

## **Bound love 1151**

Chapter 1151:

George rushed toward him, shouting, “Wait! What do you want me to do with your violin?”

Rickey’s smile remained calm. “Do whatever feels right. And please, take care of Elyse.”

Before George could speak again, Rickey was pulled away into a swirling vortex. In the distance, George heard Anthony’s voice cutting through the dream.

“Dad, stop dozing off. It’s time to eat something. You’ve been asleep all afternoon.”

George opened his eyes to find Anthony’s face hovering inches away. He groaned, “And what’s all this about, you little rascal?”

Anthony blinked in shock. “Why are you snapping at me? I’m trying to look after you, and you’re giving me grief? Just because you’re laid up in the hospital doesn’t make you king of the house. I’m not here to pamper you!”

George snarled and, with a bit of effort, slowly pushed himself up into a sitting position.

Anthony placed the food tray in front of him. “Come on, eat. You’re too old to be skipping meals like some rebellious teenager just because you’re in a mood.”

Ignoring his son’s fussing, George asked, “Where’s Elyse?”

Anthony replied, “She went back to the hotel to rest. Why do you want to know?”

“Call her. Tell her to come over. I’ve got something to say to her,” George ordered, his voice firm.

Anthony raised an eyebrow. “Out of the blue? Why now?”

George shot him a sharp look that made Anthony flinch. “Just call her.”

With a sigh, Anthony relented. “Alright, alright, I’ll call her.” As he started dialing, George added, “And bring me the violin from home.”

Anthony blinked in confusion. “The violin? What do you need that for?”

“Just do as I say. Why is it so hard for you to follow a simple order?” George smacked Anthony lightly on the shoulder.

Grumbling under his breath, Anthony rubbed his shoulder. “Fine, since you’re the one lying in a hospital bed, I’ll go along with it.”

Meanwhile, Elyse received the call when she got back to the hotel.

They agreed to meet at the hospital around 6 p.m.

After the call, Elyse told Edward about the sudden meeting. He frowned, puzzled. “What’s got that old man so keen to see you all of a sudden? And why the rush?”

Elyse shook her head, equally mystified. “I’m not sure, but Anthony said it’s something good. I’ll go and see.”

Edward, slipping his arm around her waist, said, “Before you go rushing off, how about we enjoy a candlelit dinner? After we eat, I’ll take you to the hospital.”

Elyse smiled and nodded.

They stepped into a cozy restaurant, ordered a few dishes, and enjoyed their meal. But when they went to settle the bill, they were met with a surprise. The cashier smiled and said, “Your bill has already been taken care of.”

Chapter 1152:

Elyse blinked. “What? Who paid for it? Was it a man or a woman?” The server responded with a grin. “It was a woman.”

Turning to Edward, she added, “She mentioned you’re very handsome and said she was happy to cover the bill.”

Elyse felt her head spin for a moment. The instant she had heard someone paid, the image of Jayden flashed through her mind. But to her surprise, it wasn’t him—it was a woman. And not just any woman. One who had her eyes on Edward.

Edward’s face paled, his mouth twitching awkwardly.

When Elyse and Edward reached the hospital, they spotted Jayden lounging on a hallway bench, legs crossed, scrolling through his phone, likely dealing with some business matters. At the sound of their footsteps, Jayden looked up. “Back from your date, I see,” he remarked, a sharp edge in his tone.

Elyse hesitated, studying him carefully before asking, “Where were you today? Were you at the hospital the whole time?”

Jayden arched an eyebrow. “Where else would I be? You were off on a date, and I had nothing better to do. If I wasn’t here at the hospital, where do you think I’d be?”

He sneered and added, “What, did you expect me to be hiding in my room, crying loudly?”

Elyse frowned, feeling the sting of his words. “Why are you being so sarcastic? It was just a simple question. Can’t you talk to me calmly?”

Jayden’s irritation flared. “No, I can’t. Why should I? You’re on a date with another man. What, am I supposed to sugarcoat everything for you now?” His voice rose, the heat of jealousy clear.

Frustrated, Elyse stomped her foot. “I don’t want to argue with you. I need to speak to George alone, and none of you are allowed in.”

With that, she swept into the ward, shutting the door behind her with a decisive thud.

Edward rubbed his nose, a teasing glint in his eyes. “Man, are you seriously that jealous? I had no idea you could be this... petulant.”

Jayden let out a bitter laugh. “The woman I love went out with another guy. You tell me how to stay cool about that.”

Edward clicked his tongue, a mischievous look crossing his face. “So, tell me, do you have any idea who Elyse actually has feelings for?”

Jayden’s brow furrowed. “Her feelings?”

“Yeah,” Edward continued, grinning wider. “You have any clue who’s in her heart?”

Jayden’s confidence wavered for a split second. “If it’s not me, then what else could it be?”

Edward raised an eyebrow. “Are you really that sure?”

Jayden fell quiet, a flicker of doubt crossing his face.

Truth was, he wasn’t sure at all. He couldn’t wrap his head around how someone like him—with a fiery temper, a tumultuous past, and a dreary life—could ever catch her eye. Yet, he always held onto a sliver of hope—a “what if.” What if Elyse was blind enough to fall for him? What if she was a fool, foolishly and hopelessly in love with him?

But that was merely a fantasy, and he wouldn’t dare voice it aloud. If he did, someone might just smack him for his foolishness.

Chapter 1153:

Noticing Jayden’s silence, Edward shook his head in mock disapproval. “I knew it; you’re just faking that confidence of yours.”

With that, Edward plopped down next to Jayden and casually asked, “By the way, was it you who paid for our dinner tonight?”

Jayden shot back, “Do I look like the generous type?”

“Maybe,” Edward teased, a smirk creeping onto his face, “perhaps you were just playing the role of the good guy for Elyse’s sake?”

“Definitely wasn’t me. I don’t have time to pull off something that desperate,” Jayden insisted, his tone firm.

Seeing that Jayden was staying tight-lipped, Edward pressed further. “Even if you won’t admit it, I still think it was you. Who knows, maybe you disguised yourself as a woman just to cover our bill.”

Jayden shot Edward a disgusted look. Was the man insane?

Leaning back in his chair, Edward felt a twinge of bitterness. “But unlike you, I know exactly who Elyse loves, and it’s kind of a downer.”

Jayden scoffed. “What’s so sad about that? Are you moping because Elyse doesn’t have feelings for you?”

Edward shook his head. “Nope.”

Then, mimicking Jayden’s earlier expression, he added with a sneer, “A guy who doesn’t even know what’s going on in Elyse’s heart has no right to talk to me.”

Panic washed over Jayden as he demanded, “What do you mean? If she doesn’t have feelings for you, then who does she have a crush on? Is there another guy after her? Has she actually fallen for him?”

Seeing Jayden’s frantic reaction, Edward couldn’t help but think that love really did make people lose their minds. He had never understood this kind of behavior before—how could someone become so foolish simply because of love? But right in front of him was a perfect example. How could Jayden twist his words so thoroughly?

Edward, baffled, relished the opportunity to watch Jayden squirm, flailing about like a cat on a hot tin roof.

With a playful smile, Edward replied, “Maybe. But honestly, why are you worked up about who she has feelings for? It’s not like you’re head over heels for her or anything.”

Exasperated, Jayden shot back, “Cut it out with the slander! I only love her!”

Upon entering the hospital room, Elyse was greeted by Anthony.

“Why do you seem so down? Did something occur?” he inquired.

Elyse, after a moment to gather herself, dismissed it lightly. “It’s nothing, merely minor troubles.”

Anthony, sensing the delicacy of the situation, did not probe further. He exchanged a glance with George, who nodded in approval.

Moving towards Elyse, Anthony lifted the violin case.

“This violin is yours now.”

He opened the case to reveal the violin Elyse had been yearning for.

Overwhelmed with joy, she touched it and, puzzled, asked, “What made you change your mind?”

George, grinning, responded, “You’ve worked diligently for this violin. It’s rightfully yours now. It makes sense to give it to someone who appreciates its worth as much as I do.”

Chapter 1154:

Elyse tuned the violin briefly and played a melody, the notes resonating perfectly.

From the side, Anthony added, “When my dad sent me to fetch the violin this afternoon, I believed it...”

Touched, Elyse bowed to George, expressing her gratitude. “Thank you for trusting me with this violin. I’ll care for it well.”

George, pleased by her words, replied, “Your words comfort me. You seem more reliable than your dad.”

The conversation took a turn at the mention of Rickey. George sighed. “He’s been troublesome.”

Anthony concurred, “Absolutely. His presence inevitably brings chaos. My younger days spent with him always led to trouble.”

George dismissed it as, “Merely bad luck on your part.”

Taken aback, Anthony didn’t know how to respond.

Elyse, sensing the tension, reassured him, “I agree; Dad can be quite unpredictable.”

George then suggested, “It’s time for you to leave, Anthony. I need to speak with Elyse.”

Puzzled, Anthony agreed. “Okay, I’ll leave you two.”

Once the door was closed, George’s demeanor softened. He motioned to the chair beside the bed. “Please, sit down, Elyse.” Clasp the violin case, Elyse seated herself.

Observing her puzzled look, George ventured, “You must be wondering why I asked you to stay.”

Elyse nodded. “Are we going to discuss something about my dad?”

George nodded, his voice serious. “I’d like to share the story of how your parents, Rickey and Jazmine, fell in love.”

Elyse, surprised, responded, “Really? You’re familiar with their love story?”

“Yes, I witnessed their romance firsthand,” George affirmed. He then asked, “Were you aware that your dad was quite the ladies’ man?”

Shocked, Elyse replied, “This is the first time I’ve heard this. Was he someone who played games with love?”

“Ah no, you’ve got it wrong, dear. Rickey enjoyed the scene, but he never misled the women he dated,” George explained.

Relieved, Elyse breathed out deeply.

George continued, “Rickey was quite youthful in spirit. Being the youngest, he was pampered, which meant he never really matured emotionally. He cherished his freedom and adventures, always avoiding any real responsibilities. He caught the eye of many, though he often seemed oblivious to the attention. Rickey enjoyed taking his dates to concerts, though not everyone appreciated classical music, which sometimes made him seem a bit eccentric.”

Elyse, taken aback, admitted, “I had no idea about this aspect of him. It was never discussed.”

George explained, “He often appeared more grown-up around his peers to maintain his image, but deep down, he was somewhat lost, unsure of his desires in life.”

Understanding dawned on Elyse, prompting her to ask, “If he was so averse to commitment, why did he marry my mom?” She continued, curious, “I’ve always heard that their love was genuine.”

Chapter 1155:

George smiled as he sipped water. “Ah yes, their love was deep and true. They loved each other more profoundly than anyone else could.”

He paused, then added, “Yet before they fully committed, they faced many challenges. Some stories might be tough to believe, but they shaped their relationship. Through these challenges, they came to understand and fully accept one another, ultimately providing unwavering support to each other.”



George noticed Elyse's distant look and asked, "Can you accept that your dad jumped into another relationship right after splitting from your mom?"

"Jumping from one to another right after their split?" Elyse's voice wavered, her world seemingly unraveling. "How could he do something like that?"

George let out a soft chuckle. "Hard to believe, right? After a heated argument, neither your mom nor dad could back down. In her frustration, your mom suggested they break up. Your dad agreed and flew out here right afterward. On the plane, he quickly became involved with a blonde woman who had been flirting with him."

Elyse's face twisted in confusion. "I can't process this. How could he do something like that?"

"I understand. It's difficult," George said. "We always struggle to grasp the choices of others, especially when we're not the ones living their story."

George paused, then added, "But remember, they're the main characters in their own lives, not us. How things unfold is up to them."

Elyse considered his words for a moment before responding, "I understand. Please go on."

"Well, it didn't take long for your dad to end things with the blonde. She called him useless, slapped him, and dumped him."

"This is how I imagined it would turn out," Elyse muttered, surprised.

George lifted his head as if lost in thought. "After that, Rickey started to calm down. His mood grew heavier each day—whether he was eating, sleeping, or just sitting, he seemed weighed down by something. When I had time, I would check on him, just to make sure he was doing okay. Eventually, I got concerned enough to ask him what was really bothering him."

Curious, Elyse asked, "What was troubling him?"

With a slight smirk, George recalled, “He said he was trying to find answers deep within himself. The truth is, not everyone can fully understand their own feelings, not even your dad. He was trying to make sense of the chaos in his mind.”

George then shifted the conversation back to Elyse. “So, have you figured out your own feelings?”

Elyse froze. “My feelings? Have I not figured them out yet?”

George laughed lightly. “If you had, why are two men still hovering around you? There should only be one, shouldn’t there?”

Feeling awkward, Elyse rubbed her nose and deflected, “Let’s not talk about that right now. I want to hear how my parents ended up back together.”

Taking a slow sip of water, George replied, “I’m not telling you the rest today. Once you’ve made sense of your own feelings, I’ll finish the story.”

Chapter 1156:

Elyse, slightly puzzled, asked, “Why are you telling me all this?”

George spoke calmly. “Some man wanted me to tell you this. He’s concerned for you but can’t protect you himself, so he sent me to deliver the message.”

Elyse, startled and uneasy, asked, “Who are you talking about? Who do you think it is?”

George replied, “Someone who protects his daughter through dreams—who else could that be?”

Elyse covered her mouth, tears filling her eyes. “Perfect,” she whispered.

George continued, “Even your dad was confused when it came to relationships. Who among us is flawless? We all have our shortcomings.”

Elyse nodded, as though she understood. “I get it.”

George studied her and said, “You don’t really understand just yet. You think you do, but remember to dig deep into your heart. I’ll be waiting for the good news.”

He added, “I’ve said what I needed to. Get some rest.”

“Okay. I’ll come back tomorrow,” Elyse said, standing up.

“There’s no need to come tomorrow. Do what you need to do. Don’t trouble yourself with visiting me again,” George replied. He locked eyes with her. “When you’ve truly figured out your own feelings, come back. I’ll be waiting.”

Elyse stood in silence for a moment, unsure. Finally, she bowed slightly and said, “I’ll figure it out and give you an answer.”

George nodded, then waved her off before settling back in bed and pulling up the covers. He prepared to sleep.

Elyse left the hospital room. As she walked down the hallway, Edward crouched by the door of the new room, sneaking a peek inside.

Curious, she asked, “What are you doing? And Anthony? Our conversation’s over, so you should head out.”

Jayden, noticing Edward’s sneaky behavior, replied, “Looks like Anthony’s found his match, and Edward’s spying on him.”

“Anthony’s going to get lucky,” Elyse said, suddenly excited, and she joined Edward in spying.

Edward, realizing she couldn’t see clearly, shifted over to make space for her.

Elyse leaned casually against the doorway, her eyes fixed on Anthony, who stood awkwardly behind a nurse.

The nurse busied herself with tidying the bed, but Anthony, usually so confident, held a chocolate bar in his hand, looking unsure of himself, as if trapped between wanting to offer it and being too shy to do so.

With a soft chuckle, Elyse whispered, “I can’t believe it. Anthony, nervous? For someone as carefree as him, it’s strange to see him hesitating over something so simple.”

Edward, standing beside her, grinned knowingly. “Not strange at all. Love has a way of making even the boldest feel uncertain.”

Just then, the nurse finished her task and turned, her gaze landing directly on Anthony, who froze.

Chapter 1157:

Her eyes flicked down to the chocolate bar clenched tightly in his hand.

Caught off guard, Anthony hurriedly hid it behind his back, his face flushed.

A small, amused smile played on the nurse’s lips. “Is that chocolate bar for me?” she asked, her tone teasing but kind.

Anthony fumbled for words. “If you want it... I-I’ll...,” he stammered, extending the chocolate with a shaky hand.

The nurse glanced at the bar for a moment before meeting Anthony’s gaze with a soft smile. “Thanks, but I don’t really like this flavor, so I’ll pass.”

As she turned to leave, Anthony, in a sudden burst of panic, stepped forward to block her path. His heart pounded in his chest as he blurted out, “W-wait! What flavor do you like? I’ll get it for you next time!”

She looked at him, surprised by his sudden boldness, and for a few seconds, her expression softened.

Anthony could feel the tension rise within him. Tiny beads of sweat now dotted his forehead, and his nerves were frayed. The fear of rejection gnawed at him.

Raising an eyebrow, the nurse smiled again, this time more gently. "I'm not sure. I've bought this brand before. But how about this: we can go to the supermarket together after my shift and you can pick one out for me."

"Huh?" Anthony's brain seemed to short-circuit at her suggestion, leaving him frozen in place.

The nurse chuckled softly, her eyes sparkling with amusement. "I thought you wanted to get me a chocolate I'd actually like."

"No, just..." Anthony turned even redder as he scrambled to find the words. "My mind went blank for a second."

The nurse smiled warmly and said, "Come by the nurse's station after my shift. I'll give you my contact info." With that, she turned and walked away.

She passed through the doorway. She noticed two people standing against the wall on either side of the door.

She didn't give it much thought as she continued down the hall. Anthony stood rooted in place, still in a daze, watching the nurse until she disappeared around the corner.

Elyse, noticing his dreamy expression, strolled up to him with a teasing grin. "She's already gone. Lost in thought?"

He blushed fiercely, snapping out of his trance. "I wasn't! Don't make stuff up! I was just... looking around."

Elyse chuckled, clearly enjoying his embarrassment. "Come on, you two basically just set up a date. That's hardly casual."

Anthony's blush deepened, and he fidgeted with the chocolate bar in his hands.

For someone nearly two meters tall, the bashfulness made him seem unexpectedly small.

Trying to change the subject, Elyse pulled out her phone. “Anyway, I’m transferring the payment for that violin. Don’t even think about rejecting it. I fought hard to buy it.”

Anthony shook his head quickly. “No need. My dad never intended to charge you for it.”

Chapter 1158:

Elyse laughed, “No way. Think of it as sponsoring your love life. Dating costs money, Anthony. You need to start earning more if you want to marry her in the future! You can’t run a business like this.”

Edward walked up, nodding in agreement. “She’s right. That violin is expensive. It’s only fair to take some payment. Plus, you two need to be practical—you’ve got a life to build.”

Anthony hesitated. Edward’s reasoning finally swayed him. He pulled out his phone to check the payment, only for him to blink in surprise. “This much? It’s double the price!”

Elyse shrugged. “No problem. I’m supporting your love life. Make some extra cash so you can buy gifts for your future girlfriend.”

Anthony scratched his head, clearly flustered. “Too much, really. How about returning part of it?”

Instead of answering, Elyse stepped forward, patting his shoulder. “I’ve got to go. I’ll swing by later. Thanks for everything, Anthony. You’ve taken such good care of me these past few weeks.”

After bidding Anthony farewell, Elyse and Jayden slipped into the car.

As the city blurred around them, Elyse’s heart felt like a cloud that refused to drift away.

Silence stretched between them, thick as the fog before dawn, until her voice, barely disturbing the quiet, spoke. “Next time we meet, it’ll likely be at Anthony’s wedding, right?”

Jayden's eyes stayed fixed on the road, the words escaping him. Edward broke the silence, his tone laced with casual optimism. "Anthony seems inexperienced. If that nurse can be patient with him, maybe it'll work out."

Elyse gave a thoughtful nod.

Then, turning her gaze toward Jayden, she asked, "Where are we headed now?"

Without turning, Jayden answered coolly, "We need to head back. I've got unfinished business."

Elyse hesitated, letting the weight of her next question linger before she asked, "Do you all really intend to keep up the conflict?"

Edward spoke up, his words dripping with quiet resignation.

Elyse's gaze fell on Jayden's stoic profile, her voice barely a whisper. "When will it end?"

Jayden's reply came slow, deliberate, as if he were unearthing ancient truths. "It ends when peace decides to arrive." And with that, the resolution devoted—peace was not promised, but a distant hope. The conflict would continue, its end uncertain and far away.

They drove with the steady determination of a man who refused rest, pushing the night deeper into itself.

Elyse's thoughts swirled, tangled, making sleep elusive. Edward, on the other hand, brimmed with an odd energy, his words tumbling out in a stream of ideas that ranged from history to the edges of future technology.

Elyse, caught in the whirlwind of Edward's enthusiasm, finally interrupted, a smile playing on her lips. "You've asked so many questions, I'm struggling to keep up."

Chapter 1159:

Edward pouted slightly, his boyish enthusiasm undimmed. "We can't just sit in silence. Let's keep the conversation going a little longer?"

Elyse stifled a yawn, her exhaustion catching up to her. “We can continue next time. I need rest now.”

Disappointment flashed across Edward’s face, but he conceded, his voice carrying a touch of defeat. “Alright. You rest first.”

With a sigh of relief, Elyse leaned her head against the window, clutching a pillow close. The hum of the road lulled her into a quiet slumber, the night folding her in its embrace.

Jayden, his hands steady on the wheel, didn’t spare a glance at the backseat.

Unseen, Edward reached out, gently hooking Elyse’s finger with his thumb, reluctant to let the moment slip away.

He longed for more time with her, knowing that with the break of dawn, the chance would be gone.

Elyse slept deeply, and when she woke, they had already arrived back in the small town. Her first thought was of Carrie, but news quickly reached her—Carrie had been moved to another hospital.

While checking into the hotel, Elyse noticed Jayden hadn’t intended to stay. Puzzled, she asked, “Aren’t you going to rest? Don’t you need sleep?”

Jayden, juggling their luggage and phone, dismissed the concern with cold air. “No need. I have things to do. You rest.”

There was a sharp edge to his tone, and Elyse could sense something was off. Was he still angry about what happened yesterday? Her frustration flared. “What’s with your attitude? Is it really so serious? Stop acting like a child and just get a room to rest.”

Jayden halted, his face clouded with a mixture of exhaustion and something else. “It’s dangerous to stay near me. Being with Edward is safer; he’ll protect you.”



His words cut deep. Elyse's brow furrowed as she shot back, "You dragged me into danger before, but now, when things are rough, you won't take me with you? Am I just a disposable piece to you? You can't decide when to keep me and when to toss me aside!"

Her voice trembled with unshed tears. "Am I just something you pick up and drop whenever it suits you? If you wanted me with you before, why not now?"

Jayden's brow furrowed, his frustration evident. "I know it's not what you want to hear, but I'm doing this for your sake."

"For my sake?" Elyse's eyes shimmered with unshed tears. "Your idea of protecting me is pushing me away over and over again."

Jayden sighed deeply, his words heavy with the burden of his own struggles. "I'm not pushing you away. I'm trying to keep you safe. Everything I do is for that."

Elyse's heart sank. This was not the relationship she had imagined. She longed for something more—something where Jayden wouldn't always shield her behind walls she never asked for.

Seeing her silence, Jayden took it as a sign of reluctant agreement. Turning to Edward, he reminded him, "Don't forget your promise. This time, don't back out."

Chapter 1160:

Edward's lips twitched, and with a resigned sigh, he replied, "I'm a man of my word. I'll keep my promise."

With a final nod, Jayden glanced at Elyse once more before disappearing into the night, his luggage in tow.

Elyse watched him, her emotions swirling, unspoken words lingering on her lips.

Edward, noticing her pensive silence, offered a small, comforting smile. "Let's head to the room. A shower and some rest will do you good."

Elyse didn't reply, only nodded absently. She picked up her key card and walked toward the elevator, Edward quickly catching up.

Their rooms were on the same floor, though in opposite directions.

As Edward stood at the crossroads of the hallways, he called out a last request, his voice carrying a note of urgency. "Elyse, when you wake up, I'd really like to talk. Promise me you won't brush me off?"

Though puzzled, Elyse agreed, her mind too tired to question.

"Alright. I'll come find you when I wake up."

Edward flashed Elyse a smile, warm and radiant, a perfect reflection of his sunny nature.

For days now, Elyse had noticed something peculiar in his behavior, but the right moment to address it had always eluded her.

Now, with Edward inviting her for a chat, she saw the perfect opportunity unfolding before her.

Elyse retreated to her room, weary from the weight of the day. As she sank into her bed, her thoughts betrayed her, drifting endlessly toward Jayden.

She buried her face beneath a pillow, frustrated with herself. "Elyse, what's wrong with you? Why are you even thinking about him? Just stop it!"

In her heart, she scolded herself for being stupid. There were far better options in her life, yet here she was, tangled up in thoughts of a man as troublesome as Jayden. It was as though she had willingly walked into something, knowing full well the dangers ahead.

As these thoughts overwhelmed her, tears slipped down her cheeks, unnoticed. But after enough crying, she drifted into a heavy, exhausted sleep.

When she woke, the world outside her window was already cloaked in the quiet of night.

Sitting up on the edge of her bed, Elyse felt adrift in the fog of her thoughts. Once clarity returned, she reached for her phone and dialed Edward's number.

He answered almost instantly, his voice filled with concern. "Did you sleep well?"

"Mmm," Elyse murmured softly. Then, with a bit more energy, she said, "Let's go grab some dinner. I'm starving."

Edward didn't hesitate. "Sure. Come down when you're ready. I'll be waiting in the lobby."

"I'll be there soon." Hanging up, Elyse quickly dressed in fresh clothes and headed downstairs.

Edward greeted her with a cheerful wave when she arrived.