Imogene Ellis (46, Black, F)

A Licensed Clinical Social Worker with a serene and graceful presence, born from her unwavering faith. Imogene is Kish's steadfast rock and has been married to him for nearly three decades. She provides emotional stability to her family while quietly navigating her inner struggles.

Liam Mitchell (26, Black, M)

Liam is Kish's charismatic son-in-law who works alongside him as his assistant football coach. His heavy country-boy accent and easy-going nature make him a beloved figure in the Ellis household. Liam is caught in the turmoil of his failing marriage to Kish's eldest daughter, Karissa, while maintaining a close and complicated bond with Kish.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

LIAM steps out of the bathroom, feeling trapped. He moves toward the office door.

LIAM

(glancing at the office door)

I'll see you downstairs, Ma.

IMOGENE

(without looking at him)
I'm deeply connected to you
spiritually, baby.

Imogene's words seize Liam, stopping him from exiting the room.

LIAM

Yeah, I know, Ma.

IMOGENE

I'm praying for you. But in my spirit, I feel you hiding, turning away from me.

LIAM

Don't say that.

IMOGENE

(turning to face Liam)
In the Bible, there's a son who
found himself eating from a hog
pen.

LIAM

A hog pen?

IMOGENE

Yes, and one day, thank God, he woke up to the truth that he had someone who truly loved him.

LIAM

I don't want to lose you.

IMOGENE

You never will.

LIAM

You say that, but...

IMOGENE

What you've done may cause me pain or disappointment.

LIAM

Please, Mom, stop.

IMOGENE

And I might not like what I hear.

Liam settles into a seat, unwilling to look at Imogene.

IMOGENE (CONT'D)

But baby, you're my son, and you need to know that my love for you is unwavering.

LIAM

I feel like I'm trapped in that pig pen, and I'm afraid I'm going to lose you.

IMOGENE

That's not something you need to fear.

LIAM

Mom, I've never felt more loved in my whole life.

IMOGENE

I do love you.

LIAM

But I'm stained with guilt because I let you down.

IMOGENE

Take your time, I'll be here when you're ready.

Liam takes a deep breath into his hands, feeling reassured by Imogene's words.

LIAM

I have to let Dad know first.

Imogene is taken aback and inadvertently asks a question instead of offering confirmation.

TMOGENE

Kish?

LIAM

I can't lose him.

IMOGENE

I'm confident you won't.

TITAM

He's my best friend.

IMOGENE

I know.

LIAM

And I'm the center of his world.

Imogene nods slowly, her wry smile hiding the small pang of jealousy she feels.

IMOGENE

The center of his world.

Liam straightens up in his seat, raising his head as his confidence increases.

LIAM

Thanks, Mom, for helping me remember what we mean to each other.

IMOGENE

You and Liam?

LIAM

Yes.

Imogene smiles warmly, her serene presence bringing a sense of peace to the tense situation.