

Unconscious 871

Chapter: 871

Feeling thirsty, she reached for her phone to use its glow to Light the way. As she unlocked her phone, she discovered a text message from an unknown number.

“| have a secret about Theodore that | want to tell you. If you want to know, come to this place alone.”

Ariana glanced at the address, her eyes skimming over the text. After a contemplative pause, she replied, “Helen, is it? Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me! | won't be falling for your tricks again. Count me out!”

With that message sent, Ariana attempted to drift back into slumber, but restlessness plagued her. Before long, her phone rang again, displaying the same ominous number.

After a moment's hesitation, she answered, and there was Helen's voice, dripping with venomous malice, no longer bothering to veil her loathing for Ariana.

Through clenched teeth, she sneered, “Why won't you come? Scared of me, are you?” Ariana kept her composure and calmly replied, “No reason to entangle myself with someone like you!”

Helen's tone oozed mockery as she shot back, “Someone like me? What kind of person am |? And what does that make you? A lamb headed to the slaughter without a clue!”

Ariana could practically envision Helen's twisted expression from the warped sound of her voice.

She reminded herself not to be swayed by Helen's words, but her heart raced, and she couldn't help but ask, “What do you mean?”

With a cold laugh, Helen retorted, “I already told you, Theodore won't keep your children! Why don't you believe me?” “You're lying!” Emotion surged within Ariana. “I've already told him everything, and we'll be happy together!”

Helen's laughter intensified, echoing malevolently. "Come on, you're so naive. You don't understand Theodore at all. She emphasized the words "don't understand" with a sinister tone and added, "You're having the surgery today, right?" Ariana's heart skipped a beat at how Helen knew about her surgery.

Panic threatened to consume her, but she masked it with a composed facade, responding, "It's just a simple treatment procedure."

Helen sneered, not denying anything, and remarked, "Yes, just a small surgery!"

The chilling quality of her voice sent shivers down Ariana's spine, and before she could say more, Helen casually suggested, "Since you're too afraid to meet me, why don't you check the mailbox at the entrance of the Anderson family's mansion? I left you a gift!"

Unknowingly, Ariana's grip on her phone tightened, her face paling without her awareness.

With determination, she asserted, "I won't believe you again. I've made that clear enough!"

"Hmph!" Helen scoffed, "Your children's fate and your own are at stake.

Believe me or not, it's your call!"

Before Ariana could respond, Helen issued a chilling warning, "Don't let Theodore catch you, or your unborn children will be in danger!"

In a daze, Helen seemed to recall something and absently touched her chest. She spoke, her tone haunted. "You wouldn't want to face Theodore's madness."

Chapter: 872

Ariana wanted to inquire further, but just then, Theodore returned from the study, startling her. Hastily, she ended the call. "Hmm? Who were you talking to?" Theodore asked.

Ariana's heart leaped into her throat, and she unconsciously clutched the phone in her hand more tightly.

After a moment of hesitation, Ariana found herself at a crossroads and decided to tread the path of deception.

She placed her phone down calmly, explaining, "Oh, it's just Sarah. I woke up early and couldn't fall back asleep. Since you were not around, I thought of giving her a call to pass the time."

"Really?" Theodore smiled and casually asked.

But Ariana's nerves were on edge. Swiftly, she hid the truth, adopting a coquettish tone, "Of course. Since you're seldom here, who else can I turn to?"

Her hand brushed her belly as she spoke. "I'm hungry."

Theodore's smile widened, and he gently ruffled her hair, showing no sign of suspicion. "Alright then, let's get up and have a meal.

Everything is ready. Afterward, we'll prepare for the hospital visit and surgery."

The mention of the surgery made Ariana's heart skip a beat, suddenly losing her appetite.

She looked away uneasily and mumbled, "I want to have the cheese toast you make for me. I'll go wash my face." "Sure," Theodore agreed, leaving without a hint of doubt.

When he left, Ariana realized her palms were sweating from the anxiety.

After some contemplation, Ariana made up her mind to avoid Theodore for the moment and check the mail. Sneaking out, she saw Theodore busy in the kitchen as she passed the living room.

He wasn't particularly skillful, but the earnestness in his actions tugged at her heart.

Guilt washed over Ariana unexpectedly as she went past.

She didn't expect herself to doubt Theodore again, rather than Helen.

But the thought of the babies in her belly made her wary of any carelessness.

She resolved to take a peek, especially after Theodore's sudden agreement to keep the babies and the oddly smooth discussions about the surgery and child-related matters.

"This is the Last time," Ariana vowed to herself. If she misunderstood Theodore, she would apologize and place her trust in him forever.

With a tiptoe to the mailbox, Ariana took a deep breath and opened it. Inside, she found a document that left her dumbfounded. Bold letters adorned the top.

Agreement of Artificial Abortion!

Chapter: 873 Ariana trembled as she turned to the next page and discovered Theodore's name signed under the "family member" section.

At that moment, Ariana's mind went blank. She scrutinized the handwriting, confirming that it was indeed Theodore's authentic signature.

As she thought about how everything seemed to be going smoothly, fear gripped her soul. The operation was scheduled for ten o'clock that morning. Ariana convinced herself it must be a Lie, but her body refused to calm down.

Theodore's voice called her from the living room. Panicked, Ariana hastily tore the paper and discarded it in the nearby trash bin. She forced herself to return to the living room, feigning nonchalance as she joined Theodore for breakfast.

Despite nibbling on her toast, it tasted like sawdust to her. She took a few bites and casually inquired, "What time is the surgery?"

"It's at 10 o'clock. We should hurry," Theodore replied.

Hearing that, Ariana's heart sank further. She absentmindedly continued nibbling on her toast.

Finally noticing Ariana's discomfort, Theodore asked with concern, "What's wrong?"

He reached for her hand, only to find it ice-cold, deepening his worry.

Ariana finally snapped out of her thoughts and gave Theodore a forced smile, saying, "I'm not feeling well." She held Theodore's hand tightly and whispered, almost pleadingly, "Can I not go through with the surgery?" As Theodore skillfully danced around the question, his eyes darted.

With a poker face, he gracefully presented a steaming bowl of soup to Ariana. Then he suggested, "Perhaps it's best to go for a check-up at the hospital."

Ariana's heart sank like a stone in a deep well, but she tried to convince herself to put faith in Theodore. She knew she needed to trust him more.

"What's the matter, my dear? Are you still feeling under the weather?"

Theodore inquired, genuine concern etched on his face.

"It's nothing." Ariana forced a smile, shaking her head as if trying to unravel a difficult puzzle. "I'm just a bundle of nerves. Surgery is uncharted territory for me."

Theodore tenderly comforted her, drawing her close like a sheltering oak. "Fear not. It's but a minor procedure, over in the blink of an eye!"

Ariana nodded in agreement, took the last bite of toast with a touch of reluctance, and tidied up the table. Together, they got in the car and left for the hospital.

Reaching the hospital entrance, Ariana regained her composure, veiling her emotions. She couldn't easily trust Helen, that was for sure. She knew she needed to uncover the truth for herself. At the hospital, while the operating room was being prepared, they arrived early to address some matters.

Theodore needed to confer with the doctors about surgical arrangements, leaving Ariana to wait alone.

Chapter: 874

Noticing the time slipping away, Ariana calmly said, "It's getting late; I'll proceed with the test so we don't encounter any delays." Theodore nodded, contemplating having Horace accompany her, but Ariana insisted on going alone.

Given her familiarity with the hospital staff, Theodore reluctantly agreed.

As Ariana pretended to go for the test, she stealthily found a secluded nook to wait. When she spotted the nurse coming out with the prepared medication, she quietly followed her.

When the nurse was gone, she covertly captured photos of the medications and tools. She swiftly forwarded them to Mitchel and asked, "Dr. Chadwick, what type of surgery is this for?"

Ariana anxiously awaited the response, and soon the message came back with jarring words, hitting her like a bolt of lightning. "Abortion surgery."

In an instant, Ariana's heart plunged into an icy abyss, like a fragile snowflake drifting into a bottomless chasm. She could hardly believe it; Helen was right!

Her legs felt like jelly, and tears cascaded uncontrollably down her cheeks.

All this time, Theodore had been deceiving her!

Ariana took a moment to gather herself, donning a mask of normalcy as if nothing had transpired. But inside, she was already concocting her escape plan.

She gently caressed her abdomen, whispering, "My babies, fear not, for Mommy will protect you no matter what the storm!"

Ariana navigated the hospital with the stealth of a cat, evading everyone in her path until she found a secure passage to slip away.

Outside the hospital, panic consumed her like wildfire, propelling her toward the roadside. As if the universe heard her plea, a taxi appeared, and she hastily hailed it.

The taxi driver inquired, "Is it okay with you to share the ride with someone else?" Ariana noticed a person in the backseat, hidden under a hat, exuding an aura of aloofness. Despite some reservations, fearing that Theodore's men could be on her tail, she nodded, taking the front seat.

Once the taxi set in motion, Ariana felt a sense of relief creeping in when, suddenly, a cloth soaked in ether was pressed against her mouth from behind!

Ariana's instinctive struggle was like a trapped bird attempting to break free from a hunter's grasp. In her desperate resistance, she caught a glimpse of Helen's menacing, bloodshot eyes through the rearview mirror. The realization struck her Like a lightning bolt-it was all a trap!

Despite her valiant efforts, the drug's effects overwhelmed her, and soon, she succumbed to unconsciousness!

In the hospital, Theodore and the doctor had just completed talking about the last details of the surgery when the doctor asked, "By the way, Mr. Anderson, did you happen to take Mrs. Anderson's surgery records and medical report with you?"

“The report and records are missing? Is that what you’re trying to tell me?” The question struck Theodore, making him furrow his brow instantly.

Perplexed, the doctor nodded, saying, “Indeed, both seem to have vanished into thin air.” In an instant, Theodore’s anxiety surged, and he wasted no time in asking, “When did you first notice their absence?”

After pondering for a moment, the doctor replied, “It was on that chaotic day when we were all searching for the young girl with heart disease. The hospital was a whirlwind of activity, and we didn’t pay much attention. It was only when we were cleaning up that we realized they were gone and assumed you had taken them.”

Chapter: 875 Hearing this, Theodore’s apprehension grew, and he felt compelled to find Ariana without delay.

He scoured every nook related to the examination and inquired at the front desk, but Ariana was nowhere to be found. He grabbed the medical staff and questioned them intensely, only to learn that Ariana had never come to them for the test.

“Where is she?! Weren't you supposed to keep an eye on her?! Huh?” Theodore couldn't help but raise his voice, reproaching the bodyguards.

“We did our best, but she insisted on going alone, citing the need to use the restroom and change her clothes,” one of the bodyguards explained helplessly.

Theodore hastened to review the surveillance footage. As he suspected, Ariana had cleverly evaded everyone and clandestinely left, boarding an unregistered taxi.

Recalling her peculiar behavior earlier in the morning, Theodore had a sinking feeling that Ariana could have already unraveled the truth about the surgery.

Fear and panic gripped Theodore’s heart as he fervently prayed that Ariana was only upset with him and safe, and that nothing more sinister had happened to her. He desperately hoped for her well-being, despite any anger she could hold against him.

With a trembling heart, Theodore initiated calls to Ariana's network of contacts and friends, seeking any clue about her whereabouts. He dialed everyone he could think of, but no one had any knowledge of her location.

His men later returned with a monitor screenshot, delivering the grim news that the taxi in question was unregistered and had vanished, leaving no trace.

Theodore's heart sank to the depths of despair. He knew, beyond doubt, that something terrible had transpired. After a brief but heavy silence, Theodore dialed another number.

Soon, a voice answered on the other end, and he heard the innocent tone of Helen saying, "Oh, Theodore, you remembered my number! I'm so glad. What's going on? Why did you call me? Is everything all right?"

Theodore's tone turned icy as he said, "I know it's you who has taken her. Release her immediately, and I may consider letting go of the wrong you have done."

Feigning ignorance, Helen used her innocent voice to respond, "Theodore, what are you talking about? I don't understand. Her? Who are you referring to?"

"Helen, my patience is wearing thin!" Theodore warned, his anger simmering beneath the surface.

Yet, Helen continued in her self-absorbed demeanor, "You're truly ruthless, Theodore! Despite my love for you, you replaced my heart with a faulty one. But I suppose it doesn't matter. As long as it comes from you, I don't mind. After all, there's still a place for me in your heart, right?"

Theodore wanted to shatter his phone in frustration, but when he glanced at the picture of him and Ariana on the screen, he suppressed his rage.

Controlling his anger, Theodore inquired, "What do you want? Name your price."

However, the other end of the line remained eerily silent, followed only by a low, chilling laugh before abruptly ending the call. Helen cradled the phone in her hand, fixing a sinister gaze on Ariana, who remained bound to a chair.

The ghastly scars etched across Helen's face, coupled with her chilling smile, exuded a terrifying aura.

A wicked chuckle escaped her lips as Helen remarked, "Theodore seems quite anxious. He's got a real soft spot for you, huh?"

Having regained consciousness, Ariana assessed the situation calmly and met Helen's gaze. With a hint of sarcasm, she asked, "So, what's the grand plan?"

Chapter: 876 Innocently shrugging, Helen replied, "Oh, I'm not up to much. Just extending an invitation, that's all."

"I'm here as a guest, you mean?" Ariana retorted, eyeing her restrained limbs. "I must say, this is quite the unconventional welcome."

Helen smirked, explaining, "I had little choice in the matter. I've been trailing you for days, but Theodore's always by your side. I never had an opportunity to invite you over. Luckily, you came out on your own this time, and I worked hard to make sure you would be here. Now, leaving won't be so easy!"

Ariana lowered her gaze for a moment before raising it again, and with sudden insight, she spoke. "So, everything you said on the phone was just a ruse to lure me out, right? You spun those words to deceive me."

Helen was taken aback, but her surprise quickly transformed into wild laughter. She laughed so hard, clutching her stomach while tears welled up in her eyes.

Once she composed herself, Helen wore a mocking grin and said, "Hahaha, what are you still hoping for? Whether my words were true or false, whether that surgery was an abortion, you already have the answers, don't you? You ran out after confirming it yourself!"

Her expression turned even more menacing as she approached Ariana slowly. “Stop deluding yourself. He’s inherently heartless, incapable of love! He didn’t even flinch when Aimee hanged herself in front of him. How could someone so cold and indifferent ever love anyone?” nough!””. Ariana’s anger surged, and her teeth gritted fiercely.

“You’re in no position to judge him so casually!”

Helen observed that Ariana wasn’t surprised by these revelations and was even defending Theodore, indicating she must have known all of this long before.

In an instant, resentment and jealousy intertwined within Helen, making it difficult for her to control the contorted expression on her face.

She never expected Theodore to talk about something like that with Ariana, something that no one dared to mention in the past. And then there was the medical report she hid!

Helen knew that Theodore had made the difficult decision to terminate the pregnancy to save Ariana’s life, and he chose not to tell her, willing to bear the burden of guilt on his own, even if it meant Ariana would hate him for it.

Everything about this situation filled Helen with intense anger. What had Ariana done to merit so much devotion from Theodore? That made Helen very angry.

How did this wretch capture Theodore’s heart?!

Fueled by fury, Helen charged forward and delivered a harsh kick, causing Ariana to crumple to the ground with a muffled groan. Ariana’s instinctive reaction was to wrap up and protect her vulnerable tummy.

When Helen saw Ariana take protective measures, she gave her an eerie grin that sent chills down Ariana’s spine.

Helen suddenly seized Ariana's hair and pulled her up, saying, "You care so much about your children, but do you think Theodore cares? Do you have any idea what Theodore would do if I were to cut open your wombs and hand your babies over to him?"

Ariana's face contorted, and in a heartbeat she could envisage how Theodore's spirit would shatter into a million fragments, driven to the precipice of madness at the sight of the blood-stained children and herself. Incensed, she couldn't contain herself, letting loose a scathing curse, "You're nothing but a complete lunatic!"

Observing Ariana's panicked expression, Helen's delight swelled even more. She seized Ariana's hair and erupted into maniacal laughter.

"Hahaha, my face is marred, my body is in ruins, and this heart will soon malfunction! I have nothing left to lose. I'm going to obliterate all of you! What I can't possess, no one else shall have either!"

Ariana gazed into her eyes and detected the madness within. Only then did she realize that Helen's mental state had veered into abnormal territory. There was no reasoning with a deranged woman.

Watching the unhinged Helen drawing nearer, fear consumed Ariana completely.

Desperate to buy some time, Ariana scanned her surroundings for anything that could help.

Chapter: 877

And there, in the corner, she spotted a familiar doll. Steeling herself, she feigned composure. "Is that doll part of Marley's belongings?"

As expected, Helen was drawn to her words. A thought crossed her mind, and a wicked smile crept across her face. She rose to her feet, clutching the doll.

Simultaneously, Ariana took the opportunity to gather pieces of rubble nearby and surreptitiously ground the rope in her hand, keeping a vigilant eye on Helen's every move.

Ariana noticed Helen picking up the doll, fiddling with its arm and staring at it. Helen smiled. "You even recognize this. Yes, this one is true."

"It's just a doll, so why go to the trouble of using a fake one to deceive him? What did Marley say before she passed away?" Ariana strained to maintain a calm voice, inadvertently quickening her rope-cutting actions.

Helen gazed at the doll for a moment and then broke into a smile. "Why? No reason at all. I won't give Theodore anything he desires, and I won't utter a word that he wishes to hear. I want to keep him hanging like this. I relish seeing him struggling in a sea of misery with no chance of redemption!"

Hearing those words, anger surged within Ariana, yet she hesitated before severing the rope. She couldn't help but inquire, "Do you hate him?"

"Hate? No! No! I love him, I'm infatuated with him!" Helen's face contorted into a sinister grin. "But it's when he writhes in pain, torn within himself, longing but never obtaining, eternally filled with regret and brokenness, that Theodore becomes the most captivating, the one I love the most."

Helen was completely off her bearings!

Ariana cursed inwardly at Helen's madness. Since she hadn't finished cutting the rope, she had to continue the conversation with Helen and buy some time. She looked at Helen and continued, "Doesn't he treat you well?"

"He does," Helen replied absentmindedly, "But in the past, he cared the most about Marley, never sparing a glance for me. Even though I saw him as my everything, his gaze was always fixed on Marley. He poured all his efforts into protecting her. Why couldn't he just look at me? Even in these past few years, his care for me was merely an act of charity he bestowed upon me because of Marley!"

Helen's tone abruptly turned venomous. "But Marley was just a bastard, a wretched being born out of rape. She certainly didn't deserve to live!"

Hearing the unexpected revelation, Ariana was shocked and furious. She blurted out, "Wasn't Marley your best friend?! How can you say such things about her!"

Helen appeared to find it amusing as she turned her head and smirked sinisterly at Ariana. "Yes, we were best friends, which is why I personally pushed her down the building to help her put an end to her fucking miserable life! She should be grateful to me even in the afterlife!"

Ariana stood frozen for a moment, her heart sinking like a stone as she unraveled the truth: Marley's tragic fate had been sealed by the hands of Helen!

Rage engulfed her, and her breath came in furious gasps.

For years, Theodore carried the burden of guilt over Marley's demise unaware that the malevolent deceiver was always at his side, reaping undeserved rewards.

In the heat of the moment, Helen's patience wore thin, and she discarded the facade of civility. Tossing aside the doll, she brandished a gleaming knife, advancing menacingly towards Ariana, poised to strike.

Suddenly, the distant sound of a car's engine echoed, interrupting her sinister approach.

Confusion clouded her eyes with fear as she peered out the window.

How could a car find its way to this desolate place?

Her heart pounding, Helen cautiously looked outside, only to recognize Theodore's familiar vehicle parked below!

Frustration gnawed at her, furious that Theodore had located Ariana so effortlessly. "How did Theodore find this place? You must have a tracker on you!"

Chapter: 878

Baffled by how Theodore found them, Helen lashed out, accusing Ariana of carrying a tracking device. Although Ariana was unaware of such a device, the possibility didn't seem far-fetched, given Theodore's resourcefulness.

Refusing to let Theodore rescue Ariana easily, Helen clutched the knife tightly, aiming for Ariana's vulnerable belly!

But fate had other plans, and Ariana managed to break free from her bindings just in time. She scrambled to her feet and spun about in the blink of an eye to avoid Helen's assault.

However, the structure had been abandoned, and the ground was littered with rocks and steel. Ariana was completely unfamiliar with the surroundings. After just a few steps of running, she tripped over a stone and fell to the ground.

Seizing the opportunity, Helen grabbed Ariana by the hair and dragged her back. With vengeance in her eyes, Helen lunged, her fingers entwined in Ariana's hair, the knife inching closer to its target. Yet, salvation emerged through shattered glass and a gunshot's resounding echo.

Theodore burst through the window! His arrival was swift, his breathing labored, yet his aim was unwavering; the shot found its mark in Helen's shoulder!

Theodore pointed his gun towards Helen's head, wanting to end her!

Helen experienced genuine terror. She lifted herself off the ground with her uninjured hand and crawled, her shoulder leaving a path of blood. With tears streaming down her face, she begged Theodore, "Theodore, I am sorry, please don't kill me. I'm sorry!"

Helen's hands shook as she reached for Theodore's pants, but she couldn't. She could only cry as she lay bleeding. "Theodore, please spare my life! This won't happen again. Marley wouldn't like it if you killed me! When she was alive, I was the only friend she had. I haven't revealed Marley's last words to you yet. Theodore, please! As long as I have breath in me, I will tell you everything Marley said. And I solemnly pledge to never deceive you again!"

The moment Theodore heard the name Marley, he hesitated. Ariana, shielded behind Theodore, became enraged as she remembered what Helen had said. Helen was the true killer who took Marley's life, but just now she was still blathering on about nothing!

Ariana's inner turmoil brewed like a storm within her, yearning to release a torrent of words all at once. However, the reins of rationality held her back, suppressing the tempest of emotions that threatened to surge forth.

She looked at Theodore before her, who already seemed to be harboring murderous thoughts.

Fear gripped her heart; if she spoke the unfiltered truth now, Theodore could lose control, and Helen's life might be in more peril. Once the situation spiraled beyond her control, she dreaded her ability to intervene and the outcome.

The last thing Ariana wanted was to witness Theodore transform into a murderer, driven by his anger.

Helen gasped for breath and collapsed, and Theodore's finger luckily never pulled the trigger. Finally, after regaining his bearings, he spoke, commanding Horace to take Helen away for interrogation.

Once Helen was gone, Ariana and Theodore stood alone together, enveloped in an uneasy silence.

His searching gaze scanned her from head to toe, making sure she was unharmed. But words failed him; he was at a loss for how to begin.

After a moment of struggling, Theodore managed to say, "You... you know everything?"

Ariana's eyes red with tears and anguish, she nodded gently and asked in a soft, tender voice, "Why did you insist on getting rid of our children?"

"I... I was doing everything for you," Theodore stammered, lacking any semblance of confidence. He hung his head low, avoiding her gaze as he tried to explain, "The existence of children posed a threat to your life. I couldn't bear to burden you with that knowledge, fearful of the risks you might take..."

“That’s enough. Spare me your words!” Ariana interjected, fixing her gaze upon him. Then, turning away, she started to leave.

Chapter: 879

Undeterred, Theodore followed her closely, his voice tinged with desperation. “Even if we don’t have children, we can still find happiness together, can’t we? We can embark on countless adventures...”

But Ariana’s patience reached its limit, and she swiftly turned around, delivering a resounding slap to Theodore’s cheek. The sound reverberated through the building, and with teary eyes, she choked, “Enough! If you had said all this before | became pregnant, you might have a point, but now that | am carrying our children, what purpose do your words serve? How dare you make a unilateral and cruel decision to abort our babies! And worst of all, you wanted to do it without my knowledge! No matter how close we are, you don’t have the right to make such a decision about my body and our children!”

Theodore stood there, stunned into silence, unable to find a single word to respond.

Tears streaming down her face, Ariana looked at him, her voice full of sorrow. “I have never doubted your love for me, and | can imagine you had your reasons for doing all this. | know it’s connected to the medication Jasper injected me with, but why couldn’t you have been honest with me from the start? Why do you always take the self-righteous path?”

Having said her piece, Ariana turned away without another glance at Theodore. He reached out and grabbed her wrist, his heart pounding with trepidation.

Theodore was certain that Ariana really hated him at this point, which left him speechless with depression. He humbly implored, “Please... don’t leave me alone.”

His hand trembled. He feared that if he held her hand tightly, she might get hurt, but if he held it loosely, she might slip away. He waited humbly and relentlessly for her response. And Ariana surprised him. She turned back and kissed him gently, offering comfort amidst the chaos of their emotions.

Theodore stood there, still taken aback by her response. With red-rimmed eyes, Ariana softly assured him, "I won't give up our children easily, nor will I give up on you! Let's return and face this together; there must be a solution, alright?"

Theodore gazed at the figure before him. He clutched Ariana's hand tightly, like a drowning man clinging to a lifeline, refusing to let go, come what would!

Emotions swirled within him, and words eluded him at that moment. With a profound nod, he conveyed the depth of his feelings while locking eyes with her.

Ariana watched him, a cocktail of amusement and ire in her heart. She struggled to choose the right expression to wear.

As she contemplated the truth behind Marley's demise and how Theodore had shown clemency to Helen because of her, she fretted over his capacity to bear the weight of the truth. Deciding to wait for a more serene moment, she kept the revelation at bay.

Taking his hand firmly, Ariana led him into the waiting car. Seated in the back, they paid no mind to Helen, who remained unconscious, restrained by Horace in the passenger seat. They found solace in each other's presence, leaning against one another, embracing the rare tranquility.

As she gently caressed her swollen belly with his hand, Ariana whispered, "Our little ones have grown so much already!"

Her belly bore visible proof of the life within, and a touch revealed the stirring of their unborn children.

"I haven't decided on the names yet, so let's brainstorm some names together."

Then they began their discussion, with Horace occasionally chiming in with suggestions.

"How about Ava?" Theodore's voice was tender.

Nestling in his embrace, Ariana pondered for a moment. "Okay. Then the other one will be Kai. May they both thrive and flourish!"

"Can't agree more!" Theodore responded softly as he held Ariana ever closer.

Chapter: 880

Looking into his eyes with utmost seriousness, Ariana asserted, "You're about to become a father, and I trust you to protect our children no matter what."

An air of hesitancy surrounded Theodore, as he replied slowly, "But you..." "There's no 'but' about it." Ariana's gaze was unwavering, her resolve firm. "I won't leave your side. You must trust me!" Theodore bowed his head, wrestling with his doubts. After a moment, he sighed. "I fear I may not be a good father."

"Doubt not, for I believe in you!" Ariana's words were gentle as she assured him, "Even before you knew about them, you've already protected me and our children several times. I have faith that you'll be an exceptional father."

Theodore's hand on Ariana's belly trembled. After a contemplative pause, he nodded resolutely. "Alright." A smile of pure happiness graced Ariana's lips as she nestled even closer in Theodore's arms.

She knew he would honor his promise, and she believed that nothing would obstruct the happiness of their about-to-get-big family.

Unbeknownst to them, Helen regained consciousness in the passenger seat. Swiftly breaking free from her restraints, she lunged at Horace, maniacal laughter escaping her lips. "Hahaha, why should I suffer alone? Let's all go to hell together!"

Horace tried to stop her, but it was too late. He struggled to control the car as Helen fought for the steering wheel, and the vehicle spun out of control on the highway!

A second later, a truck barreled right at them!

In the face of impending disaster, Theodore acted instinctively, unbuckling his seatbelt and shielding Ariana within his embrace, preparing for the inevitable impact!

In the blink of an eye, tragedy struck Like a thunderbolt, shattering Ariana's world, and she plunged into unconsciousness.

As time gradually regained its grip, Ariana struggled to find her footing amidst the swirling tempest of dizziness and disorientation.

Covered in blood, she fought through the haze, inching her way out of the car wreckage. Enduring the pain, she turned and determinedly pulled Theodore and Horace from the car.

"Come on, Theodore! Wake up!" she called, but Theodore remained motionless. Turning to Horace, she called out, "Horace, wake up!"

Both Theodore and Horace lay there, wreathed in blood, badly injured. Meanwhile, the reckless truck driver who didn't wear a seatbelt, met his tragic end after being ejected from the truck!

With no one around to help her, Ariana gritted her teeth, scouring the scene for a mobile phone.

When Helen abducted her, her phone was thrown away and she had no idea where it ended up.

A glimmer of hope emerged as she stumbled upon Theodore's phone, but its shattered screen proved an insurmountable barrier to calling for help.

Desperation gripped Ariana like a relentless vise, her body a canvas of agony, each wound a brushstroke of pain. Though she attempted to stand time and again, she stumbled with each effort, like a marionette entangled in strings.

When she fell again, despite her best efforts to get up, she accidentally pressed on something and, to her surprise, heard a childlike voice of a girl.

It was Marley's beloved possession, the very teddy bear that Helen had taken from her.

It turned out that Horace had taken it to the car as well.