

Hitched 1111

Chapter 1111

Cecil was hanging around the shadowy alleyway near the hospital, waiting.

As soon as he heard the job was done, he was ecstatic and immediately arranged to meet Claire in the secluded alley.

Upon seeing Claire, he hurriedly asked, "Where's the money?"

Claire handed over the cash Elysia had given her, saying, "Here."

Cecil snatched it, frowning, "This is it?"

At best, this was just a few grand. He had told Claire to ask for a cool \$100,000!

He had done his homework, finding out that Emmett's adoptive parents were loaded, driving around in luxury cars, staying in fancy hotels!

Plus, they were acquainted with Folly Blythe's heiress, clearly not just anybody.

Most importantly, they adored Emmett!

Considering Emmett, getting them to fork over some cash shouldn't have been an issue.

But Claire brought back just this small amount!

Cecil was displeased, "Didn't I tell you to ask for \$100,000?!"

Claire rushed to explain,

"I did ask. This few thousand isn't part of that. This is extra, from Ms. Thorne for Maria's nutrition."

"And the \$100,000?"

Claire said excitedly, "They're going to deposit it directly into our daughter's hospital account. We won't ever have to worry about paying for her treatments again!"

Cecil's face darkened, "I wanted cash. What's the use of having it in an account?!"

"It's for our daughter's treatment, Cecil. It doesn't matter where the money is, they've given it to us. Let's not hassle them anymore."

"They've been taking good care of our son and now they're helping us with our daughter's medical expenses. They're good people, a blessing to our family."

"Our situation isn't great, and staying with us, our son is suffering. Maybe it's best if he continues to stay with them, and we... Ah!"

Before Claire could finish, Cecil kicked her to the ground.

"My child's fate isn't yours to arrange! They're so rich, yet you couldn't even secure \$100,000, useless! Marrying you was a damn mistake!" Enraged, Cecil unleashed a barrage of kicks on Claire.

Curling up on the ground, Claire didn't fight back, only sobbed quietly.

After venting his anger, Cecil stopped.

He looked at Claire for a moment, then an idea seemed to strike him.

A strange glint appeared in Cecil's eyes.

He bent down, helped Claire up, smoothed her hair, and wiped her tears,

"Why do you think I wanted that \$100,000? It was all for Maria!"

"The hospitals here in Silver City can't Maria's condition.

Depositing money here is

waste!" Justel

"Only if we have the cash, can we take Maria to a renowned hospital elsewhere. I've heard there's hope."

Claire was stunned, "Hope?"

"Yeah! A buddy of mine said his friend's kid had the same condition as Maria, and they got it cured."
"Really?"

"Why would I lie?! Of course, it's true!"

Claire immediately became excited, wiping away her tears, "Let's take Maria for treatment then?!"

"We can, but we need money, Claire.

I admit, I haven't been there much for Maria over the years, but she's still my flesh and blood. Of course, I want her to get better!"

"About our son, yes, I did sell him, but why? It was all to pay for our daughter's treatment."

Claire looked at him, astonished,

"You sold our son for Maria?"

"Yeah, what did you think?!"

Claire's expression was a mix of disbelief and confusion, "..

Cecil's tone softened,

"Also, these years, the reason I've been rough with you... there's a reason."

"Our daughter's sick, our son was sold. How do you think I feel? I'm stressed."

"And to pay for our daughter's treatments, I've gotten into debt, constantly hounded by loan sharks! If I was all lovey-dovey with you, wouldn't those debt collectors come after you too?"

"Me hitting you... it's to show them we're not close, to keep them off your back. I did it all for you."

Chapter 1112

Claire stared blankly at him, absorbing every word of what now seemed like nothing but ghost stories. And then, overwhelmed by a rush of hurt and disbelief, she burst into tears.

Cecil wrapped his arms around her, his voice soft with comforting words, though his eyes betrayed a flicker of disdain.

"It's alright to cry, love. It's my fault. I've put you through so much over the years. Every time I've hurt you, I swear it pained me too, as if the blows were landing on my own heart."

Nestled in his embrace, Claire let her tears flow freely.

After allowing her a moment to cry, Cecil gently probed, "Claire, do you want to get our daughter better?"

Eagerly, she nodded, "Yes, absolutely!"

"Then you'll have to do exactly as I say."

"Of course, anything!"

He whispered a plan into her ear, and with a determined nod, Claire wiped away her tears and headed back to the hospital.

...

Meanwhile, Elysia and Tarquin had just returned to their hotel suite to the mouthwatering aroma of dinner being prepared. Emmett was in the kitchen, orchestrating the evening meal with the help of Baby and Pamela Patel.

The trio radiated happiness, with Emmett taking charge like a little adult, doling out compliments and instructions with the ease of a seasoned chef. "Grandma, your knife skills are amazing! Look at how perfectly you've diced the vegetables!"

"And Baby, you've washed the tomatoes so thoroughly, well done! You're amazing too!"

"Mummy loves scrambled eggs with tomatoes. Let's make that for her tonight."

"Daddy's favorite is beef stew. Grandma, could you help chop the beef into small cubes? Be careful not to cut yourself."

Standing at the doorway, Elysia was moved to tears by this simple, domestic scene.

How could she ever think of taking Emmett back to that twisted environment? She'd rather face death herself.

Tarquin, sensing her turmoil, wrapped his arm around her shoulders in silent support.

Elysia, trying to avoid making a scene, quietly wiped her tears and bent down to take off her shoes.

Baby, noticing her first, dropped the tomato she was holding and ran to the door, "Mummy!"

Elysia forced a smile and lifted her daughter into her arms, "Are you helping make dinner, Baby?"

"Yes, Emmett's cooking, and Grandma and I are helping. Why does your voice sound hoarse, Mummy? And why are your eyes so red? Did someone bully you?"

Hearing the commotion, the others came to check on Elysia, who had not shared the reason for her earlier departure.

Concerned by Elysia's distressed appearance, Pamela and the kids grew worried.

Elysia reassured them, "No one's

bullying me. I was just moved by a story Blossom told me. I couldn't

help but cry, and now my eyes are all red, and my voice is hoarse.

DUMS

Emmett, wearing a little apron, approached with curiosity, "What story did Blossom tell that was so moving?"

Elysia knelt down, gently stroking Emmett's cheek, her eyes brimming with tears, "Blossom told a story about a mother being separated from her child."

Hearing this, Emmett quickly reassured her, "Mummy, don't be sad. We'll never be separated from you."

The other kids echoed in unison, "Right, we'll always stay with Mummy, never apart."

Holding back her tears, Elysia hugged Emmett and affectionately patted the others, "Yes, we'll never be apart."

"Don't worry, Irene. Mummy will make you something delicious."

Pamela approached, comforting Elysia just as she would soothe the children, gently patting her head.

Elysia smiled gratefully, "Thanks, Mum."

"Let's go make something delicious," Pamela said, leading Elysia into the kitchen.

Now well-cared-for and no longer needing a wheelchair, Pamela had recovered well, both in spirit and in health.

Feeling loved and cherished, Elysia

followed Pamela into the kitchen

with Emmett and Baby trailing

el?

behind. Evan, always eager to join in, stuck close to Elysia's side.

Elliot and Elijah, however, sensed something was amiss and pulled Tarquin aside into the study, "What's really going on with Mummy?"

The two boys had noticed the unusual atmosphere and were seeking answers.

Chapter 1113

Tarquin paused before finally saying, "Emmett's biological parents have shown up."

Elliot and Elijah were shocked, taking a moment before asking, "Do they want to take Emmett away?"

"It's still unclear; the situation is complicated."

Claire is manageable, but Cecil is a tough nut to crack.

"Mom adores Emmett. If they take him away, it would break her heart!"

"Emmett loves Mom too. He definitely wouldn't want to part from her, but they are his biological parents. What can we do?"

Tarquin sighed, "Let's see what they have to say."

Ideally, a peaceful solution would be best since they are Emmett's biological parents.

If not peaceful, then we'll have to force a resolution. We can't let them ruin Emmett!

"Emmett's dad is a deadbeat, but his mom... It's hard to say. Dig deeper into her background."

"Got it!"

Tonight, Elysia was exceptionally clingy to Emmett.

When it was time for bed, she suggested, "How about we sleep together tonight?"

Emmett, of course, was thrilled and happily agreed.

Although not as sharp as Elliot and Evan, Emmett sensed something was off with Mom today.

After getting ready for bed, Emmett asked, "Mom, are you worried about something today?"

Elysia hesitated before lying, "No worries, honey. I just want to be with you always."

"I want to be with Mom always too."

After chatting for a bit, Emmett said, "Mom, let me tell you a story?"

"Okay."

Snuggled in Elysia's arms, Emmett retold the bedtime stories she used to tell him, lulling her to sleep.

After three stories, Elysia 'fell asleep.'

Emmett carefully got up, covered Elysia with the blanket, then snuggled back beside her.

Kissing Elysia's forehead, he whispered, "I will always love you, Mom. Goodnight."

It wasn't long before the little guy fell asleep.

Elysia slowly opened her eyes, her lashes wet with tears.

Looking at her sleeping child, she felt an ache in her heart and struggled to breathe.

"I will always love you too, Emmett."

Elysia watched Emmett sleep all night, wide awake.

The next day, before dawn, her phone rang. It was Blossom.

"Elysia, you need to come to the

hospital ASAP. Emmett's mom

here with the kid again!"

s to en.kikistori

Elysia, confused, asked in a low voice, "Weren't they already at the hospital?"

"No! They discharged themselves last night and came back this morning!" "Discharged?"

"Yes! I just can't with this woman.

Anyway, you better come over, Sentent belongs to

she

might head to you e

Elysia was speechless.

When she and Tarquin arrived at the hospital, it was just starting to light up.

Maria was in the emergency room, with Claire and Blossom waiting outside.

Cecil was there too.

This was Elysia's first time seeing Cecil.

Emmett didn't resemble him much, but there were some similarities in their expressions.

Cecil looked worn, with heavy dark circles under his eyes, clearly from lack of sleep.

Before Elysia and Tarquin could say anything, Claire suddenly fell to her knees, begging, "Ms. Thorne, please help my daughter again. vomited blood today, so

She

blood. It scared me to delno

much

As Elysia helped Claire up, she heard Cecil speaking.

Chapter 1114

"I heard from Claire, it was you folks who coughed up the dough to bail out Maria yesterday. Much obliged, you're all solid gold, good folks get good karma. On behalf of our Maria, I thank you."

Tarquin gave Cecil a frosty look, his expression dark.

Elysia, frowning, asked, "Why did you go through the trouble of discharging Maria?"

Claire kept mum, cowering, while Cecil explained:

"After the discharge, the hospital refunds some cash. We planned to use this money to take Maria to a top-notch hospital out of state for treatment!"

"We've been here countless times, and they can't fix what's wrong with Maria. Look, just got resuscitated yesterday, and today, trouble again." Claire quickly chimed in:

"Ms. Thorne, we've already got in touch with the new hospital, over in King City. The specialists there said they can treat Maria's condition, just needs surgery and she'll be right as rain."

"It's just... the surgery will set us back about three hundred grand. We're begging, Ms. Thorne, please, help us out one more time..."

Elysia frowned, not at the mention of the surgery cost.

It was because Maria's condition was incurable, and surgery was pointless.

"...Are you sure you're not being scammed?"

Claire looked at Cecil, who immediately said:

"No way we're being scammed. A buddy of mine recommended this hospital. His kid got treated there."

Tarquin knew instantly the guy was lying through his teeth!

If it weren't for his connection to Emmett, he wouldn't bother with such folks!

Even their scamming excuse was pathetically weak!

Tarquin, glaring at him, coldly said,

"I'm familiar with the hospitals and specialists in King City. Which hospital, which doctor? I'll make some inquiries for you."

Cecil, taken aback, stuttered in reply,

"I... I didn't catch the names, my friend was handling it."

"Then check with your buddy, get the ails and let me know. If the

, I'll foot the bill." Cont over there can really cenele

belongs to

Cecil clenched his fists in frustration, annoyed!

Even with his billions, flinching over three hundred grand!

But Cecil didn't show it, "Alright, alright, I'll ask."

As soon as Elysia and Tarquin left, Cecil's expression changed.

Last night, he convinced Claire to discharge Maria, pocketing several grand in the process.

Claiming it was for Maria's surgery, he took the money straight to the casino.

And blew it all in no time!

Returning home, he intentionally made Maria vomit blood, rushing her to the hospital.

Then had Claire seek out Elysia, with the story of 'this hospital can't treat her, we need to take Maria to a big hospital for surgery' to scam them out of a hefty sum!

He hadn't expected Emmett's foster father to be so stingy!

Frustrated and agitated, Cecil kicked Claire a few times to vent,

"All you do is cry, thinking they're saints. See for yourself, they don't wanna help Maria at all!"

Claire, tears in her eyes, said,

"But, didn't Emmett's foster dad say he'd pay?"

"Bull! If he really wanted to help, he wouldn't be asking all these questions, wasting time!"

"He would've handed over the cash,

letting

us

"He Maria to King money for a patient, get

treatment straight away.

belongs to

Claire panicked,

"So what do we do? If they're not willing to pay, how will we afford the surgery for our daughter?"

Cecil snorted, a sinister glint in his eye,

"Then we'll use their son to get the money!"

Chapter 1115

In the corner, White flicked its red tongue, eyeing the Cecil couple with intent.

Atop its head sat a miniature camera, capturing everything that unfolded outside the emergency room.

This included the previous exchange between Tarquin, Elysia, and the Cecils.

Back at the hotel, Elliot, Evan, and Elijah were watching everything unfold clearly.

Evan was livid, "Emmett's dad is a piece of work!"

Elliot and Elijah furrowed their brows, already aware of the situation since yesterday.

Emmett's family situation was a mess!

His dad was the epitome of laziness, never holding down a job and indulging in every vice imaginable.

Instead of working to pay for his daughter's medical bills, he'd siphon off the money meant for her treatment!

Emmett's mom's salary, government assistance, and donations from kind-hearted folks mostly ended up funding his gambling addiction.

And Emmett's mom...

To put it bluntly, she was a piece of work too!

She truly loved her child, enduring much hardship to pay for her daughter's medical bills.

But there's truth in the saying, "Every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future."

She wasn't bad, but her actions were infuriating!

Emmett's grandparents were literally worried sick by her.

They saw through Cecil's facade and urged her to divorce him. Not only did she ignore their advice, but she also conned them out of their savings along with Cecil.

Up until their last breath, they were concerned for their daughter, advising her to leave Cecil.

But she wouldn't listen, and now she's still with him...

How could a family like this ever be warm and happy?

It wasn't a matter of finances, but rather the people involved!

"Bro! We've got to do something. We can't let Emmett be taken away by them!" Evan was anxious.

Elliot's brow was furrowed in thought. They couldn't let Emmett go back to them!

Not for their mom's sake, nor for Emmett's.

It would destroy their mom, and ruin Emmett's life!

But they were Emmett's biological parents, and they had custody.

They needed a solid plan!

Suddenly, a knock on the door, Emmett's voice came through,

"Bro, are you guys in there?"

The brothers exchanged looks, quickly shutting off the computer.

Evan went to open the door, his eyes reddening a bit upon seeing Emmett, freshly aware of the situation, "What's up, Emmett?"

"I just wanted to let you know,

breakfast's ready. I've kept it warm in the box, so you can eat anytime.

I'm heading to the hospital to bring Blossom and mom their breakfast."

Evan turned to Elliot, seeking guidance.

With Emmett's biological parents still at the hospital, should Emmett even go?

After a few seconds, Elliot said,

"You've done well, Emmett. Evan, go with Emmett to the hospital."

Now that Cecil knew about Emmett, hiding was pointless. Emmett couldn't escape them forever, what's

meant to be will always

Evan nodded firmly, "Right! I'll keep Emmett safe."

a way!

If Cecil dared to make a move on Emmett, he'd make sure Cecil regretted it.

No matter who it was, even Emmett's biological father, they'd be Evan Thorne's enemy if they hurt his mom or brother!

Elijah looked at Emmett with a serious expression,

"Emmett, you'll always be our brother!"

Elliot also placed a gentle hand on Emmett's head,

"Emmett will always be our brother, and we'll always be a family."

Unaware of the situation, Emmett looked up at his brothers with wide, innocent eyes, asking curiously,

"Bro, are you guys alright? I'm just

Chapter 1116

Evan pinched the bridge of his nose, trying to hide his emotions.

"It's nothing, bro. Just got a bit sentimental for a moment. Let's head out. We'll swing by the hospital to drop off some food for Mom and Blossom. Big bro and Elijah will stay back to look after Grandma and the little one."

"Got it."

As soon as Evan and Emmett stepped out, Elliot immediately rang Tarquin to update him on the situation.

Tarquin had just finished settling Maria's hospital bills.

He made it clear to the hospital staff that if someone attempted to discharge Maria, the remaining balance should be refunded to the original account.

He had discovered that Cecil had gambled away the money meant for Maria's care!

He wouldn't let Cecil get his hands on another dime using that tactic!

Hearing Elliot's rundown, a flicker of disdain passed through Tarquin's eyes.

Cecil thinks he can extort money from him? He really doesn't know his place!

"Don't worry about things here. Focus on taking care of Grandma and the baby. I've got this under control," Tarquin reassured.

Elliot voiced his concern, "But what about Emmett's custody? It's still in their hands..."

"It's fine. Emmett won't be separated from us. Trust me, Dad's got this."

...

By the time Evan and Emmett arrived at the hospital, Blossom was in the middle of a rant.

"I've never seen such irresponsible parenting. Even if they did arrange for their daughter to be seen at a hospital out of town, shouldn't they at least check if she's fit for transfer?!"

"She was just in the ER this afternoon, and by evening, they're processing her discharge. Are they insane?!"

"And then, instead of rushing her to the new hospital, they let her stay home for a night. Unbelievable!"

Blossom, single and childless, was appalled.

How could anyone be such terrible parents?!

"And, ready to take their daughter for treatment without even knowing which hospital? Please! I'm telling you, Elysia, they're probably just trying to scam you, thinking you're easy targets!"

Elysia also sensed something was off, her brows furrowed in concern.

"Emmett's father is no good."

Just as Elysia finished speaking, Evan and Emmett burst through the door.

"Mom! Blossom!"

Elysia and Blossom were taken aback, "Evan, Emmett, what are you doing here?"

"We came to bring some delicious food for Mom and Blossom."

The boys approached the bedside, each carrying a thermos.

Unaware of the earlier conversation,

Emmett asked Blossom, "Have

anything good, Blossom?"

belongs to

Blossom forced a smile, "It smells amazing. What did you make today, Emmett?" "Guess."

"I bet there's some chicken noodle soup and grilled cheese sandwiches."

"You're half right, Blossom. Look."

Emmett opened the thermos, and the aroma instantly filled the room.

Blossom saw the carefully p

beautifully presented dishes couldn't help but tear up.

s to en.kikistories and ne

How could anyone ruin such a wonderful child like Emmett with such awful parents?!

Not just Elysia, but even she couldn't bear the thought!

"Blossom, why are you crying?"

Blossom choked up, "I'm just moved. Emmett, you're too good to me."

The little guy quickly wiped away her tears.

"Don't cry, Blossom. Your eyes will swell, and

Let's eat together." Celongs

you won't look pret will

"Okay, let's eat."

Blossom and Emmett moved towards the table together.

Elysia looked away, wiping her own tears before joining them.

Evan saw it all, feeling a pain in his heart for them.

Mom and Blossom's sadness was all because of Cecil, that scum!

Jerk! Villain! Good-for-nothing!

After breakfast with Mom and Blossom, he was determined to confront him!

Chapter 1117

However, before Evan could confront him, Cecil made the first move!

Failing to swindle \$300,000, he shifted his strategy.

Getting his son back was the new plan. With his son in his grasp, the reasons to demand money would be endless!

Cecil wailed outside Blossom's hospital room,

"Ms. Thorne, I've only just discovered Emmett's existence. Please, I beg you to return Emmett to me. He's the only legacy of the White family, sob, sob, sob..."

The people inside the room were stunned.

Elysia pulled Emmett close, hugging him tightly as if afraid Cecil would snatch him away.

Emmett, confused, looked at Elysia,

"Mommy, what's wrong? Is that uncle outside talking about me?"

Elysia's eyes welled up, her lips trembling, at a loss for words.

"I'll check it out!"

Evan and Blossom went outside together.

Seeing them, Cecil frowned, "Where are Ms. Thorne and my son?!"

Blossom, annoyed, said, "Speak properly. What's with the shouting outside my room?!"

Cecil, sensing her hostility, flashed a menacing look, subtly threatening,

"Ms. Blythe, you've barely escaped death. It's best you stay out of this. Who knows if you'll be so lucky if you catch someone's attention again."

Blossom was shocked. How did Cecil know about her kidnapping?

"I'm here for Ms. Thorne and my son, not you. Step aside!"

Cecil attempted to barge into the room.

Blossom quickly blocked the door,

"This is my room. Try to force your way in, and I'll call the police!"

Cecil's face darkened, "Blocking my way, are you trying to keep me from seeing my son? Is this what Ms. Thorne wants too?"

Before Blossom could reply, Cecil shouted towards the inside,

"Ms. Thorne, I know you and my son are in there. This isn't right. Emmett is clearly my son, and you're holding him hostage? Keep this up, and I'll call the police!"

After he spoke, he tried to push past Blossom!

Evan, gritting his teeth, stepped hard on Cecil's foot!

Cecil's expression changed drastically, "!"

The pain was more than he could bear!

The agony shot from his toe to his head, feeling like his foot was crushed!

He was stunned for a moment before screaming in pain, retreating, "Ah, ah-"

Retreating too quickly, he fell onto the hard floor, nearly breaking his tailbone.

Cecil hissed in pain, breaking out in a cold sweat.

He hurriedly looked at his foot, but

couldn't see any signs of being stepped on due to his dirty shoes.

Looking up, he saw Blossom blocking the door, clearly not her doing.

But the kid was so small, it seemed impossible for him to have such strength!

Who did this?

With no one else around, did he encounter some bad luck?

Cecil, now wary, glanced around before struggling to his feet, even angrier now.

Before even seeing his son, he was injured!

"You dare block me from recognizing my son, that's illegal!"

Cecil pulled out his phone to call the police,

"Hmph! Emmett's custody is

Today, must take him with me

even

I can stop me!"

s to en.kikistoriesect

Blossom, knowing the law, panicked.

If the police got involved, they would definitely hand Emmett over to Cecil!

Evan, having heard about the custody issue from Elliot, knew this was a tough problem.

Evan clenched his fists, ready to resort to force!

As the saying goes, while violence

might not solve the problem, it c

y solve the person causel

it!

Just as the little guy was about to act, Tarquin suddenly appeared.

"Let him call!"

He had been downstairs on the phone and had just returned.

Seeing him, Evan and Blossom felt like they saw a savior,

"Daddy!"

"Mr. Bradford!"

Tarquin patted Evan's head and looked at Blossom,

"You two go back inside with Elysia and Emmett. I'll handle this."

Chapter 1118

Blossom was nodding furiously, leading Evan back to the hospital room.

The cavalry had arrived, rendering their presence unnecessary. They needed to check on Elysia and Emmett immediately.

As expected, they found Elysia in tears, clutching Emmett close,

"I'm so sorry, Emmett, mommy lied to you, I'm so sorry..."

Blossom rushed forward,

"Are you out of your mind? You didn't tell Emmett the truth for his own good. You did nothing wrong!"

"Emmett, you mustn't be angry at your mom. She kept the truth from you so you could grow up carefree and happy, just like Elliot and Evan!"

"Blossom would stake her life on it-your mom is the person who loves you most in this world!"

Evan chimed in, equally frantic:

"Emmett, think about how mommy has treated you all these years. Even though you're not her flesh and blood, she truly loves you."

For little Emmett, this revelation was a bolt from the blue!

"I...I'm not mommy's biological child?"

Elysia, tears streaming down her face, apologized,

"I'm so sorry, Emmett. Mommy lied to you, for so many years, I'm so sorry..."

"Will mommy...will mommy abandon Emmett?"

Elysia was stunned for a moment before shaking her head vehemently,

"No! Mommy will never abandon Emmett!"

At that, Emmett burst into tears,

"Emmett doesn't want to be separated from mommy, don't leave Emmett, wahhh..."

The little guy was terrified, sobbing uncontrollably,

"Emmett only has one mommy, Emmett doesn't want another mommy, just you, wahhh, don't leave Emmett..."

Elysia, crying herself, held Emmett tight,

"Mommy will never leave Emmett, never! No one can take Emmett away from mommy!"

If push came to shove, she'd take Emmett and start anew somewhere remote!

As long as they were together, they could be happy anywhere!

As long as Emmett didn't leave her, she'd never part ways with him!

Blossom, standing aside, was shedding tears. It's true what they say-children grow closest to those who raise them.

Good Emmett, such a sweet child, never letting anyone down.

...

Outside the hospital room, Tarquin hadn't said a word, just giving Cecil the cold shoulder.

Cecil felt justified in his claim over his son.

But at that moment, he didn't dare to be arrogant!

He didn't dare to let out a peep, let alone meet Tarquin's gaze.

Tarquin's aura was chilling to the bone!

It wasn't until the police arrived that Cecil straightened up.

He painted himself as a pitiful father, deprived of his son,

"Officers, please, I beg you to help me. They're keeping my son from me, my only son, wahhh... Please, help me get justice!"

The officers, unfamiliar with Tarquin, asked sternly, "What's going on here?"

Cecil jumped in, "They kidnapped my son. When we found out, they barred me from seeing him! They won't let us be reunited!"

The officers frowned, turning to Tarquin, "Did you kidnap his son?"

Tarquin, unfazed, replied, "It wasn't kidnapping; it was more like finding."

"Bullshit! My son was kidnapped by you!"

An officer glared at Cecil, signaling him to quiet down, then said to Tarquin,

"Even if you found the child, you

return him to his family. The

child belongs to them; they have the custody rights."

Seeing the officers side with him made Cecil smug,

"Exactly! If you dare keep my son, you're breaking the law! I am

Emmett's biological father. Who

do

you think you are? Emmett's custody rights are with me!"

Emmett's biological father...

Tarquin looked at Cecil, silent for a few seconds before speaking,

"You still fail to see the true value of being 'Emmett's biological father Congratulations, you've traded a mountain of gold for a single sesame seed."

Chapter 1119

Cecil was indeed Emmett's biological father, but that was just the tip of the iceberg when it came to what Emmett could achieve on his own.

Just with his own effort and Elysia's support, they could easily pull him from the bottom of the social ladder right to the top, where life was all steaks and fine wine, a world of riches and comfort at his fingertips!

But what a waste of a golden opportunity!

He was dealt a royal flush by fate itself, and he managed to squander it all away!

After the fallout, he was left with nothing.

His connection with Emmett was now as thin as his link with the Bradfords - merely a shared drop of blood, nothing more.

Cecil, clearly puzzled by the turn of events, furrowed his brow and asked Tarquin,

"What do you mean?"

With a cold tone, Tarquin retorted, "You won't even get a crumb off this table."

After saying this, he turned to the officers,

"He might have parental rights, but I doubt he's fit for raising a child. With him, the kid's only going to suffer. He'll ruin him."

Cecil was immediately on edge,

"Suffer with me? He's my own flesh and blood, I'd go to the ends of the earth for him!"

Tarquin, uninterested in continuing the argument, pulled out his phone, scrolled through some documents, and handed it over to the police, "He's into gambling and has a history of domestic violence. Here's the proof, take a look."

Proof?!

Cecil was shocked and instinctively reached out to grab the phone!

The officer shot him a warning glance and took Tarquin's phone to review the evidence, "..

Tarquin explained, "The money he lost last night was meant for his daughter's medical bills. He gambled away his daughter's lifeline. How can he possibly take care of his son?"

"The kid is his, I won't deny that. But leaving him in Cecil's care? That, I cannot stand for, nor will I allow it."

Tarquin's tone was calm but resolute.

Legally, custody was a matter for the courts, but under these circumstances, even the police hesitated to enforce anything drastic, especially when a child's wellbeing was at stake.

Who would dare hand over a child to a gambler and an abuser?

This needed a thorough investigation.

The officer handed back Tarquin's phone, "Where's the child now?"

"In the hospital room."

When the officer entered the room and saw Emmett, the boy immediately clung to Elysia's neck,

"I don't wanna be away from Mommy, please, no..."

Elysia, too, held Emmett tight, fearing the officer might take him away.

The officer, however, was gentle, reassuring them he was just there to ask a few questions.

After the inquiry, the officer decided Emmett should stay with Elysia for the time being, asking Cecil and Tarquin to accompany him to the station for further questioning.

Elysia was relieved yet worried.

Relieved that Emmett wasn't taken away today, but worried about Tarquin.

Tarquin seemed unfazed,

"Don't worry about me, I won't be in any trouble. I'll be back for lunch to join you guys."

Elysia bit her lip, "Okay..."

Then Tarquin gave Emmett's head a gentle pat,

"Don't be scared, kiddo. Mom and Dad will always be with you."

Emmett, being held by Elysia, turned and threw himself into Tarquin's arms, his voice soft and pitiful, "Daddy."

Tarquin held him close,

"You're the bravest, Emmett.

Daddy's just going to the station to

talk to the police uncle, and I'll be back soon. Can you take good care of Mommy for me, make her happy?"

The little guy, sniffing, nodded, "Yeah!"

After a kiss on the forehead from Tarquin, Emmett was handed back to Elysia.

Cecil, unable to contain his

frustration, called out to Emmett

Set

"Emmett, I'm your real dad!

biological one!"

Emmett, intimidated, clung tighter to Elysia, turning his face away, refusing to look at Cecil.

Cecil, grinding his teeth in anger, thought about charging forward to give him a piece of his mind.

"You wait! Sooner or later, I'll take you back home!"

And once home, he thought about how he'd settle scores.

But even the officer could see Emmett's reluctance towards Cecil, and admonished,

Chapter 1120

"Why are you yelling at the kid? Let's go!"

The officer was about to take them away when Claire suddenly rushed over.

"Where are you taking him? Where are you taking my husband?"

Cecil quickly shouted at Claire,

"They're saying I've been abusing you. Tell the cops right now, have I ever laid a hand on you?!"

Claire paused, subconsciously tugging at her clothes, scared her scars would show.

She shook her head, vigorously,

"No, he's never hit me! Officer, you've got it all wrong!"

Elysia couldn't stand it any longer!

She handed Emmett to Blossom, asking her to take Emmett and Evan back inside.

Once the kids were gone, Elysia confronted Claire in front of the officers,

"If he hasn't hit you, then where did those scars come from? And your daughter's injuries?"

"We... we just bumped into things."

"Bumped into things? You're protecting him, disregarding your own safety, and even your daughter's? You're a mother, how can you tolerate your daughter being abused?!"

"I'm not neglecting my daughter! No one loves my children more than I do!"

Elysia mercilessly rebuked her,

"What you're giving her isn't love, it's harm! If you truly loved her, you would stay far away from this man! Let him face legal consequences, get justice for your child!"

His so-called 'taking your daughter to a big hospital' is just a scam, he's been fooling you!

The money left over from last night's hospital visit, he gambled it all away. That was your daughter's life-saving money!"

Claire was shocked and turned to look at Cecil.

Cecil clenched his teeth,

"Don't listen to her nonsense. They don't want to give us our son back, they're making up lies to frame me. If I go to jail, my daughter won't have money for her treatment, and you won't get your son back!"

Hearing this, Claire was stunned for a few seconds, then turned to the officers,

"Officer, I'm his wife, he's never hit me, he hasn't abused me, and he didn't gamble. Please, let him go.

He's the breadwinner of our family. If you take him away, what will happen to my daughter and me? Oh, oh, oh..."

Elysia was speechless at her response. This woman was beyond help!

The officers, considering Maria was still in the hospital, reassured Claire a bit, then took Cecil and Tarquin away. Claire collapsed on the ground, crying and questioning Elysia,

"We just wanted some money to take our daughter to King City f treatment. You're so rich,

you spare us some? Conte

belongs to

Listen to Cecil, give him the money, and he won't come after Emmett anymore. Why do you have to provoke him?

Even if it's for Emmett, can't you just give him some money? You say

love Emmett, but why can't you to money on him?" oocy

spend

Elysia didn't want to waste another word on her. She was a lost cause!

She couldn't even understand what real love was.

A scoundrel who thinks a bit of money will solve everything?

Give him once, and he'll come back for more, again and again... He's a bottomless pit!

And Emmett's situation isn't about the money!

A nurse came running to find Claire; Maria was out of the emergency room.

Claire quickly wiped her tears, not bothering to look for Emmett, and ran off.

Elysia watched her frail figure, too exhausted to say more, the same thought recurring: there's something despicable about those who are pitiable!

Trying to compose herself, Elysia went back to the hospital room to find Emmett.

Just as she reached the door, her phone buzzed with a new message.

She took it out to look...

Her breath hitched, her expression changing instantly, nearly dropping the phone!

Elysia stared at the phone screen, feeling a chill down her spine, she sharply turned around—