

Chapter 204 Come With Us

Melissa's body stiffened. But she continued to open the door without hesitation.

This was the best chance for her to escape. Therefore, she didn't hesitate.

She grabbed the doorknob. Just as she was about to twist it, a man rushed over. He pressed the door. "I told you to wait."

"Well, what can I do for you?" Melissa suppressed her nervousness and added calmly, "If there's nothing else, I'll better leave. I have to perform surgery. A lot of people must be waiting for me."

Melissa stepped back to look calmly at the people in the room.

No surgery was scheduled. She only wanted to intimidate these people.

But a man with his arm bandaged didn't believe her. "Salem, don't believe this bitch. She is lying to us!" he bellowed.

"Akeem, don't be rude," another man said. Then, he turned to look at Melissa. "Doctor, we think you have excellent bandaging skills. Can you come with us? Someone at our home is also injured. We need a doctor."

"Yes. Anders is right. Can you come with us?"

Melissa's eyes widened. Their home? She wondered if they were biological brothers.

Melissa frowned and wracked her brains to come up with a solution.

Before she could speak, Salem Miller, who was standing beside her, asked, "Have you thought about it?"

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His voice sent a shiver down her spine.

"What are you thinking? Let's take her with us! The head of our village..." Akeem Miller impatiently jumped off the bed.

"Enough!" Salem waved his hand and stopped Akeem. "Doctor, the patient is in serious condition. Why don't you come with us? If you don't cooperate, we might have to resort to violence."

Melissa wondered what difference it was going to make. After all, they were already forcing her to go with them.

"Well, you haven't given me a choice, have you?"

"I'm glad we are on the same page. But you better not ask us anything when we get there. Otherwise..." Akeem threatened Melissa and was about to open the door.

"Wait a minute," Anders Miller stopped him. "Will the people of the hospital agree to let us take the doctor with us? Besides, we are in a special situation now..."

He deliberately lowered his voice.

Salem thought for a while and pointed at the window behind him. "I have already observed the hospital. You can take the doctor to the back door through this window. I'll go to the front door and bring the car there. Make sure to carry the medicines with you. The man from the company is not easy to deal with."

"I'm not afraid of him. He's just a loser with a lot of money!"

"Hurry up. Make sure not to draw any attention."

Then, Salem opened the door.

Melissa was confused as she listened to the conversation and tried her best to remain alert and think of a way.

Her hands were bound, and a tape was plastered to her mouth.

These people weren't inviting her to treat a patient but were kidnapping her. It was ridiculous.

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Melissa was doomed. She had to find a chance to escape later.

They skillfully jumped out of the window and looked at Melissa.

Melissa slowed down, took the temporary work card she had secretly taken off from her coat, and threw it on the ground.

If people in the hospital came looking for her, this would give them a clue. After all, that was all she could do now.

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Chapter 205 Reuben Village

A shabby minibus with black film on the windows sped across a muddy road.

It was a bumpy terrain, winding at every turn and corner.

The shabby minibus rattled on the way, screeching from time to time.

Melissa never got carsickness, but the twists and turns made her sick this time.

Malorcía was in the west of the country. It was a mountainous region.

Melissa hadn't come here before; she didn't know where she was. She had a vague view through the back window.

They had already left the city. She saw plants and trees whizzing past. Melissa squinted and spotted a blurred sign that read: Reuben Village.

"Well, here we are. Get down."

The minibus slowed down and wobbled to a halt. The burly men jumped out of the car. Then, they opened the door and looked at Melissa sitting in the back seat.

Melissa took a deep breath and got off the minibus.

Most houses here were made of earth and stone, and wooden doors guarded their humble abodes. There was a tall chimney in the distant mountain. It looked like there was a factory.

"What are you looking at?" Akeem grew impatient. He pulled the rope and dragged Melissa into the yard.

"Akeem, who is this beautiful girl?" The door of the yard opened,

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and a small boy about seven or eight years old came out. "She is so beautiful. I don't think she is from our village."

"You are still a child. You don't know anything. Go and buy some candies." Salem walked forward and patted the child's head, gave him some money, and nudged him out of the yard.

Then, he opened the door of the main house. The stench of blood immediately filled Melissa's nostrils.

She was confused. Then, her gaze fell on a figure lying on the bed.

"Come in!"

Akeem pushed her. Melissa staggered and almost fell down.

The room was dark. The dim light created a depressing atmosphere.

Moments later, Melissa's vision adjusted to the darkness, and she saw a middle-aged man lying on the bed.

He had a leg injury.

"He's our village head." Anders then asked hurriedly, "Could you treat him?"

Melissa rolled her eyes and gestured to the tape on her mouth.

The man quickly untied her hands. Melissa tore the tape off her mouth and coughed violently.

After calming down, she walked to the bed and touched the man's legs. She confirmed her guess and looked at the men in front of her.

"I can cure him. But I can't treat him here with no medical equipment. We can start treatment only if we take him to the hospital."

The men exchanged glances.

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"If we could go to the hospital, we wouldn't have brought you here," said Salem. "You can only treat him in our village. You are a doctor and should help him."

"Well, I can do it," Melissa answered calmly. "I need a couple of medicines, tools, and equipment. But on one condition."

"You bitch! You are a doctor, but I..."

"Akeem!" Anders stood in front of Akeem and said to Melissa coldly, "Go ahead."

"I can treat him. But you should take me back to the hospital. If you can't take me back to the hospital, at least send me back to Malorcia," Melissa said intently. "Or I will not treat him."

She knew the people would do anything to save their village head.

If Melissa took advantage of this situation, she could leave safely.

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As expected, Salem, the leader of them all, hesitated for a moment and nodded.

Melissa breathed a sigh of relief.

"All right. You all first arrange the things I need, and please install some electric lamps. It's too dark here. I can't handle it."

She wrote down all the things she needed on a piece of paper and gave it to those people.

The men hurriedly left to get them, leaving her all alone with Sprague Miller who had been silent the whole time.

It seemed like a good chance for her to ask for help.

Melissa touched the phone in her pocket, cleared her throat, and asked, "Can I go to the bathroom?"

"Are you planning to do something?" Although Sprague looked like an honest man, he was on high alert. "Don't try to run away. Otherwise, the people of the village won't spare you."

"I know. Didn't you just agree to let me go after I treat the village head? Why would I run away?"

Sprague sized her up, nodded, and pointed to the backyard. "All right. Go ahead. If you try escaping, I'll break your bones."

"I know. Don't worry."

Melissa forced a smile and quickly walked to the backyard.

She looked around to see if anyone was watching her. Once sure the coast was clear, she took out her phone, but the signal was weak.

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Melissa walked around to find a spot that had more signal. Just then, she saw several missed calls.

Some of them were from Leilany, and some were from Everett.

She wondered why Everett had called her.

But now, Melissa didn't have the time to think about it, so she called the police.

Although the men had promised to send her back to Malorcia, she couldn't rely on them. It was better to inform the police. After all, her two children were waiting for her at Andeport.

Unfortunately, the signal was unstable. All she heard was the recorded voice that prompted her phone was out of service.

"Hey, are you done?"

She heard the man's voice.

"I'm almost done. Don't worry. I won't run away."

Fearing the man would suddenly come, Melissa typed a message for help and sent it. Then, she quickly hid her mobile in her pocket.

Melissa didn't see to whom she had sent the message but hoped the message was delivered to the right person.

She walked out and saw Sprague's nervous face visibly relax. He sighed and sat back on the doorstep.

The boy who had complimented Melissa earlier also returned with lollipops. He was sucking on one of them as he tilted his head and examined Melissa's face.

"Miss, you are so beautiful. What's your name?"

"My surname is Sherman," Melissa replied.

She thought of her two children when she saw the boy. Her face softened. She felt he was a good boy.

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"What's your name?"

"Aleck Miller." Aleck was not afraid of Melissa. He handed a lollipop to her and said, "This one's for you. Thank you for saving my father."

Not knowing what to say, Melissa nodded and took the lollipop.

She was a doctor; saving lives and healing the wounded was her job. But these people had kidnapped her to do it.

She squatted down and stroked the child's head.

"Don't worry. Your father will be fine."

Everything was ready in the evening. Several lights were installed in the room.

"You have to endure the pain because there is no anesthetic," Melissa reminded the man, and her face instantly became serious.

The wound was ignored for a few days, so it had festered and inflamed. Melissa first cleaned the wound and then began treating the fracture. Finally, she fixed two planks on his leg.

The man on the bed was sweating because of the pain.

"All right." Melissa stood up and took a deep breath. "Take good care of yourself. Don't move your legs for at least two months. Change the dressing for the wound every day and visit the hospital when you have time."

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"Village head! Village head!"

The burly men gathered around the bed when they saw Melissa had finished the treatment. They were relieved that the village head was alright.

Ding...

A phone rang out loud in the otherwise quiet room.

Melissa could feel the breath stop in her throat as her nerves broke.

It was then she remembered setting the alarm before. She'd been so focused on getting help earlier that she'd forgotten to turn it off.

"What's that?" Akeem realized the problem right away. He pointed a finger at Melissa. "Salem, Anders, this woman has a mobile phone! She must have called for help!"

Akeem headed toward Melissa to take her phone.

Salem stopped him.

Salem gave Melissa a cold look before he spoke, stretching his hand out. "I think you'd better hand over your phone. We're in a special situation. If you don't comply, I won't be able to promise your safety."

She knew then that her luck had run out.

Melissa closed her eyes and took out her phone. She held it tightly.

"I will give you my phone, but you have to keep your word. You

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promised you would let me go after I treated the village head. Remember?"

"I will keep my word."

When Salem answered the question to her satisfaction, she handed them the phone.

Akeem took the phone from her and flipped it open. He immediately complained, "What can I do with this? Your phone is locked. How are we supposed to use it? You need to... Wait, wait. A call is coming through."

Melissa shivered as she looked at the screen of her phone.

Could she be this unlucky? She had not managed to make any call when she had the chance, but now a call came through just when she didn't want it to.

Melissa leaned over to look at the screen closer and see who was on the caller ID. Akeem had answered too quickly.

"Melissa? Where are you? I'll pick you up."

She could clearly hear Everett's voice.

Melissa could feel her heart thumping. She wanted to yell out, but Sprague put his hand over her mouth.

"Is this the new boss of the construction company?" Salem let his words roll out harshly.

"Who is this?" Everett's voice went cold after he heard the man's voice. "Whoever this is, I will kill you if you do anything to harm her!"

"Listen to you! She is here with us now. How dare you threaten me?" Anders laughed with his voice full of anger.

Akeem, however, was able to shout directly into the phone. "I'm aware of your wealth, Everett Mayfield. You can either buy this factory with 100 million dollars, or you can leave this woman to us. Lots of men in this village do not have a wife."

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"How dare you!" Everett's voice came out in an angry shout.

Everett took a breath after a moment. "Alright. I will go along with your demand. I will bring the money to you at noon tomorrow if you do what you said."

"Of course. Make sure you follow our instructions." Salem said the words quickly.

"Make sure you do the same." Everett's voice was sharp and cold. "If anything happens to her, I will kill all of you."

The line suddenly went dead.

"The signal is gone again." Akeem frowned as he placed the phone in Melissa's pocket. He then grinned as he looked in her direction. "I didn't know our doctor here had such great connections. She knows a very rich man. Perhaps this rich man is her lover."

"Shut up, Akeem." Salem pushed Akeem away and then turned to Sprague. "Tie her up good and then put her in the storage room."