

The Divorce 71

Chapter 71 Dying in Glory Is Better Than Living in Dishonor Ivanna looked at me sympathetically while I stared back.

I was trying hard not to cry.

“Chlo, don’t be upset.

We’re in this together now,” she said, trying to console me.

My eyes welled up with tears, and I rushed into the bathroom.

I quickly texted Johnson, washed my face, and returned to the room.

“What should we do?” I asked, my voice trembling.

“H—I’m ready to do whatever it takes.

I don’t care about my pride anymore.” Tears streamed down my face, and I felt utterly helpless.

Suddenly, Matthew’s phone rang.

He glanced at the screen, then hurriedly answered.

Although I couldn’t hear what was said, I saw him turn pale.

Then he said through trembling lips, “I understand.” After hanging up, Matthew’s head bowed in defeat.

Ivanna shot me a glance, and I raised an eyebrow at her.

He lifted his head and said, "I need to step out for a moment.

I'll be back soon.

Ivanna, please stay with Chlo.

I have something to take care of." "Where are you going?" I asked with a hint of displeasure.

"Just a quick errand.

I'll be back in no time.

Don't worry, okay?" He then turned and left.

When I heard Matthew go down the stairs, I made a quick phone call, but the line was busy.

Ivanna whispered to me, "What's he going to do? He didn't even finish explaining.

Why did he leave so suddenly? "Don't worry, I've lit a fire under him.

He's determined to make amends," I said confidently.

I started to eat, but my bitterness showed.

Why don't I just expose Melanie right now?" Ivanna suggested, watching me closely.

Let's wait a little longer," 3 said, my tone serious "I'm afraid he's holding onto something, and I need my remo card.

can't believe the mess Can i ever trust in manage again? Ivanna sighed.

her paint for now I cleared the table before calling my daughter, realizing how much I missed her.

However, I felt relieved that she wasn't here while this was happening.

back wh I Matthew got and I was already in bed.

When he got into bed, I turned away from him.

I felt.

his hand on my back and mumbled, "I'm tired." He paused and withdrew his hand.

"Alright, get some rest.

It's my fault.

I know I've hurt you.

That woman.

duped me.

I swear I'll do nothing like this again.

I'll give our child the best future, and we'll live a good life together.

His voice sounded tired and lonely.

My heart ached.

What sort of future could there be with him? After all, the real mistress was still around.

I finally realized why Matthew was so composed.

Since the identity of the real homewrecker was still unknown to the public, he could remain calm.

Did I have to share my bed with him in the future and serve him alongside his sister? No, I would rather be broken than succumb to that fate.

My daughter is better off without a heartless father.

It was unbearable to know Ava would understand this humiliation when she got older.

Though I mentally prepared for this countless times, it was still hard to decide.

Tears dampened my pillow.

I hoped that someday my daughter would understand the tough choice I had to make.

The situation kept getting worse as more people looked into it.

They searched for the whistleblower and those who caught the adulterers that night.

Tanum Corporation was also implicated, and they investigated its history.

As the true founder of the company, I was also subjected to scrutiny.

While the public seemed to be on my side, some started delving into my assets.

It was disheartening.

This situation finally caught Matthew's attention, and he swiftly took action.

That afternoon, a notification flashed on my phone.

The missing down payment for our house had been returned.

However, before I could feel any relief, Melanie stormed into the room.

Her face was flushed with anger.

Chapter 72 Protecting Her She yelled at me.

"Chloe, you seem pretty comfortable, huh? Acting all high and mighty as the boss.

Do you think you're qualified?" I sat calmly in my chair and looked at her.

Johnson followed her inside, attempting to mediate.

"Ms. Murphy, why are you here? Can't you resolve it at home? There are so many people here, and it's not the right place.

Besides..." 1 "Is she afraid of causing a scene? Who does she think she is?" Melanie was on a roll, her words cutting.

I could see the employees standing and looking at us through the frosted window.

I turned to Johnson.

and said, "Tell them to go home early." Johnson quickly went to disperse the curious employees.

They left the office reluctantly.

Typically, they'd vanish even if there were only twenty minutes left in the workday.

I relaxed in my seat and watched Melanie.

"Please go on with what you just said." Johnson sensed the tension and positioned himself between us, just in case.

Melanie looked at me with the arrogance of a bull and spat, "Drop the act! You're just sitting there and benefiting from such a serious problem.

Did you do something? Did you drug my brother?!" Melanie seemed concerned about the recent transfer traced to my account.

"So, you're aware it's serious? Who started it? Whatever the problem is, it's between me and my husband," I said calmly.

"Why are you so concerned?" I remained calm in my chair as Melanie seethed.

Then Matthew walked in.

He yelled at Melanie, "Have you lost your mind?!" "Why'd you give her the money?!" Melanie screamed.

“Maybe she had something to do with all this.

Why else would people look into the ‘founder of the company? Is she trying to claim credit?” Melanie had surprising insight and was digging deep I got up and said, “Matthew Murphy, you came just in time! I have a question for you! Who gave Melanie Be judecity to provoke me?” Thening to Mature, Isaid, “You’ve pretended to be his wife twice now.

Do you think you’re the real deal? you become your broder’s sook aon? I glared at Melanie, not wanting to let her win “You peren Dani masinitos for I closed the distance between us as her face contorted with hostility.

Matthew pulled Melanie behind him and faced me.

He shouted angrily, “Enough, both of you.

Can’t you give me a break at such a horrible time?” He was trying to shield her, which sent a chill down my spine.

The beautiful moments we used to share had faded, leaving only bitterness.

So, you’re saying I’m causing a scene, right?” I asked, my voice trembling with rage and sadness.

As I approached Matthew, I wondered if this was all there was to us.

I was too optimistic when I thought he would find his way back.

All the hopes that I had for the future were gone.

“You should take a closer look, Matthew.

This is my office.” “So what?” Melanie chimed in.

“Without you, things wouldn’t turn out this way.

If you could make my brother happy, would he seek out someone else?” 2 “I dare you to repeat that!” I yelled, feeling a sting in my heart.

Chapter 73 Ganging Up “Both of you, shut up!” Matthew shouted.

“So you’re protecting her, huh? You cradle your sister and let her call the shots.

Honestly, she doesn’t seem like your sister at all.

From the looks of it, she’s the one sleeping by your side.

You do whatever she says! You’re like her lapdog!” I couldn’t help but point it out.

“Come on, Chloe... What are you talking about Cont you show a little restraint? Think about the bigger.

picture?” Matthew’s face suddenly changed color, and he shoved me away, causing me to stumble.

“Ms. Chloe!” Johnson gasped, offering support as I steadied myself and glared at Matthew.

Melanie hid behind her brother and whispered venomously in his ear.

“Matt, can’t you see she’s only after your money? She only cares about herself.

Has she ever genuinely worried about you?” She turned to me.

“Chloe, remember that Tanum Corporation belongs to the Murphy family.

It legally belongs to Matt.

It has nothing to do with you.

So what if you were the founder? You can't even touch it now!" "Matthew, is this what you want?" I asked, looking him straight in the eye.

His face reddened, but he said nothing.

I clenched my teeth and held back my tears.

"Let me be clear, Matthew.

Listen carefully if you're as cruel and ungrateful as she described.

I built Tanum Corporation from the ground up and can create another one just like it.

"I don't care if she's your sister or the love of your life.

If she dares to challenge me again, I won't let her off so easily!" I warned.

When Melanie smiled arrogantly behind her brother, I said, "Don't try to outsmart me.

He's still my man.

Your impatience won't help.

You'll have to go through me to reach certain things and people." With that, I walked away.

Matthew shouted, "Stop!" His true colors were showing.

I paused, pulling my foot back and turning to face him.

"Is there something else you want to say?" Staring at him, I continued, "You dare raise your voice at me? Don't forget, I didn't cheat like you did.

There's no need for you to gang up on me.

But at least you're my husband, so I can understand when you act this way, +15 BONUS "But her... She has no right! She eats my food, drinks my wine, and still wants to dump her problems on me.

Matthew, you're pushing me too far!" With my piece said, I stormed out of my office.

The reporters waited outside.

They swarmed around me when they saw me come out.

I was pushed and pulled like a stringless puppet.

Still, they were invisible to me.

My ears rang, and I only wanted to find a quiet, healing place.

A firm hand suddenly reached out through the crowd and grabbed my arm, pulling me away.

My head was pounding as they shoved me into a car.

“...Chloe!” A voice called out to me softly.

In a daze, I turned my head to see the face.

It felt like I had seen it somewhere but couldn't quite remember.

The car continued to drive, seemingly for a long time.

My head was throbbing with pain.

My phone kept ringing.

A hand snatched the phone from my hand, and finally, the world fell silent.

When the car stopped, I was pulled out.

I looked around, feeling disoriented and not knowing where I was,

Chapter 74 A True Mystery of a Man I marveled at the lush greenery, with birds singing and flowers in full bloom.

“Where is this?” I asked softly.

“Utopia,” he replied, his voice captivating.

I turned to the tall man standing next to me.

In his presence, I felt safe.

My heart raced as a realization hit me.

Whenever I was with Atlas, it felt like my soul was being pulled to him.

I lost myself, wanting only to follow his lead.

I was ashamed of my lack of self-respect.

As someone who had hit rock bottom and been abandoned by everyone, I was about to fall for someone else.

However, he was undeniably attractive, which made resisting him difficult.

He smiled warmly at me, and I stared at him like a deer caught in headlights.

Atlas gently brushed a strand of hair from my face.

“You’ve lost weight in just a few days, haven’t you? You look like a damsel in distress!” His words made me smile awkwardly and pull away.

“Well, I’m still beautiful, aren’t I?” I cringed at my own words.

Did I just call myself beautiful? As I inhaled the sweet air around me, I said, “This place is amazing!” I Leaning against the railing, I looked out into the distance and reflected on my years in the city.

“I’ve lived here for so long, and I never knew such a beautiful place was nearby.

I used to be so focused on my work.” I chuckled in self-depreciation.

“That’s because you never stopped to enjoy the scenery.

You always had your head down,” he said, joining me.

His scent was pleasant.

“Thank you for helping me when I was at the end of my rope,” I said solemnly, turning to him.

“I know you were behind the Urban Builders deal.

I’ll remember your kindness, and I’ll repay it one day.” Atlas leaned closer, and his warm breath brushed against me.

“How do you plan to repay it? I backed away.

“Enough! I’m being sincere!” Metop.

I’m curious to see how you’ll repay me, he teased This man was such an unigena.

I couldn’t quite figure him out.

He was arrogant for an aselefant, which He was a completely different person in front of me.

I could be wrong, but there was something special about him.

A true mystery of a man! However, I couldn’t let myself indulge too much.

Although my marriage had failed, I still had a family.

If I grew too close to him, what would that make me? How would I be any different from Matthew? I “I– I’ll repay you my way!” I stammered.

me and his “What way is that? By offering yourself to me?” He looked right at smile had a hint of mischief in it.

Suddenly, it felt like he was mocking me.

My expression turned stern.

“I’ve said I’ll repay you, and I will.

I’m not an ungrateful person, and I hope you’ll respect my sincerity.

I’m not one to joke around.

Keep in mind that we’re still strangers, and I hope you won’t overstep.” He just stared at me.

I avoided his gaze, but he grabbed my chin and pulled me closer, almost touching our faces.

I tried to push him away, but he stood firm, his lips capturing mine.

“Mmm...” I resisted for a moment before succumbing to his kiss.

He only released me when I stopped struggling.

He looked into my eyes, asking, “Are we still strangers? Did I sound like I was joking?” Panicking, I said, “Why’d you kiss me like that? I don’t have the right to romance right now.

I have a husband and a child...” “I can help you leave him,” Atlas said firmly, leaving no room for doubt.

I was taken aback.

I wanted to continue arguing with him, but I was lost in his starlit eyes.

“I’m not joking,” he stated plainly.

Atlas suddenly lifted my chin again as his face grew nearer.

I pushed him back and turned, escaping the
Chapter 75 Revenge He grabbed my wrist just as I turned.

I avoided his eyes, feeling awkward and powerless.

We stood there for what seemed like an eternity.

He gently pulled me back into his embrace, resting my head on his chest.

“You need to leave him as soon as possible.” Atlas urged, and it softened my resolve “But I need to expose his true colors.

Only then can I justify the time I’ve wasted on him.

I won’t allow them to continue humiliating me: I want them to pay for their actions and reclaim everything that belongs to me and my daughter.” “I said I’d help you,” he reassured me Suddenly, I embraced Atlas and felt an unfamiliar sense of safety “I must cleanse this shame alone.

Do you understand?” I looked at him with tears in my eyes.

“This is the only way I can do right by myself and my parents, who have supported me.” “Come with me.” Atlas released me and took my hand.

He led me through the breathtaking resort grounds to a small building.

I barely paid attention to the stunning beauty around me.

Atlas took me up to the top floor and into a spacious suite.

He settled me on the couch and handed me a stack of project documents with detailed descriptions.

I glanced at him.

He shrugged, motioning for me to look.

With that, he turned to leave.

Only then did I relax, reading the documents.

It hooked me after the first page, and I immediately fell into a trance.

Unknowingly, the sky had darkened.

Atlas walked in once again and turned on the light.

He had a server beside him who was pushing a cart full of dinner.

“Just saying you want to take everything back won’t do anything.

I told you I’d help you.” Atlas sat down and took the document from me.

I was reluctant to relinquish the documents, but he gently suggested, "Eat something first, and I'll explain these projects to you.

"Why are you helping me?" I looked into his eyes, seeking sincerity.

"Because I want to," he replied, a bit unconvincingly.

I knew he wasn't telling the whole truth.

Have you met before suddenly asked, feeling like Atlas was strangely familiar.

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love we met before orderly asked, feeling like Atlas was strangely familiar, it was a feeling that had He smiled but didn’t answer my question directly.

Instead, he asked, "Have you made up your mind? Are you determined to get revenge?" "Yes," I replied firmly.

"I decided before going to Solaris." As I sipped my wine, I continued.

"That day by the river... Although I was out of it, one thing was clear.

I must get back everything that belongs to me." I suddenly realized that I might have offended him by saying that.

I guessed I was being too harsh.

Then, I added, "What's the point of such a marriage? There needs to be trust, even among business partners.

With Matthew, there's neither trust nor any remaining familial bond.

Maybe we're pursuing maximum benefit, but I'm not just in it for the money.

"I want to prove a point.

He came from nothing.

But now he wants to send his wife, the woman who helped him out of a crisis, straight to hell.

Where's the justice in that?" "In that case, let's toast to it!" Atlas clinked his glass against mine.

"I'll help you regain your paradise." His eyes were so clear and bright as I observed them.

“But won’t this affect you?” I didn’t want to drag him into this.

After all, it must not have been easy for him to climb up to his position.

as an assistant in ATL Empire.

I couldn’t let a small matter jeopardize his position.

2 “I’m already a part of this.

What can we do about it?” Atlas’s eyes sparkled with a hint of mischief.

Chapter 76 Too Meticulously Planned After some hesitation, I asked, “Why are you treating me so well?” Atlas smiled at me before ruffling my hair.

At that moment, my world felt bright again.

He was skilled at flirting, and I felt he had enchanted me.

“Because I like you.

Is that okay?” Atlas asked.

My face lit up when he said that.

Although I was married, his charisma affected me.

I couldn’t believe it when he said he liked me.

Such sweet nothings might work on young and innocent girls, but my daughter was almost old enough to understand what love was.

I knew my marriage was ending, and I would soon become divorced.

However, the outstanding man before me told me he liked me.

Even I could sense the irony of the situation.

Atlas noticed my silence and pulled me into his arms.

“Why do you always torture yourself by overthinking everything? There can be countless reasons to like someone.” I rolled my eyes, freed myself from his grasp, and enjoyed the delicious meal.

It would be a waste not to savor it.

He watched me relish the food with a smile.

I had to admit my mood suddenly became better.

When we finished eating, he called for the server to clear the table and explained the documents.

He said they were a comprehensive plan for crucial projects.

However, ATL Empire had already outsourced one part to Ardora Construction.

My eyes widened when he mentioned that company.

I asked him in a whisper, “Ardora?” He nodded with a profound look.

I knew Ardora Construction was the company Matthew had registered under Melanie's name.

I had a strange feeling that Atlas had planned everything too meticulously.

It was as if he had carefully designed everything to push me forward.

I had no room to retreat, which meant losing everything and giving up on exposing Matthew's true colors.

Still, moving forward was risky, and I felt like something was driving me toward this direction.

Ultimately, I had no choice.

Although I suspected Atlas of orchestrating everything, I couldn't see his true intentions in helping me wondered if it was because he hiked" me and felt a chill running down my spine, struck a deal with Ardora Construction to make it your stepping stone.

Use it to achieve your goal of Aking everything from them.

I didn't respond because my mind was a mess, so he continued.

"Your company can take this project, and you can use it to repay Urban Builders' favor.

You don't want to owe Fred too much, right?" I asked curiously.

"Are you saying I can take this project with the company registered under my name?" "Why else did you set up a company then? Just to intimidate others? Atlas countered.

“If you don’t take this project, how will you take everything from the Murphys? Tanum Corporation is already an empty shell now.” I froze at how well he planned these moves I could already see Matthew heading toward a bottomless Dit Atlas looked at me while I was in a daze and pulled me into his arms.

Then, he gently kissed my forehead, saying.

“Maybe you should take some time and get some rest before considering your options” With that, he placed the room card on the coffee table and left the room.

I was alone in the empty room, and the silence was overwhelming Atlas’s perfect revenge plan scared me somewhat I didn’t know if excitement or clear sight of Matthew’s fate made me uneasy.

Regardless, my heart raced.

What troubled me the most was Atlas’s feelings for me.

No matter how hard I tried, I couldn’t find a reasonable explanation.

Chapter 77 A Shameless Request I lay in bed and eventually fell asleep.

My nightmare consisted of Matthew and Melanie tormenting Ava and me.

I woke up crying but could not release my suppressed anger and frustration.

The chirps of birds and the morning sun gradually calmed my racing heart.

When I got dressed and went downstairs, I realized I hadn’t appreciated this place’s breathtaking beauty.

I knew I shouldn’t miss such a magnificent view.

It was already dawn when Atlas found me.

He observed my face with concern and asked, "Did you sleep well?" I smiled.

"I slept wonderfully! Thank you." "Here we go again with the unnecessary thanks," he said, taking my hand.

"Are you hungry? Let's have breakfast." Breakfast at this place was sumptuous, and I enjoyed it.

I needed all the energy I could get to face what lay ahead.

On our way back, Atlas reminded me, "Take care of yourself and don't be too stubborn." I was unsure what he meant by "stubborn," but I did not inquire further.

It was my first time being out overnight with my phone off while Matthew was home.

Between the office and home, I chose the latter.

I did not want to face the looks of my colleagues right now.

Instead, I just wanted some peace for myself.

However, I was shocked when I entered the house.

All the members of the Murphy family had gathered here.

I felt guilty then as if I had done something shameful.

Matthew saw me enter and rushed over to grab my hand.

“Honey, you’re finally back! We couldn’t find you anywhere, and your phone was off.

Do you know how worried I was?” Although he spoke so sincerely, I wondered whether or not he was genuinely concerned about me.

All my uneasiness vanished upon seeing his expression.

I wanted to slap him but held back because I had not achieved my goal yet.

Were you really that concerned about me?” I looked at him Indifferently, removed my shoes, and walked be living room.

I glanced at everyone present and asked, “is something going on? It looks li ‘s bere, huh? Luder You’re the one who stayed out at night” Molande locked “You little–Melanie began.

“Enough, you two!” Matthew shouted.

“Honey, it’s good that you’re back.

I know you were angry yesterday.

Mel didn’t understand the situation and was worried because it didn’t look good for us.

I let my temper get the best of me, too.

Please don’t be mad at me anymore.

I forced a smile and glanced at Melanie, saying, “You don’t understand a thing, do you?” “Have some shame, will you?” Melanie would not back down.

She feared no one since her family was there.

*Shut your mouth! When will you ever change your ways?" Grace reprimanded Melanie, then turned to me.

"Chlo, we're glad that you're back.

We're family, so I hope you can move past things.

"It's my fault for not raising my son right.

It led him to make such a big mistake.

Still, he only did that for the sake of this family.

Sometimes, men need to put up an act for their careers, so you shouldn't be too bothered by it.

I'll apologize to you on his behalf." I remained silent since I couldn't disrespect my mother-in-law.

"Chlo, now that the situation has escalated, we hope you can forgive Matt.

Let us find a way to resolve this issue as a family," Grace said.

"How can we do that?" I asked.

Grace looked at Matthew, who nervously approached me while rubbing his hands together.

"Honey, let's face it together and celebrate our wedding anniversary in style.

We can invite all our business partners and make it a grand event.

“Of course...I still love you.

I’ve always wanted to host a party for you.

I’ve always felt guilty about not being able to organize a wedding back then.

We can take advantage of this- Do as you please.

I interrupted him.

His shamelessness had drained my energy, and I did not want to listen to him ramble on.

When I headed into the bedroom, I glanced at Melanie and noticed her lips twitching from anger. When I saw that look, I vowed to rile her up as much as possible.

Chapter 78 A Voice Recording Matthew sent his family away after achieving his objectives.

However, I didn’t bother to see them off, thinking celebrating our wedding anniversary was great for my plan.

Since Matthew wanted it to be lively.

I would give that to him.

After all, I had nothing to lose because he had tarnished my reputation.

Matthew left for work in high spirits after coaxing me.

Immediately after, I called Johnson and asked about the progress.

He said, "Chlo, I did my best, but he won't reveal his intentions.

I couldn't do anything about that either.

I recorded the conversation you wanted and will send it to you soon.

"Also, he knows about your... meet up with Mr.

Atlas from ATL Empire.

Matthew said...Well, you should listen to the recording yourself.

Johnson hung up and sent me the voice recording.

Johnson's voice sounded first, "Mr.

Matthew, the representatives of ATL Empire and another company are meeting for dinner tonight.

I have a bad feeling about it." "Find out the purpose of the dinner." "Will there be any problems with our financial assessment? The assets under Ms.

Chloe aren't that convincing.

We'll be in trouble if they dig deeper.

Additionally, our documents won't be convincing if the bank refuses to cooperate with us.

“After all, the proof of yours and Ms.

Chloe’s shared assets is fictitious.

Since it’s easy for them to find out about this, it won’t work.

Mr.

Matthew, I think-” Matthew interrupted.

“You shouldn’t always be this timid.

There won’t be any issues with the financial assessment since it’s not the first time we’ve bid on a project.

“Also, we’ve never had problems before, so why would there be a problem this time? Our reported net worth and cash flows align with the company’s model, Matthew sounded slightly impatient as he continued.

“I noticed that Chloe has been acting strange lately none to follow her and found Chloe had met up with that muy from ATL Empire I think coche you haven’t been able to find out anything about his linee

“Indeed, Chloe has no ill intentions toward Tanum Corporation, but what about Atlas? Don’t you think it’s strange that we still have nothing on his background? You need to keep digging.

If necessary, hire someone reliable within ATL Empire to spy on him.

We can find something about him if he has been in Foswood for some time.

I just want to know why Chloe met with him!” After taking a breath, Matthew continued, “It would be good if he’s still interested in Chloe.

I'm just afraid.

she might not catch on.

Then, we might miss the opportunity to take on ATL Empire's project.

"We must admire Chloe for this, as her vision is exceptional.

She grabbed ATL Empire's project when she returned to the office.

That's why I need you to uncover everything about this Atlas guy.

It'll help me prepare the right strategy for Chloe." "But ATL Empire's investigation of our company may not yield favorable results if they decide to do so.

Regarding the financial assessment, it's still best to be cautious.

If they find any problems..." "What could go wrong? I managed to move the funds before this, and I can return it to its place now.

I would have quit my job if I couldn't do this after working in this industry for many years.

It's not that I don't love Chloe, but I can't stand it whenever people bring up Tanum Corporation's founding.

"Once we secure a long-term partnership with ATL Empire, I'll figure out how to merge Tanum Corporation with Ardora Construction.

After overhauling everything, Tanum Corporation will become a thing of the past.

I must say ATL Empire's project is a godsend this time!" Matthew's words infuriated me.

He was shameless enough to use me as his bait Their conversation was quite revealing, and I learned Matthew had been planning to oust me for a while now.

I was his real obstacle because I was the company's founder.

He was this petty because I stole his limelight, so he wanted to eliminate me.

Unexpectedly, Melanie even hired someone to spy on me.

It seemed Matthew was not ignorant of me.

At least, he had been cautious since I returned to the company.

He intended to use me to get Atlas's approval, proving he was cunning.

Suddenly, my phone rang.

The caller was none other than Melanie.

Chapter 79 Meeting Melanie Alone I answered the call and heard Melanie's usual arrogant tone, "I have something to tell you.

Let's meet." I "Why didn't you tell me that when you were at my place just now?" I asked.

"It concerns us, not something suitable to say in front of the others.

Come to Midnight Bar now!" She hung up without waiting for my response.

While holding my phone, I wondered what Melanie was up to.

Still, I wanted to know what she had to say, so I rolled out of bed and checked the time.

It was almost noon, so the bar wouldn't be open at this hour.

After some thought, I decided to play it safe and changed into jeans, a T-shirt, and a pair of casual flats.

I tried calling Ivanna as I drove in case something went wrong.

Unfortunately, she was out of town.

I hesitated while holding my phone and finally called Atlas.

Immediately after, I decided against it since.

Melanie knew I had met with him before.

I knew it was best not to complicate things and hung up the call as I arrived at the bar.

I had never been to a bar, so the dim lighting made me uncomfortable.

The bar was underground, and the stairway was narrow.

However, the interior was spacious.

I took a while to adjust to the surroundings at the basement entrance.

Since it wasn't opening hours yet, there were no customers.

Under the soft yellow light behind the bar, a young man who looked like a bartender was busy with his work.

I approached him and asked, "Sir, I'm here to meet someone.

Is this place open yet?" He glanced at me and pointed across the room.

I turned to look and saw a long corridor many rooms.

I wanted to ask him which room I was supposed to enter, but the bartender seemed uninterested in being disturbed.

or with m I could only search for Melanie from room to room.

It seemed Melanie frequented places like this.

Otherwise, she wouldn't have asked me to meet her.

The many rooms along the corridor resembled a maze, with every junction leading to another corridor.

felt increasingly uneasy and was about to turn back when a door suddenly opened in the corridor and out came Melanie.

"Hal I didn't expect you to arrive so quickly!" She laughed, but her laughter gave me an aerie feeling.

It made me far less comfortable than facing her ously hostile demeanor.

Ever since I witnessed her entanglement with Matthew, I couldn't help but She reached out as if to hold me, but I avoided her dirty hand.

"What did you want to tell me?" I opened the door with my foot and glanced inside the room, realizing it was empty.

After confirming it was safe, I walked in and sat on the couch, looking at Melanie.

"I'm listening" Melanie followed me in, swaying her hips in a way she thought was alluring.

However, it made me nauseous.

Suddenly, I realized why Matthew was attracted to her.

I finally discovered why he called me "stiff." Melanie strode over and sat on the seat beside me.

She looked at me with excitement, joy, and wickedness.

a glass, saying I saw an already-opened bottle of red wine on the table.

Melanie reached for it and poured a "Chloe, I knew you'd come as soon as I called you.

I'm sure you've never been here before, right? Take a guess for Matt."

Chapter 80 I'll Let You in on a Secret Melanie grinned as she spoke, and I knew her following words wouldn't be pleasant.

Still, I remained.

I unfazed, saying, "I don't think coming here makes a difference.

Just say what you must, and don't beat around the bush.

Your family isn't here." "Haha! You always act all high and mighty.

Matt can't stand you acting like a princess.

You're boring and awkward, even when you're trying to act cute!' Melanie smirked.

1 "Melanie, do you even know what shame is?" I was furious.

"I've never seen anyone as shameless as you." "Chloe, why do you always act superior to everyone? You used to be so patient and enduring.

How did you feel when you found the condoms in Matt's pocket? He said you two never used those.

Her words made me nauseous.

I never expected Matthew to share our sex life with her.

It was disgusting.

Melanie swirled her wine, noticing my glare.

She continued to grin, saying, "Are you angry? Let me tell you something.

I put them there without his knowledge.

She laughed as if she had pulled off a prank, her voice grating my nerves.

She had shattered my perception of her, and I couldn't believe how low she had stooped.

Melanie was still sickly when I married Matthew.

However, I noticed her eyes constantly scrutinizing me.

Although she and I weren't close, she always followed me, looking for her brother.

Since she was his younger sister, I took her everywhere, even with us, to the movies.

She never refused and always stayed close.

Finally, I realized she was eyeing Matthew all along.

It seemed Melanie wasn't as innocent as she appeared.

On the contrary, she was bold.

She sipped her wine and gestured toward me.

"You should have a drink to calm your nerves.

Learn to enjoy life, Chloe.

Although I can't stand you, I pity you at times.

What else do you have besides your daughter and that shabby house?" She had a point, and I was at a loss for words.

Melanie had twisted thoughts, explaining why she could sleep with her brother.

Melanie said, "You know my family prefers sons over daughters, right? My father was disappointed when you birthed Ava Matt wants a son, but I can't let you have one.

Still, you won't get pregnant, even if you don't use condoms Hahaha! You don't know what I did, huh?" Melanie I shouted and bolted to my feet.

Don't get to worked up I haven't finished yet! She pulled me, but I shrugged off her hand "Don't touch me, you disgusting pig!" I never thought I'd face such a vile woman.

I remembered Melanie had my house keys and could enter and leave as she pleased.

I felt a deep sense of unease.

Melanie stumbled back and fell onto the couch after I shrugged her off.

Surprisingly, she wasn't enraged.

She smirked at me, saying, "I enjoy seeing you all worked up." 2 She sat up, poured herself another glass, and then filled another one.

"Oh, my dear sister-in-law-* "Don't call me that!" I growled.

I felt a shiver down my spine as I fell back onto the couch.

"All right, I won't call you that.

To be honest, I've never acknowledged you as my sister-in-law, either," Melanie spoke calmly, "But you see, Matt is so soft-hearted.

Although he's lost interest in you, he can't end things.

Besides, there's a project we need to secure, so you're still useful to us." I struggled to control my anger, not wanting to lose my composure in front of her.

However, I discovered Matthew was unaware of everything she had done.

Melanie sipped her wine again and leaned in closer.

She resembled a seductress in the dim light as she whispered, "Chloe, I'll let you in on a secret."