

Chapter 44 A Dream About Jayden

Theo was in a frenzy at home, startling the servants with his behavior. When Zandra Ward, his mother, stepped out of her room, she caught him in the act of smashing a glass.

She was taken aback. Her son usually kept his emotions under wraps. Even under stress, he maintained a calm demeanor and seldom showed signs of irritation. Sensing that something was amiss, she instructed the maid to clean up the shattered glass, then summoned Theo to the study.

"How have I taught you? No matter how angry, you mustn't show it. You're to be the head of our family. Displaying such emotions gives your enemies insight into your weaknesses, does it not?" she reminded him.

Theo massaged his forehead. "I'm sorry, Mom. I acted too impulsively today."

Zandra shook her head, took a sip of water, and pressed, "What's troubling you?"

Theo remained silent.

Persisting, she probed, "You mentioned a girl got married. Who? And why does it concern you?"

"Forget it, Mom. It's my issue," Theo dismissed.

Zandra frowned, trying to piece together the cause of his distress. Then, a name popped into her mind. "Is it Elyse?"

At the mention of the name, Theo's irritation flared. "Mom, please stop asking!"

Observing his reluctance to open up, Zandra sensed her hunch was correct. She set down her glass with a dissatisfied sigh. "I've told you before. She's not worthy of you, and her family doesn't measure up to

ours."

Theo felt his anxiety rise. "Mom, I never said I still have feelings for her. Can you please not read too much into it?"

"Then what do you plan to do? Forget about her now that she's married!" Zandra insisted sternly.

With a grim expression, Theo confessed, "Elyse married Jayden Owen. Yes, of the Owen family."

"Jayden Owen?" Zandra, a savvy businesswoman, recognized the name from the past. However, she knew that since Jayden had become disabled, the Owen family had stripped him of his authority. He held no real power within the family anymore. He was practically worthless.

"She's way below his league. But don't worry. Jayden's just a crippled man with no influence left. She'll have nothing and pose no threat to us," Zandra reasoned calmly, hoping to ease Theo's distress.

However, seeing his continued agitation, she couldn't help but probe further. "Haven't you moved on from her yet?"

"Why do you ask? What's so special about her that deserves my attention?" Theo responded without hesitation.

Zandra scoffed, puzzled by his emotional turmoil. If he truly felt nothing for Elyse, why was he so affected moments ago?

"I have no lingering feelings for her. Mom, please stop speculating," Theo insisted, his frustration evident. With those words, he promptly exited the room.

Zandra understood her son all too well. How could she not decipher his thoughts? It was evident that he was struggling to move on from Elyse, who had married someone else.

Elyse had already gotten married, yet her son couldn't seem to move on. She must have left quite an impression. "Elyse, now that you're married, you'd better live your own life and leave my son alone."

Upon awakening, Elyse nursed her throbbing head and eased her weary body out of bed.

"That wine from last night was dreadful. It's given me quite the hangover." She pulled back the covers and rose, intent on fetching a glass of water from the kitchen.

Breakfast time had long passed, and Jayden was seated in the living room, engrossed in the news. Catching sight of Elyse's pallid complexion, he remarked, "You're finally up."

"I think I overdid it with the drinks," Elyse muttered, pouting.

"Everyone knows you can't hold your liquor," Jayden teased.

With an indignant glare, Elyse dashed to the kitchen, where she found Driscoll observing the chef preparing dessert.

"I had too much to drink last night. Do you have any warm milk? I'm feeling under the weather," she admitted.

Driscoll grinned warmly. "Please wait a moment. I'll fetch you some milk."

With a contented smile, Elyse rejoined Jayden in the living room and settled in beside him to watch TV.

Glancing at him, she remarked, "Jayden, I had a dream last night that you stood up and carried me."

Jayden remained nonchalant. "Anything else in your dream?"

"You called me a fool."

"In your dreams, I'm nothing if not honest," Jayden quipped.

"In my dream, you looked incredibly handsome. I couldn't take my eyes off you as you effortlessly carried me," Elyse confessed dreamily.