#### The Kiss 1051

# Chapter 1051

Ellinor let out a hearty laugh, "If I ever lay a finger on him, it means he must've messed up big time and d eserved a taste of his own medicine. But if he really screws up, I won't even bother to give him a beating . There's no need for all that drama."

Veronica looked a bit puzzled, her eyebrows furrowed, "What do you mean, 'there's no need"?"

Ellinor smirked a little, "I mean, I'll let him off the hook and let him do whatever he pleases. I won't inter fere in his life anymore, and I'll take off

Veronica paused, "You mean.... if my brother screws up, you'll divorce him and hit the road?"

Ellinor glanced at the sky outside the window, "Yeah, I don't have time to waste on a man who can't kee p himself in check."

# Veronica gave a

perplexed pout, "But you fought tooth and nail to marry my brother and gain approval from my grandpa rents; are you really ready to throw all that

away? Most women would choose to suck it up! After all, the

title of Mrs. Blanchet isn't something just anyone can get!"

Ellinor scoffed, "You still think I'm sticking with the Blanchet family because I want the title of Mrs. Blanchet? What do you think I'm lacking?"

Veronica fell silent.

Up until today, she did think Ellinor

cared about the title; after all, she was a country girl who had never known the fancier things in life. Mar rying into the Blanchet family was undoubtedly a game—changer for her.

Of course, she knew Ellinor had feelings for her brother, but wasn't it better to have both love and mate rial wealth?

However, she now realized that Ellinor was not the simple country girl she thought her to be. She knew I da Gipson and Chase Larios from the Crescent Society, and they even respectfully called her boss!

This meant Ellinor didn't necessarily need to rely on a man for status, money, or power. She might've had the capabilities all along and just kept them under wraps.

Ellinor might genuinely care for her brother, not giving a damn about his status, wealth, or anything else.

Veronica pursed her lips, "Alright, even if you're not lacking, you shouldn't just say you're giving up on m y brother! My brother isn't some playboy, he's nothing like your friend Chase! My brother has kept his n ose clean his entire life; everyone knows that!"

Ellinor smiled faintly, "Yeah! Your brother is indeed different, but people change, and no one knows what the future holds. I'm just telling you that I won't lay a hand on your brother. If he ever does something that makes me want to, I won't waste my energy on him anymore. It's that simple.\*

Veronica sighed, "I see now! Your couldn't-care-less attitude

towards my brother is probably why he can't get you out of his head. Men are always intrigued by things they can't grasp. Guess my brother is no exception."

Ellinor gave a soft laugh, "That's right! Your brother can't fully understand me, so he has this desire to co nquer me, but this desire and his interest in me will gradually fade. How far we can go depends on how i nterested your brother is in me and how long he can hold on."

Veronica seemed a bit annoyed, "Ellinor, why are you like this? If my brother loses interest in you, will y ou just leave him? Can't you try harder to rekindle his interest?"

Ellinor paused for a moment, laughed, and said, "Isn't your brother losing interest in me something you' ve always wished for? Wouldn't it be better for your brother to have a sister—in—law from a better family?"

Veronica's face showed a look of shame,

"Alright, alright! Stop mocking me; I know I was wrong! I was wrong for always saying that you were from the countryside and had a poor family background. I know where I went wrong, and... and..."

Ellinor raised an eyebrow, "And what?"

Veronica, always proud, felt a bit embarrassed

to admit her faults. After a long silence, she finally spoke, "And... now I think it's nice to have you as my s ister—in—law! I... I admire you now, and I'm planning to learn from you, so I won't judge people and things superficially like before."

Ellinor squinted her eyes and then

broke out into laughter, "I think you're saying this because of Moran, am I right?"

### Chapter **1052**

Veronica couldn't help but blush every time someone mentioned her crush, "I admit that I'm grateful for your hooking me up with Moran, but that's not the main thing. The thing is, I don't hate you anymore, a nd once 1, Veronica, accept you, it's hard to change. Just don't betray my brother"

Ellinor grinned, shifted a bit, and

laid back leisurely. "Don't worry, I won't betray your brother. Even if I ever have second thoughts, I'd bre ak up with your brother first, then find someone else."

Veronica wasn't satisfied, "You can't break up with my brother!"

Ellinor, feeling weary, murmured, "Alright! If you're not busy, go boil some water, my feet are killing me."

Veronica stood with her hands on her hips, frowning. There was a look of dissatisfaction on her face as s he wondered if Ellinor really just asked her to heat water for her.

But considering that she was carrying her brother's child, she should reluctantly take care of her for her brother's sake.

Veronica went out with the kettle, opened the door, and saw a man standing at the entrance, about to k nock on the door.

"Byran? What are you doing here?" Veronica watched him warily; her attitude toward the Howard family naturally wouldn't be too good.

Byran moved his knocking hand to scratch his head awkwardly, "Is Ellinor... okay?"

Veronica jerked her chin up dismissively, "As long as you Howards don't mess with her, my sister—in—law will be just fine!"

Byran looked ashamed, "I came to apologize for my sister. I want to see Ellinor and apologize to her face —to—face."

Veronica said coldly, "She's resting now; she probably doesn't want to see any of you Howards."

Byran, who usually acted like a little tyrant in front of others, now shamefully lowered his head, "But..."

"Come in."

Ellinor's languid voice came from inside the room.

Reluctantly, Veronica moved aside to let Byran in.

Veronica stood at the door with the kettle, keeping an eye on things. She wasn't okay with leaving Ellino r alone with a Howard, who knew what he was up

# 1. to.

Veronica only had a good impression of the Howards because of Patricia. Now that Patricia's true colors were revealed, she had zero good feelings towards the Howar d family.

Byran entered the room with a **fruit** basket he had just bought and put it on the table, not knowing how to start.

"Ellinor, I didn't know what you like, so I just bought some fruit."

Ellinor, who had just lain down, moved a little and sat up when she heard someone was visiting. She lea ned her tired body against the head of the bed and said to Byran, "You just got out of the hospital; you didn't have to come see me."

Byran looked at Ellinor with complicated eyes, "I think my mom and sister owe you an apology, so I came to apologize on their behalf..."

Ellinor gave a faint smile, "So you think you can apologize for them and I should forgive them?"

Byran was taken aback and quickly shook his head, "No... you don't have to forgive them; I'm not even tr ying to force you to forgive them. I just want to express how sorry I am because I wasn't very nice to you before..."

Ellinor responded lightly, "Hmm, I won't forgive them, but I won't be mad at you because of it. I'll take the fruit, and I accept your goodwill; now go home and do your homework!"

Byran frowned, "I've done all my homework for today."

"That's great, so you can go have fun now!"

Chapter 1053

1 don't have any cool places to go to today'

Ellmor glanced at Byran it was obvious that he didn't want to leave, but what was the point of staying he re?

Today a bunch of people had already been here, hovering around her Her head was about to explodel

Then ida came back.

She pushed the door open, casually walked to Ellinor's bedside, sat down on the chair, and softly asked, "What do you feel like eating for lunch? I can have someone bring it

With Ida back, Veronica finally felt at ease and left to get water

Ellmor barely touched her breakfast, she didn't have the appetite, nor was she in the mood to think about what to eat for lunch. She waved her hand, Let's talk about it later"

Ida nodded, not asking anymore.

Byran felt like he recognized Ida when he saw her walk in, but he couldn't remember where he had seen her

But when he saw Ida sitting next to Ellinor and talking to her, he suddenly remembered, causing his bro w to furrow deeply, "It was your

Ida adjusted her gold-rimmed glasses and gave him a faint smile, "I tello, we meet again"

Byran then remembered that the last time he went to 11 city, trying to sneak into the hacker convention , he ran into Ellinor at the airport. He asked her where she was going, but she didn't tell him.

So he decided to tail her and see why she came to 11 city

But the cab he took got into a fender bender and had to stop to deal with it.

Then he met this woman with gold rimmed glasses. She pulled over in her sports car and offered him a lift.

In a rush to catch up with Ellinor, he hopped into her car, but she sped past Ellinor's car on the highway, causing him to lose her.

And the cherry on top was that when he asked her to drop him off at the club hosting the hacker convention, but she dropped him off at a bathhouse with the same name.

He was pissed, ready to catch a cab and leave, when this woman suddenly had an asthma attack and pas sed out.

He couldn't just leave her there, so he had to take her to the hospital.

In the end, he completely missed the hacker convention he had been looking forward to.

Yes, that was it! Looking back, this woman's appearance was too sudden, and everything that followed d idn't seem like a mere coincidence.

Byran looked at Ida, then back at Ellinor, and suddenly realized what actually happened. "You two knew each other all along! That time in H city, you deliberately conspired to lead me away, didn't you?"

Ellinor didn't respond, and Ida gently pushed her gold-

rimmed glasses up, her tone mysteriously warning, "Kid, it's better not to poke your nose into adult busi ness."

Byran retorted unhappily, "Who are you calling a kid? You're mistaken, I'm an adult, okay?"

Ida squinted her charming eyes and looked him up and down as a mysterious smile appeared on her lips, "Really?"

Byran's ego was challenged, "What's with that look? Are you looking down on me? I'm six feet tall, got a problem with that?"

Chapter 1054

ida shook her head helplessly, "Nope

Byran felt like he was being seen through, so he started to complain, Hey! You still haven't answered my question! What was up with you two last time? Why did you intentionally keep me away from the hack er convention?"

His voice **was** so loud that it made Ida frown in annoyance. A cold light flashed across her golden—rimmed glasses as she glared at him, 'Are you here to visit the patient? She's feeling unwell and needs to rest. If you continue to make noise, don't blame me for having the hospital security escort you out

Byran was taken aback. After looking at Ellinor's tired face, he quickly shut his mouth.

if it were in the past, he would definitely have argued back.

Now, all he felt was quilt

After all, Ellinor's hospitalization due to pregnancy discomfort was caused by his scheming mother and sister.

Ellinor rubbed her temple, "Ida, you can go back to the company"

Ida replied, "The company is fine. Everything has been arranged properly Boss, you don't need to worry"

Indeed, Ellinor was feeling tired, "If you guys aren't leaving, just stay here quietly. I need to get some sle ep, so please be quiet.'

And with that, she laid down and pulled the blanket over her head.

Under the blanket, she checked her phone and saw a few unread messages. However, there were none f rom Theo.

Are all guys like this? Once they get what they want, do they no longer respond like they used to?

Why did he leave for a business trip early in the morning without telling her?

Even if she was sleeping in, he could have left a message!

But there was nothing.

Now that her boss was resting, Ida leisurely leaned back in her chair and checked her phone for any mes sages from her subordinates.

As she was replying to a subordinate's question, a low voice suddenly asked her, "Hey, what's your relationship with Ellinor?"

Without even raising an eyebrow, Ida casually replied, "Friends"

Byran asked again, "You mean like best friends among girls?"

Ida paused, then said softly, "Yeah, kind of

The relationship between her, her boss, and Chase was beyond friendship, they were more like family.

Byran deliberately lowered his voice and whispered, "Why did you distract me that time? Were you afrai d I'd discover something?"

Ida glanced at him, "Again?"

Byran was just too curious. He was sure that what happened at that time was not a coincidence and nat urally wanted to know why.

What was Ellinor's trip to H city for? And why was she afraid he'd find out?

With a furrowed brow, Byran said seriously, "Hey! Don't forget, I got a concussion from hitting my head on the door trying to save you! Whether you were faking sickness or not, strictly speaking, I saved your life. You should treat your savior a bit better, right? At least answer my question seriously!"

# Chapter 1055

ida raised an eyebrow and began eyeing Byran's handsome face, "Oh, I remember now, your head is pre tty hard. You've even smashed the tempered glass door of the hospital."

Byran's face darkened instantly, "I'm trying to have a serious conversation with you, but you keep changing the subject!"

His voice rose out of anger.

Ida held a finger to her lips, signaling him to be quiet and not wake up the sleeping Ellinor.

was only then that Byran realized he had raised his voice. He clamped his mouth shut, not uttering anot her word.

Ida ignored him. Since Ellinor had finally fallen asleep, Ida got up to cover her with a blanket, then move d to a distant sofa and started playing mobile games to kill time.

If she remained beside Ellinor's bed, Byran would keep pestering her with questions, potentially waking Ellinor up again.

Byran wandered over after seeing Ida engrossed in her game. He noticed her high game level and her game ID -DaDrizzle. The name seemed familiar.

You're playing this game too? I play it as well; how about we play together? I can help you win!"

Ida looked at her phone intently, completely uninterested in his offer, "No thanks; I'm just killing time; I'm not looking to play with kids."

Byran frowned, "What's your problem? I've told you I'm not a kid! I'm already an adult! Do you have me mory loss or something? Why are you always forgetting this?"

Ida ignored him, continuing to focus on her game and completely disregarding him.

Without a response, Byran felt disgruntled, but he knew better than to throw a tantrum in the hospital r oom. He sat there with his arms crossed, fuming silently while glaring at Ida.

## After a few

games, Ida started to feel tired. She glanced at Ellinor, who was still asleep, then said to Byran, "If you're not going to sleep, can I catch a nap here?"

Byran scowled but got up anyway.

"Thanks!" Ida didn't hesitate, and as soon as Byran got up, she sprawled lazily on the sofa, "If you're not planning on leaving, keep an eye on Ellinor for me. Wake me up if she does."

"Fine!" Byran muttered, feeling peeved. He didn't like being treated like a kid, even though he was often treated as such.

He didn't want to watch Ida sleep, so he moved towards the window to look at the scenery, thinking about how to arrange a future for his mother and

sister.

After a while, he heard a noise.

Byran turned his head and saw that Ida really had fallen asleep on the sofa. Her glasses had slipped off her face and fallen onto the floor.

She was an adult; she should know that she had to take off her glasses before sleeping. Hmph!

With an annoyed look, Byran went over and bent down to pick up her glasses. His gaze unintentionally s wept over her face, and he was absolutely dumbstruck by her beauty.

Byran found himself holding his breath as the sound of his own heartbeat accelerating filled his ears.

What was going on? Why was his heart racing?

He... he couldn't possibly be interested in this overly mature woman!

Ida suddenly opened her eyes, perhaps because she sensed that someone was close. Her cold gaze locke d onto Byran, who was closer than socially acceptable, "What do you want?"

Faced with her icy stare, Byran began to feel a bit guilty, "Your... your glasses fell off!!....I was just picking them up for you!"

# Chapter 1056

"Thanks." Ida flashed a small smile, gently lifting his chin to examine the young boy's face, "Are you the r umored bashful kid? Do you always blush so easily? How adorable!"

Byran's face turned a bright shade of red as his chin was lifted. He quickly batted her hand away, "What ... What are you doing?!"

Ida chuckled softly, taking her gold-

rimmed glasses from him and putting them on before sitting down, "What? Did I say something wrong? You're not a kid? Then why are you blushing?"

Feeling embarrassed and humiliated, Byran retorted, "Why are you so blunt? Don't you have any sense of shame?!"

Ida let out a soft laugh, T've been through a lot; what's there to be shy about? If you don't want to be te ased, stay away from me!"

Byran frowned and was rendered speechless; he really couldn't comprehend her.

He had never met such a straightforward woman; she was seemingly casual yet distant.

Finally, Byran managed to speak, "You're a real straight shooter, huh?"

Ida laughed again, "That's the first time a man has described me like that; it's quite amusing!"

Byran fell silent.

This woman was not only blunt but also shameless. She was absolutely brazen! He couldn't stand her at all!

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door.

Both Ida and Byran turned their heads

to see a man slightly pushing the door open, asking courteously, "May I come in?"

#### Byran

instantly recognized the man and walked over to open the door for him. He surprisedly asked, "Bartlett, what brings you here?"

With a gentle smile on his face, Bartlett was as polite as ever, "I heard about the recent events and came to the hospital to visit Marissa Blanchet. I thought I'd drop by and see Ellinor too. Byran, why are you he re? Where's your brother?"

Byran felt a bit awkward, "Ah... my brother asked me to look after Ellinor. He hurt his foot, making it inc onvenient for him to visit."

Bartlett smiled, "I see."

He walked in, and upon seeing Ellinor asleep in her bed, a hint of disappointment flashed in his eyes.

Then he noticed there was someone else in the room, and he turned his head to look at Ida.

Ida knew Bartlett; they had worked together a few times, but they weren't close.

While adjusting her glasses, Ida nodded at Bartlett as a greeting.

Bartlett stood by the bed for a while, but Ellinor showed no signs of waking up.

"Seems like I've come at the wrong time; she's going to sleep for a while, isn't she?"

Ida got up and came over, "Yeah, she's fine; she's just sleeping. I'll tell her you stopped by when she wak es up. I won't keep you any longer."

Bartlett's smile contained a deep meaning,

"I didn't expect you to know Ellinor as well, and you seem quite close."

Ida smiled calmly, "Yes, we've been good friends for many years."

Bartlett squinted his eyes; he seemed to be pondering something. Then, as if he finally figured it out, he said, "I see! I'll take my leave then; I'll visit another day."

Ida nodded, "Take care, Mr. Rex."

# Chapter 1057

"Bartlett, can I steal you for a minute?" Byran trailed after Bartlett, apparently wanting to have a word with him.

Once Bartlett and Byran had left, Ida turned her gaze to Ellinor and asked in a hushed voice, "Ellinor, do you not want to see him?"

Ellinor calmly opened her eyes, "Ugh, he's a real pain.

A glint of light flashed across Ida's gold-rimmed glasses, "He seems to have a thing for you."

Ellinor, unmoved, sat up, looking totally bored, "He must have an ulterior motive."

Ida slightly raised her eyebrows, "Ellinor, are you saying anyone who has a thing for you has an ulterior motive?"

Ellinor chuckled lightly. "A normal person wouldn't express such feelings towards a married person. Plus, he's been friends with Theo for years. Do you think he has any good intentions to wards me?"

Ida found herself agreeing and nodding.

Men really do have some unspeakable kinks.

Just then, Belinda walked in, looking particularly drained, and plonked herself down on a couch without uttering a word.

Ellinor noticed something was off and raised an eyebrow at her, "What's wrong?"

Belinda shook her head as her voice quivered, "Nothing... Ellinor, are you hungry? Should I go grab some thing to eat?"

Upon hearing Belinda's shaky voice, Ellinor's frown deepened, "What's going on? Did Chase bully you or something?"

After hearing Chase's name, Belinda stiffened momentarily, then shook her head, "No. Chase didn't do a nything. He and his girlfriend have already left to rest at a hotel."

Ellinor fell silent.

Ida glanced at Belinda, then at Ellinor.

They both knew something was definitely up. Belinda didn't look like nothing had happened at all.

"How can there be nothing wrong?" Veronica stormed in, all fired up with anger.

"Belinda, I thought you were tough! How can you let a man affect you like this? You're making us women look bad! You're driving me crazy!"

Veronica had

initially gone to visit her grandma and had seen Belinda crying in the hallway. When she went over to check up on her, she heard Belinda on the phone.

Her hearing was pretty good, and the hallway was silent, so even without the speakerphone, she heard the nasty things Chase was saying.

After seeing the look on Veronica's face, Ellinor understood that Veronica knew what was going on, so she asked, "What happened?"

Veronica was too enraged to speak, "Chase called Belinda and said... I'm too embarrassed to even say it! How could such a shameless man exist in this world?"

Ellinor frowned, "What exactly did he say? Tell me now!"

With a blushing face, Veronica awkwardly said, "He said he's not used to the contraceptives provided by the hotel and asked Belinda to buy a specific brand for him and deliver it."

Ellinor's face turned dark, and she gritted her teeth, "Is that so? What brand does he need? Tell me, I'll d eliver it to him myself!"

With that, Ellinor was about to get off the bed and storm off to find that annoying jerk.

After noticing that Ellinor was now angry, Ida quickly reassured her, "Boss, don't be mad. I'll go give him a piece of my mind."

Ellinor retorted,

"I've noticed that punk's becoming more and more infuriating! Have I been too lenient with him all these years?"

## Chapter 1058

Ida nodded with a smile, "Yeah, he does need a telling off. There's no need for you to get your hands dirty, I'll handle him myself. You need to chill for now; you can't be getting all rile d up. Think about the baby"

Ellinor was already in a bad mood today, and Chase's nonsense just made her lose control.

Belinda looked up and noticed that Ellinor was about to go confront Chase because of her. So she hurrie dly got up, wiped her

tears, and tried to persuade her, "I'm fine, really. Don't get worked up and stress yourself out. If Uncle finds out, he's gonna chew me out."

Ellinor frowned at Belinda, feeling quite annoyed.

Ida knew Ellinor's temperament very well. She knew that if she didn't give Chase a piece of her mind, Ellinor wouldn't be able to sit still. So she said, "Ms. Wesley, could you please look after her for m e? I've got to step out for a bit."

Belinda nodded in agreement, "Sure, go ahead. I'll take good care of her."

Ida flashed a smile, then turned to Ellinor, "Don't worry, I'll take care of that punk!"

Ellinor shot back coldly, "Don't let him off easy, and make sure to record it for me!"

Ida nodded, "Roger that!"

After her response, Ida turned around and left the ward.

Belinda suddenly realized that Ida was going to confront Chase and felt a bit uneasy, "Ellinor, is Ms. Gips on going to see Mr. Larios? Please don't let her go, I'm fine, really! I don't want to cause trouble for Mr. Larios and his girlfriend."

Ellinor glanced at Belinda. She didn't stop Ida or change her mind. She turned to Veronica, "Go keep Grandma company; Belinda and I will be fine here."

Veronica pouted, not daring to anger Ellinor further, and obediently left.

Then only Ellinor and Belinda were left in the ward.

Belinda sniffled, forcing a smile, "Ellinor, Veronica mentioned earlier that you were saying your feet wer e sore and wanted to soak them. Let me get a basin for you!"

Considering her current condition, Ellinor could indeed use some help. She nodded in agreement, "Than ks, I appreciate that."

"No problem!"

Belinda quickly brought a clean basin, poured

in some hot water, added a bit of cold water, tested the temperature, and only then asked, "Ellinor, could you please test the water? If it's too hot, I can add more cold water!"

Ellinor sat on the edge of the bed, dipped her feet into the basin, and immediately felt relief from the swelling, "This is perfect."

Belinda put the kettle aside and squatted down to look at Ellinor's slightly swollen feet, "Ellinor, I remem ber my mother once telling me that when she was pregnant with me, she often had swollen and sore feet, and she was always tired.

I always thought she was exaggerating, but after seeing you, who's so young, experiencing the same thin g, I realize that pregnancy isn't a cakewalk at all!

Even though your belly isn't showing much yet, I can tell you're not as energetic as before!"

Ellinor also looked down at her own feet, agreeing, "That's why women shouldn't rush into getting pregnant; not all men are worth the trouble."

# Chapter 1059

Belinda blinked, "Ellinor, what are you trying to say? Are you regretting getting pregnant with my uncle's child?"

Ellinor gave a small smile, calmly saying, "Although this child with your uncle was unexpected, I don't reg ret it. I just want to remind you not to let love cloud your judgment. Don't start imagining a life with som eone, throw yourself into a relationship, or even think about having their child before anything

is certain!"

Belinda understood Ellinor's point and nodded

dejectedly, "Yeah, I got it! Ellinor, I should've listened to you from the start and not fantasized about changing a bad boy. Looking back, I can't help but laugh at how overconfident I was."

Ellinor squinted her eyes, filled with sympathy and concern, "It's not your fault. Chase is not marriage m aterial. You're better off finding a man who knows how to appreciate you."

Belinda looked downcast as she gazed at the hospital room floor, replaying the moments with Chase that made her heart flutter.

Despite being hurt by Chase's disrespectful attitude today, it was still heart-wrenching!

She wanted to let go of this relationship, but it was so hard to forget and let go.

"Ellinor, you've known Mr. Larios for so many years; has he ever been serious with a girl?"

Belinda asked curiously, wondering if Chase became the way he was due to some past experience.

"No." Ellinor answered without hesitation.

Belinda furrowed her brows in confusion, "Why did he turn out this way? I refuse to believe that people are inherently indifferent to love. There must've been a few years in his youth wher e he believed in love."

Ellinor rubbed her temples as she thought about Chase's behavior.

She had tried to discipline him, but to no avail.

If she didn't let him play with women, he would either drink at home or get lost in his video games.

To prevent him from doing anything too outrageous, she allowed him to date girls with similar views on casual relationships for amusement.

He had dated so many girls over the years that he couldn't even remember their names!

"Chase, deep down, doesn't believe in love; his relationships

with women are not genuine, but out of boredom. He plays love games. Belinda, for some people, love is not a life necessity. There's nothing you can do to truly touch them, so stop thinking about guys like that. Your uncle can introduce you to someone better looking."

But for girls like Belinda, who tought told why

very

muutusly, they couldn't understand those who didn't believe in love.

Belinda pondered for a moment, then asked curiously, "Ellinor, did you believe in love before?"

Ellinor paused for a second, then answered, "I didn't."

She really didn't.

As a child, she once thought Arnold Mendoza was her biological father. Whenever she saw Arnold and T racy Mendoza together, she felt like her own mother never existed. How could he just completely ignore her?

# Chapter 1060

The relationship between Arnold and Tracy was never genuine, they were just using each other. So she didn't believe in true love.

When she found out she wasn't Arnold's biological daughter, understood her connection to the Howard family, and met her real dad, McNeil Howard, she realized that McNeil was nothing more than a total hy pocrite. His actions even made Arnold look good.

McNeil had pursued her mom in the name of love, but

not long after he got her, he started to stay out and mess around with other women. He even fathered a child out of wedlock. On top of that, he doubted her mom's loyalty, accused her of infidelity, and even c onspired with the Howards to kick her out of the family. What a jerk!

"Ellinor, do you believe in love now?" Belinda asked.

Ellinor's gaze grew complicated as she thought about the person who left without saying goodbye. She responded, "I'm not sure."

Belinda was confused and asked, "What do you mean you're not sure? Aren't you with my uncle because you love him?\*

"I just know that my feelings for him are deep, so deep that I'd do anything for him. Whether or not it's I ove, I can't say for sure. I can't guarantee what will happen in the future. Plus, I'm not even sure if he fee Is the same way about me."

Belinda said confidently, "Ellinor, I'm sure that my uncle loves you. He really does love you!"

Ellinor smiled and said, "Really?"

If he really loved her, then why hadn't he contacted her yet?

He should have reached his destination by now!

Couldn't he even make a call or send a message?

On the other side.

When Ida walked out of the hospital, she happened to be seen by Byran, who had just sent Bartlett away. He wanted to go over and ask her where she was going.

But before he could get close, Ida had already hopped into a luxury car driven by a chauffeur and left.

Without hesitation, Byran hailed a cab and followed Ida's car.

He needed to find out who Ida was and what her relationship with Ellinor was.

Ida's car didn't go far before it pulled into a hotel parking lot. The cab behind it followed suit.

Ida knocked on the door of the presidential suite and glanced at her watch.

The door opened, and Chase stood there bare—chested, wearing only a towel around his waist. His hair was wet, looking like he had just taken a shower