

Chapter 567 The Worried Elders

Upon their return to the villa, Everett handled the children with a delicacy akin to one handling fragile glass, carrying them upstairs with painstaking care, fearing any small disruption might awaken them from their peaceful slumber.

The children were enveloped in the arms of Morpheus, their tiny noses twitching adorably in their sleep. Despite the awkwardness of carrying two small bodies in his arms, Everett held them securely, their peaceful slumber undisturbed.

Following Everett's silent strides, Melissa tiptoed into the children's room. After tucking the children in with a mother's care, she quietly exited the room.

Spinning on her heels, Melissa was met with the icy glare of Vivienne.

Her eyes were rimmed red, a testament to the tears she had shed.

"How long were you planning on keeping me in the dark? I saw the news, the report about the kidnapped children! My heart dropped to my stomach... I was petrified! Why wasn't I informed?"

It turned out that after the kidnappers' departure, the kindergarten had swiftly taken roll call, their worst fears confirmed with Merrick and Lindsey missing. The police and media were informed, all in the hope of swiftly locating the children.

Johnny and Vivienne both had a routine of scanning the news. However, they had not anticipated that they would stumble upon this particular piece of news.

Growing anxious and on the verge of calling Everett and Melissa to inquire about the situation, they saw Everett ascending the stairs with the children cradled in his arms.

Their anxiety was only pacified when Everett emerged, carrying the two peacefully sleeping children.

Relief washed over them. But because of the emotional rollercoaster they had been through, they were now paranoid.

As a result, Vivienne couldn't resist berating Melissa and Everett.

"Everything happened in the blink of an eye. I saw our children being whisked away... but I was powerless. I failed to protect them," Melissa said guiltily.

Johnny and Vivienne exchanged frightened glances, with Vivienne swiftly moving to check on Melissa.

"Did you get hurt? Why did you keep us in the dark when something so grave happened? Even last time, when you were in search of the antidote, we were left uninformed until the news broadcast it. You... You're a constant source of worry."

"I'm sorry. I didn't mean to cause you any distress."

Vivienne let out a sigh, her heart heavy. She wasn't truly blaming Melissa, but the situation had stirred a whirlpool of emotions within her. "No need for apologies. We came to check on you. Seeing you safe and sound is a relief. But, what exactly transpired?"

At Vivienne's inquiry, Melissa recounted the horrifying ordeal.

Vivienne's face fell, her anger surfacing at the audacity of those who dared to harm her grandchildren.

"How dare they? We must find out who is behind this! The audacity to harm the Mayfield children! Who do they think they are?!"

Meanwhile, Keira paced restlessly. She had commissioned men to bring the children to her, but as dusk descended, there was no sign of them.

A sense of foreboding crept in. Had something gone wrong?

"Damn it!"

Arielle burst in, phone in hand, her face ashen.

"Look at this!" she said.

Keira's eyes swept over the screen, and her face blanched. "Incompetent

fools! They let the children escape and ended up in the river!"

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