

Taming A Billionaire

#Chapter 771 - Seventy Hundred And Seventy-one: Wait For Him - Read Taming A Billionaire Chapter 771 - Seventy Hundred And Seventy-one: Wait For Him

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The third point of view:

"But amid all the tribulation, here we are, standing on our feet, why? Because we understood the true concept of family and were able to stand against the tide of the enemy. I thank God every day for giving me wonderful individuals like you all are and I pray every day that we continue to rise with love and unity, Amen, "

"Amen," Everyone chorused in unison.

"And then a toast," Niklaus took a glass from a tray of one of the waiters, "To this very moment," He said, prompting others to pick up their glasses and follow his gesture as they repeated.

"A toast to a future full of prosperity and love!" Niklaus said.

"A toast to a future full of prosperity and love!" the others echoed and downed their drinks before the arena filled with chattering once again.

Niklaus hardly got off the podium when Isabella climbed on it with a, "I demand your attention," She added, "Please,"

To say they were surprised was an understatement, everyone turned to the stage wondering what the white witch had to say. They were curious as hell.

"Well..." Isabella started, wondering why she was suddenly feeling nervous. This was not the first time she was giving speeches on stage, yet now she was facing her family members, she was a bit tense.

"Isabella, speak," urged Anabelle who was down the podium.

"Well, I'm pregnant!" Isabella announced, panting a bit from tension. She finally did it! Told the whole world that she was expecting a baby. Cecil would be delirious with Joy.

However, Isabella who had been expecting the crowd to go wild by her announcement was surprised to hear silence nor was there a look of surprise on their faces. Only Ailee climbed?

"Alright," Isabella pulled back the strand off her face, "Why do I feel like the secret's out before I even told you guys?" Isabella said into the mic.

"No," she thought over it and rephrased her question, "The question should be, who told you?"

Suddenly, Isabella heard a giggle from down the stairs and saw Elsa who said, "I heard Anabelle tell momma and daddy that you're having a beautiful baby and then I told Ella, who told Diego, and Deigo told Ailee who told Allen. When momma found out everything, she asked us to keep it a secret and we should act surprised when you release the news, "

Except that they had failed to act surprised - which she would have seen through anyway - and this has given her another reason never to trust Anabelle with her secret.

Isabella turned slowly to face Anabelle who gulped knowing that she was in deep shit.

"You!" Isabella growled and went after Anabelle who instantly hid behind Pedro, using him as cover because she knew Isabella would never hurt him.

"Come out this instant!" Isabella ordered her, prepared to tear her from limb to limb.

"Why are you being so violent to a pregnant woman?" Anabelle said, pouting her lips.

At that announcement, Isabella was stunned.

"You're pregnant?"

"Yes!" Anabelle shouted, almost hopping on her feet, "I just found out a few days ago and now we're going to be real sisters. And please, don't tell me you're going to disagree with having our wedding together now!"

And just like that, Isabella found her agreeing to a combined wedding she never agreed to in the beginning.

While all this was going on, Ailee was busy making conversations with her relatives when she felt someone's intense gaze on her. The gathering was organized in the garden, so whoever that was instantly ducked behind the walls of flowers at that corner.

Ailee would have waved that away as an unnecessary shy admirer stealing a glance at her when it suddenly hit her and her eyes grew wide at once. That couldn't be him, right?

"Excuse me," She said to the girls who were surprised by her gesture. They were just about to ask her opinion on the conversation they were having, however, Ailee had already disappeared before they could stop her.

Ailee went after him with sharp, strong strides. That bastard, how could he just come and leave like that? How dare he play with her emotions like this?

"So this is it, huh? What's left of our relationship?!" Ailee shouted after Neon who stopped at once.

She caught him in the lawn and he was in a dark hood that blended with the night. Ailee would have almost missed him if she hadn't been observant.

"I came to say goodbye," Neon said, without turning to meet her.

"You do have a weird way of saying that," Ailee snarked. She then crossed her arms across her chest saying in a cold voice, "Why don't you turn around and tell me goodbye than be the coward you are right now," she hissed.

It took him a while, but when Neon turned around, Ailee's heart broke. He looked so worn out. There were dark circles under his eyes and he wasn't as okay as she thought he would be.

"You look miserable. Is Jennifer giving you a tough time?" Ailee forgot all the anger she held against him, concerned instead.

"Is not easy adapting to sudden changes," was Neon's response, intentionally avoiding her gaze.

"You know you could still come back, Neon. We could have your mother in a better hospital and you could visit her as much as you want, she wouldn't even notice your presence. But you would have us as your support -" Ailee was still suggesting when Neon interrupted her.

"You know why I can't come back, Ailee," He shut his eyes and then reopened them confessing, "I love you too much to stop now and I can't do that to you -"

"I like you," Ailee confessed to his shock - her shock too, "Perhaps, not too much as you feel for me. But I definitely don't want you to leave me, Neon. It's going to be hard, convincing our parents but like Allen said, I have to take the bull by the horn to get what I want,"

By the time Ailee was through, she was expecting him to say something but he just kept staring at her like she had grown horns or something.

"Neon -"

Neon strode over to her and put his lips on her, kissing her hard and long. This time, Ailee kissed him back with every fiber of her being as if afraid she was going to lose him. Or maybe she knew she would lose him.

By the time they pulled away, the both of them were panting and Neon leaned his forehead on hers. He said, "I need to go and it's not just because of us,"

"Neon -"

"Listen to me, Ailee. This is not just about the both of us. My mother, Jennifer, needs time to heal and your mother Reina needs time to heal from the shock as well. I can't do this to Reina by dating her daughter and you need time to process what you feel to me as well,"

" Neon, please - "

"Don't think twice about what I feel for you, Ailee because I'm coming back for you. It will be years but I'll come back better and stronger - and when everyone has forgotten that I was once your brother," He swore to her.

"Oh, Neon," Ailee cried, embracing him for one last time because she knew she would not be seeing him again for a long time.

But she should wait - and hope her heart doesn't waver.

Chapter 772 - Seven Hundred And Seventy-two: What's The End Result

The third point of view:

Back at Lincolnshire...

Akim observed his punishment to the end: a week of being caged in at the palace. He attended to his princely duties but he didn't take a step outside the palace and had his cell phone confiscated.

He was lucky enough that the secret cell phone that Max got him was not discovered, however, he made no effort to use that to call Anika either.

Anika.

That name made fury burn in Akim's heart and his fist clenched. To think that Anika was one of the rebels, well, might be one of the rebels and might have been using him all along? He only got angry thinking about it.

She was bold, he had to give her that. Once he discovered that she had intentionally approached him to lure him to the rebels, he would skin the life out of her himself. However, amid the fact that Akim was angry, he felt a bit heartbroken. He had actually thought she was into him. She was the first girl he liked, you know.

Anyway, it was Monday morning and that first day he would be attending school since he was grounded. Akim was going to school with one intention, to confront Anika about her alleged involvement with the rebels.

Judging from his drama last week - escaping his bodyguards - Akim had thought his parents would double the security and restrict the little freedom they gave him. But to his surprise, that wasn't the case. The only thing was that the guards were changed yet their numbers remained the same and they stayed six feet apart while he walked.

As soon as he arrived at school, Akim saw Anika at the entrance of the classroom as if she had been waiting for him.

"Akim!" She waved at him, a huge smile crossing her face.

Akim was stunned by her bright expression that his feet refused to move and were glued to the spot. She was really beautiful. Quite a shame that such a pretty face was with his enemies, Akim's expression became sterner when he remembered that.

The smile on Anika's face brightened the closer Akim came to her. She has not seen him for the past week and knew without a doubt that he had been punished. But she had missed him as well and nearly contemplated sneaking into the palace.

However, that was easier said than done. Anika knew she would be shot on sight by the royal army. Moreover, if getting into the palace was easy, Fiona's people would have done that long ago. Unfortunately, His majesty Kai was too smart and suspicious and the military was the most rigid sector in the palace. The military was eager to lay their lives down for the royal family in the blink of an eye when required.

"Akim..." Anika said to him when he arrived. But to her surprise, Akim walked past her without even as much as a smile or a "Hi" her way.

As soon as Akim went into the classroom without acknowledging her presence, the smile on Anika's face vanished, and her gaze hardened. Anika's eyes were so cold that it looked like they would frost over while a cruel smirk lifted her lips.

He knew.

Akim finally knows of her identity.

And here she was, hoping to spend some quality time with the prince before she decided what to do with him. Now, she has to move up the plan before Fiona finds out and handles it her way. She was not a fool to think that the woman would choose her over Akim and her revenge. She understood the need for this cause as well.

However, for the sake of the guards who were watching her with scrutiny, Anika resumed her bubbly personality. She couldn't let a mistake happen at a critical time like this.

Anika went into the class expecting to see Akim in their usual seat but he had moved to the backseat where there was no other space for her.

But Anika was not thwarted and went over to the seat occupied by one of the students and simply said one word to her, "Get off,"

"Why?" The girl tried to be cheeky with her.

Anika smirked wickedly, "Do I need to make you?" There was a hint of threat in her voice. Although she didn't bully any of the students, the event that transpired between her and Charlotte was already news and they've learned to respect her - more like fear her.

The girl scurried off and Anika sat down, facing Akim who intentionally didn't look at her.

"So after your week-long break, we're back to this?" there was a hint of disdain in her tone.

But all Akim gave her was silence.

"Fine, continue being a wordless bastard," Anika cursed him, and that finally provoked the response she needed.

Akim growled warningly at her drawing other students' attention. Then without warning, he stood up, grabbed her hand, and began to drag her along with him.

Anika didn't say a word and followed him until he pulled her into the school's courtyard.

"What's the catch?!" Akim roared the instant he let go of her hand, "What's the end result?"

"What?" Anika said, a clueless look on her face.

"Stop pretending. I know you're a part of the rebellion, Anika," Akim sneered at her. He went on, "And you intend to get to me since you and your people can't infiltrate the palace. I'm the easier target, the young, ignorant prince who hasn't had a taste of love," Akim got angrier over the fact that he has been used all this while.

Anika frowned at him, "What the fuck are you talking about, Akim? I have no idea what you're -"

Anika's eyes suddenly went wide when Akim grabbed her by the throat. She tried to speak but his grip cut her words off because he was choking her. So she tried to pull him away but Akim was stronger and she could only gasp for air.

"Enough of your games, Anika! Now tell me, who do you work for?"

Chapter 773 - Seven Hundred And Seventy-Three: Every Prince Went With Reinforcement

The third point of view:

Of course, Anika knew what Akim was talking about and she knew as well that he didn't hold any evidence, just facts. He was only trying to snatch the truth from her lips and the only way to get out of this was to pretend to be ignorant.

"I don't know what you're talking about, Akim. I intentionally got close to you because I wanted to be your friend. A girl got to dream and it's not every day one gets to see the mysterious prince of Lincolnshire," Anika managed to say amid the difficulty.

However, Akim still didn't let go and it wasn't until tears rolled down her face and fell on his hand that he withdrew abruptly as if he was electrocuted.

Anika fell on the floor coughing the entire time till Akim left with his security details. As soon as they left, the fragile look in Anika's eyes vanished at once, hardening instead. Akim shouldn't blame her for this, he brought it upon himself. She has been treating him well all this while he treats her as the enemy? Fiona was right, the royal family was all the same. Selfish, controlling bastards.

At once, Anika stood and made a call at once with an unempathetic look. She was done playing games.

Meanwhile, Pedro was feeling guilty back in class. He had hurt Anika badly and had seen it in her eyes when those tears touched him. God, he fucked up real bad.

He was just confused! His parents couldn't lie to him and he would be a fool not to have seen the signs as well. Anika had his eyes on him from the very start, it had to be something or else he had just broken the heart of an innocent girl who genuinely liked him.

His guilt became worse when Anika came into the class and he saw her swollen eyes. Had she been crying? However, that was the last exchange they had because Anika wouldn't even look him in the eyes and had her back turned to him the entire time.

They had just one single class throughout the rest of the day and it was the last period. Anika avoided him even when he sat down beside her; she took a seat far away from him.

However, it came as a huge surprise to Akim when the class dismissed, someone slipped a note into his hand. Before he could glance up at who did that, Anika had already walked out of the class.

With his brows furrowed, Akim opened the squeezed note and read,

"Meet me at the place where we first met. I'll explain everything to you, tonight ~ Yours, Anika,"

She would explain everything to him tonight? Was she acknowledging the fact that she was part of the rebels? Could it be she had been forced to join against her wish and she was trying to get him to help her out? After all, he heard that the children of the rebels were coerced to join Fiona, deceived by her sugar-coated lies. Was that the same for Anika? Does she want a way out?

What if this is a trap? The thought chilled him to the bone. What if this was another trap to get him alone, leaving him vulnerable to their attacks or whatever else they plan to do with him.

Moreover, if he was going to meet her today, that meant using the secret hallway. The first place they met was the town square and although the place was a hubbub of activities, it was still easier for anyone with evil intentions to capture him easily.

Or what if he was just making a big deal out of nothing. Anika said he was going to tell her the truth, what if the truth had nothing to even do with the rebels or the royal family? What if Anika was just an ordinary girl who fell for his charm?

But Anika couldn't be ordinary, she was very smart and just seemed designed for a greater purpose. However, even with those cautious thoughts in his head, Akim made up his mind to go. He had to know the truth and Anika was willing to give him one. He just had to trust her blindly the same way he had trusted her at the beach.

Akim got rid of the note before he got out of the class to his guards who were waiting right outside for him. Anika was really smart to keep that away from them. He followed them home and acted as if nothing happened at all.

Even back at the palace, Akim acted responsibly. Although he was unusually quiet at dinner, his parents took it that he was still brooding over the fact they had him grounded for a week. Hence, no one suspected of the escape he was planning tonight.

Well all except his sister, Jasmine, because when he anticipated everyone had gone to bed and was ready to unlock the secret hallway, a voice said from behind him, "Where are you going?"

Akim was startled out of his mind and turned around to see that it was no one but his sister.

"Thank God," He breathed, hand on his chest.

"Why are you thanking God?" Little Jasmine frowned, with her arms crossed over her chest.

"For the fact that it is you and you alone," Akim said. If it had been his parents, he would have died on the spot from fright.

"You are leaving? Where to?"

"Anika wants us to see,"

"Anika? The one who daddy said was an enemy?"

Akim turned sharply, so she heard their argument.

"Well, yes. Actually, she wants to confess to me," Akim confessed to her.

"And what if it's a trap, Akim. Father already said she must have intentionally approached you," She came to hug his waist, "I don't want to lose you like grandma,"

Akim's heart stopped for a moment and he wondered why he was taking this risk in the first place.

"Don't worry, you won't lose me," He assured her, "And I'm happy that you're here because you'd be the one to inform mommy and daddy that I'm gone," Akim told her and then searched around for a stopwatch he gave to her.

"You see that? Once it's thirty minutes gone, inform daddy that I'm in the town square and they will come to find me and keep me safe," Akim smiled at her causing Jasmine to smile back.

As much as Akim trusted Anika, every prince went into war with reinforcement.

Chapter 774 - Seven Hundred And Seventy-four: Betrayal Stings

The third point of view :

"You really came," Akim spun around at the sound of that voice. It had been over five minutes since he arrived at the town square and hadn't caught sight of her.

So he stood beside the stainless steel curved pond shower in the middle of the town square. The briefly polished silver structure drew immense attention from a distance and hence wasn't surprised she saw him first.

Akim lifted his brow at her, "Were you expecting a royal entourage? You said you were going to tell me everything so I'm giving you a chance. However..." Akim narrowed his gaze at her, "The way you're staring at me makes me think that I just made a mistake stepping out of the palace,"

He could sense it, the look in Anika's eyes was no longer the same. It looked wild and untamed and he wasn't sure he could recognize her any longer. It was almost as if Anika had become a different person - a person he has no idea of.

"Then you should have trusted your instincts, Akim," Anika smirked devilishly at him, "Because there's no going back now,"

"You're one of them, aren't you?" It finally dawned on Akim, "I was right, you intentionally approached me,"

"Yes, I did and it would really help you a lot if you don't do anything stupid," Anika warned him when she saw the way his gaze darted around the square, as if thinking of an escape.

She took a step closer to him and Pedro didn't make a move nor was he intimidated as she whispered into his ears, "It's for your well-being. I don't want to see a dent on your pretty face,"

Akim fisted his hands.

However, something happened. After she was done with her threat, Anika was in the process of pulling away from him when she intentionally took his earlobe into her mouth and nipped on it before letting go.

Delicious shivers went down Akim's spine and he turned to stare at her with shocked eyes. What did she do that for? But there was the usual smirk on her face and that infuriated him.

How dare she play with his emotions? It only confirmed the fact she intentionally approached her. He must have seemed like a pretty miserable prince in her eyes for her to use him like this.

"Don't touch me inappropriately again," He warned her sternly. He was a prince and no one touched him anyway.

"Really?" Anika smirked, "You didn't seem to refuse me when we kissed at the beach that day. What has changed now?" she teased him.

"Really? What has changed now?" Akim sneered, "What changed now is that we're enemies," He stated.

"We don't have to be enemies you know," Anika suddenly said, causing his brows to furrow as he scrutinized her.

"All this could stop and peace reigns once more. Then, we don't need to be enemies and we can finally be together," Anika said, intertwining their hands together.

Akim didn't say anything, rather he stared at their linked hands thoughtfully.

"Don't deny it..." She said softly, stepping closer to him till their bodies were almost touching, "I know you feel something for me," She touched his face with her free hand, caressing his soft skin with their eyes staring into one another.

For a moment, Akim was lost in her green eyes that reminded him of the little memories they shared. The first time they met at the town square; the fun at the amusement park; and the kiss they shared at the amusement park. Akim was almost tempted to reply that he liked her, however, he remembered that Anika was a good liar and manipulator and his enemy.

His gaze hardened, "At what cost?"

"What?" she blinked at the sudden change in his demeanor. For a moment there, Anika thought she had gotten to him.

"For such peace to come, there must be a cost," Akim told her, "What is the cost? What does Fiona intend to achieve from all of this?"

"She would rebuild this kingdom from scratch," Anika stated immediately, like something she had memorized from a book over time and had it registered in her head already.

"Really?" There was mocking laughter in Akim's voice, "She would build the kingdom on the lies she used to convert ignorant people like you into her cause,"

"Quite funny, Fiona told me that was exactly what you would say," Anika said through gritted teeth. She was mad at him for calling her ignorant. She was not stupid enough to follow a lying leader. Fiona was not lying, right?

"I bet she didn't tell you that I lost a sibling because of her," Akim revealed, causing Anika to halt in her footsteps. She had been trying to get him away from the crowd and to a location that was probably overpopulated by her people.

"What are you trying to say?"

Akim saw the fact that she was willing to listen to his words as a good sign and went on, "Fiona pushed my mother down the stairs causing me to lose a potential sibling that would have existed before my sister, Jasmine. And she did all this before my father

married my mother. Think about it, Anika, if she could harm a pregnant woman because she's jealous of her, what do you think Fiona would do when she's heartbroken? "

Anika didn't say a thing, however, Akim could sense the war brewing in her mind. Anika was smart and would surely sense something was not right. Moreover, she has stayed with Fiona the longest, and no matter how perfect she - Fiona - portrays herself to be - Anika should be able to know her tendencies.

"Thanks for trying to sway me, unfortunately, your plan failed miserably. Take him," Anika said, pushing him into the arms of a man Akim didn't know was there until now.

"It's time to meet Fiona," That was the last word Anika said that Akim heard before a rag was pressed over his nose and his world darkened.

By the time Akim stirred awake, he discovered that he was tied up in a chair. He didn't know where he was but it seemed to be in a warehouse and he was in the middle with a spotlight focused on him while the other areas were darkened.

Although he couldn't see the dark areas, Akim could sense he was being alone. The young prince was being watched and he didn't like it one bit. He felt like a circus animal.

Almost immediately, the whole place was lit up without warning causing Akim to squeeze his eyes from the blinding light. However, when his gaze adjusted, he could see there were people all around him, and climbing down the metallic step that led to Eve upstairs was the one and only Fiona with Anika closely behind her.

Wow, betrayal does sting.

Chapter 775 - Seven Hundred And Seventy-Five: The Perfect Loophole

The third point of view:

This was the showdown, Akim could tell. With him in Fiona's hands, she could do whatever she wanted with him.

It was almost as if he was on stage with the rest of Fiona's people staring up at him like some entertainment.

"Tonight is a special day because we finally have the son of our enemy in our hands. And tonight after he goes through our trial, we would judge him appropriately," Fiona said, receiving applause from the crowd.

Akim watched as Anika climbed up the platform and circled him the way a predator would do to a prey before forcing a head-worn microphone on him.

However, before she left, Akim felt her drop something into his palm and it wasn't until he immediately hurt himself, drawing blood that he realized it was a blade.

Akim's eyes widened yet he resumed his composure so Fiona doesn't sense a thing between them especially now her whole attention and the crowd was on him.

Yet Akim couldn't stop the question in his head, why was she helping him? Could it be that she saw reason with his words and had a change of heart or was this one of her petty games again? Akim was confused.

But one thing was for sure, Anika just gave him a chance of freedom and escape once the time came. He just hoped that Jasmine delivered his message and his parents were able to find him on time else he's doomed.

"First of all, let's give a standing ovation to our superhero, and my daughter, Anika who worked hard in making sure we had the enemy's son delivered into our hands tonight. She has been dedicated for our cause since young and today, proved her loyalty and so she deserves our appreciation today!" Fiona stirred the crowd with her words and soon, everyone was on their feet clapping and cheering for Anika.

If not for the fact that the razor blade had hurt him, Akim would have thought that Anika giving him the weapon was nothing but an illusion with the way Anika was shamelessly basking in the glory the crowd showered on her.

She smiled, blew kisses, and waved to them all as the spotlight focused on her, making her the center of attention and giving Akim time to start cutting at his bond.

Akim was careful with his movements so as not to raise suspicion nor alert the enemies of his movements. There were two guards at both sides of Fiona with fully loaded guns and he knew there was more in the crowd. He had to be smart.

Soon enough, they were done showering Anika with praises and she had climbed down the stage with the spotlight back on him again.

"And now, let's speak with our prince, Akim Revatio of Lincolnshire," there was a hint of mockery in Fiona's tone as she mentioned the title as if he wasn't worthy of it.

Fiona climbed up the stage just like Anika did moments ago. Walking over to him with a smirk, she asked, "How do you feel, Akim? "

"I'm quite disappointed," Said Akim.

"Over what?" Fiona wanted details.

"The fact that you're a coward,"

"What?" Fiona's face distorted at once.

"Instead of coming at my parents, you took their son. Well, you didn't exactly take me since you sent your brave foster daughter to do your job," Akim said, further vexing Fiona while Anika stifled a laugh.

"I can see you took your mother's loose mouth," Fiona said.

"Wrong. That's from my dad actually," Akim added, "The old man can talk a lot of dirty shit that I wonder who made him king," It wasn't meant to be funny but half of the crowd watching them burst into laughter. The mic Anika gave him did a good job of transmitting his voice across.

Fiona went red in the face, this was supposed to be her stage and moment and yet that little punk humiliated her.

However, Akim was not over yet because he added before she could speak, "And I can see you're still salty over my father's rejection. Others cry and get over it when they suffer a heartbreak but you divide a kingdom instead,"

At that comment, there arose a great murmuring amongst the crowd. Upon seeing the confusion, Akim gasped, "Don't tell me you didn't tell your dear followers that this war started because you couldn't accept the king leaving you for another maiden," Akim finally saw a way to break them up.

The murmuring increased and it looked like they were about to question Fiona's competency and truthfulness. However, Akim was disturbed by Fiona's silence, her people were breaking apart and she was doing nothing? Something was not right.

"We give him just a minute and he's already sowed a seed of discord between us. This is why I encouraged you all never to trust these sweet-mouthed royals and yet look at what happened!" Fiona said and a wave of

silence fell over the crowd of people.

Fiona was just about to twist his words upside down, Akim finally realized her strategy. She had a sweet poisonous tongue, how else was she able to amass such huge followers over the years?

The people wanted an explanation and Fiona was ready to give them one - filled with lies.

"I agree that all of this started with my heartbreak but it made me see the future clearer nor did the former queen have mercy on the girl whose heart was shattered into pieces. The best thing she did was to exile me to a foreign country,"

"Only because you pushed my mother off the stairs and made her lose her pregnancy," Akim defended fiercely.

"A set up by the queen to get me out of the picture because she got a better daughter-in-law," Fiona countered, staring back at him with the same intensity and a bit of a hidden smug grin.

Akim huffed because the worst mistake his grandmother, Queen Roselle made was never publicly addressing Fiona's crimes in the past. She unintentionally created the perfect loophole for her.. The maltreated-would-have-been-queen of Lincolnshire.

Chapter 776 - Seven Hundred And Seventy-Six: End Up As In-laws

The third point of view:

No matter the evidence Akim brought on, Fiona had a way of encountering, so he gave up on trying to make the idiots see the truth because Fiona was quickly turning him into a clown.

The thing about passion is that it turns people, even the smartest people into idiots. Everyone here in this room one way or the other was affected by the rebellion and the execution. They lost a parent or parents, brother, sister, son, daughter. A loved one.

Instead of accepting their loss and acknowledging the sins and crimes of their loved ones, they wanted vengeance. The goal of their cause is to eliminate the royal family and that was the closest thing to the vengeance they wanted.

The rest of them are just idiots mesmerized by Fiona's lies and unable to pull out because of the repercussions. In one word, unless they faced the truth, they were far from being saved. It finally took Akim being face to face with them to understand what his parents have been hiding from.

He finally saw his parent's sacrifice and their effort to keep him safe from this. He should have listened, now, he would have to bear the guilt of his people tearing each other apart for the rest of his life.

"So what happens after this?" Akim suddenly said, to everyone's surprise, interrupting Fiona's speech about his inability to defend himself.

Everyone's gaze rested on Akim, Fiona trailing off as well to hear what he had to offer.

"What happens after these never-ending wars? First, it was the invaders who wrecked us and yet we were able to defeat them because we stood as one. However, who would pull us together since we fight against each other? Who would inherit this kingdom after we drive each other apart?"

"Most importantly, when would it ever end? Or do you think that my death would end it? And when it does end, would there even be anyone left, our children, to inherit what we leave behind? That is if we indeed leave anything behind but ruins? We are spilling blood on the same land we swore to protect." He laughed, "Our ancestors would welcome us with proud arms when we meet them in the underworld," There was deep irony in his words.

Lincolnshire were quite religious people hence the words about meeting their ancestors touched them quite deep and a dead silence fell over them such that no word was said for over five minutes even after Akim was done.

Fiona looked around the crowd and the look on their faces made her heart sink. They were reconsidering their purpose and it made her heart sink. They can't give up now, not when they were almost close to success.

Fiona knew Emily, she was weak-hearted and if anything happened to Akim, she would give up on Kai who would, in turn, give up on the kingdom to save his marriage. She can't stop, she has come so far to give up easily.

This little punk can't ruin her plan!

So without thinking, Fiona climbed down the stage and snatched the gun from the waistband of one of her men who were still in a daze as a result of the heart-touching speech from Akim.

Before the man could understand what Fiona did, she had already climbed back up the stage and had the gun pointed at Akim saying, "Quite a speech you gave there, Akim, unfortunately, your time is up,"

She then fired but Akim was faster and dodged it, having released himself from the bind. While the crowd had been reflecting on his words, he had been busy with the blade, cutting through the ropes holding him down.

The crowd gasped when they saw what happened and a few were repulsed by Fiona's action. How could she fire at a child?

Frustrated that her first shot missed, Fiona was just about to release another one when Anika shouted from behind, "Put down the gun, Fiona,"

"Anika?" Fiona was shocked because the young girl had her own gun pointed at her.

Anika didn't say a thing but walked cautiously towards Akim who hadn't made a move because of the weapon in Fiona's hand. Anika stood protectively in front of the helpless Akim.

Fiona asked, "What are you doing?"

"Protecting the boy I like, what do you think?"

Another gasp came from the crowd at that shocking revelation. The daughter of their leader was in love with the enemy's son? This wasn't a movie for christ's sake.

Akim's head jerked up as well, Anika indeed liked him? She wasn't playing around when she said that? She really mean that? Suddenly, he wished there was time for them to speak about this.

"You let him get into your head? Didn't you learn enough from what happened to me, Anika?!" Fiona yelled at her. Anika might not be her real daughter but she cared about the girl.

"More like you designed him for me, mother," Anika used that title on her for the first time this night, "After you took me in, everything I learned about was him. You put him in my head; his face, his scent; what he loved and didn't. He became my obsession mother, just like Kai became to you. I guess we are not that different, after all. Like mother, like daughter, "

Fiona was taken aback by those words. Was Kai really her obsession? Was she doing all this because she still loved him? No, that can't be possible.

"This could be the breakthrough we've been looking for, mother!" Anika said desperately.

"What are you talking about?" Fiona was not getting the point.

Anika went on, "Akim and I can finally be together and it would be a blessed union on both sides. We would no longer need to fight each other or spill innocent blood. We would talk diplomatically and come to a truce. Then peace and unity would reign once more.?You might not have ended up with Kai, but you did end up as his in-law, "

Chapter 777 - Seven Hundred And Seventy-seven: It Really Hurts

The third point of view:

Akim could sense that Fiona was seriously considering Anika's words. Although the thought of being in-laws with Fiona deeply upset him, he had to go along with the act if that would save his life.

Who was Anika kidding? In-law or not, Fiona would still go to trial for the crimes she has committed.

"Just drop the gun, mother. Please." Anika pleaded, dropping her own gun. She stepped away from Akim, giving her mother a chance to trust her. She couldn't kill Fiona but she can't let her kill Akim as well.

"I'm sorry, Anika, but what you wish for only happens in fairy tales," Fiona said and was just about to pull the trigger when gunshots escalated from God knows where and two guards at their side dropped to the ground instantly.

Akim, Anika, and Fiona's gaze connected and they knew at that moment, the royal guards were here. And they were here for Akim.

Pandemonium broke out as screams erupted from the crowd. None of them were in their seat anymore as they ran to the entrance for their lives. However, uncountable royal guards were at the entrance, and each of the rebels that ran out of the warehouse whether through the front or back exit were subdued immediately. They were all surrounded.

Fiona was devastated as she saw all that she had built over the years crumble in the twinkle of an eye. This can't be happening! Her eyes became wild and red with anger as realization dawned on her. It was all over.

Even if she managed to escape from here, she had lost her core members and resources. That would take her years to build up her followers once again and time? She doesn't have that.

"You!" Fiona whirled around to Akim with anger, "This is all your fault and you would pay for it!"

"No, mother!" Anika screamed when Fiona raised her gun and pulled the trigger.

There was no time to dodge that one plus the fact that Fiona was filled with killing intent. Even if Akim managed to dodge that one, he can't outrun a bullet. So Anika did the one thing that came to mind.

Akim couldn't make a move even when Fiona fired at him; his feet just stuck to the ground. The closer the bullet flew to him, Akim saw his life flash before his very eyes.

He had many regrets and that included not having the chance to tell his parents he appreciated what they've done for him so far. He would surely miss Jasmine, she was the little love of his life. But most of all, he and Anika didn't have the chance to work out the feelings they had for each other. It was regretful, really. He didn't even have sex. Akim was sure he would end up a vengeful ghost.

Akim made peace with himself, shutting his eyes close, and was ready for death to take him when someone suddenly embraced him. His eyes widened at once, who No!

Akim tried to push her away but he couldn't; she held him tight. He knew the instant the gun pierced into her body, no, he felt the impact and the way her hands tightened around him.

Tears slipped down Akim's cheeks, "No, you have to let go..." he pleaded in a whisper just as Fiona released a second shot.

However, Anika only glanced up at him with a smile, throwing up a mouthful of blood in the process that sprayed on Akim's face when the second bullet went into her body.

Fiona finally lost her mind as she fired rounds after rounds of bullets into Anika's body. She just didn't care anymore, since that stupid girl wanted to die with the enemy's son, then so be it.

It wasn't until the fourth round that Fiona ran out of ammunition and she couldn't fire anymore. Her gaze then rested on the both of them only to see bullet holes on Anika's body while Akim's murderous gaze pierced through her.

It hit her, she killed Anika, not Akim.

"No!" Fiona screamed, running her hand through her hair. Awareness finally returned to her, she just killed Anika. She killed her daughter. She didn't mean to, she had fired at Anika in the heat of the moment.

But before Fiona could scream out her frustration, a bullet whizzed through the air and hit her straight in the skull. As if that wasn't enough, more bullets rained down on and pierced Fiona's body until her lifeless body dropped to the ground.

As soon as Fiona died, more soldiers rushed into the warehouse. They were the ones who shot at Fiona and upon seeing that Akim was fine, one spoke through the communicator, ordering for an ambulance.

"Anika..." Akim said to the girl softly, sliding to the ground with her in his arms.

"No, no, no, you can't do this to me," He cried out, running his hands through her hair, her face as if trying to etch her into his memory. Although he didn't want to admit it, Akim knew her time was running out.

"You, stupid, stubborn, girl, why would you do that?" He felt like yelling at her. Akim was just so angry, no, he was resentful. Why does he have to lose her? It was unfair.

Anika smiled up at him, showing off her bloody teeth. She said through difficulty, "You forget that day we went out, I promised I would protect you,"

Uncontrollable tears gushed down Akim's face and he began to cry like a kid, "I can't lose you, Anika,"

"You won't lose me," She told him and then reached her other hand he wasn't holding and touched his chest, "I'll always be here,"

"I love you. I think I do now," Akim confessed, his tears dropping to her face as he leaned down, placing his forehead on hers.

"I know," Anika smirked, "I always knew you were mine... all mine..." The light in her eyes suddenly dimmed.

Akim didn't need to look down, he felt the moment she left him. The life slipped out of her body and her body didn't feel like hers anymore. She was gone, just like that.

"No..." It came out as a gasp at first and then a tremor began in her body as he broke down in tears.

"Anika... Nooo!!!!!"

He screamed out just as the soldiers arrived and separated him from her. Akim became violent when they took her body and they had to subdue him physically until a doctor arrived and knocked him out with an injection.

His world darkened.

Emily and Judy couldn't tell the number of times their son slipped in and out of consciousness. But each time he was awake, Akim was always violent and had to be forced back to sleep once again.

According to the doctor, he was still in shock, just like that time when Emily lost her baby. Akim went through a traumatic experience hence his mental health was critical and he had to be watched at all times. He would need therapeutic sessions when he awakes.

So when Akim's heart monitor beeped erratically and his eyes opened, his parents jumped to their feet at once, Emily's hands already on the emergency button, and was ready to call for help if another episode occurs.

"Mom? Dad?" Akim called out while squeezing his eyes as if trying to adjust to the room's lighting.

"Son?" Judy said, exchanging cautious looks with Emily and approving her plans of pressing the button if things go south.

Akim winced as a throbbing headache hit him, he felt like shit. So he sat up gently, his father helping him as well.

"So what am I doing...?" Akim was just about to ask when the memories hit him and the last image that flashed in his head was the light leaving Anika's eyes.

Akim gulped, slowly lifting his head to meet his parents' knowing look. The both of them knew.

Emily and Judy stiffened up, having seen the questioning look in their son's eyes.

"What about Anika? I saw the soldiers take her away. Tell me they performed sort of miracle on her and somehow she survived and it's in the room opposite to me, recuperating," Akim told them, tears slowly filling his eyes.

Emily finally let go of the button and approached her son with a sympathetic look.

"I'm sorry, Akim," She said, wrapping her arms around him as she told by his bedside.

Akim was dumbfounded for a while before he burst into heart-wrenching tears, the realization that Anika was finally gone dawning on him.

"No, It can't be true" He cried out, refusing to believe her, "We have the best treatment here,"

"We tried our best, Akim, but she was already unresponsive before our people could even do anything," Judy told him.

A loud animalistic howl ripped from Akim's throat like an injured animal. His heart felt like it was being gutted into pieces right now.

"It hurts," Akim said, rubbing and beating his chest, "It really hurts,"

"We know, son," Judy nodded, his arm coming to wrap around him, "We know,"

Chapter 778 - Seven Hundred And Seventy-eight: Till We Meet Again

"And I join you both as husband and wife," The priest said just as Akim slid the ring into Anika's stiff finger.

Today something that has never occurred in the history of Lincolnshire happened. Their prince Akim Revatio was marrying his late girlfriend, Anika.

Yes, Emily and Judy had been against the idea of their son marrying a corpse, but for the sake of their son's sanity, they let him do as he wanted.

Anika was laid in an expensive revealing glass coffin and was dressed so beautifully that from a distance, one would actually think she was sleeping instead of being dead. There was no trace of blood on her nor traces of the bullet wound she had suffered. They did a good work on her.

There was a flower crown on Anika's head while some of the roses were scattered across the coffin. She put on a long white dress while her hands were placed in such a way that they rested on her chest. It was almost like Akim was recreating snow-white when he kissed the glass where her lips should be, a tear slipping down his face in the process.

Although his parents were against it at first but seeing that gesture of Akim kissing the glass brought tears to Emily's eyes. Their son was much grown-up than they thought. And to think he matured because of a traumatic accident hurt her the more. They were unable to protect their child.

The church was filled to the brim as the seats were occupied yet there was not even a single noise. If one had mistakenly dropped something at that moment, they would be embarrassed to death. Everyone was entranced by the scene; some had tears running down their face without even knowing.

The citizens of Lincolnshire watching the broadcast from the comfort of their home was not left out. To think that their prince was in love with the enemy and went to the extent of marrying her in death. It touched and broke their heart at the same time. The scene was so sorrowful to watch.

The mood throughout Lincolnshire was gloomy as the citizens shared their prince's pain. No one bothered to eat nor drink, voluntarily fasting for the well-being of their prince.

As soon as Akim was done, four royal soldiers came over and saluted him. They then turned, hoisted up the coffin, and carried it on their shoulder as the band played the drums.

In one word, Anika was given a burial befitting a royal. As per the decree, every member of the royal family was buried in the sacred ground. The sacred ground was pieces of land reserved exclusively for the burial of any member of the royal family.

It was considered sacred that even grave robbery was punishable by death. It had been there for generation after generation, housing the bones of past ancestors who were once kings and queens of Lincolnshire.

That was the problem between Akim and his father since Emily didn't know much about Lincolnshire's history. They couldn't bury Anika there because she's a traitor. Her mother, Fiona was the one who killed the past queen, Roselle, it was even an abomination to even consider burying her there.

However, Akim debated heavily that Anika wasn't even Fiona's biological daughter nor did she have a choice but to become one of the traitors. Anika died in his place, that was enough points to redeem her sins already. Moreover, once he marries her, she's

officially a member of the royal family. And no one would stop him or else he would give up his title, Akim had threatened his father.

Akim was the firstborn son, there was no one else to take the throne from him. Jasmine was a woman and too young to lead nor would there be another while the eldest lived - and a male at that - that was Lincolnshire's rule. Hence, Judy had to take what he was given.

Yes, Anika was buried in the sacred land but far away from the ancestral ground. Her mausoleum was so beautiful, wide, and spacious because that would be the same place Akim would be married when he died. Their culture had it that the king would be buried beside his wife. So even when Akim has a wife in the future - which he must to produce heirs for the throne - she would be buried outside instead of beside her husband.

The second wife and children would be buried right outside in their respective graves forming another line of the ancestral ground. Lincolnshire's culture was strict and binding, especially to the royal family.

However, this move of burying Anika in the sacred ground was beneficial to them as well. They might have captured Fiona but not all of their enemies and this would prove to them that the royal family was not the enemies as they thought them to be.

This time Judy doesn't plan on executing the traitors since it backfired on them inciting more hatred fueled by Fiona's brainwashing them. He would give them lighter sentences and a second chance of picking up the pieces of their lives.

It would not be easy but solving violence with violence as he did earlier wasn't the right answer either and he has learned his lesson the hard way - the loss of his son. Akim might still be alive but Judy knew their relationship was damaged. This Akim would never go back to being the Akim they once knew because grieving changes a person.

A military parade was organized where Anika's body was taken into the mausoleum by the soldiers accompanied by Akim, his parents, and a few guards. Not even the paparazzi dared step into this space and were held outside by the security.

The coffin was placed on the crypt where Akim paid his last respect.

"Till we meet again at the beach at sundown," He whispered, taking one last look at Anika who he believed to be sleeping.

"Till we meet again where there is no death or paradise, my dear Anika....." Akim whispered as he took his final leave.

Chapter 779 - Seven Hundred And Seventy-Nine: Healing

The third point of view :

"Didn't you say Akim is coming? Where is he already?" Elsa whined for the nth time already.

Ailee and Allen were at the airport waiting for their cousin to arrive. And they were with their annoying siblings. Just like the many others at the arrival gate, they couldn't wait for Akim to arrive.

Elsa was seated on top of Allen's shoulder while Diego was on Allen's, both kids waving cardboard in the air with Akim's name on it. Ella chooses to be on her own, playing a coloring game on her phone.

"I hate this, why couldn't he just take a private jet?!" Allen was vexed especially when he turned to see a young lady smiling coyly at him.

"Ugh," He rolled his eyes, which was kind of a huge surprise to him. If it was the Allen of old, he would have winked at her and charmed her. Bam! Before the end of the day, she's in his bed.

However, Allen was currently obsessed with a certain lady who grabbed him by the ball and zeroed his morales days again. He was still seeking ways to have his vengeance.

Unfortunately, since Decorah's attack and Neon leaving, the old man, Niklaus, had him moved back to the house so he no longer shares a neighborhood with that witch, Eve.

However, Allen was not disappointed, the wedding was fast approaching and he was sure as hell, Ailee had invited her. That would be the time he would conquer her. Forget about dating Eve, he can't have that witch as a girlfriend. What if she murders him in his sleep?

"Oh, here he comes!" Ailee announced, causing everyone to look up immediately.

"Akim!!!" The triplets shouted with a high pitch that overlapped the voices of others causing everyone to turn to stare at them.

Allen was so embarrassed that he instantly covered his face with his palm, embarrassed. This would be the last time he would move with these kids.

"Hey, kids!" Akim didn't mind the embarrassment so he bent down as the triplet ran into his arms all at once, embracing them.

"We missed you, Akim!" Elsa, the more outspoken twin, spoke out.

"Me too," Diego agreed, pecking him on the cheeks.

"I drew this," Ella said, pulling out her tablet and showing Akim a drawing of him.

"Wow," Akim was short of words, his hand coming to cup his mouth, "I'm so touched," He said.

The drawing wasn't perfect but it was quite good, no, very good. Not to mention the fact she drew it from her heart, he would treasure it.

"Thank you so much, Ella," Akim smiled down at her. Ella had a talent for art.

"Cousin,"

The children made way for Ailee to pass through and hug Akim who rose to his feet.

Ailee's grip on Akim was tight yet consoling as she said, "I heard about your loss. I'm so sorry,"

"It's alright," Akim covered up his pain with a smile on his face. Tears stung his eyes once again but he forced them back. He can't break down, not at the airport, and likely not in front of the kids.

As soon as Ailee pulled away from the hug, Allen playfully punched HIM on the shoulder, "It's nice to have you home once more. Mom and dad can't wait to see you..." Allen leaned closer to whisper, "Then we hit the clubs," He winked at him.

Akim smiled in appreciation. This was the reason why he had left Lincolnshire, to get distracted. His kingdom reminded him so much of Anika and he can't go on like this. Anika's death was devastating to him, he had to move on. And what better therapy than the company of his cousins.

Although he lied to his parents that he needed to be at the wedding beforehand and spend time with his cousins, Akim knew he would not be returning to Lincolnshire anytime soon. Lincolnshire smelled and tasted too much like Anika.

He needed to breathe. For sure, he would not forget Anika but he had to move on. She would always have his heart. Now, what he needed was to heal.

"Let's go!!" Elsa and Diego held onto Akim's hands and began to lead him away, abandoning their siblings who were dumbfounded by their act.

Those ungrateful brats! Ailee and Allen wanted to teach them a lesson. However, their gaze fell on Ella who was by their side, at least they still got one loyal twin.

"Let's go, Ella," Ailee said to her, bringing out her hand so she could take it.

"Sure!" Ella replied enthusiastically, causing a smile to fill Ailee's face when she reached out to her. However, to her surprise, the girl simply put her tablet in Ailee's hands and took off, shouting, "Wait for me, Akim!"

Before their very eyes, they watched as Akim bent and piggybacked her while the others took their hands respectively.

For a minute, Ailee didn't say a word as she was too shocked to react. What just happened? That was when she realized that Elsa did not follow Akim in the first place because she was busy coloring. In the end, none of the triplets wanted them.

The sound of Allen's laughter brought Ailee back to the present and she realized that her brother was indeed laughing at her.

"Asshole," Ailee said, flipped her hair, and took her leave. Since she recovered from the bullet wound, Allen had gone back to being the asshole he was although there were some notable changes in his character.

Lately, she hasn't caught him sneaking any girl into his room nor does he make out in the car anymore because he's the one driving since Neon left...

The thought of Neon snatched away every smile on Ailee's face and Allen upon noticing that, came closer and placed his hand on her shoulder.

"What are you doing?" Ailee glared at him.

"Giving you a rare chance to be intimate with your handsome brother.. Come, let's go home," Allen intentionally pulled her along, distracting the sad thoughts in her head.

The third point of view:

"Hey, look over here! No, there! Turn your face! To the left. This angle. Isabella, don't move! Anabelle, stop eating!" the two brides to be received non-stop orders as to how to behave as the make-up artist and her team worked on them.

Isabella was vexed beyond her limit and it only took Anabelle's charming and easy-going nature to get her to calm down and not murder the crew for doing their job. Anabelle was there to erase the furrows on Isabella's face with jokes and conversations about their future.

Isabella felt like a freshly plucked chicken. This was not the first time she had makeup applied on her face but today's treatment was on another level and it was all thanks to her mother.

According to Reina, today was her special day, and had to look the part. There wasn't going to be a single flaw on her body and as she quotes, "You would be the epitome of perfection!"

Ever since the day everyone knew she was pregnant - thanks to Anabelle's wide mouth - they treated her as if she was fragile and would break upon impact especially Cecile. But Isabella viewed Cecil's past action as hypocritical, choosing to be cold to her because she refused to give her a grandchild and being warm to her because she finally got what she wanted.

Pedro might be her son, but he's her husband now and they choose how to plan their family without her interruption. She - Isabella - choosing not to have a child, that doesn't make her less of a woman.

However, Isabella was beginning to understand Cecil a little each day the baby grew in her stomach. The love she had for her unborn child each time she stroked her belly was unexplainable. All she understood was that she and Pedro had created a child, that would be theirs. Perhaps, that was the same thing Cecil wanted - to see the world they created.

"I'm so envious of you," Isabella suddenly said, drawing Isabella's mind to the present. She was rubbing her baby bump that was now visible and that was what Anabelle was staring at.

"Jealous of what?" Isabella asked nonchalantly and was grateful for the fact that the make-up artist was finally done with her.

"Your baby bump," she looked down, "Mine is not visible yet," Anabelle complained, rubbing her hand on her still flat stomach.

Isabella sighed, leave it up to her cousin to make a big deal out of the most trivial things.

"You think I like the fact that I look like a floated balloon on my wedding day?"

"You look actually like a sexy mom, I'm jealous. When your child grows up, you could actually tell him or her - wait a minute, do you know the baby's sex?" Anabelle finally realized she hadn't asked that.

"It's a girl,"

"Christ Jesus, it's like you're giving birth to your incarnation. I'm so scared now for my son," Anabelle's hands went protectively to her stomach.

Isabella glared at her.

But Anabelle pointed out, "What if your daughter bullies my son in the future?"

"Are you calling my unborn child a gangster?" Isabella increased the intensity of her glare. How dare she accuse her unborn child of a crime she hadn't even committed?

"No," Anabelle said, "I'm just saying the apple doesn't fall far from the tree," She hinted that Isabella's child would be just like her.

Just like that the both of them began to quibble on the issue just as Niklaus entered the dressing room.

"Isn't it too early to quarrel on your wedding day?" Niklaus made his appearance known to the two ladies who didn't notice him.

"Uncle!" Anabelle said, resuming her good-girl image.

"Anabelle, you look wonderful," Niklaus complimented her.

"Thank you," Anabelle stood and embraced him in a hug, placing pecks on both sides of his cheeks.

As soon as Niklaus pulled away, he turned to his daughter and was stunned.

"Wow," He breathed, "You look so beautiful I can't describe it,"

"Thank you, father," Isabella said, an embarrassed blush creeping up her face. This was the first time her father ever complimented her so deeply she felt it.

"Anabelle, can you give us some privacy?" Niklaus said, turning to her.

"Sure," Anabelle didn't waste time to enter the adjoining room, giving them enough privacy to hold their conversation.

Even after Anabelle left, Niklaus didn't say anything and just kept staring at Isabella who was uncomfortable with the scrutiny that she stared the other way until she couldn't take it anymore.

"If you want to say something, just say it and stop staring at me that way. It's creepy," she complained.

Niklaus laughed, covering his face with his palm as he choked out happiness-filled laughter or so Isabella thought because when her father moved his palms, there were traces of tears around his face.

"Oh," was all Isabella could mutter.

"You were this small when your mother and I had you," Niklaus gestured to Isabella with his hand, "I could remember clearly how scared I was of you. I was just a young boy but

I knew that tiny little being could ruin me in more ways than I can imagine," He laughed at his silly past.

"When your grandmother put you in my arms, you were so fragile and light that I thought I would crush you if I made a move and all I could think about was how your sleeping mother would skin me alive if anything happened to happen to you. So I held you tight and then you peered up at me through your half-lidded eyes and I knew I was in trouble. I loved you from the beginning, Isabella,"

"Isabella, the circumstances regarding your childhood might not have been the best but I could never give up on you and I'm sure your mother up there is proud of the woman you've become. And to think that you would birth a life soon," Niklaus was so emotional that he pulled Isabella up to her feet and hugged her tight.

Surprisingly, Niklaus who gave the pep speech was the one who ended up crying while Isabella, the listener, consoled him.

"Come on, old man, stop crying else people might begin to think that we're having a burial instead of a wedding," Isabella told Niklaus, causing him to chuckle.

And that was the scene Reina walked into when she came to check up on Isabella. With a smile on her face, she walked over and engulfed the both of them in a wide embrace.. It felt good.

TAMING A BILLIONAIRE

Chapter 780 - Seven Hundred And Eighty: I Could Never Give Up On You

The third point of view:

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As soon as Niklaus pulled away, he turned to his daughter and was stunned.

"Wow," He breathed, "You look so beautiful I can't describe it,"

"Thank you, father," Isabella said, an embarrassed blush creeping up her face. This was the first time her father ever complimented her so deeply she felt it.

"Anabelle, can you give us some privacy?" Niklaus said, turning to her.

"Sure," Anabelle didn't waste time to enter the adjoining room, giving them enough privacy to hold their conversation.

Even after Anabelle left, Niklaus didn't say anything and just kept staring at Isabella who was uncomfortable with the scrutiny that she stared the other way until she couldn't take it anymore.

"If you want to say something, just say it and stop staring at me that way. It's creepy," she complained.

Niklaus laughed, covering his face with his palm as he choked out happiness-filled laughter or so Isabella thought because when her father moved his palms, there were traces of tears around his face.

"Oh," was all Isabella could mutter.

"You were this small when your mother and I had you," Niklaus gestured to Isabella with his hand, "I could remember clearly how scared I was of you. I was just a young boy but I knew that tiny little being could ruin me in more ways than I can imagine," He laughed at his silly past.

"When your grandmother put you in my arms, you were so fragile and light that I thought I would crush you if I made a move and all I could think about was how your sleeping mother would skin me alive if anything happened to happen to you. So I held you tight and then you peered up at me through your half-lidded eyes and I knew I was in trouble. I loved you from the beginning, Isabella,"

"Isabella, the circumstances regarding your childhood might not have been the best but I could never give up on you and I'm sure your mother up there is proud of the woman you've become. And to think that you would birth a life soon," Niklaus was so emotional that he pulled Isabella up to her feet and hugged her tight.

Surprisingly, Niklaus who gave the pep speech was the one who ended up crying while Isabella, the listener, consoled him.

"Come on, old man, stop crying else people might begin to think that we're having a burial instead of a wedding," Isabella told Niklaus, causing him to chuckle.

And that was the scene Reina walked into when she came to check up on Isabella. With a smile on her face, she walked over and engulfed the both of them in a wide embrace.. It felt good.