

## Chapter 4

In retrospect, perhaps Kenyon had spotted that Joshua was not in love with Anika from the very beginning.

Yet Kenyon still signed that contract with the Conan family, only to please his little girl so that Anika could marry Joshua as she wished

Yet Kenyon died in a car crash before the two got married.

If it weren't for Kenyon's sudden death, Anika's mother and little brother wouldn't have breached the contract...

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Anika handed over all the documents that transferring property required to Maurice and then left his office. On her way home, she saw posters of Violet.

Violet looked so pretty, optimistic, and shiny.

Anika decided that it was time to let go of Joshua. She should set herself free as well.

After getting back to the Rafter Villa, Anika packed her own luggage.

In the three-year marriage, all that belonged to Anika was no more than what a suitcase could

contain.

She would just leave the divorce agreement to Maurice.

When facing Joshua, Anika felt that she was too inferior, too humble, and too emotional.

Anika had a hunch a long time ago that she and Joshua would part in the end. Thus, she had always been prepared for this day.

Joshua didn't text Anika that night

Anika took the courage and texted Joshua. "Are you available tonight? I'd like to talk to you."

Anika received no reply.

Her eyes darkened. Joshua didn't even want to reply to her message.

Then she could only wait until Joshua came back the next morning.

Meanwhile, Joshua was in his office at the Conan Group.

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Joshua glanced at Anika's message and put his phone aside.

Valentin sat on the sofa beside him. He noticed what Joshua had just done and couldn't help but ask, "Is it Anika?"

Joshua didn't deny that.

Valentin then made a blunt comment. "Who does that deaf little woman think she is? Is she spying on you?"

"Joshua, seriously. You are not gonna be stuck with her for the rest of your life, do you? The Carey family is going downward and Anika's little brother Eli doesn't know how to run a company. He will never bring the company to life again. Their company will go bust soon."

'As for Anika's mother, her desires can never be fulfilled!

Joshua stayed calm while listening.

"I know."

"Then what are you waiting for? Get a divorce! Violet has been waiting for you all the time! Valentin was in a rush.

To Valentin, Violet was a hundred times better than Anika. Violet was hard-working and innocent while Anika was just a sophisticated greedy woman.

Joshua fell silent when Valentin mentioned a divorce.

Seeing that, Valentin couldn't help but ask, "You are not in love with Anika, are you?"

[9]



In love with Anika?

Joshua sneered.

"Not even in my most ridiculous dream."

Joshua handed over an acquisition contract to Valentin.

After a single glance, Valentin realized how cruel Joshua could be.

Valentin was hoping that Joshua could divorce Anika, yet what Joshua did was far beyond that. He even wanted to acquire the Carey Group at the same time.

That was when Valentin started to pity Anika.

After all, the two had been married for three years.

Everybody could tell that Anika cared about Joshua.

Joshua was indeed heartless, leaving Anika alone with her unrequited love.

★★

Anika didn't expect Joshua to come back that night.

Yet Joshua did come back at midnight.

Anika hadn't gone to bed yet. She took over his coat and briefcase out of habit.

They looked like an ordinary couple.

"Don't just text me every time you want to."

Joshua's cold voice broke the silence.

The way Joshua saw it, Anika wouldn't have anything serious to discuss. After all, she stayed at home all day long.

Anika's hands trembled as she was putting up Joshua's coat. She mumbled, "Sure. I won't. I never will."

Joshua didn't sense anything wrong. He went directly to the study.

Joshua spent most of his time in the study.

The two lived together, yet Anika was always alone.

Joshua talked loudly on the phone in his study. Perhaps it was because he believed that Anika couldn't hear anything.

Or it was because Joshua didn't care about Anika at all.

He didn't even lower his voice when he talked about acquiring the Carey company.

Anika brought him a warm soup as usual. She could hear him talking to his subordinates in an authoritative voice.

Words failed her when Anika tried to tell how she



felt.

Anika knew his little brother well. In the end, the Carey Group would collapse. It was just a matter of time. But what she hadn't expected was that her husband initiated all this.

"Joshua."

Anika's voice interrupted Joshua's talk.

Joshua paused in a daze and hung up the phone at once.

Perhaps it was out of guilt, or something else.

He even closed his laptop.

Anika pretended not to notice how he reacted. She put the warm soup right in front of him.

"Joshua, have the soup and get some rest. Health matters more than anything else."

Hearing Anika's soft voice, Joshua felt that he was less tense.

He believed that Anika didn't hear anything about the acquisition.

If she had heard about it, she would have argued.

For some uncertain reason, Joshua stopped Anika when she was about to leave.

"You said that you would like to talk to me. About

what?"

With that, Anika looked at Joshua's face, with which she couldn't be more familiar, and then said gently, "It's just I'd like to know if you will be available later this morning.

If yes, then we can get the divorce done."

Anika's voice was calm and peaceful.

She talked as if she was talking about the most trivial matter in her life.

Joshua was stunned. He couldn't believe what he had heard.

"What did you just say?"

No matter what Joshua did to Anika, this had never happened before.

Joshua knew how much Anika loved him.

He knew it since they were neighbors as kids. He knew Anika had a feeling for him and that feeling lasted for over a decade.

That was why Joshua didn't believe what he had just heard.

Anika looked more sober and sensible than ever before.

"Mr. Conan, sorry for your wasted years."

"Let's get a divorce."

Joshua couldn't help but clenched his fists.

He suddenly recalled Valentin's proposal. Joshua didn't even think about getting a divorce, yet Anika brought it up.

How dared she?

"You must have heard what I said on the phone. The Carey family is going downward. If I don't take a move, others will, too. What's the difference?"

"What are you going for by bringing it up? Do you want a kid with me? Or do you want more money? Or do you want me to stop acquiring the Carey Group?" Joshua sounded cold.

"Please do remember that I don't love you. You are not threatening me."

Joshua believed that Anika was just bluffing. He didn't think Anika dared to divorce him.

The Carey family couldn't afford that.

And Anika wouldn't let go of him.

All of a sudden, Anika felt that she didn't know the man in front of her anymore. She could feel a lump in her throat and pain in her ears. Even with the hearing aid, Anika couldn't hear what Joshua was saying.

She could only answer the question she had





heard. "I am going for nothing."

She left Joshua's study immediately, afraid that he would detect anything wrong with her.

Joshua saw Anika off, feeling upset. That never happened before.

Joshua didn't suppress his feelings and flipped over the desk.

The soup Anika made was spilled over...