

Chapter 760 Their Daughter Returned Safely

The last thing Elliana and Cole wanted was to go down in flames with Maxine. All they truly longed for was to take back their daughter, gather Sophie and Aubrie, and go home to spend the rest of their days in peace.

But peace, Elliana and Cole knew, was a fragile dream, one that could shatter at any moment. Now, they stood cornered between two unbearable choices. They could yield to Maxine's demands—hand over their daughter and walk away with Sophie and Aubrie alive. Or they could refuse, watch Sophie and Aubrie die before their eyes, and then fight Maxine to the death. And in the latter scenario, even if they survived that final, blood-soaked battle, their daughter's fate would hang in terrifying uncertainty.

They were caught in a dilemma.

As indecision froze Elliana and Cole where they stood, a thunderous explosion tore through the air, shaking the cave to its core.

"What's happening?" Maxine's startled voice crackled over the surveillance speakers.

It wasn't the Griffiths family's doing. The blast had come from somewhere else—outside the mountain.

Elliana and Cole exchanged a sharp, knowing look. Could it be their allies?

Just then, a subordinate's frantic report burst from the monitor. "Ms. Griffiths! It's Miguel! He's leading a force—blew the mountain gate wide open! They're storming the base! There are too many of them, and they're cutting through everyone in their path. They came armed for total destruction!"

"Miguel?" Maxine's voice trembled with disbelief. She hadn't seen this coming and hadn't prepared for a battle.



"What do we do, Ms. Griffiths?" the subordinate shouted, desperation bleeding through the static.

After a tense beat, Maxine's voice came back, sharp and authoritarian. "Tell everyone to fight with everything they've got. Hold Miguel at any cost!"

She paused and then pivoted to Elliana and Cole. "Elliana, Cole, new terms. Take Sophie and Aubrie now. I'll even give you back your daughter. Just stay out of my fight with Miguel today."

Maxine was ruthless but pragmatic. If Elliana and Cole sided with Miguel, her subterranean empire would collapse.

Elliana and Cole only exchanged a brief, fatal glance. They had no intention of stepping aside. Now was the perfect moment to finish Maxine and end her terror once and for all.

Maxine's voice went cold. "Decide wisely. If you interfere, I will have Sophie and Aubrie shot immediately, and I will strangle your daughter myself."

She switched tone and appealed to Aubrie. "Aubrie, while I've kept you locked in this dungeon, and I've made you suffer all these years, you know the family rules better than anyone. By those rules, you should have been executed long ago. It was our blood ties that spared you. The same mercy keeps Sophie breathing. You would not help outsiders destroy me in my weakest hour, would you?"

Elliana's and Cole's hands clenched until their knuckles showed. They would not yield. A temporary return of their daughter meant nothing if Maxine lived to hunt them again. Only killing her would make their family safe for good. But the choice was brutal. Sophie's and Aubrie's lives hung by a fraying thread. Maxine did not bluff when pushed.

"Elliana, Cole, just agree to her terms," Aubrie said at last, voice hollow with resignation. "Maxine is right. She spared us. As head of the Griffiths family, she enforces the rules. By those rules, Sophie and I should have died years ago. The fact that we are still breathing is her mercy."

"Fine. We agree," Elliana and Cole said in unison.

Their surrender was not gratitude. It was a forced compromise, a painful



< Chapter 760 Their Daughter Returned Safely  +120 Points at most
concession to buy a sliver of hope.

A relieved hiss ran through Maxine before she said into the speakers, "Hand Sophie and Aubrie over to Cole. Empty the dungeon. Everyone, go stop Miguel!"

The iron cage swung open.

Aubrie and Sophie were too weak to stand, let alone walk, so Elliana and Cole each took one of them, supporting their frail bodies as the last of Maxine's followers hurried out of the dungeon.

Then, Maxine's voice came through the speakers one final time—steady, but weary. "I've already sent your daughter out of the base. Go meet her outside. Someone will guide you through another passage."

Following the guards' escort, the group exited the underground world through a different route, never once encountering Miguel's forces.

They didn't cross paths with Miguel's advancing forces, yet the sounds of war were everywhere—a brutal chorus of gunfire, explosions, and desperate shouts reverberating through the rock walls.

When the group finally emerged into daylight, the harsh brightness nearly blinded them. And there—just ahead—stood a figure cradling a small bundle.

Elliana's breath hitched. She rushed forward and gathered the baby into her arms. One look at the tiny, perfect face was enough—she knew. This was her daughter.

Tears welled up, spilling freely as her body trembled with joy. After all the days of loss and torment, she was finally holding the daughter she'd been forced to live without.

Cole came running, wrapping his arms around them both in a fierce, wordless embrace. For a heartbeat, the world stood still. Their daughter was safe, and that was all that mattered.

Then, Elliana's phone buzzed with messages from Adah.