

## **The Kiss 831**

### **Chapter 831**

Theo gently stroked Ellinor's head with his big hand, trying to soothe her anxiety, and whispered, "If you're worried, shall we go to the hospital to check on him?"

Ellinor nodded

Then, Theo immediately started the car, driving in the direction of the ambulance.

At the hospital.

Outside the emergency room, a doctor came out, took off his mask, and informed the family in a serious tone. After preliminary examination, we have diagnosed the patient with acute gastric bleeding"

Mrs Howard's face turned pale with shock "What? Gastric bleeding? Doctor, how could my son suddenly have gastric bleeding?"

The doctor asked, "What did the patient eat today? We initially suspected it might be food poisoning"

Xenia hesitated a little, she subconsciously exchanged glances with her daughter next to her, then told the doctor, "Doctor, my son ate all his meals at home today. The quality of our food is not a problem! We all ate the same food and no one else had any issues, it couldn't be food poisoning, could it?"

The doctor deduced after hearing, "If everyone in the family ate the same food and only he had a problem, it could probably rule out the possibility of food poisoning it's more likely to be caused by an allergy"

Xenia nodded nervously. Yes, it must be an allergy! Doctor, please, you must save my son!"

Patncia also chimed in "Yes doctor, please save my brother!"

The doctor reassured the family, "The patient was brought to the hospital in time, he is no longer in critical condition after our efforts, but whether there will be any more problems depends on the cause of the gastric bleeding

Xenia anxiously asked, "Will he have any long term side effects?

The doctor answered, 'We cannot confirm that at the moment. We still need to further test the patient's blood, identify the allergen, and check if his symptoms were indeed caused by an allergic reaction. If we can't find this out it will be very hard to tell

The doctor put on his mask, ready to return to the emergency room.

"Doctor, wait a minute!"

Just as Xenia was slightly relieved, Ellinor's voice suddenly echoed in the hospital corridor, stopping the emergency doctor

The doctor halted his steps, and the Howard family also looked over

They saw Ellinor walking from the end of the corridor with Theo following closely behind her

Xenia and Patricia frowned. The mother daughter duo instinctively felt that Ellinor's appearance was not a good sign

Moreover, seeing Ellinor and Thea together made Patricia feel very uncomfortable.

The doctor looked at the girl who stopped him and asked curiously. "What's the matter? Are you also a relative of the patient?"

Ellinor stopped in front of the doctor, shaking her head. "I'm not a relative, but I just had a meal with the patient in the emergency room, I might be able to provide some clues about the symptoms

The doctor nodded, "Okay, let's hear it. Any clues?"

Just as Ellinor was about to speak, Patricia suddenly stepped forward with tears in her eyes as she interrupted "Ellinor, my brother is being rescued inside, can you stop interfering with the doctor and let him save my brother first?"

Ellinor coldly looked at the dramatic Patricia, "Didn't you hear me say I'm here to provide clues about the symptoms for the doctor? How can that be considered interference?"

Patricia deliberately stood between Ellinor and the doctor, crying, "As for the clues about the symptoms, my mom just told the doctor! Ellinor, you don't need to repeat it and waste the doctor's time; let the doctor go back to the emergency room first!"

Chapter 832

"Who's the one wasting the doc's time, huh?" Ellinor quipped, visibly annoyed. She grabbed Patricia by the collar and shoved her toward Xenia, "If Ms. Howard here wasn't busy running her mouth, I'd be done talking to the doctor by now!"

Patricia stumbled and fell onto Xenia, seething with anger

By the time she regained her footing and tried to interrupt Ellinor, it was too late.

Ellinor told the doctor, "Besides his usual diet, the patient also drank a beverage none of us had tasted before"

The doctor took this seriously. "What kind of drink are we talking about?"

"He downed a big glass of pomegranate juice freshly squeezed by his own mother. Doc, there's some residue of the juice on this napkin, maybe the hospital can run some tests on it to see if there's anything harmful

With that, Ellinor handed over the stained napkin that she had used at the Howard family's dinner table, where she tasted and then spat out the juice.

The doctor nodded right away. "Alright, we'll test it right away and see if there's something fishy with this pomegranate juice."

Ellinor nodded back, "Great, thanks!"

Then, the doctor went back to the ER to arrange the test.

After watching Ellinor hand over the sample to the doctor, both Xenia and Patricia's faces dropped.

Before heading to the hospital, Xenia had ordered the house staff to clean up all the remaining juice and destroy all evidence

Who would've thought Ellinor would spit out the juice on a napkin and bring it to the hospital? This was just too much!

What could she do now? Once the hospital got the test results, she couldn't refute anything

Balfour squinted at the mother-daughter duo, recalling how Xenia kept pushing Ellinor to drink the juice at dinner.

His face turned serious, Xenia, I hope there's nothing wrong with your juice! If something happens to Eyrán because of this, it won't just be swept under the rug

Xenia felt even more unsettled after Balfour's warning

But she couldn't show it, so she faked calmness, Balfour! I can understand if others suspect me, but how could you? We're family! Byran is my son, how could I possibly harm him?'

Balfour stared coldly at his stepmother and snorted sarcastically. "Who was the juice originally intended for? Need I say it out loud? When Byran wanted to drink it, you were reluctant. You just didn't have a good reason to refuse. I saw everything"

Theo frowned. Balfour's suspicion made him feel uneasy and he clenched Ellinor's shoulder tightly

Thank god Ellinor was cautious. What could have happened if she didn't taste it and spit it out?

He shouldn't have agreed to let her go to the Howard family's house alone.

Balfour's harsh words left Xenia speechless

Patricia thought for a moment, her eyes reddening as she defended her mother, "Balfour, how can you talk to Mom like that?

Mom only squeezed fresh juice for our guest out of kindness today. Byran is her own son, how could she possibly let him drink it if there really was poison in the juice?"

### Chapter 833

"Are you saying a mother would harm her own kid? Balfour, have you lost your marbles? I also had a glass of that pomegranate juice. If it was poisoned, how come I'm still standing?

If there was indeed something off about the juice, it could simply be a case of bad food pairing, which is an accident. There's no way my mom intended this

Patricia argued logically using the fact that she had also drunk the juice as her defense. This left Balfour with no room for arguments, thus reducing his suspicion towards Xenia, so he kept his mouth shut.

Ellinor chuckled “Ms Howard, did you conveniently forget? Right after you finished your glass, you bolted to the restroom and threw it all up”

Patricia’s eyes flickered, and her brows furrowed. She swallowed her anger and resentment, looking at Ellinor and appearing wronged

“Ellinor, do you just love stirring the pot? When did i throw up the juice? Got any proof? I simply went to the restroom! Why are you so hell bent on blarning my mom?” Ellinor calmly looked at Patricia, feeling like applauding her for handling this unexpected situation so effectively

At that moment, the silent McNeil Howard cleared his throat and said, “Enough! No more bickering outside the emergency room. The truth will be out once the test results are in ”

His words carried weight. As soon as McNeil Howard spoke, everyone simmered down.

Patricia and Xenia exchanged glances, both contemplating their next move

Ellinor was in no rush to find the real culprit. If one didn’t want others to know what they had done, they shouldnt have ever done it in the first place. The mother-daughter duo won’t be able to weasel out of this!

Out of concern for pregnant Ellinor, Thea led her to a nearby waiting chair.

He gently pressed her shoulder, signaling her to sit and wait.

Patricia watched this scene with eyes filled with jealousy

After watching Ellinor being treated so gently by Theo, Patricia approached and said, “Theo, I know you have a soft spot for Ellinor, and you’re on her side. But just because you fancy her you cant let her accuse my mom, can you? Even considering that I once saved your life, you can’t sit back and watch my family be framed.”

Theo glanced at her, remembering how she saved his life. He was moved but remained silent for two seconds before saying, “I haven’t expressed my opinion yet. As for whether your mother is being unjustly accused, let’s wait for the test results.”

Ellinor didn’t say anything she just watched Patricia’s performance quietly. She was using the fact that she saved Theo’s life to blackmail him.

It was laughable that over her being his savior was a sham

She had stolen the credit from others and was still acting high and mighty What a joke!

‘Theo

Patricia attempted to grab the hem of Theo’s clothes. She always did this because she didn’t dare hold his hand. She would lightly pull at his clothes, trying to get his attention, hoping he would look at her

But this time, she didn’t manage to touch his cloilies because, when she was about to touch their hem, Ellinor stopped her.

Ellinor firmly gripped Patricia's wrist, like a cop catching a thief, holding her hand firmly. With a sarcastic smile, she asked, 'Ms. Howard, are you trying to make an inappropriate move on my husband in broad daylight?'

Patricia's face went sour. She tried to pull her hand back, but she couldn't.

"Ellinor, what are you doing? Ouch! It hurts... Theo, help me; Ellinor is hurting me..

Chapter 834

Theo was soaking in the unexpected 'husband that slipped from Ellinor's lips, a glint of surprise and a faint smile dancing in his eyes.

Ellinor seemed a bit jealous, but hey, she knew how to keep her man in check.

Theo cringed a bit at Patricia's painful yelp. He patted Ellinor's head in an attempt to soothe her. "It's okay, she didn't touch me. Let her go, okay?"

Ellinor released Patricia as her eyes coldly flicked over Theo, 'Theo, you better keep yourself in line! I won't put up with a cheater!'

Theo frowned, lightly flicking her forehead, "Ellinor, who are you calling a cheater?"

Ellinor rubbed her forehead, clearly miffed, 'Hmph! Any man who doesn't reject other women is a cheater in my book! You didn't react when other women were making moves on you!'

Theo distanced himself from Patricia, sitting next to Ellinor and taking her hand, "I'll listen to you. From now on, I won't let anyone else touch me, okay?"

Ellinor, however, scowled discontentedly. Are you implying that I'm not a person?"

Theo could only laugh, "Would I dare? I mean, anyone but you can't touch me. Is that okay?"

Ellinor arched an eyebrow, 'I'll let it slide!'

Theo pinched her nose. 'Why are you so hard to deal with? I promised not to let anyone else touch me, so you have to do the same. You can only let me touch you!'

Patricia came over to stir up trouble between Theo and Ellinor but ended up being humiliated. Her jealousy was about to erupt.

Theo wasn't even giving her a second glance anymore. Patricia gritted her teeth and walked away.

Right now, she had other things to deal with. Once she'd solved her immediate problem, she'd deal with Ellinor properly.

Not long after Patricia's figure disappeared down the hospital corridor, Byran was wheeled out of the emergency room.

Byran was still unconscious, so the medical staff settled him into a single room in the ward giving his family some instructions about his condition and what to look out

for

Now, Byran needed to rest, once he woke up, they'd check for any cognitive issues.

The results for the pomegranate juice weren't out yet, they'd have to wait three more hours.

In the meantime, Patricia snuck into the hospital lab, slipping the doctor in charge a bank card and instructing him not to reveal the real ingredients in the pomegranate

juice

The lab doctor took the bank card without hesitation.

Patricia had a smug grin on her face as she left the lab. She was confident about the final outcome.

Ellinor wanted to use the pomegranate juice to prove her mother's guilt? Dream on; she's got another thing coming!

Money made the world go round. The lab doctor didn't even hesitate to take her bank card he agreed so quickly!

Ellinor would be so disappointed when she found out Served her right!

Three hours passed.

Byran was still unconscious, but the results for the pomegranate juice were finally out

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Chapter 835

The doctor armed with the lab results, came into the room to inform the patient's family

As soon as the doctor strolled in with the results, everyone got up and gathered around, eager to hear the news.

The doctor began, "The lab results for the pomegranate juice are in, let me break down what caused the patient's stomach to bleed"

Balfour nodded. "Alright, doc, shoot"

The doctor glanced at his report and started, "The ingredients in the pomegranate juice."

"Hold up!" Patricia suddenly barged to the front, cutting the doctor off, "Wait a sec, doc I've got something to say"

Balfour frowned "Patricia, what are you doing? Let the doctor finish, you can talk later."

Patricia looked at Balfour with a mix of hurt and determination in her eyes, 'Balfour, not Mom got the short end of the stick today, and I need to avenge her!'

Without giving Balfour a chance to respond, Patricia spun around and faced Ellinor, "Ellinor, you were suspecting that Mom's homemade pomegranate juice made Byran sick, right?"

Ellinor didn't deny it, "Yeah, that's right."

Patricia turned to her mom, Xenia, trying to look heartbroken, "Now that the results are in and all that's left is the doc's final word, I need you to promise me something. If the pomegranate juice isn't to blame, you have to admit you were wrong about my mom and apologize to her. Clear her name!"

That punishment seemed a bit over the top.

"Patricia, stop it Balfour scolded her

Patricia, with tears welling in her eyes, persisted, "Balfour, I know you think I'm being too much. I'm usually not like this... but today my mom was misunderstood. I can't stand it when people get the wrong idea about her!

No matter what Ellinor does to me, I won't allow her to slander my mom!

Balfour, didn't you always say, whoever messes up should apologize?"

Balfour was speechless, yet he still disagreed. "That's not..."

"I agree!"

Ellinor cut Balfour off and stood her ground facing Patricia, "Patricia, I promise you. If there's nothing wrong with the pomegranate juice, I'll kneel down here and apologize to Mrs. Howard!"

Her agreement made the three men, Theo, Balfour, and McNeil, all raise their eyebrows

The doctor hadn't confirmed it yet, and no one could be sure of the outcome. If the juice did turn out to be fine, then Ellinor would have to kneel down.

Theo wouldn't stand for Ellinor being treated unfairly

Balfour wouldn't allow his long lost sister to kneel before anyone, right or wrong.

McNeil Howard just thought it was too extreme and inappropriate. He had some inexplicable feelings for this Ellinor girl, he couldn't bear to see her kneel in front of

everyone

However, having her daughter stand up for her and support her gave Xenia some comfort. She feigned injury, sobbing a bit and wiping away a couple of tears before saying. "Patri, let it go! Ms. Mendoza probably didn't mean to accuse me, let's chalk it up to fair suspicion. Let's not make a big deal out of it

Patricia knew her mom didn't really mean to let Ellinor off the hook, it was just for show.

She pretended to be heartbroken and said, "Mom, we can't just let it go! Just now, both Balfour and Dad didn't believe you. As your daughter, I have to seek justice for you. How could I stand idly by while a stranger unfairly accuses you? We can let other things slide, but I pursue this matter to the end!"

Chapter 836

McNeil Howard stood up and said to his daughter Patricia, "Alright, Patri, if there was a misunderstanding, an apology from the other party would suffice, there's no need to have them kneel down."

Patricia was still adamant about her stance, "Dad! Didn't you just have doubts about Mom too? You've been with Mom all this time, and you even doubted her. Can you imagine how heartbroken she must be? How can she face you in the future?"

That's the kind of damage Ellinor's so-called reasonable doubt has done to our family! That's why I want Ellinor to take responsibility for her actions and apologize to Mom, so she is cleared of the false accusations!"

Balfour sighed in frustration, "Enough! Patri, you

Just then, Ellinor cut Balfour off, 'Everyone, there's no need to speak up for me. If the hospital's test results can prove that I misunderstood Mrs. Howard, then I'm willing to apologize

The room fell silent

Balfour looked at his sister with a complicated expression.

Thea frowned, unhappy with Ellinor's decision. He was about to say something when Ellinor, anticipating his reaction squeezed his hand and shook her head at him, telling

him not to worry

Theo didn't say anything, deciding to wait and see how the situation would unfold,

No one else interrupted, and a hint of triumph flashed in Patricia's eyes

Then, she pretended to wipe away some tears and turned to the doctor. "Alright. Doctor, can please announce the results now?"

The doctor nodded his expression serious. "After our professional examination, we can confirm that the pomegranate juice was freshly squeezed and pure."

Patricia heard the answer she was expecting. Her heart was filled with satisfaction due to her plan going smoothly

The doctor wouldn't expose the true components of the pomegranate juice after accepting her bank card, not unless he didn't want money

"Ellinor, did you hear that? The doctor said the pomegranate juice was pure, my mom is innocent; you misunderstood her!"

Xenia put on a face of someone who had been wronged but was still willing to forgive. "It's alright, as long as everyone knows I'm innocent. Patri, Mom will let it go

"No way! Mom, I'll get justice for you!" Patricia stood her ground, and her determined eyes fell on Ellinor, 'Ellinor, please apologize to my mom now!"

The men present all frowned at the same time.

Ellinor gave a slight smirk, 'Ms. Howard, don't rush, it seems like the doctor isn't finished speaking yet."

Patricia scoffed internally, she felt Ellinor was just unwilling to accept the results.

“Doctor, this lady seems to have some doubts about your findings, maybe you should explain them to her again”

The doctor spoke solemnly. The lady is right, I was interrupted before I could finish. Ms. Howard, I hope you won’t interrupt me this time”

Patricia’s face flushed red. “Uh...

Why was this doctor being so rude to her after taking her money?

Chapter 837

The doctor carried on, “Sure, the pomegranate juice was pure alright, but it was laced with a ton of saffron syrup. That’s what caused the bleeding in the stomach. It’s all due to an overdose of saffron.”

“Saffron is a top shelf and very expensive spice. It’s good for the body in the right amounts. But if you OD on it, you’re looking at vomiting bloody urine, heavy periods, acute poisoning internal bleeding, and the like. Especially for pregnant women, it can cause miscarriages and infertility”

The room went silent after the doctor finished. Was there really something fishy about the pomegranate juice?

Upon hearing the last bit, Theos face darkened, and his hand tightened into a fist. He had a gut feeling someone was gunning for his wife and kid.

Patricia was dumbfounded. What was the doctor playing at? Was he just in it for the dough and not doing his job?

“Doc, what the hell are you talking about? Saffron? In pomegranate juice? You must’ve gotten it all mixed up Have another gander at the test results

Patricia was hinting at the doctor as she spoke, but the doctor wasn’t having it. ‘Ms. Howard, I havent gotten anything mixed up. If you don’t believe me, take a look at the report yourself. It’s all there in black and white’

With that, the doctor handed the report to Patricia.

Patricia was left speechless and staring at the doctor. How could he?

Before she could reach for the report, Balfour snatched it, his expression stern as he read it.

Xena, who was waiting for Ellinor to eat humble pie, now looked rather unsettled.

Balfour was pissed off and threw the report in Xenia’s face, his eyes were as cold as ice. “Xenia, you specially prepared the pomegranate juice for Ellinor, didn’t you? A drink laced with saffron syrup for pregnant Ellinor. What were you thinking?”

Xenia’s mind was racing as she looked at the scattered report in front of her

The evidence was right in front of her she couldn’t deny it, so she feigned surprise, How would I know Ellinor was pregnant? She’s so young and thin, it doesnt show at all.” Balfour clenched his jaw, scoffing “Even if you didn’t know she was pregnant, that gives you the right to poison the dink?”

Xenia already had her answer ready. She put on an innocent face and said, "Balfour, listen to me... Yes, I did add some saffron syrup to the pomegranate juice, but I didn't know it was poisonous. If someone used too much

I got the juice recipe off the internet, and it said adding some saffron would make it taste better and be good for you!

I realized that Ms. Mendoza saved Dean's life and is an important quest to our family. Saffron is a very precious ingredient, and I thought I'd add more saffron to thank Ms

Mendoza

How was I to know that too much saffron would have such severe side effects? If I knew, I would never let my son Bytan drink so much"

In fact, Xenia definitely knew about the side effects of saffron, but she didn't fully understand them and didn't expect it would have such a serious impact on men.

Balfour was no fool, he raised an eyebrow sharply. "Oh? You found this recipe online? Where exactly? Show me!

Xenia looked a bit uncomfortable. "Uh, I deleted the tutorial after making the juice, I didn't save it."

Balfour narrowed his eyes, his tone ominous. "Then I guess you'll have to search for it again. I want to see which tutorial teaches people to add poisonous saffron syrup to juice!"

## Chapter 838

Patricia had regained her cool and was once again defending her mom. "Balfour, you can't just accuse Mom like that! Saffron is indeed known to be good for blood circulation and beauty care. Mom doesn't understand medical stuff, she just knows to use more of the good stuff! Regardless, Mom added saffron to the pomegranate juice with good intentions, she didn't mean any harm!

Good intentions? Her good intentions almost had Ellinor drink something that could have harmed her and her baby! And got Byran laying in a hospital bed!

Balfour looked at Patricia, who always found excuses for Xenia, and felt an unprecedented disgust for his spoiled little sister.

Just then, someone knocked on the hospital room door.

It was the doctor who had left after giving them the test results. He was back.

"Oh, I forgot to return something to Ms. Howard!"

The doctor went straight to Patricia, took out a bank card from his pocket, and handed it to her, saying seriously. "I'm sorry, Ms. Howard. Our hospital has a rule against accepting personal belongings from family members or manipulating test results. I temporarily took your card earlier to avoid you disrupting my work. Now that the work is done, I can return your card."

Patricia turned pale at the sight of the doctor.

She didn't reach out for the bank card. She couldn't!

If she did, her innocent image that she maintained for so many years would collapse completely!

But right now, she couldn't think of any excuses for herself.

Balfour took the bank card from the doctor and confirmed that it was indeed Patricia's, with her name on it.

In a split second, Balfour's eyes filled with disappointment and anger, and he glared at the pale Patricia, "You actually tried to bribe the doctor with money?"

Patricia came back to her senses and quickly shook her head in a panic. No, no. Balfour, I just wanted the doctor to pay more attention to Byran's condition and treat him better. As Byran's sister, I was just too worried about him, that's why I gave the doctor money."

After seeing her still lie, Balfour's disappointment in his sister turned into disgust. He snorted heavily, "You should have given money to Byran's attending doctor, not to the doctor who was responsible for testing the pomegranate juice!"

Patricia was speechless as Balfour saw through her lie "Balfour, L...

Balfour threw the bank card on the ground with a look of disappointment

Initially, he thought the thing with the pomegranate juice was Xenia acting alone. He thought that it was just her dangerous act to help her daughter pursue Theo, which Patri was unaware of. He believed she just wanted to protect her mother and that the matter had nothing to do with Patri.

However, this bank card was enough proof that Patri not only knew about it but was also supportive.

This was the little sister he had spoiled since childhood, who had now become a scheming woman and was very good at playing innocent.

Realizing she had disappointed Balfour, Patricia rushed over to throw herself into Balfour's arms like before, playing the victim. "Balfour, you've really misunderstood me, things aren't as you think."

Balfour felt repulsed and pushed her away. "You won't even admit you're wrong now? What am I supposed to believe from you?"

Chapter 839

After being pushed away, Patricia felt like her world was falling apart. Tears streamed down her face, and she sobbed uncontrollably

All she wanted was to win Balfour's sympathy through her tears, "Balfour. Why don't you love me anymore? You promised to love me forever.

Balfour didn't want to deal with her anymore, he didn't even want to look at her!

If he looked at her again, he would remember how blind he had been to have let a scheming sister like her get away with things for so many years

"Mr. Howard, don't be mad"

Ellinor handed Balfour a bottle of mineral water, trying to calm him down.

Balfour was taken aback. Seeing the bottle of water Ellinor handed him, he was surprised and touched, then a wave of guilt washed over him, leaving him with a mix of feelings

Today, he finally saw the true colors of his half sister, Patricia. How could he not think back on the conflicts between Patricia and Ellinor?

Every time, he almost unconditionally sided with Patricia and hurled insults and misunderstandings at Ellinor, whom he didn't even know was his own sister at the time.

Thinking back, all those incidents were probably deliberately caused by Patricia.

He felt incredibly ashamed!

Balfour couldn't face the bottle of water from his sister, Ellinor but he couldn't bear to refuse her rare kindness either. In the end, he awkwardly accepted the water, looking at the calm faced Ellinor with mixed feelings and guilt, "Ellinor, aren't you angry about how they treated you?"

Ellinor smiled slightly, "Why should I be mad? I didn't drink that juice, and they didn't harm me"

Balfour gave a bitter smile. He wanted to hug his sister, give her support, and protect her

But he knew he didn't have the right to do so anymore

Ellinor added calmly Mr. Howard, forgive me for being blunt, but I think you misunderstood your sister, Ms. Howard"

Balfour was taken aback and stated at her, 'Ellinor, what do you mean by that?

Patricia was so stunned that she even stopped crying. She looked at Ellinor in surprise, not knowing what Ellinor was going to say to Balfour. She was on alert.

Ellinor took a sip of her water, screwed the cap back on, and handed the half full bottle to Theo next to her in smooth and natural movements.

Then she stepped forward looking at the tear streaked Patricia with a pained expression, Look, Ms. Howard is crying so much, it's heartbreaking

I think the thing about adding saffron to the juice has nothing to do with Ms. Howard. She must have learned about it afterwards, considering that Mrs. Howard made that wrong decision for her. She probably couldn't bear to see her mother being blamed, so she tried to bail her mother out by bribing the doctor

Isn't that right. Ms. Howard?"

Patricia stared at Ellinor in surprise and had an expression full of confusion. However, since Ellinor's explanation was to her advantage, she nodded.

I was afraid that if my grandparents found out about her actions, they would

Yes... Ellinor is right... I really didn't know about the saffron in the pomegranate juice at first! I only found out after the fact. My mom felt that Ellinor stole Theo from me. and in order to help me get

revenge, she did such an impulsive thing But she's my mom punish her, so I tried to bribe the doctor, hoping to smooth things over

Chapter 840

At this point, Patricia had no choice but to toss her mom's dignity under the bus to keep her own innocent image intact.

Otherwise, they'd have no place in the Howard family

While Patricia wasn't sure what was going on in Ellinor's head, the story she'd just spun was the most plausible one that could get Patricia off the hook. So she agreed with Ellinor's version for now

Ellinor reached out with a sympathetic hand, tucking a loose strand of hair behind Patricia's ear. "Yeah, I think so too. Ms Howard's such a sweet and kind person. She nearly gave her life to save Theo and ended up being unable to have children. I can't believe someone as selfless as her would get involved in something so harmful"

After hearing Ellinor's veiled praises. Patricia felt a chill running down her spine. Ellinor's sudden defense felt a bit off

Ellinor frowned deeply, looking worried "Ms. Howard, I just remembered! You also chugged a big glass of pomegranate juice spiked with way too much saffron without knowing it. Are you okay? Do you feel unwell anywhere?!

Patricia hadn't let her guard down around Ellinor, but for now, she had to play along. She shook her head innocently. "I'm sorry to worry you, Ellinor, but I'm fine. I don't feel unwell"

But Ellinor still looked unconvinced, "You can't be too careful! After hearing about the side effects of saffron from the doctor, I did some googling. Turns out, even girls who aren't pregnant can get seriously harmed from too much saffron! Ms. Howard, I suggest you get yourself checked out to see if your body's been affected

Patricia knew full well that Ellinor wasn't genuinely concerned for her. She politely declined, "Thank you for your concern, Ellinor. But I'm really okay, there's no need for a check up."

Ellinor shook her head, "How can you not get checked? You drank a whole glass, not just a sip! Look at your brother, Byran. He only had half a glass, and he started bleeding from his stomach! For safety's sake, I think you should get checked"

Patricia instinctively didn't want to get checked. She refused again. "No need! I'm really okay! Actually, I didn't drink much, I threw up..."

Her mind was a mess, and she accidentally let slip something she shouldn't have said,

When she realized her mistake, she immediately shut up.

But the cat was already out of the bag, and Ellinor caught it

Ellinor raised an eyebrow, tilting her head in confusion, "Huh? Threw up? Ms. Howard, didn't you tell me that you didn't throw up the juice? If you did, why would you? Could it be that you knew the juice was poisoned from the beginning?"

Patricia's face froze

She quickly racked her brain for an excuse. No. I didn't throw up... I mean, I just needed to use the bathroom after drinking the juice, so I went. I think the toxins from the saffron must've been flushed out then, so they didn't affect me

Ellinor furrowed her brows with concern, "If you didn't throw up, then you should still get checked! Ms. Howard, you've already got a weak body from saving Theo back then. It'd be bad if you hurt yourself again. It's always better to catch things early, right?"

Patricia was frustrated inside but she had to keep a calm face. Ellinor had pushed her into a corner, but she still didn't want to agree to the check-up.

Ellinor didn't wait for her to agree. She made the arrangements addressing the doctor who was still present.

"Doctor, could you please take Ms. Howard to get checked for any issues from consuming excessive saffron, especially any gynecological issues? We need to make sure the saffron isn't causing any menstrual irregularities or excessive bleeding

The doctor was about to leave and nodded, "Alright Ms. Howard, come with me. I'll arrange for a thorough check-up for you."