Unconscious 961

Chapter 961

Regaining his composure, Holden sauntered over and crouched down before the children. "Hey, kids, how did you two come to know each other?" he asked. Melon was quite forthcoming.

"At the amusement park, last time. | saw her sitting alone, absorbed in some sort of counting. | then decided to join her and play," he divulged with a candid smile.

The amusement park? Counting?

Holden's brow furrowed slightly as he grappled with the puzzle.

As he was about to delve further into the matter, Melon asked, "Wait a minute. Do you know her as well, sir?" "Indeed, I'm her father," Holden affirmed, his smile warm and welcoming.

Melon's eyes widened in a cocktail of astonishment and curiosity.

He regarded Holden with a perplexed yet contemplative expression.

Sensing the boy's internal conflict, Holden asked, "Is something wrong?"

Melon, however, merely shook his head, not wanting to reply.

His mother's caution against gossiping about others echoed in his memory.

Returning to Adele, Melon mused inwardly, "Adele has a truly amazing father but a mother who's not quite up to par. If only Adele could be my sister! Mommy would treat her well."

At the same time, a pang of envy tugged at Melon.

Adele had an exceptional father.

The kindly man before him was a paragon of fatherly virtue, embodying everything he envisioned a father to be. Melon sighed wistfully, contemplating the missed chance of this man being his true father.

Seeing Melon's hesitance to explain further, Holden opted not to press any further.

With no signs of his parent nearby, Holden looked at his watch and ordered two afternoon tea servings.

The tea and accompanying snacks arrived, sparking an eager gleam in Melon's eyes at the sight of them. "Shall we indulge?" he said, his delight palpable.

Adele blinked at Melon, and they went over to the sofa together.

When Holden saw Adele's surprising cooperation and burgeoning responsiveness to Melon, an intriguing thought flitted through his mind.

Approaching Melon, Holden asked, "Do you enjoy Adele's company?"

With an enthusiastic nod, Melon affirmed.

"In that case, consider yourself welcome to visit Adele and play whenever you wish. She's almost always here," Holden explained with patience.

Melon regarded him pensively for a brief moment, contemplating the prospect. However, he eventually shook his head with a measured decline.

"Thank you, but I'm afraid | can't," he courteously demurred.

Chapter 962

Holden was a little taken aback by Melon's outright refusal. However, he did not get angry. Instead, he patiently asked, "Why not?"

Looking calm and composed, Melon explained, "There are too many people in this building, and I'm scared. Sir, not only are there a lot of people here, but the building is also huge. It's better to let Adele come to my house."

Although the Little guy still looked calm and serious, deep down he was excited at the thought of being able to bring Adele home. He figured his Mommy would surely be delighted to have the adorable Adele home.

This little ploy did not escape Holden, who couldn't help but laugh as he ruffled the child's hair.

He looked amusedly at the boy in front of him.

He was still so young but already a smooth talker.

After slightly ruffling Melon's hair one more time, Holden sighed and said, "Well, we'll have to talk about it. | have to meet your mum first before | can feel comfortable letting Adele go to your house."

Meanwhile, in the studio, Ariana was on the verge of going crazy.

She had been looking for her son for quite some time without success.

During the interview break, she went to find Melon.

But to her shock, her son was nowhere to be found.

Panicked, she roamed the studio, frantically questioning everyone she encountered.

The makeup artist who had just worked on Simms noticed Ariana's distraught expression and asked, "Are you looking for the little kid who was sitting there a while ago? If so, Simms sent him to go get coffee." Hearing this, Ariana's anger flared.

And coincidentally, Simms was there.

Ariana rushed over and asked, "Did you send my son to get you coffee?"

Simms seemed totally unfazed by her anger.

He raised an eyebrow, and asked calmly, "What's the matter? Hasn't he come back yet?"

The man's relaxed and even flippant attitude made Ariana instantly furious.

Chapter 963

She threw the interview script she had in hand in Simms ' face.

With in her she snatched her card anger burning eyes, press from around her neck and roared, "What kind of person are you? How dare you send a five-year-old to get you a coffee?"

Without waiting for Simms to say anything else, she rushed downstairs to the coffee shop. However, Melon wasn't there either. Ariana questioned the staff.

"There was indeed a little child, but he left a while ago," a waiter replied with a slight frown, seemingly puzzled by her anxious demeanor.

Hearing what the waiter said, Ariana felt her heart beat faster. She rushed to the front desk and asked to see the surveillance footage.

The front desk staff said in an apologetic tone, "The footage from our surveillance cameras is strictly controlled. You must apply to the building's property management staff to gain access. The application process may take up to tomorrow. Or you can get the police involved. Otherwise we can't give you access to our surveillance footage."

Ariana couldn't afford to wait.

She began to pace back and forth between the building and the coffee shop, repeatedly calling out her son's name. She'd been looking for Melon for half an hour now, and there was still no sign of him.

At this point, Ariana was on the verge of a nervous meltdown.

Various unsettling thoughts flooded her mind.

Human traffickers were a real concern these days, and her son was so adorable.

Could he have been abducted?

The mere thought sent shivers down Ariana's spine and she felt Like she couldn't breathe. Her anxiety mounting, she continued to search frantically, her eyes red with worry. She meticulously searched every floor of the building.

As soon as the elevator doors opened on the next floor, she rushed outside and nearly bumped into Shawn, who was rushing towards her.

Seeing Ariana, Shawn let out a sigh of relief and quickly held her arm.

Chapter 964

"Finally | found you!" he said.

He had been searching for her the whole time.

There were over a dozen male celebrities scheduled for interviews today, but Ariana's name was not on the company's List. Shawn had to carefully check each of the male celebrities interviewed today.

It was only in the studio that he heard of Ariana who was looking for her child.

That was how he managed to find her.

"Miss Edwards, your child suffered a scald. Mr. Fredrick happened to be there and took him to his lounge to treat the injury. You can go straight to the lounge on the top floor to pick up your son."

Ariana took a moment, allowing her pent-up anxiety to gradually subside.

With a calming exhale, she composed herself and said, "Thank you. Please lead the way."

Shawn nodded and guided her to Holden's lounge.

They arrived quickly.

As Ariana pushed open the door, she was relieved to find her son, little Melon, and Adele eating cakes.

Both had cake crumbs on their faces, resembling white beards, yet the room contained only the two of them — Holden was nowhere in sight.

The sight of Ariana prompted Melon to put down his cake and sit up a little straighter.

He quickly reassured her, "Mom, | only had a small piece, really."

Meanwhile, Adele briefly glanced at Ariana before returning to her cake, absorbed in her indulgence.

Unfazed by the messiness, Ariana found her earlier panic dissipating as she approached Melon, tenderly scooping him into her arms.

Just then, a security guard interjected, "Mr. Fredrick had an impromptu meeting and left earlier. Take your time here."

Ariana nodded appreciatively, letting go of any inclination to reprimand Melon.

Holding her son securely, she wiped a smudge off his face and finally released a sigh of relief, her words expressing her emotions.

"As long as you're safe. You really scared Mommy."

Melon responded with a mischievous chuckle and pointed out, "Adele needs a wipe too."

Chapter 965

Taking Ariana's hand, he helped Adele clean her face, and Adele, ever cooperative, paused her cakeeating to accommodate the cleaning.

After tending to Adele, Ariana playfully ruffled Melon's hair, adopting a mock stern tone.

"So, you know how to be cute and clever, huh? Then why did you obediently go when someone asked you to buy coffee for them?"

Pouting, Melon explained, his frustration blending with innocence,

"It was that mean man. He threatened me, said he'd sue you if | didn't go. | didn't want Mommy to be sued." Ariana's heart softened at his explanation.

She couldn't find it in herself to scold him any further, simply cradling him in her arms and gently cooing, "Silly boy."

At that particular moment, they witnessed Adele setting her cake aside, promptly changing her seating to position herself between them.

With a graceful maneuver, she managed to squeeze into the heart of their trio, reclaiming her cake and resuming her indulgent consumption.

Ariana blinked in pleasant surprise, subtly adjusting her posture to find a more comfortable position. Her focus was now captivated by Adele's actions. The young girl appeared thoroughly engrossed in her cake, seemingly unconcerned about her own thirst.

With a swift yet gentle gesture, Ariana presented Adele with a clean glass of water from the nearby table, tenderly encouraging her, "Sweetheart, why don't you have some water?"

Contrary to all expectations, in the next instant, Adele obediently inclined her head and took a sip of water, displaying a surprising compliance that caught Shawn off guard.

For Shawn, who had traversed countless experiences within the realm of the Fredrick Group, this marked the first instance where he had witnessed Adele displaying such remarkable adherence.

Could it be that a subtle enchantment enveloped this mother-son pair? The ease with which Adele responded to their presence was indeed astonishing.

Ariana continued to attentively care for Adele, wiping her mouth and ensuring she consumed an adequate amount of water. Then, she glanced up at Shawn, offering a brief explanation.

She revealed that her purpose at the studio that day was to interview Simms on behalf of her friend, Sonia.

However, the unforeseen turn of events had significantly disrupted her plans.

"With this incident, | regret that | won't be able to proceed with the interview involving Simms," Ariana concluded.

"| completely understand. Please rest assured, Miss Edwards. Mr. Fredrick will personally address this matter," Shawn reassured, his voice reflecting understanding and reassurance.

Ariana acknowledged his words with a nod, lifting Melon into her arms.

She turned to Shawn and conveyed her thoughts.

"We won't impose any further on your time. Please convey my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Fredrick."

With that, she initiated her departure, Melon in tow.

Astonishingly, Adele chose to silently join their retreat, following behind Ariana as if she had firmly made up her mind to be a part of their departure.

Chapter: 966

"Adele, wait!" Shawn called.

Alas, it was too late.

Adele had already run after Ariana.

The little girl followed Ariana closely, her head lowered in silence.

Seeing Adele's reluctance to part with her, a sense of tenderness welled up in Ariana.

She crouched down to be at the girl's eye level and said in a soothing tone, "Honey, we'll come visit again soon, | promise. But Melon and | have to go home now."

Taking advantage of Adele's hesitation, Melon piped up hopefully, "Mom, can we take her home with us? We can play together!" All this time, the little girl's eyes were fixed on the floor and she held her doll tightly without making a sound.

Seeing that, Shawn suggested, "Why don't you wait here a Little longer? Mr. Fredrick's meeting should be over soon. You can see him before you leave."

Ariana hesitated.

She could tell the kids didn't want to part ways.

Moreover, since Holden had helped her and her son today, she thought it was only normal that she thanked him in person. Thinking of that, she looked at Shawn and asked, "Do you know at what time his meeting will be over?"

Shawn didn't know the exact time, so he glanced at his watch and said quickly, "Let me go check. Please watch Adele while I'm gone."

"Of course," Ariana replied with a faint smile.

After Shawn had left for a while, the door to the room was abruptly pushed open.

Ariana expected to see Holden, so she was shocked when she instead saw Sadie walking into the room.

The first thing Ariana noticed was Sadie's bruised and swollen face.

Those were the injuries from her altercation with Sonia.

Chapter: 967

Clearly they had not yet healed.

How come she was already discharged from the hospital then? On the other side, Sadie was taken aback when she saw Ariana. She had not expected to cross paths with Ariana there.

Her gaze shifted to the young boy next to Ariana, and she realized he was the same kid from the cruise deck who had called Sonia "Godmother." It suddenly dawned on Sadie that the child must be Ariana's.

However, at the moment, Sadie had no time to ponder on this realization.

Anxious that Ariana and Holden might have already met, she immediately turned to the bodyguard and roared, "What is she doing here?"

Before the bodyguard could respond, Sadie turned around and yelled at Ariana, "Your son bullied my daughter just last night! How dare you come here now?"

Sadie's shameless attitude annoyed Ariana and she replied coldly, "You hurt my son first. Don't try to reverse the story now!"

Hearing that, Sadie sneered and said arrogantly, "Why would | assault a child, especially when he'd done nothing wrong? It was your son who bullied my daughter first! You've been trying to get close to my daughter several times because you found out she was the Fredrick Group's heiress, right? Your intentions are crystal clear."

At that moment, Ariana remembered her past dealings with the shameless Brielle. Sadie's attitude at the moment made her think that the two women might be related in some way. They were both so cunning and manipulative.

Ariana had no intention of conceding to Sadie, so she said coldly,

"Don't distort the facts! The cruise ship has surveillance cameras, and once we watch the footage, we will know the truth." Hearing this, Sadie didn't panic one bit.

In fact, the first thing she did this morning after waking up was to order people to destroy the incriminating footage. Knowing that there was no evidence of her actions, she said arrogantly, "Then, go ahead and check!"

"You shameless woman! You won't get away with this! | still have to settle accounts with you for what you did to my son!" Ariana shouted furiously.

Chapter: 968

"Who are you calling shameless?" Sadie snapped in a sharp voice.

The discussion between the two women quickly became a merciless war of words.

Suddenly, Adele, who was upset by their argument, let out a loud cry.

Ariana immediately tried to go and comfort the little girl, but Sadie forcefully pushed Ariana away. "It's all your fault!" Sadie said with hatred in her voice.

Ariana's anger surged within her, ignited by Sadie's reckless and twisted behavior.

Her fury knew no bounds as she declared, "You're utterly unworthy of being a mother! When your child breaks down, you offer no comfort or call for a doctor. Instead, you're here throwing dirt on me and arguing. You're nothing like a real mother; more Like a wicked stepmother!"

Sadie felt Ariana's final words pierce through her defenses, Leaving her engulfed in a heavy shroud of guilt. Her once fierce resolve crumbled, unable to find a valid retort.

Frustration turned to rage, and she erupted in a furious tirade, "Mind your own business! Who asked for your unsolicited interference?"

She then turned her attention to the security guards stationed nearby, her words dripped with a palpable menace. "Have you not witnessed this woman making Adele uncomfortable? Remove them from my sight!"

The guards exchanged uncertain glances but ultimately followed Sadie's orders to escort them away.

"Don't bother yourselves," Ariana retorted sharply, her arms enveloping little Melon protectively.

She cast a withering look towards Sadie, a silent proclamation of her strength and resilience.

"We will depart of our own accord."

Having made her stance clear, Ariana scooped up Melon and left.

Sadie's expression darkened, her attention shifting to the sobbing Adele.

Her irritation was palpable, thinly veiling her disgust. An irritating mother, she thought, giving birth to an equally exasperating daughter.

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Chapter: 969 Rubbing her temples in a gesture of vexation, Sadie's irritation heightened. She paid no mind to calling a doctor for Adele, her thoughts consumed by a different matter.

She wasn't supposed to be discharged from the hospital so soon, but her unease about last night's events drove her to hasten the discharge formalities to find Holden.

Little did she expect to encounter Ariana here. What a persistent woman! Sadie bitterly mused, disregarding the incessant cries of Adele beside her.

One of the security personnel cast a concerned glance at Adele, his worry escaping his features as he inquired, "Miss Pierre, should we summon a doctor for the young Miss?"

However, Sadie remained aloof and untouched by the guard's query. Instead, she posed a question of her own, her tone indifferent yet inquisitive. "How did that woman manage to appear here just now?"

The guard's response was succinct.

"She conducted an interview downstairs. Her child suffered a scald, and Mr. Fredrick brought the child here to tend his wounds. She came to pick up her child."

These words caused Sadie's heart to falter momentarily.

Swiftly, she pressed, her words swift and sharp, "Did Mr. Fredrick encounter her?"

"No," the guard clarified, his tone grave, "Mr. Fredrick was called to an impromptu meeting and left earlier." The relief that washed over Sadie was palpable, her composure returning, accentuated by a fleeting smile. "There's no need to inform Mr. Fredrick about this incident," she advised.

The guard looked puzzled and said seriously, "But Mr. Fredrick instructed us to keep an eye on things."

"He tasked you with safeguarding Adele, not with surveillance. Mr. Fredrick's calendar is brimming with commitments, sparing him the need for trifles of this sort. Leave it be," asserted Sadie, her lips curving into a smile tinged with a note of caution, her gaze flickering towards the guard.

"Devote your energy to your assigned duties. Should you dare to exceed those bounds, bear in mind, | retain the right to relieve you of your post at any instant."

Her warning resonated clearly as she extended a covert offering, sliding a stack of bills from her purse into the guard's hand. Asoft chuckle followed, accompanied by her words.

"Carry out your duties faithfully. Don't pry where you shouldn't."

The guard grasped her message, nodded, and accepted the money.

At that moment, Sadie's phone rang, and she lowered her head to glance at it.

Without lifting her eyelids, she instructed, "Call a doctor for Adele.

| have something to attend to."

After giving her instructions, she left Adele, who was still crying, in place and entered a nearby room.

Inside, Sadie closed the door and finally opened the message she had received. The message contained two video clips, revealing footage from the surveillance cameras on the third floor of the cruise ship.

Earlier that morning, after leaving the hospital room, Sadie had immediately ordered someone to retrieve the surveillance footage from the previous night.

She was eager to find out who Holden had spent the evening with. With a blend of nervousness and urgency, Sadie clicked on the videos.

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The first video showed the ten-minute window preceding Holden's return to his room. A woman, adorned as the mythic Medusa, made her entrance shortly before Holden's appearance. They stayed inside throughout the night.

As Sadie watched the footage, the flames of her resentment only grew stronger, her hands now clenched into fists. It was undeniable that Holden had indeed shared the night with another woman!

Sadie's eyes remained locked onto the screen. She needed to uncover the identity of this wretched woman. Impatience prompted her to drag the progress bar to the video's end.

There, she saw Holden exiting the room first, soon followed by Ariana, who, without her mask, hastened away.

It was her!

In Sadie's eyes, fury burned. She fixated on the figure on the screen, her grip on the phone tightening, veins protruding on her hand as if she could crush the device.

That bitch! How could it be her? Hi everyone On 25 Nov 2023 1 year complete of ninjanovel website

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Sadie teetered on the precipice of madness, her eyes now bloodshot.

The urge to succumb to murderous thoughts was a maelstrom she grappled to restrain.

So, the woman with whom Holden had danced the previous night was none other than Ariana, who ultimately slept with him! Why, of all things!

After meticulously planning every detail, she had inadvertently played into the hands of another woman?!

Quivering with anger, Sadie's fists clenched so tightly that her nails scored her flesh. She gritted her teeth and compelled herself to regain her composure as she observed the woman on the screen.

It was alright. What significance did it hold if they spent the night together? Ariana Likely didn't recognize Holden's face. The intoxicating aroma could obscure one's faculties, rendering them a body driven purely by desire.

Moreover, Ariana entered the room before Holden, a time when the drug's effects were most potent. Ariana's clarity of mind had likely evaporated by the time Holden appeared.

Acold smile curled on Sadie's Lips.

Additionally, if Ariana had truly recognized Holden, she wouldn't have maintained such composure. She wouldn't have come for the interview at BRD either.