

Second Marriage to Mr. Rich

Chapter 141

"Let the driver go, too. Wait for my call," Sean instructed Taylor.

He naturally took the suitcase from Angeline. He held the child in one arm and the luggage in the other. He said to Angeline, "Lead the way!"

Yasmine looked at Angeline's face cautiously. Her little hand clutched Sean's coat tightly from behind.

Angeline had no choice but to follow Sean to the parking lot.

Both Angeline and Sean were striking in appearance. Carrying the adorable child only added to their charm. In his suit, Sean exuded an authoritative presence while still showing a down-to-earth side by handling the luggage and child. Together, the three attracted many glances from passers-by.

As Sean and Angeline walked away with the child, the Lawson Global executives bombarded Taylor with questions.

"What's going on? Doesn't Mr. Lawson have an engagement with the Scott family? Why is the child already this grown?"

"Yeah, I never heard about Mr. Lawson getting married! Who is that stunning woman?"

"What a gorgeous woman! They already have a child! She must be his wife. Mr. Lawson and his wife even look like a true couple."

Gossip was a natural human tendency. Even the usually aloof executives of Lawson Global were no exception.

"This is Mr. Lawson's private affair. I'm not entirely sure. If you're interested, you might ask Mr. Lawson when he returns," Taylor responded with a smile.

"Let's forget it then!" the executives said as they walked away.

"You won't believe what happened the last time I casually asked him about his engagement party with Ms. Scott from the Scott family! He sent me off to Evercrest for two months... I swear, I almost didn't make it back!"

Meanwhile, Ned stood still, watching Sean and Angeline leave with the girl. He was gasping for breath and nearly collapsed against the wall.

He considered the child's age and couldn't believe Angeline's lost child had survived. However, after he confirmed with the hospital, he was almost sure that the child hadn't survived. Ned inexplicably felt a sense of relief.

For years, the loss of Angeline's child had tormented Ned almost daily, especially as more memories of Angeline returned over time.

For over four years, Ned had recalled many moments spent with Angeline, though only fragmented pieces of their past life together.

For instance, he recalled that they returned to the ancient River Town and stayed at Anne's house in the summer.

The day he regained his memories of Anne was in front of her tombstone. His eyes were red, and he could barely stand.

He remembered Anne's scrambled eggs, the chilled sodas she handed him, and how she would rub his head during arguments with Angeline, calling him the most handsome boy. After regaining those memories, Ned felt regretful for having shoved Anne.

He had promised Angeline that he would treat Anne like his own mother.

Yet, he had pushed Anne, which led to her death.

Ned had apologized countless times to Anne's cold tombstone. However, no one was there to gently pat his head and tell him not to worry anymore. .

He wanted to apologize to Angeline, but the incident with the child made him too afraid to confront her.

Even though these memories constituted only a tiny portion of his past 20 years, they were sufficient to overwhelm Ned with profound regret.

He even prayed to the heavens to cease any further recollection of his past or recover any additional memories.

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Ned was afraid. He was afraid of recalling the past Angeline that was often mentioned in front of him. He was hesitant to learn he had once loved Angeline so profoundly that he would have given up his life for her. He wondered what all his actions after Angeline woke up would have amounted to.

In the airport parking lot, Angeline took the car keys from the driver. By then, Sean had already placed Yasmine in the safety seat and fastened her seatbelt.

Yasmine blinked her big eyes with long eyelashes at Sean.

She asked quietly, "Daddy, why does Mommy want me to call you Mr. Lawson? Did you make Mommy angry? Mommy is easy to appease. My brother taught me when I make Mommy angry, I should do this..." Yasmine took Sean's index and little finger. She placed her chubby, fair little face against them.

"Just rub like this, and Mommy won't be angry anymore," Yasmine instructed Sean softly.

Sean's eyes turned red as he looked at the gentle and soft Yasmine before him. He controlled his emotions and gently rubbed her head. "Okay, I understand."

Seeing Sean take her advice, Yasmine yawned and rubbed her eyes with her tiny hands.

Sean didn't recall anyone telling him that he and Angeline's children were still alive. He'd thought he'd lost them in the incident four years ago.

At first, he assumed Angeline couldn't accept the loss of their children and had adopted a child.

Now, he was sure Yasmine was their daughter.

Sean's long, distinct fingers gently pinched Yasmine's cheek.

"You're tired, huh? Go ahead and take a nap..."

"I'll drive," Angeline offered to Sean.

"I'll do it," Sean responded as he closed the car's rear door.

He took the keys from Angeline's hand.

"Take a rest. I have a lot to ask you..."

"M-Mr. Lawson," Angeline stuttered, glancing into the car.

She saw Yasmine pressing her chubby face against the window, blinking her big eyes at her and then at Sean.

Angeline smiled at Yasmine and said to Sean, "Then let me drop you off first."

"Angeline, we need to talk," Sean began.

His breath was slightly heavy as he stepped closer to her.

"For the sake of the child."

Angeline's throat tightened as she nodded, "Fine..."

As the car left the airport parking lot, Angeline glanced at Yasmine in the safety seat. Yasmine had already fallen asleep with her head tilted to one side.

Her fair cheeks were squished, making her look even more cherubic. Her long, dense eyelashes curled upwards.

Angeline looked back at Sean, who was steering with one hand.

She said hesitantly, "I'm sorry for not telling you about the babies back then. I only found out later that we hadn't lost them."

"Who is looking after her brother abroad?" Sean inquired.

"His name is Xavier. Mr. Danvers is looking after him."

Angeline decided to tell Sean the truth.

"Mr. Lawson Senior arranged this. Over the years... Mr. Lawson Senior and Mrs. Lawson have been visiting the twins. Both kids are very fond of them." Angeline had never told the children about her relationship with Robert and Jessica, so the kids referred to Robert as "Mr. Lawson Senior" alongside Angeline. As for Jessica, the young ones called her "the beautiful Mrs. Lawson".

Perhaps due to their blood relation, Sean was particularly fond of the soft and adorable Yasmine and Xavier.

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Unlike Xavier, who was more composed, Yasmine had a way with words and was adept at charming those around her. Robert would often bring Jessica to visit the children abroad. Whenever the children were around, Jessica's smile would become more common.

Consequently, Robert regularly arranged for Paul to take Yasmine and Xavier to live in a climate-friendly city for a short period. They would spend time with him and Jessica.

Although Yasmine was unaware of the relationship between Angeline, Robert, and Jessica, the perceptive Xavier had already figured they were relatives.

Both children felt the unabashed affection from Robert and Jessica. They naturally grew fond of them.

However, Angeline dared not show herself before Jessica. She felt content just watching her play with Yasmine from a distance.

Sean came to a realization.

He realized Jessica's mental state had fluctuated over the years. Following a psychologist's advice, Robert had Jessica start keeping small animals as companions. Later, he frequently took Jessica out of the country under the guise of relaxation. However, the real reason was to visit the children.

"Mr. Lawson Senior always assumed the twins were Ned's," Angeline said softly while clutching the hem of her clothing.

"I never corrected him. Mr. Lawson Senior's health hasn't been good these past years, and I worry the truth might overwhelm him."

Angeline understood the importance Robert placed on the family's honor through their interactions.

Sean instinctively tightened his grip on the steering wheel as he pressed his lips together.

Angeline's words were full of meaning, and he picked up on it.

"Are you responding to my confession from four years ago?" Sean asked straightforwardly.

He cut through Angeline's evasiveness.

"Or do you want a divorce?"

"Your fiancée is Ms. Scott from the Scott family. I'm concerned that our marital status might affect you if our matters aren't resolved soon," Angeline expressed.

This was one of the reasons for Angeline's return. However, she hadn't anticipated encountering Sean at the airport with Yasmine.

Sean exited the hallway. He signaled and pulled the car over. He turned to Angeline with one hand on the steering wheel.

"The engagement with the Scott family was simply a verbal agreement between our elders. There wasn't even an engagement ceremony. My silence... was merely to reach a consensus with Monica, nothing more."

Sean removed his glasses after he finished his explanation to Angeline. He reached out and gently yet assertively pulled her closer. .

His features were usually cold and detached. This time, they seemed to exude a dominant aggression.

Angeline's heart raced.

"Sean... Sean!"

Sean kissed her fiercely. Angeline tried to push him away, but he held her wrists and deepened the kiss.

Cars passed by their vehicle. Their headlights cast alternating shadows and lights. Angeline's wide eyes focused on Sean's face and gaze, which appeared intense and wild in the flickering light. The overwhelming desire to possess her seemed almost consuming.

The kiss left her tingling and her mind foggy.

When Sean finally released her, Angeline gasped for air. She could only hear her heavy breathing and rapid heartbeat within the small confines of the car. Her palms were sweaty.

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"Angeline, my desire for you is beyond what you can imagine, even more than Ned ever had," he confessed while caressing the back of Angeline's neck.

He kissed her swollen lips again.

"Since that night, it's like something inside me just snapped. I can't keep it in anymore... It's only getting stronger. I just can't let you go."

Angeline's heart raced. She felt paralyzed as she gazed at the man before her. His high nose and sharp features usually displayed a rational and self-controlled expression. But

now, they openly expressed an uncontrollable desire. Sean's admission left her unsettled.

"I came back for Anne and Henrietta."

Angeline's voice trembled slightly.

"I know," he replied. "I've supported everything you've done. I've stayed out of it for four years. But... Don't push me away now! Don't just disappear from my sight."

Angeline grabbed Sean's strong wrist. .

"Let's go back. Yasmine is asleep. It's not safe to stop here."

Sean looked back at Yasmine, unconscious in her child seat. He touched her slightly cold little feet and covered her with his coat before starting the car again.

Angeline was surprised when the car stopped before a landmark building in downtown Krontos.

"Where is this?"

"I don't usually stay here. So, the both of you can live here temporarily," Sean said as he unbuckled Angeline's seatbelt.

"It's better than a hotel. A housekeeper will look after your meals, and I'll feel more at ease."

"Sean."

Angeline held his wrist.

"I'm headed to Oceanford with Yasmine after concluding some business here. We won't be staying too long, so it's no trouble—"

"If it's just for a few days, what trouble could it be?" Sean countered.

Ultimately, Angeline watched as Sean carefully wrapped Yasmine in his coat. He carried the sleeping child and pulled the luggage up the stairs. He left her no choice but to follow him.

Sean placed Yasmine on the soft bed and covered her with a blanket. When he exited from the bedroom, he saw Angeline on the balcony making a call. He went to the kitchen to get her a glass of water. Robert was on the other end of the line.

"I ran into Mr. Lawson by accident when leaving the airport. I'm at his place now," Angeline told Robert truthfully.

Robert was momentarily silent before saying softly, "That's fine. Once you've sorted out Oceanford, you'll join Lawson Global. You and Sean will have many opportunities to collaborate. Besides, he's also your uncle. You must support each other after Jessica and I are gone."

Angeline gripped her phone tightly. She felt too uneasy to respond.

"Bring Yasmine back to the old Lawson Residence tomorrow," Robert said.

He was missing Yasmine.

"Don't take the child to Oceanford."

"Okay," Angeline agreed.

"Tomorrow..." Robert paused before continuing, "Let's have dinner together."

It was the first time in years Robert had invited her for a meal, making Angeline instantly nervous.

"But... I'm worried it might upset her," Angeline fretted.

"I'll just drop Yasmine at the door and leave."

"Give it a try. If Jessica reacts poorly to your presence, you may leave immediately," Robert suggested.

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Angeline's breathing quickened at Robert's suggestion.

She softly responded, "Okay."

After hanging up, joy crept into her eyes. Still, she carried the nervousness from her conversation with Robert.

"Mr. Lawson Senior said I could have dinner with Jessica tomorrow."

As soon as Angeline finished speaking, Sean's phone rang. It was a call from the Lawson family home. Robert's housekeeper, Sandy, informed him that Robert wished

for him to attend dinner the next day. "Alright, I understand. I'll be back on time tomorrow," Sean said before hanging up.

He gestured for Angeline to sit.

"I also need to return home for dinner tomorrow."

Angeline paused. Then, she slowly approached him.

"I'll remind Yasmine not to address anyone randomly."

"What do you intend for my daughter to address me as?" Sean countered.

"Mr. Lawson, if that's okay?" Angeline proposed.

Then, she regretted her words and bit her cheek.

Years had passed, but Sean felt that Angeline was still the same as he remembered. She was comfortable with anyone except him.

He thought that perhaps it was because she had conceived the children with him under the influence of drugs. He believed she had always felt guilty, especially about having the children call him "Mr. Lawson". "Okay," Sean surprisingly agreed.

"Thank you," Angeline expressed her gratitude.

Sean moved closer to Angeline. He sat on the sofa's armrest and noticed her step back. He pulled her wrist and drew her close before caressing her slender wrist.

He said, "I know you haven't decided how to handle our relationship yet."

His deep gaze locked with hers.

"I know your conditions for returning to the Lawson family. You may go to Oceanford and attend to your affairs. As for the Lawson side of things... I'll announce my separation from the Lawson family once Lawson Global stabilizes."

Angeline's eyes widened, "No!"

"I've wanted to do this for many years but couldn't because Mr. Lawson Senior wouldn't let you return. It sounds ominous, but I was planning to bring you back to the Lawson family after Mr. Lawson Senior's passing," Sean explained calmly.

"Now that he's willing to accept you, I should split from the Lawson family. However, Lawson Global has only just successfully tackled photolithography machines and chips

in the domestic semiconductor field over the past four years. They are currently holding a press conference. I can't leave at the moment."

"You certainly can't leave Lawson Group!"

Angeline anxiously gripped Sean's arm, continuing, "The domestic success in lithography machines and chips is just the beginning. We must anticipate Marvonía selling their chips here. The influence of Lawson Global is yours to wield.

"You should use the company's and government's power to expand the chip production quickly. We can't let Marvonía profit from us. Moreover, we must advance domestic lithography and chip technology within six months to a year to break through Marvonía's semiconductor blockade.

"Only then can we succeed... You can't leave!"

With a gentle tug, Sean brought her close.

"Have you been very concerned about Lawson Global and me these past years?"

Angeline remained silent.

"Angeline, I know you care about me," Sean stated with certainty.

Meanwhile, Yasmine woke up in the bedroom. She rubbed her eyes and didn't see Angeline around anywhere. She climbed from the bed, tiptoed to the door, and opened it. "Mommy," Yasmine called out sleepily.

Her voice was soft and tender.

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The living room light was dazzling. Yasmine squinted and reached out to Angeline, asking to be held.

Angeline snapped back to reality as she broke free from Sean's grasp. She quickly went to Yasmine, crouched down, and took her into her arms.

"You're awake. Are you hungry?"

Sean followed, caressing Yasmine's head and placing his hand on Angeline's shoulder.

"What would Yasmine like to eat?"

"Daddy!"

Yasmine squirmed. She reached out to Sean with bright and hopeful eyes.

"Hold me!"

Sean took Yasmine from Angeline. Yasmine wrapped her arms around his neck, showing no signs of letting go. He gently patted her back and carried her to the kitchen.

"How about some milk first?"

"Yes!" Yasmine crisply replied. [SEARCH THE website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

Sean was still in his formal attire when he held the delicate Yasmine with one arm and expertly warmed the milk. The contrast was striking, yet the scene was heartwarming. Angeline stood at the edge of the kitchen. Her eyes welled up. She wondered how Yasmine knew Sean was her father and whether it was because of their blood relation. Once the milk was warm, Sean poured it into a large cup and returned to the living room.

"Daddy is the best!" Yasmine praised generously, giving two thumbs up.

She then started massaging Sean's shoulders.

"For Daddy!"

Yasmine's personality was unlike both Angeline's and Sean's. She was like a sweet, soft sunbeam easily endearing herself to everyone.

Sean was reluctant to put her down. He let Yasmine sit on his lap and drink her milk.

"Isn't Lawson Global having a press conference today? I can take care of Yasmine. You can go if you're busy," Angeline suggested.

"I'm not busy. I'll spend the day with you and Yasmine," Sean replied as he watched the little one nearly bury her face in the cup of milk.

Yasmine drank heartily, showing none of the pickiness often seen in children. She seemed easy to care for.

"Keep Yasmine entertained. I'll check the fridge and cook something for us to eat together," Angeline offered.

"I'll do it!" Sean said with a smile.

At the sight of Yasmine clinging to Sean, Angeline suggested, "You should keep Yasmine company."

She washed her hands and headed to the kitchen. Having finished her milk, Yasmine put down the cup and licked the milk mustache from her lips. She pulled Sean toward the luggage and was eager to unpack them with Sean.

Sean knelt and opened the luggage while Yasmine sat beside him. She rummaged through, found a photo of her, her brother, and Angeline, and handed it to Sean.

She pointed to the little boy in the photo with a fair, tender face and said, "That's my brother!"

The boy in the photo resembled Yasmine. His eyes mirrored both Sean's and Angeline's. His fluffy, curled lashes and bright pupils made him look like a carved jade figurine. Unlike Yasmine's carefree smile, his gaze was calm. It could be assumed that he had a spirited nature.

The photo was taken in the afternoon. Angeline sat cross-legged on the lush lawn, holding a child on each side. The warm glow of the setting sun outlined their delicate features. That made even the fuzz on their faces visible.

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In the photo, a Labrador retriever lay before Yasmine, Xavier, and Angeline. It stuck out its tongue at the camera carefreely.

Beside the image of Angeline, a child had added a black blob with watercolor pens.

Before Sean could ask, Yasmine pointed to the blob and said, "Daddy!"

Sean turned to see Yasmine's bright eyes awaiting praise.

He was at a loss for words but smiled, "Yes, very well done!"

"Right? Right? My brother Xavier also said I did well. But he told me not to draw anymore!"

Yasmine's smile widened. She shuffled closer to Sean and looked up.

"Xavier also said I shouldn't ask you. He mentioned it might upset Mommy. Did you upset Mommy, Daddy?"

Sean didn't know how to explain things to Yasmine.

He simply pinched Yasmine's little hand and replied, "Perhaps a little."

"Mommy is very soft-hearted. If Daddy sweet talks Mommy, she will hug and kiss you!"

Yasmine looked earnestly at Sean, her words clear and precise.

"Will you live with me and Xavier in the future, Daddy?"

"Yes!" Sean assured her with a smile.

"Did you miss Daddy a lot before?"

Yasmine nodded vigorously.

"I missed Daddy the most when Mommy spanked me!"

"Did you want Daddy to protect you?"

Yasmine nodded again.

"Next door, Elsa's dad always hugs her and calls her his little angel when she gets spanked. Then, he buys her lots of snacks. I was so jealous. But it's okay now since I found Daddy!" "How did you recognize Daddy at the airport?" Sean inquired.

The carefree Yasmine easily spilled the beans.

"Xavier told me! He's brilliant. They say he could surpass the renowned child prodigy William James Sidis. Xavier found Mommy's marriage record, so we knew who Daddy was!

"He showed me your photo, and I secretly searched for news of you online. I looked at it every day, so I recognized you! I know you're amazing!"

Yasmine shared details about Xavier and Angeline without realizing it. She was engrossed in praising Sean, calling him "amazing" and "smart". She even shared Angeline's phone number with him inadvertently.

"Xavier says Mommy is even more amazing than Daddy. Mommy is the founder of Vitality Biotech!" she declared.

Sean was taken aback. .

Three years ago, Vitality Biotech Group emerged as a prominent biotechnology company. It made significant progress in advanced biological technologies. These included gene delivery systems, stem cell cultivation, and tissue regeneration.

The company also developed in-body CAR-T modifications and molecular switches. Vitality Biotech Group collaborated with many prominent hospitals around the world. Together, they applied these technologies to medical treatments.

Due to its advanced gene technology, the company quickly gained international fame. Six months ago, Vitality Biotech Group began incorporating AI into gene, cell, and cancer therapies, aiming to expand these treatments across top hospitals worldwide to save more lives.

Vitality Biotech Group recently announced plans to invest heavily in living robot research. They hoped to address congenital disabilities, cancer treatment, aging, and more. This move placed the company at the center of ethical and technological control debates.

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Vitality Biotech Group was not based in Marvonia. So, naturally, they faced sanctions from Marvonia.

Two years ago, Marvonia's top officials presented Vitality Biotech Group with two options. Vitality Biotech Group could either sell to Marvonia or face sanctions.

Despite the challenges, Vitality Biotech Group remained steadfast. The company's recent research on living robots caught Marvonia's attention. Marvonia highlighted the ethical risks and technical control issues. They demanded that Vitality Biotech Group hand over its living robot technology.

Vitality Biotech Group was set to attend a hearing in Marvonia on the 29th of this month. The announcement stirred the international community just a few days ago.

Although Vitality Biotech Group was registered in Ravoria, its founders and main stakeholders were Lonlanese. This fact was well-known, but the identity of the founder was not. Unexpectedly, the founder turned out to be Angeline.

Sean adjusted his glasses and chuckled. He didn't seem surprised. .

He knew Angeline was far from ordinary, and her talent in biology was unparalleled. With the support of the Lawson family over the past four years, Vitality Biotech Group's inclusion on Marvonía's sanction list was anticipated.

"Dinner is ready," Angeline announced.

Sean carried Yasmine and entered the dining room. Angeline had prepared three bowls of tomato and egg noodles. She garnished them with sesame oil, creating an enticing aroma. Yasmine's bowl was filled with finely chopped vegetables.

Sean set Yasmine down and brought the noodles from the kitchen to the dining table. Yasmine propped herself up on the chair and climbed onto it effortlessly. The sight of the colorful noodles delighted her. She praised Angeline from the kitchen, "Mommy is the best!"

Sean chuckled and asked Angeline, "Is Yasmine always this energetic?"

Angeline nodded and smiled.

"Yes, she's quite different from her brother and not similar to us either."

She paused. Then she looked at Sean, who was already seated beside Yasmine. Angeline took a seat on the other side.

Yasmine brought out her drawings to show Sean after dinner.

Simultaneously, Lawson Global's press conference was nearing its end.

The news of Lawson Global's breakthrough in overcoming the challenges of semiconductor and lithography machine coordination among its associated companies in the domestic semiconductor field has sensationally dominated international headlines, sparking explosive discussions.

Over the last few years, Sean had initially decided to abandon working with foreign entities due to issues with chips and lithography machines. Instead, he invested heavily in domestic, independent research and development. As he predicted back then, Lawson Global faced significant challenges over the subsequent three to five years.

During these four years, countries led by Marvonía imposed the strictest sanctions on Lawson Global and its partners involved in the joint development of lithography machines and chips.

The mutual support among these companies finally broke through the technological blockade. This achievement had naturally thrilled the citizens of their home country, Lonla.

As the press conference concluded, several Dracorion countries announced major orders with Lawson Global. This development has caused quite a stir among Yuropean nations.

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Yasmine had grown very fond of Sean from the moment she met him. She insisted that Sean be the one to tuck her in at night.

Angeline sat on the couch and browsed the news online. The breakthrough in chip and lithography machine technology was the talk of not just the mainstream media, both domestic and international, but also various social media platforms.

Angeline couldn't help but smile as she read. It reinforced her belief that technological advancements must be in one's own hands.

It was past ten when Angeline peeked into the bedroom and saw Sean and Yasmine fast asleep. She carefully covered them with a blanket and quietly left the master bedroom.

The following day, Angeline woke up to find Sean had already left for work. He had left a note for Yasmine, mentioning they would meet at the Lawson family estate in the afternoon. After completing her morning exercise and catching up on international news, Angeline locked her phone screen and entered the master bedroom.

She gently kissed Yasmine's warm, soft cheek.

She brushed the hair from her face and whispered, "Yasmine, wake up, sweetheart. It's almost time."

Roused by Angeline's voice, Yasmine rubbed her eyes and sat up to reach for a hug. Angeline embraced her and felt the weight of Yasmine in her arms like a cuddly cat.

Yasmine hugged her neck tightly and greeted her with a sleepy voice, "Good morning, Mommy."

"Good morning," Angeline replied as she stroked Yasmine's back.

"It's time to get up and get ready. We'll have breakfast, and then off we go to the Lawson estate." .

Yasmine straightened up and rubbed her eyes again.

"Will we see the beautiful Mrs. Lawson and Mr. Lawson Senior there?"

Mrs. Lawson was Jessica, Angeline's birth mother.

"Yes, we will. But remember, Yasmine, we agreed that outside of visiting Mr. Lawson Senior and the beautiful Mrs. Lawson with me, you must pretend not to know them. It could cause them trouble, understand?" Angeline advised softly as she began to unbutton Yasmine's pajamas.

"And today, at the Lawson estate, you can't address Daddy as 'Daddy'..."

Yasmine nodded obediently.

"I know. Daddy told me last night! Mr. Lawson Senior likes Daddy, loves Mommy even more, and adores Yasmine and Xavier. But for some reason that I don't understand yet, they can't let Daddy and Mommy be together.

"Until that reason is resolved, we must keep it a secret that I'm Daddy's child. This way, Daddy and Mommy can solve the problem faster without causing any trouble."

Angeline was surprised. She hadn't yet figured out how to explain the situation to Yasmine, but Sean had already done so the night before. She pinched Yasmine's cheek affectionately. "That's right! How smart our Yasmine is!"

"Of course! Mommy, Xavier, and Daddy are all so talented! Yasmine can't fall behind," Yasmine chirped as she nuzzled into Angeline's embrace.

"Since I'm so clever, can you return the phone and watch you took away?"

"Sure," Angeline agreed without hesitation.

"Let's get ready quickly, have breakfast, and then help Mommy pick a gift for Mrs. Lawson, okay?"

Angeline hadn't expected to meet Jessica so soon and felt overwhelmed. She was unsure what kind of gift to prepare for her birth mother.

"I've brought the paintings Xavier and I made for Mrs. Lawson and Mr. Lawson Senior!" Yasmine said thoughtfully as she sat obediently, waiting for Angeline to dress her.

Then, her eyes lit up with an idea.

"Mommy, I know! When Mr. Danvers took Xavier and me to stay with Mr. Lawson Senior and Mrs. Lawson, I realized she loved gardening. Mommy, let's buy some beautiful flowers for her, okay?"

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Angeline knew Jessica liked gardening because Robert had mentioned it.

"That's a great idea! Let's quickly get ready and head out after breakfast," Angeline suggested as she gently ruffled Yasmine's hair.

"Okay!"

Yasmine sprang out of bed. She efficiently grabbed the small stool Sean had set up the previous night and briskly went through her morning routine. She then obediently sat at the dining table for breakfast.

While Angeline was on the phone on the balcony, Yasmine used her smartwatch to video call Xavier. The call connected quickly, revealing a face identical to Yasmine's on the tiny screen. However, Xavier, on the other end, was stern. He tapped his finger on a laptop keyboard.

He coolly uttered just one word, "Speak."

Yasmine glanced surreptitiously at Angeline outside and whispered, "Xavier, I met Daddy. He tucked me in last night."

Yasmine shared the previous day's events with Xavier during Angeline's brief phone call interruption.

"Xavier, Daddy's embrace feels different from Mommy's. His arms are so strong," Yasmine said as her face radiated happiness.

"I don't think Daddy is a bad person."

"There's an old saying that goes, 'You can't judge a book by its cover'," Xavier replied firmly from the screen.

"You must protect Mommy. If anything happens, contact me immediately."

"Got it, Xavier. I'm going to pick flowers for the beautiful Mrs. Lawson with Mommy soon. I'll talk to you later. I need to drink my milk to grow as tall as you next time we meet!"

After ending the call, Yasmine held her milk mug with both hands and drank every last drop. She then rinsed her mouth and put on a pumpkin sweater. She packed her little pumpkin backpack and sun hat before sitting on the sofa to wait patiently for Angeline.

At the sight of Angeline's relaxed demeanor, while conversing on the phone, Yasmine snapped a photo with her smartwatch and added Sean on WhatsApp using the number he had given her the night before. "Wow, Yasmine, are you all ready to go?" Angeline exclaimed upon seeing the neatly prepared Yasmine.

Even her water bottle was filled and ready.

"You even prepared your water bottle!"

"Of course, I'm Mommy's cutest cub!"

Yasmine hopped off the sofa.

"Let's go!"

"Alright!" Angeline agreed as she patted Yasmine's head.

Angeline wasn't very familiar with Krontos, but she knew there was a flower market on the city's southern outskirts. Due to its remote location, it wasn't crowded.

Robert had once found rare orchids there. Angeline planned to try her luck with Yasmine today.

Yasmine had helped Jessica with gardening before. So, even though she was not yet four years old, she moved through the flowers gracefully. She carefully picked each one. Just as Yasmine called out, an elderly man lounging in a rocking chair set aside his newspaper to look at the lively Yasmine. He smiled.

"Well, the little girl has quite the eye for beauty!"