

Chapter 13 Banned

"Why are you asking me that, Sir?" Camila felt a deep sense of foreboding.

The director appeared reluctant to say his next words. "I'm sure you understand what it means to be banned from the medical profession. I'm afraid that your career as a doctor is as good as ruined. No medical institution will dare to hire you from this point onward." 9

Camila froze in shock. To say that she was blindsided would be a gross understatement.

Her fists clenched and unclenched. "Sir, you know how much I love my job. I can't lose it." 2

"Well... Even if I wanted to keep you around, I am not in a position to defy Mr. Johnston's orders." The director did feel sorry for Camila. He had always found her work commendable, and he greatly appreciated her attitude and expert skills.

Sadly, he didn't have the power to let her stay.

"If you want to keep being a doctor, you will need to find Isaac and apologize to him properly. That would be better than losing your

job, right?" The director was very gentle and patient.

"I..." Camila started, only to trail off.

How could a sincere apology solve this when Isaac was already prejudiced against her since the beginning?

It wasn't as simple as her almost destroying his treasured memento; he had hated her since they had been forced into this sham marriage.

For all she knew, he could be using last night's incident to force her to divorce.

She took a deep breath and closed her eyes. "I understand."

"Go and figure things out," the director said. 4

Camila returned to her office in a daze.

Even if she begged Isaac on her knees, she was certain that he would not relent. The man was dead set on divorcing her, one way or another.

But she had signed that guarantee note with Robin. Divorce was off the table now.

She didn't want to break her promise to the old man.

The stress was getting to her, and Camila felt her stomach roil. She had the urge to throw up, but thankfully, it only lasted for a brief second. 2

She turned on her computer and began sending applications to other hospitals. To her dismay, all she got back were rejections. They were swift and concise with their response, too, as if seeing her name on the email was all it took for them to decide.

Camila had never felt the true implications of a ban than she did at that moment.

She couldn't afford to lose her profession. After contemplating it for a while, she took out her phone and dialed Forrest's number. She didn't have many friends aside from the man.

The call connected in no time.

"Mila?" Forrest's familiar voice brought her comfort.

"Do you think you can spare some time? I'd like to see you." Camila tried her best to sound normal. 5

"Of course."

The two made plans and agreed to meet at a nearby restaurant.

Since she was done for the day, anyway, Camila packed up her things and clocked out.

She was the first to arrive at the restaurant.

"I haven't found a match yet," Forrest said as

soon as he sat down, thinking that Camila wanted to talk about donor prospects for her mother's transplant.

"My mother already had her surgery," Camila said with a smile.

This surprised Forrest. "What? When? How come you didn't tell me before now?"

"Just yesterday. That's why I haven't told you until now."

Forrest nodded in relief. "Well, that's good, then. Was it a successful procedure?"

Camila nodded yes.

"So, what's up?" Forrest asked, noticing that she was distracted.

Camila braced herself. It was now or never. "I'm losing my job."

Forrest was shocked. Then confused, and finally, outraged, he asked, "What the hell? Did the director fire you?"

Camila shook her head. "I offended someone powerful."

"Who? Who is the bastard? I will speak with him and demand justice on your behalf!"

Camila hesitated for a while before answering him, thinking that Forrest might be acquainted

with her husband. "Isaac Johnston."

Forrest promptly spat out the water he'd been drinking. "He's the reason why you were fired?"

Camila nodded again.

"How did you offend him? Is this related to Debora?" He couldn't think of any plausible cause for Isaac to target Camila.

The thing was, Isaac and Camila hadn't held a wedding ceremony, and the man himself never acknowledged their relationship in public. It went without saying that apart from the Johnston and Haynes families, no one else knew that they were married.

That included Forrest.

Camila hadn't seen the need to tell him, since at the time, she was under the impression that she would eventually divorce Isaac. ¹

Unaware of the complicated matters between Isaac and Camila, Forrest could only assume that their conflict had something to do with Debora.

Forrest spoke again before Camila could answer him. "Actually, this is the first time that I've seen Isaac pursuing a woman. I still think he has bad tastes, though. What on earth does he see in Debora?"

As for Camila, she didn't care whom Isaac liked or pursued.

Besides, even if she agreed with Forrest's opinion, each person was entitled to their own likes and dislikes.

Just because they detested Debora didn't automatically mean that everyone else would.


After hearing Forrest's remarks, Camila became sure that he was indeed close with Isaac. "That time," she said carefully, "the man you asked me to treat in your stead, was it Isaac?"

She had already guessed as much after Willie had introduced himself as Isaac's assistant.

She was only asking Forrest now to confirm her hunch.

"That's right, but remember not to tell anyone."

Forrest had absolute trust in Camila.

If not, he wouldn't have asked her for that favor in the first place. 

They were both silent for a while, then Forrest said, "I'll speak to Isaac for you."

Camila thought it would be best to tell him about her relationship with Isaac then, but she didn't know how to break the news. After some deliberation, she chose to hold her tongue.

"Thank you."

"Come on, we're friends." Forrest flashed her a smile. "Didn't you say you would treat me to a meal last time?"

Camila chuckled. "I did. Lunch is on me."

At the office of Paramount Corporation.

Isaac walked into his office, having just come out from an important meeting.

Willie immediately rushed to his side and said, "Mr. Johnston, I happened to see Miss Haynes and Forrest having lunch together."

Isaac's head whipped around in surprise. "What did you say? Camila and Forrest know each other?" 34