

# A Love Forgotten (Arianna and Elijah)

## Chapter 211

### Chapter 211

It was Teri who had the sharp eye, not me. But here she was, giving me all the credit to make me look good in front of Ms. Trenton

Ms. Trenton smiled softly at me and sighed, "People really do change. Honestly, I didn't have the best impression of you three years ago, Ms. York."

I felt a pang of guilt. "Was I arrogant back then? I'm sorry I was"

She shook her head, "No, it wasn't arrogance. It was your reputation. Let's just say it wasn't very positive. Some of our staff felt strongly that someone with your reputation wasn't a suitable sponsor for our brand." It even more embarrassed. "I see."

Ms. Trenton continued, "But another group of employees felt that, since you had the money and were willing to support us financially, we should make the most of the opportunity"

I was even more flustered to think that, three years ago, my reputation was so poor that even a fledgling brand like Silverwood hesitated to take my money.

Teri wanted to say something to defend me, but Ms. Trenton gave her a reassuring nod which held her back

"We decided on very strict terms for the sponsorship," Ms. Trenton explained

"Ms. York had to sponsor our brand showcase for those years without any expectation of returns. Twenty million dollars per year, totaling six million dollars over three years. Only after that would we consider a partnership with her."

(It all made sense now. No wonder the old contract I dug up yesterday was so one-sided. It involved three years of sponsorship with no guarantee of becoming an investor.

Well, that certainly seemed in line with the haughty, entitled heiress I must have been before I lost my memory.

I looked at Ms. Trenton and asked, "do you find me a good fit as an investor for Silverwood now, Ms. Trenton?"

She laughed warmly. "Absolutely. I wouldn't have invited you both up here if I didn't"

Overjoyed, I grabbed her hand, "Thank you! Thank you so much!"

Teri was equally thrilled.

By now, the fashion designs industry in Halton City know about Silverwood's Impressive rise. Investors were practically throwing money at them, desperate to get a foot in the door. So, far Ms. Trenton to offer me a partnership now was nothing short of striking gold "Ms. Trenton, wait!"

An unwelcome voice interrupted us from behind

Dixie, who stood at the door, looked at us with an apologetic look. "I'm sorry, M. Trenton, Mc. Linden insisted on seeing you..."

Ms. Trenton's expression hardened as she asked, "Mr. Linden, «

- Trenton, are you planning to collaborate with Linden Group?

Elijah's gaze swept over Teri and me coldly before he directed his question at As Trenton "Ms. T

Ms. Trenton shook her head "No."

Elijah's gaze sharpened, practically piercing through me as he let out a cold laugh. "Then, Ms. Trenton, are you planing to collaborate with Ms. York?"

Ms. Trenton nodded. "Yes. Is there a problem with that?"

My heart raced

Elijah's one was icy as he replied, "It Ma. Trenton is considering a partnership with Ms. York, it does concern Linden Group. We'll need to discuss this in detail."

Ms. Trenton frowned. "The original sponsorship agreement clearly states that the funding came from Ms. York personally. So, if we were to work together, it would partnership with her "How does Linden Group factor into this?"

Elijah responded confidently, "Because three years ago, Ms. York was my wife-and legally, she still is.

"Any funds she contributed were part of our marital assets, so technically, Linden Group, my wife, and I have jointly sponsored your brand over these three years."

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Upon hearing his words, blood rushed to my head, and a Tamilar wave of dizziness overwhelmed me.

I could barely make out Teti's furious voice "Elijah, do you have any sense? You actually dare to call this marital property? I paid for this sponsorship with my own money! You are beyond shameless!"

The room spun, and I struggled to stay upright.

Weakly, I called out, "Ten, L"

She quickly supported me, guiding me to sit down.

As I steadied myself, I glanced up at Elijah. In my dazed state, I thought I saw a flash of concern in his eyes, though I couldn't be sure,

Ms. Trenton noticed something was wrong and said gently, "Ms. York, don't worry. We can take our time discussing things"

Taking a deep breath. I steadied my emotions and spoke slowly. "Mr. Linden, what exactly do you want?"

He hesitated for a moment, but then the calculating businessman in him resurfaced

"Sherwood is open to accepting Linden Group's investment. I can offer Ms. York a 10% share of her original investment."

As soon as the word left his mouth, Teri jumped to her feet, seething "Elijah, have you go shame at all? 10% is that all you think Ari deserves?"

Elijah's gaze darkened. "Ms. Stuart, this doesn't concern you. If you continue to insult me. I'll call security,"

"Go ahead then! Call them! Let everyone see the kind of man you are!" Teri's voice o

"Three years ago, you were sneaking off to meet that shameless mistress, Jocelyn, overseas. Meanwhile, Ariana was kept in the dark, doing everything she could to support your business. She knew nothing about running a company, so I told her to advertise. She poured her money into it, blindly funding every ad she could

"That's how Silverwood got its first big break-it was part of an over-the-top.citly  
alcampaign she paid for.

She shot him a fierce look, tears glistening in her eyes. "You didn't know any of that, did you? All you saw was a woman who you thought was ackless and rivolous with money. While you www.off with Jocelyn, she was bere, breaking herself for your company!" Teri wiped her tears, her voice trembling with rage. "And now you have the nerve to claim this as marital property? You've here trying to offer her scraps of what she built with her own

I swallowed, tasting something bitter and metallic at the back of my throat. Exhausted, I put an arm around Tei and murmured, "Enough, Teri. Let's just walk away from

Teri wipedher tears away angrily, her face full of frustration. "But this is such a huge opportunity! As long as you become a partner in Silverwood, you've already come out on top!"

I managed a smile. "It's not. Let's consider the money lost and move on. We don't need to waste our energy on people like this."

I glanced at Teri, the tear stains on her face filling me with guilt. "This is my fault. Let's go. We can talla later."

Elijah, who had been stunned into silence by Teri's outburst, quickly stood up as we tuched to leaye

I caught a glimpse of something in his eyes-regret, perhaps, or even sorrow. But I looked away, umilling to face that all-too-familiar mask of his that once held such charm. Now, it only His barely steady voce called after me, "Ari, I didn't know about everything you did..)

I raised my hand to stop him "M. Linden, you're right. Legally, we're still married, so any money I put forward technically belongs to us both.

"Il Siverwood agrees to partner with me, you'd be entitled to at least half of my stake..

up the investment, and the 10% was just because-"

Elijah's face went pale. "That's not what I meant..... Ariana, let me explain. I meant that I would put up

Teuthim ofl. "No need to explain Even if you offered me 100% of the shares. I'm not interested anymore."

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I looked at Ms. Turnton apologetically, "I'm sorry, Ms. Trenton. It seems I'm not in a position to collabonate with your company until I've sorted out my personal burs."

Ms. Trenton sighed, dearly appointed. "There's no need to apologize. We had plamed to expandthis year and allocated shares for potential investors.

Todd not to invest. Ms. York we have to offer the opportunity to someone else.

She added regretfully, "I'm sorry, Ms. York Our plans are already set, and if you miss this chance, it won't come and again.

1dabit smile and nodded. "I understand"

Beside me, Teciwas dearly in tears, tuming. "What a shameless man! You're absolutely shameless!"

1 took her hand, preparing to leave, but Elijah blocked our path, a rare look of hesitation on his face. His bone softened in a way I'd never heard before. "Ari, we can work something out."

"Tjah, whe\_why aren't you done vet?" Jocelyn appeared in the doorway, one hand testing delicately on her belly, her face laced with anxious concern. Eliah's attempt to say something more was abruptly interrupted.

Jocelyn approached Ms. Trenton with a smile, trying to be ingratiating, "MET Trenton, Elijah and 1 are both big fans of your designs. Is there any chance we might work together?"

Mc. Trenton's gaze was e-cold. "Tim sorry, but our company does not collaborate with people of questionable reputation."

Jocelyn's face stiffened, but she quickly covered it with a locoed uille. "Ms. Trenton, I'm a pianist. I could wear your designs to my concerts.

Mu. Trenton gave her a mocking smile. "Ch? That won't be necessary. At Silverwood, we have no plans for a spokesperson."

But even after two rejections, Jocelyn wasn't deterred. Looking at me, she said to Ms. Trenton, "Elijah and I could repay Ms. York's sponsorship money, Ms. Trenton. Then, maybe you could prve set a chance to collaborate?—

Ms. Trenton hesitated. If I didn't proceed with the investment, my initial six-million-dollar sponsorship would essentially be a waste.

Repaying that amount could be tricky-it would feel like Ms. Trenton owed me a favor. But if Elijah were to repay me the money.

I cut in immediately, "Ms. Trenton, there's no need to repay the sponsorship. I don't want their money."

Ms. Trenton was moved "But Ms. York, six million isn't a small amount"

I shook my head. "I absorb that cost myself."

Turning to Elijah, I said coldly, "Mr. Linden, if you consider this sponsorship marital property, then you can claim half of it. I'll pay you your share"

Jocelyn was being thoroughly ignored, and she couldn't hold back "Ms. York, don't be so impulsive. This is a great opportunity. Why not collaborate and let us all benefit?"

I looked her in the eye, speaking each word with precision. "No thank you. I want nothing to do with you or Elijah. I'd rather throw six million into the ocean than use it to partner with Sherwood through any association with you two." Ms. Trenton suddenly clapped her hand, a gleam of admiration in her eyes. "Well said"

She looked at me with newfound respect. "Ms. York, you are indeed unique."

I took Trenton's hand, politely smiling at Ms. Trenton "Ms. Trenton, I apologize for taking up your time."

Ms. Trenton, looking regretful, handed me her business card. "Ms. York, I'd love to be friends even if we aren't business partners. I believe we would get along very well."

I accepted the card, feeling touched, and decided to lighten the mood. "So, does that mean I'll get first dibs on your stunning designs in the future?"

Ms. Trenton laughed heartily "oh, you don't even have to buy them-consider them gifts!"

We both laughed, genuine and unrestrained. Meanwhile, Elijah and Jocelyn's expression grew uglier by the second

Jocelyn kept trying to interject, but Ms. Trenton didn't spare her a single glance. Elijah's usual charm and business acumen were useless here. Ms. Trenton's indifference made him invisible.

Just then, a warm, gentle voice broke through the tension. "What's so funny? Care to let me in on the joke?"

I turned around sharply

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When I saw that gentle, refined face-hurshore like a deity-the food of emotions I'd been holding back suddenly overwhelmedima,

I threw myself into his arms without cuing about the people around us. "Logan!"

Warmth enveloped me, the familiar scent of pine surrounding me, and I couldn't help the tears that sprang to my a

Logan looked down, chuckling softly. "What's wrong? Your eyes are all red, like a little bunny."

Embarrassed, I gave him a light tap and mattered, "Why are you here?"

He studied my face seriously, his fingers grorly brushing my cheek. "I heard someone was trying to bully my silly girl, so I came as quickly as I could"

Awave of warmth washed over me, and I felt dangerously close to tears. He leaned down, his vice soft in my ear. "Don't cry, silly girl."

After speaking, he looked up, his gaze sweeping the coom. His eyes passed over Ma Trenton and Teri before landing on Elijah.

Elijah straightened, a tense look crossing his face. He stepped forward, his tone laced with mockery. "Well, what brings Mr. Woodbere?"

His sharp gaze flicked between Logan and me, lingering on Logan's hand resting on my waist. I could feel Elgah's place, like dappers trying to pierce right through us.

Logan remained calm, his expression unfazed. "Oh? I didn't realize Mr. Linden was here. I thought only select business partners received Invitations, and Linden Group isn't exactly on the guest list

Elijah's face turned a dark red instanton. He hadn't forgotten that he could only attend the event by using my name.

Logan then nodded slightly at Ms. Trenton. "Ms. Trenton, today's brand showcase was a great success."

Ms. Trenton's face up with a beaming smile. Thank you, Mr. Wood Our team will keep striving for excellence."

Everyone in the room, except for Logan and Ms. Trenton, looked utterly shocked.

Ms. Trenton then explained, "Oh, I forgot to mention. Mr. Wood's company has been in a deep partnership with Silverwood for the past three years. In fact, he's out main investor." T was stunned. "What?"

Logan's smile remained gentle. "You flatter me, M. Trenton. I'm sure today's success will attract even more well-suited investors to Silverwood."

Then, he turned to Teri, "Ms. Stuart, I understand you have quite an eye for fashion design. Would you be interested in collaborating with Silverwood?"

Teri looked bewildered. "Ma?I.. what?"

Logan smiled warmly and indulgently. "Since Ms. Stuart is a close friend of Art's, I believe a collaboration with Silverwood could fill in the gap left by Ari's missed opportunity." Everyone around us seemed frozen in shock

As I realized his intention, I felt a surge of joy. His idea was brilliant! Absolutely brilliant!

Logan'sádra was for Terito invest in Silverwood on my behalf. This way, we could scheipep the whole "marital propperly" issue, allowing me to still benefit from Silverwood's growth through

Jell

It was the perfect solution-1 could keep my involvement with Sherwood without losing this valuable opportunity because of Elijah.

Teri still seemed to be processing the idea when Elijah's voice cut through the air, sharp and accusing "Mr. Wood, what are you playing at?"

I squeezed Logan's hand, my heart pounding with nervousness. He gently patted my hand in silent reassurance.

Terring to Elijah with a mocking smile, he replied, "I'm not sure what you mean, Mr. Linden. However, I do recall that when Ms. York sponsored Silverwood three years ago, part of the funding also came from Ms. Ste



"In fact, if memory serves, three million of that six million sponsorship was Ms. Stuart's contribution."

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Elijah was momentarily speechless. "What? You gotta be kidding me!"

Regaining his composure, he exploded with rage. "Logan, what are you playing at?" Logan simply smiled, calm and unbothered. "This is nothing more than the truth"

Elijah's face contorted in anger. "Truth? This is clearly clearly your latest scheme!"

Logan raised an eyebrow, feigning confusion. "A scheme? I just thought of in moments ago-pretty fresh, wouldn't you say?"

Elijah's face darkened further, his usual composure slipping

Jocelyn, watching us with clenched fists, suddenly interjected, "But wasn't the six million transferred directly from Ms. York to Silverwood's account?" Teri shot back. "I loaned that money to Arlana. Do you have a problem with that?"

This left Elijah and Jocelyn momentarily speechless

I felt a surge of satisfaction, though I knew Elijah wouldn't give up so easily.

Sure enough, Elijah's cold gaze landed on me "Fine, Ariana. Let's take this to court and see if your line story holds up. Let's see if the judge believes you."

I returned his glare. "Very well then I'll see you in court. As for the money, Mr. Linden, you might want to focus on your own finances. If I'm not mistaken, Linden Group doesn't have the liquidity for five billion dollars right now. Elijah fell silent. He finally turned to Jocelyn and said, "Let's go."

With a cool tone, Logan said, "Just a word of advice, Mr Linden-a man who wrongs his wife won't see fortune come his way."

Elijah halted in his tracks as if something had struck a chord, and a flicker of guilt

Tossed his eyes.

A pang went through me, a half-forgotten echo of past hurts and regrets. But he left without another word, taking Jocelyn with him. Ms. Trenton looked at Logan and me with a smile. "You two make quite the couple."

Embarrassed, I murmured, "Thank you, Ms Trenton, for standing up for us earlier

She smiled warmly. "Please, just call me Crystal. And Mr. Wood is absolutely right-you need to ensure your assets aren't at risk of division" She shook her head with a sigh. "I heard that Mr. Linden was some kind of business genius. Today, I see he's not all that impressive."

Logan turned to her and said, "Ms. Trenton, allocate my investment share to Ms. Stuart."

Logan shook his head. "Silly girl prime investment opportunities like this don't always come around

I considered his words and nodded. "Alright. Trai and I will discuss it when we're back."

every d

y day."

piece of couture Sikrly to be worth a

The rest of our conversation with Crystal was much more relaxed. She even get exquisite, meticulously crafted, and designed dress-a future piece of fortune in the fashion world After saying goodbye to Crystal and Teri. Logan suggested taking me out for dinn

Just as I was about to get in the car in the parking lot, I saw a car door open from a short distance away. Elijah stepped out and started walking toward me

Instinctively, I pulled back, wanting to get in the car quiddy

Elijah's expression was complicated as he called out, "Ari, can we talk?"

I glanced at Logan, and he stepped out of the car, moving to stand in front of Elijah with a composed expression.

"Mr. Linden, talking after someone isn't very gentlemanly. If you have something to discuss, take it up with her lawyer."

Elijah shot him a cold look "And trying to steal someone's wife is hardly the act of a gentleman either."

A vein in Elijah's neck throbbed, his frustration turning into anger. "Logan, have ever wronged you? Why are you so intent on getting in my way?"

Logan's smile was faint, almost taunting. "Well, that was because you never appreciated her "

Logan shook his head, his tone dismissive. "You've done nothing to me. I just don't like you, that's all."

Elijah was at a loss for words

I was stunned after hearing their exchange. Afraid things might spiral out of control after Logan's words for him, I quickly ushered Logan back into the car.

If they kept talking, a fight would break out-and I had a feeling Elijah wouldn't stand a chance against Logan

I turned to Elijah. "What do you want to talk about?"

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Elijah glared at me darkly. "Ariana, didn't you once say you loved me? But now, you've already moved on? Or was there something going on between you and Mr. Wood all along. Without thinking. I raised my hand to slap him. He caught my wrist mid-air, smacking

"Did strike a nerve

I laughed hysterically should have let Logan handle this. If he were here, he'd be the one slapping you!

He let go of my hand, his face key. "Let's skip the drama Arias, dragging this out in court is just a public spectacle. We were married for five years-I don't want it to end in a circus." So, did this mean he wanted a settlement?

allowed my anger and asked, "What's your proposal?"

Elijah hesitated, his gaze conflicted. "I'll give back everything that's yours. Just give me some time."

I was taken aback. I hadn't expected Elijah, who was usually so unyielding, to offer a clean split.

After a moment of silence, I replied, "Wight How much time do you need?"

He tugged at his tie, visibly agitated. "I don't know. I'll need the accountants to figure it out... Ariana, I just wasn't prepared."

His final words were said with a surprising sense of resignation.

A pang of something flickered in my heart.

I looked at him closely. His eyes were bloodshot, and there were faint shadows under them. He didn't look like he'd been doing well. The thought struck me, and surprisingly, I felt a winge of pity. Noticing my silence, he lowered his voice. "Ariana, I really wasn't ready

"What are you not ready for?" asked

eyes reddened further, and he quickly looked down, hiding his expression. "I'm just not ready to lose you,"

He turned away, pulling out a cigarette and tumbling with his lighter, but he couldn't get it to light. After several failed attempts, he threw the cigarette to the ground and crushed it under

Taking a deep breath, he looked straight at me. "Let's settle this amicably. I'll do my best to return what's yours.. just spare me some time."

For a moment, I didn't know what to say. This was the first time since my memory loss that I'd seen Elijah lower his pride and ask me for time and space.

We stood in silence, countless emotions running through my mind Finally, I nodded

"I'll discuss it with Mr. Webb. He'll be in touch,"

Elijah didn't look relieved. If anything, he seemed more conflicted. He hesitated a

moment, "Is there anything else? If not..

After a long pause, he asked quietly, "Does he... treat you well?"

I blinked, not sure I'd heard him right. "What did you say?"

He seemed to have something more to say.

His gaze shifted toward Logan's cat in the distance, and he repeated, "Does he treat you well?"

Slowly, I nodded. "Yeah. He treats me really well!

A strange expression ticked across Elijah's face, something between a smile and a grimace. His eyes held an intensity that made my heartache unexpectedly.

He whispered, "AL. I'm sorry about Jocelyn"

I took a steadying breath "Elijah, don't. Please, just stop bringing this up"

However, he continued stubbornly, "I should have ended things with her from the start. It was my fault... I was too arrogant... I thought you'd never leave. I thought crossing that line didn't. My eyes filled with tears. I didn't know why, but I suddenly felt the urge to cry.

He went on, "I heard what Teri said today. I knew back then that you loved me deeply and did so much for me..

I raised my hand, stopping him. "Enough, Elijah. It doesn't matter anymore. It's all over now!

I turned to leave, but he reached out as if to grab me, then let his hand fall, defeated. "It doesn't matter. I just... I just wanted to say I'm sorry. I have to take responsibility for

So that was it. I let out a soft, bitter laugh

Chatter

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Elijah looked at me, confusion in his eyes.

I took a deep breath and said, "Elijah, stop. I know why you're apologizing-you're just trying to keep this sprint because of Jocelyn's child, right?

I quickly added before he could reply. "Enough, Goodbye, Mr. Linden "

Without another glance back, I turned and got into the car

Logan noticed my expression and asked, "What did he say

I tried to steady my emotions. He wants a settlement out of court."

Legan looked at Elijah's figure standing alone, his face tinged with sadness. Then, he turned back to me. "Are you okay?"

I shook my head, feeling numb. Tem"

Logan paused for a moment and handed me a tissue. "Just let it out if you're upset

I looked at him, my eyes dry. "I can't cry, but why does it still hurt so much?"

Logan's gaze shifted slightly is it because Elijah chose to settle for the sake of Jocelyn's child?"

I let out a bitter laugh. "I feel sad, but I've lost my memory, so it's not because of him. I think it's because I've realized I was always the one who tried

"No matter what I did for him, no matter how much I gave up. I was always the one left behind."

Logan's eyes held a deep empathy, and then, in one smooth motion, he pulled me into his arms. The warmth of his embrace and his familiar scent soothed my ache, melting away lingering sorrow. I heard his soft voice above me, "Silly girl This won't happen again."

I looked up at him, my voice still a bit thick, "Really?"

"Yeah," he said with a gentle smile

"How can you guarantee that?" I stubbornly pressed on

He thought for a moment and suddenly lowered his head, capturing my lips in a deep kiss. "This is my guarantee," he murmured pulling me deeper into his warmth. "Is that promise enough?"

and before I knew it, I was completely lost in the overwhelming tenderness he wrapped me in

Elijah walked back to his car slowly, his heart heavy as he opened the door and sank into the driver's seat

"Elijah, what did Ms. York say? Jocelyn asked from the passenger seat, her voice tight, "Udala agree?" Elijah rubbed his face, his tone flat. "Yeah She did."

Jocelyn let out a sigh of relief "That's good Taking this too wouldn't be good for us, especially with the company's reputation on the line. "You have those upcoming bids to think about. If our competitors find out about any financial issues, we could lose everything -" She went on, rambling about the risks and consequences, but Elijah's

mind drifted, his gaze settling on a small charm hanging from his rearview mirror. Reaching up, he carefully took it down, his fingers running over the red string tied into a heart-shaped knot.

A small piece of yellow paper. Faded red markings were still visible on the paper, adding a touch of mystery to the design.

A layer of dust had gathered on it, a clear sign it had been there quite a while. His mind slipped into memories, each one sharper than the last,

The charm was a token of protection, something I had gone out of my way to get for him after the Eiden Group's financial crisis was solved.

I had listened to someone's advice and traveled to a secluded retreat corner in the middle of nowhere. I spent an entire month there, participating in mindfulness workshops and writing daily affirmations, just to love a spiritual coach personally less the charm for his safety. He never would've guessed that a woman so used to luxury could give it all up: no phone, no TV—and spend a month living on nothing but simple meals in the countryside.

He had meditated and sought guidance from every possible source, all for his well-being, and all Elijah did during that time was mock me for being superstitious, laughing at my efforts, and calling the complete waste of time.

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But what was it that I used to say?

Elijah clenched the charm tightly, a flash of pain in his eyes.

Elijah, can't do much to help keep this charm, okay?

They

a

the spiritual coach who blessed it is incredibly wise. A charm like this shouldn't be thrown away.

-""Elijah, I don't wish tax you to be wealthy or powerful. All I want is for you testay safe, that's all"

He could still picture me holding the charm, my smile so bright and innocent, as if the world were simple and pure.

The charm dug into his palm, and he opened his hand only to close it again, denching the symbol of my unwavering devotion

Jocelyn, who had been rambling on, finally noticed his silence. She glanced at the charm in his hand and scottled. "What is that? It looks so tacky"

She reached out, trying to take it, but Lijah slipped it into his suit pocket without a second thought

Sensing his resistance, Jocelyn's expression turned cold "Did she give that to you?"

Elijah started the car, his expression unchanging. "No. It's a charm I got from a spiritual coach myself" -

Satisfied, she relaxed. "Oh Well, then you should keep it, I suppose. But it looks so dusty. Let me get you a new one for the car." Elijah shook his head. "It's okay."

ed her to extend the timeline as much as possible.

Undeterred, she returned to her earlier topic "Anyway, Elijah, if she agrees to settle out of court, make sure to be pleasant. We need "And as for the so million dollars, there's no reason to give her the whole amount have the accountant fudge the numbers a bit."

"Enough" Elijah's voice thundered through the car as he slammed his foot on the gas

Jocelyn flinched her age pale with sho

"Elijah, what's wrong with you the stammered, her voice laced with tears. "You scared...

lme... I'm carrying our child."

Elijah's eyes bored into her. To, if it weren't for this child, do you think I would even consider divorcing Ari?":

Stunned.] ocelyn's face twisted with a "What? Are you saying you don't even want to leave that birch ana? What could you possibly see in bech

"She's just a spoiled, willful woman, and you're still thinking about her? Hur voice rose to a shrill pitch. "Elijah, are you blind? Don't you see that Ariana has already moved on?"



She's daring ed, no a thousand times wealthier than you. What makes you think you can compete with him?"

Her shrill accusations echoed through the car, her voice reaching a feverish pitch."

Chjah, Finally reaching his breaking point, slapped her across the face

Jocelyn sat there, stunned. "How dare you hit me?"

Elijah let out a cold laugh. "Deep the act. I told you a long t

g time ago not to mess with and me, but you kept going after her over and over. Don't think I'm clueless. If it weren't to the child, I wouldn't even be dealing with you." Jocelyn's expression morphed into sun

sinister as she let out a dark, twisted laugh

knew all along

"But do you know why she's leaving you now? It's because, even knowing everything, you chose to stand by and do nothing You never truly stood up for her."

Pointing a finger at him, she laughed in a way that sent chills down his spine.

For the sake of the chap" She seed. "Ariana probably still doesn't know that you've been secretly giving her birth control pills all this time. I doubt you ever intended to have a child with her, did you? "Oh, I sometimes wonder if you two even slept together."

Her laughter cur through him like a knife, driving home every

ry bitter t

With a deathly calm, he said, "If you don't want to die, shut your mouth."

uth. Although his face was like stone, tage simmering beneath the surface.

Jocelyn recoiled from the look in his eyes, her strug expression replaced by a flicker of fear.

Elijah's face was impassive as he gripped the steering wheel, pressing down on the accelerator, the cat

the cat teasing through the night.

water wash away the tension in my muscles and the exhaustion on the day.

Back at home, I submerged myself in the warmth of the bath, letting the hot water wash an

Everything else the fashion show, Elijah, Jocelyn, the potential settlement-faded away. For now, I just wanted a musent ul prate. A moment to simply be alone.

## Chapter 219

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The warmth of the water Bowed around me, a gentle full that pulled me toward sleep.

"Ari, hurry up! I heard the popular guy is here

locked up, and everything around me was blurry and surreal. Where wall?

Ten's face appeared before me, hit with excitement. "Come and We'll miss him if we're late! They're short on helpers for the event, so he's lending a hand Come on, everyone's going to see him

She reached out to pull me along "No I don't want to go"

Tergave me a puzzled look. "Why not? it's Elijah! He's the most popular guy on campus, and his family's loaded."

Something lodged in my throat, words refusing to come out ignoring my hesitation, she grabbed my hand and palled me forward, weaving through the crowd

Finally, we reached the small theater where rehearsals were taking place. I looked around in a daze, the sea of people unfamillur.

Ten, let's leave. I'm not interested to see him."

I heard myself speak, my voice distant. But Teri didn't seem to hear me. Her gaze swept the room until she gasped and pointed excitedly.

"Look, there he is Elijah do on, Ari look"

She gave me push, and stumbled, my gaze lining

There by the plane, stood a young man dressed in white, bead bowed as he read from a script. The stage light cast a soft glow acrou his figure.

My heart skipped a beat, then a wave of terror swept over me, sallocating me. Even from this distance, Elijah seemed to sense my gaze and looked up

rose. The young Elijah-this one look at him something deep in my mind screamed, desperate to break free

He began to walk timed me, each step slow and deliberate, his sharp gare framed by his straight, blade-like brows Fea overlock me, and I backed away. "No. 1 don't want to know you Elijah, 'on't want to remember.. Stay away.." He stopped before me, his intense gaze bolding me in place. Slowly, he extended his hand. "Ari\_"

"No!" I jolted awake, gasping, my body trembling

Thank good

was a dream just a dream. My breaths came in ragged pants as I tried to calm myself, still shaken. I only realized then that I was lying in bed, not in the bathrub How did I end up here! lost in the bathtub.."

From the other room, I could bear Dora's anxious voice. "It's a good thing I forget my wallet and returned, or I would've never found Ms. York passed out in the ba Logan's voice, calm and reassuring, replied, "Don't worry, Loca Ariana will be Jiu. take said we caught it in time, and she'll be alright."

Loca's voice quivered with guilt. "I wish I'd come back sooner. Ms. York Is such a kind person I couldn't wait it something happened to her." Logan murmured a few more soothing words.

Ishifted slightly, wincing at the raw ache in my throat. Then, I started coughing, the sqund alerting Logan and Dr. Drake, who came in immediately. Upon seeing Logan, I instinctively reached out my hand. "Logan, what happened to me!

Logan immediately grabbed my hand. "You're fine. Dr. Drake said you just passed out and swallowed some water."

I turned to Dr. Drake. "Dr. Drake, I don't even know why I suddenly fell asleep in the bathtub"

Dr. Drake adjusted his glasses, a complicated look crossing his face. "Mu York, did anything happen today that might have disturbed you?"

I thought about it and shook my head. "No Moching

Dr. Drake exchanged a glance with Logan, who just gave a slight shake of his head.

Dr. Drake turned back to me, his voice reassuring "it's possible that the hot water was simply too hot, causing increased blood flow, which may have briefly deprived your brain of oxygen and led to fainting"

## Chapter 220

### Chapter 220

cellet

I let out a sigh of relief "Well, that's a rebel I guess I'll stay away from baths for a while. Who knew a relaxing soak could almost be the end of me?"

Tried to make light of it, but Logan and Dr. Drake remained serious.

Forcing a smile, I added, "And please don't tell Jonathan"

Dr. Drake exchanged a look with Logan and said, "I've done a full check-up. Ms. York is fine, but be mindful not to catch a cold."

Logan walked Dr. Drake to the door, and when he returned, he found me sitting up against the headboard, lost in thought.

He sat on the edge of the bed, the mattress dipping slightly. "Ari, what's wrong?"

I looked down, my voice quiet. "Logan, I dreamed about Elijah."

He let out a quiet breath, visibly relieved. "That's perfectly normal. I thought.."

I shook my head, a hint of fear creeping into my voice. "But I've never dreamed of him since my memory loss. And this time... I saw him as he was when we first met."

I could feel the anxiety building up as I continued, "I shouldn't remember him like that, not when I can't remember anything else."

Logan took my hand gently, his voice steady and calming. "Ari, memory flashbacks happen, especially after a day like today"

Unable to contain my emotions, I buried my face in his chest and began to cry. "I don't want to remember the past. I don't want any of it back. I'd rather just stay like this forever, not remembering anything" Logan held me close, letting me pour out my fears.

After a while, my tears finally subsided, and he took a tissue, tenderly wiping away the

he remnants of my tears.

His eyes softened with warmth and affection. "You silly girl, crying yourself dry and still sniffing like this."

My voice was rough and tired as I looked at him. "But I'm so scared.."

He asked softly, "What are you afraid of?"

I hesitated, looking down. Logan seemed to understand. He left the room briefly, returning with a glass of warm water and a small plate of Loca's homemade pastries.

"Here," he said, handing me the glass. "Drink some water, have a bite to eat, and get some rest. By tomorrow, none of this will feel as heavy!"

I tugged at his sleeve, my voice barely a whisper. "The doctors said my memory loss is only temporary Logan, what if one day I remember everything, and..." I trailed off, unable to finish. Logan's gaze softened, a trace of sadness flickering behind his usual calm. "Ari," he murmured, "are you afraid you'll remember how much you loved Elijah?"

My heart clenched, and I nodded slightly. He sighed, his fingers brushing over my hand with gentle care.

My voice trembled as I looked up at him. "I'm afraid. I'll remember everything I felt for him and then... forget all the good you've done for me."

He seemed caught off guard for a moment, his expression softening in a way I had seen before. With a gentle smile, he whispered, "You really are...."

But before he could finish, I wrapped my arms around him, burying my face against his chest. "I don't want to forget you."

The room was so quiet that I could hear the steady beat of his heart, each thump a calming reassurance.

After a long silence, Logan gently eased me back, his smile gentle yet determined. "You won't forget me. After all, I'm quite unforgettable."

He used me with a playful touch. "Now, have a bite, take your medicine, and get some sleep. How about that?"

I glanced at him, hopeful. "Will you stay until I fall asleep?"

He chuckled softly. "Do you want me

to stay?"

My cheeks Blushed as I mumbled, "Yes"

Without a word. Logan stood and began unbuttoning his shirt, revealing a toned, well-defined physique that I couldn't help but admire. Those damn glasses, that damn shirt, and those damn muscles. How could they so effortlessly catch my attention?

Logan walked into the closet after taking off his shirt, and before long, he came back out wearing a set of pajamas.