## Mr. President You Are The Daddy Of My Triplets Chapter 51

51.51 Bite Reminder

51 51- Bitter Reminder

Marissa's heart raced a

varm breath caressed her

cheek. She felt a rush of emotions, unsure how to

respond to his advances.

Were they really subtle advances or was she imagining

it? She kept looking into his eyes and wondered how she survived without those orbs.

"So, what do you say about my suggestion?" He asked her with a knowing glint in his ey es.

"What?" She seemed startled and had completely forgotten what he was talking about.

"Lunch? Remember? That's what we were talking

about..."

Marissa's mind was racing, thinking hard. She could. feel conflicting emotions and knew this was not her right to sit and eat with him.

He had been crystal clear about his priorities in life. She didn't want to complicate things in her life

further.

any

"Is... is this lunch necessary? Like I can tell you about

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51 51- Bittor Reminder

our kids without this lunch or breakfast..." her voice was barely above a whisper, "I appr eciate your offer, but it's not necessary. You are already doing so much..."

"And what is that?"

She chuckled at the absurd question, "Hiring me here, paying me good... not good but h andsomely... I can get rid of all the loan I took from this..." She realized that

she was opening up to him.

"It's, ok," his expression turned somber, "If you don't want to have lunch, it's perfectly fin e..."

"Yeah..." she nodded, "thank you..."

"Yeah..." he also nodded, "how about a Dinner?"

Marissa couldn't control it, throwing back her head she laughed hard not realizing that h e was staring at her

with a serious face.

"Now why this dinner invitation, Mr. Sinclair?" she said trying to control the mirth bubbling up in her chest.

"The same reason," he shrugged, "To talk about our kids." Like her, he had also pulled b ack and now was sitting beside her leaning back a little.

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51 51–Bitter Reminder

But he was not ready when she got up and turned to

leave her room.

"Ms. Aaron..."

"I need to discuss those event plans with Dean otherwise my team might think I am was ting their time..." She started taking back steps with a grin on her face, "We can have lu nch. Dinner might be too much for me at the moment. If it's for our kids' sake, then I gue ss a harmless lunch might do."

With that she left the office, leaving him there rooted

to the spot, just like she did four years ago.

When he couldn't move forward with his life.

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She was going through all the files step by step when Dean received a call on his interc om.

"Marissa. I think this is for you," he handed over her the receiver and kept highlighting i mortant points written there. With a small frown, she placed it against

her ear.

"Yes?"

"Aren't you feeling hungry?" she rolled her lins

between her teeth w

card Rafael's voice. Raising

her

eyes she looked at the huge wall clock and then for a moment her eyes darted towards Dean. It was almost past lunch times and she had kept Dean busy with her. He must be hungry too.

She thought guiltily and placed the receiver back. Dean was sitting there as if he couldn't hear anything.

"Dean. Why don't you go to the cafe and have lunch? Sorry for keeping you hungry..." S he started arranging the files and stretched in her place.

"Will you join me?" he asked her, and she shook her

head with a smile.

"Not today. I'll have my lunch with Rafael. Need to

discuss few things with him," she said without feeling any remorse or guilt because this was not a lie.

After all, she wasn't having any secret relationship with

the boss.

She had to discuss a few things, but they were not related to the office. With one hand, she tried to

balance the files and

waved at him before going inside the President's office and Dean stayed like a statue in

his seat.

51 51–Bitter Reminder

Marissa hadn't realized it but she called the boss by his first name. Rafael

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This time on her insistence Rafael just ordered a Rice dish with beef curry. He was liste ning to her quietly but intently.

She was telling him about Ariel and Abi, and while

listening to her, he wanted to ask how her childbirth went. Was it all painful?

Was there anyone with her holding her hand at the time of pain or she bore it all by hers elf? So many questions were racing through his mind and all he wanted to do was turn back the clock and be with her.

"Abigail is the most innocent of all in looks but she is the naughtiest. But they have take n after you, they all are so intelligent."

She was telling him about his kids with so much eagerness.

"Alexander is so much like you. When he meets you, he might act cold initially but don't worry about that. I'm sure you two will get along once he comes around this

idon of mooting his father" Cho took the anoonful of

51 51–Bitter Reminder

rice to her mouth.

Rafael was holding his plate but more than eating he was busy playing with his food.

"They love arguing with each other and I usually have

to act as a referee ... "

"\_

They sound like a handful," he remarked with a playful smile, "I'm sure they keep you on your toes."

Marissa chuckled and moved her head in agreement, "You have no idea. Sometimes it f eels like I'm running a

circus instead of a household..."

Rafael got silent after that. They were settled on the couch having lunch in his office.

And all he could think of was noisy mornings and chaotic evenings with his kids and... w ith his wife.

No, Rafael. You are treading on thin ice.

"Sometimes Alex calls me Momzilla. He thinks that I

can be as sweet as a cupcake

but can turn into a Godzilla in a matter of seconds," Rafael noticed her flushed cheeks w hile talking about her little family and all he wanted to do was join the circus and be a pa rt of

1. it.

20-21

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<51.51–Bitter Reminder

Kids are not enough Marissa. They are not the only reason for my anderton stay. I'm he re for you,

darling.

He knew that the moment these words would leave his

mouth, she would be out of this room and out of his life in a jiffy.

She was telling him more about their kids' mischief when his phone that was placed on t he nearby table started ringing.

Marissa looked at the screen and felt her body going

stiff.

Valerie's name was flashing on the screen.

A bitter reminder that Rafael was married to her!

## Comment

Posted by AdminH, ? Views, Released on July 5, 2024

52 52- Mus. Be Cheating

"I'm in the middle of a meeting, will talk to you later."

And the call got disconnected leaving Valerie hanging again by a thread. She stared at her phone while the other hand that was holding a cigarette came closer to her mouth to take a long puff of smoke.

etting that smoke out of her mouth and nostrils was he world's best feeling in the world. The male figure leeping beside her stirred a little, but Valerie didn't ven bother to look at him.

What time is it?" she heard his sleepy voice but didn't

iswer.

re you ok, girl?" he propped up on his elbows to take better look at her. She seemed up set and was holding r phone while smoking.

oney!" he tried to touch her naked shoulder, but she oved his hand away and got up fro m the bed. Until w she was covered with the sheets, but then looking her without a shre d of clothing did something to his irtstrings.

52 52–Must Be Cheating

"Can you please come back to bed, girl?"

Valerie picked up her clothes from the floor and started putting them on.

"No! Once was enough. I don't do several rounds," this was the only reasoning she coul d come up with and

that was a lie.

After getting intimate with Rafael, she always used to plead with him to do it once more, but he always

pushed her aside.

No, love. Once is enough!"

And today this man was expecting her to do it again! Vhy? Was she not beautiful enoug h for Rafael?

Look here, love," he had also got up from the bed and hankfully was wearing a pair of s horts.

Sorry. Not interested..." she said without looking at im and this time he couldn't take it a nymore.

olding her by her elbows, he dragged her to the bed id pinned her to the mattress under him.

What's the matter? Didn't I make you happy last night,

-1?"

52 52-Must Be Cheating

Valerie looked at the man who was demanding explanations like was her husband. Her hand raised and she slapped hard across his face.

"Making me happy? Are you out of your mind? Who

are you? My fu\*cking husband? Can you give me a

child? Huh?"

She didn't realize, tears had started falling off her eyes.

He was just observing the pain on her face. He lifted his body a little to ease off some of his weight from her delicate figure.

She was beautiful. He always had a thing for blondes and had his eyes on her ever sinc e she joined the tour

group.

"Do you have a husband? Are you married, girl?" he asked, and his question was met b y silence.

"I'm asking you something, love. I'm not trying to judge you. Are you married?" she slowl y nodded her head.

She had stopped crying, but tears were still gliding down her cheeks.

He, at last, got up and offered her, his hand to help her in sitting up.

26:30

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52 52- Must Be Cheating

"Are you hungry?" Valerie swiped her tongue on her lips and that little action caught his eye but then this was not the time to go forward with this crazy idea of making love to he r.

She was already upset.

He used the cruise intercom to bring snacks for them. They both needed strong coffee i n their system.

Valerie was still sitting on the edge of the bed, looking down. After placing the intercom, he walked up to her and crouched down, instead of sitting beside her.

"Are you trying for a baby?" he asked her, and she nodded this time. He took a sigh of r elief when she gave him the response.

"Have you consulted a doctor, girl?"

"It's Valerie!"

"Sorry?"

"I said it's Valerie. Call me by my name. Not some Girl!"

"OK. Fine!" He threw his arms in the air, "I got it. You are not some random girl. You are Valerie. So,

Valerie..."

52-52–Must Be Cheating

When she didn't look at him, he placed his finger under her chin and raised her face gen tly, "So you are married and trying for a baby. How come I got in this equation?"

She shrugged and wiped her face with the back of her hand, "I don't kno she whispered.

"Were you... were you missing your husband when you approached me?"

He asked her and she nodded without hesitancy.

Exhaling a long, tired breath he, at last, got up and sat beside her, "Listen, Valerie. If yo u are regretting all this then better leave my room. Nobody needs to know what you are doing here. You are free to go. However, ... here's the other option," he wanted to smile when at last she gave him the attention he wanted.

"What's that other option, boy?" he chuckled at her dig. She was doing the same thing t hat he had been doing since they got intimate.

"My name is Ethan, Valerie. Ethan Lockwood. Your other option is to stay and enjoy life with me. I

promise there won't be any strings attached. Your privacy will be intact."

5252 AM Bu Chating!

Valerie didn't know what to say. The life was offering her something and she wanted to t ake it. She was aware that this was a temporary arrangement.

"No strings attache she asked him, and he moved

his head.

"No strings attached," this time he did kiss her cheek softly, "But what I don't understand is... why your husband is least interested in you. He is a lucky dog who has such a beautiful wife. Doesn't he like

children?"

She sighed thinking of her miscarriage.

"He belongs to the Sinclair family and needs an heir," while saying that something was ringing bells in her

head.

Ethan Lockwood. Is he related to Lockwood

Industries?

"Hmm?" she said absent-mindedly when he called her name, "What?"

"Valerie. I think your husband either is blind, or he is impotent, or maybe isn't medically f it to be a father... there are so many possibilities, love. You need to check

it Evaruthing can't ho hlamad on an inot

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52:52. Must the Chessing

because you are a woman and don't have a strong rich background."

Ethan was right. For how long Nina would keep blaming her for not hag a baby when he r son is not ready to get intimate with her?

"You are right. I never thought about these possibilities... My husband is in Kanderton for no reason. He never went on such a long business trip."

"Then there is only one explanation for this..." he said and saw her throwing a questioni ng glance his way,

"There might be a possibility that he is involved in

some woman in Kanderton. Your husband must be cheating on you, love!"

Comment

Swipe left to continue

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Posted by AdminH, ? Views, Released on July 5, 2024

53 53- No Need

Ever since she saw Valerie's name flag on his phone screen, she didn't stay in that offic e. The food was still left on her plate, but she got out of the room without a backward gla nce.

Though she did hear him telling her that he was busy n a meeting. But that didn't bring p eace to her mind.

f he cared about her, not as his mistaken wife but as he mother of his kids then he shoul d have been pfront and told that damn sister of hers that he was usy with his kids' mom.

Marissa. Mr. Sinclair wants to talk to you," Marissa was ping something vigorously on he r laptop and didn't en bother to raise her eyes to look at Dean's face.

'e have already discussed vital things during our ich. Now if I keep visiting his office, I w on't be able

tasks. Please ask him to let me work or I'll

do

ign."

my

threat had the desired effect on Dean and on the sident of MSin. After that, nobody dare d to call her

53 53–No Need

or disturb her.

"What is going o You look upset. You were just fine before lunch," Marissa's wrists alrea dy hurt with lots of typing, so she got back in her seat for a moment and closed her eyes for a minute.

She felt Delinda's hand covering hers that was placed on the desk, "You can talk to me i f you want, Marissa!" The middle–

aged, kind woman suggested to her in charge who had been anything but mean to her.

The way she helped her with her son's treatment was such a kind gesture and Delinda wanted to pay it off with empathy.

"You said you are a single mother," Marissa asked Delinda whose smile vanished from her face and was replaced by a frown.

"Yeah. I am," Delinda mustered a smile, "He loved me so much. The moment, I conceiv ed my little one, we

decided to get married. His family wasn't happy, but we did go ahead with the decision," Delinda was staring into space, "There were only three days to our wedding when I got a call that he had an accident."

Marissa could see agony on her face, "More than his

53 53- No Need

death, the thing that shattered me more was the attitude of his family. He belonged to a loaded background, yet his family ditched me and said that the boy I was carrying in my tummy was never his, to begin with."

Marissa could see the u.

heduled tears, "They never

accepted me, and I was left alone with my boy. So, I

started my business so that someday I might stand face to face with my son's grandfath er and tell him that... See! I never needed your money. You shove your money up your ass," the last sentence made Marissa giggle.

"Our story seems similar," Marissa held back Delinda's

hand.

"Why? Your kids' father also died?" Delinda asked, curiosity etched on her face.

"Oh, no. No. That's a long story. I loved him but he ditched me. Didn't trust me. Now wh en he is aware of his kids, he is ready to accept them, but he doesn't want me in his life. " Marissa smiled sadly.

"So, he is your ex... and you are his ex too. Right?" Delinda probed trying to understand the situation that

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53 63 No Not

sounded complicated.

"No. I'm not his ex," she said but Delinda's brows

furrowed in confusion, How to tell her that she is still

married to Rafael?

There was no proof

wedding, so no divorce took

place.

"He just doesn't accept me in front of the world. For him. I'm like a dirty secret where he wants to shoo me away in a closet. It's basically a tangled mess."

She smirked and started playing with the paperweight. placed before her.

"Have you accepted him yet, Marissa?" She glanced at Delinda, who wanted to hear mo re of it.

"What do you mean?"

"What I mean is..." Delinda leaned forward her voice dropping to a whisper, "Have you accepted him in front of this world? Because if you haven't, you can't blame him. What if he is waiting for you? A woman he knows nothing about except that she is the mom of his kids. He can't make big claims unless he is sure what you feel about him, Marissa, I know it's all a gamble. But I insist that if you want him to accept you and

53 53 No Need

present you in front of this world as his beloved... then you need to take the first step."

Delinda had a point.

But how to tell Delinda that he was always head over

heels for Valerie? He never liked brunettes.

During their datin

riod, Valerie made it a point to

say repeatedly how he despised Brunettes.

Marissa had to blink several times to control her tears,

"He has moved forward and is only here in my life to

meet kids."

"What if he is also thinking the same?" Delinda

whispered again.

"Meaning?"

"What I mean to say is... Marissa... what if he also thinks that you are letting him into yo ur life because of kids and you have moved on too."

They both jumped in panic when a loud voice rang in the hall, "Ladies and gentlemen. J ust look at this!" This was Dean who was showing the event stage drawing to

everyone.

The whole room buzzed with the cheering.

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12 53. No Need

"You did good, Peter!" Delinda cheered for the guy who was blushing from all the teasin g. Delinda had left the seat while Marissa was still stuck in the line the older

woman just uttered,

"What if he is also thinking

same?"

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"Marissa. My bosses used to tell me that I'm a workaholic. And now look at you," Dean t ook off his coat from the stand and picked up his laptop bag.

It was the end of another workday, and everyone else had already left the office.

"It's not about me being a workaholic, Dean. After becoming a mom, one needs to perform her duties before time. So, that in case of any emergency or urgency, I should be one step ahead."

"If your work is done then I can give you a ride home," after his offer Marissa opened he r mouth to say no when a heavy voice spoke behind her.

"No need. I'll drop her home tonight."

54 54–It Wasn't OK!

Posted by AdminH, ? Views, Released on July 5, 2024

54 54- It Wasn't OK!

If it was some other occasion, Marissa would have clearly denied him. However, after ta lking to Delinda she felt better.

She needed to accept that she chickened out because she feared for the lives of her ba bies. Also, she needed to get this through her thick skull that Valerie was his. wife and s he needed to live with the fact.

Telling him about her feelings was useless if staying with her in the past was nothing but just a misunderstanding from his side.

Dean gave them a subtle nod and left the hall leaving them alone.

"Would you mind if I drop you?" This time when he asked, she nodded.

"Sure," if her answer had stunned him, he didn't let it

show on his face.

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They both were in the car that was smoothly running on the road. He was focused on dri ving while sitting in

18

54 54 I Wasn't OK!

the passenger seat she was observing him.

After a few moments of comfortable silence, he tried to break the ice, "You didn't finish your lunch today...

there was a reason Id Valerie..."

"Can we please not talk about her?" she hurriedly raised her hand to stop him but didn't quit watching

him.

"OK," he drove silently, and she realized that he wasn't asking for directions. Flint was ri ght.

Rafael knew where she was living.

"How much loan do you owe to your landlord?" he turned to her when they stopped at a red light. This time he had changed the topic.

Marissa was already nervous due to his closeness, she took time to process the questio n, "Landlord?"

"Yeah. The one who owns

the place and allows tenants to stay there in return for the monthly rent," he might be se rious, but she didn't miss the amusement in his

voice.

She closed her eyes and smiled, "Yeah. I know what a landlord is..." she trailed off whe n Amir's face popped

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up in her head.

That face disgusted her.

"I have got papers at home, and I can pro copy of it! Why?"

Anybody who used to hear that she had taken

you a

loan

from Amir, used to ask her why she didn't try for a

bank loan.

Now she was ready for the same query from Rafael

too.

When he didn't ask anything, she twisted her whole body in his direction and gave him a long stare, "What?" he asked her after feeling her eyes on his face.

"Ask me whatever is there on your mind, Rafael." She gave him a challenging look, but he kept driving.

"Come on, I'm ready for it. Shoot!"

"Ok," he nodded, his eyes still on the road, "When will you compensate for today's lunch ?"

Wait what?

She was speechless. What kind of question was it?

She narrowed her eyes to stare hard but then she

20.35

54 54 It Wasn't OK!

reminded herself that hard stare was reserved for her

kids.

Not for this man.

"Won't you ask me why I didn't go lo. a bank loan?" he pursed his lips into a thin line an d saw her doing the

same.

"No. I won't," he said in a whisper, and she felt him tightening the grip around the steerin g wheel.

She frowned when she saw his white knuckles. What

was exactly on his mind?

She didn't know what got into her when she slowly placed her hand on his.

He examined their hands for a moment and she felt his tension releasing slowly.

"I... don't want to ask it bec... because I'm ashamed..."

his voice trailed off leaving her surprised.

"Ashamed of what?"

"Ashamed of what you must have gone through to kneel before someone and ask for m oney," he could feel tears in his voice and she felt sorry for him.

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He was in a tough spot not aware that his own mother

was involved in it.

Marissa felt him slowing down the r

nd parked it on the side of the road. For a few mine, there was heavy silence hanging th ere.

"Marissa," he looked down on his lap rubbing his hand

on the thigh, "when this weekend I'll visit our kids, I need to give you the respect you de serve. The respect I couldn't give you when you needed it most. Can you be accommod ating a bit for the sake of our kids?"

Seeing him upset had

taken Marissa's common sense. She didn't know what he was asking for but just nodde d her head like a fool.

"Of course," she gave him an over-brightened smile, "We both need to be accommodating for the sake of

our kids."

Rafael's face lit up and he pinched her cheek with affection reminding Marissa when he used to do it, whenever he used to visit her house.

To hide her blushing cheeks, she turned to look out the window, hearing his chuckle be hind her as he

started the car.

54 54-It Wasn't OK! Wasn't.OK!

When they reached outside her home, he rolled down

his side of the window and took out

better look at the small, old building.

lead to have a

"Have they gone to sleep already?" she followed his gaze and nodded.

"Yes. They are early sleepers and early risers, and they love when Flint tucks them into bed."

Listening to Marissa about his kids made Rafael feel giddy. He could feel his heart flutte ring in his chest.

He quickly got out and being a gentleman rounded the car to open her side of the door.

"Thanks..."

"My pleasure," he bowed as if she was a princess.

She started taking back steps with a sheepish smile, "You can go. I'm a big girl and can go inside the house myself."

Leaning to the car, his hands were folded on his chest and Marissa thought that he was the most handsome

man alive on the earth.

"I know, Ms. Aaron. Just need to set an example for my

son" he murmured looking into her eves.

54 54–It Wasn't OK!

She gulped hard and fished for her keys in her purse. After unlocking the door, she wav ed at him. "Bye!"

He also waved back, "Goodnight, Marissa

When she closed the door there was a big grin on her face. Chewing her lower lips, she tip-toed in the silent. house and quickly reached the window.

As most of the house was enveloped in darkness, she peeked from the window and felt her breathing hitch when found him still standing there leaning against his

car.

However, she jumped in panic when her phone started ringing in her purse. She quickly got to it because the loud ringtone could wake the dead up.

It was an unknown called ID.

"Yes?" she spoke on the phone and tried to peek from

her window.

"Stop looking down from the window and go to sleep,

strawberry..."

Marissa felt her heart sinking.

He never called her strawberry when he was with

Valerie. He started calling her by this endearment

54 54–It Wasn't OK!

after she got married to him.

Wanting to meet his kids was OK.

Befriending her for the sake of kids was also OK.

But calling her strawberry?

No! It wasn't OK!

Posted by AdminH, ? Views, Released on July 5, 2024

55 55- Celebration

"Ethan is so handsome. The way he looks at me... oh... it makes my heart melt," a

remarked.

from their tour group

"I still can't decide what is the color of his eyes! Grey? Blue?" this girl had a dreamy look on her face.

Valerie was listening to all of them but wasn't saying anything. She was sitting there as i f she was deaf.

After enjoying the cruise for one week, their tour leader escorted them to this hotel that had all the greenery around it.

Right now, they all were enjoying the sun on the huge terrace of the hotel.

Valerie was getting tired of all this. Keeping Rafael happy so that he won't leave her. Ke eping his mom happy so that he won't divorce her.

Trying to conceive so that they let her stay in the Sinclair family.

All this havoc was enough to make her exhausted. Nina Sinclair never talked to her so r udely but last

55 55 Celebration

night she wasn't her usual self.

Valerie needed to think about something. If Rafael was cheating, then maybe she shuld catch him

red-handed and that could help immensely in claiming half of his property after divorce.

Though she studied about Ethan Lockwood on the internet. He was also the only son of a big industrialist.

She didn't need money if Ethan was already a Richie rich. But this time she wanted to pl ay it sensibly.

Last time she made a wrong move by leaving Rafael without a backup plan. Not this tim e.

"Valerie! Are you even listening to what we are saying," a girl whom Valerie knew nothin g about tried to get

her attention.

Another girl gave her sarcastic grin and waved her hand, "I think she is thinking about Et han. Babe! If he has taken you to bed that means nothing. Ok?"

All the senses in Valerie's body were awakened. They knew that she slept with him? Bu t how?

"Isn't she married to Rafael Sinclair?" another girl

mentioned her husband's name. Most of them were

55 55 Celebration

accompanied by their boyfriends on this trip. Only a few of them were single.

Valerie and Ethan were among the latter ones.

"So how come you slept with Ethan,... when you are married? Aren't you faithful to your husband? Do you have some shame?"

Valerie already had too much on her plate and these scumbags were taking away the last shred of her

peace.

"Can you all please stop bullying her?" a smile touched her lips when she heard Ethan's stern voice behind her,

ΠТ

"For once can you all stop poking your noses in others'

business?"

His question was met by the hush that fell over the

group.

"Come on. Don't sit here," he offered her, his hand and

helped her to stand up.

Valerie didn't take even a second to smile at him just to make the other girls more jealou s. There was one girl

who had bitterness on her face.

Valerie winked at her secretly and walked away with

< 55 55–Colebration

Ethan.

"Thank you for saving me from those buffoons,"

"No problem," he left her hand and placed his hands inside the pockets of his shorts.

"So... did you give it a thought?" he asked her in a whisper when he thought nobody wa s watching them. They were walking towards the hotel bar.

"About what?"

"Oh, you know very well what I'm talking about. I asked you to ditch your husband and c ome to me,"

Several wrinkles formed on her forehead, "It's not that easy."

She was still scared. What if Marissa would return?

Valerie always felt her eyes on Rafael. She used to enjoy the hunger she used to see in her sister's eyes whenever Rafael was around.

There were very rare moments when she won against Marissa. Marissa had always bee n a bright, studious kind of child who rarely had any serious boyfriend.

According to her mom, Marissa used to study hard to

55 55 Celebration

compensate for her looks. Valerie was more beautiful,

so she didn't need any degree.

Marissa was ambitious and always used to dream

about earning her own money while

ie and her

mom knew that she would find a rich prince charming who would never allow her to eve n lift a finger.

Now Ethan was offering her to come to him.

For Valerie, Rafael had been like a trophy that she could show to the world. She had se en envy in the girls' eyes for herself.

For the first time, she felt like she achieved something that Marissa didn't have except t he looks department.

What if Marissa was keeping a tab on Rafael? The moment she would get the news that Rafael was again a bachelor, she wouldn't take a second to come back

into his life.

Instead of going inside the bar, they turned to the hallway that led them to the garden. S he was still engrossed in thinking about the future.

Ethan stopped in his tracks and held her both hands, "Tell me. What's on your mind?"

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She swiped her tongue on her upper lip and clicked her tongue inside her cheek, "Rafae I will never let me walk away with any of his money. He might spend on me extravagantl y, but h uld never let me have a chunk of his property."

"So why wait, Valerie when I have got everything," he was so down to earth that he was n't telling her about his loaded family and the industries he owned across the globe.

However, this time she wanted to step into Ethan's life with some of her own money. An d only Rafael could provide it to her.

"If I'll prove in the court that my husband is cheating, then I think they'll give me the half –cut."

"No silly," he pinched her chin, "Cheating or no cheating. Rafael has to give you half of h is property."

When she stayed silent, he again spoke. "If you prove in court that he is cheating on you then I can make sure, you get more than half."

For a minute she felt a flash of evil in his eyes but then

it was there just for a moment.

nd how ara um

ara Ethan?"

"Because, he held her by elbows, "I'm a lawyer. Studying business was my father's drea m but taking a law degree was my passion."

Valerie couldn't believe her luck.

She had a lawyer by her side. A rich lawyer! Interesting!

She quickly held his hand in hers and brushed off the unseen dirt from his cheek, "I hav e decided to go to Kanderton directly. Will you accompany me?"

Yes. There was something fishy and she needed to catch Rafael redhanded so that Nina Sinclair wouldn't

make a fuss.

Ethan gave a hard kiss on her mouth, "Sure. Let's go to Kanderton," after their hot kissin g session they both became breathless.

"Let's celebrate it in my bed. Come on!" Ethan started dragging her to his hotel room wh ere they could make love.

She tried hard to suppress her smile, but Ethan had seen it and, in a few moments, their playful squeals were filling up the hall.

Posted by AdminH, ? Views, Released on July 5, 2024

56 56- Sorry Valerie

"Your lips taste like strawberr

never get this taste before?"

Now why I could

"You smell so good and the way your soft body reacts. to my touch... the way your body melts in my hands... I just want to remain inside you..."

"Whenever I hold your boobs... they fill my hands so perfectly, Strawberry," all the whis pers kept interrupting her sleep.

All those nightmares were back because he called her strawberry last night.

As a result?

She went to the office with swollen eyes. Even the makeup concealer couldn't cover the underbags and

dark circles that were evident on her face.

It was Friday and the weekend was about to start. Tonight, Rafael was expected to mee t the kids and she wanted to make it as easy as possible for him and fort

her kids.

For a moment she wished, she hadn't accepted this

50 50 Sorry Valerin

offer and could run away far from there.

"You don't seem alright to me," Dean asked her in

concern, "Did you stay awake last night? Are your kids, ok?"

She had just returned to her desk with a cup of black coffee. This was the only thing that could keep her sane today.

"I'm good," she chuckled rolling her eyes heavenward, "You know? Life of a mommy!"

He nodded in understanding and placed a file in front of her, "I've brought you this file a s I need to

accompany Mr. Joseph to a meeting. But if you think it's not manageable then please fe el free to return it to

me."

Marissa made a pout while eyeing this man who had been nothing but super helpful. Sh e got to her feet and planted a kiss on his cheek, "Has anyone ever told you, you are a s weetheart, Dean?"

Dean felt embarrassed and wiped his cheek with his fingers. For a moment, Marissa felt like he was a bigger version of Alex.

She laughed and sat down on her seat.

"Go to that meeting and forget about the file," she said goodnaturedly and got busy with her work.

"Won't you join us for lunch?" Delinda asked her worriedly when saw her typing franticall y on the laptop.

She was too busy adding some numbers to the Excel

sheet.

"You go ahead, Linda. I need to finish it before four

p.m."

Almost everyone on the floor was heading to the nearby restaurants or Café when the d oor to the President's office opened and she noticed Rafael emerging from it, out of the corner of her eye.

"Did you have anything since morning?" he asked her in concern and pulled a chair to si t on it.

"I had a toast this morning and then had coffee in the office. Thank you." She remained f ocused on the task at hand.

"Last night... Did I do something I shouldn't have done? Or is it something I said that off ended you in any way?" he asked her in a low voice, and she felt her

walme west with the mont

200

50 50 tommy Valerie:

Though the ACs were working just fine.

"You might have misunderstood. Rafael. I just want to

get it done in time," this time.

threw a casual smile

in his direction and then resumed her typing. She must have typed some more words w hen a large hand

covered hers not letting her fingers move anymore.

Her eyes snapped to his face, who was already looking at her, "Talk to me."

She offered a faltered smile and shook her head, "I can't... Just... just meet the kids. Le t's keep it that way... for the sake of our kids..."

He nodded agreeing with her, "For the sake of our kids." He then got up and leaned dow n. Marissa thought he wanted to have a look at the laptop screen, and she quickly turne d it towards him.

However, she turned into a statue when the familiar.

soft lips kissed her cheek, "I'll be there before dinner," he mumbled, "I'm sending you sa ndwiches. Eat them. OK?" without waiting for her response, he went back to his office.

"Damn you, Rafael!" She muttered under her breath and pushed away the laptop.

\*\*\*

66 60- Sorry Valerio

Rafael was getting ready in the hotel room whistling to himself, Yesterday he asked Dea n to find him a penthouse because he had the intention to spend more time in Kanderto n.

He kept it casual by wearing denim pants along with a grey turtleneck shirt. He was brushing his wet hair when his phone started ringing.

"Yes?" he received it without looking at the caller ID.

"Are you going somewhere?"

Shit! He had taken his mom's video call.

"Hello, Mom. I'm fine, thank you. How about you!" he greeted Nina with a playful grin, bu t she was his mom and took the sarcasm well.

"Don't you try to divert my attention! Is it a date? You two are not at all serious about bri nging a Sinclair heir into this world!" she complained to him, but he remained busy in ex amining his image in the mirror. You have heirs, Mom. You aren't aware of *it*. I wish I could tell you, but Marissa asked me something, trusting me... and I'm not willing to break her trust.

Somy Valeri

"Yes. It's a casual date with Joseph. Remember? Today is Friday. After a long week of work, we need to unwind in some bar."

"Gosh, Rafael. Valerie was right. Wha aking you so long? What's so special about Kand erton that you have forgotten about the Sangua office? If you have forgotten, then let m e remind you that the headquarters of MSin Industries is here, son."

Rafael who was spraying cologne stopped midway and looked at the screen, "What did Valerie tell you? What will I do in Sangua when she is enjoying her trip?"

"Do you remember her friend, Nayla?"

No, Rafael didn't remember any of Valerie's friends, "She overheard Valerie when she was talking to a friend. I think she is planning to come to Kanderton."

What? Rafael felt his blood run cold.

"Valerie... what? How is it possible, Mom?"

"I don't know, son. When Nayla called her mom, I was there too. Her mom is my regular client and always orders the most expensive stuff in my boutique. Even if your wife is c oming to Kanderton, just welcome her. A

good romantic dinner might bring a good Sinclair

bert

the wet constant

I has see

Mom I'm geting late Will talk to you later. By the way I'm coming back to Sangs within three days. So,

It's useless Valerie vuits Kanderton

Before Nina could say anything rur. Raffar disconnected the call after a loud "Bye"

Valerie is planning to visit me here? Not Not now

Valorie

Marissa requested me for only one thing and that was

not to tell about our kids, to Nina or Valerie I'm not

planning to blow it all away when she is putting an

effort to trust the

Right now, *I* don't want any more disturbance in my life. I still need some time to bond with my kids and

win back my wife

Sorry, Valerie For the time being, you are not welcome

to Kanderton

Posted by AdminH, ? Views, Released on July 5, 2024

57 57- Hi There

Sophic and Flint could see

arissa lacing around in

agitation. Rafael was expected to come around seven, but the kids were ready before si z.

Even Marissa was nervous about her dress. She

decided on a skirt and then a floral summer dress and then she decided, she wasn't in t he mood to show off

her legs.

Poor Sophia and Flint kept comforting her nerves now they also had given up. Tonight, no employee had stayed back for any order.

Marissa didn't want any of them to witness the meeting. She was already on the edge a nd now didn't want any more stuff on her plate.

"Can you please sit down?" Sophie gave her a

sympathetic look and looked at the kids who had now gotten busy with Legos.

"Sophie," Marissa came to her friend absent-

mindedly, "Don't you think these couches should be placed in L shape so that we all can face each other?"

20

62 57 H.There

Sophie twisted her neck to look at Flint who appeared to be busy reading a newspaper but could hear everything.

"How about I move these chairs against the wall, this will have a good effect on the roo m. What do vou say?" she clasped her hands like a child who wasn

keep her excitement.

le to

"Marissa. Why don't you drink some coffee? I can make coffee for all of us... there is stil I time to..." She trailed off when heard a light sound from the small desk where the kids were sitting. The Lego Mountain had fallen on the ground and the kids had started giggli ng.

"Sweethearts. Pick up those pieces," she darted towards the small table and crouched d own to get all the pieces, "I told you we are expecting your... dad and ... this place shou Id look clean,"

She started putting all the Lego pieces on the desk. The kids gave a sheepish look to ea ch other when Abigail made a pout, "We have been expecting dad for quite some time a nd he is not even here, Mommy!"

She scratched her head in agitation and placed her

cheek down on the table.

"Yeah. Right. It looks like a supervisor is coming for an inspection," Alex's remark earne d him more giggles,

and Marissa who was kneeling near them, fell back on

her ass.

"No. He is not a supervisor. He is... a... good man... a good dad..." poor her didn't kno w how to convince her kids that their dad was the most amazing man in the

world.

No matter what he did to her, but her kids should share a good bond with him.

Marissa's eyes moved to the wall clock while she murmured, "He should be here any mi nute..."

Ariel had started yawning loudly by now. None of them were used to stay at one place a nd they also wanted to eat something.

"Can we have nuggets, Mom?" Ariel asked her mom fluttering her lashes quite dramatic ally, "Staying in one place makes me so hungry."

Alex chuckled but then got serious when found his mom looking at him.

"Hey, Ariel," Flint at last lowered his newspaper, "Just wait for those nuggets, love. Beca use... YOUR DAD CAN BE HERE ANY MINUTE. HAHA..."

All of them cracked up when Flint said the last sentence at the top of his lungs.

Only Marissa was the one, frowning, placing her hips, "This is rude, you all!"

and on

She went back to the only activity she was doing.

And that was, taking a stroll in the living room.

All of them almost jumped when they heard the

doorbell,

"Oh my

God! It's him!" Marissa felt a surge of panic, she placed her palm on her chest, "What to do? Oh, I think I should open the door."

Sophic tried to stop her, "Marissa wait! It's not even

seven! It's not him!"

"He usually reaches before time, Sophie," she said over her shoulder, her voice tremblin g slightly, and she

opened the door hurriedly only to find a mailman standing there,

"Ms Marissa Aaron?"

## Thuse

"Yes, it's me," she replied, her heart still pounding.

"Please sign it here and receive this mail," He held out a clipboard and made her sign a paper. She signed it and accepted the large envelope he handed her.

It the

"What is it?" Sophie moved closer, curiosity etched on her face as she tried to take a bet ter lo envelope. Marissa shrugged in confusion and tore it

open.

"A court notice?" Flint took the document from her hand, his expression darkening as he read it, "It's from Amir. He has

sent you a legal notice demanding you to pay off the debts or he'll make us vacate this place."

Marissa paled when she heard Flint and took back the document, "I can't believe this is happening," Her voice was barely above a whisper.

"Why is he doing it? We agreed on a fiveyear tenure," Marissa wanted to crush the document and throw it

out of the window.

"The only thing he is taking advantage of is no written proof," Flint tried to explain to her, "The worst part is he can do it quite easily. All the paperwork is in his favor, and he kno ws how to exploit the situation."

20.37

Marissa didn't want to panic at this unexpected turn of

"Don't worry," she felt Sophia's hand on her shoulder. "We will figure out something"

Marissa took a deep breath trying to steady her

"Who can give me this much cash" She asked more to herself.

Flint and Sophie felt sorry for her. None of them had that kind of money in their account.

Just then Sophia's face lit up. "Marissa... I have an idea. Why don't you talk to... I mean why don't you try to..."

"Sophie!" Marissa gave her a tired smile, "I don't have enough energy to handle any more riddles..."

"What I wanted to say is..." Before Sophia could say another word, the doorbell rang ag ain.

Flint who was standing closest to the door opened it, they found Rafael standing there w ith a smile on his face, looking as gorgeous as ever.

His eyes didn't take time to find Marissa, "Hi there!"

DR 58–Fm A Nobody!

Posted by AdminH, ? Views, Released on July 5, 2024

58 58- I'm A Nobody!

"HI there," his eyes lit up as soon as they found Marissa. Flint stepped aside and go...re d for him to

come in.

Ignoring every other person in the room, Rafael headed straight to her and handed her t he bouquet.

Holding the heavy bouquet Marissa was about to utter a thank you when he leaned forw ard to kiss her cheek, "For the kids' sake," he whispered with a wink and then got a little louder, "By the way you look beautiful."

Marissa felt giddiness in the pit of her stomach. This was the same feeling she used to e xperience when he

used to visit Valerie.

He gave gentle nods to Sophie and Flint then turned his attention to the kids who had n ow stood up from

their small chairs.

The girls were staring at him with awestruck eyes while the boy was trying his best not to look much impressed.

Marissa felt Rafael going still for a moment. He

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16

do shew turned in Marsa mache

wedding way he thes helps

Vhdrew bet your her. Rafael Sinclair

Marse

high wh mero

ng him to the Rab Elis

ham tavënd good on her tong

She now than the president of MSin Industries, he looked more like a father who desperately wanted

to be adored by his kids

"Hey little ones raising his hand, he waved his fingers, "How are you?

Abigail was the first one who started taking slow steps towards him. Ariel See? Didn't I tell you he lo oks

exactly like Alex?

Standing behind, Alex huffed soundly at her innocently

remark.

"I know," Anel stood behind Abigail placing her small hands on her sister's shoulders.

Rafael tried to smile but he couldn't. He was looking down at the miniatures of Valerie a nd Marissa who were staring back at him with those innocent eyes.

Very slowly he kneeled on one knee, and offered his

hard for the handshake. You must be Abigail."

A smile broke on Abi's lips, and she nodded eagerly. Rafael kept holding her hand and kissed it after that he moved his focus to Ariel, "Ariel? Right?" sed her

hand too after shaking it.

He looked behind the girls where Alex was trying hard to appear a macho strong boy. R afael didn't want to crush the boy's morale on their first meeting.

"Hey, Alex," he just waved at his son, knowing full well that he might not like any skin co ntact with him.

"Alexander..." Marissa pointed towards Rafael using her eyes, ordering Alex silently to meet his father properly.

But Alex ignored her too.

"It's ok," Rafael whispered without looking at Marissa, "he deserves to take as much time as he wants."

When he got up, he had both the girls in his arms who were giggling, all impressed.

"Daddy is strong!" Abigail patted his arm and Ariel was also amazed at their dad's stren gth. No one ever

carried them together.

This type of protocol was only given to Abi due to her

1 PA Nobody!

health issues.

The smile on Ariel's lips vanished and she bent down to hug Rafael, her small head lea ning against his broad chest. Her little arms circled Rafael's neck.

"Thank you for coming, Daddy," Everyone there could

feel tears in her voice.

Sophia signaled Flint to get inside his room. They needed to give the family some privacy.

\*\*\*

Marissa

had just served them dinner and now gradually girls were getting used to Rafael's prese nce.

Every now and then they were exchanging glances while talking to their father.

"So, you all are supposed to finish this chicken piece. It's packed with protein," Rafael said while setting his fork down after finishing up his plate.

Abi was the only one who couldn't seem to eat her dinner. While Ariel and Alex were as king for more chicken pieces with lots of ketchup.

"I want waffles!" Abi said with a pout and Rafael gently picked her up from her seat and placed her small body

onban lap. I can bring it tomorrow if your thems

bars "I

be stated and then darted Sending her all sites with laer fork

Mariona Mond the fact that he made her the us change in the een off the ads, he was m aking it a point te down her with respect as food of them and to liet theron kase than thựcar mom still hand the authority

After dinners. Rafael offriend too track tihe kadis inñas ther

Bed, and Marissa grow they with the dishes,

"Why sont on pois hum as the balls Bedroom? I can de

diners, Sophie offered her, and Marissa ja sheek bere

Food

"Non-ally. I want them to haur sooner akomar Ulmur. Alles is

not ready for this new phase, but I post can't fo

anything on ba

"Dens! worry Even Rafael

stands this. I think ar

hare his way with kids, I show he wa

a prharticamac atong with them. He is a natural. Don't

WOIITS, MANN. You made a good decision.

Sophar slapped her back and switched on the cuffies
Buy the code to

coming from the rooms but new there was nothing but

મક

Why are they not talking anymore" Marina shrugged in confusion. She had already plac ed a storybook on the bedside for Rafari

They tiptoed to the room and peeked inside only to be taken aback by the scene before them.

On the small bunk, Alex was sleeping peacefully. Rafael was lying beside him taking up most of the space, and the girls were fast asleep on his chest.

Holding them Rafael had also gone to sleep with his mouth slightly open.

"Oh God! Look at them! They are so adorable!" Sophie

breathed near her ear and all Marissa wanted to do

Was CTY.

"Mar. Go and wake him up. He might need to reach home on time, Marissa nodded at S ophie's advice and

went inside the room.

"Rafael..." she whispered shaking his shoulder, but the man had started snoring. She s uppressed the mirth and shook his shoulder again, "Rafael! Wakie wakie!"

<

58 58- I'm A Nobody!

Rafael opened his sleepy eyes which were bloodshot.

and tried to understand where he was.

"Marissa?" he rubbed his fist against his eye and tried

to stretch when realized two small figures

of him.

ag on top

He smiled softly and rolled a little to put them on the

mattress.

"I'll put them in their beds," he offered. Marissa who was leaning over to wake him, tried to straighten up with a smile, but he grabbed her wrist from his shoulder and made her t opple on top of him.

"Rafael!" her eyes widened in surprise, as she whispered his name. She was now lying on his chest, her boobs pressed against him.

He gently brushed the hair strand off her forehead and

tucked it behind her ear.

"You never leave your hair down!" those were the most unexpected and absurd words s he had heard from his mouth. Before she could say anything, they heard a slight comm otion outside the room.

"Who is there?" Rafael muttered with a frown and had

to logue Moricon half-heartedly When Maricen wont

out, he carried the girls to their respective beds and exited the room.

The scene before him unexpected. A young man who might be younger usan him was h olding Marissa in his arms twisting her body around.

"Gerard! Put me down" she was trying to warn him and was laughing continuously. It did n't take much time for his facial expressions to harden. The young man whose name wa s Gerard, froze when he noticed

Rafael

"Who are you?" The young man asked him with

frown and slowly let Marissa slide down until her feet

touched the floor.

"Who am I?" a sarcastic smirk touched Rafael's lips, "Well! I'm a nobody with that he left the house without saying goodbye to anyone.

Comment

Posted by AdminH, ? Views, Released on July 5, 2024

59 59- A Mess

After Rafael left, the silence still lingered in the air. Gerard gave a c fusing look to Flint, "What!"

Flint snapped at him, "Don't act like a fool, Gerard. We all know he resembles Alex a lot!

"Resembles, Alex?" Gerard repeated.

"I'll get us some beer," Sophie once again left Marissa alone and went to the kitchen.

"You contacted the kids' father?" He seemed to have difficulty wrapping his head aroun d the fact.

"No, I didn't. He contacted us," Marissa brought him to the couch, "now tell me about yo ur business trip. This

one took longer,"

She mouthed a silent thank you to Sophia who was handing over the beer cans to them.

"I know, Marrisa. And I missed you every minute of it!" Sophia wanted to roll her eyes. T his dude knew Marissa never encouraged his advances and still he was reminding her h ow much he missed her.

"You look tired," Sophie remarked and took another

20:39

179

sofa right across him, folding her legs under her.

"Yes" he took a chug from his can, because I just came straight from the airport.

"Straight from the airport!" Marissa and Sophie both repeated after him but for some rea son, his mood seemed grey.

"So, what this dude... who is supposedly your kids' father, is doing here?" he was trying his best to keep the sarcasm out of his tone, b ut they did get the hint.

Marissa wasn't planning to back off. She gave him a sweet smile and raised the beer ca n in her hand. "Cheers for coming back home. G. Now you tell me. What do YOU think about it? Why was he here? You tell me." She demanded with a poised smile.

There was so much confidence on her face and in her actions that for a minute Gerard was speechless.

"No. I meant to say is..." he took time in gulping down the canned liquid. "If he is their fa ther then maybe you could have sent the kids to his place. I know it has to be your decis ion and I respect it. Marissa. But the way be tried to hurt you in the past ..."

Wherever hannened hannened in the past. He might

## ΑM

have hurt me, but he is still their father. I can't tell my kids that they are supposed to me et him at his place because he is not welcome here."

Gerard went quiet after that.

It seemed like he was not liking it. His company sent him away for a business trip to clos e some important deals and here Marissa got busy meeting her ex.

He felt hurt.

"That's good," his expression suddenly transformed, "I like your decision, Marissa, I wis h my Mom had decided the same for me. She never let me meet my

father."

Sophie and Marissa nodded in sympathy,

Gerard got to his feet and asked for their empty cans. He then disposed of them in the k itchen bin.

"I guess I must leave now. Already jetlegged due to long flight." He stretched and, in the process, his tshirt lifted a little giving a glimpse of his well-toned

abs.

"By the way he straightened, "I can also stay here if Marissa will let me... in her room. H a-ha, both the

SP 59. A Mass

girls were at a loss for words on his poor sense of humor.

"Come on, you two! I was just kidding."

He then ruffled Sophie's hair and kissed Marissa's cheek before going out of the apartm ent.

When the door slammed shut, Mariss

eyed each other and fell back tiredly.

d Sophia

"Gosh! An ideal start to the weekend," Sophie muttered and started laughing.

Marissa sighed, "Agree!" she said looking up at the ceiling.

"Now what, Mar?" Sophie asked her and Marissa knew what she was talking about.

Rafael Sinclair.

He seemed mad.

What would she do now?

"That was hell awkward, man!" Sophie remarked again.

Marissa tried to remember the moment when he

pulled her to him and touched her hair. Her hand

raised and touched the same hair strand.

20.40

59 59–A Mess

"You never leave your hair down!" he had said to her.

God! What's the matter with me? He was here for the

kids! Not me!

"Don't worry," Sophie patted her shoulder, "Go and get some sleep. We'll think in the m orning," she yawned loudly.

"Right!" Marissa stood up and headed to her room. She needed to come up with a soluti on after getting some much needed sleep.

However, throughout the night she couldn't get a peaceful sleep and kept twisting and t urning in her

bed.

This was one of those nights when she used to dream of all the good moments she spe nt with Rafael.

The way they used to talk, the way he used to touch her, and the love Nina Sinclair use d to shower at her.

"Never tell Rafael that you are Marissa Aaron. The moment he knows you are not Valeri e Aaron, you might lose him, Marissa. I beg you to keep him safe."

She could still see Nina joining her palms together while begging her.

20:00

675

Early morning when she got up there was just time thought on her mind

"You played me, lutch You took advantage of my tem for him. If life will offer me a chane r, F'll tell you whe!

\*\*\*

"You duhet sleep well, she felt Flint's bound in her *hair* when she was dozing with her h ead down on the kiti hen counter

Poor, Mar, Nophic switched on the electric kettle for her lemon grass tea that she used t o take on an empty stomach

"Mar How about I make you this tea? It will keep your belly flat and dissolve all your fat. They say you'll lose weight in no time."

Marissa showed her a thumbs up sign without lifting

her head

"OK. Got it. Forget about this tea" Sophie then turned to Flint, "Grandpa. Make her coffe e. She can't even seem to talk with that swollen face" Sophia then eyed Marissa with a meaningful pout, "I was thinking to give 50 50 A Moss

around our bellies..." This time Marissa didn't let her

finish and at last raised her face,

"Your tire, Sophie. I don't have any tires. It's just a

pouch... a small, baby pouch," Sophie observed her face with a smile,

"Yeah. Agree. Pouch!"

"And you can't lose that belly tire of yours if you keep snacking those sweet treats. That's the reason I take very little sugar," Marissa sn apped with narrowed

eyes.

"Yeah! I have seen how you avoid those sugar cravings by eating lots of ice cream!" So phie attacked back and that flared Marissa's rage.

"Donuts and ice-creams are your department, not

mine!"

"Girls! Can you two shut up, please ... There is

someone at the door! I don't know who will visit us at

this ungodly hour..." Poor Flint who was pouring coffee into cups tried to move their foc us away from this morning's fight but none of the girls heard him.

"Fine!" he threw his arms in the air and went to open

the door

7/9

20:40

50 59- A Mess

However, both the girls had to hold their verbal judo and froze when Rafael Sinclair ente red the kitchen with a huge grin on his face. He looked handsome in that casual t– shirt and cotton trousers, w dark shades on his face.

"Hello! I brought waffles for you all..." he lifted the brown paper bags that he was carryin g and tossed a huge container of Vanilla ice cream on the counter, "Anyone up for a waffle and ice–cream combo?"

Marissa wanted to crawl inside that kitchen drain hole. He looked so perfect, while she?

Well! She looked like a mess.

Smelly teeth, unwashed face, tired eyes, and

disheveled hair.

What was he doing here, early morning? Wasn't he mad, last night?

Comment 0

Leave the first comm

Posted by AdminH, ? Views, Released on July 5, 2024

60 60- My Shoulders

Marissa swallowed hard and turned tophie who was hurriedly fixing her disheveled hair and that reminded

Marissa of her own hair.

She started brushing her fingers through her tangles and tried to smile, "Oh, Rafael. I ... we.... weren't expecting you..." she said with a shrug and realized that he was staring towards her shoulder.

She followed his gaze and found that the oversized t– shirt she was wearing was slipping off, exposing her smooth shoulder.

With a faltered smile she quickly covered it, but that sleeve fell down again.

"P... please sit down," she left the stool abruptly, "Oh, you can sit in the living room too ..." She looked at Sophie in panic who was now nodding her head like an

obedient student.

"Can I go and wake up kids?" he asked raising a brow and she quickly nodded.

"Yes. Yes. Why not. Come," the plan was to let Rafael

20

with kids, and her would need just four Gumutes to

at sovething decent

Thankfully Bar was walking ahmad because Grad

tes & wearing

Biker was eas Bank an here thoughts that she didn't relie

He had stopped walking, and as a result, she bumped

United Bus Rou

"Ouch" the hard her exuer Eige

Tim worry" Bve started stroking bet nose, 1.. just wasted to apologise for last night's beh atot..

She Bulimbered and looked at him. Last night?" and ther

offine remembered alboat Carra

it's personal and the stammered 1.1

don't have any right to ask this. b... but

but

are your

Wically wo

Natasha with was waiting for him to get done with has kong guerry with a frown at last gave her head a subtle shake Tua He as... just a friend

The way has green orbs were focused on her face, shr felt her cheeks heating up. She needed to move hare attention to something else so is here Baste, she went

ahead, almost gluing him with the doorframe to open the door to the kids' room.

Rafael gave her a tight-lipped smile, gesturing toward her chest with his eyes. "That's

if someone like your friend wit

## eat. I'll be hell jealous

ses this."

Marissa looked down and found her assets jiggling during the movement. She quickly c overed her chest with one arm and her eyes got to his face where she could see amuse ment dancing in his eyes.

Before she could say anything, he had gotten inside the kids' room with a chuckle.

\*\*\*

When she came out of her room after dressing up decently, she found commotion in the living room. Rafael and the kids were placing plates and cutlery on the dining table.

Rafael was playfully giving them directions.

Abi and Ariel were still clad in their pajamas while Alex had changed into shorts and a t-shirt. He wasn't as chirpy but was equally helping his father and sisters.

"Mom!" Abigail squealed and came running to her.

20:40

mitt.

Watch mot, Ala Marisa panked when saw here

sed and quackly crouched down to hug her. The girls

were beaming due to Radarf's unexpected presc

Num tell me one thing Daddy" Arwel asked after

arranging we cream spoons or every se

Code early worming, or you dada

an

ght at

Alsgall alhee turned with questioning eyes to Kafarl Rafael towk a long breath to thank for a second whens Ariel and the unexpected question

Ind yore kan mom land sucht

there as the Stagg om were

Everyone who wan

still for a minute

Buading Radar and barmend

Magina di tanafran here throud with a chorder treat

theres Actel spotte apam 1

wow that I wore

piling mommy on

that I come of your Ewro

ksed on two

Fland and Sophar gae Marians that wounded look for Fuading this kind of detail from th em. Rafurt came over and took Abs freams here are

Come on, you alll. We need to have beakfast. F

starving

He was aware that Marissa was getting uncomfortable by these shocking questions, an d he couldn't hold his kids' tongues, but he could try to shift their attention

to ice cre SID

"Now whoever arrives late at the i

will get melted

ice cream" After the announcement Ariel and Alex ran to their respective chairs while Rafael hurriedly carried Ali in fairs ar making her wural with delight

Wartsnai felt releved when she was kinda busy scooping ice cream from the tubs Flint and Sophie also took

their seats and Rafael served there Waffles

"How is it?" Rafari asked Magail when she took the

first spoon

"It's delicious" she showed him a thumbs tags

"Yes, Daddy Ariel agreed, "This is the best breakfast I

ever had. You are the best."

Marissa felt a little hurt but didn't let it show on her

face. She had

been feeding them homemade meals for most of the days up till now and they never

appreciated it

"Dad Someday you should take us to the park. My

wadh bull of waffles.

"Yeah she is right: *Anel* nodded and took a spoonful of ice cream, "they even kiss their moms in the park

"No, they don't!" Abigail argued and the topic of discussion was again kissing!

Marissa wanted to roll her eyes, Her children nev behaved this way in front of anyone,

"Anel! Abil Finish your food!" she tried to sound a little stern, but they didn't even bother to acknowledge her

"James father does kiss his mother in the park!" Ariel said loudly,

Abigail dropped her spoon on her plate, "James father once kissed Sheldon's mom too i n the park!"

Marissa couldn't take it anymore and left the living room covering her mouth with her pal m as if she was choking.

She wanted to hide in the kitchen. Holding the sink, she at last took a sigh of relief and s tarted laughing without making any sound,

However, she frowned when felt a presence right behind her. She spun around only to find Rafael

60 60- My Shoulders

standing there so closely that her face almost bumped into his chest.

"I'm so sorry," she rolled her lips between her teeth, "I don't know what got into them!"

Without a word, Rafael's arms were wrapping around her waist pulling her to him, "It's o k. They are only kids. But I guess we need to inform James mom that her husband kiss es Sheldon's mom in the park."

Clutching his t– shirt in her fists, Marissa laughed hard and hid her face in his chest. For a moment Rafa el

looked down on her shaking shoulders and then smiled.

You just *need* to stay happy, Marissa. *I* swear I *will take* every trouble of *yours on my sh oulders*.

Comment

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