

Chapter 535 Lock In The Basement

"Take over the Carter family? I refuse to have blood-stained hands like yours! I'm ashamed to call you my grandmother. I despise you, people like you, and the Carter family even more! You want the jade pendant? Never! I won't give it to you. You'd better kill me, because you'll never get it!" Melissa snapped.

"You!"

Joyce's fury consumed her; she clutched her chest as she sank back into her chair.

"Melissa, from the moment I met you, I sensed you were different. As I suspected, your courage is unparalleled. You won't yield, even now. You won't hand over the jade pendant, right? Then I'll search this entire house to find it. I refuse to believe it's beyond my reach."

Storming out, Joyce barked at her henchmen, "Lock her in the basement. No one brings her food without my say-so. Let her suffer and starve to death there with her bodyguard!"

"Yes, madam!"

Dragged into the basement, Melissa tumbled down the stairs. Bruised and battered, the fall exacerbated her injuries.

Clutching her legs, she couldn't stand, nor could she survey her surroundings.

A faint voice caught her attention. "Miss Sherman..."

Melissa froze, and then scrambled toward the sound. The dank, gloomy basement made it difficult to locate Mona.

"Mona, are you alright?" Melissa felt around, but found nothing. "Mona? Where are you?"

"I'm above you."

"What?"

Melissa's gaze shot upward, spotting two feet directly overhead.

Mona had been suspended from the ceiling since her arrival in the basement!

Melissa's fists clenched in anger. "They've gone too far. How could they do this? They're killing you."

"I'm no use to them now," Mona admitted helplessly.

Melissa gazed up with concern. "I'm sorry, Mona. This is all my fault. If it weren't for me, you wouldn't be in this state."

"No, I'm proud. I accomplished something great before my end. Many people avoided poisoning because of my bravery. That's a good thing, right?"

Head bowed, Melissa replied, "I didn't live up to your expectations. I'm so useless. I was caught too."

"The Carter family's vast, with countless guards. Even a professional like me was captured. You've done your best. You still have the jade pendant, right?"

"How did you know?"

Mona smiled. "If they had the pendant, they'd have killed us by now."

Melissa realized Mona was right. The jade pendant might save them both.

"Mona, you can't die here, and neither will I. I'll make them release you."