

## Chapter 70 Celebrating Her Fresh Start

"Declan and his father oppose it, but his mother is quite supportive. After all, Declan's mother has disliked me since the day I married into the Walsh family," Kimberly explained, giving a brief summary of the situation.

William let out a sarcastic snort from nearby and couldn't resist making a sharp statement. "Mother-in-law and daughter-in-law relationships are famously tough. Given your temper, it's surprising you've managed with your in-laws at all. And to think a PhD from a top school—what a waste of education!"

Kimberly had always excelled academically in the family, without exception. Naturally intelligent and possessing an exceptional memory, she had advanced three grades during her high school years and was admitted directly to Golden Valley University.

By the time most were just entering college at eighteen, Kimberly had already completed her undergraduate degree and was invited by the university to pursue further studies. She earned a dual doctorate in just three years.

She was undeniably a prodigy, recognized widely as a genius during her academic tenure.

Beyond her academic achievements, Kimberly's beauty and physique surpassed even those of top celebrities, and her family's status was beyond reproach. Her excellence was well-known throughout Javille.

From her eighteenth birthday, eligible bachelors from renowned families nationwide had queued outside the Holden estate, vying for her attention. She was, without doubt, the idol of countless young men nationwide.

Her wedding to Declan had been a significant event, covered by media across the country.

While Declan was indeed tall, handsome, and an heir in his own right, his

charm was dimmed by Kimberly's brilliance.

A star, after all, could never outshine the sun.

Their marriage seemed mismatched from the beginning one overwhelmingly exceptional, the other markedly less so. This disparity was why Declan drifted towards someone like Valerie, who was plain and unremarkable.

It all boiled down to Declan's pride.

Archie fixed William with a frosty stare, his anger clear. "If you dislike it here so much, then leave! We don't need your toxic sarcasm."

For Archie, Kimberly was his pride, and he wouldn't tolerate anyone, even a family member, belittling her.

If this was how her family treated her, what would outsiders think if she divorced?

Archie might not be able to control outsiders, but he would ensure his family remained respectful.

Feeling wronged, William muttered, "Go ahead, defend her. Just wait until she's actually divorced. People will say things far worse than anything I've mentioned."

"Get out!" Archie yelled, his rage palpable as he threw his fork at William and pointed shakily toward the door. "Take your family and leave, now!"

William had not achieved anything all evening and was already frustrated. Archie's outburst extinguished any remaining patience, and he stood to leave promptly.

"Archie, let's calm down. Colin and I will check on things," Theodosia said, managing a strained smile as she guided Colin to follow.

The mood in the room turned heavy and strained.

Kimberly sighed softly, observing the irate Archie with a touch of resignation. "Grandpa, why bother? You know how Uncle William is. His harsh words won't affect me."

She had intended to respond herself but hadn't anticipated Archie losing

his temper first.

After all, she didn't want Archie to become overly agitated; his health was at stake.

Archie inhaled deeply, managed to calm his anger, and surveyed everyone around before his gaze settled on Kimberly. "I don't enjoy quarreling with William. While I can't control what strangers say about you, it's different with family. We're supposed to support each other, not tear you down like outsiders might."

"Times have changed. Divorce isn't as prohibited as it once was. It's perfectly acceptable these days!"

"Kimberly, I don't want you to feel cornered," Archie said as he reached for her hand, his face showing earnest concern. "Ignore what people say. The most important thing is how you live your life. Now, what are you planning to do next?"

Kimberly felt a surge of affection but was taken aback by Archie's swift shift in conversation. She paused, then replied cautiously, "I'd like to enter the family business and collaborate with Aunt Mabel to revive our family's legacy."

At this, Archie's expression turned thoughtful.

The room fell silent, and Kimberly's pulse quickened as she awaited his reaction, uncertain of his thoughts.

"So, that's your decision..." Archie murmured, his eyes reflecting a trace of resignation. "Butler."

Promptly, the butler stepped forward and handed Kimberly an envelope.

"What's this?" Kimberly asked, puzzled, as she accepted the envelope and extracted two documents. Glancing at Archie, who was casually sipping his juice, she saw that he maintained a composed demeanor.

As Archie remained silent, the butler explained with a grin, "During your earlier dispute with Mr. William Holden, Mr. Archie Holden discreetly gave me instructions. These two firms, one in cosmetics and the other in perfumes, are among the more successful in the Holden Group. Mr. Holden thought they might interest a young woman, so he arranged the paperwork. They are now registered under your name, Miss Holden."

With that, the butler discreetly stepped back.

Kimberly's eyes filled with tears as she gazed at Archie, touched and remorseful. She hadn't anticipated that he would make such preparations for her in silence.

Reflecting on her previous actions, she felt deeply grateful. How could she ever repay his generosity?

When she spoke, her voice was thick with emotion, "Grandpa..."

"Don't cry, my dear," Archie responded, his voice gentle. "I hate to see you upset. Besides, a divorce is an occasion for joy, not sadness. This is my gift to you, celebrating your new beginning and independence. Do you like it?"

Seeing Archie's warm smile, Kimberly couldn't contain her emotions. She laughed and wept, stepping forward to embrace him tenderly. "Thank you, Grandpa. I'll make you proud."