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Chapter 330

Wyatt adopted a serious, almost detective-like tone. "Bella's only ever had shrimp peeled by you and me. When has she ever let another guy show her affection? Tonight, Christopher was going all out with his attention on Bella. He might as well have been spoon-feeding her. Also, Bella didn't shut him down, so spill it. What's their deal? Is Bella really into him?"

"Dad, judging from your tone, it looks like you're not exactly Christopher's biggest fan."

Asher cut to the chase.

Wyatt pursed his lips without giving a clear answer.

"Christopher and Bella go way back. Now that they've reunited, they're hitting it off. Bella rarely clicks with a guy without putting up a fight, plus the Iversons and our family have a good relationship. If Chris and Bella want to take things further, it might not be all bad." Asher calmly shared his thoughts.

"When Lance came over tonight, you both knew the meaning behind it. He clearly intends to form a marriage alliance with our family. Why else would he drag his two single sons along? He's got his eyes on Bella!" Wyatt's eyes dropped, shaking his head. "But let me make it clear. I'm not signing off on this marriage."

Upon hearing these words, the Thompson brothers' expression subtly changed. They had not expected their father's strong opposition to the Iverson family.

"Dad, are you and Uncle Lance going through a rough patch? Did you secretly block each other's numbers?" Axel could not resist teasing his father. "Seriously, even after falling out, you can still sit down and chat like nothing happened. If it were me, I'd definitely hold a grudge."

"How did you become a prosecutor with that brain of yours? Did you use my name to get special treatment?" Wyatt shot Axel a glance, then he continued with a serious tone, "Bella is my dearest daughter. She just escaped from the mess of the Salvador family. There's no way I'm sending her into a lion's den-that is, the Iverson family! Do you think the Iverson family is some kind of paradise? There's

serious infighting going on in that family. None of Lance's four children are easy to deal with. If Bella marries into that family, she'll be constantly embroiled in family disputes, enduring endless internal strife. Moreover, Christopher is Lance's least favored son. Christopher's business abroad might be significant, but he had a rough start, and his deals might not be entirely clean. A person with such a background might want to clean up his act by marrying into our family and establishing a foothold in Savrow."

Axel's gaze lingered in astonishment, while Asher's eyes displayed a hint of self-blame under his long lashes. His lips pursed in regret.

He had dedicated himself entirely to offering his sister a new beginning, unintentionally overlooking these underlying issues. Critical considerations had slipped through the cracks in his focus.

"As my daughter, Bella can brighten up someone's life, but she should never sacrifice herself to light up someone else's world. I cannot bear to see that happen!"

A luxurious Bentley cruised toward Savrow.

Charles returned in his posh car, while Lance broke the norm by having Christopher ride with him.

The father-son pair sat in the back seat with an undeniable tension lingering in the air, hinting at a familial connection that was present but not particularly strong.

"Chris, come clean with me. What's going on between you and Bella?" Lance questioned him with a cold expression.

"Are you prying into my love life?" Christopher half-smirked, half-teased. "For fifteen years, you didn't bat an eye about my life in Sentania when Mom and I were living together. Now that I'm back in Savrow, it seems you're unusually interested in every move I make."

"Don't dodge the question. I'm asking about your relationship with Bella!" Lance's stern tone and angered expression were clear.

"As you witnessed tonight, my connection with Bella is quite intimate." A glint of cold light reflected off his gold-rimmed glasses as he responded with a mocking smirk. Lance sighed deeply. The veins on his forehead were pulsating. He issued a strict command. Starting now, you must cut off all communication with Bella. Keep your distance from her immediately!" "Why?" Christopher asked with a smile. "Bella is the marriage partner I've chosen for Charles. If you interfere now, it'll disrupt my plans!" (("Charles is your son, and I'm not? If Bella were with me, she would still be your daughter-in- law. What's the issue?" "My decision is final. Charles must marry Bella. If you're interested in forming an alliance with the Thompsons, Wyatt has a younger daughter named Amelia, born of his third wife and still unmarried." "So, are you saying that an unprivileged son can only marry the daughter of a mistress?" Christopher adjusted his glasses, a touch of scorn on his lips.

"Christopher! Don't speak nonsense!"

Lance, infuriated and embarrassed, exclaimed, "You shouldn't compete with Charles. I'll give you what you're entitled to, but you shouldn't take what's not yours."

"I've heard this saying since I was a child, but up to now, I haven't received anything that truly belongs to me."

Christopher calmly closed his eyes as he sneered. "I don't want your empty promises. Go back and tell Charles to keep his feelings to himself. Bella can only belong to me and no one else. Don't even think about competing with me."