had to call at the hotel to drop off our bags." Ace apologized.

"It was worth the wait." Emily replied.

Ivy let go of her sister. Emily went over to greet Ace Clark. "It's alright. Like I said, it was worth the wait. And thanks for convincing her to visit us again." Emily added.

"I am glad that I helped." Ace smiled.

"Aunty Emily where is Grandma?" Leroy asked with excitement on his face.

"Oh she is inside. Grandma is so anxious to see you!" Emily ruffled his hair as they started the walk into the house.

Ace placed his hand around Ivy's shoulder and he gave her a reassuring smile. And a look that says "I will be there with you every step along the way."?

Ivy heartbeat accelerated as she thought of the just one question for her mom, "Why did you treated me like I wasn't your own child?"

And she did got to ask her mom the question, the answer she got was apologizes. Mrs Rivera expressed her regrets for the

ill-treatment towards her daughter. She apologized on behalf of her late husband. And she begged for Ivy's forgiveness.

Ivy couldn't vent out her intended anger because her mother looked too pitiful as she sat on the old couch dressed in an overall black outfit as she cried her eyes out.

Ivy went over to her mother and embrace her with the words, "I have forgiven you and father too."

"I am sorry." Mrs Rivera kept apologizing until Ivy pulled away from her. It was the first time she was hugging her mom.

Mrs Rivera gestured to Leroy to come over to her side. "I am sorry." She apologized.

The only reason she felt guilty seeing Leroy was because she had once asked Ivy to abort the baby. The condition a mother gave her daughter back then if she still wants to stay under the same roof with her family.?

"You still have a chance to redeem yourself for your second grandchild." Ivy smiled at her mom.

Emily eyes widened. "Are you pregnant?!" She gasped out.

Ivy nodded as tears pulled in her eyes. "I am

ten weeks gone." She said.

Immediately Emily's eyes glanced down to Ivy's body. "Wow! This is great news!" She exclaimed.

"I am so happy for you, Ivy." Mrs Rivera held her hands and then kissed Leroy's forehead.?

"Mom, I am not married yet. My fiancé has refused to take me to the altar because of you. He is insisting that you must be present at our wedding." Ivy looked at the man who was always willing to give everything to her.

Mrs Rivera looked at Ace Clark as more tears streamed down her cheeks. "I give you my blessings." She sobbed.

And everyone was happy by the reunion.

Ivy Rivera married Ace Clark in a grand style. And their wedding had been the headlines of all news papers and media houses for several weeks.

"Come on Ace, I am not an old woman. I can walk." Ivy complained as Ace carried her out of the car.

"You are pregnant so I have to be very careful so you or the baby won't get hurt in anyway." Ace replied.



"But the doctor confirmed it that we are both fine." Ivy said with a sigh.

"Stop complaining already mom. You should enjoy it." Leroy added.

"But it will only make me feel lazy." Ivy answered.

"No..no..not in anyways. You still have to do your yoga exercises right?" Leroy asked as they climb the stairs into their new home.?

Ace Clark had purchased it few weeks to the wedding.

"Yes." Ivy answered.

Ace lowered Ivy on the couch, then he kissed her forehead. "Are you okay?" He asked.

Ivy rolled her eyes. "I am fine." She answered.

"Leroy, please get water for your mom." Ace instructed.

"Okay dad." Leroy rushed off to the kitchen.

"Mom suggested that we should consider hiring a maid since you can't do all the chores alone now. And I will get busy with work at the office too." Ace said.

Ivy nodded in agreement. "Alright. But I want someone around the ages forties or fifties."



"Yeah..the offers she got from the agency is within those ages." Ace replied.

Leroy handed his mom a glass of water and she gulped down the whole content.

"Rest here." Ace gestured to her to lean into him.

Ivy came willingly, resting her head in Ace Clark chest as she snuggled right under his arms.

"I want to play some video games!" Leroy announced as he raced off to his room.

"I will join you soon after your mom falls asleep." Ace replied.

"Okay dad!" Leroy responded.

Ace was overwhelmed with emotions. He loved his family so much. And he was determined to fulfill his vow of, "till death do us apart" to his wife, Ivy Rivera. And also be a father to his children.