

Chapter 651 She'd Live As If She Were A Widow

The night stretched on endlessly.

It marked Marcus and Melissa's first time sharing a room since their breakup.

Tension permeated the room.

Melissa lay on her side, hugging Matthew tightly. It was very quiet at night, and she could almost hear the gentle sound of snowflakes drifting outside. Time slipped away unnoticed as she slowly drifted into slumber.

Marcus was less than two meters away, lying quietly as well.

From the corner of his eye, Marcus observed Melissa sleeping beside Matthew, who occupied most of the bed. Her slender form lay partially exposed, her back bare beneath the quilt. Marcus noted her fragility, realizing he could encircle her waist with a single hand.

Marcus was just an ordinary man.

Just moments ago, he had kissed and touched Melissa, and those memories flashed through his mind like scenes from a movie. Uncomfortably, he turned over, attempting to conceal his desire.

The narrow sofa made it difficult for him to sleep well.

Later, he checked on Matthew and discovered that Melissa was also awake.

However, they exchanged glances without uttering a word.

Matthew awoke early the next morning.

The little boy felt considerably better. Quietly, he slipped out of bed and made his way to the sofa, plopping down on his father's stomach.

Marcus groaned, his eyes fluttering open.

"Daddy!"

Matthew called out affectionately and nuzzled his head against Marcus' neck, clearly expressing his joy.

Despite the warmth in the ward, Matthew was clad only in a thin hospital gown. Marcus reached out, grasping Matthew's arm, and enveloped him in his embrace. Together, they shared the warmth of a woolen overcoat.

Matthew complained, "Your coat smells like wine."

Marcus rested one hand behind his head, gently patting his son's back with the other. Matthew's small frame radiated warmth and softness, exuding undeniable adorableness.

He said softly, "Daddy had to meet clients, and we drank wine while talking."

Resting against him, Matthew pondered for a moment before asking, "Will there ever be a beautiful lady sitting on your lap like I see on TV?"

Marcus frowned, retorting, "What kind of TV shows have you been watching?"

Coincidentally, Melissa woke up just then, overhearing their conversation.

Marcus glanced at the boy, playfully pinching his cheek. "No! There's nothing but rubbish on TV."

Matthew was pleased by the response, yet soon after, he pouted. "I forgot you have a girlfriend."

Marcus fell silent.

Matthew buried his face against his father's neck, murmuring softly, "Mom said I don't have to call your girlfriend 'mom'! So when Mom finds

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+165 Points at most

a boyfriend, I won't have to call him 'dad' either."

He displayed remarkable consideration and open-mindedness.

However, Marcus cast a meaningful glance at Melissa and remarked casually, "Oh, does your mom have a boyfriend?"

Matthew sighed. "There will be. She's so beautiful. Julie said Mom has to get smarter and she can't live as if she were a widow. Dad, what does that mean?"

Melissa couldn't bear to listen any longer.

She murmured, "Julie was talking nonsense."

Marcus fixed her with a penetrating gaze before scoffing. "If you're feeling lonely and need some 'comfort,' I'm available to help!"

"No, thank you!" Melissa retorted coldly.

"What help, Dad?" Matthew snuggled against his father.

How could Marcus really answer that question?

Fortunately, the nurse arrived to take Matthew's temperature. However, he clung to his father like a koala, reluctant to leave. As the nurse approached Marcus to take Matthew's temperature, her face flushed with embarrassment.

Melissa took the chance to freshen up, washing her face and brushing her teeth.

As she freshened up, Marcus entered and quietly closed the door behind him.

Catching his reflection in the mirror, she whispered, "What are you doing?"

Marcus and she locked eyes through the mirror.

After a moment, he asked softly, "Are you planning to find a boyfriend?"

At the thought of their breakup and Violette, Melissa remained silent.

19:40

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"Yes, I'm going to find a boyfriend. What does that have to do with you?"

She retorted without explanation.

Marcus gazed at her for a moment.

He approached slowly, turning on the tap and letting it run.

Suddenly, he pinned her against the wall.

She winced as her back pressed against the wall, Marcus' robust form looming over her. Echoes of the previous night, he grasped her chin, compelling her into a deep kiss while his hands roamed over her tender form.

With Matthew and the nurses just outside, she dared not make a sound.

She kicked and bit him, but to no avail; she couldn't break free.

Just when she thought he was about to get what he wanted, he suddenly released her. Stepping back, he began to adjust his shirt, casting a leisurely gaze at her discomfort.

Melissa leaned against the wall, panting.

Her heart pounded with rage as she cursed, "You bastard!"

Marcus, with a lazy and arrogant demeanor, finally spoke in a hoarse voice after a lingering glance. "Sorry, but you might have to contain your desires for now."

Angrily, she retorted, "It doesn't concern you."

"Stop denying it. I know you desire me."

With a brief glance, he opened the door and exited.

She was seething with anger, splashing cold water on her face for an extended period of time.

When she emerged, Marcus' driver and Sylvia had arrived, bearing clean clothes for Marcus along with a hearty breakfast and toys.

Sylvia mentioned, "Mr. and Mrs. Fowler are still in Czanch. Otherwise, they would have come to visit Matthew in person."

Melissa paid no mind to it.

Matthew had merely caught a cold and had a fever. Kids got sick and there was no need to fuss over it.

Marcus went to change in the bathroom while Melissa sat beside Matthew. It had been a while since Sylvia last saw Melissa, and after exchanging a few pleasantries, she couldn't help but express her concern. "The Finch family is quite distressed. Violette has visited the Fowler family two or three times already this past week."

With a faint smile, Melissa replied, "Thanks for the update. But Marcus will tie the knot sooner or later. We don't see eye to eye on many things."

Sylvia affectionately patted her head and remarked, "So, you were just smitten by his appearance back then?"

Melissa didn't refute the fact that she didn't really think things through when she first decided to be with Marcus.

Seeing Melissa's lack of response, Sylvia inferred that a reconciliation between Melissa and Marcus was unlikely, prompting her to switch topics. "I've heard you've been excelling in your career. Congratulations."

Melissa felt deeply thankful to Sylvia for her assistance.

She made a mental note to repay Sylvia's kindness in the future.

While Melissa and Sylvia conversed, Marcus emerged from the bathroom, looking sharp and mature as he prepared for a business meeting.

Matthew gazed at him with admiration.

Matthew longed for Marcus to lift him up, but Melissa gently intervened, saying, "Your dad has a meeting. Can you hug him next time?"

Her voice softened, especially when she mentioned "dad," melting Marcus' heart.

Nonetheless, Marcus embraced his son.

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+165 Points at most

Just as he was about to depart, the ward door swung open, admitting Julie and Shawn.

As soon as they entered, they noticed a group of people inside. Shawn had always admired Marcus greatly. Marcus wasn't just powerful; he was also incredibly handsome. Shawn had looked up to Marcus and aspired to be like him.

However, Marcus had abandoned Melissa, the girl he had always seen as his own sister. That made Shawn hate Marcus at the same time.

Shawn taunted when he spotted Marcus. "Oh, look who finally has time for his son! It took you days to realize he was sick. Well, you're so busy. But even if you abandoned Melissa, you should care for your son. Poor little Matthew. If your dad doesn't care about you, your Uncle Shawn and Aunt Janet can take care of you in the future. Melissa shouldn't have to balance work and family alone. Stress and fatigue can age a woman quickly. She might struggle to find a decent man in the future."

He continued, incensed, until Julie pinched his arm firmly.

"My son lacks manners. Please don't take his words to heart, Mr. Fowler," Julie interjected with a smile.

Marcus adjusted his cufflinks.

He glanced at Melissa, smiling. "No worries! I understand. But if Melissa decides she wants to find a boyfriend and can't manage Matthew, I'll take care of him."

With that, he nodded at them and departed gracefully.

After the door closed, Shawn waved his fist, exclaiming, "What's he implying? Does he really believe no man desires Melissa? Men would fight for a woman like her."

"Be quiet. You're always causing problems for Melissa," Julie snapped.

Shawn smiled and interacted with Matthew. "Matthew, don't you agree?"

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+165 Points at most

Your mommy is both beautiful and capable, isn't she?"

Matthew chuckled, eliciting a helpless sigh from Julie.

With Julie looking after Matthew, it eased much of Melissa's workload. She had intended to go to the company that day but had to postpone it until tomorrow. She spent the morning reviewing documents and was occupied with the latest financing for Watson Group.

In the afternoon, some good news finally arrived.

Alan had taken an interest in their project and was considering investing in it.

Therefore, Melissa wanted to arrange a meeting with him.

Her secretary was efficient, promptly scheduling a meeting with him for Melissa. However, it was scheduled for an auction in two days rather than a private meeting. Melissa understood that such meetings were the most challenging.

She had to consider the perfect gift to give Alan. However, beyond the gift, the most crucial aspect was establishing a good rapport with him.

Alan was testing her abilities.

After ending the call, Melissa found herself in a lighter mood. When she glanced over, she spotted Matthew standing next to the suitcase, dressed neatly and clutching a stuffed toy—his favorite teddy bear.

Blinking, he asked, "Will Dad come to pick me up?"

She crouched down to his eye level.

She tenderly ruffled his hair, replying, "He's working. He might not be able to come today."

He pouted, saying, "But you have to work too. Yet you always stay with me."

Smiling, she responded, "Aren't you glad I'm here with you? How about this? When I'm busy, I'll have Daddy keep you company, okay?"

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Matthew reluctantly agreed.

Children were usually forgetful. When he climbed into Shawn's car, he had already forgotten the recent unpleasantness, exploring the interior curiously. Shawn winked at him. "My car is pretty cool, huh? While it's not as fancy as a limo, it can fit seven people. Perfect for us."

Julie was also pleased.

However, she feigned annoyance. "Watch your words. When you meet Matthew's father in the future, keep your mouth shut."

Shawn grinned. "Melissa is stunning. She shouldn't sacrifice her dignity for any man, right? Mom, don't fret. If he truly cares about Melissa, he can handle criticism. And what I said is true."

Melissa muttered, "I'm done with him."

Matthew said sadly, "My dad has a girlfriend."

Shawn scratched his head, adding, "His loss, right?"

Just as Melissa was about to speak, her phone rang. It was Marcus calling.



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