

Shane then walked up to her silently and sat down beside her.

Natalie came back to her senses when she felt the sofa sink beside her and turned toward him.

"Oh, you're home!" she said with a forced smile.

"Yeah." Shane nodded and lowered his gaze to her tummy.

Natalie tensed up when she noticed where he was looking. "S-So... W-What do you think of this baby?"

Shane looked up at her. "What do I think?"

Natalie rubbed her palms nervously. "As in, do you want to keep the baby?"

Shane frowned upon hearing that, much to her distress.

What is that frown supposed to mean? Does he not want this baby?

Right as she was on the verge of breaking down, Shane eased up on his frown and said softly, "Of course I do."

He then gave her tummy a rub, making sure to be very gentle for fear of accidentally hurting her and her baby.

Natalie's eyes went wide as her uneasiness turned to joy.

"Really? You want to keep the baby?" she asked with tears in her eyes.

Shane slowly pulled his hand back. "Why wouldn't I? This is my child too."

This baby is my own flesh and blood!

Natalie believed in his words when she saw the serious look in his eyes, and whatever worries she had disappeared completely.

Overjoyed with his decision, she threw herself into his arms. "Thank you, Shane!" This baby's arrival may have been a little sudden, but I'm glad we both want to keep it!

At that moment, Mrs. Wilson came out of the kitchen with a glass of milk and a cup of tea.

She handed Shane the tea and gave Natalie the glass of milk before saying with a chuckle, "See, I told you Mr. Shane is a very responsible man!"

"Yeah!" Natalie nodded.

Shane took a sip of his tea and asked, "I take it that you'll agree to marry me now, right?"

Natalie froze as she wasn't expecting him to bring that up so suddenly.

When she saw no response from Natalie, Mrs. Wilson got anxious and thought the latter was unwilling to marry him. "Hurry up and say yes, Ms. Smith!"

Shane narrowed his eyes. "It's been so many days now, and you still haven't made up your mind?"

"I have!"

"Well? What will your answer be?"

"It's a yes!" Natalie took a deep breath and placed her hands in his.

Under normal circumstances, I would've told him I needed more time to think about it, but now that I'm pregnant, marrying him is my only option... It's the only way to ensure that my baby doesn't get called an illegitimate child. While pre-marital pregnancy isn't uncommon for most people, those from the upper classes of society regard all children born outside of wedlock as illegitimate. Connor and Sharon have been accused of being illegitimate children far too often, so I don't want this child to suffer the same fate. As such, I'm willing to marry him both for my own sake as well as that of my baby...

A faint smile formed on Shane's face when he heard her accept his proposal.

Mrs. Wilson felt really happy for both of them.

Ding dong! The doorbell rang all of a sudden.

"I'll get the door!" Mrs. Wilson offered to open the door so as not to disturb the moment they were having.

She returned with Silas a few minutes later and saw the two of them kissing on the sofa.

That put her and Silas both in an awkward position as they weren't sure whether to leave or

stay, so they simply stood rooted to the spot.

As Shane had his back facing Silas and Mrs. Wilson, Natalie was the first to notice them when she opened her eyes.