## **Story 1**

my wife called me in a panic that Friday morning asking me to come home I left the family business my father left to me

and my brother and rushed home sensing something serious Beth a stay-at-home

mom never Disturbed me at work unless it was urgent I worried something had happened to one of our teenage daughters

at school perhaps a sports injury since they were very athletic my daughters meant the world to me both growing in

into beautiful young women like their mother we ran the largest electrical company in the state I managed the

commercial side while my brother handled residential we had tripled our volume each year for the past 6 years making

our mother proud last year we netted $5 million for the first time in the company's 50-year history since our

fathers pass away we had turned it into a very successful business now valued at $20 million my mother still the majority

shareholder with 52% made John the president and my brother and I each owned

24% after our father died my mother entrusted me with her personal Investments which I aggressively managed

with her broker yielding great results when I arrived home movers were packing our belongings Beth standing by her new

car I bought her informed me she was leaving for good our daughters had already moved without my knowledge she

handed me divorce papers stating she had fallen out of love and was with someone else she left abruptly ending our

17-year marriage coldly without any explanation or chance to discuss it with our daughters I suspected she had met

someone online but quickly realized it was local I asked the movers for the delivery address and was shocked to

recognize it I tipped the driver asked him to lock up and made a stop to verify the address what I saw shattered my life

Beth had left me for someone we both knew well this betrayal was devastating made worse by who she was leaving me for

Beth her brother and I were inseparable in our youth though we drifted apart As We Grew Older her brother now a marine

remained a good friend upholding the morals and principles of his upbringing with my father's business booming I

spent most of my spare time helping out sometimes I'd receive stock for upcoming jobs I asked why he hadn't used his name

for the business he said Tate and Sons is overused and often fails Parish your

mother's maiden name add spirituality my older brother John 3 years my senior

often took me along when delivering materials he got paid but I used the time to learn after 10th grade I started

an apprenticeship to earn my electrical license while continuing my education online I graduated high school before

finishing my apprenticeship and began a business management degree which helped expand our business John learned the

business by working every job and picked up some bad habits along the way I started bidding on small commercial

contracts completing them under budget and saving customers money this word of mouth growth exceeded our expectations

my father said I was the brain of the company JN was the Braun and both were essential for Success at 20 living on my

own JN called me drunk needing a ride from a wild party I went to get him and found Beth needing a ride too her father

was strict and she feared his reaction if she didn't get home Beth now 17 and

stunning had become a beautiful young woman with mesmerizing blue eyes and a captivating smile I agreed to drive her

home her father was relieved to see me instead of her date saying be you should have told me your date was

James a week later Beth found me at my father's shop asking me to take her to her senior prom I agreed after getting

her father's permission that night we decided to be exclusive marking the start of our

relationship now it was ending 20 minutes later I arrived at our office angry and determined I went to Jon's

office his door was shut and his receptionist said he was on a serious personal call and had locked the door

for privacy Mary I said please come into my brothers office with me I need you to

witness what I have to say Mary saw the anger on my face and knew it was serious

of course she replied I then kicked the door open barging in Jon looked up in

Surprise and quickly ended his call giving me his full attention you need to get this business appraised and buy my

shares out by the time my divorce is final do you understand that John Mary was shocked she had never heard me raise

my voice before what's this about JN asked the movers gave me Beth's new

address I saw my my daughter's there I said she's staying with me until she finds a place JN replied coldly that's a

lie I said she told me she was moving in with the man she loves and handed me divorce papers Jon Turned pale

speechless Mary looked horrified realizing Jon had been unfaithful how long have you been lovers

I demanded were those afternoons I covered for you so you could be with her I should get tested for STDs given the

women you've been with JN went even paler this isn't the time or place to

discuss this he said quietly screw you there will never be a right time for

this go to the bank or put the business up for sale we're done as partners and brothers James there must be another way

we need you John pleaded we can talk when you're calmer in pure anger I

picked up his desk phone and called our mother putting it on speaker mom I have bad news I said today is my last day I'm

resigning effective immediately Jon needs to buy out my shares what she said shocked you love that

business what happened ask John HEK not in his office because his secret lover

is moving in today they're getting married after her divorce you might want to visit and meet her I hung up JN was

Furious but couldn't speak he had been bragging about his new love for months at family dinners Mary follow me to my

office to ensure I don't take anything belonging to the company I want a sign statement that I turned over all keys

and only took personal items Jon was visibly angrier as I openly expressed my

distrust of him before leaving I said should I walk out backwards so you can't stab me in the back again what you and

Beth did is worse than if you had just shot me we walked back to my office where my receptionist was working Joanne

please come in and witness what's about to happen Mary will appreciate having another witness I said James what's

going on Joanne asked I've quit because JN has stolen my wife and children I replied I was called home to be served

with divorce papers the movers gave me Beth's new address which turned out to be John's both our long-term executive

assistants were shocked these wonderful ladies had been our support for years and I deeply respected them letun list

everything James takes and the keys he gives us Mary suggested we'll type it up witness it and make five copies Joan and

I will each take a copy home for safekeeping her suggestion showed their trust in the company president it made

me wonder what else my brother was hiding it took about an hour to complete I called security to escort me out and

verify what I was taking I watched as the ladies put the extra copies in their purses JN had rushed out without saying

goodbye hoping to avoid the drama everyone saw the top two executive assistants escorting me out with tears

in their eyes I kissed them on the cheek and thanked them for their support I stepped out took the single box from the

security officer and left as soon as I left everyone wanted to know what happened the ladies explained what they

knew I opened my trunk threw the Box in and closed it on my way way through town

I stopped at a real estate office and listed the house I gave the representative my wife's cell number

saying she would need her signature I told her my soon to be ex would decide the list price at home I found only

their personal belongings and our daughter's bedroom furniture were taken I turned off my cell phone I read the

divorce papers the grounds were emotional and mental cruelty she was asking for primary custody of our

daughters beu and Bri offering me supervised visitation once a month Beth

thought I was too strict because I wouldn't allow our 13 and 15-year-old daughters to date without chaperon she

felt my old-fashioned views were too restrictive for today's society I had argued that I didn't want our daughters

to ruin their lives by getting pregnant in school I wanted the best for them but Beth thought My Views were hurting their

development she felt I was treating our daughters like her father had treated her and she had rebelled against him

Beth was going for my throat because of our differing views on parenting I poured myself a stiff drink and tried to

find something on TV to distract me but only found outdated reruns I must have passed out drunk because I woke up with

a hangover on the living room sofa I showered shaved and got ready for the day after breakfast I did my usual

Saturday morning chores around 1 p.m. I turned my cell phone back on I had messages from my mother brother wife and

daughters I believe my daughters were in on what was happening and sided with their mother the only message I trusted

was from my mother the rest didn't matter to me I listen listen to the messages then deleted them my wife's

message said we could reach an agreement once I calmed down the real estate agent called me Mr Tate your wife finally

showed up this morning but she was not happy Miss Waterston said she was shocked you're including the furniture

with the house after seeing comparable homes she agreed to add $20,000 for the

furniture thank you for the update I replied I want it sold quickly because it holds Too Many Memories she broke

down not expecting you to do this Miss Waterston continued I asked her what did

you expect you left him for his brother she was surprised about you demanding to be bought out from the family company I

just want to get away from them I said in the divorce she's trying to take the kids completely from me she seems

shocked I told her she might fool others but I know how people like her think Miss Waterston I've arranged for a good

divorce lawyer I'll text you her details I said I thanked her and hung up just

then I saw my sister Connie's car pull in I finished making my coffee and went to let her in it must be important for

you to drive halfway across the state I said mom was devastated when she found Beth and your daughters at jnk Place

Connie said she couldn't believe it how long has it been going on I asked Mom

found out from Beth that it's been about 2 years Connie replied how could I have been so blind I said before we talk more

read the divorce papers I'll get you some coffee Connie read the papers noting how exaggerated everything was

Beth wants you out of your daughter's lives Connie said most of her claims are nonsense mom doesn't want you leaving

the family business so Mom wants me to accept being John's cuck and cow I

asked noting Connie's shock oh my God Connie swore surprising me as she never used foul

language how do I explain this to Mom Connie asked she won't understand the full betrayal mom might see the

infidelity and breakup but not why I'm leaving the company I said I can't stay knowing Jon turned my wife and children

against me just to keep mom's approval your husband makes business deals he could find a buyer for the company John

has left you no choice you have to write him out of your life Connie said he knew what he was doing and it was deliberate

Connie called her husband explaining everything when she hung up she said he'll have a team appraise the company

Monday I need to convince Mom it's the best solution I pulled out the Last 5 Years

of Financial records and handed them to her your husband will need these I said

what about beu and Bri Connie asked that's up to judge Donald McDonald I wanted Dale Brittain but he's tied up

with a big case her lawyer is painting an ugly picture I said Connie and I

talked briefly before she left to speak with our mother I didn't sleep well that night missing my wife beside me I

decided to leave town for a few days after meeting the lawyer needing space to think clearly Connie called after she

and Mom spoke with the pastor he said the one who has been injured the most may never get over it what they did to

him was Despicable but common today because love and decency have lost their value they are just tools to manipulate

and control others mom was shocked when the Pastor said James isn't the first to be destroyed by family and won't be the

last mom agreed to sell the business Connie explained not because of what Jon did but because she knows Jon would ruin

it without you she wants to know who should take your place does she understand I consider Jon dead to me I

asked yes and why Connie replied I had to explain what being a cuck means mom

swore she'd liquidate Beth if she saw her again tell Mom to appoint Carl Robertson as president he knows

everything I do and can prevent Jon from overriding him it's essential for getting the best price for the company

mom needs to demote J publicly I said should we warn Jon Connie asked no if

Mom can't do it she should appoint you as CEO until the company is sold I must stay out of it to avoid it being used

against me in divorce court Connie agreed to check with her husband and later texted I'm the new CEO I'll

Implement your suggestions tomorrow I was having brunch when Beth called this time I answered can we talk

Beth asked no if you or your lover contact me again I'll file Mal treatment charges everything will be settled in

court I said we need to discuss beu and Bri Beth said there's no reason for you to leave the family business now wek

sort this out in court I said I'm requesting paternity tests to determine if they are JNS or mine we all deserve

the truth and I'll never return to anything involving it Beth gasped they yours and you know it I thought I had a

loving wife until Friday I was wrong about that so I must consider I might not be their father either Jon could

have been deceiving me for years I said Beth started crying but I hung up I then

called my former assistant Joanne for advice from her husband dve Avid who had gone through a tough divorce David

arrived read the divorce petition and I explained everything letun be clear David said you don't know when the

affair started other than hear say yes that's true I said in court Youk be

justified in requesting paternity tests due to the family situation the way you found out implies long-term deception

judge Donald McDonald will need biological proof before making any rulings David said is the judge that

strict I asked yes my divorce took 6 months but his rulings prioritized our

children's needs it was tough but ultimately he made the right decision David explained I offered David a drink

and we were chatting about his relationship with Joanne when a truck pulled into my driveway I looked out the

window and saw it was my brother John that ohle dares to show up here after what he did I said I wish I had one of

dad's 22s David said sit down I'll handle this if he won't leave I'll show

him my badge he doesn't want to deal deal with the Cape Gerardo police he opened the front door and

lowered the screen window so I could hear their conversation Jon slammed his truck door and yelled where's my stupid

brother I told him we could work it out but he wouldn't listen now he has to because I need to straighten him out if

he won't listen I'll shove my fist down his throat no David said go home and

cool down before you do something you'll regret screw you get out of my way I left Beth in tears because he's

questioning the paternity of daughters he needs to be straightened out and I'm the one to do it so when did the affair

start David asked 5 years ago if it's any of your business John replied

interesting because Beth told your mother yesterday it was 2 years ago David said showing his badge I have to

wonder what the truth is since both of you are making the other look like a liar Jon turned white as David continued

after making James an unknowing cuck you expected him to accept it and carry on as if nothing happened was it your plan

to break him and make him your submissive what gives you the right to think your brother should do as you say Jon was stunned into silence

revealing they hadn't planned this out David added I wonder what the judge will say about this recorded conversation I

suggest you get back in the truck and prepare Beth for the paternity test your story lacks credibility and any further

explanations will be seen as more lies I watched Jon walk back to his truck realizing things were not going as

planned David waited until Jon drove away before coming back inside what your

lawyer's name he asked I'll contact her on Monday and send a copy of this recording I gave him the details why did

you bring your police cam I asked it's standard in domestic situations David explained when Joanne told me why you

needed to talk I knew anything could happen so I came prepared let Joanne know I'm leaving town after seeing the

lawyer I said it's best I stay away for a while is it anything the cops might be

called about David asked our older sister is now the CEO of the family company tomorrow she'll appoint

Carl Robertson as president my brother will be demoted to vice president I explained this is happening why David

asked Mom doesn't want my brother destroying what my father and I built before she finds a buyer I said I agree

with your reasoning David said you should be packed to leave right after your lawyer appointment John will see it

as all you're doing from what I've learned he's hot-headed and reacts without thinking he could do

anything after David left I cleaned up the kitchen and went to Ace Hardware for a new lock set for all the doors it took

2 hours to install I was about to change the house security system code when my phone rang it was Beth's father what's

going on James Beth's father asked my granddaughters have been calling from an unknown number because Beth confiscated

their phones and yours is never on did you ask Beth why I asked she says it's

personal and we'll explain later Katie and I want answer answers now Beth moved out on Friday I said she called me home

as the movers finished and served me divorce papers she said she's in love with another man and that his name

doesn't matter are you serious he asked quietly yes the movers gave me her new

address because Beth wouldn't she moved in with my older brother they've been in a relationship for 2 to 5 years

depending on who you ask she doesn't want me to have any contact with beu and Bri and is asking for 1 hour a month

supervised visits why would she do that you've been a great father she probably doubts I'm

their biological father my lawyer will request DNA tests to confirm also I'm no

longer involved in the family business it sounds like she knows who their real father is what should I tell my

granddaughters tell them the truth which they haven't been getting from their mother after we said goodbye I reset all

the codes then I went to Golden Corral for a bite I had just left the lawyer's office at 11:00 a.m. she agreed it was a

mess but thought the video David sent would undermine the plaintiff's credibility she believed their stupidity

had put me in the driver's seat I had canceled all of Beth's debit and credit cards and removed her from all bank

accounts my next stop was the real estate office to give them the new house key and access code then I hit the road

South about an hour later Joanne called just checking you're on the road she said Connie just walked in to meet Carl

Robertson I left about an hour ago after dropping off the keys I said said heading south with no particular

destination we'll call to update you Joanne said text me first so I can pull over I replied I stopped at a rest area

and finally let my emotions out after a while a police cruiser pulled in the officer got out and approached me I saw

you pull in two hours ago and got concerned he said I've been through a lot emotionally and decided not to drive

I explained going through a divorce he asked with a knowing smile yes how did

you guess the road South with no destination is a common Choice he said

handing me a cold soda from his cooler we chatted until a text message came in need privacy he asked no you might find

this interesting I said putting the call on speaker how did it go Joanne Carl

accepted the president position temporarily knowing it was your suggestion Joanne said he and Connie

informed Jon of his removal Jon didn't take it well and refused the vice president position Carl told him I guess

you've decided to quit let me call security to escort you out Jon cursed and blamed you for everything so my

brother is unemployed like me I said that must hurt his pride off the Record James I think that was Connie and your

mother's plan all along Joanne said expect a call from Connie shortly the

police officer saw me smile as I began to explain my wife of 17 years left me

for my brother last Friday I resigned as vice president from the family business and demanded they buy out my shares they

didn't see it coming I had just finished explaining when Connie called so I put her on speaker when can you get back

here Connie asked why it sounds like you have everything under control I said

Carl is perfect for the job my husband lined up financing so you can buy Jon's shares mom wants him out he'll use a

business loan for it Carl agreed to be vice president if you return as president fine I'll meet you at Mom's

around 6: tonight I said tell Joanne to order new office furniture and repaint the offices if she gets it right I'll

give her a 10% raise we said goodbye and I smiled what's the name of your company

the officer asked Parish electrical we're in about a third of the state and always expanding your logo is no job is

too big or too small he said that's right it was my dad's favorite saying I replied we talked for a bit more he gave

me his business card in directions to reverse my rot I appreciated his kindness as he followed me out back in

town I noted his cards details before heading to my parents place around 5:30

my mother met me at the door and we shared a quiet moment Connie was at the airport picking up her husband mom and I

chatted until my phone rang it was Beth's father hi Dad what's up I answered have you heard rumors about

your brother in the worky yards he asked let me step out before I answer I said

yes but I've seen no proof why he has illegal videos on his home computer beu and Bri found them and called us they're

scared to be near him we picked them up from school but I don't know what to do call Joe explain and say you're giving

the kids Sanctuary use a throwaway phone to avoid detection I advised why call

Joanne he asked her husband's a cop he'll handle it I said thanks for

helping my daughters text me your number I talked to my daughters until my mom said the police wanted to speak with me

I ended the call and texted the number to my mother-in-law's phone before clearing my messages David good to see

you what's up your daughter are missing and your phone was busy Beth filed a kidnapping complaint against you I

looked at my concerned mother when did they disappear I asked after school at

2:30 David said I handed him the state troopers card call him you'll understand

David called and my mother saw his relieved Smile as the call ended I should have known David said you have

the perfect Alibi you were an hour away sharing a soda with another officer when your daughters disappeared David then

received five text messages in a row and stepped outside to make a call when he returned he asked to speak with me

privately we went into another room and closed the door what do you know about the rumors about your brother he asked

people say he likes them younger than he should I said I always kept my girlfriends away from him because I had

suspicions why your daughters found something disturbing on his computer they told someone at school and are now

in sanctuary while we investigate David said I sat down head in hands when I

reconnected with Beth at 17 she ran with a wild crowd I picked up my drunk brother that night and she asked for a

ride home I wonder if Jon was her date David said I wish you could prove that

David whispered tell your daughters protectors we won't charge them I need a few days to resolve this your mistake

was giving them my wife's number it's Beth's parents I had no clue I said but I told them to use a disposable phone

David laughed be thankful for caring in-laws I'll get a warrant for your brother's computer and might need your

daughters to testify we returned to the living room and I escorted the officers to the door just as I opened it Beth

walked in are you arresting James for kidnapping she asked no David said he

has an alibi he was with a police officer when your kids disappeared Beth's face turned white maybe the girls

ran away because they don't want to live with you I said David should I go home in case they show up smart idea they can

decide where they want to live David said with a grin call me if they show up after the officer left I turned to Beth

was my brother your date the night I gave you a ride home when he was drunk her expression confirmed it I guess I

know how long you've been with him my mother Furious yelled James throw her out now if I see her again I'll use one

of my husband's rifles run Beth I said she might shoot you now Beth fled in

fear I couldn't help but laugh well played mom I said she believed it I

meant it she replied I called Beth's father can you bring Mom and the kids to my mothers for dinner are you serious he

asked we're celebrating my daughter's return no more problems with Beth or the

police we're on our way he said Mom the girls need to stay here until I can get

furniture is that okay why don't you all move here until the divorce is final mom

suggested I'll take them shopping for new clothes tomorrow sounds good to me I said make sure they get new cell phones

Beth took Theirs to prevent contact with me Mom informed the kitchen staff about the extra dinner guests I brought in my

suitcases and Suits mom showed me my room Beth was not happy she was worried sick about her daughters and was sure

James had taken them she was proven wrong and her true relationship with Jon was exposed Jon had taken her pureness

before she reconnected with James after their second daughter was born John decided he had to reclaim Beth she

resisted for a long time time one Wednesday afternoon while James was on a business trip JN showed up at their

house he took her in his arms kissed her and soon they were having love making

john declared loudly that he was claiming Beth as his woman she allowed him to take her three times that

afternoon engaging in raw animalistic lovemaking afterwards Jon whispered to

her that he had always loved her and felt complete only with her that night she found him unclothed in her bed and

they made love until they fell asleep Thursday after sending the girls to

school they had love making all day on Friday JN came back and reinforced his

claim over her she admitted she was owned by him and showed her submission by giving him a head before James came

home and kissed her deeply Beth believed she would have gotten pregnant by Jon if she hadn't had her tubes tied 6 months

ago after almost being caught by her eldest daughter Jon decided they should move in together they thought James

would accept their relationship after some time but he didn't instead he caused a storm resigning from his job

and questioning the paternity of his daughters Jon returned home when afternoon to tell Beth he had been

pushed out of the company by their new CEO his sister they realized they had

unintentionally destroyed James's life now they face the consequences of their

actions including societal judgment branding James a cuck even Beth's parents were ignoring her calls and

texts she needed to bridge the gap with James and start talking she called him to ask if he had heard anything about

their daughters James answered on the third ring James have you heard anything about the kids she asked no but I don't

think you need to worry he said why do you feel that way she asked because if

they are as lucky as you they'll be picked up by a man like John who will train them to be eager and willing just

like he did to you Beth ended the call and sat crying in her car James had cruy pointed out

how people probably viewed her relationship with JN he had always feared his daughters would become easy

and saw Jon as someone who always had a woman in James's eyes JN had just moved

the biggest one ever into his home Beth felt ashamed used and owned in a way she

had never experienced before she realized how different James and JN were James wanted her to be a better person

filled with love and quality Jon wanted a classy woman who would fulfill his desires she had abandoned her morals and

principles and now everyone knew it at my mother's place we celebrated with my daughters Beth's parents and I shared

hugs relieved after four trying days the girls were delighted to see Aunt Connie and Uncle Tom during the meal we

discussed our temporary plans until the divorce was finalized which the girls were happy about we decided to leave

business matters for the next day Beth's father and I took a walk to talk privately James how long has my

daughter's relationship with your brother been going on he asked since the first time I brought her home from a

wild party my brother was attending Beth admitted that Jon was her date that night I said his eyes teared up then why

did Beth start chasing you I believe Jon and Beth weren't serious back then I said that night she saw me differently

our early years of marriage were good but Jon started Desiring what I had and began chasing her JN was always more

aggressive your father told me Jon felt he was always trying to live up to you because your standards were so high I

never knew that I said it's sad Jon dragged Beth down with him the police will seize his computer this week if

they find what we suspect Beth will get supervised visitation of her daughters she deserves it Beth's dad said some

people have to learn the hard way I arrived late to the office Tuesday Morning enjoying reconnecting with my

daughters my mother was thrilled to have a girl's day out with her granddaughters at the office employees lined up

clapping Carl Robertson Mary and Joan and shook my hand I told Carl we'd redo

his office after finishing the president's office the newspaper announced my appointment as president and Carl's promotion to vice president

noting John Tate was no longer with the company the phone started ringing with new business opportunities most because

John was no longer involved it made me wonder how much business he had cost us over the years I left the office to pick

up the rest of my clothes from my former home knowing mom and the girls were still shopping while loading my car Jon

attacked me from behind the the last time we fought he had striken me badly I grabbed a tire iron and shot his leg

making him release me a neighbor called the cops who broke up the fight and arrested Jon for being the aggressor in

drinking I collapsed and woke up in the hospital with cracked Ribs internal bleeding and bruises all over my body my

mother said I looked like a character from soilent Green Jon was charged with aggravated assault my daughters were

emotionally upset by my condition and what had happened beu and Bri what happened to me was because your mother

mother and Uncle acted on their emotions without thinking I said people like that lose their ability to see things clearly

making their situations worse I'll recover but they may not the girls and

my mother stayed with me until I fell asleep the next morning Connie Mom and Tom visited to get the loan Tom wanted

we had to expand North a competitor had filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy and Tom

suggested we take over their contracts and make a low offer on their equipment and buildings why not just buy controlling interest in

their shares I asked Tom explained that their debt was too high and we'd be stuck with costly Union contracts mom

then surprised Us by saying James has effectively been running the company for years I want to give him 27% of the

shares to have complete control because we can't count on JN agreeing to sell the rest goes to Connie thanks to

James's investment skills I have enough to live comfortably does anyone owe he act she asked I do I said I'll agree if

Tom becomes our CFO he may take a pay cut but that's the sacrifice Connie teared up because our father had never

accepted Tom my offer meant everything to her I'll even cover your moving costs and house purchase if you say yes Tom

flabbergasted shook my hand and said I'd be honored mom was thrilled her daughter was moving home after they left I called

Carl to discuss our plans he mentioned that the assets and contracts we were pursuing had political support I

stressed that if the court accepted our our offer we needed to act quickly I was released from the hospital on Friday mom

picked me up and drove me to my house to pack Connie would arrive the next morning to house hunt my body was

healing and my lawyer had secured restraining orders against Beth and John Beth's parents had visited three

times it's been a quiet few days Mom said it gave the girls time to adjust

I've had to explain the consequences of people's choices how are my daughters emotionally I asked they handling it

better than I would have she said but they need some private time with you they have the whole weekend with me if

needed I said I'll stop by the motor vehicle office for Bree learner permit materials Tom has given notice and

completed the company's valuation Connie will bring the report his firm offered him a huge raise to stay but he turned

it down saying his sign on bonus was a new house Tom has the knowledge we need for this growth I said bringing him into

the family business is overdue why wasn't it done before Mom asked the president wouldn't approve it

I said when we arrived at my house I thanked her and went inside I found a letter from Beth in the mail and threw

it away it was too little too late how can someone be sorry for deliberate

actions I called a cleaning service to remove the food clean the place and shut off the water and equipment I gave them

the alarm code and said I'd drop off a key in 2 hours it took about an hour to pack my clothes and personal items

before leaving I shaved leaving a mustache and goatee for a new look David called to inform me that Jon's Place had

been raided and his computer seized Jon's lawyer was negotiating a plea deal my daughters were already back from

school at moms they helped me move and unpack my clothes afterward we laid on the bed and had a long chat the topic of

Love Making came up when you have leming just for love making it's to satisfy animalistic needs I explained making

love is about putting the other person first strengthening the bond what brought Uncle JN and Mom together beu

asked was it love or just physical attraction your uncle wanted what I had I said he let his desire grow until he

acted on it at first your mother may have been overwhelmed but she became attracted to its raw intensity each

encounter reminded them of that first day pulling them together eventually their desire led to a long-term

relationship built on lies and deceit I worried I made it sound complicated but

Bri surprised me by saying basically they went for what the other was offering without enough morals to walk

away what do you mean beu asked my red dress that you want so much Bri said I

taunt you with it because I know you want it that's what Mom and Uncle John did with their physical appearances Bri

left the room and returned with the red dress beu wanted handing it to her sister she said what I did was wrong

like them but to a lesser degree I'm sorry sis the dress is yours I got up

opened the dresser top drawer grabbed the booklet and tossed it to Bree saying start studying you can get your

learner's permit in 3 months Bree squealed with delight thank you

daddy my daughters were growing up and had learned an important life lesson I was very proud of them mom asked what

they wanted for supper and they chose mac and cheese we had a delightful meal with pork chops and baked beans after

supper still weak and recovering I went to bed early around midnight beu crawled into bed with me as I cuddled her I

couldn't help thinking that Beth would have Twisted this innocent moment into something inappropriate

brought me a proposal for the bankruptcy court that needed my signature if approved we'd double our size Carl and I

reviewed and signed it on Monday Joanne sent it to the state capital by Courier I informed Joanne she'd now earn $70,000

annually effective immediately later Joanne closed my office door for a private conversation David wants you to

know what's going on she said you have my attention I replied the images on your brother's computer are of un local

girls Joanne explained David suspects it's a trophy list of girls Jon took advantage of including Beth this can be

used in your divorce to question his motives for wanting Beth to move in implying he sought access to your

daughters I'm not surprised I said workers had mentioned Junk's pictures of conquests John was 23 when he was with

Beth at 17 legally statutory assault this pattern will help in my divorce but

we need to figure out how to use it David will prepare an internal report Joanne said it will be up to the

district attorney to decide on the charges David will bring a copy home for you sounds good tell David I owe him one

I said David was overwhelmed by your generosity Joanne said Mary has also been rewarded with a promotion to Junior

management Connie's husband is joining as CFO we need to find a qualified assistant within our staff once we pick

her we'll discuss her new responsibilities and use Jon's former office furniture for her

setup why we might double our size soon and go Statewide there will be days when

management is tied up or out of the office I explained you and Mary as executive assistants will make decisions

on our behalf once fully trained so we need to ensure we can trust the new assistant like you trust us she said any

issues with Mary and the new assistant will be your responsibility if you need advice you can always ask me I said

Joanne left with a proud look when I left for the day Mary and Joanne were deep in discussion Carl told me the new

structure is brilliant we're planning for the new openings if our off off is accepted Human Resources is compiling a

list for relocation and promotion good thing I included a 30-day notice before acceptance to prepare I said Connie's

husband Tom is joining a CFO without his financing Arrangements we couldn't have done this John will be contacted about

buying out his shares this week anything happening on the divorce end Carl asked

we have a court hearing this week for the blood tests I said we were the last case called before judge Donald McDonald

that Friday contrary to his reputation the judge was not a tall or broad man he

was about 5' 10 and 180 lb appearing to be in his late 50s my lawyer explained

the relationship between Beth John and me detailing how Beth and I had reconnected and how I discovered her

affair with my brother she presented an affidavit from my mother stating Beth admitted the affair had been ongoing for

2 years and played a video recording from David which caught the judge's interest I explained what happened the

day Beth accused me of kidnapping my children and the judge looked increasingly concerned Beth's lawyer

tried to counter our claims but struggled the judge finally spoke there's enough evidence to suggest an

ongoing Affair between Beth and John Tate implying one brother may have tried to pass off his parentage on the other a

DNA test is the only way to determine the children's true parentage the judge continued John Tate's disclosures to the

cop and his response are crucial the divorce will be granted to James Tate on the grounds of

infidelity Beth was de devastated and John glared at me in Rage the judge implied they had been manipulating me

for years as we were leaving I noticed Beth's parents and her older brother preparing to exit the courtroom looking

pained when Beth approached them they turned their backs on her signifying that she was now shunned by them due to

their religious views I approached Beth with my lawyer Beth you must be proud you've destroyed two families in less

than a month beu and Bri are doing well as we left Beth started to cry outside

her family waited for me mom dad do you want the girls for the weekend I asked Mom hugged me saying we'd love to Beth's

brother Ted extended his hand good to see you old friend if my daughters don't Tire you out tomorrow I said letun go

out for a late supper and a few beers I'm coming home for good Ted said 20 years is enough I'm here to house hunt

and find a job my phone rang it was Joanne the 30-day countdown is on she

said excitedly thanks let Carl know I found the head for our resource department if I can convince him to join

usow did it go in divorce court Joanne asked I'll explain when I get back I

said turning to Ted I offered how about starting at $60,000 a year after 6

months you could be head of parish's new resource department interested what's involved Ted asked managing purchasing

distribution and inventory for three hubs supplies for retail stores and Commercial sites will be delivered from

these hubs I explained of course I'll take it Ted said James Beth's dad added

show him your house if he's interested I'll cover his down payment Ted and his wife decided to make an offer on the

house at full price I accepted and all that remained was Beth's signature Ted was amazed at how easily they could

start over I stopped at a wine shop and picked up two bottles of wine cheese and crackers before heading back to the

office the upper management team had a small celebration before calling it a night my daughters called to ask if they

could go with their grandparents for the weekend I pretended to be surprised but said go ahead and have fun when I

returned to my mother's I told her about my day Ted is getting a great deal on the house the items you're including are

worth more than they paying Ted's family will be well set up no matter what Beth did Ted will be diligent you always take

the high road mom said your father would be proud just as I am thank you Mom it

means a lot especially since I'm still hurting because I still love her I said

by the way Jon sold his shares to me for $5 million through my lawyer so I guess I'm staying on the board what motivated

him I asked he said he was never happy in the industry and stayed because it was family-owned they're moving to

Florida to develop property he owns there Mom explained I smiled knowing our business was worth over $40 million

according to Tom's report we secured $15 million spending 10 to buy assets and contracts up North for pennies on the

dollar Tom believed we could recoup close to $7 million after stream in operations we would Rebrand the fleet

and use local contractors incentivizing them with a 10% Christmas bonus tax-free this strategy had always improved

customer satisfaction mom dragged me to a community fundraiser for a family raising money for their daughter's

cancer treatment there I met Dr Tamara Braden their doctor I wasn't looking but

she caught my eye I called our accountant and arranged a $50,000 donation to cover the medical bills

Tamara and I connected over our divorces when I presented the PID in full receipt to the family Tamara whispered I'm so

impressed I'm taking you home for dinner I laughed and said then you'll have to drive me home because I came with my

mother she laughed you can't be serious that's my mother Ruth over there I

pointed Ruth Parish she's one of our greatest contributors Tamara said I didn't know the company was named after

her Tamara smiled and asked what was wrong with the woman divorcing you she

got involved with a man with no morals it's sad because they're both going down Ted's wife approached us saying Tamara

if you need me to start early I can I'm not going back with Ted the kids and I are staying James what are you doing

here Jackie asked I was just talking to Tamara I said my mother's over there watching me how do you know James Tamara

asked he's divorcing my sister-in-law and we'll be Ted's new boss he gave us a great deal on his old house Jackie said

why Tamara asked no matter what Ted's sister did Ted is family I said if you

need any furniture I have some you can have Tamara offered Ted's parents bought the kids bedroom furniture this morning

Jackie said after the sale was confirmed when Beth signed the agreement Ted and I let the ladies talk and walked off Beth

is really struggling with depression he said I told her she did it to herself but everyone else is hurting too even

your daughters no one understands why you did it not even you Ted she doesn't

know it's going to get worse for her before it gets better I said Junk's past behavior is going to become very public

take it easy with Tamara she's a beautiful woman and is hurting as much as you Ted said she's always been a

keeper Tamara took my hand and said let's go I promised you dinner and we need to shop for a few things mom

watched us leave Tamara handed me the keys and asked me to drive to Food City a small grocery store known for its meat

selection she offered to let me wait but I went in with her what on the menu I

asked steak salad and dessert if you have room Tamara said sounds good I

replied letun get a couple of bottles of red wine to go with it it was after midnight when I got home Tamara and I

had a wonderful evening and planned to meet again the following Saturday I had the best night's sleep since Beth left

Mom dragged me to church on Sunday Connie found and put an offer on a house I told her to submit the purchase

agreement to accounting for the check the girls met their mother for lunch at the mall and later told it didn't go

well they revealed I had met someone and hoped she would help me heal they also told Beth what they found on Jon's

computer the first time she heard about it Beth was devastated knowing she lost the chance for sole custody of our

daughters the girls believed she was depressed meanwhile the district attorney laid multiple charges of

statutory assault against Jon he informed the parents of Jon's previous sufferers that Jon had moved in a woman

with two minor daughters most agreed to press charges to protect those girls Jon

was arrested Ed the next day at home in front of Beth she realized she would never get custody of her children what

her divorce lawyer wrote in the original petition was coming true for her not James two months after meeting Tamara JN

was out on bail Beth and I finalized the divorce with her receiving $4 million she got no shares DNA tests confirmed

beu and Bri were my biological daughters I got soul custody and Beth had liberal

visitation rights as long as it wasn't in John's presence during mediation I pointed out John might have wanted her

to move in to access my daughters hearing this broke Beth the money I gave

her would allow for a quality life if invested properly I provided her with names of two investment advisers when

the divorce was finalized Connie and Tom moved back with their five kids mom was delighted to get to know them she said

her life was filled with more love than she had lost and I saw the truth in that Connie remained CEO Jon's reputation was

destroyed and even his lifelong friends turned against him his legal bills were mounting my daughters believed their

mother would dump him once the divorce was Final they were concerned about her depression the Takeover was progressing

well we caught up on the contracts delayed by bankruptcy and were ahead of schedule most contracts would end up

costing less than agreed we decided to rebate 10% after the final payment was received we cut labor cost by 50% I flew

out to see the changes and new buildings we acquired excess properties were put up for sale at appraised value human

resource worked with former employees and over half became contractors at our new retail locations we gave them

interest free loans to buy trucks and equipment from us at wholesale prices along with a QuickBooks accounting

program Ted's first major purchase cut our costs per item by 20% due to

increased volume and skilled negotiations he reorganized our approach significantly reducing handling costs

proving he was the right choice Ted and Jackie loved their new home and were slowly personalizing it upper management

was thrilled because write-offs and losses were cut by 2/3 we suspected those in power wanted the bankruptcy

handled quietly to hide certain things and we were the only offer Tom hired his old firm to appraise our value due to

our growth mom and I were preparing for a barbecue at her place where Tamara would meet everyone for the first time I

picked up Tamara early so she could meet my daughters before the crowd arrived Tamara looked stunning in a white dress

with monarch butterfly embroidery we shared a few kisses before heading out we arrived at mom's holding hands and

beu and Bri came over sensing my nervousness Tamara said Relax after introductions beu said if

you're my dad's girlfriend he picked a good one Tamara admitted she was as nervous as I was the party was a success

and Tamara fit in quickly with my family Ted noticing said looks like you two are falling in love he suggested we go

dancing at bias later and I agreed David informed me that the da thought Jon would get at least 7even years due to

the number of parents standing against him Joanne thinks Tamara is great for you but worries you'll mess it up David

said I joked why do women always think it's the man's fault Tamara and I

watched the swimmers by the pool and she noticed my discomfort with my daughter's swimsuits you're old-fashioned she said

was your father like that yes I replied he wanted us to be our best and believed

actions spoke louder than words sadly that's what drove Beth away if my first

husband was like you we'd still be married Tamara said and we shared a kiss Bri teased cool it Dad shek not our new

mom yet I ran into the pool to play with my daughters and Tamara watched us later

the girls took pictures and sent them to their mother showing it was serious the food was excellent and I thanked the

kitchen staff Tamara and I were inseparable we met Ted and Jackie at an Irish restaurant danced until closing

and I walked Tamara to her door the next day we shopped before joining my family for dinner beu texted where are you

we're waiting Tamara and I arrived and beu said you got some explaining to do dad I grinned which caught my sister and

mother's attention I asked for champagne and glasses for everyone Tamara had her hands behind her back and my mother

smiled realizing what was happening I announced Tamara and I got engaged this afternoon the room erupted in Joy Bri

sent a video to her mom who later took an overdose of sleeping pills and never woke up John and Beth blamed each other

for their problems realizing their relationship was based on lust not love

everyone took her self-destruction hard at Beth's grave JN said I'm sorry for everything I replied I don't believe you

and walked away that night Jon drank most of a bottle of Jack then used his first

weapon to end his life leaving a note saying I'm sorry a week before Labor Day

Carl Tom Mary Joanne and Lucy came in with cake and champagne what's the cele

for I asked we paid off the loan in full Tom said we're debt-free thank God I

said I never want another 6 months like the last it wasn't all bad Tom said I'm

looking forward to being your best man in 8 days but I never want to hear you say we had to get married everyone

laughed knowing tomorrow was two months along [Music] [Applause]