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Chapter 261 Emma Knows About The Pregnancy

Standing up, I was about to rebuke Emma when she interrupted me. She pointed her finger at me, her body trembling with fury.

I was just an ordinary person. Having been provoked by her over and over again, my fury surged. I stared at Emma coldly without feeling a single hint of guilt.

"This is my home and Michael is the one who came looking for me. Instead of accusing me of seducing him, isn't it more accurate to say that you've failed to win him over? Emma, you know very well that Michael doesn't love you at all!"

When I said that, Emma widened her eyes angrily. Her body trembled vigorously, but she could not find the words to rebuke me.

"Don't cross the line, Anna! He agreed to marry me. If he doesn't like me, would he have chosen to be with me? You should erase all those nonsensical thoughts from your mind. It's impossible for you to be together with Michael!"

I had hit Emma at the spot where it hurt the most. However, she forced herself to calm down and retaliated coldly while glaring at me.

"I called you here to bring Michael away, not to argue with you. Since you're here now, you can take him with you."

As I could not be bothered to waste my time with Emma, I evicted her coldly. I did not want to meet her anyway, so I wished for nothing more than for her to disappear immediately.

"Do you think that I want to argue with you? It's beneath my status to quarrel with a woman like you."

Emma shot me a look of disdain before walking toward Michael. She bent down and stroked his face affectionately.

When she looked at Michael, her eyes were filled with affection—completely different from how she looked at me. I could tell that she genuinely like Michael. However, a vicious woman like her did not deserve to be with him.

"If I find out that you're seducing Michael again, I won't spare you! Anna, don't be shameless enough to covet another woman's man!" spat Emma at me after taking another look at Michael.

The contemptuous look in her eyes did not go unnoticed by me.

I clenched my fists. Having endured every humiliating remark she made toward me earlier, I could not stand it anymore. How can this woman speak so viciously?

"Anna, that's enough. If you insult me again, I might change my mind and stop you from bringing Michael away," I rebuked coldly as I shot a furious glare at Emma.

Actually, I was merely trying to threaten her. As I knew that she cared about Michael the most, the only way for her to shut up was to bring him up.

"How dare you? Seems the previous lesson I've taught you isn't enough. Don't force me to be even more ruthless!"

Emma became furious the moment she heard my warning. She glared at me angrily, her eyes blazing with unbridled fury.

However, I was not bothered by her gaze. What caught my attention was what she said about having taught me a lesson.

"So you're the one who sent those people to cause trouble in my house?"

I had always suspected that Emma was behind that, but I did not have any proof. Although Michael promised to investigate this matter, he did not say anything till now. It was as if he had forgotten about it.

"Looks like other than your ability to seduce men, you're quite smart too."

Emma smirked coldly when she heard my question. Although she did not reply to me directly, it was clear from her attitude that she was indeed the culprit.

After finding out that she was the one who did that, my hatred for her deepened. How can she be so cruel to do such a thing?

Since I was pregnant now, the consequences would be dire if those people harmed my baby.

"How can you be so cruel? Aren't you afraid that Michael will find out about what you've done? If he realizes that the woman he's going to marry is a wicked and schemeful woman, he'll resent you even more!"

Emma did so many things to harm me because she was jealous of Michael's feelings for me. However, if he found out, he would hate her even more.

Emma's expression changed when she heard that. But, in the blink of an eye, she glanced at me coldly again.

"Do you think that a capable man like Michael can't find out that I'm the culprit? So what if he finds out? Do you think that Michael will cast everything aside just for you?"

Emma shot me a disdainful glance. It was clear what she was trying to say—Michael had already found out about it long ago, but he took no action.

As I initially assumed that he had not found out the truth yet, what Emma said was a huge blow to me. Perhaps, I had thought of myself too highly and thought that Michael would set the record straight if he knew that Emma did it. However, it turned out that I was just deceiving myself.

Unable to conceal my emotions anymore, I turned around and averted my gaze. Trying my best to sound indifferent, I ordered, "Leave! I don't want to see you anymore."

Emma stared at me gloatingly. With some difficulty, she tugged Michael to his feet and walked toward the door.

Just before she stepped out, she halted in her tracks. Suddenly remembering something, she glanced at my stomach and said coldly, "Don't think of trapping Michael by using your baby. I won't let you succeed."

A vicious glint flashed across Emma's eyes when she said that. I could even detect a murderous look in her gaze.

My heart lurched as I stared at her in shock, not expecting her to know about my pregnancy.

"How... How did you find out?"

I had been keeping it a secret. Other than Ronan, no one knew about it. There was no way Emma could find out unless Ronan told her that.

"Considering my capabilities, do you think that it's difficult for me to investigate you? Anyway, as I said, it's not a wise choice to trap a man with a baby."

As she spoke, she stared at me gleefully before sweeping her gaze over my belly.

"I've never thought of using my baby to trap Michael. Don't worry, I have no intentions of letting him find out that I'm pregnant!"

No matter what it was, Emma would always assume that I was trying to seduce Michael. Anger rose within me.

Since I had never planned on letting Michael find out about my baby, I spat my words out in fury.

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Chapter 262 Keep The Secret

"That had better be the case!" rebuked Emma before leaving with Michael.

Once both of them disappeared from my sight, I walked to the door and slammed it behind me forcefully. I would be lying if I said that Emma's words had not angered me in the slightest bit.

I knew that any woman would find my past relationship with Michael unacceptable. However, all the things that Emma had done made me detest her greatly.

It also turned out that Michael already knew that Emma was the one who destroyed my house. However, he did nothing about it and news of their marriage was announced shortly after.

I wondered how important I was to Michael. Could all those outrageous things that Emma have done be forgiven so easily?

I was furious and saddened by Michael's actions.

Recently, as my morning sickness had become more severe, I stayed at home almost every day, not wanting to go anywhere. It was only after my pregnancy that I realized how tough life was for mothers.

There were only ten days left till Michael's wedding with Emma. Every day was like torture to me and my agony only increased as their wedding day approached.

I prepared a simple breakfast that morning. After eating, I planned to go to bed and rest. Regardless of what I ate, I had no appetite. All I wanted to do was to lie on the bed.

Before I reached my bedroom, the doorbell rang. Frowning warily, I opened the door. To my surprise, it was Ronan.

"Why are you here?"

When I spoke to Ronan the previous time, he had left furiously. After he found out how much I had hidden from him, I thought that he would never contact me again. Hence, it caught me by surprise when he suddenly looked for me.

"I'd like to talk to you."

When Ronan saw me, his expression became awkward. A long time passed before he said anything.

Not knowing what he wanted to speak to me about, I felt quite unsettled. Nonetheless, I turned aside and let him in.

Ronan sat on the couch in the living room, while I sat opposite him. After what happened the previous time, it felt like we could no longer start a conversation anymore.

Previously when we met, Ronan would always act very casually. The atmosphere had never been so awkward before.

I raised my head and glanced at Ronan's face, wanting to diffuse the awkward atmosphere when I spotted some bruises on his face, which looked like those on Michael's.

"What happened to your face?"

That day, Michael's face was also injured. However, Ronan's bruises looked more severe than his. Did both of them get beaten up at the same time?

When Ronan heard my question, he touched his bruises and chuckled embarrassedly. "It's nothing. I just fought with someone."

With a personality like his, I was not surprised that he would get into a fight. However, as Michael's face was also injured that day, I felt suspicious.

"Did you fight with Michael?"

Both of them were influential people, so no one in their right mind would dare to touch them. The only possibility was that they fought with each other.

"How did you know?" asked Ronan in disbelief. He widened his eyes when he heard my guess.

Although he did not answer my question directly, his surprised look already confirmed it.

"So, you actually fought with Michael! Why?" I asked worriedly as I gazed at him.

Although they might have very different personalities, they shared a good relationship. I could not figure out why they suddenly fought with each other.

"Nothing. I just think that he doesn't deserve your love."

Ronan's expression fell when he heard my question. Fury raged in his eyes when he spoke about Michael.

From what he said, I could deduce that they fought because of me. For a while, I was at a loss for words.

I did not want to talk about anything related to Michael. Perhaps, it was best if we just faded from each other's lives like this.

"Why did you come here today?" Feigning indifference, I looked at Ronan and asked calmly.

Ronan, who had always spoken his mind, hesitated. He stole a few glances at me, looking uncertain.

"What's wrong? Just say whatever you have on your mind. It isn't like you to be so hesitant."

Although I did not know what Ronan wanted to tell me, his reaction made me feel very unsettled. It was less tiring to interact with him when he was more direct with his words.

"I came here to apologize for my rude behavior toward you the other day."

After a long silence, Ronan finally spoke. He glanced at me apologetically, his tone gentle yet serious.

Not expecting him to apologize to me, I was surprised. After all, I was the one at fault.

"I should be the one to apologize instead. After all, I've kept many things from you."

When I recalled all the things that I had hidden from him, I lowered my head, embarrassed. The fact that Ronan knew I was Michael's ex-lover made me feel a bit shameful.

"No, you're free to keep your silence. There's no need to confess everything to me."

It seemed like Ronan was determined to apologize to me, even to the extent of placing all the blame on himself.

He had always been a bold and generous man. Now that he was apologizing to me so seriously, I was at a loss for words. The atmosphere seemed even more awkward than before.

"Let bygones be bygones," I concluded calmly before lowering my head.

Since I had nothing to do with Michael anymore, it was pointless to be hung up over the past.

"Your pregnant with Michael's child. Are you not planning to tell him?"

Ronan's gaze landed on my stomach after a moment of silence. A complicated look crossed his eyes and I even sensed a hint of sorrow in it.

I did not want to talk about my baby in front of anyone else. However, as I needed Ronan to keep my secret, I could not possibly evade his question.

"I don't want to let Michael know about my baby, so I hope that you can keep it a secret from him," I said seriously as I shot an anxious glance at Ronan.

"Why? Your baby is his child too. Why would you keep it a secret from him? If you tell him that you're pregnant, he might cancel his wedding with Emma."

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Chapter 263 Take Care Of Me And My Baby

Surprised by my decision, Ronan looked at me, perplexed and with an anxious expression.

Perhaps, he thought that Michael would return to my side because of my pregnancy. After all, that was what a reasonable person would do.

"It's already over between me and Michael. I've decided to raise my child alone. Ronan, if you still see me as your friend, I hope that you won't spill the beans to Michael."

I stared at Ronan, pleading to him with my eyes. Although I wished to be together with Michael, I knew that he never had me in his heart. Even if I had his child, I would rather he choose to be with me because he genuinely loved me.

Ronan gazed at me for a long time, hesitating to say something. In the end, he merely nodded in agreement.

With his promise to keep the secret, I felt much relieved. Otherwise, judging from his personality, I was afraid that he would confront Michael immediately and tell him about my pregnancy.

"Thank you."

I thanked Ronan sincerely. Ever since we first met each other, he had helped me significantly. As I know that my relationship with Michael had harmed him, I felt very guilty toward him.

"You've decided that you'll never be together with him ever?" Raising his head and meeting my gaze, he asked in a surprisingly solemn tone.

Although the thought of never being together with Michael saddened me, I nodded my head resolutely. After all, I could not change the dictates of fate.

When Ronan heard that, he cast his gaze downward. I did not know what he was thinking about, but there was a serious look on his face that I had never seen before.

He stood up and walked toward me.

When he approached me, I started to feel flustered. I raised my head and gazed at him, not knowing what he was going to do. Is he going mad again?

"What are you doing, Ronan?"

I looked at him nervously.

Still silent, he stared at me with a serious look before going down on one knee.

When I saw his actions, I jumped up in shock. "What are you doing?"

I was genuinely startled by him. He stared at me intently and said, "Anna, you know very clearly how I feel about you. Since you won't be together with Michael, let me raise your child together with you. I'll definitely dote on your child like my own."

Standing paralyzed to the spot, I looked at him in utter shock. Is this guy mad? Is he saying that he wants to be together with me?

Despite knowing that my baby is Michael's, and the fact that Michael is his cousin, he still wanted to be with me? How ridiculous!

"Ronan, this joke isn't funny at all. Stand up now!"

Panicking, I gazed at him and tried my best to treat his words as a joke. I simply could not accept what he had just said.

"Do I look like I'm joking? I'm being very serious here!"

Seeing that I was smiling awkwardly at him, Ronan looked at me with a frown. He sounded weirdly serious.

My heart pounded. Meeting his solemn gaze, I did not know what to say. My mind had turned completely blank as if all my thoughts had been thrown out the window.

Ronan's actions were beyond my expectations. The thought that he would make such a decision had never crossed my mind.

"Get up, Ronan. You're making me feel uncomfortable."

I did not know how to answer him. Furthermore, as he was still kneeling in front of me, I felt even more unsettled.

Frowning, Ronan stood up and sat opposite me.

He stared into my eyes, evidently looking forward to my answer.

I felt uneasy by his intent stare. Averting my gaze, I deliberated about how I should reject him. After all, it was impossible that I would get together with him.

"I know that you're doing this out of pity for me and my baby, but I want to say that I am capable enough to take care of my child."

Although I knew about Ronan's feelings for me, I had no choice but to deliberately distort the truth and say that he was pitying me. I simply had no idea how to respond to his question.

"It's not pity I feel for you. It's love. Regardless of who your baby belongs to, I don't mind. Anna, don't you know about my feelings for you?"

Before I could finish my sentence, Ronan became agitated. An increasingly anxious look crept into his eyes.

Despite all the excuses that I had prepared, I could not utter a single one of them. Ronan was putting me in a tight spot.

I knew that I wanted to reject him, but I did not wish to hurt him. Although I wanted to turn him down tactfully, I did not expect him to be so stubborn.

"But you know who I like. I can't be together with someone that I don't like, so I'm sorry that I have to refuse you."

I never wanted to hurt Ronan, but I had no choice. Only by showing my determination would he give up completely. Otherwise, considering his personality, he would stick to his decision as long as there was a glimmer of hope.

Probably because he did not expect me to give such a cruel response, Ronan stiffened. An agonizing look crept into his eyes.

Perhaps, he thought that if he appeared at my most tormenting and helpless moment, I would fall in love with him. However, I was not that weak. No matter what, I would never be together with someone I did not like.

"But you said that both of you will never be together. So why aren't you willing to give me a chance to take care of you and your child? Do you not trust me?"

Ronan stared at me, still reluctant to give up. I could sense how hurt he was from his indignant tone.

"It's not because I don't trust you. If I agree, it'll be really unfair to you. I can't possibly do that," I explained solemnly as I gazed into his eyes.

It did not matter whether I liked Ronan or not. Even if I liked him, I could not agree to his request. It would be unfair to him if he had to take responsibility despite me being pregnant with someone else's child.

"I don't need it to be fair. As long as I can be together with you, I'll be happy no matter what!" blurted Ronan as he suddenly grabbed my hand.

Hearing that I was being considerate of him, he beamed happily.

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Chapter 264 A Narrow Escape

When I saw Ronan's excited expression, I realized that he had misunderstood what I said.

"Ronan, we can only be friends and can never be a couple. If you continue to act like this, I don't think we can even be friends," I told him.

While Ronan's feelings and concern touched me, it did not mean that we should be a couple.

I had spelled things out to Ronan, so he should be clear of my decision. Although he then appeared sullen, he did not say anything. He just looked at me with disappointment.

I didn't want the mood between us to remain awkward. Since Ronan was not going to say anything, I quickly asked him to leave. "If there is nothing else, you can go back first. I'm tired and would like to rest for a while."

He looked at me for a long time before standing up and leaving dejectedly.

After Ronan left, I breathed a sigh of relief. However, I suddenly felt guilty toward him.

The days passed by quickly as Michael and Emma's wedding edged closer. Soon, it was the day before their wedding, and I felt indescribable agony.

All this while, I had been shutting myself at home. Since the wedding was happening tomorrow, I felt terrible. I knew I would not stop overthinking if I remained at home alone.

Therefore, I decided to go out for a walk and get some fresh air, hoping it would make me feel better.

The scenery outside lifted my mood somewhat; however, I was still unhappy.

As I walked alone and aimlessly along the road, my mind could not stop recalling the times I spent with Michael.

Meanwhile, a car was following me from behind. Since I was distracted by my thoughts, I did not notice it.

When I walked onto the pedestrian crossing, that car suddenly rushed toward me.

It was a red light, so the car was supposed to stop. However, it continued to rush at me. I was shocked and too stunned to react.

Seeing that the car was about to hit me, I quickly dashed away and screamed in fright. I reacted by instinct because I could not let anything happen to me now that I was pregnant.

Although I dodged the car in the nick of time, it still brushed past me. As it sped, it stirred the air with a force so great that made me miss a step and fall to the ground.

I saw the car sped away and frowned in pain. At the same time, I tried my best to remember the car plate number.

Then, I felt a wave of pain in my abdomen and touched my belly fearfully. I was worried that something had happened to my baby. At this moment, what mattered to me the most was the baby in my womb. I could not let anything happen to it.

Therefore, I grabbed my phone in a panic and dialed the emergency number with shaky fingers. The pain in my abdomen filled me with fear.

Please don't let anything happen to the baby! Please!

There were many people around when that car tried to knock me down. Many of them now came up to me. Someone tried to pull me up but I did not dare to move, fearing that any movement would put the baby in danger.

I felt an intense discomfort in my belly and began to cry. I was panicking—terrified that something had happened to my baby.

Then, I found Michael's phone number. I thought of calling him and telling him that his baby was in danger. However, I kept hesitating and did not dare to press "call." I remembered that he was going to marry Emma the following day, so I believed he would not want any problems at this moment.

The ambulance soon arrived and brought me to Ronan's hospital, where I went through various medical examinations. All the while, I kept tugging at the doctor's hand and asked if my baby was all right.

The doctor told me that my condition was not serious and I only had to undergo minor treatment to prevent miscarriage. That calmed me down slightly.

After a series of screenings, the doctor told me confidently that my baby was fine and I was not in danger of a miscarriage. Therefore, I could finally close my eyes to rest.

I fell asleep from exhaustion in the midst of receiving an intravenous drip. However, my dreams were uneasy. I kept dreaming of a car coming at me and of losing my baby.

I had no idea how long I was asleep before waking up in horror from yet another dream of losing my baby.

The first thing I did was touch my abdomen. The dream felt so real that I could not help feeling afraid.

"Anna, you're awake." A familiar voice came from beside me. It was Ronan. He was smiling at me but his brows were scrunched up, revealing how concerned he was.

I was glad to see Ronan here and quickly asked him about my baby, "Ronan, why are you here? How is my baby? Is my baby all right?"

"Don't worry. The baby is fine. All you need to do now is rest," Ronan said upon seeing my pale and frightened expression while holding my hand and looking at me seriously.

When I heard that the baby was indeed fine, I was finally relieved.

Seeing that I had calmed down, Ronan looked at me and asked urgently, "Anna, what happened? How come you were nearly knocked down by a car?"

Hearing his question, I suddenly remembered the car charging at me and broke out in a cold sweat.

I proceeded to tell Ronan what happened. At the same time, I suspected that the car was targeting me deliberately.

Ronan frowned deeply after hearing what I said. He seemed even more worried than I was. "This is too dangerous. You must not go out alone anymore, do you understand? I can't imagine what would happen to you if the car had knocked you down."

I felt that there was something more to this incident, so I informed Ronan, "I don't think it was an accident. Can you investigate that car for me?" I then gave him the car plate number.

Ronan continued to frown and answered immediately, "Don't worry. Leave the matter to me."

He might be thinking that I was being paranoid. I hoped I was paranoid, too. However, for the sake of my baby's and my safety, I needed to take extra precautions.

Ronan asked me a few more questions about that car and left. It was then that I found myself alone in the ward again.

One had to admit that Ronan was efficient. In the evening, he returned to the ward carrying a document with him.

He seemed solemn and troubled when he walked into the ward.

"How is it? Did you find anything?" I asked urgently the moment he sat down.

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Chapter 265 Emma Was Behind It

I rarely saw Ronan looking so solemn, so I sensed that something was wrong.

Ronan looked at me and said calmly, "The owner of the car that tried to knock you down is called Drake Hammer. He is a good-for-nothing thug and has many criminal records for being involved in brawls."

I frowned upon hearing what Ronan said. Why is he telling me all this? What use is that information to me? Have I accused Emma wrongly?

However, I still felt that the car did not rush at me by accident, just that it was hard to explain why I felt that way.

I looked up at Ronan quizzically and asked insistently, "Am I overthinking? Is there nothing else apart from this?"

Ronan seemed hesitant upon hearing my question. His gaze became conflicted.

"There's one more thing..." Ronan started his sentence but did not continue. He seemed to be in a dilemma.

It was rare to see such emotion on his face. I felt even more confused and wondered if my hunch was correct—that this was no accident.

"What else is there?" I looked at Ronan worriedly and was a little desperate to know whether it was an accident or that someone had planned it.

"I sent someone to investigate Drake. A few days ago, he received a large sum of money in his bank account. The sender is..."

At this point, Ronan paused again and looked at me with a conflicted expression. He still did not say who it was.

From what he said, I knew that things were not that simple. Someone was trying to harm me.

"Is it Emma who transferred the money?" I immediately thought of Emma because I believed no one else in this world hated me as much as she did.

I was calm and apathetic before this, but now I felt a surge of fury burning within me.

Seeing that I had guessed the person behind it, Ronan stopped hiding it from me and answered frankly, "Yes, it was Emma."

I had always been patient with Emma before this, but now that she tried to harm my baby, she had crossed the line.

It was the first time I felt so much hatred and such a strong desire to destroy someone.

I clenched my fists and focused on controlling the rage in my heart. If I did not control myself, I feared I would rush to confront Emma right away.

Ronan seemed hesitant. It might be because he had never seen me with such a fierce expression before. A moment later, he looked at me and asked calmly, "I did not expect Emma to be someone capable of this. Anna, how are you planning to deal with this?"

"I have tolerated Emma too many times. She has gone overboard this time; I can't allow anyone to harm my baby!" I said coldly.

Although I did not tell Ronan how I would deal with Emma, he could guess from my expression that I would not let go of the matter.

"What are you planning to do?" Ronan asked again after observing me for a long time.

"It's getting late; you should go back. I'm also tired and would like to rest early," I said.

It was not that I did not want to tell Ronan about my plan. In actuality, I was uncertain what I should do.

Ronan did not expect me to ask him to leave so directly. His expression stiffened as he looked at me. He appeared hurt.

At this moment, my mind was full of thoughts about Emma attempting to hurt my baby that I did not pay attention to Ronan's behavior.

I frowned and remained quiet. Meanwhile, Ronan sat in silence for a short while before getting up and leaving the ward.

After I finished receiving the drip, I wanted to leave the hospital. However, the nurse said I should stay overnight for observation. Therefore, for the sake of the baby's well-being, I took the nurse's advice.

I did not feel like sleeping the whole night. My mind could not stop thinking about Michael and Emma's wedding tomorrow and that Emma hired someone to knock me down. I was at the limits of my patience.

Suddenly, an outrageous idea appeared in my mind—ruining Michael and Emma's wedding. Since Emma did not want me to be with Michael, I was determined to be with him.

I let her have her way previously, but she was ungrateful and became all the greedier. Even if she married Michael, there was no telling what else she would do to harm my baby and me.

After a sleepless night, I saw articles about Michael and Emma's wedding on the morning news. Their wedding was about to begin.

Michael wore a white suit; his handsome face appeared stern on the screen. Meanwhile, Emma was beaming and holding his arm.

Meanwhile, I had been full of hatred after what happened yesterday. Now that I saw Emma leaning against Michael's shoulder happily, I had to admit that I felt jealous and hateful toward Emma.

I pulled out the needle of my intravenous drip, changed my clothes quickly, and left without informing the nurses.

Then, I hailed a cab in front of the hospital and headed to the wedding venue.

I checked my phone. Time was ticking away, which gave me a sense of urgency. I decided to stop their wedding. I was determined to follow my heart and stop sacrificing my own happiness. Furthermore, I could not allow my baby to be in danger.

Emma was a vicious woman. Even if she married Michael and legally became Mrs. Shaw, she would never let me go. The baby in my womb would always be a thorn to her, and I was convinced she would always find ways to harm my baby and me.

Thus, to protect my baby, I had to stay by Michael's side. Only Michael's protection could deter her from doing anything.

Although I had decided what I should do, I could not help feeling nervous. I did not know the situation at the wedding and how Michael would react once I told him about my pregnancy.

Soon, the cab arrived at the wedding venue. I got out of the cab quickly and ran in.

Michael and Emma were about to exchange rings. She looked blissful and was about to put the ring on Michael's finger.

"Wait!" I called out and strode toward them.

The crowd was shocked to hear my voice. Everyone turned toward me; all were astonished.

Michael was most surprised to see me because he did not expect me to be here. From the way he furrowed his brows, I could see that he was displeased that I had crashed his wedding.