

Chapter 108 His So-called Life-saving Act

Chris's expression was filled with sincerity.

Archie looked at him with increasing warmth and fondness, gently patting his shoulder. "Excellent, go home and study the secret recipe I've shared with you. It will serve you well in the future! I hope you use this dish to capture Kimberly's heart."

Chris laughed. With everything laid bare between them, there was no need for pretenses with Archie. His eyes shone with determination.

"Don't worry, Archie. I'll master it and I won't disappoint you!"

Archie smiled, looking at Chris with a sense of pride and approval. He nodded thoughtfully, overcome with emotion.

He hadn't expected that while his daughter had never married, his granddaughter was going to divorce and remarry.

"If only Kimberly had met you first, how perfect that would have been..." As he spoke, a twinge of guilt and regret crept into Archie's voice. "If Kimberly had married you, she wouldn't have gone through so much pain. But... let's not dwell on what could have been."

Archie sighed deeply, his expression filled with regret.

He regretted not stepping in sooner. At the very least, he could have kept Kimberly at the Holden Mansion, away from Declan. Over time, he doubted their attraction would have lasted!

Being the villain would have been better than allowing Kimberly to marry Declan and endure more than a year of grievances!

Chris's expression flickered as he observed Archie's regret, feeling a touch of sadness himself.

How could he not feel regret?

If he had known Kimberly would end up with someone so awful, he would have been more assertive back then!

But dwelling on past regrets was useless. Thankfully, it wasn't too late. There was still a chance for a new beginning.

"Archie, we should both look forward."

Archie sighed deeply, forcing a bitter smile. "I want to look ahead, but when I think of all the grievances Kimberly faced with the Walsh family, I... I can't contain this anger!"

Remembering his recent conversation with Declan and the latter's arrogant demeanor, Chris's eyes flashed with a hint of hostility, a mocking smile tugging at his lips.

"Don't worry, Archie. I will ensure that certain people receive what they deserve!"

Archie paused, looking up at Chris. Seeing his resolute demeanor, how could he not understand Chris's intentions?

He hesitated for a few seconds, initially wanting to give him advice. However, remembering Declan's audacity, daring to intrude into the Holden Mansion and shamelessly boast in front of him, filled him with anger.

He gave Chris a meaningful glance, lowering his voice. "Just make sure no one gets seriously hurt. We're not abroad here."

Chris had initially regretted being so candid in front of Archie. Hearing Archie's passionate response, he paused, then offered a small smile.

"I understand, Archie. You don't need to worry."

Archie gazed at him firmly, giving a slight nod but remaining silent.

As for Chris's activities abroad, Archie was somewhat aware.

Chris's influence could be likened to that of a powerful warlord, commanding resources, manpower, and extensive connections!

"By the way, Archie..." Chris suddenly recalled something his expression growing serious. "I heard Declan claim earlier that he's a benefactor to the Holden family?"

At this, Archie's expression turned stormy, his voice rising with resentment. "To hell with his so-called life-saving act! Declan's words are worthless!"

He clutched his ornate cane tightly, shaking with anger, his eyes blazing.

"He says he saved Kimberly. It's been fifteen years! And he dared to suggest Kimberly owes him by showing a ragged handkerchief... Who knows if his story holds any truth? Only Kimberly, gullible and trusting, believed him. Otherwise... With his questionable past, how could he possibly be suitable for marrying the granddaughter of the Holden family?"

Discussing this infuriated Archie. He had always been suspicious of Declan's motives but had once resorted to hiring a psychologist to hypnotize Kimberly, trying to erase that segment of her memory.

Later, he confirmed that Declan was indeed present during the cruise ship disaster that Kimberly survived!

Archie was skeptical and had discussed it with Kimberly's parents, who could only offer helpless shrugs.

"Dad, it's been so long. We can't dig up anything now. Besides, Declan has that handkerchief, and Kimberly was deeply hypnotized. She can't recall what the boy looked like back then, and now, that handkerchief is all the proof of his identity we have."

Caiden was also disturbed by this, but Kimberly, the central figure, had no memory of the boy's face. It required multiple sessions of deep hypnosis to obscure her memories of that period.

However, as time passed, the effects of the hypnosis seemed to diminish and she began recalling events from the cruise, except for the boy's face.

This was a source of great frustration for them.

Since then, Archie hadn't mentioned the issue again, but he never expected Kimberly and Declan's relationship to advance so rapidly, bypassing an engagement and heading straight for marriage!

Before he knew it, Kimberly was pleading with her parents and him to attend her wedding to Declan, adamant that she would marry no one else!

Only then did Archie realize the situation was beyond repair!

Reflecting on these events, Archie's face was a portrait of heartbreak and regret.

Chris's eyes narrowed, intrigued about the events of that time and Declan's alleged role as a benefactor of Kimberly.

"Archie, can you tell me what happened back then?"

Archie snapped back to reality and gave him a deep, thoughtful look. "Do you truly want to know?"

Chris nodded earnestly, about to respond when a curious female voice intervened from behind "What are you two talking about?"

Archie quickly forced a smile. "Just a casual chat. Kimberly, Mr. Howard is about to leave. Would you mind seeing him out for me?"



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