Wife 59

Chapter 59

Bailey cried as she accused Ruby. "Had you not taken him, he

wouldn't have died. I told you not to take him, but you insisted. You took him out and didn't keep an eye on him. He was just three years old, so young and innocent."

Allen silently handed her a box of tissues.

Despite Bailey's fiery temper, she had been very respectful to the elderly. The issues stemmed from Ruby–her theft, compulsive gambling, and neglect of Louie, which led to his tragic death in a well. $\mathbf{w} \mathbf{w} \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbb{N} \otimes \mathbf{v} \mathbf{E} \otimes \mathbf{w} \otimes \mathbf{k} \mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{c}(\circ) \mathbf{m}$

These incidents made it impossible for Bailey and Allen to forgive

Ruby.

Ruby was at a loss for words. $\mathbf{W} w \otimes . \mathcal{N} \mathbf{o} \otimes_e \mathbb{L} \mathbf{w} \mathbf{orm} . \mathbf{c} \circ \mathcal{M}$

As Bailey recounted Ruby's wrongdoings to Mark, it became clear that she and Allen had completely lost faith in Ruby.

After listening to her tearful recount, Mark remained silent for a long

time.

Bailey used countless tissues to regain her composure before telling Mark and Liam, "Mr. Fowler, Uncle Liam, it's not that I don't want to

forgive her for your sake. It's just that I'm completely disheartened and have no desire to deal with her anymore.

"Don't tell me she's old and has a few years left or that we must respect her. She didn't give birth to me or raise me, yet she's done so much harm to me and my family. Why should I support her life now?"

She continued with renewed frustration, "I'm sticking to my words. I won't care for her in life or death! If anyone wants to mediate and thinks we're disrespectful, you can take her back to your home and take care of her."

"I've told everyone who's tried to mediate that I will absolutely not take care of her or support her. But Allen is her son, so I have no objections if he wants to support her life. After all, she's his mother. I've never stopped him from doing his duty as a son."

With a scoff, Bailey said, "She always tells outsiders that I'm cruel and that we don't support her life. Where do you think her food and drink come from? Allen gets them from our supermarket. She's eating what we eat at home. Isn't that taking care of her? $ww.no(v)e\ell worM.(c)$

"And she says not giving her thousands of dollars a month as pocket money is disrespectful. Who the hell has that much money to give every month? No one in the whole town does!"

"Even if the family is well-off, no one would give thousands of dollars a month as pocket money for their parents. Also, parents who care about their children wouldn't ask for so much money. They usually try to save a little from their pensions to help their kids."

Bailey wiped her tears and threw away the tissue. After sipping her coffee, she continued, "She's a gambling addict. No matter how much money we give her, it's never enough. Don't think I don't know that she's now in debt for tens of thousands of dollars!"

"She wanted money from us to pay off her gambling debts. Since I'm in charge of the finances now, she couldn't get any from Allen, so she complained everywhere, calling me cruel and asking Uncle Liam to intervene."

She addressed Liam, "Uncle Liam, you know what kind of person your sister is. I know you have money and used to give her hundreds of dollars at a time. But all that money only fed her gambling addiction. If you hadn't given her money to gamble, Louie wouldn't have died."

The well outside the house had warning measures, but a three—year- old child wouldn't understand such warnings. In the end, it was due to the parents' negligence that Louie fell into the well and drowned.

They couldn't blame that family for digging a well there.

For years, Bailey had held a deep grudge against Ruby. \mathcal{W} ww.nó(v)**EL**w**o**r(m).c $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{O}}$ (m)

Ruby's behavior and the damage to her reputation had only intensified Bailey's resentment. The mother—in–law and daughter—in–law were now

like enemies.

No matter who tried to mediate, Bailey remained resolute in her refusal to care for Ruby. If Allen wanted to do so, it was his own business, Bailey didn't want to be involved.

She had never stopped Allen from taking care of Ruby, but Allen himself had many grievances and frustrations toward her.

When Allen's sister, Sofie Mcleod, came back before, she criticized Bailey and Allen.

Bailey told Sofie to take Ruby in and care for her. Sofie did take Ruby, but within a month, Ruby was sent back. After that, Sofie stopped criticizing Bailey and Allen and instead began to criticize Ruby herself.