

Kish Ellis Sr. (46, Black, M)

A large, imposing high school football coach with a tough exterior and a soft heart. Married to his high school sweetheart, Imogene, for almost 30 years, Kish exemplifies dedication and loyalty. He often uses his sharp, biting humor with a cynical edge to lighten tense situations.

Karissa Ellis-Mitchell (26, Black, F)

Karissa is the eldest daughter of Kish and Imogene Ellis, a dedicated phlebotomist, and the wife of Liam. Strong-willed and determined, she currently faces the difficult decision of divorcing her husband, grappling with the complexities of his extremely close bond with her father.

INT. PORCH - DAY

Kish sits on the front porch, anticipating the arrival of his youngest daughter, Kaydence, and her boyfriend, Mason Little.

Unexpectedly, his eldest daughter, Karissa, arrives before them.

KARISSA

Dad.

KISH

Go on in the house.

KARISSA

No hello?

KISH

Just go inside the house.

KARISSA

So he told you?

KISH

He's my son and we have a relationship built on trust. So, what did you expect?

KARISSA

Dad.

KISH

Karissa, baby, I can't bear the sight of you right now.

KARISSA
That's why I didn't tell you.

KISH
You should have been the one to tell me.

KARISSA
I knew you would overreact.

KISH
Baby, just go inside. I need more time to wrap my head around this marriage thing.

KARISSA
It wasn't easy. We've fought long and hard over this.

KISH
You and Liam?

KARISSA
Yes.

KISH
I can't help but feel you betrayed me.

KARISSA
Dad.

KISH
Go in the house. Just go on in.

KARISSA
This is the main reason I waited so long to tell you.

KISH
The second you knew, you should have brought it to me.

KARISSA
I would have, but I was so afraid of exactly this.

KISH
Afraid of what?

KARISSA
Afraid of not only losing my marriage but also losing my father.

KISH

What?!

KARISSA

I knew you would pick him over me.

KISH

Pick who over what?

KARISSA

Liam.

KISH

Wait. Wait, hold on. Are you getting a divorce?

KARISSA

Yes.

KISH

From Liam?

KARISSA

He moved out last week.

KISH

Liam?!

KARISSA

Yes.

KISH

You're divorcing Liam?

Kish glares at Karissa.

KARISSA

Dad, I don't want to hurt you.

KISH

What?

KARISSA

And I don't want to take him away from you.

KISH

Then don't do this.