

Chapter 9

Katherine nodded. "You're not wrong. Who would've thought Dominic could be such a jealous husband? Hahaha."

"Don't laugh." Isabella's tone was sharp. "The problem is he's ignoring me. What am I supposed to do?"

"Then ignore him too. Give it some time, and it'll blow over," Katherine said casually.

"But I don't want a cold war with him," Isabella admitted. "We've been married all these years, and we've hardly ever fought like this. I'm not used to it."

Katherine lifted her hands in mock surrender. "Then I can't help you. You know me. I've been single since birth. I don't get all this love stuff."

Isabella exhaled another long sigh.

Suddenly, Katherine's eyes lit up. She sat up straight and spoke with mock mystery. "Isn't there a saying? There's nothing that can't be solved in one round. If there is, make it two."

Isabella's eyes brightened. "Really?"

She thought for a moment. Her period had just ended, and it had indeed been several days since they last slept together. A trace of hopeful anticipation now softened her gaze.

Katherine caught the expression and smirked. "I don't even need to spell it out. Look at you, like a little wildcat in heat."

Isabella chuckled and glanced at her sister. "You're already 29. Haven't you thought about getting me a brother-in-law?"



"What would I want that for?" Katherine scoffed. "Isn't good food enough? Aren't games fun enough? Besides, most men aren't even as good as Dominic. How could I ever settle for less?"

"Ahem." Isabella cleared her throat and shot her a sharp look. "Why are you comparing him to others? My husband is one of a kind."

Katherine sneered, "And your dear Alex is one of a kind too, isn't he?"

"That's different! I told you, Alex and I... there's nothing between us." Isabella rushed to defend herself, though her voice lacked conviction.

Katherine shook her head. "See? Even you sound guilty saying it. Anyway, your problems are yours to deal with. But let me warn you: if you're truly drifting in your marriage, be honest with Dominic. End things cleanly. Don't play games behind his back. Push an honest man too far, and you won't like the consequences."

For Katherine, the person she worried about most was Lilith.

"Why would you say that?" Isabella shot back. "There's no ending between me and my husband, only a future together. I'd never betray him."

"Who knows?" Katherine's voice dripped with mockery, making Isabella grit her teeth.

She stood abruptly. "Hmph. Nothing good ever comes out of your mouth. I'm leaving."

Katherine waved lazily. "Don't let me stop you. Close the door on your way out."

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After his shower, Dominic went straight to the guest bedroom. He lay in the dark and stared at the ceiling, sleep refusing to come.

The earlier conversation with Isabella had clarified only one thing. Alexander occupied a very important place in her heart. The thought gnawed at him, leaving him restless and bitter.

She had promised to keep her distance, but could she really?

He lay in a daze and stared into nothing until a long sigh escaped him and he drifted into a hazy sleep.

Time passed in an indistinct blur before Dominic suddenly felt the unmistakable weight of a soft, smooth body slipping quietly into his bed.

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