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The Moretti's - A Different Family Dynamic

Chapter 99

Saturday Afternoon – Westchester Medical Center – 1 March 2003

Elizabeth Goldsmith arrived at the Westchester Medical Center and was immediately brought to the Cath Lab for an angioplasty. Standing ready to perform the operation was one of Joshua's former students who instinctively took a chance that the woman coming in was his mentor's wife. The three nurse team was prepped for her arrival. She already had an IV of saline solution dripping and the EMT's advised the nursing team head that Elizabeth was given 182 milligrams of aspirin and three nitro tablets. She was not given any pain medicines by the EMT's. She was transferred from the ambulance gurney directly to the narrow bed that was part of the catheterization x-ray machine.

One of the nurses cut off her remaining clothing and mindlessly placed a small towel between Elizabeth's legs to cover her femininity. Standard procedure for any heart catheterization lab was to cover the individual's genitals. The nurse then covered her with a blue surgery cover that had two precut round holes that were strategically placed to allow the cardiac interventional surgeon to use the femoral artery to gain access to the patient's heart. Although she didn't need to be shaved, Elizabeth heard the hum of the electric shaver and then pressure on each hip. The nurse then felt for the femoral artery pulse on each side of her body and marked the same with a surgical pen. She nodded to the young doctor who returned the nod. The nurse placed a needle filled with Versed into the IV line and pressed the plunger home.

Seventy-five minutes later, Elizabeth Goldsmith woke up in the Intensive Care section of the Cardiac Care Wing of the Westchester Medical Center. The doctor placed her there not because she needed round the clock care, but as an act of respect to a world renown colleague. He was paged by the nursing staff and came to her bedside so he could explain to her what was accomplished through the angioplasty. Elizabeth listened while the doctor explained that the coronary artery that ran down the back of her heart had a small blockage in length but was 90% across the width. He told her he opened the blockage by performing a balloon angioplasty and supported the spot with a bare metal stent. The prognosis was excellent for a full recovery and if she watched her diet and exercised she should be fine for the remainder of her life.

William and Lillian Cathcart with Sarah and Jason in tow arrived at the hospital well after the angioplasty was completed and Elizabeth was taken to the cardiac ICU. They were frightened because there were three IV's inserted into her arms, but the nurse explained that the drugs were needed to keep her arteries open after the angioplasty. They were told they could stay as long as they wanted. The hospital administration was fine with their staying all night if they so desired.

"Where is Joshua," asked William.

"What no hello kiss? No how are you feeling?" said Elizabeth to her father. "Just where is Joshua?"

Lillian Cathcart pushed Sarah and Jason to the side of the hospital bed, picked each one up, and placed them so their mother could kiss them hello. After the kisses, she guided them to a chair that sat against the wall of the private ICU hospital room. She went to take her daughter's hand into hers and stopped because the IV needles were inserted in veins on the back of her hands. She looked to her husband who took the hint and moved a chair next to the bed so she could sit.

"How are you, Liz?" asked her mother.

"I never knew I was a candidate for a heart attack at such a young age," she replied to her mother. "The interventional cardiologist studied under Joshua. He told me the prognosis was excellent for a full recovery."

Lillian Cathcart was as curious as her husband concerning the whereabouts of Elizabeth's husband. Just as she was about to ask her daughter about his whereabouts, Colin, Apollonia, and Viviano walked into the room. Elizabeth nearly died on the spot when she saw her intimidator enter the room. Colin walked directly to the side of the bed opposite his mother without acknowledging their presence in the room. Apollonia and Viviano remained standing just inside the door. William Cathcart upon seeing his feminized son with a face that looked like he just finished a boxing match seethed inside until he could no longer hold his anger and questions.

"Colin," he growled, "what happened to your face? Did that bitch of a wife do that do you?"

Colin looked from his sister and said, "Watch your mouth in front of the children. I had an accident in the house. I slipped and fell down the basement steps. You can ask Viviano because he found me unconscious on the basement floor." He turned to his sister, "How are you, Elizabeth?"

Elizabeth looked over to Apollonia before she answered and saw the look of concern on her face. "I'm fine, Colin. Like I just told mom, I had no idea I was a candidate for a heart attack. Prognosis for a full recovery is excellent."

"Colin, do you know where Joshua is?" asked Lillian.

Colin turned to look at Apollonia before he answered, "I believe he is in surgery, mom. As soon as he is out, the hospital administrator is going to tell him what happened to Elizabeth. I'm sure as soon as he knows he'll make a bee line here. More importantly, you need to take care of Sarah and Jason while Elizabeth is recovering."

"How long will you be in the hospital?" asked William. His concern was having to stay in Westchester with his grandchildren. He'd rather have them at his house, but he knew Lillian would prefer they were in their own house.

"According to the nurses," replied Elizabeth, "they'll have me walking around as soon as the IV's are done. Then one full day of monitoring and if all is well I should be released Monday morning. If Joshua could prevail, maybe I could be released on Sunday evening."

"Amazing the way doctors get you up and moving," said Lillian to no one in particular.

Apollonia walked over to the side of the bed where her sissy husband stood looking quite nice except for his face. She put her arm around him, smiled, and said to Elizabeth, "We can't stay long Elizabeth. I know Colin would love to stay, but he has to take a trip with Viviano and me to check out some business opportunities..."

William interjected, "On a Saturday afternoon?"

Apollonia looked over at her father-in-law and the cold hard stare made him flinch. With a soft melodious voice she responded, "Yes, William on a Saturday afternoon because that is when all the parties could meet. So, if

you'll excuse me, I'll take my leave as will Viviano." She turned to her sissy husband, kissed him on the cheek, and whispered in his ear, "No more than five minutes Colin. I expect you downstairs and in the limousine in that time."

Apollonia stepped back. Colin turned his head to his bitch of a wife and said, "I understand."

William and Lillian watched Apollonia and Viviano depart the room without saying as much as a good-bye to them. Colin stood for a minute rubbing his sister's face. He then leaned down kissed her cheek and whispered in her ear, "You know about Joshua. Just nod your head."

Elizabeth nodded her head in response to her brother's statement.

"Was Apollonia at your house today?"

Again, Elizabeth nodded her head.

"She was the cause of this wasn't she?"

Elizabeth froze which told Colin what he needed to know, but she shook her head no anyway.

"I love you Lizzy," said Colin. "I have to go, but I'll call you later."

Colin stood up, stepped away from the bed, and before he walked out of the hospital room he stopped to kiss Sarah and Jason on the tops of their heads. He turned to look at his mother who nodded at him. He surreptitiously raised the middle finger on his left hand and showed it to his father before turning and walking out of the ICU. Per his bitch wife's instructions, Colin was seated in the back of the limousine within the time prescribed. His next stop was some dilapidated hospital where his brother-in-law was surgically modifying the man who he'd have gladly removed his cock and balls for so he would not lose his.