

Unconscious 1141

Chapter:1141

Adele, gripping Ariana's hand, looked like she was about to cry. "No, no," she murmured.

The pang in Ariana's chest was palpable. She wished she could keep Adele longer, but it was important for Adele to go back before Sadie got suspicious.

With Sadie, there was no predicting her next move. Even if it tore at her, Ariana knew she had to let Shawn take Adele away.

Melon hovered near Ariana, disappointment in his eyes as he watched Adele depart. He had quietly hoped that maybe Adele could be his little sister.

Ariana felt a pang in her heart as she watched Adele recede in the distance. The young girl stirred emotions within her, reminiscent of the daughter she had tragically lost too early.

It was only when the vehicle vanished from sight that Ariana ushered Melon back into the house.

That night, after ensuring Melon was asleep, Ariana found herself unable to drift off. Restlessness prompted her to get up and venture out.

She headed to her apartment, aiming to examine the security footage, hopeful she might identify the trespasser. Unbeknownst to her, Melon had roused after her departure.

Quietly, Melon fetched his iPad and dialed the contact labeled "Hero Dad." Holden's face soon appeared on screen, and they delved into their usual father-son conversation.

At the apartment, Ariana swiftly noted that it was intruder-free.

However, men's slippers lay near the entrance, male grooming products occupied the bathroom, and a jacket was casually draped over the bed.

Angela's Library

Her anger surged. This intruder seemed to have no qualms about settling in. She resolved to unmask him herself.

Opting not to disturb any belongings to alert the intruder, she then discovered fresh groceries in the refrigerator.

It was audacious how this intruder behaved as if the apartment was his.

With rising ire, Ariana hastened to watch the security tapes, eager to put a face to this presumptuous person.

Ariana hurriedly accessed the surveillance footage, only to face a surprising realization: She had neglected to plug in the cameras.

She couldn't help but laugh at herself for such an oversight. In her haste that day, she had missed a fundamental step. After meticulously repositioning the cameras, she connected them, ensuring they were plugged in before exhaling in relief.

But she was still angry about the intruder. From her bag, she pulled out sticky notes, scribbling sharp messages and strategically placing them on the fridge, coffee table, and bedside table to ensure the audacious trespasser wouldn't miss them.

Even after leaving these notes, Ariana's agitation persisted. The notion that the stranger might return and occupy her own bed prompted her to wait in the living room for the night, determined to confront him.

Despite her resolve, the intruder remained elusive. As dawn broke, fatigue set in, leaving Ariana with shadows under her eyes and no trespasser to confront.

Chapter:1142

Groggy and irritable, she stepped out for some coffee.

Energized by caffeine, she made her way to the film set to gauge the crew's progress and then visited the set of the variety show to ensure its smooth operation.

Thanks to her new assistant's diligence, everything appeared to be in order.

Given the Appetizer Squad's soaring popularity and with their primary competitor, Rollingrock Media, no longer in the picture, Ariana was confident the show would proceed without any major issues.

The group and its members were amassing fans at an impressive rate. Now, Ariana's focus shifted to charting their course post-finals.

The film was her inaugural investment since her return, so naturally, she harbored high hopes for its success. And with Sadie's presence on set, it was all the more important for Ariana to personally oversee its production.

Upon reaching the set, Ariana's dark circles under her eyes were evident. Most of the crew had already assembled. ninjanovel.com

Tyler was the first to spot her. He approached, saying, "You look like you've had a rough night." His eyes held genuine concern. Ariana responded with a weary chuckle, meeting his gaze.

"Just couldn't sleep," she said, not wanting to discuss the break-in.

After a few more exchanges, Ariana scanned the area and inquired, "Is everyone here?"

"Except for Sadie, everyone is here," Tyler informed her as they headed to the backstage. novelbin

A quick assessment confirmed Tyler's words: Everyone was present and ready, except for the conspicuous absence of Sadie. Time ticked on, and with every passing minute, Ariana's patience wore thin. Her frown deepened with each glance at her watch. She couldn't shake off the feeling that Sadie's tardiness was an intentional act.

Growing restless, Ariana addressed the crew, saying, “Has anyone heard from Sadie? Someone needs to reach out to her.”

The team exchanged apprehensive looks, with someone murmuring, “Should we maybe give her a bit more time?” Given Sadie’s influential connections, no one was eager to confront her.

Ariana felt trapped. She didn’t have Sadie’s number, nor did she want to bother Holden or Shawn over such a trifling matter. She could do nothing but wait, growing more agitated with each moment.

An hour later, Sadie finally graced the set with her presence, strolling in nonchalantly. What was even more unexpected was her solo entrance. No assistants, managers, or stylists accompanied her.

With Sadie’s arrival, the anxious production team hastened to resume work. But, before they could make significant progress, Sadie casually sat down and gestured at a water glass on a table. Then, she turned to Ariana, demanding, “Pour me some water and bring me my coat from the car.”

Chapter:1143

Ariana was angry. As a producer, she certainly wasn’t here to cater to Sadie’s needs. Recognizing Sadie’s blatant attempt to provoke Ariana, Tyler stepped in. “Seeing as Miss Pierre arrived without an assistant, you can borrow my assistant for the time being.”

Sadie responded with a disdainful eye-roll, taking a moment to admire her freshly manicured nails. “I wouldn’t dare borrow Tyler’s assistant,” she said sardonically. “If someone were to misconstrue it and spread rumors, I’d be the one facing backlash.”

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Her gaze settled on Ariana, a smirk curving her lips. “Besides, she looks quite unoccupied right now. Why not lend a hand? I’m not accustomed to functioning without an assistant, and if I’m uncomfortable, I won’t work.”

An uneasy silence descended upon the set, all eyes trained on the unfolding drama. No one dared intervene, given Sadie’s formidable backing from the Fredrick family.

It was evident to everyone, especially Ariana, that Sadie's intent was to diminish Ariana's stature and compel her into a subservient role.

Raising an eyebrow, Ariana responded coolly, "It seems you're a bit confused,

Miss Pierre. I'm an investor, not an assistant. How could you expect me to serve you?" Arms crossed, she continued, "If you're thinking of quitting, that's your choice. But remember, you can be here because of the financial support you bring. How long can you maintain your position without it?"

Unwilling to indulge Sadie any further, Ariana thrust the script in front of her. Sadie's expression darkened, and she fixed Ariana with a steely gaze. The tension on set became palpable. "No need for all this fuss. Let Miss Pierre borrow my assistant," a familiar voice interjected.

Zayden, having just joined the scene, had caught wind of the ongoing spat between Ariana and Sadie. Walking up with a composed demeanor, he remarked,

"Why let such a trivial matter delay the entire shoot? I'm sure Miss Pierre wouldn't object to the assistance."

Sadie, already riled by Ariana's audacity, found herself cornered by Zayden's intervention. Aware of his influence, she didn't dare challenge him directly. Instead, she managed a forced grin. "Thank you, Zayden."

With an indignant huff, she shot Ariana one last icy stare before briskly heading to her dressing room. Ariana was taken aback by Zayden's intervention. She hadn't expected such support from him.

Seeing her astonishment, Zayden offered a conciliatory smile. "Sadie can be challenging. I hope you'll understand."

His assistance had made Ariana reassess him. "Thank you, Mr. Fredrick," Ariana said with genuine gratitude.

"It's the right thing to do," Zayden responded modestly.

“Perhaps we could grab a coffee when time permits?” Ariana suggested politely. Zayden smiled, nodding in agreement, and they exchanged numbers.

After a brief interaction, Ariana and Tyler refocused on the day’s shoot.

Chapter:1144

Zayden watched as Ariana walked away, his affable demeanor slowly fading, replaced by a dark expression. Zayden gave a fleeting sneer and then headed for the dressing room.

Once Sadie walked in, she made sure everyone else left in a hurry. She was in a bad mood, showing her irritation by tossing the makeup artist's stuff around.

After that, her eyes landed on Zayden as he walked in. With a sarcastic laugh, she quipped, “Did you come to be my personal assistant?”

Zayden just grinned and didn’t respond to her jab. He lifted a perfume bottle from her table, gave it a quick look, and then set it back down. Flashing a light smile, he said, “Do a good job later. Try not to be a problem.”

Sadie clenched her jaw, itching to snap back.

In the back of her mind, she wished this movie, Ariana’s big investment, would be a disaster. She didn’t want to cooperate. She even thought about messing things up on purpose to stain Tyler’s good name.

But she seemed to forget that Zayden had put his money into this movie, too. ANGELA’S LIBRARY

Zayden looked at her and knew right away what she was thinking. He had put real money into this movie, and he wasn’t about to let her mess everything up.

He shifted so he could see Sadie’s angry face in the mirror. His smile held a warning. “Watch yourself before your big day. Don’t push Ariana’s buttons.

The more you flaunt, the more you show your weak spots. Got it?"

Before Sadie could answer, Zayden moved in closer, lifting her face.

He looked her over, leaving her lost for words and wondering what he was up to.

Then, out of the blue, Zayden clicked his tongue and said, "Maybe you should get your nose fixed again? Seems off to me." Sadie blinked and dashed to the mirror. Everything looked as usual. But then, it hit her.

Zayden was hinting that he knew about her little secret surgery.

She wanted to confront him with her questions, but when she turned around, he was gone.

She stood still, a cold wave of fear rushing through her. Zayden knew way more than she had ever thought.

What else did he know?

The movie crew soon got busy filming. Ariana was close by, watching. She had braced herself for Sadie's antics. But, strangely, Sadie was working smoothly with the director.

Ariana was all set to see Sadie mess up take after take. Instead, Sadie was acting like she had swapped personalities, being all cooperative.

Watching Sadie, Ariana shook her head in wonder and whispered, "What a surprise." During lunch, Tyler came over looking worried. "Has Sadie been giving you trouble when no one's looking?"

Ariana grinned and said, "I've been here the whole time. She hasn't had a chance to do anything sneaky."

Chapter 1145

Tyler sighed, looking relieved but still a bit puzzled. "It's just not like Sadie. Do you think she's planning something bigger? Stay on your toes."

Ariana took a moment to look at Sadie before turning back to Tyler. "Relax. With all these eyes on her, she wouldn't dare pull anything on camera."

"That's a relief. I'll keep an eye on her, too," Tyler said with a nod.

"Just focus on your scenes and don't stress over me," Ariana told him.

While they chatted, someone pulled at Ariana's hand.

Ariana spun around and saw it was little Melon.

Asmile broke across her face. She bent down and gave him a soft hug, saying, "Sweetie, how did you make it here?"

When she looked up, she spotted Mitchel behind Melon.

Even in his plain white shirt and black pants, he was turning heads on the set.

Ariana had sent Melon to Mitchel for a regular examination. She had planned to pick him up post-filming. She hadn't thought Mitchel would show up here with Melon.

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Once they had said their hellos, Melon beamed. "I'm the good kid who came to see where you work." Mitchel laughed lightly. "Yep, a work visit."

"Hey, Mitchel. Feels like it's been ages," Tyler said, grinning at Mitchel.

The two men exchanged pleasantries. They knew each other well by now.novelbin

After a bit of chat, Tyler knelt to joke with Melon. "Have you missed me?"

"Well, since you're working with Mom, I guess I can pretend to miss you just a bit," Melon said, looking up with wide eyes.

Tyler put on a dramatic face. "Oh, my heart's in pieces," he said, making Melon laugh. Suddenly, the crew rolled in with ten carts filled with milk tea and sweets.

"Time for tea!" a crew member called out.

Ariana looked surprised and turned to Mitchel. "Did you arrange this?"

But Mitchel shook his head. "It wasn't me."

Then, Melon raised his hand and shouted, "I did it! Me!"

Chapter 1146

He couldn't stop smiling. "I got this for Mom with my secret savings. I'm treating everyone today."

The crew's laughter filled the air, all thanks to Melon's infectious charm.

They surrounded him, offering thanks.

Melon puffed up a bit and said, "Glad you like it! Just promise to look after Mommy when I'm not around, okay?" "You got it, Mr. Melon!" someone shouted.

Angela's Library

Melon's cheeks turned a shade pinker. "Just Melon is fine. No 'Mr.' in front."

The chuckles grew louder, everyone was clearly smitten by the little boy.

Ariana's eyes misted up. Her heart swelled with love for her little ray of sunshine, her very own bundle of joy. Standing, she took some pictures with the tea carts.

She wanted the world to see her son's sweet gesture.

Once she had the perfect shot, she uploaded it online with the caption: "The most heartfelt surprise."

Over at BRD, in a room buzzing with tech gear, Holden was dealing with something. At this moment, he received a message from the tech team.

"Mr. Fredrick, regarding the photo you gave us, it's edited. It's not the original photo."

Holden's face took on a stormy look with the revelation. Sadie was up to something, and he was now certain she had been keeping secrets.

Rubbing his temples, memories played back like a movie reel. He thought about Sadie's odd behaviors: her animated excitement around Ariana, her strange reactions to certain topics, and even Adele's distress in her company.

Holden frowned. Why did Adele cry every time she was around Sadie? And why did Adele like Ariana so much? Besides, Sadie's weird reaction to questions about their shared past was also suspicious.

Then there was that wedding dress. It was customized by him, but it didn't match Sadie's size.

All these small, ignored details now formed a puzzle in his mind. It was clear that Sadie was hiding a big part of the story. Deep in thought, he asked the tech guy, "Can you get this photo back to its original look?"

The guy quickly replied, "We can, but it might take some time." 5

"Do it," Holden responded.

He had a gut feeling Sadie was hiding something big, something from their shared history.

The image of Adele's distraught face flitted through his mind, making his heart clench.

Chapter 1147

On impulse, Holden opened his social media app and saw Ariana's latest update.

The picture showed Mitchel and Melon together, with Melon clinging to Mitchel like they had known each other forever. Reading the caption, Holden's mood soured further. It was like swallowing a bitter pill, the discomfort swelling in him. The scene from the parking garage last time, with Ariana, Mitchel, and Melon, made his discomfort grow.

What was going on between them?

And why was Mitchel in Ariana's social media feed?novelbin

Realizing Mitchell's presence at Ariana's set, Holden's jealousy ignited.

Mitchel had treated her to afternoon tea.

Seeing the flurry of comments speculating about Ariana's possible new relationship further fueled his resentment.

With a growl of frustration, Holden threw his phone onto the desk, causing it to resonate with a resounding thud. He snapped, "Shawn!"

Meanwhile, Ariana was catching up with Mitchel and her crew, relishing in the delightful snacks. Glancing at her phone, she was startled by the sudden surge of notifications.

Fans and followers had begun to speculate wildly.

“Seems Ariana has moved on! Congrats to the new couple!” “They look so right together.”

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A flurry of similar comments followed.

Ariana, upon reviewing her recent upload, realized the unintentional implications. The image displayed Mitchel and Melon in a candid moment.

The scene could easily be misinterpreted.

Alarmed by the rapid spread of rumors, Ariana deleted the post. She considered posting a clarification, emphasizing that the “heartwarming gift”

referred to the catering cart from Melon.

However, before she could take any action, an opulent parade of self-

catering trucks, boasting Michelin-starred delicacies, entered the set. The crew’s astonishment was palpable.

“Who's behind this? We didn’t arrange for this. It’s so lavish!”

A representative stepped forward, grinning. “These are compliments from a certain gentleman, a special gift for Miss Ariana Edwards.”

Everyone turned to Ariana, eyes wide with surprise, and even Ariana was taken aback. She turned to the person in charge. "Who's behind this?"

Chapter 1148

The person just shook their head. "It was anonymous. He paid with a bank transfer." At the mention of a bank transfer, Holden's name flashed through Ariana's mind. But she shook the thought away almost immediately.

Holden couldn't have sent it. Both she and Sadie were right here on the set.

If he had sent something, wouldn't it be for his soon-to-be wife?

So, who was the mystery benefactor?

Ariana was puzzled, wondering if maybe a friend had sent a surprise gift.

But her thoughts were cut short. The crew was already gathering around to thank her. Ariana quickly encouraged everyone to dig into the feast.

Meanwhile, Sadie watched, a tight knot of envy forming in her stomach as Ariana basked in the crew's appreciation. She just couldn't get it. Everywhere Ariana went, she was a magnet for affection.

No matter how hard she tried to push her down, Ariana bounced back, always with a circle of friends by her side. Why did Ariana have it all?

Sadie's eyes bore into them, her face shadowed with jealousy. But she took a deep breath and reminded herself that she and Holden were going to get married. Soon, she would be the center of attention, and Ariana would fade into the background.

With renewed purpose, Sadie walked over to the director. She raised her voice for everyone to hear. "Director, any chance we could push the next scene to tomorrow? I need to take pre-wedding pics with Mr. Fredrick. We're getting married next month, and there's a lot to do. Busy times, right?"

As she talked, Sadie shot a side glance at Ariana, making sure she caught every word. Sadie's voice rang out loud and clear like she was putting on a show for everyone. The director, not wanting any trouble, quickly agreed, saying, "Of course, we can do that."

People soon gathered around Sadie, pouring in their good wishes. "Congrats,

Miss Pierre! Here's to a lifetime of happiness," they said.

Seeing the shift in attention, Sadie's face lit up. "Don't forget, all of you are invited to the wedding next month," she reminded them.

As she sauntered off, she made a point to shoot a mocking look at Ariana. Ariana felt resigned. Sadie might as well have shouted her intentions from the rooftop. Once Sadie was gone, the buzz began. "Must be nice, right? Having someone influential in your corner changes everything."

"And with that attitude! But, hey, tying the knot with a Fredrick? That's hitting the jackpot." novelbin

Chapter 1149

Ariana was nearby, absorbing every word. The idea of Holden with Sadie stirred a whirlpool of feelings inside her.

It felt like she was caught in a never-ending loop. She knew deep down she should steer clear of Holden, no matter how much he reminded her of Theodore.

Theodore was his own person, and so was Holden. Yet, even knowing that, every mention of Holden drew her attention, like a moth to a flame. Shaking her head, Ariana mentally told herself to snap out of it.

With Holden's wedding around the corner, both of them were starting new journeys. She needed to focus on her own path ahead.

In the afternoon, Ariana and Mitchel snuck away with Melon to check out a local kindergarten. Having made up their minds to make Eleymond their home again, they knew they couldn't overlook Melon's schooling.

They had checked out quite a few decent kindergartens in the past. In the end, they settled on the nearest one. Melon was set to start there in a week.

When he was in Melcorn, Melon had missed out on kindergarten because of his health, spending more days in hospitals. He didn't have many friends. So now, the idea of school was new and exciting to him.

Heading home, Melon was buzzing with excitement, peppering both Mitchel and Ariana with questions. "So, does this mean I'll be making some new buddies soon?"

Ariana, grinning, answered, "Absolutely! Kindergarten's a bit like summer camp. You'll be running around with all your new pals." Melon, eyes sparkling, tugged on Mitchel's arm, saying, "Is school fun? Are there games that everyone plays?"

Mitchel grinned at him. "You'll not only play with other kids but also with the teachers. The teachers will also teach you many stuff."

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Melon's eyes went wide. "Like what? What will the teachers teach me?"

"ALL sorts of things," Mitchel began, playfully messing up Melon's hair.

"And when you pick up something new, you can come back and share it with Mom." "I'll teach you, too!" Melon declared, his chest puffed up in pride.

Mitchel laughed. "I bet you will! And if you're awesome in kindergarten maybe we can get you some toys, head to a theme park, or even camp out under the stars."

Melon's excitement was palpable. "Mr. Chadwick, you're the best!" 2

He leaped up and clung to Mitchel's leg, bursting with energy. Mitchel just smiled and let him hang on as they strolled along. A few steps behind, Ariana multitasked, tapping on her phone while walking.

Looking up, she watched the duo, a warmth growing inside her.

It hit her then: Melon really did need his dad around.

She had always figured she could juggle it all solo. Yet, she saw that there were things only a dad could bring to the table, moments and memories a mom alone couldn't craft.

Observing Melon's sheer delight, Ariana was struck by a twinge of guilt.

For the sake of her son, she should give him the gift of a full family.

Theodore was no longer around, but she still had Melon. They had to move forward.

Seeing Mitchel, the rock who had been there throughout the ups and downs, who had pulled them out of more scrapes than she could count, the very reason Melon was here and healing, Ariana felt the depth of her appreciation for him.

She felt it in her bones that, even if Mitchel never spelled it out loud, he had a soft spot just for them.

Looking at Mitchel, she couldn't find a single flaw. He was fantastic with Melon and always had her back.

Thinking about the comments before, it was clear everyone saw them as a good pair.

Ariana watched as Melon clung to Mitchel, the sound of their laughter filling the air, their bond evident. It clicked for her.novelbin

Maybe, just maybe, she should give it a try with Mitchel to paint that full family picture for Melon.

Chapter 1150

Once back home, Ariana tried diving into her work. Just then, her phone buzzed with a couple of notifications. She peeked at the screen, spotting a text from Holden asking about her day.

It rubbed her the wrong way.

Holden, so close to tying the knot, was still keeping tabs on her.

Regardless of her feelings toward Sadie, Holden's behavior wasn't right.

The text got her thinking about the Luxurious food truck on the film set. With a creased brow, Ariana started searching up the Michelin-starred joint the meal hailed from.

As expected, it was under the umbrella of the Fredrick Group.

Angela's Library

Holden was likely behind it.

The more she mulled over it, the more it bugged her. Why did Holden, who was about to marry Sadie, care about her so much?

With Sadie at the set, why hadn't he sent them to Sadie? If people found out about this, she couldn't imagine the gossip they would have come up with. [novelbin](#)

She let out an exasperated sigh, wondering if beneath that polished exterior, Holden was just a smooth-talking jerk.

The connections between Holden and Theodore didn't help. Those blurred lines and hazy intentions were adding to her headache.

In a huff, Ariana opted to ghost Holden's text, hoping that burying herself in work would take her mind off things. But Holden wasn't done. He sent another text.

"Who's the guy in the photo you posted earlier?"

Ariana raised an eyebrow. She had deleted that post so quickly. How did Holden manage to see it? Being a big shot CEO, did he have the time to be glued to social feeds?

Ariana decided to play along, tapping out a cheeky response: "New love."

After she sent the message, Holden's side went radio silent.

Ariana felt a wave of relief wash over her, quickly followed by a pinch of regret.