

Chapter 10 A Softer Side Within

Elyse, feeling speechless, looked out of the window with a cold expression and chose to remain silent.

Jayden was equally quiet, and the two of them returned home without speaking.

As they arrived, Driscoll greeted them with a wide smile, "Welcome back."

Jayden, expressionless, maneuvered his wheelchair into his study.

Noticing Jayden's cold demeanor, Driscoll approached Elyse, who was walking slowly behind. He asked with concern, "What happened? Mr. Owen seems unhappy."

Elyse's mind was still reeling from her parents' betrayal, and she hadn't noticed anything unusual about Jayden.

"Isn't he always like this? His expression never changes."

Driscoll sighed. "I've watched him grow up. He never shows his feelings, yet I can tell he's not happy today."

Elyse paused, taken aback. Was Jayden unhappy?

As she walked to the dining area, she noticed the lavish meal laid out on the table. "Who is this for?"

"It's for you," Driscoll explained. "Mr. Owen had been waiting up for you all night. When he learned you were in trouble, he went to fetch you himself."

Then he added, "He was there to support you."

Elyse looked up, her eyes filled with surprise.

Even though she was married to Jayden, there were no real feelings between them—they weren't even friends.

Because of this, she made it a point to keep their relationship as private as possible.

However, he had gone to her family to support her, which left her with mixed emotions.

Setting down her purse, she decided, "I'll ask him to join me for dinner."

Bolstered by Driscoll's earlier encouragement, she knocked on the door of the study and entered at Jayden's invitation.

Jayden was engrossed in his work. She closed the door and approached his desk.

His eyes remained fixed on a document, and he didn't even glance up at her, continuing to ignore her presence.

After a moment, Elyse ventured an apology. "Thank you for helping me. Without you, my father might have locked me up for several days."

"You were about to call the police, not me. Why are you thanking me?"

"You've seen what my family is like. I didn't want to drag you into it," Elyse said, feeling embarrassed.

Jayden looked up, his voice cold. "Having my wife locked up in a basement reflects poorly on me. It's humiliating."

Despite their lack of love, she was his wife now. How could his wife be locked in a basement? It was an affront to his dignity.

"If someone dares to hurt you again, you can either mention my name or not bother coming back here."

After a brief pause, Elyse recalled Driscoll mentioning that

Jayden was kind. At that moment, she smiled and mentioned that she hadn't noticed but promised to observe him more in the future. Now, reflecting on his words, she realized that despite his harsh tone, Jayden's concern for her was evident. He was tough on the outside but had a softer side within.

With a small smile playing on her lips, she placed her hand on his and said cheerfully, "Thank you, Jayden. Care to join me for dinner?"

Jayden was about to decline, but catching the hopeful look in her eyes, he swallowed his refusal.

As they exited the study together, Driscoll's face lit up with a relieved smile. "Dinner is ready."

"Okay!" Elyse responded, feeling famished. She practically devoured her meal.

"By the way, Sir, Dr. Ellis called about half an hour ago. He asked me to remind you to wait for him at home tomorrow," Driscoll informed Jayden.

"Okay, I know," Jayden replied nonchalantly.

"Who is that?" Elyse blinked and asked curiously.

Driscoll clarified, "Peyton Ellis. He's Mr. Owen's friend and attending physician. He oversees Mr. Owen's leg rehabilitation and checks on him from time to time. He's scheduled to conduct a physical examination tomorrow."

Lost in thought, Elyse turned to Jayden. Noticing her gaze, Jayden inquired, "What's wrong? Are you feeling unwell?"

"I didn't mean that!" Elyse quickly waved her hand to dismiss the concern.