

## Chapter 119 You Will Never Divorce Me!

Oh my goodness! Do things really have to be this absolute?

Isabel understood that the issue at hand wouldn't be solved so quickly.

Thinking this through, she turned to glance at Xander.

His face held a dark expression, and his thin lips were pressed firmly into a straight, tense line.

Even though Xander remained silent, Isabel could sense his emotions.

She drew a deep breath, her gaze locking suddenly with Ivana's.

"Are you trying to drive your own son to his limits? He's barely in his twenties and has carried every burden alone, fighting with his uncles to defend you, and vying for the Bennetts' head family position. Has he ever voiced a single complaint? Just because he remains silent, does that mean he isn't struggling?"

Xander's icy expression softened briefly, a flicker of distraction crossing his eyes as he looked at Isabel, followed by an unexplainable wave of emotion.

Ivana frowned, glancing at Xander. She had raised him herself and knew his personality well—strong-willed and unyielding, never one to share his troubles with others.

Now, however, her son was plagued by severe insomnia, brought on by the relentless stress and countless sleepless nights he endured during that time.

Noticing the shift in Ivana's expression, Isabel realized her words were making an impact, so she pressed on firmly.

"He may not say much, but if you were willing to imagine yourself in his place, you'd understand just how challenging it really is!

"You're forcing him to choose between his wife and his own mother—can you imagine how hard that would be for any man?"

"I mean, just tell me, how is he supposed to decide? If he chooses you, he'll feel useless, like he couldn't even protect his own wife.

"But if he chooses me, then he's seen as unfilial!"

Her words left Ivana speechless, unable to utter a single word in response. As she looked at Xander, a hint of guilt crept into her gaze.

Moments before, she had reacted purely out of fear, worried Isabel might harm her son.

The restaurant was silent enough that even the tiniest sound would have been noticeable.

Rachel thought about stepping in, but after hearing Isabel's words, she felt at a loss for anything to say that might make Isabel leave.

Isabel glanced around, deciding it was time to make her final move.

Retreat as a form of advance.

She gently pulled her hand from Xander's firm grip, gazing at him with a look of sorrow.

"Now that things have reached this point, I don't want to make things harder for you. After all, she's your mother, and I can't tear apart that bond just to be your temporary wife. Let's proceed with the divorce."

Xander narrowed his deep, ocean-like eyes, replying resolutely, "That's not going to happen."

"But ... " Isabel's response was cut off by his firm tone.

"I told you, it's not happening! You'll never divorce me, not in this lifetime!"

With that, Xander seized Isabel's hand again, gripping it tightly, before shifting his gaze to Ivana.

"I only want her."

As Xander said this, his icy glare sent a clear warning to Rachel.

What Isabel suspected, Xander had also figured out.

Today's scene was likely orchestrated by Rachel herself.

The look of contempt he gave her felt like a thousand arrows piercing her heart, filling her with heartbreak, jealousy, and anger.

Ivana frowned, fully aware of her son's stubbornness. Once he made a decision, changing his mind was nearly impossible.

Rachel was right. Isabel wasn't as simple as she appeared. Even though she'd been at a disadvantage moments ago, she managed to reverse the situation.

However, her reply was logical, and there was indeed no concrete proof to back up her claim.

In this tense moment, Samuel approached Ivana and whispered something only the two of them could hear.

Ivana's eyes widened suddenly as she looked at Isabel with a mixture of disbelief before her expression settled into calmness.

"Let's just sit and eat," she sighed.

Ivana's abrupt shift in demeanor left Isabel and the others a bit confused. However, one thing was clear: the issue was settled.

After dinner, as soon as Isabel got into the car, she asked Samuel, "What did you tell your mom? Why did her attitude shift so much?"

Samuel exchanged a quick look with Xander and replied with just three words, "It's a secret."

"You're not going to tell me?" Isabel pushed.

"I already said, it's a secret," Samuel repeated firmly.

Noticing Samuel's reluctance to say more, Isabel understood there was no point in pressing further. Yet, her curiosity remained strong.

They had just been in a tense confrontation, and somehow, with a few quiet words to Ivana, Samuel had managed to defuse everything.

What exactly had he whispered to her?

Rachel shared this curiosity, asking Ivana, "Ivana, what did Sam tell you?"

Earlier, Rachel had stirred things up with Ivana before the others arrived, but Samuel had effortlessly calmed the situation with his brief remark. Now, Rachel was left feeling both frustrated and intrigued.

Ivana sighed, "Trust me, it's best if you don't know. I'm afraid it would break your heart."

The more she spoke this way, the more Rachel's curiosity grew.

"Ivana, please, just tell me," Rachel insisted.

Ivana gently patted Rachel's hand, saying, "You know how Xan has serious insomnia. Sam mentioned that every night, Xan goes to Isabel's room, and just by hugging her, he's able to fall asleep easily."

Rachel's eyes widened in shock!

It was unbelievable! It stirred jealousy! It sparked anger!

Rachel could hardly believe that Xander was spending every night with Isabel.

Sure, it seemed like a solution to his insomnia, but they were both adults, alone together, and it was inevitable that emotions would deepen.

They must have crossed that line by now.

No, I couldn't just sit by and do nothing!

If things continued like this, one day Isabel might even have Xander's child, securing her place as the Bennetts' future madam.

I needed to come up with a plan—and fast!

I know what to do! If I can't go after Isabel herself, I'll focus on the people closest to her.

From her investigation, Rachel had learned that Isabel's brother, Reggie Zimmerman, was very protective of her, and she also had a close friend she trusted deeply.

With a sly smile, Rachel thought to herself. No need to hurry—I'll handle them, one by one.

Back at the villa, Isabel took a bath, replaying the events from the Bennett residence in her mind.

Even though Isabel wasn't sure what Samuel had told Ivana, she sensed it was only a short-term fix. Ivana could very well change her mind in the coming days and demand that Xander divorce her.

Therefore ...

"I have to act quickly!"

Before any divorce could happen, she needed to locate the emerald guardian angel pendant.

Originally, she had planned to search for the pendant in the Bennett residence, but unexpected events disrupted her plan. Nonetheless, the visit wasn't a waste, as it allowed her to get familiar with the layout.

The following day, Isabel told Xander that she would be staying in Lilac Heights, planning to use this as a cover to sneak back into the Bennett residence.

The following day ...

As planned, Isabel managed to enter the Bennett residence around one in the morning.

This was surprisingly easy, as the security there wasn't nearly as intense as at the Bennett villa.

The security at the Bennett villa was ridiculously high. If it hadn't been, she wouldn't have ended up with their marriage certificate in the first place.

After looking everywhere, she still couldn't locate the emerald guardian angel pendant.

Suddenly, her phone buzzed.

Isabel had received a message from Ashley Stoll.

"Boss, based on trustworthy sources, the item you're after is in the Bennetts' villa."

It appeared she'd need to find a way to inspect Xander's room carefully.

Two days later, Isabel at last saw her opportunity.

Xander had a significant dinner event, and afterward, he and several executives planned to go out for some fun, meaning he wouldn't be returning that night.

Once Samuel was asleep, Isabel stealthily entered Xander's room.

From her deductions, she believed that there had to be a secret compartment in his room.

Relying on her prior experience, Isabel examined each likely spot and eventually uncovered a hidden safe behind the wardrobe.

The wardrobe was quite heavy, and Isabel had to put in a lot of effort to push it aside, exposing the safe.

The safe needed both a code and a key to unlock.

For Isabel, handling the lock was easy.

She took out a ready-made wire hook, slid it into the keyhole, and after three minutes, heard a click.

All that remained was the code.

Trying each combination individually would take far too long.

Isabel initially attempted Xander's birthdate, but it didn't work.

Next, she tried Samuel's birthday but still had no luck.

After several minutes of testing every significant date she could think of for Xander, the safe remained locked.

"Could it actually not be my own birthday?" she wondered aloud.