

## Chapter 112 Everett's Nervousness

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Merrick was too weak. He hit it several times, but it was useless.

Melissa regained full consciousness. She heard crying and knocking.

"Lindsey, don't be scared. I'm fine. Merrick don't smash it. You'll cut yourself. Wait for the rescue. Mrs. Mayfield will be here soon." Melissa comforted the children first before checking her injuries.

She tried to move her legs. The pain was terrible. Had she fractured them?

"Mommy, someone is coming," Merrick said, finally glimpsing someone through the window. People were sprinting toward them.

Vivienne and Johnny ran down the slope surrounded by their men.

Not far behind them was Everett, running crazily, looking panicked.

It hadn't occurred to Everett that when he finally caught up with his parents' car, he would be told something had happened to Melissa.

When he arrived, he saw a car overturned on the hillside and another black car close by.

"Save them!" Everett ordered, instructing his men to turn the car over.

He had always been meticulous about his appearance, avoiding

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dirt as though it carried diseases, but now, he waded through  
the mud. His hands and arms were scratched, but he didn't  
care about that.

He must rescue them.

His cold eyes flashed. "Save the children first."

Melissa was surprised to see Everett. She felt lucky. The  
children would be saved!

Everett glanced at Melissa reproachfully, and then looked at  
the children in the back seat.

He carried the two children from the car and then concentrated  
on rescuing Melissa, temporarily ignoring the cries of his  
daughter and superficially injured son.

"Hold on," he said softly, taking a look at Melissa. He slowly  
maneuvered her foot from between the seat and the door.

Melissa groaned and bit her lower lip, not wanting to show  
weakness in front of Everett.

"Don't worry. There's a doctor with me."

"I am a doctor. I don't worry," Melissa retorted. Noticing the  
guilty look in Everett's eyes, she wondered if she had spoken  
too harshly. After all, Everett had saved her.

"Melissa, my God! You've lost a lot of blood," Vivienne said  
when she saw Melissa in Everett's arms and noticed a large red  
stain on her white trousers.

"Mom, I'm fine. Don't cry." Without thinking, Melissa called  
Vivienne Mom. She wanted to comfort Vivienne, who had  
always seemed so calm and self-controlled, but was now  
sobbing as though her heart was breaking.

It stung when Everett heard Melissa refer to Vivienne as her  
mother.

"Don't block them. Let Everett carry Melissa to the road and

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make sure the doctor heals her as soon as possible."

Johnny held his wife's hand and stepped aside.

The two children wailed. Merrick had pretended to be calm in the car but cried loudly now. After all, he was still a child.

"I'll be fine. I'm only slightly injured. It's okay," Melissa assured them, unable to bear her children's distress. She tried to comfort Merrick and looked at Johnny, hoping he would take care of them for a while.

"Dad, Mom, take the children to rest over there. We'll be there soon," Everett said, knowing what Melissa was thinking. Melissa didn't want her children to see her wound.

## Chapter 113 Just Passing By

Melissa took note of the way her arms had wrapped awkwardly around Everett's neck, and she felt her body stiffen.

They hadn't been in such intimate contact in a long time. While she had been told that it was Everett who had taken her home when she'd fainted, that incident certainly didn't count. This time, however... Well, this time she was wide awake!

Everett knew the moment Melissa had grown tense in his arms. He reluctantly averted his gaze.

He tried not to be upset about it. She had liked having physical contact with him in the past, but now, she acted like she was repulsed by his touch.

They got in Everett's car, and Melissa scrambled away to the far side of the back seat.

She had a word with the private doctor, and they quickly reached a common prognosis on the injury.

"Will there be any sequelae?" Everett interjected at some point.

He had been listening to their discussion, but was understandably unable to keep up with their medical jargon.

He simply stood aside and shuffled on his feet, not knowing what to do. It wasn't until his assistant prodded him that he finally opened his mouth.

Melissa and the private doctor looked up at him in unison, their faces mirroring each other's expression.

They were looking at Everett like he was the village fool.

He ducked his head and cleared his throat to hide his embarrassment.

"Well, there may be scars, but it will still depend. We don't all have the same physical conditions, you see. In any case, Dr. Sherman assured me that she can deal with it."

Even as he spoke, the private doctor never stopped his ministrations. He finished soon enough, and Melissa's broken leg was bandaged up.

Melissa changed her clothes and got back to the others in a wheelchair, her leg wrapped up in a cast.

It had taken the elders a long while to comfort the twins, but when they saw their mother, they burst into tears again.

Merrick and Lindsey pounced on Melissa and bawled on her lap. She stroked their heads and took a good look at them. Merrick's hands were covered with Band-Aids.

"All right, it's okay. Don't cry anymore. I'm fine. My leg is in a cast, but so what? Have you forgotten that when Lindsey was younger, she broke her arm, and it had to be put in a cast, too? Everything turned out well in the end, didn't it?"

Melissa tapped the plaster humorously before holding the children up to wipe their tears.

Only then did the children stop crying. They sniffled and declared that they would go to school and go home by themselves while she was in a wheelchair. They didn't want to cause her any more trouble.

"It's good that you're okay," Vivienne said as she approached Melissa. "Just focus on getting better. We will take care of the kids for you."

She felt sorry for Melissa, and couldn't help the twinge of guilt in her heart.

"Thank you."

Melissa smiled at Vivienne and nudged the kids forward, silently telling them to thank Vivienne for her kind offer.

Seeing that everything seemed to work out fine, Everett deliberated whether they should continue the trip or just go back.

Since he had already exposed himself, however, he was fairly certain that those goons wouldn't dare to make another move against his family. As for the ones in the black car, they had managed to escape. It might take some time for his men to track them down and apprehend them.

Johnny and Vivienne refrained from asking about the matter in front of the children. It would be better to talk about these things in private.

After some consideration, the family decided to carry on with the trip. But because of Melissa's injury, they had no choice but to let Everett tag along.

"Didn't you say that you needed to work during National Day holiday?" Lindsey piped up out of nowhere.

The adults all flushed in varying degrees of embarrassment.

Without missing a beat, Everett's assistant swooped in and covered for them. "We were just passing by. We actually came here on a business trip."

## Chapter 114 Just Rest

Melissa shook her head helplessly. Lindsey believed the assistant's words in a heartbeat! She couldn't help wondering how she had given birth to such a gullible child.

Everyone made a point not to mention the accident, their silence meant to serve each of their individual interests.

They piled into the vehicles and went on their merry way. Soon enough, they arrived at the mountain hotel just as the sun was slowly beginning to set.

"Mommy, Mommy! Merrick and I chatted with the receptionist, and she said that there will be a bonfire party tonight. Shall we go see it?"

In just a matter of hours, Lindsey had forgotten all about the unpleasant incident from earlier. She basked in the joy and excitement of traveling to a new place.

Melissa didn't want to disappoint the little girl, of course, but she was still struggling with how to deal with Everett.

It was clear that he had already made up his mind to stick to her side. She had repeatedly refused his help on the way here, to no avail.

As soon as she moved her hand in a certain direction, Everett would immediately push her wheelchair in that way.

"All right, sure. Let's attend the bonfire party tonight, and you and your brother can go dancing."

Melissa smiled and pinched Lindsey's cheek. Her daughter squealed in delight and scampered away to tell her brother about tonight's plans.

As long as the children were having a good time, that was all

that mattered. Melissa had been worried that the accident would affect their mood and ruin the trip for them.

"I'll look into the incident," Everett suddenly said from behind Melissa, startling her. "Don't worry and just rest."

Melissa's peaceful expression instantly shifted. She glared up at him, her eyes filled with distrust.

Everett must have already suspected that the Sherman family was behind this matter, but he held back from saying anything. Last time she was taken away by Ewing, but Ewing was still living well now. Melissa believed that Everett wouldn't seek justice for her as long as Arielle was involved.

It took her a moment, but Melissa finally managed to calm her inner turmoil.

"That won't be necessary. Someone is already helping me investigate the matter. You don't have to bother. I'm perfectly capable of protecting myself."

Melissa's tone was decidedly unfriendly, making Everett squirm.

They were constantly at odds with each other, and neither was willing to concede first, or even compromise.

Farther in the back, Everett's assistant stood speechless. He felt like he should say something to ease the tense atmosphere between the ex-couple. He had promised Johnny to keep Everett and Melissa from fighting. But what should he say?

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Thousands of miles away, Emily breathed a sigh of relief after answering a call.

As long as there was no evidence left on the scene, everything would turn out fine. Otherwise, she might have to suffer a little.

"Don't show up in the next few days. Leave the city and go somewhere remote. Keep your head low. The money has already been transferred to your account."



She needed these people to get out of the picture as soon as possible. If Everett got a hold of them, the consequences would be dire.

Emily hung up the phone and huffed.

Just as they had expected, Everett's parents did want to reinstate Melissa as the young madam of the Mayfield family. But the Sherman family would never let that happen.

Since the Mayfields were so shameless and cruel, Emily didn't see the need for her to show them any mercy.

As for Melissa, she might have made a clean break from Everett in the past, but she still ended up showing her kids to Everett's parents. And now, they were all travelling together like one big family. Did that bitch really think her Arielle would be so easily bullied?

Her darling daughter had spent the last five years by Everett's side. There was no way they were going to allow him to cast Arielle aside just like that.

Emily unlocked her screen and made another call. "Where are you, Arielle? Come home right this minute!"

She could hear the background noise on the other end of the line, and she was none too pleased about it.

## Chapter 115 A Bar Encounter

Arielle was at a bar at the time and was drunk.

The man standing behind her wanted to fondle her so badly that he could hardly stand it.

Finding a woman so appealing was rare. Seeing Arielle in front of him made it impossible for him to say no.

Arielle continued to speak with Emily over the phone. Simultaneously, she could sense what the person behind her was doing, which slightly thrilled her.

She quickly hung up the phone, wanting to leave as soon as possible. However, she was hesitant to go since it had been a while since she had gone out.

"Come on, let's have some fun. Let me make you happy." The man spoke in an aggressive tone.

He grabbed Arielle's waist firmly and aggressively nibbled her ear.

"Ouch..."

Arielle felt some discomfort, but her desire to have sex with the man caused her anxiety.

"I have to go home quickly. Let's meet up again on another day."

Wanting to get away, she extended her hand to block the man's hand from touching her.

How could he possibly let Arielle go? He suddenly grabbed her firmly.

He muttered something in Arielle's ear, making her laugh loudly. They eventually walked each other out the door.

Chapter 115 A Bar Encounter

 +120 Points at most

There was an alley behind the bar where the staff often smoked. However, the bar's staff was quite busy at night, and nobody was outside.

A flirtatious murmur could be heard in the corner at this moment.

"You're so annoying..."

Arielle put her hand on the man's shoulder. At that instant, all that mattered to the two was passionate sex.

"Damn, this is so exciting!" A man had just stomped out his cigarette in the front of the alleyway and snickered as he heard the noise nearby.

"What are you doing? Let's go. Maybe you'll also have sex tonight, but don't act like this. It's embarrassing."

Franco had his arm around Bobbi's shoulder and was about to lead him to the bar.

He suddenly paused and frowned.

"What's the matter?" Bobbi came to a halt.

"Doesn't that woman's voice sound like Arielle's?" Franco asked in confusion. His thoughts became blank for a brief moment. Arielle only wanted to get married to Everett, right? Why was she in this place?


"Didn't Everett break off his engagement to Arielle?" Bobbi asked, intrigued.

"It's complicated. There have to be cameras installed in this area. Let's find the manager at the bar first."

Franco sensed that there was more to this situation than met the eye. Everett might find it repulsive, but it might also be useful to him.

He could sense Everett's desire to reconcile with Melissa, but he knew how hard it would be.

Chapter 115 A Bar Encounter

 +120 Points at most

Arielle put on her clothes and emerged from the alley thirty minutes later. She gave the man a nod, and they both walked away in opposite directions.

She redid her makeup and hailed a cab to take her home.

In the Sherman family's home, Emily was impatiently awaiting the return of her daughter.

Emily scowled as soon as Arielle walked in.

"You went out again to party. I told you to stay at home, didn't I?"

Emily made several assumptions as she observed Arielle. Though Arielle was her daughter, there were some things she couldn't openly tell her.

Arielle had a disgruntled expression as she sat on the couch.

"A few days from now, I'll send someone to the hospital. Then, you may go there as well," Emily said.

"What will I be doing there? I'm not interested in seeing Melissa."

Arielle took out a small mirror and fixed her hair, her eyes filled with desire.

She felt good after thinking about what had happened earlier. However, her mood darkened when her mother brought up Melissa.