

The Kiss 681

Chapter 681

hapter 681

Just being around Theo gave her a sense of stability, belonging, and security she'd never felt before. It was a subtle feeling

By his side, she felt like she could tease him at will.

"How's the taste?"

His deep voice interrupted her thoughts

Ellinor came back to reality, seeing a spoonful of freshly cooked beef and tomato stew that he was feeding her. She obediently opened her mouth, ready to taste. However, before the food even entered her mouth, she felt an uncomfortable gaze. Looking over to the kitchen door, she saw a line of servants sneaking peeks. Their mouths were open wider than hers, as if they were startled

Only Devin seemed relatively calm.

Feeling awkward, Ellinor smiled politely and suggested, "Why don't you guys come in and have a taste?"

Following her gaze, Theo looked over with a cold expression.

The servants instantly became serious, waving their hands and scurrying away.

As if they dared to eat the food Mr. Blanchet cooked! They weren't worthy!

Mr. Blanchet's wife was really something, making the usually kitchen-avoidant Mr. Blanchet willingly cook for her.

He truly adored her!

The servants were gone, and Devin also turned to leave with a satisfied smile on his face.

Mrs. Blanchet's return was a blessing, and Mr. Blanchet finally had a smile on his face.

God knew what a mess Mr. Blanchet was during the month or so that Mrs. Blanchet was away. The atmosphere at home was worse than hell, so suffocating that it was hard to breathe.

Now, finally, Mrs Blanchet was there to lighten the mood. How great!

With no one around, Ellinor finally took a bite of the beef and tomato stew he'd made.

He fed her another spoonful, leaning in with a smile, "So, are you satisfied with the taste?"

"For a first attempt, this is really good, but there's room for improvement!"

His hopes for a compliment were dashed, he pretended to be displeased, pulling back the spoonful of food he was about to give her and instead began eating it himself.

Ellinor frowned, "Hey, what are you doing? Why are you eating my food?"

He snorted, "Didn't you say it needed improvement? If it's not good, why would you still want to eat it?"

"I'm hungry!" Ellinor complained

Theo remained expressionless and continued to not feed her.

Ellinor knew how to adapt in order to get food. She smiled, "It's really good! You did a great job! Can I have the food now?"

Theo teasingly held up the bowl out of her reach but leaned in, his warm breath brushing her ear, "Tell me in detail, what exactly am I good at?"

Ellinor blushed, "Well, that part..."

With that, she snatched the bowl from him, quickly turning away, "It's all mine now!"

He laughed, stopping the food fight, and allowed her to enjoy it alone.

This was his first time cooking, and she was complimenting him. He felt respected.

Just then, his phone suddenly rang.

Theo pulled out his phone and glanced at the caller ID, his expression somewhat heavy. He subconsciously looked at Ellinor's reaction.

Without asking. Ellinor knew who was calling. She continued eating and rolled her eyes, "Is that Ms. Howard calling? Aren't you going to pick up?"

Chapter 682

He didn't really want to pick up the call.

But if he didn't, it would seem like he was hiding something from her. He had just managed to get her back, so he didn't want any misunderstandings to upset her because she could disappear the next day

So he picked up the call and put it on speaker.

On the other end of the line was Patricia's voice, filled with sobs and panic, "Theo, where are you?"

"I'm at home."

"Theo, can you come over right now? I need you..."

"I can't"

Patricia didn't give up after hearing his flat refusal and cried out

"Theo, I know it's bad to always bother you, but Baber is missing! I've searched everywhere I can, but I can't find him. I really don't know what to do! Theo, could something have happened to Baber?"

Hearing this, Theo furrowed his brows. Baber was missing?

Ellinor, who was sitting beside him, had finished half a bowl of food, put down her spoon, and said, "You should go and check. After all, he is a child you and Ms. Howard adopted together, you have some responsibility"

Theo didn't respond to Patricia on the other end of the line; he hung up and looked at Ellinor, "You have to trust me, that kid..."

Before he could finish, Ellinor put a finger to his lips to stop him from continuing.

Ellinor calmly looked at him, "You don't need to explain. I understand everything. I won't be mad."

Theo was slightly taken aback and moved by her understanding.

Ellinor continued, "But first, you need to carry me upstairs to change my clothes. I want to go with you to see what happened."

Theo gently picked her up, "Okay, come with me."

He blamed himself for not telling her about the adoption because he was scared that she'd get mad.

If he had been honest with her from the start, she would've understood and wouldn't have stormed off.

She wasn't narrow-minded. She was always open-minded when it came to major decisions; it was he who had underestimated her.

Ellinor lazily held onto Theo's neck, "This is our last chance. From now on, don't keep anything from me, or else I will never forgive you!"

He smoothed her hair, "Okay, I promise I won't keep anything from you ever again."

"That's more like it!"

After they changed, they left together, heading for the Howard family's home.

But not long after they left, a black car drove out from a nearby street, quietly tailing them.

Chapter 683

A servant stepped in, respectfully saying "Mr Blanchet is here!"

Patricia, feeling lost due to Baber's disappearance, was sobbing in Balfour Howard's arms. Hearing that Mr. Blanchet had arrived, she summoned some strength and sat upright, looking towards the main door.

The tall and lean figure of Theo made its way into the living room

Unfortunately, he didn't come alone. He was gently holding the hand of Ellinor, who was right by his side.

Patricia's uplifted spirits were instantly crushed. Her face turned gloomy, her fists clenched tight, and her crying grew louder.

Seeing Theo walk in with Ellinor, Balfour, who felt sorry for his sister, frowned in displeasure.

At this time, Theo even brought Ellinor Did he think Patricia wasn't stressed enough?!

Theo walked up to them with Ellinor, looking serious, and asked in a deep voice, "What happened? Has Baber been found?"

Patricia wiped her tears as she sobbed, "Theo, you're here! Baber is still missing..."

Theo's expression turned stern, "How did he suddenly disappear?"

Choking on her words, Patricia explained, "I put Baber to bed, and when I saw him fall asleep, I went to the bathroom. When I returned, he was gone! I've searched everywhere, but I can't find him..."

Theo squinted his eyes, "What about the home security cameras?"

Seeing Patricia's unstable emotions, Balfour gently patted her shoulder, then took over the conversation, "We've checked the cameras around the front door and the fence; I'm sure he hasn't left during this period."

Theo said, "If we're sure he hasn't left, then he must be hiding somewhere in the house. Bring some search dogs and look again!"

"Theo, what should we do? I'm really worried about Baber, he's so small. What if something happens?" Patricia stood up weakly, leaning towards Theo.

Theo, seemingly prepared, stepped back timely and naturally. He moved behind Ellinor and avoided her.

As a result, Patricia almost leaned on Ellinor. Luckily, she stopped in time, but her face was unavoidably a bit awkward.

Ellinor, looking at Patricia leaning towards her, gave a polite smile.

"Ms. Howard, even if you're heartbroken from losing a child, you should find the right person for comfort. Theo already has a wife; he needs to keep his promise to his wife, he can't comfort you."

After being ridiculed, Patricia showed a misunderstood expression, like a hurt kitten. She explained through her tears, "Ellinor, I didn't mean that; I just lost my balance." Ellinor smiled, watching Patricia's feigned innocence, and scoffed, "Is that so? You just lost your balance? Then you should be careful; lean on the wall when you're unsteady; don't lean on someone else's man, or you may fall."

Patricia's face turned stiff, "You..."

After watching Patricia be ridiculed, Balfour stepped forward to stop it, "Ellinor, this is not your place to speak!"

Before Ellinor could react, Theo's arm was already protecting her from behind. His tone was calm but full of warning, "Balfour, you better watch how you speak to my wife!"

"Wife?" Balfour sneered. "Theo, you ruined Patricia's happiness, and you're calling another woman your wife in front of her!"

Chapter 684

Theo stayed silent.

That year, to save his life, Patricia sucked the poison from his body without a second thought, which meant she lost her chance of ever becoming a mother. This was something he felt eternally guilty about. He couldn't meet

her emotional needs, so he had no words to say when faced with Balfour's outburst. Ellinor raised an eyebrow, "Mr. Howard, if you really care for your sister, it's more important to help her find her kid first than fight for Theo's heart!"

Balfour stared at Theo, then turned his gaze to the eloquent Ellinor, his eyes filled with disgust and anger.

It was all her fault!

Patricia was on the verge of a breakdown due to Ellinor's torment. He really wished he could strangle her!

Then, several servants came panting from all directions to report.

"We've searched everywhere, but we still haven't found the child"

After hearing this distressing news, Patricia started crying again, "Where on earth is Baber?! My Baber..."

Balfour withdrew his gaze and turned to the servants, asking sternly, "Did you check every room in the house?"

A servant stepped forward, "We've searched everywhere we could. There are only two special rooms upstairs left, but we didn't dare enter without your permission." Mentioning those two "special" rooms upstairs, Balfour's eyes flickered with complex emotions. He was silent for a moment, then waved his hand.

"I'll check those two rooms upstairs. In the meantime, get some search dogs and comb through the house again!"

"Yes sir!"

The servants hurried off to carry out his new orders.

Balfour massaged his temples, feeling exhausted. He turned to Patricia and said softly, "Patri, I'll go upstairs and check. Don't worry, we will find the child." Patricia knew he was going to search those "special" rooms for Baber. She nodded and said, "Let Theo go with you! Baber likes Theo the most. If he's really in those rooms and sees Theo, he will come out!"

Balfour instinctively resisted this suggestion. He usually didn't let anyone casually enter those two "special" rooms, let alone a stranger.

But after seeing Patri's anxious face, Balfour didn't have the heart to refuse. He turned to Theo with a cold look, "Let's go and see."

Theo couldn't refuse, but he was worried about Ellinor. He looked down at her.

Ellinor was a smart woman. From the conversation between Balfour and the servants, she understood that the two special rooms upstairs weren't to be entered lightly. So she sat on the couch.

"You go, I'll wait here" She told Theo.

He understood what she meant. He gently patted her head, warning her sternly yet gently, "Don't run around."

Ellinor nodded obediently, "Alright, I understand!"

She was always docile and knew what to do and when. She wouldn't joke around with Theo at such a time.

And so, the two men went upstairs together.

With no one else around, Patricia's expression was no longer weepy and sad. She stared at Ellinor with a gloomy look.

Theo's every move towards Ellinor just now had been like a stab to her heart.

Ellinor noticed Patricia's glare, but she didn't care.

Chapter 685

She was lounging comfortably on the couch, yawning and taking in the surroundings in a leisurely manner

So this was the Howard family's mansion?

This was where she was born

Weirdly, she had no memory of this place

"Ellinor, can we have a private chat somewhere else? Patricia suddenly asked

Ellinor was not up for it. No need I can't be bothered to move just spill it out here. This is your turf, I ain't scared What's there for you to freak out about?"

Patricia was unable to convince her 'Ellinor, I've underestimated you all along, but I ain't going down without a fight!

Ellinor didn't want to get into a tit-for-tat with her, she didn't give a hoot about who would win or lose in an argument with Patricia

But there was something she wanted to ask Patricia

"Ms. Howard, it's just the two of us now, let's cut the crap! Did the kid really go missing, or are you just putting on a show?"

Using that innocent kid to mess with Theo was Patricia's typical move.

Ellinor started to question the authenticity of Baber's disappearance

Patricia, however, was wiping her tear-streaked face. "Do I look like I'm joking? I genuinely can't find my kid"

Ellinor didn't buy her crocodile tears, "If Baber really is lost, instead of crying here, why don't you go out and look for him? Even if the kid ain't yours, you are supposed to ensure his safety

Patricia's face changed, she knew that Ellinor had found out that the kid was adopted

"Yes, you're right! The kid is not mine! But even if he's adopted, he's still the tie that binds me and Theo together! Theo is a responsible man, and he would never abandon us! Ellinor, don't even think about snatching Theo away from me, it ain't gonna happen!"

Ellinor wasn't particularly bothered by the existence of the adopted kid, she just looked at Patricia and felt puzzled, "Ms. Howard, don't you get tired?"

Patricia laughed hysterically. "I'm not tired! I am willing to pay any price to keep Theo by my side because I love him!"

Ellinor shook her head, "No, that's not love."

Patricia was indignant, "Then what is love? No one loves Theo more than I do! Including you!"

Ellinor looked at her with pity. "You're just a freak!"

Patricia stood up in anger, "Ellinor, what do you know? One day. Theo will realize that I'm the one who loves him the most!"

Ellinor was speechless. She chuckled, indicating that she didn't want to deal with this crazy woman anymore.

Patricia stomped her foot angrily and turned around to leave, probably to look for the kid

After a while, a maid brought her a cup of coffee. "Ms. Mendoza, please have some coffee."

"Thanks" Ellinor was feeling thirsty, she took the coffee cup and was about to take a sip, but was caught off guard by a drop of bright red liquid on the white cup, which made her stop in her tracks.

That red liquid didn't look like a beverage.

Ellinor was alert, she lightly touched the red liquid with her fingertip, then sniffed it. Was that blood?

Why was there blood on the cup?

Chapter 686

Ellinor wanted to ask the maid who'd just brought the coffee if the bloodstain on the cup was an accident in the kitchen.

But when she looked up, the maid was long gone, and there were no other servants around.

Ellinor frowned, thinking about that poor kid Patricia was always taking advantage of

Could Patricia be abusing that child again?

The thought had Ellinor on her feet and heading towards where the maid had disappeared.

She followed the maid's trail and ended up in the Howard family's grand kitchen.

But no one was bustling about in the kitchen, the counters were spotless, and there were no signs of blood.

Could the blood on the coffee cup have been human blood? From that child?

What was even weirder was that the maid who'd entered the kitchen was nowhere to be found, even though Ellinor had clearly seen her being the first one to come in.

The more Ellinor looked around, the more she felt something was off. The kitchen was deserted, but other than that, nothing seemed out of place.

Then, she spotted droplets of blood on the kitchen floor.

Not just a drop or two, but a trail of it, like someone or something injured had passed by

Barely daring to breathe, Ellinor traced the trail of blood droplets to a heavy iron door at the farthest end of the kitchen.

Could that child be locked up behind that door? Was he bleeding? Had he been hurt?

A chill ran down Ellinor's spine, but she didn't act rashly. After all, this was the Howard family's business, not hers. So she decided to find someone from the family to check things out

But as she turned to leave, she nearly jumped out of her skin.

Patricia was standing behind her, as pale as a ghost, her face contorted into a grimace of terror, clutching a sharp chisel.

Ellinor instinctively stepped back, keeping her cool, "What do you want?"

But Patricia suddenly burst into tears, "Ellinor... I'm so glad you're here; please help me!"

Ellinor frowned, not ruling out that Patricia was putting on another act, "Help you with what?"

Still crying. Patricia looked terrified, and her shoulders shook violently.

"I came to the kitchen looking for Baber, thinking he might be snacking. Then I saw the blood on the floor!"

She pointed at the blood droplets with a face full of fear and a trembling finger.

Ellinor glanced at the blood, then back at her, "And? What do you want me to do?"

Tears streamed down Patricia's face, "I'm really scared... I'm afraid that's Baber's blood! So, I followed the blood trail, and when it ended at that storage room, I tried to open the door. But I couldn't!"

I was worried that Baber was hurt inside, so I pulled hard on the door, and then there was this rough cough from inside.

Ellinor, there's someone in that room! Someone took Baber! He's in there!"

Chapter 687

"I've gotta save my son, I need to rescue my Baber! Ellinor, give me a hand, help me open that door!"

As she spoke, Patricia raised the chisel in her hand.

Ellinor squinted at Patricia's frantic and desperate demeanor, feeling a bit skeptical.

Patricia was acting differently from her usual self and not acting like she was putting on a show

If what Patricia said was true, was there a man in that storage room, possibly holding the kid hostage?

Was Baber discovered by a burglar, who then killed him out of fear that his cries would alert the adults?

Thinking of Baber's safety. Ellinor momentarily put aside her doubts about Patricia and calmly said, "Calm down, even if someone is holding your son hostage inside, opening the door won't solve anything. It might

piss them off and they might hurt your son! We don't know who or what's behind that door, we should call all your family first!"

With that, Ellinor tried to leave to find the rest of the Howard family.

But Patricia grabbed her again, her voice was shaky with panic. "No need to call anyone, I already rang Balfour, he and Theo will be here soon!"

Ellinor, we can't leave, what if the bad guy inside takes the chance to escape?"

Ellinor stopped in her tracks, deep in thought.

Patricia had a point; if they both left, it would give the bad guy a chance to escape, but leaving one person behind was also risky.

Since she said she already called Balfour, they might as well wait there.

Ellinor agreed to stay, "Fine! But we can't do anything until they arrive!"

Patricia nodded, her voice trembling as she spoke.

"Ellinor, hold this for me! If someone rushes out, you can use it to defend yourself, I'm too upset to even lift it."

As she spoke, Patricia thrust the sharp chisel into Ellinor's hand.

She moved so quickly that Ellinor had no choice but to catch it, or else it would have fallen and hit her foot.

However, before Ellinor could react, Patricia, seeming to lose her mind, ran towards the storage room, shouting "Baber, don't be scared, I'm coming to save you..."

Ellinor frowned, feeling a sense of unease. What was Patricia doing? Patricia charged and swung open the door of the storage room.

The door wasn't as she had described, it wasn't jammed shut, it opened with a light pull.

A bunch of clutter spilled from the room, along with a small figure sprawled among the mess.

Then a shrill scream echoed throughout the Howard family's home.

"Baber!!!"

Ellinor, sensing something was wrong, rushed over and saw the small unconscious child amongst the clutter. Her pupils constricted, and she gasped.

Chapter 688

Patricia suddenly knelt on the ground, holding the unconscious Baber in her arms, and began sobbing uncontrollably.

"Baber, my Baber, wake up! Open your eyes and look at me! I'm sorry, I was too late! Baber!"

Ellinor, a pregnant woman, was deeply saddened by the scene in front of her

At the same time, she was still on guard, scanning the surroundings to make sure there was no one else in the storage room.

Patricia's screams quickly attracted a crowd.

"Patri, what's going on?"

Balfour quickly rushed in, his face changing upon seeing the situation.

Patricia was crying uncontrollably while holding the child, almost unable to breathe, "Baber has stopped breathing!"

Balfour quickly crouched down and reached out to check the child's breath, but he couldn't feel any signs of life. His hand trembled slightly, and he closed his eyes in sorrow, taking a deep breath.

Theo walked in next, his pupils contracting when he saw the scene, 'What happened?'

Hearing his voice, Patricia looked up with tears streaming down her face. "Theo, Baber... has been killed!"

Theo frowned and was stunned

for a moment. He then knelt down and touched Baber's little hand. It was still warm, but he had stopped breathing.

It hadn't been that long since he helped Patricia adopt this child, and although there was no blood relation, he felt heartbroken.

He was a very well-behaved child and not even two years old yet.

Balfour suddenly opened his eyes, snapping back to reality, and stood up to command his servants.

"Go investigate! Now! Find out who was brave enough to commit murder in our home. I'll have their entire family killed!"

"Yes!"

Some people left to follow his orders, while the rest stayed to mourn for the deceased child

At that moment, the emotional Patricia suddenly cried out again, "Don't bother investigating, the murderer is here, I saw everything!"

As soon as Patricia said this, there was a shock around her, and everyone exchanged glances

Balfour said, "Patri, you saw it? Tell me, who was it?"

Patricia's tear-filled eyes suddenly turned toward Ellinor in pain and anger, "It was her!"

Ellinor, who had been silently praying for the poor child, was suddenly accused of being the murderer. She frowned in surprise, but after seeing Patricia's convincing performance, she wasn't too surprised.

Balfour was taken aback, his angry gaze fell coldly on Ellinor, "You did this?!"

Theo, who had been crouching next to Baber, also turned to look at her. His mysterious, deep eyes revealed no emotion, leaving his stance unclear.

The crowd was filled with anger, glaring at Ellinor as the 'criminal' who had hurt a child.

Because of Patricia, Ellinor immediately became the target of everyone's anger. She regained her composure and stated calmly, "I didn't do it."

Patricia looked at her sorrowfully, "Ellinor, the murder weapon is still in your hand, how can you deny it?"

Chapter 689

After Patricia finished speaking, she removed her hand from the back of Baber's head, revealing the blood on her palm "I saw it! You hit Baber with that tool in your hand Baber is just a child, how could you?"

Following Patricia's accusation, everyone's gaze shifted to the chisel in Ellinor's hand, further making people believe that she was the culprit

Faced with everyone's accusatory stares, Ellinor looked at the chisel in her own hand and understood.

This was a trap. A meticulously designed trap!

It started the moment Patricia invited her to chat in the living room.

As soon as she fell into the trap, Patricia sent a maid, intentionally using a bloody coffee cup to lure her into this carefully crafted "crime scene".

Patricia's acting skills were top-notch!

Patricia's worried demeanor about the child was so convincing.

She thought that Patricia cared about the child's safety in addition to using him.

However, Patricia actually killed an innocent child just to frame her. How ruthless could she be?!

At this moment, Ellinor admitted she was wrong she had mistaken Patricia for a human being.

Through her tears, Patricia said, "Ellinor, I know you and Theo have made up. You're worried Baber would ruin your relationship with Theo, but you can't just kill a child!

Baber is a child I had Theo adopt from overseas. I explained all this to you in the living room. I promised you that Baber and I would never bother you again. Why can't you leave Baber alone?

He's less than two years old!"

Patricia's lying skills were just too good. Ellinor looked at her sarcastically and retorted, "Do you remember he's just a poor child under two? Did you show him any mercy, when you were using him?"

Faced with Ellinor's sharp question, Patricia looked uneasy. She turned her face away and tearfully said to Balfour and Theo, "I don't think Ellinor will confess! Let me tell you what happened!

It's like this....

I finally found Baber in the kitchen. He was hiding there, playing hide and seek.

I was so worried that I scolded him, telling him not to do this again. Baber was obedient and promised me he wouldn't.

But then, Ellinor suddenly appeared. I asked her why she was here, but she didn't answer. Instead, she just rushed over with the chisel in her hand and hit Baber's head. I watched Baber fall here, and I couldn't do anything.

I never thought Ellinor would attack Baber. I didn't have enough time to stop her, and she killed my Baber.

It was her! Ellinor killed Baber! My Baber died so tragically!"

As Patricia detailed her version of events, she cried incessantly, as if her tears could lend credibility to her words.

Was it true that the one who cried the most was the righteous one?

Ironically, that seemed to be the case. Everyone believed Patricia. Her grief over the loss of her child stirred their sympathy.

Balfour believed her. He tried to suppress his anger and sorrow and asked calmly, "Ellinor, do you admit to your crime?"

Chapter 690

Ellinor looked up calmly, "I'm innocent, why should I admit to something I didn't do?"

Balfour narrowed his eyes ominously. "If you did no wrong, why is the murder weapon in your hands?"

Ellinor lifted the chisel in her hand. "You mean this? This was shoved into my hands by Ms Howard, she said it was for self protection!"

Balfour thought she was spouting nonsense. "Ellinor, don't you find what you're saying ridiculous?"

Ellinor's gaze was calm "I'm stating facts, if you find the truth ridiculous, that's your problem"

Balfour's expression darkened, believing her attitude was not only an attempt to evade responsibility but also a challenge to the authority of the Howard family

"Ellinor, I'm giving you one more chance to admit your mistake. I can still let you take responsibility for your crime, otherwise, your whole family will be punished"

Ellinor looked at him serenely, feeling that the situation was a bit ironic and even a little amusing

Was he threatening to punish her entire family?

Did he mean relatives by blood?

If so, then Mr. Howard would probably be the first to be punished.

If not, then there was even less to say, she had no family at all.

"Whatever!"

The casual dismissal from Ellinor left Balfour dumbstruck. He couldn't comprehend.

She didn't care about her family?

Was there no one in this world she cared about?

Patricia choked out, "Ellinor, are you implying that I gave you the murder weapon to kill my Baber?"

Ellinor glanced at Patricia, "What I mean is, you probably know better than anyone else!"

Patricia started crying in grievance,

"I don't understand! How could I understand your baseless accusations?"

Ellinor, not only are you denying your crime, you're even trying to frame me as an accomplice? I'm Baber's mother, how could I help a stranger harm my own child?

Ellinor looked at her with disgust, "Ms. Howard, crying louder won't fool anyone!"

You clearly forced this chisel into my hands!

You said you suspected your son was kidnapped and locked in this storage room, that you couldn't open the door no matter what, and asked me to help.

I believed you and was worried that bursting in might provoke whoever was inside and harm the child, so I tried to calm you down.

Then you shoved this chisel into my hands, saying it was for my protection because you were too weak to hold it.

Next, you

suddenly ran up and opened the storage room door that you claimed you couldn't open. Your son then fell out and laid here, and I haven't touched him at all.

I think no one knows better than you what your son went through!"

*Patricia wore a face of misunderstanding and anger,
“Ellinor, don’t you feel guilty lying like this? Don’t you feel any remorse? When did I ever say those things
to you? Stop making up lies!”*

Who was the one lying without guilt?

Who was the one without remorse?

It was like a thief crying out, “Catch the thief!”

Ellinor looked at Patricia, finding her utterly repulsive.

*Patricia continued to pretend to be heartbroken, wiping away fake tears and speaking to Theo, who had
been silent all along.*

**Theo, I know all the kindness you’ve shown me over the years is because I once saved your life.*

I’m not asking for repayment now, I just beg you to avenge Baber, he shouldn’t have been killed for no reason.”