

The CEO's Ex-Wife Is A Famous Doctor

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Bonus Chapter 2: The Thompson Cord Blood Foundation

"Please help us welcome, our founder's son and first speaker for tonight, Lucas Thompson," a host said in front of the stage, welcoming Lucas.

Years had passed. Lucas was now eighteen years old. His parents encouraged him to speak in front of many hopefuls, looking at stem cell treatment as a potential cure for their illnesses.

Over the years, stem cell treatments have been used to treat several diseases, including cancer, anemia, and even disorders like cerebral palsy and Parkinson's. Still, with cord blood storage being so expensive, only a few individuals could cope with saving their babies' cord and placenta blood. Thus, Evan established a cord bank foundation where depositors may only opt to give donations. Evan's co-founder was Kaleb Wright, his business partner at the Diamond Hotel.

That day was the foundation's opening. It was only fitting that the office is located at the Diamond Hotel while the blood bank remained at Saint Dominique Heart and Lung Center.

Everyone watched as the tall and handsome Lucas stood before the podium. Like Evan, he had those tantalizing eyes and a heart-shaped face that the young girls often adore.

Lucas waved at his parents and his uncles and aunts, who were also present. He glanced at his siblings, including the Wrights. Lucas especially smiled at Lily, who supported him that day. 2

Then, he looked at the screen to his left, where the critically ill patients could only watch the opening from their hospital rooms. Lucas spoke, "It seemed not so long ago that I was once like you. I was trapped in the four corners of my hospital room, wondering when I could get out."

He smiled at those on a video call with them, saying, "Know that you are not alone, and while being sick is tough, there is always hope."

"Like severe cases of anemia, I had aplastic anemia, where my bone marrow had stopped producing healthy cells. After my diagnosis, I was often sick, admitted to the hospital, and brought tears to my mother's eyes." Lucas looked down at his paper, saying, "My mother would never admit it, but I knew I made her cry."

He went on to narrate his experience during chemotherapy. He said, "It wasn't a walk in the park." He turned to the patients and said, "I felt what you felt – the pain and loneliness. I was often nauseous and, at some point, had an allergic reaction to one of my drugs. I lived in the hospital for four months, missing my loved ones."

Lucas fixed his gaze on the audience of the four-carat conference room. He said, "My parents never gave up on me, and who was I to give up when my brother and sister gave their blood cord to me? Back then, I told myself I won't fail them because I wanted to be with them longer. I love them that much."

"Day by day, I claimed to be better. I have my siblings' blood in me, and I fought my hardest, not wanting to waste that," he added. "A miracle happened. I got better and have been since. I am Lucas Thompson, and I am anemia free."

"My siblings' cord blood saved me, and I wish for some of you to have this miracle cure too. The Thompson's Cord Blood Foundation is not just my father's and uncle Kaleb's vision but mine too. And so, with this organization we have made, may the same miracle reach your veins the same way it did mine. May the heavens bless you and thank you for listening to me today," Lucas closed, and the room applauded. 1

At the second row of the seats, Shantelle stood up, clapping her hands. She was in tears, proud of her son. Evan followed, and so did Lucas' siblings. 1

Lily was also in tears in the front row, giving the loudest cheering. She said,

"That's my best friend!" 1

When Lucas returned to the front row, he was met with many embraces; from his family, his uncles and aunts, and lastly from his best friend, Lily. Despite the distance, they had remained the closest of friends.

Back on stage, the host maintained to clap his hand before addressing his words to Lucas. He said, "Those were beautiful words, Mister young Thompson. You are indeed an inspiration. Your parents raised you well."

When Lucas sat on his seat, Marcus and Amelia hugged him tightly. Amelia said, "If I could speak as a baby, I would do the same again and give you my cord blood because you are the best big bro, ever." 1

"I just love you, Luc," Marcus said.

"And me too!" Amara approached, hugging Lucas.

Shantelle, seated beside Lucas, hugged him again, saying, "Thank you, Lucas. You brought us so much joy, and we love you."

"Love you, son," Evan said.

Lucas smiled brightly at his parents before saying, "Love you too, Dad and Mom, and my crazy brother and sisters too." 1