

Chapter 404 Surprise

The atmosphere in the car was uncomfortably silent. When the pair reached a red light, Everett stepped on the brake, and turned to Melissa, speaking directly. "What relationship do you and Aloys have?"

The question stunned her for a moment, before she looked at him with beautiful, cold eyes. "That's none of your business."

"He likes you."

"Everett!" Melissa frowned, anger bubbling in her chest. "Aloys and I grew up together. He was there for me in my most difficult times. It's nothing like that."

"Seriously?" Everett scoffed, emotionless.

The light turned green, and he drove on, rolling the window down as the cool night breeze filled the car.

The wind blew across Melissa's face, and it was sobering. The moment she heard what he said, she wasn't sure what she felt, but anger was at the head of her emotions.

She had been staying with Aloys for the past five years, and she felt that they weren't just friends. What they felt was beyond friendship. They relied on each other and helped each other. Their relationship couldn't be summarized in a few words, and it could even be said that the word love had tarnished what they had.

She took a few calming breaths before speaking again. "Everett, I don't know what you're imagining, but our relationship isn't what you think it is."

"I still have to insist on it." Everett stared ahead, speaking flatly. "You think you two are just good friends, but do you know what he's thinking?"

It went silent again after he spoke.

When they arrived at home, the children were already asleep. They didn't

need Melissa there, after all.

Melissa made her way to her bedroom, tossing and turning as she thought about what Everett had said. For so long, she had troubled Aloys and presented her problems unilaterally, never offering solace to him. But he always assisted her, putting her issues at the forefront. Did she really think so little about their relationship?

Melissa didn't know when she fell asleep. It was seven o'clock the next morning when she fluttered her eyes open. If she was headed to Tinton soon, she had to be on duty the new couple of days.

She got out of bed, freshened up, and went downstairs, noticing that Lindsey and Merrick were eating. When they saw her, they greeted her obediently.

"Good morning, Mommy!"

"Good morning."

Vivienne approached the family from the kitchen, untying her apron. "Come eat some breakfast, Melissa. Everett and Johnny already left. I don't know what they're so busy with every day."

"I'm sure there are plenty of things to deal with within the company lately." Melissa sat down, took a bite of her sandwich, and looked toward the two fluffy-haired children. "Let me drive Lindsey and Merrick to school today. I haven't sent them to school in a long time."

"Alright. If you're taking them, I'll just rest at home," Vivienne nodded.

Once they were finished with breakfast, the children grabbed their schoolbags and followed their mother to the car, climbing into their seats.

Melissa got in the driver's seat, looking into the rearview mirror at the kids. "Sit properly."

"Got it," Lindsey answered sweetly, but she grabbed the seat in front of her anyway. She tilted her head, curiosity filling her sparkling eyes. "Why are you driving us to school by yourself today?"

"Maybe Mommy is on holiday today. Or the teacher wants to meet with her," Merrick cut in.

"Neither." Melissa smiled, feigning mystery. "As long as you sit in your seats and buckle up, I'll give you a big surprise when I drop you off at the kindergarten gate."

"Ooh!"

Obviously, her offer excited the children immensely. Sure enough, the two kids fastened the seatbelts quickly, shaking their little feet in anticipation.