

## Broken 139

### Chapter 139 Did You Do This?

The drive back home felt easy, quiet, and warm. The sunlight came through the window, and I leaned back in my seat, watching Daniel as he drove. His hands rested calmly on the wheel, his expression was focused but soft. Every now and then, he'd glance at me, and I'd smile, pretending I wasn't already caught staring. We had spent the last few days tucked away from everything—no work, no stress, no interruptions. Just us. It felt like the first real breath of peace we'd had in a long time. I could still feel the calmness from the hotel, the comfort of waking up beside him without anything weighing us down. He noticed me looking again and smirked slightly. "You've been staring for the past ten minutes," he said. "I'm allowed to look at my husband," I said, pretending to sound casual. He chuckled. "You're allowed to do whatever you want, Mrs. Carter." The way he said it made my heart warm. I turned my gaze back to the road, though I couldn't stop smiling. For once, it felt like everything was settling into place like all the chaos that had followed us was finally starting to fade. When we pulled into the driveway of the estate, I saw balloons tied to the gate and ribbons hanging from the porch. For a second, I thought we had the wrong house. Then I noticed the banner that read: "Congratulations Alpha Daniel and Amy" in bold silver letters. Daniel looked confused. "Did you do this?" I laughed. "No, did you?" He shook his head, already stepping out of the car. "This looks like my mother's handiwork." He wasn't wrong. The moment we walked in, Mrs. Carter appeared in the living room with that proud smile she always wore when she was up to something. "There you are!" she said, clapping her hands together. "I was starting to think you two would never come home." Daniel sighed, but he was smiling too. "Mom, what is all this?" She walked over, holding out her arms. "A little celebration, of course. I saw the post. It's about time you did things properly." Then she turned to me and hugged me tightly. "Welcome to the family officially, Amy. I'm so happy to call you my daughter-in-law, in every sense of the word," I hugged her back, feeling a bit emotional despite myself. "Thank you, Mrs. Carter." She pulled back and held my hands. "No, no, call me Mom. You've earned it." I smiled at her, trying not to tear up. "Alright, Mom." Daniel laughed softly beside me. "You've made her day now." Before I could say more, Elias appeared from the corner of the room. He looked perfectly composed as always, his smile polite, his eyes sharp as ever. "Well," he said, walking closer, "this is certainly a surprise. Congratulations, Daniel. And congratulations to you, Amy. Seems you've made quite the impression." "Thank you," I said politely, forcing a small smile. Every instinct in me wanted to look away. I didn't like pretending around him, but it wasn't the time or place to start anything. Daniel shook his uncle's hand. "Appreciate it, Elias."

"I hope you both continue to make this family proud," Elias said, glancing between us. "You've been through a lot, but you seem stronger for it." I nodded, still smiling though my stomach was tight. I didn't believe a word coming out of his mouth, but I kept my tone even. "That's the plan." Mrs. Carter clapped again. "Now, no more business talk. Sit, both of you. I've arranged lunch." Daniel and I followed her toward the dining area. The table was set beautifully with white plates, wine glasses, and a cake in the center with the words, "To New Beginnings" written across it. I looked at her. "You really didn't have to go all out." She shrugged, clearly pleased with herself. "I wanted to. It's not every day my son decides to do things properly." Daniel shook his head with a small laugh. "You'll never let that go, will you?" "Not a chance," she said, taking her seat. For a while, it was easy. We talked, we ate, and the room felt full of warmth. I glanced at Daniel a few times, watching the way he smiled when his mother teased him. For the first time since I joined the family, it truly felt like we were a normal family with no secrets, no tension, no ghosts from the past trying to creep in. But of course, peace never lasted long for us. Just as

Mrs. Carter was pouring herself a glass of wine, the door opened. The sound was soft, but enough to make every head turn. I didn't need to see her face to know who it was. Selene stepped inside, looking flawless as usual—too composed for someone who didn't belong here. Her eyes flicked toward me, then Daniel, then back again. She smiled faintly. "I hope I'm not interrupting," she said. My stomach twisted instantly. I felt my blood boil, and I tightened my grip on the fork I was holding. Daniel stood up, his expression unreadable. "Selene, what are you doing here?" Mrs. Carter looked confused. "Selene?" "Yes," Selene said, her tone calm. "I didn't realize there was a celebration going on. I just came by to drop off some files for Daniel." That was her excuse. Elias cleared his throat and stood up too, his usual polite smile never fading. "I told her she could stop by," he said. "I didn't expect she'd pick this moment." I looked at him sharply, trying not to roll my eyes. Of course, it was Elias. It was always Elias. Mrs. Carter sighed softly but kept her composure. "Well, the timing could have been better, but you're already here. Have a seat." Selene smiled. "Thank you, ma'am, but I won't stay long." Her gaze flicked toward Daniel again, lingering a second too long. I felt the heat of anger rise in my chest, but I forced myself to stay quiet. Losing my temper now would give her exactly what she wanted. Cedella is a passionate storyteller known for her bold romantic and spicy novels that keep readers hooked from the very first chapter. With a flair for crafting emotionally intense plots and unforgettable characters, she blends love, desire, and drama into every story she writes. Cedella's storytelling style is immersive and addictive—perfect for fans of heated romances and heart-pounding twists.