

THE DIVORCE PRESCRIPTION

Chapter 1026

Rebecca glanced at Hailey, trying to play on her sympathy.

"Am I causing trouble for you two? It's fine, I can make my way home on my own."

While anyone else would have offered her a ride, Hailey casually replied, "Since you're good on your own, just take a cab. See you tomorrow."

She then turned to Jonah and added, "Let's go."

With that, the two of them walked off.

Rebecca stood frozen, unable to believe that Hailey and Jonah had just abandoned her like that.

Her anger flared, and she stomped her foot against the ground.

It looked like she had no choice but to pull out her secret weapon.

Rebecca quickly dialed a number. "Can you track down two people for me? I'll make sure you're compensated."

Her gaze hardened as she watched Hailey leave. She would never allow Hailey to be happy. If she couldn't find peace, neither would anyone else.

Jonah's striking face flashed in her mind. The more unattainable something was, the more it drew her in.

Jonah had become her obsession. She swore she would make him hers, no matter the cost.

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Soon, Hailey and Jonah were in the luxury car. Jonah took the wheel, while Hailey settled into the passenger seat.

She glanced at him. "Mr. Pilsner, you seem to have a real dislike for Rebecca." "Do I?" he asked in return.

"There was nothing pressing at the office, yet you turned down giving Rebecca a ride. Usually, you're a total gentleman to women, but with her, it's like a different side of you comes out."

After all, Rebecca was Hailey's classmate. Jonah had always been respectful to her friends, but this was the first time he'd acted so distant.

Jonah's lips curved into a slight smile. "Well, why didn't you just speak up and ask me to give her a ride?"

Hailey held his hand. "Because you're my fiance, Mr. Pilsner. I'll always trust you to take the lead when we're together."

Her dutiful expression was enough to make Jonah chuckle. "You're the best, honey." "Mr. Pilsner, why don't you like Rebecca?" Hailey asked.

"Well, I'm not exactly close with her. Do you want me getting too comfortable with another woman? A man has to know where to draw the line."

As a man, Jonah could easily pick
up on Rebecca's attempts to get closer it
to him was obvious
she

harbored feelings for him and was trying to flirt.

He didn't need a second thought to recognize her intentions.

But with Hailey pregnant, Jonah kept quiet about it. He didn't want to stir up unnecessary tension or make Hailey worry about Rebecca's behavior.

Hailey frowned. "I feel like I've seen Rebecca somewhere before, but I can't quite put my finger on it."

Despite running through every possibility in her mind Hailey couldn't recall where she had seen,
about her that felt strangely familiar.

a. Still, there was something

"Alright, honey, don't waste your time or energy on people who don't deserve it. What are you in the mood for tonight?"

"Fried chicken wings," Hailey answered.

"Perfect. Let's swing by the supermarket. I'll cook them for you when we get back."

Hailey rested her head on Jonah's shoulder. Moments like these felt like pure happiness.

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The next day, Hailey arrived at Aspenfield University. The moment she set foot on campus, Olivia rushed over, panic written all over her face.

"Hailey, something's happened! It's awful!"

Hailey felt her stomach drop. "Olivia, slow down. What's going on? Talk to me."

Olivia could barely catch her breath. "Rebecca's in serious trouble! Come on, we have to go!"

What in the world was going on?

"Let's move!" Hailey said.

As the two of them burst into the classroom, they were met with utter chaos. A crowd of students had gathered.

At the center, a burly man was forcefully pulling at Rebecca, his voice loud and furious. "Rebecca, 'm your father! Stop wasting yourtime at this pathetic university and come home with me!"

Chapter 1027

Daniel Torres, in his 50s, was the actor Rebecca had hired to take on the part of her abusive, gambling-addicted father.

Her hair hung in messy strands, and her clothes were being yanked violently.

"Dad, please, let go of me! I just want to stay and finish my studies! I can't let you ruin my life!" she pleaded, her voice trembling with desperation.

"Why would a woman need to be educated?" he barked. "The only thing you're good for is getting married and having children."

Rebecca's face was a mask of fear. "Dad, what do you want from me? Are you going to set me up with more of your shady friends? Just like you, they're all either gamblers or thugs. I don't want anything to do with them!"

Daniel chuckled coldly. "There's a man who's willing to pay me 300 thousand bucks for you. That's more money than most people see in a lifetime. You'd better hurry up and come home!

"After marriage, your job is to take care of your husband, have a couple of kids, and send money back to me regularly. That's just how things go.

"Looks like I didn't raise you for nothing. Once you're out of my hands, I won't have to worry about anything!"

Tears streamed down Rebecca's face. "No, Dad! I won't do it! I refuse to get married! Don't you see I'm a person too? I'm your daughter, not your cash machine!"

"Shut up! Get over here right now, or I'll make you regret it!" Daniel barked.

The students around them were livid. One by one, they stepped forward to block him. "Hey! Even if you're her father, you can't treat her like this! Step away now, or we'll call the police!"

Daniel sneered confidently. "Call the police if you want. I'm Rebecca's father. This is a family issue. The cops have no say in it!"

Olivia's face flushed with anger. "How can you call yourself human? You're nothing but a thug and a scoundrel!"

Daniel remained unfazed. "I brought Rebecca into this world. It's her responsibility to take care of me!"

Rebecca appeared terrified on the outside, but inside, she was thrilled. Daniel's act was flawless, and he could easily win an award for it.

Her gaze darted to Hailey, who stood silently with Olivia in the crowd.

Rebecca pinched herself hard, forcing the tears to stream down her cheeks. "Dad, please, let me go!"

Without warning, Daniel slapped her across the face. "Come home with me right now, or I'll punish you until you wish you were dead!"

The slap landed with a heavy thud, making the crowd gasp in shock. Hailey stepped forward, her brow furrowed.

"That's enough! The law applies here like it does everywhere else. Leave at once!"

Rebecca ran to Hailey's side. "Hailey, I'm so scared... I really am! Please don't let my dad drag me back. If I go with him, I'm as good as dead!"

She clung tightly to Hailey.

Hailey immediately pulled out her phone. "Rebecca, I'm calling the police right now!"

Rebecca froze. "What?"

"Rebecca, don't you want the police involved? This man came all the way to campus just to cause trouble and hit you in public and even threatened your life.

"Don't worry, the police will take care of him. I'll also hire a lawyer and press charges. Once we have evidence of his gambling and, abusive behavior, he's definitely going to prison!" Hailey vowed.

Rebecca panicked. Her only intention was to latch onto Hailey. She never thought Hailey would take it as far as calling the police.

This wasn't part of her plan.

Daniel was just an actor she had hired. If he got arrested and exposed her, the consequences would be disastrous.

"No! Please, don't take me in!" Daniel cried, fear etched across his face.

Hailey's glare pierced through him. "This is a society governed by law. Scum like you will never be let off lightly. Just wait."

Without wasting any time, she started calling the police.

Daniel cast a nervous glance at Rebecca. She quickly returned his gaze, signaling him to make a break for it.

Without hesitation, he sprinted away.

The other students taunted him, "Where do you think you're going? Face the police if you're brave enough!"

Chapter 1028

Once Daniel was gone, the crowd quickly closed in around Hailey, praising her courage.

"Hailey, you were incredible!"

"I was so scared back there. I can't believe you stood up to him and made him back off!"

"When our safety is threatened, fear won't protect us. We must stand strong and rely on the law," Hailey replied firmly.

Olivia gave her a thumbs-up. "You're amazing, Hailey!"

Rebecca stayed quiet, with disbelief written all over her face.

Even though she had planned the whole scene, Hailey had taken center stage. Everyone was now gathered around Hailey, applauding her courage.

What did that leave Rebecca, the so-called "victim"?

"Hailey, thank you so much for helping me today," Rebecca said, trying to assert herself.

"Don't mention it, Rebecca. Any of us would've done the same," Hailey replied. Tears filled Rebecca's eyes. "But... he's still my father. Even if he ran off today, there's a chance he could come back tomorrow. I'm really scared."

While looking closely at Hailey, Rebecca added, "I'm too afraid to go back now. That place doesn't even feel like home anymore. Where am I supposed to go?"

"Rebecca, you're welcome to stay at my place," Olivia offered.

Rebecca quickly declined. "It's okay, Olivia. Your place has no extra rooms, and your sister-in-law already lives there."

She then turned to Hailey and took her hand. "Hailey, would it be possible for me to stay with you for a while?"

In truth, Rebecca was hoping to move into Hailey and Jonah's villa.

"You want to stay at my place?" Hailey asked.

Rebecca sobbed softly. "If it's too much trouble, I understand. I know I'm asking a lot... but Olivia and you are my only friends. I don't know where else to turn content

"Hailey, how about letting Rebecca stay with you for a few days? She won't be any trouble," Olivia urged.

"Please, Hailey," Rebecca pleaded. "You're the kindest person I know. I'm counting on you."

"Alright, you can stay at my place," Hailey replied.

Rebecca's expression brightened. "Thank you, Hailey! You're the best!"

She pulled Hailey into a tight hug, a sly smile playing at the corners of her lips.

Hailey had unknowingly fallen into her trap.

Now, Rebecca was ready to make her move.

"You're welcome, Rebecca. Friends look out for each other," Hailey said.

"I'll start packing my things," Rebecca replied.

With a smile, she turned and walked off.

Hailey and Olivia sat down together.

"Maybe Rebecca could spend two days at your place, and then two days at mine," Olivia suggested.

After a brief pause, Hailey said, "Olivia, how do you and Rebecca know each other?"

"Why do you ask?" Olivia replied.

"I was just wondering," Hailey said. "I don't think you've mentioned having a friend named Rebecca before."

"It was actually a bit of a

coincidence. One night after class, I

was walking home alone. It was already pretty late. Suddenly, two men showed up and tried to harass me yelled for help and Rebecca just happened to be passing by. .net "She stepped in without hesitation and chased them off. As we talked afterward, we found out that we both attend Aspenfield university and are in the same class. That's how our friendship began."

Chapter 1029



Hailey listened quietly, then remarked, "When you put it like that, the whole story of Rebecca saving you sounds a little too neat.

"The night you were in trouble, she just happened to be there and saved you. Then you found that you're both attending Aspenfield University, became close friends, and you introduced her to me."

Olivia gave her an odd look and asked, "What are you implying? Are you suggesting that Rebecca saved me just to get close?"

Hailey arched a brow and replied, "I never said that."

After thinking about it, Olivia said, "You've seen Rebecca's family, Hailey. She's such a poor thing.

"Her father gambles and abuses her, and the whole family is counting on her to earn a living. I think she's just simple and unfortunate, so let's not overthink it."

After seeing Olivia's blind trust in Rebecca, Hailey didn't press further. To Olivia, Rebecca was her savior, and she was deeply grateful.

"Alright, let's drop it and get ready for class."

Olivia nodded. "Okay."

Hailey turned around, pulled out her phone, and tapped on Celine's chat before sending a message. "Celine, I need a favor."

Celine's reply came instantly. "Of course. What's up?"

"I need your help looking into someone. He's a man with a gambling problem and a history of abuse. Also, he has a daughter named Rebecca, who studies at Aspenfield University."

Hailey tapped into her gallery, pulled up a photo she'd secretly snapped earlier of Daniel, and sent it over.

"This is him."

Celine replied, "Got it. I'll let you know as soon as I find something." "Thanks a lot, Celine!"

In truth, Hailey had been suspicious of Rebecca for a while. Though she had no idea who Rebecca actually was something about the latter felt off and stirred an instinctive dislike in Hailey.

When Rebecca suggested moving in with her, that only deepened her doubts.

With Celine on the case, answers would come soon. Hailey was determined to find out who Rebecca really was and what she was after.

By afternoon, classes were over. Hailey packed up her bag and stepped outside when Rebecca immediately appeared.

"Hailey!" she called out.

"All packed?" Hailey asked.

get

Rebecca, wheeling a suitcase, beamed. Yes! Thank you so much for letting me stay with you Hailey With wedding coming up, just hope I'm not getting in the way."

Hailey smiled lightly. "Don't worry about it. Let's go."

"Is Mr. Pilsner picking us up today?" Rebecca asked as she glanced around the lot, searching for Jonah's luxury car.

Hailey caught her eager expression and almost laughed. She reckoned that Cepe's report might not even be necessary anymore since she could already figure out Rebecca's motives.


Rebecca's intentions were written all over her face, and it was obvious that she was here for Jonah.

A flicker of jealousy stirred in Hailey's chest. Jonah might have earned another admirer—as if he didn't already have enough.

"Jonah's tied up at work tonight. He'll be staying late at the office, so we're going back ourselves," Hailey replied.

Rebecca nodded. "Alright."





Half an hour later, Hailey led Rebecca into the villa.

The moment they stepped inside, Rebecca's eyes widened in awe at the sight of the luxurious decor.

"Wow, Hailey!" she exclaimed. "This is no doubt one of the top villas in the Capitol. Every square foot's worth a fortune, and each piece of decor must cost a pretty sum."

Her gaze drifted over the plush carpet. "This must be Nidorian, right? It's so soft! And that crystal chandelier's from Denwood, isn't it? They're sparkling like a string of pearls.

"And this couch..."

The envy in her voice spilled over and was almost impossible to hide.

Hailey suddenly asked, "I thought your family wasn't well off, Rebecca. How do you recognize all the decor stuff?"

Rebecca froze before looking up and meeting Hailey's clear, questioning gaze.

She silently cursed herself. With just one slip of excitement, she'd totally forgotten her cover story. Someone from a modest, troubled family wasn't supposed to recognize imported carpets and designer chandeliers.

She quickly lied, "Oh, you might not know that I studied interior design for a while. I've seen these expensive items in magazines, so I recognize them."

Hailey's lips curved into a faint smile. "I was just curious, so no need to be nervous."

"Right."

Just then, a housekeeper-Dolores Pena—appeared. "Oh, you're back, Mrs. Pilsner."

Hailey nodded. "Ms. Pena, please get the guest room ready. Rebecca's my classmate, and she'll be staying here for a while."

Dolores nodded. "Of course. I'll take care of it right away."

"Oh, and Mrs. Pilsner, dinner's ready. Since Mr. Pilsner is working late tonight, he sent a menu earlier, and I've already cooked everything."

"Mr. Pilsner sends a menu even when he isn't home?" Rebecca asked, turning to Hailey.

"Naturally. Mr. Pilsner is very attentive to Mrs. Pilsner and the baby. He usually does the cooking himself," Dolores replied.

"You're so lucky, Hailey," Rebecca murmured.

She clenched her fists, nails digging
into

Him She knew Jonah loved

Hailey, but she hadn't realized how much he spotted Haley in private.

"You'll find your happiness too," Hailey replied. "Now leave your suitcase in
your

room and come down for dinner."

"Alright. I'll get going now."

Rebecca settled her belongings and soon joined Hailey at the table.

After dinner, Hailey said, "Get some early rest, Rebecca."

"Aren't you going to bed?"

"I'll work on a design for a bit and wait up for Jonah."

"Okay then. I'll head back to my room."

Rebecca soon disappeared around the stairs.

After Hailey showered, she returned to the living room with her design sketches.

Then, she curled up on the soft couch and began working.

Minutes ticked by until around 8:00

pm, when a pair of bright headlights shone through the spotless
ked

up to see Jonan's car pulling in. was back.

floor-to-ceiling windows Shee

Dolores opened the main door of the villa and greeted, "Welcome back, Mr. Pilsner."

As Jonah walked in with steady steps, he asked, "Where's Hailey?"

"Look up, Mr. Pilsner. She's on the couch in the living room."

Jonah spotted Hailey on the couch, hugging her sketches and grinning at him.

"Welcome home, Mr. Pilsner."

He took off his black suit and

handed it to Dolores before sliding into the seat beside her Reaching out, he pulled her into his arms and asked, "Why are you working down here?"

"I was waiting for you."