

Chapter 474 Cooperation

Melissa clutched the quilt, turning her head to the side and quickly expressing her gratitude. "Thank you for doing so much for me."

"It's my duty. No need to thank me. However, once you recover from the poison, promise me one thing," said Everett.

"What is it?"

"I haven't made up my mind yet. I'll let you know when you recover."

"Alright... But only if it's something reasonable."

Everett smirked. "Worry not. If it isn't fair, I won't press you to agree."

"Sounds good to me," Melissa replied.

Because of how attentive and caring Everett had been these past days, she was moved.

However, the mention of Timton stirred unsettling memories of her mother's family.

The previous toxic encounter had involved the enigmatic Carter family of Timton. Was her present ordeal also linked to them?

According to her sources, her mother had a tumultuous relationship with her kin, and the Carter family was a powerful, mysterious force in Timton.

Melissa yearned to distance herself from them, but fate seemed intent on entwining their paths.

Meanwhile, outside the hospital, Keira halted Howell in his tracks.

"Mr. Sherman, you're Arielle's father, I presume? I've heard tales of your remarkable business acumen and the miracles you've achieved. I've long admired you."

At her adulation, Howell's stern visage softened.

"My former triumphs are of little consequence now. Why do you wish to speak to me?"

With a practiced smile, Keira gently confided, "I know of your daughter's misdeeds, and that she is being tracked by Everett. Your home and all your previous dwellings are secretly monitored by him. I, alone possess the means to help Arielle elude Everett's unrelenting gaze."

Howell's face turned grim. The smile on his face disappeared, and all color escaped his cheeks.

"What on earth are you spouting? I don't know what you're talking about!"

He then quickened his pace as though he was trying to get rid of Keira.

Even after seeing his reaction, Keira didn't get mad. She trailed him, carrying herself with grace.

"Undoubtedly, your daughter is under your careful watch. After all, only you possess the cunning to shield her from Everett. But, I'm sure you're aware that this sanctuary will only last for a short time. In a matter of days, her safe house will shatter, leaving her vulnerable. Your friends have deserted you, haven't they? Put your faith in me. Entrust your daughter's fate to me, and I will surely protect her."

Howell halted in his tracks, his back rigid as a board. He swiveled to scrutinize the audacious young woman before him, her poise belying her youth.

"What's in it for you? Why would you help me?"

Keira smiled at that. "Are you not familiar with the age-old saying? The enemy of your enemy is your friend."

"Are you implying that my daughter is the enemy of your enemy, and therefore she is your ally?" Howell inquired, his curiosity piqued.

"Precisely. My affections for Everett run deep, as do Arielle's. Alas, his heart now belongs to Melissa. Undermining her position is no easy task. However, with Arielle at my side, we may stand a chance at dismantling Melissa's dominion over his heart."

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 +120 Points at most

A fleeting shadow crossed Howell's face, his words infused with dishonesty. "Your intentions elude me. Melissa is my daughter as well. Why would I ever condone any harm against her?"

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