

## Chapter 485 Scolding

Mabel had no time to anticipate what was about to happen before she was slapped in the face.

A searing pain tore through the left side of her face, her teeth chattering involuntarily because of the sheer force of the slap.

Mabel had her jaw hanging wide open, her eyes blinking slowly. She could not believe what had just happened.

She had misjudged the situation, thinking that there was just a mere squabble between Alita and her. She never would have thought that the former woman would have the guts to physically attack her.

"You... You... You..." She stuttered, struggling to form the words to convey her shock.

Mabel covered her face with her hand, and her eyes were blazing with fury. Both the shock and rage paralyzed her to the point where she could barely utter a word. The silence stretched and it was like the sound of the slap still echoed in the air.

Cerissa cried out, hurrying forward to check Mabel's injury and asked with concern lacing her words, "Mom, are you okay? Let me see your face." She turned her mother's face towards the light, examining where she had been hit with trembling hands.

Mabel's eyes were filled with tears before she broke out in sobs, anxious over her appearance. "Cerissa, help me check my face. How is it? Am I bleeding? Will I be disfigured?"

Adrien had silently witnessed the entire exchange and a wave of anger was building inside of him at the bullying. He turned to Alita and exploded, "Alita, I have basically watched you grow up from a little child. As a minor, how can you be so disrespectful to your elders? How can you act like a barbarian and hurt someone?"

"Huh! Does Mabel even deserve my respect?" Alita scoffed, rolling her eyes at Adrien's statement.

Alita didn't care even a bit about Adrien's exasperation. She just stared at Mabel and said in a condescending manner, "Mabel, let me tell you. I slapped you on Cece's behalf. As her stepmother, you instigated her father to kick her out of the house. You didn't care a bit about how she had been in recent years, and even shamelessly used her mother's ring to force her to marry. Now you come to cause her even more trouble. You earned the slapping. You are an unashamed woman!"

Mabel was so outraged that she raised her head and glared at her, trying to find the words to refute these claims.

However, Alita wouldn't give her the chance to do that. She stomped a few steps forward and stood in front of Mabel, their faces inches away from one another. Without rendering Mabel any time to react, she started to revile continuously, her words hitting her like bullets.

"I really don't understand what Adrien likes about a woman like you. Just look at yourself in the mirror, a totally shrewish figure. Even I, as a woman, couldn't resist feeling disgusted at the sight of you. He must be blind to fall in love with you and have raised a daughter that is a whoreson just like you!" Alita spat with no remorse.

Mabel's veins in her neck started throbbing as she got even more furious. She shook off Cerissa's hand that was

supporting her and began to scream a stream of insults. "You bitch, I'll tear your filthy mouth to shreds and you'll never be able to speak again!"

She rushed to hit Alita, a mad look in her eyes but the latter was so young and quick that she easily grabbed her. An obvious hint of disgust appeared on Alita's face. "If you act like a crazy person again, I'll call the police and throw you out of here. You won't get even a penny!"

Her words successfully took effect on Mabel as the woman recoiled and stopped her attack. She exchanged a worried glance with Adrien. Her hand which had a tendency to make violent moves retreated, too.

The expression on Adrien's face altered slightly. He cleared his throat and pulled Mabel to his side and whispered something in her ear, calming the raging woman. Then he turned to Celia and Alita and said, "Well, can everybody calm down? Let's get down to business."

Alita still stood ahead to protect Celia with her arms crossed over her chest. She took a few steps back with her to keep their distance from them.

With the protection of Alita, Celia could feel herself relax slightly. She crossed her arms over her chest and even bothered to look at Adrien, addressing him without hiding her disdain. "What do you want to talk about? If you have something to say, just say it. I don't want to waste my time on you."