

No Chance 1811

[Chapter 1811 The First Time He Detested Her](#)

Gareth laughed but didn't refute Elisa. He was satisfied with moments like this. Although Elisa wouldn't allow him to express his affection overly, she didn't repel his presence anymore, which was a good sign.

Gareth became more confident that Elisa would accept him sooner or later as long as he persisted. When there is a will, there is a way!

Three days later.

Around ten at night, Bella and her team were still working in the office. Ever since Bella turned to Elisa at Bayswe, Elisa saw her potential and offered her a position in her company to work as a project manager.

Bella proved herself by winning a project with a major client. So, she was preparing a report now.

If they secured this collaboration, it would generate substantial revenue for that year.

Bella and her team had been working many late nights to work on the proposal and had been the last ones to leave the company. Tonight was no exception.

After ten o'clock, her team members started going home. Bella exhorted her colleagues to text her once they got home safely. Then, she continued finishing up the proposal.

She was a meticulous and dedicated person. Everyone who worked with her praised her for her attention to detail and boldness and acknowledged her as an outstanding partner and manager. This proved that Elisa had made the right choice to employ her.

It was only a matter of time before Bella became Elisa's dependable right-hand man.

After completing the proposal, Bella stretched and sent the document to Elisa. Then, she switched off her laptop and was about to return to her rented house.

While walking back home, Bella felt something was off. She could hear hurried footsteps as if someone were tailing her. However, there was no sign of anyone when she turned.

As she continued walking, she could hear the footsteps again, but she still saw no one when she turned around. What was even more terrifying was that the rhythm of the footsteps mimicked hers. The mysterious person seemed to keep a distance from her intentionally. Even when she tried to catch the person out of the corner of her eye or turned around abruptly, she saw nothing.

Bella thought she was just imagining things because she was exhausted from overworking. She shook her head and continued walking without paying attention to the sound.

The street was not usually quiet, but because it was almost midnight, there were only a few passers-by. Bella felt a chill as she continued walking. She rubbed her arms as a sudden gust of wind gave her goosebumps.

Feeling unnerved, Bella took out her phone to call Elisa, hoping to talk to someone to boost her courage. The call was soon answered.

Elisa was lying on the couch, instructing Gareth to do chores.

She was surprised to receive Bella's call at this hour and asked if something urgent had happened.

Bella didn't tell Elisa about her suspicion because she had no evidence and didn't want Elisa to worry.

So, they ended up talking about work.

Gareth became salty when he finished washing the plates and walked out of the kitchen. He expected to receive a kiss or a hug from Elisa as a compliment or at least watch a show together on the couch. However, it turned out that Elisa was occupied on the phone.

It was the first time Gareth detested his dear cousin.

[Chapter 1812 Lunch Delivery](#)

Gareth waited beside Elisa bitterly and stared fixedly at her but was completely ignored.

On the other end, Bella sneezed non-stop. Elisa asked if she caught a cold. Bella rubbed her nose and mumbled, "No. I feel like someone is cursing me behind my back."

Elisa chuckled and glanced at Gareth.

The two ladies continued chatting until Bella was home safely. She only felt relieved after entering her room. Then, they talked for a while before hanging up.

Bella patted her chest, having a bad hunch...

The next day, Elisa woke up early for work. Gareth insisted on sending her to the office. Elisa couldn't stop him, so she went along with him.

When they arrived at the office, Gareth was reluctant to let Elisa go. Elisa smiled and got out of the car unhesitantly.

Seeing Elisa waving at him with a proud look, Gareth wore a rueful smile. He wondered if he should be delighted because their relationship had eased or to be upset because he merely became Elisa's driver and didn't achieve his motive.

Meanwhile, the first thing Elisa did was to find Bella to confirm yesterday's call wasn't about something important.

After hanging up last night, Elisa couldn't fall asleep and kept thinking about it. She knew Bella wouldn't call her for no reason. She was considerate and wouldn't disturb others late at night if it wasn't something urgent. Nonetheless, Bella pondered upon it and decided not to tell Elisa.

"Nothing. I was just too excited after completing the proposal. Sorry about that. I hope I didn't disturb you."

Elisa shook her head.

Bella heaved a sigh of relief. "Glad to know. By the way, please review the proposal so that I can make amendments if needed."

Elisa stared at Bella, who appeared relaxed, for quite a while to confirm she wasn't telling a lie. Then, she nodded and patted Bella's shoulder. "Okay. Do tell me if there's anything."

Bella patted Elisa's shoulder with a smile, assuring her that she was fine. As Elisa walked away, she suddenly remembered something and turned to say to Bella, "Let's have lunch together today."

Bella smiled and hummed in response.

It was a busy morning. When Elisa checked the time again, it was already forty minutes past eleven in the morning. Remembering she had asked Bella for lunch, she opened the food delivery app to place an order.

Suddenly, there was an incoming call from Gareth. Startled, Elisa picked up the call to hear Gareth's pitiful voice.

"Elisa, I'm here to send you lunch. The security guard wouldn't allow me to enter because I didn't make an appointment. Please help me talk to him..."

Elisa was thunderstruck when she heard the usually imposing Gareth speak in a pitiful tone.

Not only that, he said this in public.

Elisa could already imagine the gossipy receptionists discussing Gareth's identity in their chat groups.

Resigned, Elisa instructed the security guard to let Gareth in.

Three minutes later, her secretary brought Gareth in. Elisa was rendered speechless, seeing him carrying a handful of bags.

[Chapter 1813 Are You Shy?](#)

"Mr. Wickam, you didn't have to go through the hassle just to send me lunch."

Gareth chuckled softly in a low, attractive sound.

He looked down at Elisa from his height. His gaze wandered before finally resting on her lips. Elisa had beautiful lips, which were charming even without lipstick.

"Elisa, I came all the way to have lunch with you. You won't turn me down, will you?"

Oh well, he's pretending to be pitiful again.

Elisa couldn't bring herself to reject Gareth, so she took over the lunch box. It was her favorite pesto pasta, and the food was still warm.

Just then, Elisa recalled something and pushed Gareth away. She took her phone and was about to call Bella, but the perceptive Gareth raised his brows and blurted, "I've had Thomas send Bella lunch and asked her to eat at the staff dorms so she won't disturb our lunch date. She disturbed us yesterday, so I hope you can spend time with me today."

Elisa looked at Gareth in surprise, not expecting him to be this thoughtful.

She said in resignation, "You've arranged everything. What else can I say? Come and eat together."

Having anticipated this response, Gareth sat down immediately after getting Elisa's approval.

The couch was too small to fit two people. Gareth's unique, invasive scent soon filled the room.

It was a pleasant lunch. There was nothing better than eating one's favorite food after a busy morning.

Gareth barely ate but kept smiling while staring at Elisa, which made her feel uncomfortable.

She waved her hand in front of Gareth. "What's wrong with you? Why do you keep staring at me?"

Gareth held back his laughter and shrugged. Flustered, Elisa put down her cutlery and stared back at him.

Moments later, Gareth grinned and made a cheeky remark. "Yeah. You're my cup of tea."

Elisa rolled her eyes at him and said, "Quickly finish your food and leave. If you talk nonsense again, I'll ask the security guards to throw you out."

Gareth quickly raised his hands in surrender. "Okay, okay. I'll stop. Are you shy?"

Elisa pretended to call the guards, but Gareth pressed the hang-up button so that she couldn't make the call.

Elisa shot a glare at Gareth, which made him laugh more heartily. This glare wasn't filled with hatred and disgust like before. Previously, Elisa would even ignore him. He could tell that Elisa was not really angry and found this mode of interaction very satisfying.

Gareth smiled. "Sorry about that, but let's finish our food first. After all, I came all the way to deliver lunch for you. This effort is commendable, right?"

Elisa couldn't do anything about him. So, she sat down and continued eating.

Suddenly, Bella knocked on the door. Elisa put down her cutlery and wiped her mouth before asking Bella to come in.

Bella entered the room with some documents in her hand. For some reason, she sensed a bizarre coldness when she walked in. Is the air conditioning so cold in this room?

Noticing Elisa was still eating, Bella said apologetically, "I'm sorry to disturb your lunch hour, Ms. Benett. I just finished eating and thought of sending these documents to you."

[Chapter 1814 An Advice](#)

Bella glanced at Gareth, whose face was darkened, and understood how the coldness came about. She quickly put down the documents and turned to leave the room. Before leaving, she put in a word for Gareth.

Poking her head around the door, Bella blinked at Elisa and said, "By the way, Gareth brought me lunch too, and it's delicious. Thanks, Gareth. Although I know it's all thanks to Ms. Benett." With that, she closed the door and left.

Elisa seldom saw the usually composed Bella acting so playful, and she couldn't help chuckling.

Gareth's mood brightened because of Bella's remark, thinking he hadn't looked after this cousin for nothing. The atmosphere in the office became much more relaxed.

On the other hand, Bella bumped into the project director as soon as she left the office, and her face fell immediately.

It seemed like she was here to hand in a proposal. Bella was almost certain she was going to compete for her client.

Rochelle was on the same side as Paul, who had always wanted to kick Bella out of the company. She was Bella's immediate superior and had received orders to make things difficult for Bella ever since she joined the company. Not only did she constantly pick on her, but she even planned to snatch her client this time, which was completely intolerable!

Bella reached out her hand to stop Rochelle, who was swaying her hips as she walked. The latter turned to look at Bella disdainfully.

"Ms. Matterson, I advise you not to go in right now. This is my advice to you as a subordinate." Bella urged sincerely, but Rochelle refused to listen all the more.

She smirked. "Do you think I'm dumb? You just came out of the office, and you're now telling me not to go in? Bella Wickam, I admit you're somewhat capable, but landing this client doesn't mean you have the capability to execute the entire project. We should give Ms. Benett more choices, shouldn't we?"

Rochelle was so smug that her saliva spat on Bella's face as she babbled.

Bella couldn't take it anymore, so she wiped her face expressionlessly and interrupted Rochelle. Then, she stepped aside to make way for Rochelle.

Rochelle was puffed up and strode toward the office in her high heels.

Five minutes later, Rochelle came out of the room crying. When she walked past Bella, she caught sight of Bella's gloating expression and shot a fierce glare at her.

Bella shrugged innocently. I've warned you not to go in just now, but you refused to listen. I'm Gareth's cousin, yet I was not spared from disturbing Ms. Benett during lunch. What an ignorant woman!

Meanwhile, in the office, Elisa did a facepalm in exasperation. She understood Gareth could be harsh with his words but couldn't figure out why Rochelle, a project director, would run out crying after being told off as if she was acting coquettish.

"This project director doesn't seem to be up to par. Did she get hired by connections?" Gareth taunted with an unconcealable contempt on his face while cutting fruits for Elisa.

Rochelle didn't even have a sense of good judgment, which made Gareth wonder how she became a project director.

[Chapter 1815 Visiting Grandma](#)

Elisa sighed. "She's on the same side as Paul. I'm not exactly sure what their relationship is. She's just another pretty face."

"A pretty face? Since when did the standard of beauty become so low?" Gareth snorted.

Elisa chuckled.

On the other hand, Bella returned to her seat and saw a bouquet of baby's breath – her favorite flower. She had just arrived in Bayswe not long ago and didn't know many people besides Gareth and Elisa. So, she couldn't think of anyone who would possibly send her flowers.

Bella took up the bouquet doubtfully and found an anonymous gift card. On the card was written: I miss you.

Who would miss me? How strange...

Bella frowned and put the flowers aside, thinking they were mistakenly sent. However, she continued receiving flowers for almost a week over the next few days, sometimes with a card and sometimes without. On some days, it was tulips; and baby breaths on the other days.

Nonetheless, Bella knew it was from the same sender.

She tried guessing the sender's identity and even considered lodging a police report, but her colleagues suggested it might just be her secret admirer. And so, Bella didn't do anything about it.

Nevertheless, there were some pleasant situations as well. Ever since being told off the last time,

Rochelle hadn't found fault with Bella for a period. Bella and her team completed the final stage of the proposal with peace of mind and started negotiating with the client.

The outcome was promising, and they would most likely secure the contract, pending the signing of the contract.

Bella knew the proposal wouldn't have passed so smoothly if it weren't for Elisa. So, she called to invite Elisa and Gareth for a meal, treating it as a pre-celebration.

Elisa thought about it and suggested, "What about going to Grandma's place? We haven't told her that you've come to Bayswe. Let's go back and give her a surprise. She always talks about you."

Bella's eyes became red-rimmed when she remembered the kind elderly.

Her voice cracked. "To think about it, if Grandma didn't insist you and Gareth return for my wedding, I might not be living the good life that I have now. I would've been kept in the dark by the shameless couple and tortured for the rest of my life."

Elisa furrowed her brows and disagreed. "You have what you have now because of your hard work."

Bella made no comment but was deeply grateful for Elisa.

The two ladies fixed a time, and Elisa informed Gareth, who gladly agreed to come along.

After work, he came to pick up both of them.

However, little did Bella know that the moment she got into the car, Rochelle followed her out and captured pictures of them.

Julia thought only Gareth and Elisa were coming, so she was surprised to see Bella when they arrived at the villa. She scolded Gareth with hands on her hips, "You should've told me earlier that Elisa is coming. I didn't have time to prepare anything! You always use your busy schedule as an excuse. Work can never be more important than family. Ugh, you stubborn child!"

"It's okay, Grandma. We came back to spend time with you. We'll eat whatever you eat." Elisa held Julia's hand affectionately and purred, making her happy as a lark.

[Chapter 1816 Catching Up](#)

Words couldn't describe Julia's excitement. Especially after so much had happened, Gareth and Elisa still came to visit her together. But what was even more touching was yet to come.

Suddenly, a person appeared behind Gareth. Julia was dumbfounded when she saw it was Bella, and tears welled up in her eyes.

Bella walked up to Julia and hugged her.

"It has been so long since I last met you. My body was too weak, so I couldn't fly to your wedding at that time and sent Elisa as a representative. Later, I heard your husband turn out to be a sc*mbag..." A lump rose in Julia's throat. She had watched Bella grow up, so she felt exceptionally sorry for her.

Bella patted Julia's shoulder to comfort her. "It's okay, Grandma. Everything has passed."

Julia nodded. "Why did you only come and visit me now?" Despite the complaining tone, Julia's expression was loving.

Bella chuckled and apologized, "I've moved to Bayswe, Grandma. And I'm working in Elisa's company now. I'll come and visit you more often."

"Really?"

Bella nodded earnestly. "Of course!"

"What great news..." Julia's eyes brimmed with tears of joy. As an elderly person, she most hoped for the company of the younger ones.

Elisa supported Julia in walking toward the dining table and said, "Bella is competent. She landed a substantial client not long after joining the company. The contract will soon be signed. Once everything is confirmed, she'll get a promotion. We're gathering today to celebrate her achievement. Let's eat while talking, Grandma."

Julia praised Elisa for being thoughtful while holding Bella's hand. As for Gareth, he was left behind.

His gaze had never left Elisa. Although Julia did not pay attention to him, being surrounded by his loved ones, felt awesome.

When they were about to take their seats, Gareth quickened his pace to pull the chair out for Elisa. Then, he sat next to her.

Elisa thanked him softly, and the two whispered into each other's ears.

Julia and Bella exchanged glances that were tinged with a hint of teasing.

Later, Julio asked Eliso and Bello, "What have you guys been up to? I haven't seen you guys for quite a while. Eliso, are you together with Gareth now?"

Gareth sensibly chimed in, "Grandma, please stop asking. We're not in a relationship for now."

Despite Gareth's remark, the look in his eyes said otherwise, and Julio was experienced enough to tell it.

She darted a profounding glance at the two, understanding it was already considerable progress between them and she should let nature take its course.

After dinner, Julio continued chatting non-stop with Bello and Eliso. Gareth sat idly across from them, acting to read a newspaper, but his eyes were glued to Eliso's face.

Time passed quickly. When Julio finally realized it, it was already past ten at night.

She rubbed her temples and said, "Oh, look at me. I got too excited and forgot about the time. Why don't you stay here tonight? I'll have the servants prepare the rooms."

[Chapter 1817 Stay Over](#)

Elisa knew that she couldn't turn down Julia's offer.

Bella, on the other hand, immediately declined to stay over.

With her lips pursed into a thin line, Bella apologized profusely, "Grandma, I still have a proposal to work on," she said sincerely. "I didn't bring it here because I was in a hurry. I'm so sorry that I can't stay."

Julia's smile faded.

Bella noticed that Julia looked disappointed, so she promised to visit her again soon to lift her spirits.

Julia was hesitant to let Bella go, but she didn't force her to stay.

Feigning displeasure, she huffed, "Aren't you just trying to escape this old hag?"

Bella was taken aback. Her eyes widened as she said, "How could you think that of me, Grandma?" Bella chuckled before continuing, "Once I finish my work, I'll be here every two to three days. Please don't kick me out if I insist on staying here then."

Amused, their warm laughter filled the room. Julia respected Bella's need to leave, reminding her that she could always come to her whenever she was free. Soon after, she asked her driver to take Bella home.

Bella gratefully accepted the offer and said goodbye to everyone before she left.

Elisa continued accompanying Julia to the living room, chatting with her the whole time. Gareth remained silent throughout their conversation, listening intently. Eliso knew that she couldn't turn down Julio's offer.

Bello, on the other hand, immediately declined to stay over.

With her lips pursed into a thin line, Bello apologized profusely, "Grandma, I still have a proposal to work on," she said sincerely. "I didn't bring it here because I was in a hurry. I'm so sorry that I can't stay."

Julio's smile faded.

Bello noticed that Julio looked disappointed, so she promised to visit her again soon to lift her spirits.

Julio was hesitant to let Bello go, but she didn't force her to stay.

Feigning displeasure, she huffed, "Aren't you just trying to escape this old hog?"

Bello was taken aback. Her eyes widened as she said, "How could you think that of me, Grandma?" Bello chuckled before continuing, "Once I finish my work, I'll be here every two to three days. Please don't kick me out if I insist on staying here then."

Amused, their warm laughter filled the room. Julio respected Bello's need to leave, reminding her that she could always come to her whenever she was free. Soon after, she asked her driver to take Bello home.

Bello gratefully accepted the offer and said goodbye to everyone before she left.

Elisa continued accompanying Julio to the living room, chatting with her the whole time. Gareth remained silent throughout their conversation, listening intently.

They talked until eleven at night, and Elisa was getting visibly tired. She yawned a few times during their conversation, but Julia continued chattering about excitedly, seemingly unaware of Elisa's condition. Noticing her weary state, Gareth attempted to interrupt them by clearing his throat.

Their gazes immediately turned to Gareth. "Grandma, it's already eleven o'clock," he said. "You might not be tired yet, but you must think about Elisa."

He stood up and smoothed his clothes before walking over to Elisa and taking her hands. "I'm taking her home," he said firmly.

Elisa shook her head vigorously, signaling to Gareth that she was okay. She also gently pinched his hands to get him to stop speaking so rudely to Julia.

"I still have a lot to say to Grandma," Elisa interjected.

Gareth stared at her with a grave expression. "You can continue tomorrow. It's time to sleep."

Glaring up at her grandson, Julia said, her voice light and teasing, without a hint of anger. "You little brat! Are you going to ignore your grandma now that you have a wife? How could you say that to your grandma? I must have spoiled you too much lately."

It was clear that she wasn't angry at Gareth at all. She was delighted for him.

"But this little brat is right. It's late now. I got so caught up in our conversation that I lost track of time. You should go ahead and get some rest. Otherwise, this ungrateful brat will worry about you." Julia patted Elisa's hands with a warm smile, then waved her away.

"This old lady needs to go to bed now, or the young people will think I'm a nuisance."

Gareth and Elisa stood at the bottom of the stairs, advising Julia to watch her steps as she walked to her room. They also reminded her to keep herself warm at night so she wouldn't catch a cold.

Julia smiled from ear to ear as she listened to them. She was looking forward to a good night's sleep.

After Julia left, Maria led Elisa and Gareth to their respective rooms. Elisa couldn't help but feel a sense of unease.

There was something strange about the rooms. They were side by side, with only a wall in between. Even their balconies were connected.

Elisa couldn't help but smile in absurdity. She was surprised to find that their old home had an unusual layout.

However, she would never have imagined that Julia was the one who had planned the balcony layout, all in anticipation of a moment like this.

Elisa wasn't entirely satisfied with the room, but Gareth suppressed his delight with a blunt and stone-cold expression.

[Chapter 1818 Barging Into the Room](#)

Gareth noticed that Elisa was uncomfortable, so he acted as if he didn't want to stay in the room and inquired with Maria about the availability of other rooms.

Elisa gave him a suspicious look and narrowed her eyes.

Maria knew Julia's intention and clearly understood why Gareth was acting this way.

She apologized and said, "Old Madam Wickam asked me to tidy up these two rooms. I wouldn't be able to get another room ready in time. Is there something wrong?"

Elisa shook her head. She didn't want to bother Maria over this matter late at night. After all, she only had to tolerate it for one night.

Even though their rooms were right next to each other and they had to share a balcony, she could ensure the doors were locked at night.

Gareth remained silent after he heard Elisa agreeing to stay in the rooms. Elisa thanked Maria, and Maria immediately headed off to bed.

The corners of Maria's lips were lifted in a big smile the entire time. Seeing that "Madam" agreed to stay, she took the other staff away, afraid that they would disturb their privacy.

This left Elisa and Gareth standing face to face, staring at each other.

Elisa squinted her eyes, yawning away her exhaustion. Gareth was met with a serious gaze from her as she spoke, "I'll sleep in the room on the left. I'm locking the doors. If you don't want to be perceived

as a pervert, please don't wander around aimlessly." Gareth noticed that Eliso was uncomfortable, so he acted as if he didn't want to stay in the room and inquired with Morio about the availability of other rooms.

Eliso gave him a suspicious look and narrowed her eyes.

Morio knew Julio's intention and clearly understood why Gareth was acting this way.

She apologized and said, "Old Modom Wickom asked me to tidy up these two rooms. I wouldn't be able to get another room ready in time. Is there something wrong?"

Eliso shook her head. She didn't want to bother Morio over this matter late at night. After all, she only had to tolerate it for one night.

Even though their rooms were right next to each other and they had to share a balcony, she could ensure the doors were locked at night.

Gareth remained silent after he heard Eliso agreeing to stay in the rooms. Eliso thanked Morio, and Morio immediately headed off to bed.

The corners of Morio's lips were lifted in a big smile the entire time. Seeing that "Modom" agreed to stay, she took the other stuff away, afraid that they would disturb their privacy.

This left Eliso and Gareth standing face to face, staring at each other.

Eliso squinted her eyes, yawning away her exhaustion. Gareth was met with a serious gaze from her as she spoke, "I'll sleep in the room on the left. I'm locking the doors. If you don't want to be perceived as a pervert, please don't wander around aimlessly."

Before Gareth could say anything, Elisa opened the door to the room on the left and went in. Her actions were swift and decisive, exuding an air of confidence.

Gareth stared intently at Elisa's back as she went inside. His eyes gleamed with amusement. He had no choice but to accommodate her indifference towards him; after all, he was the one who chose her.

He sighed and turned away, shaking his head as he pushed open the door to the room on the right. However, he had a plan in mind.

It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to keep himself etched in her mind all night. There was no way he was going to let this opportunity go.

Elisa was well aware of Gareth's intentions, so the first thing she did when she entered the room was lock the balcony door and the main entrance. She stretched her hands to work out the fatigue before heading to the bathroom to shower.

Out of the blue, the door to the balcony opened as soon as she stepped into the bathroom.

Gareth shook the keys, a mischievous grin spreading across his face.

The room was silent. Gareth glanced around and realized that Elisa was not in the room. She had gone into the bathroom.

Gareth waited quietly on the bed for Elisa to get out of the shower. The sound of the water gushing in the bathroom made his heart swell with anticipation. He felt the heat rise in his body almost instantaneously. He swallowed his saliva and scolded himself for not getting himself together. He couldn't even see her, but his mind raced at the sound of the water falling in the shower.

The time he spent waiting for her to come out slowly became long and dreadful.

After twenty minutes, the water in the shower finally stopped. She took her time, applying lotion to her body. Gareth stared at the shadow on the bathroom window, his throat feeling dry. He got up from the bed to pour himself a cup of water.

Elisa stepped out of the bathroom, wrapped in a towel. His eyes widened as he took in her wet, glistening skin. She looked incredibly alluring, and he couldn't help but stare.

They locked eyes for a moment, and the air between them was suddenly charged with electricity. Gareth felt his heart pounding in his chest, and he knew that Elisa felt it too.

Gareth cleared his throat awkwardly. He couldn't get the image of her fresh out of the shower out of his head.

Elisa's mouth gaped slightly in shock as she saw Gareth standing before her. Her forehead creased in anger as she hurried back into the bathroom to wrap herself in a bathrobe.

"Gareth Wickam!" she shouted, her jaws clenched and her eyes flaring red with anger.

[Chapter 1819 Something Bad Happened](#)

"You better have a good reason to explain why you're here in the middle of the night," Elisa said, her voice sharp. "How did you get in here when I locked the door to the balcony?"

Gareth felt slightly guilty, but he knew he had no choice but to come clean. He lifted the evidence of the crime in his hands. After clearing his throat, he began to explain, "I never expected you to come out of the shower without any clothes on."

Elisa huffed indignantly, "You're putting the blame on me?"

"No, it's my fault," Gareth answered firmly. "I shouldn't have come in here."

"Get out!" Elisa pointed towards the door, her voice assertive and unwavering.

Gareth noticed Elisa was angry with him, so he tried calming her down. "It wasn't my intention to see you without your clothes," he explained. "I came over to ask you what time you're going to the office tomorrow so I could drop you off. Since you were in the shower, I decided to wait outside. I never thought that... Don't worry; I'll take responsibility."

Elisa almost couldn't contain her urge to laugh when he said he would take responsibility for seeing her without her clothes. She pointed to the door, her expression inscrutable. "I'll make you regret it if you don't leave this instant," she demanded. "Also," Elisa lifted her chin before continuing, "Leave the keys before you go." "You better have a good reason to explain why you're here in the middle of the night," Elisa said, her voice sharp. "How did you get in here when I locked the door to the balcony?"

Gareth felt slightly guilty, but he knew he had no choice but to come clean. He lifted the evidence of the crime in his hands. After clearing his throat, he began to explain, "I never expected you to come out of the shower without any clothes on."

Elisa huffed indignantly, "You're putting the blame on me?"

"No, it's my fault," Gareth answered firmly. "I shouldn't have come in here."

"Get out!" Elisa pointed towards the door, her voice assertive and unwavering.

Gareth noticed Elisa was angry with him, so he tried calming her down. "It wasn't my intention to see you without your clothes," he explained. "I came over to ask you what time you're going to the office tomorrow so I could drop you off. Since you were in the shower, I decided to wait outside. I never thought that... Don't worry; I'll take responsibility."

Elisa almost couldn't contain her urge to laugh when he said he would take responsibility for seeing her without her clothes. She pointed to the door, her expression inscrutable. "I'll make you regret it if you don't leave this instant," she demanded. "Also," Elisa lifted her chin before continuing, "Leave the keys before you go."

Gareth tried to reason with Elisa, but she was having none of it. He knew that he was wasting his breath, so he gave up and left.

Elisa slammed the door to the balcony shut as soon as he left. The sound of the lock turning echoed through the room.

Gareth smiled, his eyes glinting with mischief. He wasn't frustrated by how she had kicked him out of her room. He was amused by her reaction instead.

Gareth noticed he didn't have the slightest hint of anger whenever he was with Elisa. He knew he had fallen too deep. He was still smiling from ear to ear, even though he had acted so childishly and ended up being kicked out of the room.

He stood by the entrance, smoking a cigarette. He couldn't wipe away the image of Elisa's shadow in his head.

"Damn it!" Gareth yelled as he threw the cigarette butt in the trash can. As he was about to leave, he heard the door click. Right after, the door to the balcony opened.

Elisa's face was white as a sheet, and her eyes were filled with terror. "Bella is in the police station," she said, her voice shaking. "I don't know what happened, but we must get to her."

Gareth didn't even have the chance to ask for more details before they left the mansion in a rush.

The subtle noise of their departure awakened Julia, and her lips curled up in satisfaction.

However, the reason they left the house together in the middle of the night wasn't what she had expected.

"What happened? Why is she in the police station so late at night? Is she okay?" Gareth asked in a single breath.

Gareth and Bella usually acted indifferent towards each other, but he was evidently concerned about her.

She knew then that he genuinely cared about Bella, and she was no longer hung up on the way he had snuck into her room.

"She's safe. Bella noticed someone had been to her house and immediately called the police. She's in the police station now," Elisa explained, her voice grave and solemn.

"That's good to hear," Gareth said, nodding in relief. "You don't have to be too worried as well." He stared at Elisa with a reassuring glance.

Elisa nodded, but the edges of her face were still tense. She couldn't shake away the uneasy feeling. After all, anyone would be terrified to find out that someone had been to their home.

[Chapter 1820 Stranger](#)

She didn't even know if the intruder was still in her room when the police arrived.

It was terrifying to be alone when your life was in danger.

Elisa knew exactly how Bella felt in this situation as a woman herself. Her mind was reeling with worry for Bella's safety. She pitied Bella for having to go through this alone.

Gareth knew Elisa could only calm down if she saw Bella with her own eyes. So, without a word, he pressed on the accelerator, speeding through the highway in his black Mercedes-Benz.

They arrived at the police station after about ten minutes.

Elisa immediately got out of the car and started walking towards the police station, but Gareth called out to her.

Elisa turned around slowly. Before she could see who it was, she felt the warmth of a coat wrapped around her from behind and caught a whiff of a familiar scent. The small gesture made her feel as if she was being wrapped around his arms, easing her anxiety.

Gareth swiftly held Elisa's hands as she stared blankly at him.

"Let's go."

They went inside the police station together, and one of the officers guided them to the waiting room. As soon as Elisa entered, she saw Bella, who was shivering. She couldn't tell if she was trembling due to the cold or her fears.

"Don't worry, we're here now," Elisa said, her eyes staring gravely into Bella's. She didn't even know if the intruder was still in her room when the police arrived.

It was terrifying to be alone when your life was in danger.

Elisa knew exactly how Bella felt in this situation as a woman herself. Her mind was reeling with worry for Bella's safety. She pitied Bella for having to go through this alone.

Gareth knew Eliso could only calm down if she saw Bello with her own eyes. So, without a word, he pressed on the accelerator, speeding through the highway in his black Mercedes-Benz.

They arrived at the police station after about ten minutes.

Eliso immediately got out of the car and started walking towards the police station, but Gareth called out to her.

Eliso turned around slowly. Before she could see who it was, she felt the warmth of a coat wrapped around her from behind and caught a whiff of a familiar scent. The small gesture made her feel as if she was being wrapped around his arms, easing her anxiety.

Gareth swiftly held Eliso's hands as she stared blankly at him.

"Let's go."

They went inside the police station together, and one of the officers guided them to the waiting room. As soon as Eliso entered, she saw Bello, who was shivering. She couldn't tell if she was trembling due to the cold or her fears.

"Don't worry, we're here now," Eliso said, her eyes staring lovingly into Bello's.

As soon as Bella saw Elisa, she shot up to her feet and wrapped her arms around her tightly. Elisa was like a guardian angel to her; she felt like she was enveloped in a warm blanket of safety.

Elisa hugged her back tightly and slowly patted her back, showering her with warmth. "You don't have to be afraid anymore, Bella," she assured gently. "We're here for you."

Elisa had a way of making people feel calm and secure, even when she didn't say or do anything. Bella felt her fear slowly melt away as she held Elisa close.

Her eyes were bloodshot and swollen, like a rabbit that had been chased by a fox. She was usually a very strong person, but she had been through a lot that day.

Elisa felt terrible for Bella and wanted to help her feel better. She cupped Bella's cheeks in her hands and looked into her eyes. "Look at me, Bella," she said in a soft and tender voice. "You're okay now. Once you're feeling better, you can tell me what happened."

Bella's eyes widened in fear as if the scenes from before were playing right before her eyes.

At that moment, Gareth came to her after learning about what had happened from the police.

As the people she was familiar with surrounded her, she finally felt the tension in her shoulders release. She smiled for the first time in hours, knowing she was safe.

"When I went back home in the evening, I saw a pair of slippers by the entrance of my house," Bella said, her voice trembling. "My instinct told me that something wasn't right. I always left my shoes on the shoe rack whenever I went out, but I didn't want to overthink it."

Bella's words started to get caught in her throat as she explained. Elisa noticed how her breath quickened and slowly patted her back to calm her down.

"After that, I went to the bathroom. I was feeling a little uneasy, but I tried to ignore it. I sat down on the toilet bowl and noticed that it was warm. My heart pounded fast, and I didn't dare get out of the bathroom. I texted you, but I didn't get a reply, so I thought you were asleep."

Elisa's mind raced as she tried to remember what she had been doing. She realized that she must have been in the shower when it happened.

"I went online to find ways to contact the police and immediately called them. While waiting for the police, someone tried to open the door. The door was locked, but they turned the knob several times and started to push the door hard. I was terrified. I didn't know what else to do, so I stood behind the door with a plunger, scared they would bang the door open."