

The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1446

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Chapter 1446

Veronica fell silent.

She had completely forgotten that picnics required the preparation of food in advance.

“I have, I have! There’s food!”

Marissa slowly walked out from the kitchen. “Ellinor dear! Grandma has prepared a bunch of desserts for the kids, including cookies and cakes. We also have plenty of rice. I’ll ask our housekeeper to make some extra sushi to take with you. That should be more than enough food for your picnic.”

After hearing this, Veronica burst into laughter and hugged the elderly lady in joy.

“Grandma, you’re a lifesaver! This is great!”

Marissa, slightly irritated by her granddaughter’s lack of respect, pushed her away and turned her kind gaze to Ellinor.

“Ellinor, you’ve been working hard at the company lately. Take today off and relax a bit.”

Ellinor smiled. “Thank you, Grandma.”

The three little ones also excitedly chimed in. “Thank you, Great-Grandma!”

Marissa was getting on in years and was delighted to hear her great-grandchildren cheerfully calling her ‘Great-Grandma!

“My three little darlings, wait here. I will get you some more tasty treats. And remember, when you are out playing, listen to Mommy and Auntie. No running away, alright?”

Baber gleefully responded, “Okay!”

Adrian, with a big smile on his face, said, “We will listen!”

Layla also happily answered, "Great-Grandma, Layla will listen too!"

Marissa chuckled. "Good, good! You're all my best-behaved darlings!"

Ellinor changed into fresh clothes and packed extra outfits and water bottles for the three little ones. They then went downstairs to set off.

Marissa had already had the food packed into the car cooler.

Once everything was ready, Ellinor and Veronica bid their grandmother farewell, loaded the kids into the car, and set off.

The car stereo played children's songs to match the sunny weather outside, lifting the spirits of the three little ones who sang along.

Ellinor's mood brightened considerably after seeing the children happy.

Veronica suddenly instructed the driver to make a detour to Creston University to pick up someone.

The driver obliged, turning the car in a new direction.

Ellinor seemed to guess something and raised an eyebrow at Veronica. "What are you up to?"

Veronica's face turned as red as an apple. "What? What are you talking about? He's just a cla**mate who wanted to join us. I said yes. One more person just means one more mouth to feed. Plus, he can help us look after the kids."

Ellinor smirked but said nothing more.

She knew who Veronica was going to pick up. It was Moran, whom Veronica had had a crush on for a while.

Ellinor's guess was spot on. When they arrived at Creston University, Moran was indeed waiting at the entrance. He got into their car and naturally sat in the front. pa**enger seat.

After getting in, he turned around to exchange a smile with Veronica before politely greeting Ellinor. "Ellinor, it's been a while."

Ellinor nodded. "Yes. It seems like you've decided to stay on as a faculty member at the university."

Moran rubbed the back of his head. "Yeah, I can't really see myself in the cutthroat corporate world. I'm much more at home in academia."

Ellinor smiled. "That's good. You're quite suited for teaching. You've managed to tame our Veronica, so I'm sure you'll do great with others."

Ellinor emphasized the word 'tame' in a teasing way, clearly making fun of the two of them.

Chapter 1447

Veronica's face flushed a bright red as she exclaimed in embarrassment. "Oh, you've got your wires crossed. Moran was helping me with my school work. Nothing more!"

Ellinor simply shrugged, not bothering to clarify or change her statement.

Moran, on the other hand, didn't seem to mind. He just shyly tugged at his lips and glanced at the three children nestled between the two women, remarking, "The kids are growing up so fast. Time flies."

Ellinor turned her gaze to the scenery whizzing past their car window, murmuring in agreement. "Yeah, time really does fly..."

In the blink of an eye, three years had passed.

Green Park in Greenhaven was the ideal spot for a spring picnic. Many families would bring their children here to play on weekends when the weather was nice.

Ellinor and Veronica led the children ahead, while Moran trailed behind, carrying all the necessary supplies.

Once they found a suitable patch of green, Veronica turned to Moran. "Let's set up over there, Moran."

Moran nodded in agreement. "Sounds good."

Then the two of them busied themselves with setting up the picnic blanket and arranging the food and beverages they had brought.

After taking a few pictures of their spread, Veronica called over their little troop for a group photo.

The three young ones adored their auntie and quickly scampered over.

Moran wasn't one for photographs, and to avoid being in the frame, he retreated a few steps and watched the scene unfold with a soft smile in his eyes.

Ellinor joined him, studying his expression before asking softly, "You've fallen for her haven't you?"

Caught off guard by her question, Moran's cheeks flushed slightly before he nodded in admission.

"To be honest, I used to have quite a bit of prejudice against Veronica. I thought she was frivolous and spoiled. But ever since you asked me to tutor her, I've realized she's a pretty straightforward girl." He confessed.

Ellinor couldn't help but agree. "She's definitely simple. Especially here." With that, she tapped her own forehead, clearly implying Veronica wasn't the sharpest tool in the shed.

Moran understood her meaning immediately and chuckled in response. He didn't deny it. Veronica might not be the brightest, but that was part of her charm.

As they continued their conversation, they watched Veronica take photos of the children.

Suddenly, a chill ran down Ellinor's spine. It was an all-too-familiar feeling.

Once upon a time, a certain man named Theo used to give her that same sensation with just one piercing glare.

Ellinor's heart thumped in her chest as she instinctively turned to look in the direction of her unease. Under a nearby parasol, a man sitting in a wheelchair was looking in their direction.

His face was obscured by a sun-protective mask and dark sunglasses, making it impossible to make out his features.

Though it was a sunny day, it was rare to see a man so cautious about UV rays.

"Mommy! Mommy!"

Her son's shout pulled Ellinor's attention away. As a mother, she naturally turned her gaze to him.

Adrian was eagerly bouncing around and pointing at the sky with a look of pure yearning on his face.

Ellinor approached him, asking, "What's wrong?"

Adrian looked at her with hopeful eyes. "Mommy, I want to fly a kite too! I want a Mechanical Hero kite!"

Following her son's pointing finger, Ellinor looked up to see a Mechanical Hero kite soaring in the sky.

Chapter 1448

Ellinor, being the doting mother she was, delighted in fulfilling such small requests for her children.

She tousled her son's hair fondly. "Alright, don't worry, honey. Aunt Veronica and Uncle Moran will go check if there are any kites for sale nearby. How about we get one for you and your sister?"

Adrian nodded eagerly. "Yes!"

Then Ellinor turned towards Veronica. "Veronica, can you and Moran look around and see if there's a booth selling kites?"

It was a clever way to give Veronica and Moran some alone time. Otherwise, with three little ones always in tow, they'd never find the chance to have an uninterrupted conversation.

Veronica was more than happy to do so. After agreeing, she looked somewhat shyly at Moran. "Moran, would you mind accompanying me?"

Moran gave her a warm smile and extended his hand towards her. "Of course not. Let's go."

Veronica stood frozen for a good three seconds while staring at the hand Moran had offered her. She was both surprised and delighted.

With a dazed expression, she walked over to him.

Moran gently took her hand and led her away.

Ellinor watched them leave with a tinge of satisfaction in her eyes. But then her thoughts drifted back to the strange man she had seen in a wheelchair earlier. She glanced over to where he had been, only to find the spot now empty.

From the corner of her heart rose a peculiar feeling. Was there some kind of connection between her and that man?

Just then, her daughter, Layla, approached her with an innocent look on her face. “Mommy, is Aunt Veronica in love with that man?”—

Ellinor was taken aback. She was surprised that her three-year-old daughter knew what “in love” meant.

She managed a weak smile while looking at Layla’s innocent face. “Honey, do you know what being in love means?”

Layla nodded solemnly. “I do! It means two people like each other very much, and they’re very happy together.”

Ellinor furrowed her brows. “Who told you that?”

“No one did. I learned it from the fairy tales. The prince and princess live happily ever after, so they must be in love.”

Ellinor couldn’t help but laugh. Layla was the youngest but seemed to be the most mature of her kids.

She knew many words before attending preschool and could independently read picture books and fairy tales.

It seemed that girls might be more perceptive than boys. Through a few fairy tales, Layla had managed to grasp the concept of love.

Ellinor playfully ruffled Layla’s hair. “Yes, Layla. Aunt Veronica is in love with Uncle Moran. And Uncle Moran might become your uncle-in-law in the future.” Layla blinked her big, beautiful eyes. “If Aunt Veronica and Uncle Moran are in love, who are you in love with, Mommy?”

Ellinor’s face stiffened. Who was she in love with?

Theo, the man she was in love with, had disappeared.

Ellinor managed a forced smile. “Mommy is not in love, honey. Not everyone needs to be in love.”

Layla tilted her head, looking confused. “But the fairy tales say that you need to find someone you like and fall in love to be happy. Don’t you have someone you like, Mommy? If you’re not in love, are you unhappy? I don’t want you to be unhappy, Mommy!”

Ellinor was left speechless by her daughter’s innocent question.

Chapter 1449

“Mommy has a man she fancies. Because of this man, she can’t date anyone else.”

Layla curiously inquired. "Who is this man Mommy likes? Where is he? Why doesn't he come and date Mommy?"

Ellinor was speechless.

Every child seemed to be a never-ending book of questions, didn't they?

If anyone else asked her this question, she wouldn't think about answering it. But for her own daughter, she couldn't ignore it.

With a sigh, Ellinor responded. "The man Mommy likes is away dealing with some matters. When he returns, he'll naturally be there to date Mommy."

Layla posed another question. "Is the man Mommy likes Daddy?"

Caught off guard, Ellinor candidly nodded at her daughter. "Yes, the man Mommy likes is indeed your Daddy!"

But this didn't please Layla, who pouted unhappily. "I don't like Daddy!"

Confused, Ellinor asked, "Huh? Why don't you like Daddy? You've never even met him."

With a huff, Layla retorted. "That's exactly why I don't like him. In fairy tales, the prince always shows up to rescue the princess when she needs him most, even bravely fighting dragons for her. But Daddy has never been there for Mommy. Daddy doesn't like Mommy. So, I don't like him either!"

The logic of a child could sometimes be amusingly baffling, yet somehow it also struck a chord in Ellinor's heart.

"Before you were born, he would always show up when Mommy needed him and protect me." Ellinor said, her voice heavy with emotion,

Still puzzled, Layla asked, "Then why doesn't he show up after we were born? Does he not like us?"

Ellinor shook her head. "No, it's not that he doesn't like you. He's just tied up with some stuff. Trust Mommy. One day, your Daddy will come back, and you'll grow to like him too."

Layla pouted her lips in a grudge. "But Mommy often looks sad at night while clutching your pillow. It's cause he's not there for you."

Ellinor never expected that her three-year-old daughter could perceive and empathize with her emotions.

She felt touched and managed a faint smile. "Everyone has their moments of sadness. It's normal. Your Daddy has his too, and Mommy isn't there for him either. Layla,

Mommy doesn't want you to overthink things at such a young age or to hate your own Daddy. Believe in Mommy. One day, we will overcome all obstacles and be a united family."

After looking into her mom's sincere and determined eyes, Layla threw herself into her arms. "I hope that when Daddy's not around, Mommy will be happy and fulfilled too."

"Mommy will."

After their heartfelt conversation, Veronica and Moran returned from their stroll.

Ellinor stood up and asked, "So, any luck finding a kite stall?"

With her cheeks blushing from holding hands with Moran, Veronica shook her head regretfully. "Moran and I circled the whole area, but we couldn't find any kite stalls. The kite we saw earlier must have been brought from home."

Ellinor sighed and turned to Adrian. "Since we couldn't find any, Mommy will order one online when we get home. We can come back here to fly it next time, okay?"

Adrian was clearly disappointed and mumbled, "Oh... okay."

He had really been hoping to meet the owner of that kite.

Chapter 1450

Gathered on a picnic blanket with three children, Ellinor enjoyed the sweet treats and sushi Marissa had made for their lunch.

A little distance away, Moran and Veronica were engaged in a deep conversation. Having just cleared the air about something, both were a tad bit shy.

Baber's face was smeared with sushi sauce. Ellinor handed him a napkin. "Eat slowly. Don't choke."

Baber nodded obediently.

Adrian, on the other hand, had his eyes glued to the Mechanical Hero Kite soaring above them. Seeing the kite drift off, he hastily crammed the remaining sushi into his mouth and stood up. "Mommy, I'm full! I'm going over to Aunt Veronica!"

Ellinor turned to her youngest. "Run slowly. Be careful not to trip!"

Adrian nodded and scampered off towards Veronica.

Ellinor watched as Adrian reached Veronica before she turned back to Baber and Layla, offering them some water from the bottle to prevent any choking incidents.

Baber and Layla were behaving beautifully, quietly eating their lunch by her side.

Ellinor occasionally glanced towards Veronica, keeping an eye on Adrian.

Initially, everything seemed fine, with Adrian staying close to Veronica and watching the kite. However, when she looked again, Adrian was nowhere to be seen.

Ellinor felt a sudden chill as she stood up and began looking around.

“Veronica, where’s Adrian?”

Hearing Ellinor’s voice, Veronica, who was engrossed in conversation with Moran, looked around in surprise. “Adrian? He was just here watching the kite.” Ellinor glanced at the Mechanical Hero Kite, which had significantly lowered. She had a suspicion that he went over there. “Veronica, Moran, can you two watch Baber and Layla? I’m going to find Adrian.”

Veronica looked worried. “Ellinor, where are you going?”

Ellinor didn’t turn back but raised her voice. “I have an idea where Adrian is. Just watch Baber and Layla.”

Veronica sat anxiously as Moran patted her shoulder. “Don’t worry; Ellinor probably knows where to find Adrian. Let’s go sit with Baber and Layla: We can’t afford to lose another one.”

“Alright...”

Somewhere else, a Mechanical Hero Kite had fallen onto an open grassy area.

A little boy wearing a Mechanical Hero mask came running to pick it up, dusting it off gently before turning to head back to his father.

But another boy, about his height, stood in his way. The boy blinked with a hint of arrogance on his face. “Hey, where did you get your Mechanical Hero Kite?”

Tristan, the boy with the mask, recognized the impolite boy but couldn’t remember where he’d seen him, His father had always told him not to talk to strangers. So, he ignored the boy, picked up his kite, and walked away.

Adrian, frustrated at not getting an answer, followed Tristan. “Why are you ignoring me? I’m asking you a question!”

Tristan stood his ground. “My dad said not to talk to strangers, and I don’t have to answer their questions.”

Adrian disagreed and puffed out his chest. "That's not right! My mommy said to be polite and help others."

Tristan snorted behind his mask. "You're not very polite. You just shouted 'hey' when asking a question."