

The Kiss 1141

Chapter 1141

Veronica noticed that a bunch of people were at her house and found it odd. She glanced at Ellinor, who was feeding Baber, then at Belinda, who was sitting next to Ellinor, and finally at Chase, who was sitting next to Belinda. She frowned and turned to Belinda, "Belinda, why are you still hanging out with this dude? You should steer clear of him."

Belinda, who was eating, was mega embarrassed and tongue-tied upon hearing what Veronica said.

But Chase didn't get nled up, instead, he chuckled, "What's the matter, Miss Blanchet? You seem to have a bone to pick with me"

Veronica, who always called the shots, especially in her own house, shot back, "Right, I don't care for you! What's a guy like you doing in our house? You're not welcome here."

Her blunt attitude made everyone present feel awkward.

Marissa Blanchet frowned at Veronica, "Veronica, you can't be this rude. He's Ellinor's trend, you need to mind your language."

Veronica was a tad miffed after being scolded by her grandma. She turned to Ellinor, I'm not blaming you, but I think you should avoid hanging out with guys like him. Don't you think his behavior is off-putting? He's so shameless."

Ellinor stared at Veronica without uttering a word; her glare was icy

While Chase's behavior might be questionable, she wouldn't tolerate anyone disrespecting him.

Veronica was taken aback by Ellinor's glare.

But Veronica was such a character. Once she hated someone, she wouldn't hold back. She glared at Chase again, "Grandma, you may not know that this guy once toyed with Belinda's feelings. He had no interest in Belinda but led her on. When Ellinor was hospitalized, he took a girl to a hotel and had Belinda deliver contraceptives for him Isn't he a jerk?"

Marissa being old, was shocked by this, "What?"

After hearing this, Belinda felt mortified. She left without finishing her meal, "Sorry. I'm full. I need to go to the restroom

Once Belinda left, the atmosphere around the dining table grew even more awkward.

Chase shot Veronica a cold glance before getting up to find Belinda.

The remaining folks all glared at Veronica.

The glares made Veronica feel uncomfortable, but she didn't think she was wrong. She just couldn't stand bad guys. And this guy, Chase, was a jerk. She didn't say anything wrong

Ellinor couldn't eat anymore either. She put down her spoon, "It seems like Miss Blanchet doesn't welcome my friends here. Never mind, you guys carry on. I'm full?

Ellinor left with Baber, and naturally, Ida wouldn't stay either

What was supposed to be a happy meal turned into a total cringe fest.

Marissa frowned at Veronica in disappointment, Veronica, how could you talk about Ellinor's friend like that?"

Veronica made an innocent face, "I didn't say anything wrong. That guy really is a jerk! He used to bully Belinda. I'm just trying to stand up for us girls!"

Marissa felt a headache coming on, "Belinda herself doesn't mind, so why are you still complaining? Look, everyone's stopped eating Are you happy now?"

Veronica pouted, "Well, if they don't eat, we will!"

Marissa huffed, "If they don't eat, so be it. Ellinor is pregnant, and she barely ate anything before you upset her. If something happens to her, wait till your brother comes back to deal with you!"

Chapter 1142

Veronica was unfair but didn't dare argue with her granny. She poked at the food on her plate with her spoon, and accidentally, the spoon slipped out of her hand, dropping onto the floor

Her mood was already low and the fall of the spoon just added to her irritation. She muttered a complaint and was about to bend down to pick it up

Moran, who had been sitting next to her without saying a word, bent down first and picked up the spoon

But now it was dirty from the floor and couldn't be used. Moran put the spoon aside and handed his own unused one to her. Use this one I haven't used

Being taken care of by the boy she had a crush on made Veronica blush. She accepted the spoon and said thank you

Moran didn't answer Veronica but stood up, politely said goodbye to Manssa, and then left

Seeing the boy she liked leave made Veronica feel a little lost, so she

Veronica chased him all the way to the yard. She finally caught up with him. "Are you angry? Did you also think I was wrong just now?"

Moran's expression was indifferent, "Your family's matters have nothing to do with me. I followed him

up his backpack to leave.

Moran stopped him looking a bit uneasy. "Moran, why did you leave without having a conversation? I have no opinions"

Even though Moran said he wasn't angry, Veronica still felt like he was a bit pissed. The normally tough girl lowered her head to explain, "But that guy was mally annoying! I just couldn't stand him bullying girls, and I just couldn't hold it in "

After seeing Veronica apologize like this, Moran also felt a bit bad for ignoring her

"You don't need to explain it to me it's your family's business, I have no right to judge But Veronica, you need to adjust your straightforward character a bit. You always express your dissatisfaction and speak directly. You might get screwed over in society because of this"

Veronica blinked, looking confused. "But I don't need to work in the future, and no one can screw me over at home, right?"

Moran was taken aback. After thinking for a while he laughed at himself, "Yeah, you're so well-off that you can live your entire life without working your family can protect you well I overthought."

Having said this, Moran walked around Veronica and continued toward the gate

Veronica felt uneasy followed a few steps, and grabbed Moran's clothes, "Moran, you're right. I'll change! I'll change my temper Please don't be angry..."

Moran looked a bit helpless, "I'm not angry, let go of me!"

Veronica carefully asked, "So will you still come to tutor me tomorrow?"

Moran nodded promised to tutor you for a term, and I'm going to do that"

Veronica finally felt relieved and let go of him. Then I'll walk you to the gate!

Actually, she wanted her family's driver to drive Moran home, but Moran, being independent and principled, didn't like to be picked up by her family's car all the time. Since Veronica insisted. Moran didn't refuse and let her walk him to the gate

There was a row of bodyguards at the gate their serious expressions created a sense of pressure

Moran looked at the bodyguards at the Blanchet family's gate as his eyebrows slightly furrowed and then said to Veronica, "Is your brother treating Ellinor like a

ohmina

Veronica also felt helpless as she looked at the bodyguards at home, "I don't know what happened. It wasn't like this yesterday My brother had a fight with Ellinor last night, and this happened in the morning"

Moran couldn't control his hostility as he thought of Veronica's brother. He said coldly I hope your family can treat Ellinor better, she's a good girl."

Veronica hesitated for a moment, but finally asked the question that had always been on her mind. "Moran. I've always wanted to ask you, do you like Ellinor?" Moran's steps suddenly stopped, he didn't turn back, nor did he answer He swung his backpack over his left shoulder and walked away

Chapter 1143

Meanwhile, somewhere else.

Belinda was splashing cold water on her face in the bathroom. She lifted her head and saw her smeared makeup in the mirror. Suddenly, she was overwhelmed with self loathing.

She felt like she really was a pain in the ass.

She almost got married once, naively thinking she was the happiest woman in the world. But her groom betrayed her with another woman in the storage room right before the ceremony.

When the truth came out, her groom flew off the handle, even threatening her with her private photos

It was Theo and Ellinor who helped her out of that mess

If it hadn't been for the quests' respect for Theo, she would've been a laughingstock.

And here she was, once again, foolishly falling for Chase, despite Ellinor's constant warnings. She stubbornly believed she was the special one who could change Chase, and look how that turned out.

She became a joke yet again!

She was the kind of joke who would buy contraceptives for the man she loved and his other woman. No wonder Veronica said what she did.

Knock, knock!

Someone knocked on the bathroom door, pulling Belinda out of her thoughts. Assuming someone else needed to use the bathroom, she quickly wiped her face with a tissue and prepared to open the door

When she opened the door, she was greeted by Chase standing there, looking at her seriously.

Belinda felt a bit awkward, "Mr. Lanos. I'm done here, you can use the bathroom now."

Subconsciously lowering her head, she quickly stepped aside to let him in.

But before she could even take a step out, Chase's long arm reached out and pulled her back into the bathroom.

The bathroom door was closed and locked.

Belinda was taken aback, "Mr. Larios?"

Chase's cool fingers lightly brushed away a tear from her eye. "Your makeup's smeared. Have you been crying?"

Belinda's eyes dodged his, "No, I just washed my face."

Chase showed a rare hint of remorse, "I'm sorry. I shouldn't have put you in such an embarrassing situation."

Belinda was stunned, she didn't expect Chase to apologize. It took her a moment to respond, "No, I brought it upon myself. I've been a joke ever since my wedding fiasco,"

Chase's brow furrowed slightly. "Who said you were a joke?"

Belinda warned herself not to read too much into it. Chase didn't mean anything by it, "Mr. Larios, I know you don't like me. Rejecting me the way you did was not wrong, I don't blame you."

Chase looked at her in silence for a moment, then pulled out several small boxes from his pocket.

Belinda looked at the objects in Chase's hand, and her face immediately turned red. Those were the contraceptives she bought for Chase last time.

Why would he bring them out?

Chapter 1144

Belinda's instinct for self-defense kicked in, and she took a step back, "Chase, what what are you trying to pull?"

Chase held out the little squares, "You bought me these the other day. I didn't use any."

Belinda was speechless.

What was he trying to say? Was he implying that he didn't use protection with his girlfriend that day and didn't mind having a baby?

Was he warning her not to get any funny ideas?

Belinda felt a bit awkward, "Chase, I get you. I won't bother you anymore. You don't need to do this."

After noticing that she was misunderstanding, Chase looked a bit helpless, "What I mean is, I didn't want to use the good stuff you bought me, so I didn't do anything that day"

Belinda was still speechless

What was that supposed to mean?

Chase was acting really weird today!

She was so confused!

"Chase, what are you on about?"

Chase chuckled, leaning in to whisper in her ear, "We'll use the ones you bought together."

Belinda's face turned red instantly. She tried to laugh it off but ended up smacking Chase twice across the face. She then stormed out of the bathroom, slamming

the door behind her.

When Chase walked out of the bathroom with two clear hand prints on his face, Ellinor and Ida were standing there watching him.

Ida couldn't help but enjoy the spectacle, "Serves you right!"

Chase shrugged, "I'm cool with it."

Ellinor massaged her temples, "Alright, you two, upstairs with me!"

Chase and Ida obediently followed her up to the bedroom where Ellinor was staying

Meanwhile, Marissa probably felt bad about her granddaughter's behavior, so she had food sent up to their room as an apology.

Baber was asleep

!

After tucking him into bed, Ellinor went to the door and peered out. When she saw that no one was outside, she closed the door and sat down on the couch, "In a few days, I'll ask Marissa to take me out for some fresh air. I'll let you two know the exact time. There will be a lot of bodyguards with us. You two need to distract the Blanchet family's people, and I'll make my escape."

Chase and Ida exchanged a serious glance, then nodded at Ellinor.

Ida said, "Okay, don't worry, we'll arrange everything and coordinate with your actions"

Chase also asked, "Boss, where are you planning to run off to? Should I arrange a flight in advance?"

Ellinor said mysteriously, "You just need to distract the bodyguards; don't worry about the rest. As for where I'm going, you don't need to know for now!"

Chase frowned in displeasure, "What? You're not even going to tell us?"

Ellinor glanced at him, "It's not that I don't want to tell you, but I haven't decided where to go yet. Also, I can't rely on you two to get out of the country"

Chase asked again, "Not through us? Then who are you going to ask for help?"

Ellinor answered cautiously. "Theo knows I have contact with you both. Once I leave, he will definitely look for you to find me. If he finds out I left through you, you two will have a hard time dealing with him. So, I plan to find another person to help me."

Chapter 1145

Ellinor answered, "You'll know when the time comes if he decides to help me" She chose not to spill the beans until she was sure he would lend her a hand

Chase and Ida exchanged glances, both in the dark about who Ellinor might turn to for help

After lunch, the three continued chatting in the bedroom. Just as Ellinor was about to get someone to clean up, Devin popped in with news, "Marissa's got the card table ready. She's asking if you and your friends can come and join her."

Oh, the card game!

Ellinor nodded, "Okay, we'll be right there"

After Devin left, Ellinor turned to her friends, "We'll head over in a bit. You guys will have to play a few rounds with Marissa"

Chase and Ida weren't thrilled about the card game, but they had to go along with what Ellinor said.

Manssa had the card table all set up.

Ellinor had two maids watch over Baber, who was sleeping in the room, before heading downstairs with Chase and Ida.

As they walked into the card room, they saw Marissa mediating between Veronica and Belinda, urging Veronica to apologize

Belinda wasn't one to hold a grudge, she just nodded and let bygones be bygones.

Upon seeing Ellinor and the others, Marissa gave a warm smile and waved them over

"Ellinor, come here! Bring your friends over to play a few rounds with me. It's been a while since I last played"

Ellinor smiled and led Chase and Ida to the table

Belinda, who didn't know how to play, sat next to Marissa, helping her shuffle the cards while learning how to play. She never glanced at Chase once, as if she were purposely avoiding him.

Chase sat across from Marissa, stealing glances at Belinda every now and then

With Veronica insisting on joining in, Ida ended up sitting next to Ellinor watching the game together.

Their initial intention was to keep Marissa entertained.

But once the game started, Chase seemed to forget that. He began messing up Veronica's cards on purpose, making it look accidental each time.

After a few rounds, Veronica was fuming, she was ready to flip the table.

However, she remembered Moran's advice before he left, urging her to control her temper, and she held it in.

Marissa wasn't a fool, she noticed that Chase's interruptions weren't coincidental. Considering how Veronica had cursed him out before, she couldn't really blame

him

Still, Chase didn't forget to entertain Marissa, letting her win a few rounds, which made her day.

By the time they finished the game, it was already afternoon

Manssa warmly invited her guests to stay for dinner, but both Chase and Ida politely declined. Belinda also gracefully turned down her invitation and left with

Chase and Ida.

However, Belinda didn't join Chase in his car. After politely saying goodbye to Ida, she continued walking on her own.

Chase had his driver tail her slowly, then rolled down his window and said to her, "Hop in, I'll give you a lift home."

Belinda neither stopped or looked at him. She simply said, "Thanks for the offer, Mr Lanos, but I'm not planning on going home right now."

Chapter 1146

Belinda was seriously miffed by what Chase said to her in the Blanchet family's bathroom; she didn't want to deal with him anymore, and she was even considering not going to work the next day

Did she look like a floozy to him? He actually had the guts to insult her like that!

"Not going home? Where are you off to?" Chase asked, leaning out the car window.

"I'm off work, I don't owe you a report of my whereabouts." Belinda snapped without sparing him a glance.

Chase frowned slightly. "You came with us today, so technically it was a business top. If anything happens to you on the way home, we are responsible. Be a good girl and get in."

Belinda stood her ground. "Rest assured, even if anything happens, I won't be dragging you and Ms. Gipson into it! Mr. Larios, you should head home and rest! Bye!" With that Belinda purposely turned into a narrow alley where cars couldn't follow.

She was annoyed and didn't want to hear Chase's voice, it messed with her thoughts

It got dark early in the winter.

After seeing Belinda slip into the dark alley alone, Chase squinted his eyes, thought for a moment, and then told the driver to stop

Ida glanced at him with a knowing look as she adjusted her gold-rimmed glasses, "You men are so cheap!"

Chase shrugged. "Yep, I m cheap!"

Then he got out of the car and followed Belinda into the alley

Ida didn't plan on waiting for him, so she gave the driver a nod to get moving.

The alley was dark. Chase quickened his pace and caught up with Belinda, who suddenly started to run. She quickly ran out of the dark alley and into a bustling

area

Chase naturally picked up the pace and followed her out, and just as he was about to approach her, he saw Belinda jog up to a man.

Belinda, panting, said to the man in front of her. 'Sorry, Jacob, I hope you haven't been waiting too long

Jacob's eyes lit up when he saw Belinda, and he quickly shook his head, "Not at all, I'm just glad you made it, I thought you might not come!"

Belinda steadied her breath, "I promised you we'd watch a movie, I wouldn't stand you up, I just got a bit held up at my uncles. Sorry!"

Jacob had messaged her during the afternoon card game, asking if she'd decided whether or not to go see a movie with him.

She was feeling down at the time and thought some entertainment might take her mind off things, so she agreed to Jacob's invite and told him where to meet.

Although she wasn't interested in horror movies, if she got scared, she might be able to forget all the stuff that was bumming her out.

Jacob smiled happily. "Let's get going then!"

Belinda nodded, "Sure!"

There was a subway station nearby, and they both followed the crowd and didn't notice Chase behind them. He stood in the middle of the crowd, squinting at them with an awkward look on his face.

Huh, that girl moved fast. She actually agreed to see a movie with her coworker?

A guy asked a girl to see a horror movie. What was his angle? Did Chase not get it?

But then again, what did it have to do with him?

Chase gave a faint smile and turned to hail a cab home, but after a few steps, he stopped and his fists clenched. He couldn't bear the thought of Belinda being frightened in the movie theater and leaning on her male colleague for comfort. He suddenly turned around and strode into the subway station.

After dinner, Ellinor went upstairs and saw that Baber was playing with his toys in bed under the watchful eyes of two maids.

When she returned, she sent the two maids away.

Chapter 1147

She whipped up some baby food for Baber, asking him to quit horsing around and come eat

Baber was a good listener, the minute she called, the little guy dropped his toys like a hot potato, crawled down from the bed and scampered over to her for grub.

Ellinor taught him to feed himself with a spoon, so Baber nodded and followed suit. Though he was a bit clumsy, he eventually mastered the art of self-feeding.

Watching Baber eat on his own stirred some emotions in Ellinor, she was about to hit the road, and she had no idea if the Blanchet family would take good care of this kid.

There were no blood relatives around, and Theo probably wouldn't treat his adopted son exceptionally well. Even if he genuinely cared about Baber, he wouldn't have the time to attend to him.

That was why she was teaching Baber how to spoon-feed himself now, in case no one was around to feed him after she left, so he wouldn't go hungry.

While watching Baber munch, her phone rang.

She had two phones now; one was her personal, and the other was left to her by Ida.

The one ringing was her personal phone.

The caller ID showed that it was Theo.

Ellinor was quite taken aback that Theo would actually call her.

He was overseas with his legal wife, and he still had time to call her?

Ellinor let out a scoff and picked up the call.

She didn't say a word, and the other end was silent too. Finally, it was Theo who broke the ice, "What are you up to?"

Ellinor answered nonchalantly, "Watching Baber eat."

"Have you eaten yet?"

"I have."

He asked, and she answered in a flat tone.

If she could, Ellinor didn't want to take this call and didn't want to have a chat with this man.

But now that she needed to plan her exit from the Blanchet family, she had to keep Theo off his guard.

Theo seemed to heave a sigh, and his tone also sank, "Did you play cards with Grandma today? Tired?"

Ellinor replied honestly, "Not really."

Theo continued, "If you feel tired, just tell Grandma, you don't have to keep her company for too long. Sitting for a long time isn't good for you." Ellinor responded, "Don't worry, it's just a card game, it won't affect me. You don't need to stress about it, go about your business!"

Theo, on the other end, went silent for a while. Feeling disgruntled, he said, "You think I called you just to check on your health?"

Ellinor didn't argue with him, "Hmm."

Theo was even more irritated, "Just hang up! There's nothing good to talk about with you!"

Ellinor responded and hung up the phone without hesitation.

However, Theo on the other end was just bluffing. He was waiting for Ellinor to explain something to him, but all he heard was the sound of the call being terminated.

He was so pissed that he almost crushed his phone.

A woman approached at this moment, asking, "Theo, what's wrong? You look a bit off-color."

Chapter 1148

Ellinor slung her phone aside after hanging up. She handed a napkin to Baber, whose face was smudged with food, and wiped his mouth before scooping him into her arms.

"Are you full now?"

Baber wrapped his arms around Ellinor's neck and nodded. "Yep, I'm stuffed!"

Ellinor gently instructed him, "From now on, you've gotta learn to eat with a spoon on your own, kiddo. That way, you won't go hungry even when there are no adults around."

Baber looked up at Ellinor with a hint of insecurity. "You won't always be with me?"

Ellinor smiled softly, avoiding a direct answer. "Your dad will always be there for you, but he's so busy with work, he can't be with you every day. So, you've gotta learn to stand on your own two feet, alright?"

Baber obediently nodded. "Okay! I'll try to be more independent and make Dad and you feel relieved,"

Ellinor often conversed with him, and he started talking more. Though his words were sometimes unclear, Ellinor could understand him.

In reality, Baber was a smart kid. He was just held back by Xenia and her daughter, Patricia.

Suddenly, Baber mumbled into Ellinor's shoulder, "Can I call you mom?"

Ellinor was taken aback by the kid's words. "Uh... why do you suddenly want to call me mom?"

Baber said, "Dad said you're gonna be my mom and that I should listen to you and protect you when I grow up. He also said that there's my little sister in your belly."

Ellinor felt a bit uneasy. "When did he tell you this?"

"When we were on the mountain. You were asleep, and Dad told me when he wasn't sleeping,"

"Really?"

Ellinor was puzzled. Theo had a legal wife, so why would he tell his son all this?

Was it because he thought Baber would accept her, so he not only wanted her to have his child but also help look after Baber? Did he not want to burden his legal wife?

Ellinor liked Baber and didn't mind taking care of him, but she felt it was unfair.

After a moment of silence, a slightly tense Baber asked, "Can't I call you mom?"

Ellinor, feeling awkward, told him, "The term 'mom' isn't something you can just casually throw around, kiddo. Wait until your dad comes back and ask him who you should call 'mom'."

Baber looked disappointed. "Oh..."

Ellinor knew Baber was upset, but she was helpless. She gently patted his head and said, "Alright, go play with your toys since you're full.*"

The word 'mom' weighed heavily on her because it represented a responsibility she couldn't bear. She didn't want Baber to experience the feeling of being abandoned by his mother again.

So she couldn't accept Baber calling her 'mom'.

In fact, if possible, she'd be willing to take him away, as raising a child wouldn't be a burden to her.

But now she was desperate to break free from Theo's entanglement, and taking his foster son would only make this man chase her more persistently.

For the greater good, she had to give up this idea.

Baber obediently climbed onto the bed to play by himself, and Ellinor took out another phone left by Ida and dialed a number.

The call rang for a while before the other party finally picked up.

Chapter 1149

The guy's voice was lighthearted, and he was also chuckling. Judging from the background noise, he was probably out and about.

Ellinor said, "It's me."

On the other end of the line, Bartlett Rex paused briefly. Then a glint of surprise appeared in his eyes. "Ellinor? This is a surprise! You actually called me?"

Ellinor got straight to the point. "Mr. Rex, can you do me a favor?"

Bartlett asked with a laugh, "What's in it for me?"

A small frown creased Ellinor's brow, and she forced a smile, "Shouldn't you ask me what I need help with first?"

Bartlett's voice took on a teasing tone, "That's not important! As long as you give me a chance to be near you, I wouldn't hesitate, even if you asked me to drop dead."

Ellinor's smile grew more awkward. She had once thought that Chase was the sweetest talker she'd ever met, but after meeting Bartlett, she realized he was the real deal.

Ellinor didn't entertain Bartlett's sweet talk any longer and stated her intentions.

Bartlett didn't waste time either and stated what he wanted in return.

After some consideration, Ellinor agreed to his conditions and hung up.

Bartlett still had a few words to say, but Ellinor didn't give him the chance and ended the call, leaving him staring at his phone with a sigh of regret.

"Bartlett, who were you on the phone with?" Jonah Wyton's arm draped around his shoulders from behind.

Bartlett pocketed his phone and smiled, "Just a subordinate from the company, asking me some stuff."

Jonah didn't suspect a thing and laughed, "Let's continue drinking then; we've gotta get Kemp drunk tonight!"

Bartlett followed Jonah back to the bar.

Meanwhile, just as Ellinor ended the call with Bartlett, an unknown number called in.

The phone belonged to Ida, so the caller's name wasn't displayed. Ellinor didn't plan to pick up random calls and hung up.

But the unknown number called again immediately, which Ellinor again ignored.

After a few rounds of this, the number called for the sixth time. Worried that it might be something important, Ellinor picked up.

"Ida, why aren't you answering my calls?" Ellinor was about to explain that she wasn't Ida, but then realized the voice sounded familiar.

"Hmph! You've blocked me on social media too! What the hell are you trying to do? Haven't I already apologized?" Ellinor recognized the voice as Byran's but was surprised. Why would he call Ida? What did they have to do with each other?

Byran continued, "Hello, Ida, why aren't you saying anything? Are you still mad at me?"

Oh, come on, I'm not even mad that you complained to my brother and had him send people to mess with me, so why are you being so hard on me? You weren't like this when you pushed me onto the bed that night!

You can't just dump me like this!"

Ellinor finally understood the situation, and her expression became serious. She rubbed her forehead lightly, "When did you two start?"

There was a pause on the other end of the line.

Chapter 1150

Byran hesitated before he finally asked, "Ellinor, why do you have Ida's phone?"

Ellinor, with a pounding headache, asked, "When did you two start?"

Byran didn't know how to respond, especially since Ida had warned him not to let Ellinor know about their affair. He was scared to speak.

"Oh, my bro is calling me for homework) I've gotta hang up now!"

He shamelessly hung up the phone.

Ellinor, hearing the busy tone from the phone, took a deep breath.

Nothing in her life was ever easy. If it wasn't Chase and Theo's niece causing a ruckus, it was Ida messing with the Howard family.

Things were getting more and more complicated!

The next morning, as usual, Ellinor went to have breakfast with Baber.

She had taught Baber to eat with a spoon the day before, and today he was eating well all by himself.

While Ellinor was sipping her porridge, Putnam Blanchet, who usually was not very warm to her, actually showed some concern. "Don't just drink porridge; eat some meat too. You need protein!"

Ellinor smiled and politely responded.

She wasn't moved; she just felt that every bit of concern from the Blanchet family was only because of the child in her belly.

After breakfast, Veronica took Baber to play, and Ellinor went to find Marissa.

Putnam had gone to his study after breakfast, and only Marissa was in her room.

Ellinor knocked on the door and entered after receiving Marissa's permission. She saw Marissa sewing baby clothes.

After seeing Ellinor, Marissa smiled warmly, "Ellinor, you came at the right time. What do you think of the clothes I'm making? Aren't they cute?"

Ellinor smiled faintly, "Yes, they're cute! But we can just buy these; you don't have to make them yourself."

Marissa shook her head, "Where's the hardship in this?! Just the thought of your baby wearing the clothes I made makes me incredibly happy! Besides, store-bought clothes can't match those made with love!"

Ellinor just smiled, unable to express genuine joy.

"Ellinor, did you need something from me?" Marissa put down the clothes and asked.

Ellinor nodded, "Granny, you said yesterday you could take me out for a change of scenery; does that still stand?"

Marissa replied, "Of course it does! Where would you like to go, Ellinor?"

Ellinor sighed, "I'm getting quite bored at home. I'd like to go for a walk, maybe in the park?"

Marissa took Ellinor's hand and said, "Of course! Ellinor, you don't need to ask me like you're requesting permission; just tell me where you want to go!" Ellinor gave a bitter smile, "If I could really go wherever I wanted, there wouldn't be so many bodyguards at the door watching over me."

Marissa, "Well, that..."

Ellinor continued, "Okay, Granny, can you take me out tomorrow morning? I checked the weather forecast; it's going to be a beautiful day!"