

When Love Is A Lie

Chapter 3:

Katherine didn't move. She stood her ground, her voice quiet but steady. "Julian, let's get a divorce."

Julian didn't even flinch at Katherine's words. He simply adjusted his tie and turned to look at her, a mocking smile playing on his lips. "This is about last night, isn't it? You're upset I didn't come running when you called?"

Just thinking about the night before sent a deep ache through Katherine, right down to her bones.

Julian's voice was as cold as ever. "Eloise called earlier. She said the Lewis Group deal went through. Apparently, you played a big part. You'll get your bonus. Don't worry."

Katherine froze in place.

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Eloise Nash was Julian's favorite little sister, the one he never said no to. It all came back to Katherine now. Eloise was the one who had brought her to that dinner.

Since it had something to do with Julian's business, Katherine hadn't dared to take it lightly. She couldn't hold her liquor, but she still drank—just to do something that might help him.

She never thought that night would end in something so cruel.

Yet, to Julian, Eloise had probably just made a small mistake. Something he could overlook. Nothing worth getting upset about.

The hopelessness inside Katherine had swallowed the pain whole. She let out a dry, bitter laugh. "Then let's just cut to the chase. I'm sure you know what happened to me last night. And it won't be long before it spreads. You're the pride of the city, after all. How could you let someone tainted like me ruin your perfect image?"

Julian stepped closer, towering over her. "Tainted? You used a bone marrow donation to push your way into this marriage three years ago. So did you really believe you were so pure and innocent before?"

In three years of marriage, he'd almost never stood this close.

But this wasn't closeness. It was a knife—sharp, cold, and straight to the heart. Katherine stood there, completely still. She thought about all those quiet moments when she

watched him from a distance, wondering if he'd ever look her way. He'd always been distant—but not like this. Why did it feel like he hated her now? Like he was holding on to some silent resentment she could never understand?

Before she could fall too deep into her thoughts, Julian checked his watch and said sharply, "Skip breakfast. Just make lunch and send it to my office."

Katherine didn't follow his orders this time.

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