

Chapter 0053

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Laura frowned as she listened. Her gaze shifted toward Elena, and her expression softened with concern.

She walked over and took Elena's hand before apologizing, "I'm sorry, Elena. I was just too anxious."

Biting her lip, Elena shook her head. "It's alright, Mrs. Clarke. Grandpa's health is our top priority right now."

"Dr. Jones, Elena, it's pouring outside. Please stay at the Clarke Estate tonight.

"Since Mr. Clarke Senior had another episode tonight due to his age, we don't know if it might happen again later. I appreciate your understanding," Laura said, her voice filled with worry.

Elena's eyes lit up immediately after she heard this. Then, she immediately looked at Andrew with bright eyes.

Staying overnight at the Clarke Estate was a dream come true for her.

"As for you, Maisie, when are you going to leave? Do you plan to cling to our family like a stubborn leech forever?"

"Your purpose for marrying into the Clarke family was accomplished years ago. What more do you want?" Laura questioned her.

"I want to cure Grandpa," Maisie stated firmly.

She wouldn't leave until she examined him today.

"Leave! He doesn't need your treatment," Laura snapped.

Maisie stood her ground. She wouldn't leave without examining Grandpa tonight.

Laura's face had darkened. "Fine! Someone, throw this shameless woman out and teach her a lesson."

"Yes, madam."

Two burly bodyguards at the door immediately approached Maisie. They seized her from both sides.

"Get lost!"

James exclaimed angrily while kicking the bodyguards aside, his features twisted into a deep frown. Since he was the one who personally invited Maisie here, he was determined to ensure her safety.

However, there was one thing he had never entirely understood.

Laura, his mother, was usually a woman of gentle and calm temperament with excellent manners.

But when she saw Maisie, it was like she had become a different person. She was filled with such hostility.

Maisie's behavior toward the entire Clarke family was impeccable before.

As a member of the Clarke family, James had always been proud and

indulgent. He had an attitude of superiority deeply ingrained in him.

However, he had wholeheartedly accepted Maisie as Andrew's wife because he genuinely admired her. It was because Maisie had proven herself capable of being James' sister-in-law.

Andrew needed a woman with solid abilities who could handle things efficiently with a well-rounded approach.

The year Maisie married into the Clarke family marked a significant turning point for them.

The former matriarch, Penelope Edgeman, had succumbed to her illness all of a sudden. As a result, power struggles among the company's board members and attacks from rival companies had thrown the family into turmoil.

With Emmanuel falling seriously ill, he immediately appointed Andrew as the CEO.

Andrew had to work overtime and put in extra effort at the company to try to turn the tide. This left him with no time to attend to matters at home.

The Clarke family was in chaos. They had to organize Penelope's funeral, but at the same time, they couldn't neglect Emmanuel's illness as well.

During the confusion, Maisie took charge of Penelope's funeral. She cared for Emmanuel, pacified everyone, and stabilized the family.

She handled everything meticulously and efficiently. She also single-

handedly supported the Clarke family from behind when she was just 20 years old.

Considering this, James found Laura's attitude toward Maisie excessively unfair. He couldn't help but speak up.

"Mom, why do you hold such animosity toward her? Have you forgotten how Maisie treated you and this family back then?"

There was no emotion on Laura's face. Instead, her anger intensified.

"What about what she did five years ago? Have you forgotten? She left without a word and caused Andrew to search the entire capital tirelessly.

"She made your grandpa worry for her all night. Your grandpa's episodes are because of her!"

Maisie's heart skipped a beat out of shock. She looked up at Laura, clearly flabbergasted.

"What did you just say?"

"Are you deaf? I said Andrew had tirelessly searched the entire capital to find you! He scoured the city streets and alleys with his men for three months! Three whopping months!

"Mr. Clarke Senior couldn't sleep a wink as well! He worried about you every night! The stress from worrying about you led to his illness!

"Maisie, this all happened because of you! You disrupted our peace! You're nothing but a heartless bitch!

"Think about how Mr. Clarke Senior treated you back then! You left without a word and disappeared without a trace! Have you ever thought about how you hurt him?"

"Maisie, what right do you have to show up again? Shouldn't you atone for your sins?"

It felt as though an invisible weight weighed down on Maisie's chest, making it hard for her to breathe. Her entire body started trembling violently.

Andrew searched the entire capital just to find her!

Emmanuel fell ill because he was too worried about her!

She ... was the cause of his illness!

Maisie took a deep breath, feeling a sharp phantom pain coming from her chest. She was in too much distress to think properly.

She could only clutch her chest while being overwhelmed by endless self-blame.

"Men, get over here!"

"Stop," a cold voice ordered.

Andrew's face darkened. His icy tone immediately halted the approaching bodyguards.

In the presence of this young but incredibly powerful head of the family, no one dared to disobey his orders.

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Maisie felt her trembling body suddenly weighed down by something over her shoulders.

The suit jacket still carried the warmth of a man, and it unexpectedly enveloped her cold body.

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