

## Chapter 15 Mother Elena

After Andrew went outside, the tension in the room also dissipated.

Laura went to stand before Maisie, her gaze disdainful and condescending as usual.

Maisie was very used to such a look. She didn't say anything, ignoring Laura's look.

Laura said coldly, "Maisie, our family will be having dinner soon, and you're not welcome."

Maisie smiled in response. She looked at Laura, her gaze neutral.

Laura was stunned. She got the feeling that Maisie had changed, whether in her looks or her demeanor.

Maisie was no longer weak. Her gaze was cold, and she looked more confident.

Maisie looked over at Emmanuel. He wouldn't have another attack anytime soon.

With her tinctures, he would be able to make it through for some time. Maisie would also have to do some studies to determine the next stage of her treatment plan.

Since the whole Clarke family kept asking her to leave, Maisie had no reason to stay. Besides, Andrew wasn't there right then, so this was her best chance to leave.

Maisie made it out of Clarke Estate. Right then, a Cadillac stopped in front of her.

The person in the car rolled down the window and playfully snapped her fingers. "Hurry and get in the car, Maisie."

"What are you doing here?" Maisie was pleasantly surprised by Giselle's appearance. She had just been worrying about how she would get a cab there, too.

"We never left. We've been following you all this time. We thought we could help immediately if you manage to escape," Giselle explained.

"Mommy!"

"Mommy, we're here too!" the kids called excitedly from the back seat of the car.

Maisie's worry instantly melted away. She hurried into the car and pulled her children into a hug.

It was best not to linger, so Giselle hurriedly sped off.

"Mommy, we missed you so much." Elio and June

clung to Maisie, happy and excited.

"My darlings, I missed you too. You did great today. I'm so proud." Maisie hugged her children even tighter.

"Hey, hey! Don't forget about your godmother now that your mother's back. And you! Don't forget about your best friend now that you have kids," Giselle said.

She clutched her chest as she drove. "You hurt me."

"Aunt Giselle, if you get abducted, we'll miss you a lot too," Elio teased in a sweet voice.

"Don't. Don't even say such a thing. I'm scared."

Elio and June burst into laughter.

"Thanks for everything today, Giselle," Maisie said.

"It's nothing. I was just the driver. The kids did all the hard work. Wherever you went, El's locating system managed to find you."

Maisie knew that Elio had always had an affinity for technology. She caressed the tops of Elio's and June's heads. Her kids were really God's greatest gift to her.

"Let's go eat. I'm starving." Giselle's stomach rumbled.

It was time for dinner. Since the kids and Giselle had

been waiting for her all this time, Maisie knew they must not have eaten. She felt really bad about it.

"Alright. You pick where to go. My treat."

Giselle didn't plan on being considerate of Maisie's wallet. She said, "Let's go to a restaurant then. You guys okay with that? I know a good one."

Maisie nodded. "Sure."

Giselle drove straight to the restaurant. Once they arrived, they were lucky enough to get a table. The restaurant staff led them to a private room.

After the food arrived, it became obvious how hungry the children were. They were gobbling down the food.

Maisie helped them with their food after only a few bites.

"Maisie, how are things between you and Andrew now?" Giselle asked in worry. They couldn't keep up this game of cat and mouse forever.

After filling her stomach, Maisie put aside her cutlery. She looked tired and helpless. "He wants me to hand El and Junie over."

"What? He wants the kids?"

"Yes."

If it weren't for the kids being there, Giselle would've hurled her cutlery against the wall. "How dare he? He didn't want them in the first place. Now he wants them back? That's unbelievable!"

Maisie continued helping the children with their food. Elio and June were so focused on eating that they didn't notice what Maisie and Giselle were talking about.

Maisie sighed, her gaze determined. "I will never give him the kids."

Her kids were her everything. She would do all it took to protect them.

Maisie wanted to send the kids overseas to hide but quickly dismissed the thought.

Elio and June were still pretty young and needed her. She couldn't leave them either. But at the same time, she couldn't leave, either. She had to treat Emmanuel's condition.

Thus, all she could do was to be careful.

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In the Clarke Estate's study, Fulton and Andrew were seated around the coffee table. Bright lights shone on them both, highlighting how similar they looked.

Fulton lowered his head and slowly poured some freshly brewed coffee into a cup. Meanwhile, Andrew's expression was unreadable, his shrewd eyes narrowed.

From the way they acted around each other, these two didn't seem like father and son at all. Instead, they looked more like chess grandmasters locked in a game.

"What do you plan to do about the child?" Fulton asked as he placed the mug in front of Andrew.

Andrew looked up at Fulton. He didn't seem surprised that his father knew about the child.

He picked up the mug and elegantly took a sip. Then, he said indifferently, "She can raise the child."

Fulton frowned. He was obviously against this idea.

His voice held a hint of warning when he said, "The child is a Clarke."

His meaning was very clear. A Clarke could not be left to wander about.

"Once you marry Elena, let her raise the child. Maisie can see the child whenever she wants. That's the biggest kindness I can show her."

"It's Maisie's child." Andrew's eyes narrowed further, his expression displeased.

"But it's a Clarke first," Fulton said in warning as he got up.

"I don't approve of your decision." Andrew's tone was measured. His words caused Fulton to frown.

Then, he continued, "The child's mother can only be Maisie." His tone conveyed undeniable conviction.