

## Chapter 35 Coincidence

"Mom, Dad, you have to bail me out of this mess, or I'll definitely go to jail." In a state of panic, Aldrin Haynes grasped Trudy's arm and gave his father a pleading look.

Marvin glared at his cowardly son and asked, "What did you do this time?" It was clear from how exasperated his question sounded that this was not the first time Aldrin got into trouble.

"I... I wanted to get a driving license, and then I saw my sister's car at home, so I thought I should use it to practice. I didn't know I'd hit someone..." #

"What?" Marvin hissed. He could hardly contain his anger as he shouted, "Last time, you almost blinded someone with a bamboo skewer. I had to fork up cash and profusely apologize to your victim just so they wouldn't file a lawsuit against you. It has only been a few days since then, and now you're in trouble again! What were you thinking? You don't even know how to drive properly! Do you want to die?"

"Marvin, calm down. In any case, you have to help him. He's your only son. He hasn't finished his studies yet. His future is doomed if he goes to jail. Isn't that car Mila's? Just say that it's her who..."

"Don't you dare, Trudy! Don't even think of passing the buck for your son's actions onto my daughter," Rowena interrupted in an uncharacteristically authoritative tone.

Her unexpected appearance took Marvin by surprise. He stuttered, "You... Are you well now?"

Rowena turned to him. "Marvin, for the twenty-six years that we've been married, I've never asked anything from you because I couldn't give you a son. I didn't say anything when you had an affair with another woman, nor when you used our only daughter to gain benefits from the Johnston family. I still won't blame you for those things because they're all in the past now. However, don't even think about blaming my daughter for the crime she didn't do, or I will never forgive you!"

"I will never do that, Rowena! Look, we still don't know what really happened. Aldrin is just frightened because he's still young. He doesn't even know what happened to the other people involved in the accident. I'll look into it now. Don't worry. I won't let Mila shoulder the blame for this."

Even though Marvin felt bad about his son, he did not want to cause a rift between him, Rowena, and Camila

After all, Camila was Isaac's wife now.

She was now a member of the Johnston family.

He had lavished his resources on his daughter ever since she was a little girl.

He would not do anything that might jeopardize his own interests "Good. You'd better keep your word. By the way, I'm going to file for divorce." Rowena caught Trudy's eye as she climbed the stairs before turning her attention back to Marvin. She sarcastically continued, "We'll get a divorce, and then you three can finally start living like a real family." Marvin scowled. "Who said I was going to divorce you? No, absolutely not!"

"This marriage isn't working out for us anymore," Rowena pointed out. "That's up to me to decide. Whatever you say, I'm not going to divorce you," Marvin refused adamantly.

Trudy bit her lower lip anxiously. She had been looking forward to Rowena and Marvin's separation, so his blatant refusal to divorce his wife concerned her. "Marvin, our son is an adult now. We need a marriage certificate so that he can have a legal identity. "What does he still need? Isn't it enough that I know he's my son? Stay out of this, Trudy. Just go and check if someone was killed in the accident. If someone really died, your son will go to jail whether you like it or not!" Marvin snarled.

He then threw Aldrin a glare.

"It's because you didn't discipline this brat right that he's incapable of doing anything else except causing trouble." As if his frustration with his son was not enough, Rowena's request for divorce only made everything worse

As a result of his extremely irate state, his words came out laced with malice.

Trudy was fuming as well. Her son did not live up to the expectations that she had set for him, making her look bad in front of Marvin. She shot Aldrin a piercing gaze before tugging at him. "Let's go. This isn't our territory. You have to pay for what you did. You should be executed if not thrown in jail."

She made sure to increase the volume of her voice so that everyone could hear her.

After giving her a sidelong glance, Marvin said, "Whatever. Just hurry up and find out who he hit. Whatever the outcome, he must take responsibility for his actions. You can also take the blame for him if you really care about his future."

With that, he went upstairs.

Trudy gritted her teeth in anger. However, she could only keep her mouth shut and listen to Marvin for Aldrin's sake.

"Let's go. Tell me where the car accident happened." While she held her son's hand, they left the house. "Dad..."

Aldrin wanted to say something, but Trudy interrupted him. "Don't bother calling for your dad. He won't help you. Look at what you did. Because of you, he's angry at me now too. You're such a disappointment."

Rowena was packing her belongings when Marvin entered the bedroom. He immediately tried to stop her. "We've already spent more than two decades together as a married couple. Is separation between us really necessary?"

Rowena sneered. "Of course. If I don't leave you, you'll continue to use me and hurt my daughter."

"When did I hurt her? Do you have any idea how much money I spent on her? Do you know how much she learned because of me?"

"We both know why you've invested so much in her learning, and that's one of the reasons why I'm going to leave you. I've given up on you since the day you used my illness to threaten Mila into getting married. Back then, I thought you only got yourself a mistress who could give birth to a son for you because I couldn't, but now, I know that you never really loved Mila and me!"

Withdrawing her hands, Rowena continued stuffing her clothes in the suitcase.

As he struggled to control his temper, Marvin replied, "Giving her a good education was beneficial to her, too, regardless of my ulterior motives. You're being unreasonable, Rowena!"

"There's no point in you saying that. I'm not going to argue with you about this anymore. I'm going to file for divorce no matter what," Rowena retorted dismissively.

After realizing that she had already made up her mind, Marvin became more enraged. He grabbed the suitcase and threw it on the floor, which caused her belongings to scatter.

Rowena was startled for a moment, but she quickly regained her composure. "It'll make no difference even if I don't bring my things with me. They don't have any real value anyway."

Deciding to aggravate Marvin further, she added, "In any case, my daughter is part of the Johnston family now. I can buy anything I want." Not bothering to gather her belongings, Rowena headed to the first floor.

Marvin quickly went after her and grabbed her arm. "Where do you think you're going? We're not done talking yet."

Rowena shook off his hand. "If we're going to talk about something, it'll be about our divorce."

"No way! I'm not going to divorce you! You're mine, Rowena. You can't leave me!" Marvin barked stubbornly.

Rowena gave Marvin a sideways glance but stopped arguing with him. Her decision was final. If he did not agree to a mutual divorce, she would seek legal counsel. In the worst-case scenario, she would sue him. In the first place, it was he who cheated on her.

With that in mind, she briskly descended the stairs and left the Haynes family's house.

Rowena then decided to inform her daughter that Aldrin had hit someone while driving her car so that Camila could deal with it immediately.

When the call went through, it was a man who answered the phone. "Who's speaking? May I talk to my daughter?" Rowena held her breath as she wondered if the man on the phone was Isaac. Chapter 36 The Hit-and-run Driver

"This is Forrest. Mila is injured. She's in the operating room right now," Forrest replied as he stood outside the operating room,

Rowena's stomach churned in worry as she asked, "What happened? Did my daughter get hurt?"

Forrest solemnly replied, "Yes."

"Which hospital are you in?" In just a matter of seconds, Rowena's anxiety went through the roof.

"Military Central Hospital."

"Okay. I'll be there soon." After ending the call, Rowena hailed a cab and went straight to the hospital.

In the hospital, Camila grabbed the doctor's hand as she lay on the operating table. "Are my children still alive?"

"Based on the results of the examination, one of your children was confirmed to be dead. The other one could be saved, though, if you want." Camila's face went completely white upon hearing the devastating news. She parted her dry and bleeding lips and replied in a hoarse voice, "Yes. Yes, please, save my child." The doctor nodded. "I'll try my best."

There was nothing to doubt about the doctor's efficiency because he was the head gynaecologist at the Military Central Hospital.

Forrest was a thoracic surgeon, so he could not help Camila. Therefore, he looked for the most qualified gynaecologist in the area to provide care for her.

When he went to her aid earlier, he realized how dire her current situation was. That was why he could not help but pace back and forth worriedly outside the operating room.

Camila was still in the operating room when Rowena arrived at the hospital.

She approached Forrest and asked, "What happened to her? How did she get hurt?"

Forrest did not know what exactly happened either.

He did know how badly injured Camila was, but he did not tell Rowena about it. He was aware that the older woman had recently been sick and should not be exposed to such awful news.

Instead, he said, "Don't worry, Mrs. Haynes. Camila will be fine."

His answer did not make Rowena any less worried. She grimaced. "This is all my fault. Camila is suffering right now because of me."

If she had made up her mind sooner and split up with Marvin, things might have been better for her daughter.

Now, she did not even know how serious Camila's injury was.

More than an hour later, the operation was completed successfully.

The only part of Camila that was spared was her face; the rest of her body was covered in wounds. She looked extremely frail as she lay on the bed.

Rowena walked up to her with bloodshot eyes and whispered, "Mila." Camila did not want to worry her mother further, so she smiled weakly and reassured, "I'm fine. Don't worry. Have you been released from the hospital?"

Rowena nodded.

"Mom, I'll transfer money to your account. Go and find a hotel to stay in.

Get some rest. Forrest will take care of me." She was trying to get her mother to leave.

Rowena took her hand and said, "I'm worried about you, Mila. Earlier, Aldrin hit someone while driving your car. I don't know what happened after that, but you might get accused of something you didn't do. The car is yours, after all."

Suddenly, realization flashed in Camila's eyes.

For a while, she could not say anything. Then, her lashes fluttered as her eyes threatened to close. "I see... Everything will be fine, Mom. Go to the hotel now. If you stay here with me, I'll just worry about you. I won't be able to rest properly."

Rowena knew her daughter was driving her away.

In between sobbing, she managed to say, "I've already asked your father for a divorce. Maybe I can help you if you tell me what's on your mind." Camila was barely fighting the urge to sleep now. She was so exhausted. "I'm fine. I'll tell you everything later."

She could not confide in her mother about this matter.

She could not reveal everything to Rowena. Or at least, she could not tell her that she had been physically assaulted. Rowena's anxiety would skyrocket if she learned about it

Camila did not want her to get sick again.

Rowena took in her daughter's exhausted appearance and asked, "Can I come to see you tonight?"

Camila nodded.

Rowena stood up and expressed her gratitude to Forrest.

"You're welcome," Forrest replied.

"Really, thank you so much," Rowena said.

After she left, Forrest wheeled Camila into her ward. He did not say anything. What she needed right now was rest, not interrogation.

"I'm not going to leave. If you need anything or if you feel pain anywhere, just call me," Forrest said in a low voice.

Camila managed a weak nod before closing her eyes.

She woke up two hours later.

"I'm thirsty," she said in a raspy voice.

Forrest poured a glass of water for her and helped her drink it.

She downed half a glass of water to ease the dryness in her throat.

Once she drank some water, the bitterness in her mouth went away. Her whole body was still in pain, however.

“What happened? Who did that to you?” Forrest finally asked.

“Was it Debora?” he guessed.

Camila shook her head,

She would have thought so if her mother had not told her that Aldrin had hit someone while driving her car. She knew what exactly had happened now.

If she was not wrong, Aldrin was the one behind the wheel of the car that hit Isaac.

Usually, the authorities would get involved if a fatality occurred in an accident. Isaac, however, took the matter into his own hands and ordered his men to find and teach the person who hit him a lesson. It was probably his injury that made him act irrationally.

Then again, the real culprit was her half-brother, and he was driving her car. She guessed they were not exactly wrong for beating her up. = “Forrest, I’m going to end my marriage with Isaac. I’ve already lost one of my children. I might lose the other one if I stay with him. I’ll also tell him that I’m pregnant,” Camila softly said. Forrest nodded. “Yeah, you should do that.”

It was not because he was heartless that he wanted Camila to divorce Isaac.

Camila had a child with another man, so did Isaac.

It was hard for them to get along.

Therefore, it was impossible for them to fall in love with each other. Not to mention, there were a lot of things standing in their way.

It would have been better if they did not have children.

“I don’t think Isaac will abandon his own child, even if he doesn’t like Debora,” Forrest muttered.

Camila smiled bitterly. “What are you talking about? Would he impregnate her if he doesn’t like her?”

She had been naive to trust Isaac’s words.

At that time, he said he did not like Debora.

If that was true, then why was Debora pregnant with his child now? Could he have sex with someone he had no feelings for?

Camila took a deep breath. She had no right to blame Isaac for this. # Anyway, it did not matter anymore. She no longer cared.

In another hospital, Isaac’s secretary, Wynter, walked inside the ward to report to him.

“The doctor who operated on Miss Griffith has run away, but I’ve dispatched a search party to look for him. Additionally, the person who caused the accident has been identified and punished. Her information is here.”

Wynter handed a document to Isaac.

Instead of taking it, Isaac ordered, “Find that doctor no matter what.” If there was nothing shady going on, why would the doctor suddenly run away?

“Understood. I’ll send more people to look for him. By the way, Miss Griffith said she wanted to see you, but didn’t let her come here. Would you like to see her?” Wynter asked.

Isaac waved his hand dismissively.

He did not want to see her.

He had no reason to talk to her now.

The baby was gone.

He had instructed Wynter to punish the driver to pacify his anger.

He did it to avenge his dead child. #

Before Wynter left the room, she said, “I’ll be just outside, sir. Call me if you need anything.”

She accidentally dropped the document in her hand, and Isaac inadvertently caught a glimpse of Camila’s name

Wynter bent over and picked up the paper. She was about to leave when

Isaac said, “Give me the driver’s information.”

When Wynter handed the document to him again, he took it.