

Chapter 71

The moment Victoria left her and took steps towards Greg, Kathie stood still, but at alert, in case the asshole she was staring at wanted to do anything silly to her best friend.

Even though it was likely for her not to hear the conversation because of the distance between them, Kathie had her eyes trained on the duo.

"What the??!!!" She cursed when she saw Vicky hit Greg on the cheek. She was definitely not expecting that first move from her friend and being afraid that something even more serious might escalate, she moved away from where she was and took a few steps closer.

At this point, she could hear a bit of their conversation because the duo were both talking at the top of their voices.

Kathie felt even more relieved when she saw the security men approach them and took Greg away because they were starting to cause some form of attention.

The moment Greg was out of sight, Kathie approached her best friend.

"What an asshole!"

"But you did so well baby. I definitely wasn't seeing that slap coming."

"I honestly didn't see it coming either. It just happened."

"You did the right thing. You put him in his place. I rarely see this side of you and I won't lie that it feels so good. You just defended your family against that bastard. I couldn't be more proud of you."

"I hate his guts so much. I hate the fact that he has wronged so many people and he still has some shitty confidence to bully me."

"I love the fact that you dealt with him. He deserves it and I am sure your hormones triggered the slap."

"Did I do too much?"

"No, babe. It was perfect!"

"You want me to drive or you want to do it?"

"You should." Vicky collected her handbag from her and made her way over to the front passenger seat.

They both got in and buckled their seatbelts.

"Should we go to peptoos?" Kathie asked after they both settled in the car. It was Vicky's favorite restaurant.

Vicky sighed, massaging her temple with her fingers. "I have honestly lost my appetite."

"I understand you, babe. But please take your mind off Greg. I am sure this is what he wants, to ruin your happiness, and you shouldn't let him."

"I know. I just feel exhausted already."

"But we can go. Is there a gift shop around there?"

"There should be. Why do you ask?"

"I have a daughter to make it up to. So hopefully presents would work."

Kathie smiled, "I love the sound of that. What do you have in mind?"

"Nothing specific yet but I want her to feel amazing about being a big sister."

Kathie started the engine and drove out of the hospital's parking lot towards the direction of the restaurant. They got there in no time and had a well-deserved meal after which they went to a gift shop and then made their way back to the office.

Coming out of the elevator into their floor, Vee sighted Ashton having a conversation with another colleague. Their eyes met for a while after but Vicky quickly turned her gaze away, making her way to her office.

"Victoria?" Ashton called out to her but she ignored and he started walking towards her.

Kathie stopped in her tracks and blocked the way, facing him with her arms folded while Victoria went into her office.

"What do you want?" Kathie scoffed at him.

"Why are you blocking the way?"

She glared at him.

"Get off, I want to talk to Vicky."

"She doesn't want to talk to you."

"How do you know that?"

"Because I always know everything."

"I am not in the mood, Kathie. Just get off."

"Does it look like I am making some kind of joke here?"

"It is work-related. I need to see her."

"Send her an email if it is that urgent. She doesn't want to see you."

"Don't make me put you in your place, Kathie. As much as I can be a gentleman, I can be nasty too."

"Put me in my place?" Kathie scoffed, "and who the hell told you that you are a gentleman?"

"To think I mistook you for one in the past. You are no different from other men. I can't believe there was a time when I was rooting for you."

"Is this about my last conversation with her? I know Vicky is your best friend and you care about her but don't you think you pry too much in her business?"

"You think so? Those times when I was rooting for you, literally begging her to give you a chance and at least go on a date with you, I was not seen to be prying in her business then?"

"Now you want to take credit for all that happened?"

"No, and it is very disgusting to see you with such a mentality. I care about Vicky's happiness a lot and that includes getting rid of you if I have to."

"Or do I need to remind you that shortly after you see her, your girlfriend is going to come all the way here, throwing tantrums as though Victoria was the one forcing herself on you."

"Bessie is not my girlfriend!" He glared at Kathie.

"Just stay away, Ash. If it is really that important, you can just send her an email."

"I have been fighting myself from saying this but the truth is that you are just an assistant and you do not tell me what to do. Just as Vicky is your boss, you should give me some sort of respect too."

Kathie chuckled. "In that case, my boss said she doesn't want to see you. You can probably come back later."

"That is not going to work because this is urgent."

With a hand, Ashton pushed Kathie away from where she stood and made his way to Victoria's office.

He saw her seated behind her desk, typing away on the laptop before her.

"Vee?" He said, approaching her desk.

"How may I help you?" She responded, not looking up from her laptop.

"Do you have a moment to spare?" He asked, approaching her desk and taking a seat on the visitor's chair.

"I know I have been an asshole. Please forgive me."

She looked up, staring at him for the first time since he walked in."

"What do you want?"

"I know I behaved like an asshole and I am deeply sorry about it."

Vee said nothing. She just continued to stare at him with a plain expression.

"Look, I am sorry. I was just really desperate for you. I mean, I have tried everything I could just so we can be a thing but it didn't work out so I thought going that way would favor me."

"I meant it when I said you should spend a night with me but my intentions were pure. I just want to spend time with you and of course, there's no way I was going to force you to do anything that didn't come from your mind. I was desperate and I regret it."

"Anything else?"

"You are not going to reply to what I just said?"

"I'm busy, Ash. Is there anything else you want?"

"You are not going to forgive me?"