

Chapter 785 Rita's Background

Though Elliana and Cole were speaking in hushed tones, Milton overheard them.

Noticing Cole struggling for a reply, Milton smiled. "Adah is genuinely amazing, and I do care about her, but not romantically. Elliana, you don't have to play matchmaker for us."

Cole let out a quiet sigh of relief. Knowing Milton felt nothing beyond friendship made everything far less complicated.

With a casual shrug, Elliana agreed, "Alright. But if you ever figure out what kind of woman you're interested in, let me know. I'll introduce you if I spot anyone who fits."

Milton replied with a calm smile, "I'm not focused on romance right now. Once we find Mom and our family are whole again, I'll start thinking about it."

As soon as Milton mentioned Rita, Arthur, who'd been fussing over Beatrice, froze mid-motion. He had been feeling grateful and happy with his family around him, yet something inside him remained unsettled. The joy never erased the ache he carried. Rita still wasn't home. Their family was still incomplete.

Arthur asked, "Elliana, did you find anything new about your mother when you were in Delta?"

Elliana responded without hesitation, "That's exactly why I came. Aside from letting you know we're safe and letting you see Beatrice, I came to talk about Mom."

Arthur and Milton immediately turned serious, giving Elliana their full attention.

"Even though I haven't located Mom yet," Elliana explained, "Maxine shared what she knows about my mom's background. I'm hoping we can uncover something by looking into her family history."

Hope sparked in Arthur's and Milton's eyes. Rita's past had been a mystery haunting them for years.

Cole looked at Elliana, waiting for her to go on. Their discussion in Delta had ended abruptly before Elliana could reveal Rita's background, and ever since they returned to Ublento, they had been completely wrapped up in their twins. For him, Rita's origins remained a complete unknown.

Elliana inhaled deeply before continuing, "Maxine confessed that my mom is actually the daughter of the richest family in the world, the Thompson family."

"The Thompson family?" The name lingered in the air, heavy and unmistakable. Before Elliana could utter another word, Cole, Arthur, and Milton all froze, their faces etched with astonishment. They had long known that Maxine had taken Rita from a family of great influence, but none of them had ever imagined it was the Thompson family.

The Thompson family stood as an ancient lineage with a legacy spanning a thousand years, their power and wealth enduring through every era. For centuries, they had held the title of the world's richest family, a dominance so absolute that no rival had ever even approached their level.

Rooted in Yruzias, the Thompson family operated far beyond local borders, shaping markets and industries across every continent. The magnitude of their economic reach was impossible to fully grasp.

No matter how vast the Sun Group's resources were, it looked insignificant beside the empire the Thompson family commanded.

Even Cole, who held influence in powerful circles, had always steered clear of any conflict with the Thompson family. The Thompson family's ancient bloodline placed them in a tier far above families like the Evans family or even organizations as notorious as Blaze Wildfire.

Myths and rumors swirled around the true power held by the Thompson dynasty. One chilling rumor captured their reputation best: if the Thompson family decided to target Delta, every secretive elite family there would be consumed in an instant.

History provided more than enough proof; any clan foolish enough to clash with the Thompson family had been wiped clean from existence,

erased so thoroughly that even their names faded from memory.

A grim proverb eventually took root. Better to offend a demon than provoke the Thompson family. A demon might only take your life, while they would rip your soul apart.

As the reality of this truth sank in, awe and fear replaced the group's initial shock. Cole, Arthur, and Milton could barely fathom Maxine's reckless courage. She had dared to steal a child from a family like that. Had her scheme failed, or if the Thompson family had caught on, not only would she have been obliterated, her entire bloodline—the Griffiths family—would have been ground into dust.

All for the sake of her obsessive experiments, Maxine had risked not just her life but her family's future. Against every odd, she had not only succeeded but had kept her secret buried until now.

Silence lingered until Arthur finally found his voice. Only now did he start to comprehend the gravity of what he'd learned; his wife belonged to a family more extraordinary than he had ever imagined.

Arthur spoke cautiously. "Eliana, did Maxine tell you whose daughter your mother was? Who were Rita's parents?"

Composed and steady, Eliana replied, "She told me my grandfather is Edgar, who once led the Thompson family. My grandmother is Elsie Prescott, the physicist known all over the world."

At the mention of Edgar and Elsie, Cole, Arthur, and Milton inhaled sharply at the same time.

The Thompson family included a vast network of daughters, with even distant relatives wielding influence around the globe. But the daughter of the family's leader stood at the very peak. To realize that Rita was Edgar's child was nothing short of astounding. The title of princess barely did her justice; she was all but royalty.

No other family head had commanded as much respect as Edgar; his influence rivaled that of entire nations.