

Boss Your Wife's Asking for A Divorce Again

Chapter 486

Chapter 486 Got Over It

She was only five when her mother passed away. Back then, she had no idea what cancer was, nor did she have any concept of death. All she knew was her mother was terribly ill and had to stay in the hospital for a long time. She had wanted to go to the hospital, but her grandfather suddenly came and took her away. He told her that Lina wanted her to spend the summer vacation with him. "Your mother will get discharged after summer ends," he said.

However, after a month, her mother didn't come back. All she saw was a little urn that contained her mother.

When she grew up and knew what death was, Sonia burst into tears. She regretted following her grandfather back then instead of staying with her mother at the hospital. If she did, she could have said goodbye to her mother.

That wish was finally fulfilled with this video, and she even got to say goodbye to her father. Six years ago, she also couldn't say goodbye to her father since he had committed suicide. Fortunately, they managed to say goodbye to each other in the video.

Sonia ejected the disc and carefully held it, as if it was a priceless treasure. She could no longer hold her sorrow back, so she let it out in the form of tears. After a long, long time of crying, she finally got exhausted and drifted to sleep on the table.

Sonia was woken up by the sound of someone ringing the doorbell the next day. When she opened her eyes and sat up, she realized her whole back was sore and her neck was stiff. Oh, I don't think I can move my neck. Dang it. After keeping the CD carefully, she got up and massaged her neck while leaving her study and heading to the door.

She opened the door only to be greeted by Charles holding a plush toy. "Morning, babe." He grinned toothily.

Sonia was amused by his stupid grin, so she smiled. "Morning. Come in."

However, Charles just stood there, as if he was petrified.

Sonia frowned. "What is it? Why are you just standing there?"

Charles finally snapped out of it and looked at her in surprise. "You're back to your old self, babe."

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Sonia smiled. "Yes," she answered curtly.

That piqued Charles' curiosity. "How did you do that, babe? Did you accept your true identity already?"

Sonia grunted. "Yes, I did."

"That was fast." He held her hand and took her to the couch and sat her down. "Tell me, babe. How did you do it?"

He knew she'd accept the truth sooner or later, since the past couldn't be changed. It's not like she can break ties with the Reeds. However, he never thought she would get over it in a single night. He thought it would take her a long while to do so.

Sonia pulled a wet tissue out from the tissue box and wiped her eyes. Since she cried a few times the night before and didn't remove her makeup before she slept, her eyes felt uncomfortably dry. As she wiped her eyes, she answered, "There's a CD in the box Grace gave me. It's a video my parents recorded before they died. They knew I'd find out about the truth sooner or later, so they made the video in case I overthought the matter. They told me they love me as a daughter even though they aren't my real parents." Then, her lips curled into a smile.

Charles looked at her and nodded in realization. "I see."

"And I got over it." She locked eyes with Charles. "They took me as one of their own. If I deny them just because they aren't my biological parents, then I'm just a piece of trash."

Charles sat up. "That's right. Just keep thinking that way. I was worried sick about you last night, and Mom couldn't even sleep. After all, she told you the truth, and she felt guilty about you feeling so down. She kept thinking she did the wrong thing."

Sonia poured a glass of water for herself. "Sorry, Charles. Sorry for worrying you guys. I'll call Grace later," she said sheepishly.

"Sure." Charles nodded. Just then, he remembered something, and he stuffed the plush toy into her hand. "This is for you."

"Why are you giving me this?" Sonia looked at the cute teddy bear, but she was perplexed.

Charles scratched his head. "I was worried you might still feel sad about the whole thing, so I thought I should get you something to cheer you up. I wasn't sure what would be appropriate, but I picked this little guy in the end. I hope you don't hate it."

Sonia chuckled. "Of course not. I love it. Thank you, Charles." She didn't really like plush toys, but she'd never trample on someone's act of kindness.

The fact that she liked it made Charles smile. "Did you have breakfast already, babe?"

Sonia shook her head. "Not yet."

"I'll get some for you. Give me a minute." Charles stood up.

Sonia nodded. "Sure. I'm going to take a shower and heal my eyes."

She didn't need a mirror to know her eyes were red and puffy, since Charles was shocked to see her when she opened the door. He just didn't say it out loud.

After Charles was gone, Sonia went to the bathroom to shower. When she was done, Charles was back with breakfast. They had a quick breakfast before going out and went their own ways. Charles went back to his place, while Sonia went to Paradigm Co.

After the cars were gone, someone came out from the shadows. The silhouette was holding a phone and talking to someone.

Back at Fuller Group, Tom nodded. "I see. Come back then." He hung up and knocked on Toby's office's door.

"Come in," Toby said solemnly.

When Tom went in, he noticed Toby was leaning against his chair with his eyes closed, and he was clutching his chest. He was frowning, looking like he was in pain. Tom tensed up when he saw that, and he went over to him quickly. "What's wrong, sir?"

Toby opened his eyes and put his hand down. "I'm fine." He waved Tom off.

"Are you sure? You don't look so good. Is it your heart—"

"Enough," Toby interrupted him impatiently. "What is it?"

You're obviously sick, but you don't want to talk about it or let anyone ask. Tom sighed, feeling helpless. "It's about Miss Reed. When she came out today, she looked like her usual self again. She probably got over the truth already."

Toby arched his eyebrow. "That was fast." Miraculously, he shared Charles' sentiment in this aspect. They knew Sonia would get through it, but they never thought it'd be that fast.

Tom nodded. "Yes."

Toby squinted. "Looks like someone must have told her something, or she couldn't have got through it that quickly. Someone like her would doubt herself and ask a lot of questions first before coming to terms with the truth."

"Should I look into it then?"

Toby raised his hand. "No, let it be. It's great that she got through it. Just ignore everything else."

"Yes," Tom answered.

Boss Your Wife's Asking for A Divorce Again

Chapter 487

Chapter 487 Do Not Appear Before Me

"You may leave now." Toby massaged his forehead.

Toby was still looking pale, much to Tom's worry, so Tom stood there and refused to leave. "Are you really alright, sir? Should I take you to the hospital? Dr. Lancaster said you can get discharged, but you have to rest. You went against his advice and came back to work immediately. That's going to take a toll on your heart, so—"

"It's fine. I know what I'm doing," Toby sipped some water and interrupted him. "I'll go to the hospital if I can't hold on anymore."

"Very well then. I'll be going now. Call me if anything happens." Tom sighed and took two steps back before turning around to leave.

After Tom left, Toby put his glass down and took a bottle of pills from his drawer. He uncapped it and popped two pills into his mouth before swallowing them dry.

Once he did so, Toby screwed the cap shut and fiddled with the bottle, looking at it mockingly. The pills were specifically made to keep his heart condition under control. He had taken it for more than twenty years previously, and just when he thought he was free of them, he was once again forced to take them after six years.

But Toby regretted nothing. He'd still jump down the cliff for Sonia if he had to make the same decision again. Toby heaved a sigh and tossed the bottle back into the drawer. He then closed it and went back to work on the documents.

A hospital staff member called Toby that afternoon to get him to come over for a checkup.

Toby postponed the less important plans in the afternoon and left with Tom.

They came to the company's car park, but before they got to the car, Toby suddenly stopped and stared ahead in disbelief.

Tom had no idea what was going on. When Toby stopped, he stopped as well. "What is it, sir?" he asked.

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"Sonia's here." Toby looked at the woman who was standing beside his car.

Tom quickly stuck his head out from behind Toby to look at the car, and he saw Sonia there. "It is her. But why is she here?" Tom was curious.

Toby squinted, but he walked ahead without saying anything.

When Sonia heard the sound of footsteps, she looked up from her phone to see who it was. After seeing Toby and Tom coming over, she straightened her back and turned to face Toby. "Hello, Mr. Fuller."

"What do you want?" Toby looked at her, his expression inscrutable.

Sonia frowned. He's still as cold as he was two days ago. "I'm here for an answer." She looked at him.

Toby pursed his lips. "What answer?" He looked at her curiously.

Sonia said, "Why did you stop me from taking care of you? I need to know the reason, Mr. Fuller."

She didn't care why he gave up on her, nor did she want to know why. However, she just couldn't understand why he refused to let her take care of him. It made her feel like she did something to annoy him, so he didn't want her near him anymore.

And his refusal made it impossible for her to repay his kindness. Tom might have said she didn't have to do it, but she didn't take the advice. That'd go against her creed and turn her into nothing but someone who only knew how to take but not give. She'd never allow herself to become that kind of woman.

She was the kind of person who'd repay anyone who helped her, or it would never sit right with her, not to mention she'd lose sleep over it.

Toby's eyes glinted when he heard the question. He never thought Sonia would want to know the answer to that matter, and she even came to see him personally for this. If she had gone to the receptionist instead of waiting at his car, she would have missed the chance to see him. "No reason," Toby answered calmly and tried to go past her.

Sonia opened her arms and stopped him. "No reason? Do you think I'd believe that, Mr. Fuller?" No reason is the biggest reason. He wanted me to take care of him, but then he said no the next day. That was too abrupt a change. Nobody would believe he was refusing me for no reason.

"What do you want then?" Toby frowned impatiently.

Sonia felt uneasy seeing him looking so impatient, and she pursed her lips. "I just want to know the reason, then I'll keep taking care of you until you get better. You know I'm trying to repay your kindness, so—"

"Tom should have told you I don't need that kind of help," Toby interrupted her calmly.

Tom adjusted his glasses and went up. "I did tell her that."

"Yes, but I refuse to accept that. You saved me, so I have to repay your kindness. You might not need it, but that's my creed." She looked into his eyes seriously. If she actually didn't repay anyone's kindness just because they told her so, nobody would help nor befriend her anymore.

Toby never thought Sonia would be so stubborn, so he sighed quietly. "Fine, since you insist, you may do that, but do it in another way. I don't need your care. It makes me uncomfortable."

"Uncomfortable?" Sonia was surprised. "Which part?" Is it about more intimate care? But his legs are fine, so he doesn't need my help going to the bathroom or taking a shower. There shouldn't be any problem with that.

Sonia was still trying to figure the answer out, but Toby put his hands into his pockets and clenched his fists. "Every single part," he said coolly. "You're a lousy caretaker—so unprofessional and careless. I'd rather hire a caretaker than have you around. Is that reason good enough?"

Sonia's jaw dropped, and she was at a loss for words. Her face was beet red, obviously because she was embarrassed.

She knew she didn't take good care of him since she wasn't a professional, nor did she have any experience in taking care of a patient. Naturally, she'd make a lot of mistakes while she took care of him. She just never thought he'd be so straightforward about it.

Sonia took a deep breath and held her annoyance in as she calmed herself down, then she looked at Toby. "I understand, Mr. Fuller. I won't take care of you anymore. I'm sorry if you suffered under my care." She bowed at him.

Toby held back the urge to pull her up and just looked at her silently.

Sonia stood up. "You are right. It is normal for you to refuse my care, since I was careless all the time. I'll try to repay your kindness in some other way."

"Suit yourself." Toby looked at the floor. "But I don't want to see you, so if you want to repay my kindness, do it at a place where I can't see you."

Sonia was stunned, and her heart ached for some reason. She bit her lip and agreed, but she sounded sad and angry. "Very well then."

Since you don't want to see me, that's what you'll get. I don't want to see you either. She turned around as she didn't even want to look at him anymore.

Boss Your Wife's Asking for A Divorce Again

Chapter 488

Chapter 488 Wish Granted

Toby didn't notice the slight discontent in her voice, so he felt hurt after she agreed not to show up before him ever again. It was something he wanted, but it still hurt him. However, he didn't show it. Instead, he smiled coolly. "Good. I hope you can keep that promise."

Sonia frowned. "Of course I will. You don't have to tell me twice. After all, I don't even love you, so why would I want to show up in front of you?"

The moment she said she didn't love him, Toby was heartbroken. He clenched his fists even tighter, and he looked at her coldly. "Open the door, Tom," he said darkly.

"Yes, sir," Tom replied before taking out the car keys and unlocking the car.

Toby was about to open the door, but then another car swerved around the corner right behind Sonia. Apparently, the driver never expected anyone to be here, and he forgot to step on the brakes because he was shocked. That was the recipe for a perfect disaster, and the car came straight at Sonia.

Sonia was too preoccupied to realize what was happening, so she didn't dodge. Toby was shocked that she was just standing still, so he held her wrist and pulled her into his embrace.

Sonia slammed straight into him and knocked her head on his necktie clip, causing her to grunt in pain. But before she could rub her forehead, Toby suddenly turned around, and her back crashed against his Maybach's door. Toby was keeping her between him and his car, protecting her, but to those who knew nothing about the situation, they'd think they were flirting.

The owner of the car that almost crashed into Sonia heaved a sigh of relief when he saw her being rescued. He quickly stopped his car a few meters away and got out to apologize. "I'm sorry, Mr. Fuller. I'm sorry, miss." He kept bowing. "I didn't mean it. I'm sorry."

Toby let Sonia go and turned around to look at the driver coldly. "Which department are you in?" His gaze was filled with murder.

"I-I'm in the planning department," the man answered, but his voice was barely a whisper as he was terrified. He never thought he'd be so unlucky as to almost crash into someone and get caught by his boss. I'm going to lose my job, aren't I?

"You handle this guy, Tom." Toby squinted coldly.

Tom nodded. "Yes sir." He looked at the man. "Follow me." Then, he turned around and walked ahead.

The man hung his head low and went with Tom, but his legs were chattering.

After they left, only Toby and Sonia were left.

It was then Sonia realized what had happened. She felt lucky to be saved, but also a bit troubled. Naturally, she was lucky she was safe, but that also meant she owed Toby once again. That troubled her, of course. Great. When can I finish repaying him now? "Um, thank you." She held the corner of her shirt.

Toby put his hands back into his pockets. "It's nothing. I just didn't want you to get into trouble here in case the company's image gets ruined."

Sonia stared at him in disbelief. So he helped me just because he didn't want the company to get into trouble? Not because he was worried I might get into an accident? She bit her lip. "I see. But still, you saved me, so I'll still repay your kindness."

"Suit yourself," Toby answered curtly and turned around to look at Tom and the driver who kept bowing at him. "Are you done, Tom?" Toby frowned.

Tom nodded. "Yes, sir. Right away." He then told the driver something before he came back.

"Sir, he's just a regular employee in the planning department. Since he was speeding and didn't honk at all, I told HR to terminate him. I also called the traffic department, and they'll

suspend his license for now." Tom stopped before Toby and told him about the punishment he doled out.

Toby grunted. "Let's go."

"Yes." Tom nodded and opened the backseat door for him.

Toby got in the car.

Tom closed the door and turned around. "We'll be leaving then, Miss Reed."

"Sure." She forced a smile and took a few steps back so Tom could get in the car.

Tom nodded at her politely before climbing into the driver's seat and driving away.

She saw the car off until it was nothing but a speck in the distance. Then, she stared down and went back to her car. Sonia was here in the first place to find out why Toby didn't want her to take care of him anymore. She found out the answer, but she wasn't happy in the slightest, especially when he told her to never show up before him ever again.

Sonia clenched her fists and laughed at herself. Men. They are all liars. He said he loves me and wants me back, but now he doesn't want to see me anymore because I was a lousy caretaker. Fine. I don't want to see him anyway.

At the same time, after he got in the car, Toby shed off all his calm demeanor and allowed his rage to boil within him.

Tom looked at him in the rear view mirror and hesitated for a moment before asking, "Sir, are you sure it's a good idea to talk to Miss Reed like that?"

"What did you say?" Toby asked coldly.

Tom turned the steering wheel. "I mean, you said she's lousier than a regular caretaker. And she looked really embarrassed when you said that."

"I know, but that's the best reason as to why I don't want her to care for me all of a sudden." Toby closed his eyes and massaged his forehead. He couldn't tell her he refused her care because he was dying. After all, he was worried she might fall for him again if she got close, and she would get hurt because of his death.

"True." Tom nodded, then remembered something else. "And what about you telling her to never show herself anymore? Don't you think that'd hurt her feelings?"

Toby opened his eyes and looked outside the window. "She won't. She doesn't love me, so she won't feel hurt over that. She's probably glad that she never has to see a guy who hurt her ever again."

"Is that so?" Tom looked ahead and said nothing else. He might have bought that story, or perhaps he was thinking about something else.

Toby pulled his hand away from the door and shifted the topic. "Call Lily for me. I want her to be my partner for an event tomorrow. Tell her I'll agree to work with her father if she doesn't cause any trouble for me during the event."

"Yes, sir." Tom nodded. He wanted Miss Reed to go with him for this event, but now that things have gotten so bad, it's normal he doesn't want her to go with him.

They arrived at the hospital a short while later.

Tom stopped the car and turned around to tell Toby who had his eyes closed, "We're here, sir."

Toby opened his eyes and got out of the car quietly.

They came to the cardiology department, and Toby went for the checkup.

Tim came as well, and he examined Toby. "You don't look so good. I see you didn't do as the doctor ordered after you were discharged."

Toby pursed his lips. "The company needs me."

Boss Your Wife's Asking for A Divorce Again

Chapter 489

Chapter 489 A Marriage of Convenience

"Yes, but if you don't do as the doctor told you to, you might not even have three years to spare. You could drop dead at any moment," Tim adjusted his glasses and answered coolly.

Tim could make something as serious as life and death sound like another regular Tuesday just because he was a cold, heartless person.

When Tom realized that his boss had less than three years to live and might even die a sudden death, he panicked. "You heard him, sir." He looked at Toby. "If you don't take care of yourself, you will—"

"Enough." Toby raised his hand to stop Tom. "I know my condition better than anyone."

"But—" Tom wanted to say something, but Toby shot him a killer look, and Tom's words were stuck in his throat.

Tim chuckled. "He's just concerned about you. You're so ungrateful.

Toby looked at him calmly, but he said nothing.

Since he wasn't saying anything, Tim wouldn't argue with him. He shrugged and went to check on the other patients.

"Have a seat, sir." Tom took a chair and gave it to Toby.

Toby grunted and sat on the chair. He then stared at the floor as he got immersed in his own thoughts.

A while later, Tim came over with the results and handed it to Toby. "Here's your results."

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Toby took it and skimmed through it, while Tom huddled closer as well to take a look. When he saw that Toby's heart was deteriorating at a faster rate, he was shocked. "Why is President Fuller's heart deteriorating so quickly?"

Toby frowned as well.

Tim put his hands into his coat's pockets. "Like I said, instead of getting some rest like what I told him to, he overworked himself. His heart can't take it, so it's deteriorating faster and faster. That's why I said he might not even have three years."

"I see." Tom clenched his fists. "So will he get better if he takes care of himself from now on?"

"More or less, yes." Tim shrugged.

Tom looked at Toby. "Sir, I know you won't like what I'm about to say, but please take care of yourself. For Master Tyler, and for Miss Reed as well. Master Tyler is still young and knows nothing about the company. The company still needs you, and Master Tyler still needs you. He can't keep those sly old foxes under control without you. You also said you wanted to help Miss Reed so her life won't be that hard, right?"

The more he talked, the more overwhelmed Tom was. "But you haven't even helped Miss Reed out that much yet, so if you don't take care of yourself, you might die someday. If that happens, what should Master Tyler and Miss Reed do?"

Toby wanted to say something, but in the end, he sighed. "I get it. I'll be more careful from now on."

He had to say Tom hit him where it mattered the most. Toby took a deep breath and heaved a sigh. "Alright, Tom. I'll be careful," he said seriously.

Tom finally broke into a smile.

Tim said again, "Okay, now that you got your results, it's time to get your meds. Since you went against the doctor's orders and made your condition worse, you need new meds. Ditch the old ones."

Toby grunted. "Do as he says."

"Yes." Tom nodded. He then took the prescription from Tim and went to take the meds.

Both of them left the hospital after Tom took the medicine.

After they got in the car, Toby suddenly thought of something. "Call Sonia and tell her she won't have to attend the event tomorrow," he said.

"Yes, sir." Tom started driving away.

Toby rested his eyes and said nothing more.

After they came to his temporary house, Tom called Sonia.

Sonia was still working on the documents in her office, but for some reason, she was out of the loop and couldn't concentrate no matter what. Because of that, she only managed to handle three files after a couple of hours.

Daphne poured her a cup of coffee. "Are you feeling unwell, Miss Reed?" she asked, concerned.

Sonia put her pen down and massaged her forehead. "No."

"But you don't look so good." Daphne looked closer at Sonia's face.

Sonia leaned back on her chair. "I'm fine. Just exhausted, probably."

"Why don't you get some rest then? These aren't urgent," Daphne said.

Sonia nodded. "Good idea. I'll lie down on the couch."

She stood up and straightened her clothes before going to the couch, but then her phone rang, stopping her. When she looked at her phone and realized it was from Tom, she picked her phone up in a flash for some reason. "Hello, Tom."

"Hello, Miss Reed," Tom greeted her.

Sonia sat back down. "Do you need anything?"

He's probably calling me on Toby's orders. There's no reason he'd call me, since we aren't friends.

Tom looked at Toby, who was resting after he took his meds. He then tiptoed out of Toby's room and answered, "President Fuller asked me to tell you that you don't have to go to the event tomorrow, Miss Reed."

"I don't have to go?" Sonia frowned. He's going to meet up with some foreign bigshots, and he needs a partner. That's the rule. He asked me to go with him and I said yes, so why did he change his mind now?

"Yes." Tom nodded. "President Fuller has found another partner, and he doesn't want to trouble you."

Sonia tightened her grip on her phone, and she started getting restless. A moment later, she bit her lip. "Who's his new partner?"

Tom didn't realize she sounded off, so he told her honestly, "Lily from the McRae Family."

"Lily McRae?" Sonia was obviously upset when she heard that name.

Lily had gained massive popularity among the upper society as of late, but not because of her own merit. Her family just announced that they were going to have a marriage of convenience with the Fullers. Lily was their only daughter, and although the Fullers had two sons, Tyler was only seventeen, so he wasn't the McRae's target. After all, Lily was eight years older than Tyler was. In other words, their target was Toby.

Because of that, Lily rose from a practical nobody to a star among the socialites. Even someone like Sonia—who couldn't care less about the upper society—heard about it. There was no way Toby wouldn't know that the McRaes were trying to get their hands on him.

But even though he knew the McRaes were trying to get him onto the same boat to solve their crisis, he still chose Lily as his partner. So he's agreeing to the marriage? The mere thought of that made her feel like something was squeezing her heart, and she started to suffocate.

Boss Your Wife's Asking for A Divorce Again

Chapter 490

Chapter 490 Stepsister Appears

She held the phone with one hand and clutched her chest. A long while later, she finally spoke, but her voice was hoarse. "I understand. I won't be going tomorrow, so tell your boss not to worry. I did say I would never show up in front of him ever again, and I intend to uphold that promise. And tell your boss congratulations. He and Miss McRae will make a wonderful pair." She put her phone down and hung up right away.

Tom frowned curiously. "What is she talking about?" Why should I congratulate President Fuller? And what does she mean he and Miss McRae make a great pair?

Daphne noticed that Sonia was looking a bit pale after hanging up, so she asked, "What's wrong, Miss Reed?"

"I'm fine." She bit her lip, but since she was using too much force, her lip paled.

She just thought it was ironic. It was acceptable that Toby suddenly went back on his word and switched his partner out. After all, he did tell her to never show her face around him again, so it was normal that he didn't want her to be his partner. She already had that guess, so Tom's call just confirmed it.

She was already prepared because she had a guess that Toby would cancel the invitation, but she still felt hurt when she got the news. That wasn't the most important thing, of course. Her real gripe was that Toby only told her about the cancellation after he found another partner.

Is he playing me for a fool? To make a clearer example, let's say they were still a couple, but Toby actually found another girl before he told her about the breakup. It was like she was

dumped after she outlived her usefulness. He could have told me to not go before he got a new partner, but he didn't! And he got Lily as his partner out of all people.

The more she thought about it, the more restless she was. In the end, she leaned back and pinched the area between her brows in exhaustion. "Leave me be, Daphne. I want some alone time."

"Yes, Miss Reed." Daphne looked at her worriedly before leaving the office.

After she left, Daphne called Charles' number. She actually didn't want to call him over Sonia. After all, Sonia was her romantic rival even though Sonia didn't like Charles.

But she knew Charles had liked Sonia for a long time now. If Sonia was unhappy, Charles wouldn't be happy. She loved Charles and would not want to see him sad, so even though Sonia was her romantic rival, she would still call Charles and ask him to come over and take a look. After all, love could be both selfish and selfless. Her love was the latter. She knew it was impossible for her to date Charles, so she could never be selfish. That was why she wanted her loved one to be happy.

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Once the call went through, Charles asked, "What is it, Daphne?"

"Mr. Lane, I need to tell you something. Miss Reed seems off after taking a particular call. Do you want to come over and take a look?" Daphne looked at Sonia's office as she spoke.

Charles leapt to his feet the moment Daphne said something was off about Sonia. "Who called my baby?"

Daphne was hurt hearing the man she loved calling someone else 'baby', but she held it down. She took a deep breath and said calmly, "It was Mr. Fuller's assistant—Tom Brown."

"Tom Brown?" The mention of that name soured his mood.

The fact that Tom worked for Toby was annoying enough, and not to mention nothing good ever happened whenever they met. When he recalled how easily Tom pinned him down, he gnashed his teeth angrily. "I got it. I'll come over right away."

"Thank you." Daphne hung up and put her phone down. She then adjusted her glasses and went back to her office.

Two weeks later, Charles came to Paradigm Co., but he looked solemn when he came in. It was as if something serious had happened. Sonia wanted to ask why he came over all of a sudden, but when she saw the look on his face, she asked, "What happened, Charles?"

Charles stood before her desk somberly. "I think I saw Jessica, babe."

The mention of that name got Sonia's attention, and she sat up straighter. "What did you say? You saw Jessica?"

"Yes." Charles nodded. "I'm sure it's her. I even have her picture."

"I want to see it." Sonia stood up.

Charles took his phone out and scrolled through his gallery for the latest photo. "This one right here. I didn't park my car in the car park, but at the roadside near the company. When I got out, I looked around and saw her in the café across the street. I couldn't believe my eyes, so I took her photo."

Sonia wasn't listening. Instead, she was staring at the photo that captured the side profile of a woman. Since it was zoomed in, the resolution wasn't too high, but Sonia recognized the woman all the same. It was indeed Jessica, who had made off with her mother with the last of Paradigm Co.'s money after Henry killed himself six years ago.

"It's been six years. She actually came back." Sonia gripped the phone tightly, her expression dark.

Charles nodded. "Yeah. We thought they would never return, but it only took her six years to come back. I think her mother might be here as well."

Sonia sneered. "Of course. Paradigm Co. is stable now and not bankrupt, so of course they would find out about the news and come back."

"So you're saying they're here so they can take Paradigm Co. from you?" Charles frowned.

Sonia handed him his phone. "They have no other reason to come back. They're both greedy leeches. After Dad died, they took all the money and ran away, disappearing without a trace. They didn't care about the company, and they didn't even come to Dad's funeral. They're heartless b*tches who only care about themselves. If it weren't because of Asher stepping

up and asking the bank to give us a loan, Paradigm Co. would have gone bankrupt six years ago.”

She had to thank Asher for Paradigm Co.’s continued survival. Even though he did it all so he could take full control, his contribution was undeniable. That was why Sonia tolerated him despite all his schemes and antics. She never did punish him using her status as main shareholder. However, if he did cross her line, she’d stop tolerating him. As the main shareholder, she had more than one way to fire Asher.

Charles laughed mirthlessly. “They ran when Paradigm Co. and the Reeds got into trouble, but now that the company’s back on track, they want to get a slice of the pie? How nasty.”

“They’re heartless b*stards. Honor means nothing to them, but profit means everything. The question here is when they made their return, and how long have they been here.” Sonia frowned and started thinking about the questions at hand.

If they just came back, then they’d probably raise hell soon. But if it has been a while since they returned, then where are they staying right now? And why haven’t they shown up yet?