

Chapter 109 Who's Dead

Ted was already eight years old, and he was strong for a kid his age.

Alicia felt a sharp, overwhelming pain.

Before she could recover, he struck her again.

The blows carried the kid's malice.

Alicia tried to fight back, but the other children pinned her down.

Ted continued to hit her and yelled, "This is what you get for messing with my mom! This is what you deserve!"

He had been taught well, considering how he was targeting the softer areas of her body.

He deliberately avoided her face and any vital spots.

Even through the pain, Alicia managed to push one of the kids away.

Ted saw this and quickly dropped the stick. He grabbed a rope and tied her hands together.

Alicia's voice turned firm. "What is the matter with you? Let me go!"

Ted glared at her. "If I let you go, you'll hurt my mom again. I'll make sure to kill you!"

Alicia froze in shock.

It was the first time she'd ever seen such a fierce expression in a child's eyes.

He was unbelievably bold.

"You plan to kill me?" Alicia struggled against the tight rope, breathing heavily. "Didn't anyone ever tell you that killing is a crime? You'll end up in



jail!"

To her surprise, Ted sneered at her and said, "My mom told me I'm a kid, so nothing will happen to me if I kill you. Didn't you know that?"

Alicia felt a wave of fear rush through her.

He understood the law and was using it to his advantage.

Mrs. Reyes had clearly taught him well.

Even if Alicia survived today, she'd suffer. Mrs. Reyes would let Ted take the blame, knowing the law would protect him.

As those thoughts raced through her mind, Ted suddenly shoved her into the pool.

Alicia felt an instant drop in her stomach as she lost her balance.

She tried to scream for help, but no sound came out. Within moments, her head slammed against a rock.

Pain coursed through her for a few moments before giving way to numbness.

Her energy disappeared entirely, and she lost consciousness.

Her body slowly slipped beneath the surface of the water.

One of the children was clearly frightened. "Ted, did she die?"

Ted stared in shock.

The sound of her head hitting the rock was so loud that all of them heard it.

Alicia wasn't moving in the water now, and it seemed like she was truly gone.

"I... I just wanted her to go into the water. I didn't know she'd hit a rock!" As Alicia's body floated up, blood spread in the water. Ted began to panic and he was stumbling over his words. "It wasn't me! I didn't push her!"



Mrs. Reyes had only told Ted to rough Alicia up.

He never intended to hurt her like this.

In fit of panic, he ran outside.

As he kept on running, he called for his mother, Mrs. Reyes.

The children panicked and ran after Ted.

Their shrill cries echoed through the yard.

Caden was in the living room when he heard the noise while speaking with Randolph.

He looked outside and saw Ted throwing himself into Mrs. Reyes's arms.

Caden recognized him. Ted was the one who took Alicia's kebabs during the meal.

The look Ted gave Alicia at the time suggested he had something against her.

Randolph asked, "What's going on out there?"

Rachel's gaze shifted as she replied, "It's just some kids acting out. They might've gotten into a little scuffle, but it's nothing serious."

Caden noticed the fleeting guilt that crossed her face.

He watched her closely, keeping his thoughts to himself.

After glancing at the children, Rachel turned her attention to the small building off in the distance.

A frown appeared on her face as uncertainty clouded her mind.

Caden looked toward the open lawn.

It was vast, but there was no sign of Alicia anywhere.

An unsettling feeling crept over him, prompting him to rise from his seat.



Meanwhile, Mrs. Reyes quietly questioned Ted for more information.

Ted was trembling, and he struggled to get the words out. "She's dead... She hit her head, and now she's dead."

Fear gripped Mrs. Reyes, and her voice dropped to a whisper. "She's dead?"

"Who's dead?"

A booming voice tore through the tense atmosphere.

Mrs. Reyes looked up in alarm as her eyes met Caden's.

His face was dark and filled with fury.

The sheer intensity of his presence was overwhelming.

Before Mrs. Reyes could say a word, Ted blurted out, "It wasn't me! I didn't do it!"

His immediate reaction was to shift the blame.

Caden's suspicion grew. Something had clearly happened to Alicia.

Without hesitation, he grabbed Ted by the collar and marched toward the small building.

Feeling terrified, Mrs. Reyes stumbled behind him. "Mr. Ward, please let Ted go!"

Caden paid her no mind. He hauled Ted all the way to the building's entrance.

"Where is Alicia?" he growled.

Ted had never felt such fear before.

His mind went blank, and his body froze. "She's upstairs. In the pool."

"Which floor?" Caden asked again.

"The second..."



Caden flung him to the ground.

Ted snapped out of his daze and cried out in pain from the fall.

Caden raced up to the second floor, looked through the open door, and saw a figure floating in the pool.

His heart pounded as he sprinted toward it.