Swapping a Broken Heart for a New Start

Chapter 13

When Camila Davis got home from work, her mind was still spinning with questions. But after a while, she managed to calm herself down.

Whatever it was, she told herself it didn't matter anymore. Soon, none of this would be important...

Shaking off those thoughts, Camila went to look for Lillian.

Her little girl was in the playroom, carefully rebuilding the LEGO castle that Sandra Taylor's son had knocked to pieces a few days ago.

The nanny was sitting nearby, keeping an eye on her.

Camila walked over and knelt down to help Lillian with the blocks.

At Smith Enterprises...

After Camila left, Sandra Taylor took over her responsibilities.

She'd been looking forward to this—ever since Camila's resignation, Sandra had been eager to prove herself, to finally show everyone what she was made of.

But as soon as she started, she realized things weren't as simple as she'd hoped. The handover had been sloppy, and she couldn't get access to all the files she needed. Several computer permissions were locked, and she kept running into roadblocks.

Sandra's face tightened as she remembered Camila trying to say something to her before leaving—something Sandra had waved off.

No way would she admit any of this was her own fault.

After a moment, Sandra smoothed her expression, stepped into the elevator, and rode up to the executive floor.

At the top, the assistant buzzed Jordan Smith's office.

"Send her in," came the reply almost immediately.

Sandra stepped inside, putting on her softest voice, "Jordan."

Jordan set aside the papers in his hands, looking at her with an uncharacteristic gentleness. “What brings you here? Weren’t you in the middle of the handover? How’s it going?”

She hesitated, eyes downcast, as if unsure whether to continue. “It’s... mostly done, but...”

Jordan’s brow furrowed. “But what? Did Camila Davis give you a hard time?”

Sandra bit her lip and shook her head. “Not exactly... I think maybe she was just upset, and because of that, there were some gaps in the handover. I can’t access a lot of the permissions—I can’t really do my job right now.”

Jordan’s eyes darkened. He stood up, voice low. “Is she still in the office?”

Sandra shook her head quickly. “No, she’s already left.”

She rushed to put on an understanding smile. “Jordan, don’t be mad at her. I’m sure Camila didn’t do it on purpose. It’s my fault for not catching it sooner. If I’d been more careful, this wouldn’t have happened...”

Jordan cut her off, his expression hard. “Don’t cover for her. This isn’t your fault. Camila Davis must’ve done this deliberately. Sandra, I’ll take care of it. Go back to your office and wait for my update.”

With that, Jordan grabbed his coat and left the office.

Sandra watched his tall figure disappear down the hallway, a sly smile curling at the corners of her lips.

Back at home, Camila spent over an hour with Lillian, helping her finish building a miniature castle.

Before she knew it, it was lunchtime. Not wanting her daughter to get hungry, Camila scooped up Lillian, and they headed downstairs to the kitchen for sandwiches and apple slices.

Lillian was in high spirits, swinging Camila’s hand as they walked.

Camila looked down at her, a loving smile softening her face. “You did an amazing job, Lillian! You finished the castle way faster than Mommy could have.”

The little girl beamed, her blue eyes sparkling with pride, her lips pressed together in a shy smile.

Camila felt her heart lighten. She'd noticed that whenever Lillian accomplished something challenging, or discovered something she loved, her emotions became animated and bright.

For Camila, that was the best news she'd had in a long time.