



# The Bride Who Let Go

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**Category:** Romance, Mystery

**Description:** On the day I was meant to say “I do” to Max Hunter, he vanished—eloping with his first love without a single explanation.

What followed was a twisted game of cruelty: snapshots of their globe-trotting romance, delivered to me like souvenirs of betrayal. Years passed. I moved on. I rebuilt my life—and found love again. So when Max returned out of nowhere, furious at a wedding photo of me and my husband, I couldn’t help but laugh.

“You didn’t seriously think I was waiting for you, did you?”

**Total Pages (Source):** 10

# Page 1

*Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:17 am*

On the day of my wedding to Max Hunter, he ran away with his first love.

He would send me a picture of himself with her from every new place they went, as if to make fun of me.

I was getting my nails done and having tea with French pastries when I got their 99th photo.

But after being gone for three years, Max came back all of a sudden.

He yelled, "How dare you fool around with another man while I was gone!" and pointed to a picture of me and someone else at my wedding.

I couldn't help but laugh. "What other man? My husband and I have been married for three years."

"Max, you didn't really think I was waiting for you this whole time, did you?"

Max yelled at me and glared at me, "You think I'll believe your excuses?"

"Tell me which guy you've been sleeping with! I'll make you both feel bad about it!"

When he pulled on my arm, it made a cracking sound that hurt me.

Vivian, my mother-in-law, heard the noise and came outside. When she saw a strange man grabbing my arm, she ran to help me.

“Who are you?” Let her go right now!”

Max thought the older woman who looked like a normal person was our housekeeper, so he pushed her to the ground. “Old lady, this is between me and her.” Don’t get involved!”

I yelled, “Mom!” when I saw Vivian lose her balance and fall. Are you all right?”

Max stopped moving when he heard me call her “Mom.” Then, as he held my arm even tighter, the anger in his eyes seemed to be about to explode.

“Mom? Is that your mother-in-law? I thought you were doing better for yourself!

“Your new man doesn’t seem like he’s worth much, judging by how bad her dresses are.”

He squeezed my arm hard enough to leave a purple bruise, and I cried.

“Have you lost your mind? You left me alone for three years without saying anything, and now you come back!”

“Remember, we weren’t even married when you left because we didn’t have the ceremony!””Hey!”

Max stopped at my words and then started to pull me towards the door.

“Everyone knows that our families set up our marriage. You can’t just say we weren’t married!

“This villa is my family’s. You moved in with your boy toy and now you’re talking back to me? You have some nerve!”

Max pulled me from the villa complex to the intersection, stopping only at the busiest spot where everyone could see.

“Elena, you found another man while I was away. How could you do that?”

“This villa belongs to me. Get out right away and pay me five million dollars in back rent!”

“Otherwise, I’ll ruin your family’s and your own reputation!”

I saw a familiar face in the crowd: Max’s first love, the woman he had run away with. She smiled at me with a smug look on her face and hate in her eyes.

I was able to smile a little.

Max had already made me look bad when he left, and now he was back to make me look bad again.

I married Max to save my family’s business, thinking that our marriage would save the company.

However, my family’s business never got the money it needed to stay open until he left, and it eventually had to file for bankruptcy.

The rich people who lived next door to Max in the villa complex had heard his accusations and already believed most of what he said. “Of course this woman doesn’t come out much; she’s been hiding a lover in that villa!”

“I thought she was rich, but she’s just using some guy’s money. What a little tramp!”

At that moment, my mother-in-law came out limping, holding her back and glaring

angrily at Max.

“Let go of her hand right now! You’ll be sorry when my son gets back!”

“Don’t be scared, Elena. Mom will keep you safe.

When Max heard this, he wasn’t scared at all. Instead, he dragged me along the ground, making me slide slowly.

“You old hag, do you dare to threaten me? It doesn’t matter who you think you are; you’re still living in MY villa. Get out and pack your things!”

The little rocks on the ground cut into my legs and left two trails of blood behind me.

“Max, this is my villa!” Ask your parents what really happened back then when you get home!

“Let me go, or I’ll kill you!”

## Page 2

*Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:17 am*

“This woman does not work for me. Be careful who you upset!”

Clara cut Max off just as he was about to say something.

She pushed through the crowd with rage and kicked me hard in the chest.

“Why are you crying and acting like a little slut? Are you trying to get the rich guys around here to like you?

“Wasn’t it enough to flirt with some pretty boy behind Max’s back? Now you’re flirting with everyone!”

Her kick made my chest hurt and made it feel like I had a ball of cotton stuck in my throat.

Vivian ran over to protect me with her body when she saw Clara hit me.

“Elena, are you okay? Just hang on a little longer while I find a way to help you!”

When Clara saw someone try to stop her, she angrily grabbed her hair and slapped her face several times.

“You’re an old fool! You really think this villa is yours just because you moved in?

“Elena Brooks is a piece of trash, but I’d beat your pretty boy son if he were here!””

She lost her balance from the blows and fell to the ground, where she stayed still.

When I saw her covered in dirt, I screamed in pain, “Mom!””

I yelled at Clara and Max when I turned around.

“Take it out on me if you have a problem! Don’t hit my mum! She’s more than sixty years old. Don’t you have a heart?”

Max got angry because of this comment. He pulled my hair and took off his belt, hitting me over and over.

I was lying on the ground, unable to move, and I could barely see the shadows of people moving around me.

I shut my eyes in despair, thinking I might die right then and there.

At that moment, a man in the crowd couldn’t take it anymore and yelled, “Stop!””

Max looked up at the bald man and made a face.

“Are you also one of Elena’s lovers? Why do you care about her so much? If so many of you like her, she must be good in bed!

“Rich wives, watch out! This woman will sleep with anyone, so don’t let her take your husbands!”

The rich wives in the crowd looked at me with suspicion after he spoke. Their eyes, which had once been kind, now looked cold, like they wanted to spit on me.

The man stood in front of me, ready to fight Max.

“Sir, please be careful what you say. You can’t hit a woman in public like this!”

Max's eyes went back and forth between us when he heard this. Then he punched the man in the nose and straddled him, hitting him over and over.

"You think I'm scared of you? I'll kill you both, you cheating couple!"

I could see the good Samaritan's face getting bruised and swollen from the beating through my blurry vision.

"Stop dragging innocent people into this! If you have a problem, take it out on me!"

Max sneered and slowly walked towards me, putting his foot on my face and pushing down harder.

"I won't spare this old woman or this lover of yours!"

"All of you are trash. Today I will teach you something. Who told you it was okay to stay in MY villa?"

After that, Clara and Max hit my mother-in-law and me in the face over and over again. I could feel my teeth loosening from the blows.

Clara's blows knocked my mother-in-law out before she could even open her eyes. She was too old to fight back.

Her face was soon covered in blood, which made it hard to tell what she was feeling.

I was shocked when I saw her head droop weakly to one side.

My asthma got worse because of the stress, and I started to gasp for air.

"Please... Please get my medicine!"



I couldn't feel any pain anymore, just the feeling of someone choking me and making it hard to breathe.

But Max angrily pushed my hand away, found a bottle of medicine in my pocket, and threw it away. "Want your medicine? Stop acting! I had no idea you had asthma!"

Clara was nearby, laughing loudly and resting one hand on Max's shoulder.

"Max, she cheated on you!" What difference does it make if she lives or dies?

"She'll die because heaven wants to punish her for being so promiscuous!"

They both worked together to lift me up and started ripping my clothes off.

"You like being a slut? We'll give you what you want today!"

I saw half of my shirt get ripped off while a lot of people watched and filmed it with their phones.

## Page 3

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I could hardly breathe now, and I was begging Max over and over.

“Give me my medicine or I’ll die!”

“Please, please... Just give me the medicine, and I’ll forget everything that happened!”

Max threw me to the ground like a rag, as if he had heard something funny.

“How dare you talk about forgiveness when I should be the one settling scores with you? That’s a joke! “Get out of my villa right now and give me five million dollars, or else!”

While he talked, his eyes were on my bare chest, and he couldn’t help but swallow. “If I’d known you had such a great body, I would have slept with you before I left!” It’s not too late now. I’ll give you your medicine if you give me some fun!”

Max dangled the asthma inhaler in front of me, then picked me up and carried me towards the villa. “No, don’t touch me!” Please let me go!”

I held my chest tightly and kept begging him to let me go.

Max’s eyes roamed over my body with desire.

“Now you’re begging me? It’s too late! If you make me happy, I won’t charge you rent for three years!”

Then he pushed down on me with all his weight.

I closed my eyes in despair when I smelt something strange on my body.

Out of nowhere, a car horn blared loudly.

A Maybach with a limited number of copies drove into the courtyard.

A respectable man quickly got out of the car and yelled, “Stop!”

“Why are you here?”

When Max saw the man’s face, his look of disdain quickly turned to one of adoration.

He moved closer and asked, “Mr. Zack, why are you here?”

“Mr. Zack, I’ve been trying to see you, but your secretary always says you’re busy. It must be fate that I ran into you today.”

“Max Hunter Company is my company. We’d like to work with you to get into foreign markets. Do you have time to talk about a partnership?” Max said, trying to impress him.

Ryan Zack didn’t pay attention to the business card Max gave him. Instead, he kept looking at me nervously.

“Are you okay?”

When he saw all the injuries on me and Vivian, he stared at Max with his fists clenched, making cracking sounds.

As soon as he was done talking, an ambulance came and took both my mother-in-law and me inside.

Max ran over and waved to Clara, telling her to come.

“These two are just homeless people who moved into my villa. Don’t worry about them; I was just getting rid of them.

“This is Clara Foster, my wife. We’ve been working together in other countries for a few years.

Clara looked down shyly and kept adjusting her clothes when she saw Ryan’s handsome face.

Ryan laughed coldly and hit Max right in the nose.

“What kind of trash do you think you can do business with me?”

“Those two people getting into that ambulance are my wife and mother. I’ll make you pay for this!”

Max’s smile stopped moving. He pointed at me and had a hard time talking.

“The Brooks family went broke. How could she possibly be related to you? Don’t let her fool you!

“Our business is doing well in other countries. Mr. Zack, you’ll be sorry you didn’t work with us!”

Ryan laughed at what he said.

“Elena will fix any problems you have with her when she wakes up.” I know exactly what kind of person you are!”

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Max tried to explain more, but Ryan didn't let him and got into the ambulance.

He held my hand and looked guilty. "Elena, this is all my fault. I let you and Mom down!"

I weakly opened my eyes and said through tears, "Ryan, I will get back at you for this."

After saying this, I slowly closed my eyes and felt better because Ryan was there.

My whole body hurt like it had been hit by a truck. I could still see Max's angry face as he ripped at my clothes, even with my eyes closed.

I would definitely get back at you, Max. Just wait.

It was the next morning when I woke up. I saw Ryan by my hospital bed and reached out to touch his head gently, worried about him.

"You don't have to stay with me." How is Mom? I messed up and got her into this mess!"

My voice was rough, and every time I moved, it hurt all over my body.

Ryan looked worried and said, "Mom's fine." Last night she woke up. You should focus on getting better! I'll take care of everything else!

He quickly returned to the company to take care of business after calming me down.

I was in the hospital for a week before I felt like I had my life back.

I looked at the bright sun outside on the day I got out and slowly came up with a plan for revenge.

Max, just wait until I get back at you!

I heard that Ryan and his guys beat up Max and messed up all of his business deals.

That's why Max and his friends have been trying to get Ryan to meet with them at work.

I asked Ryan about it, and he said that Max's money from abroad had run out, so he came back to look for investors.

Some people here don't know what's going on in the news from other countries, so he's been able to trick a lot of investors.

I can't wait to see how he tries to trick me!

I parked my car at the entrance to the company and stood next to Max and Clara, who were dressed in expensive clothes that made them look rich.

"Well, well, do you really have the guts to come looking for my husband? Did you think you could beat me that day and get away with it?"

Max's eyes flashed with guilt when he saw me.

Clara looked at me with disgust, but after Ryan beat her up, she knew better than to say anything and kept her head down.

I walked up to Clara and hit her hard in the face.

“You dare to glare at me? Do you think everyone is as cheap as you are?”

“You’re asking my husband for help and you can’t even be nice to me? Let me show you the right way to ask for help!”

I rolled up my sleeves and slapped Clara a few more times, hitting her so hard that she lost her balance in her high heels and fell to the ground.

Clara held her hurting face in her hands and didn’t say anything. She just looked to Max for help.

“She’s hitting me in the face, and you’re just standing there like a post?””

When she saw that Max wasn’t moving, she got up in a rage and tried to hit me. I just stuck out my leg and tripped her, making her fall flat on her face.

Clara’s mouth hit the ground, breaking one of her front teeth.

Max looked at my clothes, which were very different from what I usually wear. He couldn’t take his eyes off me.

“Elena, it’s been three years since we last saw each other. You don’t care about me at all?

“Whatever Ryan can give you, I can give you too. You were supposed to marry me. Please come back to me.”

He sounded like he was begging, like he really loved me.



I might have believed him if I didn't know what he was really like.

But I wasn't the same innocent girl who had waited for him. I looked him straight in the eye when I raised my head.

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“Have you forgotten? You and your mistress beat me up just a few days ago!

“Why should I care about you? You left me behind and ran off with her. We never got married. Who says we’re together?”

“How dare you say you’re like Ryan Zack? Did you leave your brain in another country when you came back?”

Max’s face got paler with every sentence I said.

He clearly didn’t expect me to say such mean things, and he looked at me with tears in his eyes.

“Elena, I know I messed up. I see that now. Please give me another chance.

“I was just blind back then.” I’ve come back now, and I’ve made money to marry you!”

Max got down on one knee and slowly opened a ring box he had taken out of his pocket after they talked.

Clara, who was still on the ground, saw the ring she had always wanted being given to me. She got up quickly and tried to grab it.

“Max, you were the one who begged me to leave with you! You said Elena was as boring as watching paint dry and promised to love me forever.”

“I’m warning you: if you dump me, I’ll take you down with me!”

Clara grabbed the ring and gave us a suspicious look.

I laughed and looked at her. “Don’t worry.” No one wants to fight you over things that are so cheap.

“You must have lost a lot of money while travelling if you think that little ring is something special. How sad!”

After that, staff members took me to the CEO’s private lift.

When I got off the lift, I saw Ryan waiting for me at the door.

“So, does that help now?”

I smiled and jumped into Ryan’s arms. “Don’t worry. I only gave him a hard time today. The main event is still to come.”

I smiled as I saw security take Max and Clara out.

I called the secretary’s office after that. “Get all the details about Max’s money matters abroad and send them to our business partners.”

I was sure that this would stop him from doing his scams.

I soon heard that everyone was telling Max to leave. His act was finally over.

He already owed a lot of money in other countries, and now he couldn’t get any money from people in his own country either.

He somehow figured out that I was the one who leaked the information, and he angrily came to the mansion to wait for me.

I was driving home and talking to my best friend on video chat.

“I’ll put all the business deals you offered into savings. Ryan gives me \$30,000 a month to spend, and I’m saving it all!”

I saw Max’s face change from a snarl of anger to a smile of affection as I got out of the car.

“Elena, I was wrong. Please give me a chance to show you how sincere I am!”

Max fell to his knees with a thud, pulling on my clothes with both hands.

I was getting impatient and pointed my phone camera at him.

“Do you like me or just my money?”

“Let you prove yourself, and then you run off with my money? Are you dreaming?”

“Was it your twin brother who beat me last week? Where’s all that toughness now?”

Max didn’t get mad when I made fun of him. Instead, he hit himself in the face hard twice.

“I messed up. I didn’t see how valuable you were. I’ll hit myself—does that make you happy, Elena?”

Max looked at me carefully, and his voice was full of desperation to please.

He thought we were alone in the dark, but he didn't know that my best friend was streaming live. In our area, she is a pretty well-known influencer.

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When I realised this, I had a great idea all of a sudden.

“If you want me to forgive you, get down on your knees and bang your head on the ground a few times. If I’m in a good mood, I might even let you have some money!”

Max’s eyes lit up right away when he heard I might give him money.

He started hitting his head against the ground over and over again. He hit harder when he saw that I wasn’t reacting.

He slapped his own face while he was bowing. “I was wrong! I’m so sorry, my lady! Please forgive this nobody and let me live!”

“I promise to worship you from now on.” If you say east, I won’t go west. I’ll be the best dog you could ever have!”

I couldn’t help but laugh when I stepped on his hand after hearing what he said.

“Are you my obedient dog?” Then come and clean my shoes!”

Max only thought about it for a second before eagerly bending down to lick my designer heels.

I looked at him in disgust. What a good dog he was.

I couldn’t wait to see how he would react when he found out that everyone in the country was watching his embarrassing show.

I pulled out my phone and opened my friend's live stream. "Come here, good dog." You're famous now!"

Max was shocked to see that the livestream had more than a hundred thousand viewers. His face went pale right away.

"Are you setting me up, Elena? You've been streaming live without my knowledge?"

Max stood up angrily and raised his fist like he was going to hit me.

I wasn't scared of him this time. I pointed to the new security camera that had been put up at the door.

"I haven't even gotten back at you for beating me last time. Are you trying to get locked up?"

"And I'm setting you up? Did I make you kneel and bow to me?"

I looked at him with disgust, walked past him, and threw away my high heels that he had licked. I put on the flats I wore while driving instead.

I watched through the video doorbell as Max yelled angry insults and then left in a huff after I closed the door. When I got back, Vivian came out to say hello. Her eyes filled with disgust when she saw Max.

"Why don't you just call the cops and let them deal with him? It's gross that we have to deal with someone like him!"

I put my arm around her to calm her down. "Mom, jail would be too easy for him. I'll take care of him myself after I'm done having fun."

Max was trending on social media the next day. People with sharp eyes on the internet started looking into his past and found out that he had broken up with me three years ago.

Everyone quickly agreed with me, even though I did pay for a lot of fake comments to help it along.

Everyone learnt that Max had only come back to the country to raise money because he couldn't get there anymore. I told them to do so.

The Miller family used to run a big business, but after Max broke up with me, Ryan got back at them, and they haven't been seen in the business world since.

Max's company overseas quickly went bankrupt when it ran out of money.

He and Clara could only live by selling their expensive things.

I came across him while he was trying to sell his Hublot Big Bang watch.

Max stepped back a few steps slowly when he saw me, as if he were trying to get away from me.

I pointed to the bruises on my face that were still there and looked at the watch he was holding.

“I still haven't gotten even with you for beating me. That's a nice watch. I'll take it as payment for my medical bills.”



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As soon as I stopped talking, a bodyguard came up behind me, took the watch from Max's hand, and gave it to me with respect.

Max desperately tried to get back his last valuable item when he saw it being taken.

But my bodyguard kept him away, so he couldn't touch me.

I laughed and dropped the watch on the ground, then stomped on it with my heel.

Max had high hopes for this watch, but I was going to break it.

"Who do you think you are? If you had been a good dog, I might have given you some money!"

I walked over and lightly patted Max's cheek. Then I turned around and walked away in my heels.

The screen on the million-dollar watch was completely broken, so it was useless to sell.

Max fell to his knees in pain after I left, staring at the broken watch in his hands and clenching his fists.

He had to go back and talk to Clara about what to do about their money problems because he couldn't sell the watch.

He didn't know that Clara already knew I was coming.

I even had someone lie to her on purpose to make her think that Max and I were getting back together.

Clara was totally in love with Max, and I was curious to see how she would react if she thought he was going to leave her.

I sat in my car and quietly followed Max back to the hotel.

They had sold all of their homes in the country and could only afford to stay in hotels now.

When Max walked into the lobby of the hotel, he saw Clara coming with a bottle of water. “Clara, what are you up to?”

He was confused when he looked at Clara. Because they were so well-known right now, they tried to stay inside as much as possible.

Those paparazzi were like cats stalking mice, always on the lookout for any sign of scandal. Clara held the water bottle tightly in her hand and faced Max. “Where did you go this morning?”

Max’s eyes flickered uncomfortably because he didn’t want Clara to know that I had embarrassed him. He laughed nervously and scratched the back of his head.

“I went to look for investors because I want to start over here.”

When Clara heard his answer, she laughed bitterly and threw some pictures in Max’s face.

“What’s this? Are you going to leave me and go live the good life with Elena?”

She yelled at Max and slapped him hard across the face.

Max was shocked. He touched his cheek and looked at the pictures in shock.

Clara smiled a little and ripped the pictures in half, throwing the pieces into the air. Max grabbed Clara by the throat and held his face in anger.

“Are you crazy? Can’t you see that someone is trying to frame me?” Clara gasped for air in his grip, but her lips curled into a sad smile. “Max, I’ll never let you be with another woman. So let’s go to hell together!”

Then she took off the cap of the water bottle and threw it at Max.

Max let her go when the clear liquid burned his skin, and he fell to the floor, writhing in pain. Someone called the police right away.

The police arrested Clara and took her to the station.

They took Max to the hospital right away. He would probably need skin grafts because he had a lot of burns all over his body.

When I got to the hospital, I saw him lying there in a yellowish, bad-smelling fluid. I had to cover my nose because I was so disgusted.

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Max's eyes lit up with hope when he saw me, but his throat could only make hoarse sounds.

I walked over, smiled at him, and took out a stack of pictures.

“Are you curious about who took these pictures of you? It was me. I made this gift for you ahead of time. Do you like it?”

“Did your pig brain really think I'd take you back after you left me?”

“What makes you better than Ryan? Look at how messed up you are in the mirror!”

I spoke to him one word at a time.

Max's eyes slowly lost their light until he was lying on the bed, not caring about what I said.

After I finished yelling at him, I turned to look out the window. “Come in now!”

Max looked at me in confusion, then at the door.

Two police officers came in, showed Max their badges, and were polite.

“Hi, you're involved in a serious assault case. Please work with us.”

Max's eyes were on me, and his mouth was trying to say something.

Sadly, Clara had hurt his throat, so he couldn't say a word.

He lay on the hospital bed like a lamb waiting to be killed, waiting for his fate.

The police were still officially taking Max's statement when I left the hospital.

But Max couldn't even say anything.

Max was sent to jail after getting basic care for his injuries.

Without proper long-term care, the burns on his body kept getting infected. His whole body was affected in some way.

Max was taken to the hospital with a high fever after spending a month in jail.

I sent the best burn doctors in the country to help him right away, no matter what the cost.

Three months later, doctors were able to take skin from his back and buttocks to cover the burned areas. But his face would never look the same again.

He could talk again after the treatment, but his voice sounded like a broken bell.

Finally, he was given the go-ahead to leave.

Doctors at the hospital told Max that a nice person had saved him by paying for his care.

He thought about who it could be until he saw me. At that point, he finally got it.

He didn't think I would still have feelings for him after everything that had happened.

“You saved me? What do you want?”

I sat in my fancy car and looked at my new manicure. There was a monster outside with scars all over it.

“You did this to yourself, so enjoy it!”

“This is what you get for leaving me three years ago. Don’t think I’ve been missing you; I just like to finish what I start.

I threw my water bottle out the window.

It hit Max right in the head, knocking his hat off.

People who walked by the hospital screamed when they saw Max’s face.

“That must be a monster! Those marks on his face are so scary!”

“Why doesn’t this freak stay home instead of coming out to make people sick? If there weren’t police around, I’d kick him away myself!”

“What bad luck to see such a gross thing!”

Max quickly bent down to get his cap after hearing these mean words.

He had to try a few times to put it back on while people were making fun of him.

I saw the police push him into the patrol car. I rolled up my window and sped past them.

As my car turned the corner, Max looked up and saw me.

He was then brought back to jail to finish his sentence. A lot of people were interested in the case because the judge had given him five years for hitting me.

He would have a lot to deal with in jail.

Ryan, who hadn't been around much lately, was reading the newspaper on the couch when I got home. When he saw me come back, he came over and spun me around in his arms.

"Are you happy now? You even paid for his treatment. If you ask me, you shouldn't have bothered with him!"

I kissed Ryan on the cheek when I saw that he was jealous.

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“Stop being jealous. He can’t even compare to one of your hairs!”

“Why even bother with him? Do you know what people are calling him now? The horrible monster!”

Ryan looked at me with love and I burst out laughing and fell into his arms.

Vivian came out of her room upstairs and teased us right then.

“When are you two going to have a baby for me?””

As Ryan took my hand and led me to our bedroom, I shyly lowered my head under his loving gaze.

Two months later, I suddenly realised that my period, which usually comes on time, hadn’t come. I took a pregnancy test, and sure enough, I was pregnant.

I was shocked and sat on the toilet, touching my belly and yelling for Ryan.

Ryan was getting ready to go to work when he heard me and ran in quickly.

“Elena, what’s wrong? Did you fall?”

I slowly held up the pregnancy test while my other hand gently rubbed my stomach, all while he looked at me with worry.

“You’re to blame!””



Ryan couldn't believe what he saw in the two lines. Then, with overwhelming joy, he carefully took me to the hospital.

The doctor confirmed I was two months pregnant after running a series of tests.

"You don't have to be too careful. The baby is growing up well. Just come in once a month for a check-up!"

Ryan nodded and wrote this down carefully before helping me leave the clinic.

We saw a stretcher being rushed through the emergency room as we walked through the hospital lobby.

"Get out of the way! Get out of the way! We have a patient who is infected all over their body!"

Ryan held me protectively in his arms while I looked over. To my surprise, I knew the person on the stretcher.

Max lay there with a red face, mumbling in a crazy way.

"I was wrong... please... I was totally wrong! Please give me one more chance... I want to have a lot of money!"

Max seemed to know something was wrong when I frowned at him and suddenly opened his eyes to look at me.

His face went pale when he saw Ryan gently touching my stomach.

Right away, the doctors yelled for help with resuscitation because the patient had passed out!

Ryan and I smiled at each other, held hands, and walked out of the hospital together towards our beautiful future. A few months later, I had twins. We named them Asher and Aria.

I smiled as I closed my eyes and watched Ryan make formula for our two babies in their cribs. After all these years, my life had finally reached the shores of happiness. I was starting a new chapter.

Clara is my name.

I had a boyfriend in college, but sadly, after graduation, he had to go home for an arranged marriage.

I got Max drunk the night before their wedding and had a great time with him.

I did everything I could to make him happy that night, and the next day he couldn't bear to leave me. So I told him to take me with him when he went abroad.

That's how we left Elena behind. Once we got to another country, we started a small business with money Max had stolen from his family. At first, we made some big deals and the business was very profitable. We began to live a lavish lifestyle. But soon, the business started to fail and was about to go bankrupt.

I told him to go home for help. After all, his family was so rich that any problem could be solved with just a word from him!

But when we got back, we found that everything had changed. Max's parents had gone bankrupt the year we ran away and had vanished.

We went to Ryan Zack's company to save the company. He was a well-known business tycoon.

If we could work with him, our business wouldn't just stay alive; it would do well.

We waited for several days and almost ran out of money, but we never saw Ryan.

Max remembered that he had given Elena a villa as an engagement gift before their wedding when they were in trouble.

There were couple things everywhere when we got there: matching slippers at the door, matching mugs on the table, and a man's razor

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I felt better knowing that Elena was living there with another man. If she hadn't been, I would have had to worry about her trying to get Max back.

We went right up and hit Elena a few times. A housekeeper who was dressed simply came out of the house.

I don't know what Elena was thinking. She had a huge villa with almost no staff. This made things very easy for Max and me.

Max pulled Elena to the corner, and I followed closely behind, feeling excited. The more he hit her, the less likely it was that they would get back together.

I was feeling pretty good about myself when I realised we might have hurt someone's feelings.

I had met the famous Mr. Zack before, but I didn't know that the old woman was his mother!

People later hit us with bags over our heads. It must have been Ryan who told them to do it.

But we were too scared to upset him.

Max started taking me to a lot of social events to help save our business.

But that stupid Max was trying to get in touch with Elena without my knowledge.

What a dumb thing to do! Why would she give him the time of day? Because he doesn't clean up after himself?

Everyone knew I was the one who broke up Max and his wife three years ago.

Then I got a lot of pictures of Max and Elena together.

I was so angry that I wanted to go see what they were talking about.

Why should he leave me now that things are hard, just so he can have fun by himself?

That was just a dream!

I heard a cleaner in the hotel lift say that sulphuric acid was good for cleaning up bathroom stains.

I quietly took the sulphuric acid from her cart and put it in my pocket. Just as I was about to go look for Max, he came back.

I couldn't stop laughing as I watched him hold his burning skin. He would never have a good life again!

I got ten years in prison for assaulting someone on purpose.

It felt like an invisible hand was pushing everything forward from the start.

I finally understood that it was all part of Elena's careful plan when I saw her scornful smile.

From the pictures that were meant to make me angry to the sulphuric acid—someone had been planning every move to send me to hell.

But I realised too late that I was already a prisoner.

Max got burned badly, and I had a lot of scars too.

I was sent to jail before I could get the right care.

I was given five years in prison. I didn't want to, but I looked up at Max one last time.

Did he care about me?

Yes, probably, because he left his fiancée to run away with me.

But no was also true.

He would leave me for money as well.

This was my punishment, and it was also Max's.

I would be in prison for the rest of my life.

A few months later, the burned parts of my body started to leak pus.

After that, I got a high fever and had to go to the hospital right away.

At that point, I found out that Max had already died from an infection.

I probably wouldn't be able to avoid the same thing.

I found out on my deathbed that something had been added to the sulphuric acid. This caused a silent, undetectable infection that killed me.

I'll never see her again in my next life.

I closed my eyes and a tear of regret rolled down my cheek.