

Chapter 17

For Lilith's sake, Katherine didn't want Isabella and Dominic to fight.

Dominic stayed silent for a long while before speaking hoarsely. "Thank you, Katherine."

As she wrapped his hand, he felt the warmth of her palm. A sour ache rose in his chest, and tears threatened to break through.

This had nothing to do with attraction. He knew Katherine looked down on him. The only reason she helped him now was because of his daughter.

Once the bandage was secured, Katherine said, "Alright. Stop being so foolish. Whatever the issue is, talk it out with Bella. As for that sworn brother of hers, I know enough about it. You don't need to torment yourself. Just think of Lilith, do you understand?"

Dominic understood perfectly. She wanted him to turn a blind eye, endure, and carry on.

'But I can't. A marriage without love isn't worth keeping,' he thought.

Resolve flickered in his eyes. He said calmly, "Katherine, I won't bring it up with her again."

"What do you mean?" Katherine's eyes widened. "Are you saying you want a divorce? What about Lilith?"

Dominic glanced at his daughter and answered softly, "I'll take care of her."

Anger hardened Katherine's face. "Take care of her? With what? Forgive me for being blunt, but do you even have 150 dollars to your name?"



His expression tightened. He bit down hard before replying, "I'll get a job."

"A job?" Katherine let out a sharp laugh, her gaze full of mockery. "You're 30 years old. Go ahead and try. See who would hire you. Your only option is factory work, turning screws... or selling your body."

Dominic pressed his lips together. He knew this was just her blunt nature and took no offense. Instead, he raised his head and met her eyes. "Even if it kills me, I won't let Lily suffer."

His determination startled her. For a moment, her chest tightened.

Katherine stayed quiet, then spoke in a softer tone. "Dominic, it doesn't have to come to this. There must be some misunderstanding. If you sit down with her, you can still go back to the way things were."

"There's no going back." His voice was low and firm. "She and I... We can't return to what we had."

He meant it. The moment Isabella walked out that door, the past was gone.

For the first time, Katherine saw this unshakable side of him, and unease stirred inside her. She feared her sister had made a grave mistake tonight. Glancing at her watch, she realized it was already midnight.

She rose to her feet and said coldly, "Since you've made up your mind, I won't interfere in your marriage. But remember this: I will never allow you two to upset Lilith, let alone use her as leverage."

Seeing he could not be swayed, Katherine gave up. She cast one last look at the sleeping girl and thought, 'No matter what happens, as long as I'm here, I'll make sure you grow up safe and happy.'



Then she left the apartment. As soon as she opened the door, she ran into Isabella returning home.

"Katherine, you're here... Where's Dominic?" Isabella asked quickly.

Katherine gave her sister a cool glance. "He's inside."

Without another word, she walked away.

Noticing her sister's expression, Isabella felt a nervous jolt in her chest.

big sale: 100 bonus free fou you

get it