

Chapter 892 Successful Proposal

Warmth flooded Sally as soon as Milton came into view.

Years earlier, when Milton was still a child, Sally had lived with Rita in Arthur's villa. At that time, Sally had not been in love, had no husband, and had never imagined having a child of her own. During those quiet years, Milton had filled her life. She had cherished him as if he were her own flesh and blood. Their connection had gone far beyond simple affection, matching the closeness between a mother and her child.

Later, when Milton turned six, Sally and Rita had fled. Now, after so many years apart, Milton stood in front of her fully grown. He was tall and broad-shouldered, his features strong and handsome, and the way he carried himself showed calm strength and dignity earned over time.

As Sally continued to study Milton, pride rose steadily in her chest. She lifted her hand and cradled his face, repeating the familiar gesture from their previous shared days. "Milton, just look at you. You turned out so well. You respected your mother's wishes, and you never gave me a reason to worry."

Before leaving all those years ago, Rita had made Milton promise two things. He was to look after his father in her absence, and once he was old enough, he was to find his younger sister and bring her home. He had fulfilled both promises without fail.

For someone who rarely showed what he felt, Milton struggled to steady himself as emotion welled up. The memories came rushing back, layered and overwhelming, beyond what words could capture.

In the end, fate had led them back together. After everything they had

endured, they had finally found peace.

While Sally spoke with the others, Adah watched her intently, her eyes never leaving her mother seated in the wheelchair. The question she had been holding in finally slipped out. "Mom... why are you in a wheelchair? What happened to you?"

"I'm not paralyzed, so don't be scared," Sally said right away, hearing the worry in her daughter's voice. "I was in a coma for many years. It was a vegetative state, and I only woke up a month ago. My muscles weakened from not being used, so I'm still recovering. With therapy, I'll improve little by little."

A coma that lasted for years? Pain tore through Adah's chest, sharp and unbearable.

Leonel looked at Sally, his eyes filled with distress. "Sally... how could something like that happen to you?"

Surrounded by so many people, Sally knew the truth was too heavy to share there. She offered a gentle deflection instead. "It's a long story. I'll explain everything later."

Leonel understood at once and chose not to push her.

After glancing at Allan beside her, Sally turned back to Adah. "Years ago, I was in a terrible accident and almost lost my life, but Allan saved me. During the time I was unconscious, Allan handled all my medical care. He was also the one who helped bring me out of the coma a month ago. I wouldn't be here without him."

Adah's gaze shifted sharply toward Allan, and understanding struck her all at once. The gift he had prepared for her was not an object at all, but her mother, the woman she had searched for tirelessly over so many years. It suddenly made sense why he had been so sure she would adore his gift. He had only made that bet with her because he was certain of the outcome.

In her thoughts, she scolded him for being calculating. Even so, gratitude flooded her chest, and her feelings for Allan rose fast and strong, wrapping around her in a wave of warmth she could not ignore.

The man she once viewed with open contempt had been protecting the person who mattered most to her all along. He had kept her mother alive, paid for her treatment year after year, and ultimately brought her back from the coma. A kindness of that magnitude created a burden of gratitude that could never truly be repaid.

If he asked for anything in return, she would not hesitate to give it to him. Yet, he asked for nothing else. What he solely wanted was her. She opted to honor their bet and say yes.

She didn't think much. In her mind, Allan was attracted to her appearance only, and when time dulled her beauty, he might no longer look at her the same way. She wasn't quite bothered by that prospect. She would give him the best years of her life as repayment for everything he had done for her mother.

With that resolve settling in her heart, Adah looked at Allan, her eyes much gentler. She had already yielded to him. From this moment on, she was his. If others had not been watching, she would have rushed straight into his embrace.

Allan caught the change in her gaze immediately. The woman he desired was willing to marry him, and he would make sure no one would ever take her away. Perhaps love had not taken root yet, and perhaps gratitude was the only thing binding her to him for now. That did not matter. As long as she stayed by his side, he would devote his entire life to proving himself worthy until her heart truly chose him.

"Allan... thank you," Adah said, her voice shaking with emotion she could not hide.

Seeing her face wet with tears made Allan's chest tighten. "I'm sorry.

When I saved your mother, I didn't know her ties to you. I should have discovered that sooner and spared you years of endless searching."

Adah shook her head gently and managed a smile even as tears lingered in her eyes. "Nothing I have ever received compares to this, and I will carry my gratitude with me for the rest of my life." After a brief pause, she raised her head and met Allan's eyes with steady determination. "I really love your gift more than anything, and I'm ready to fulfill our bet."

She agreed to marry him.

Allan did not hesitate. He reached into his pocket, took out a velvet jewelry box, and opened it to reveal a brilliant diamond ring resting inside. In full view of everyone around them, he lowered himself onto one knee and fixed his eyes on Adah. "Adah... will you marry me?"

Tears still shimmered along Adah's lashes, yet her gaze shone with unrestrained happiness. Without even a moment of doubt, she extended her hand toward him and answered with calm certainty, "Yes. I will!"

He wanted her to stand beside him as his wife, and she was ready to step into that place without hesitation. If a day ever arrived when his feelings for her faded, she resolved that she would leave on her own terms and never weigh him down. Regardless of how he might treat her in the years ahead, gratitude toward him would remain with her for the rest of her life.

Adah had accepted the proposal, but the man who now stood as the leading figure beside her was no longer the one anyone had expected. Shock rippled through the room, and silence followed as everyone struggled to process what they had just witnessed.

