

## Chapter 530 The Secret In the Basement (Part Two)

"Elin, why are you sharing this with me? It's the Carter family's secret, right?" Melissa questioned.

Elin suddenly smirked evilly. "True, it's a Carter family secret, but it's also your secret."

Sensing trouble, Mona moved to stand protectively in front of Melissa.

"Elin, what are you implying?" Melissa asked.

Elin sneered, "Isn't it obvious? Only Miss Susie Carter had the key. Who else would she entrust it to, but her only daughter?"

Melissa's face paled, realizing that Elin knew she was Susie's daughter. Did Joyce know too?

As Melissa pondered, Joyce approached with a group of bodyguards.

"When I heard the alarm, I knew you had opened the basement door. Hand over the key, now."

The once amiable Joyce now wore a fierce expression. She reached out her hand, demanding the key from Melissa.

Melissa stammered, fear creeping up her spine. "Mrs. Carter..."

Joyce coldly retorted, "Are you still calling me Mrs. Carter? Shouldn't you be calling me Grandma? I'm indeed your grandma, after all. Or perhaps you can try to beg for mercy on your knees?"

"Why did you do this? My mother left because of you, right?"

"Ha-ha! You're a sharp girl. Since you've unlocked the basement, I'll reveal the truth."

Joyce's eyes narrowed, as if recalling distant memories.



"Years ago, the Carter family was thriving. But when our competitors gained the upper hand, I resorted to making poison. That's why I built the basement. Your mother was gifted in medicine. We concocted poison together, and the key to this basement was a jade pendant. Unexpectedly, your mother fled one day, taking the key with her. Without it, the basement was inaccessible. I searched for her for years, but only found you."

Melissa's fists clenched. Joyce's wish to see a doctor was just a ploy to lure her here.

"You poisoned me, didn't you?" Melissa asked.

"Yes. How else would you have come here?"

"The man who tried to attack me... You instructed him to do that to me?"

"Indeed," Joyce confessed. "Our security is tight; outsiders can't breach it. If I had simply invited you to live here, you might have been suspicious. So I staged the attack, providing a reason for you to move here."

Melissa gritted her teeth. "The Carter family is prosperous now. Why do you still need the poison?"

"Yes, we're wealthy, but we still have pesky rivals. I want them to suffer excruciating pain, dying slowly without ever knowing the cause."