

Chapter 64

Bella and Aaron stared at Lisa with curious anticipation, their eyes fixed on her, waiting for her next words. The room was filled with an air of suspense, and mother and son couldn't help but feel the need for answers. Lisa, however, seemed lost in thought, struggling to articulate her thoughts.

Feeling the impatience mounting, Bella let out an annoyed breath and playfully poked Lisa's arm, hoping to prompt her to speak. Lisa's frown deepened, realizing she was keeping them in suspense unintentionally.

"Stop keeping us in suspense," Bella insisted, her frustration evident.

Aaron chimed in, reminding Lisa of her previous statement. "But could it be what?" he asked, his curiosity getting the better of him.

Lisa paused, feeling the weight of their expectations. She struggled to find the right words, her mind racing to make sense of her thoughts.

Bella pressed on, "You were trying to say..."

"Nothing. I'm sorry," Lisa interjected, her voice tinged with disappointment. It was clear that she couldn't find the words to express her suspicions or explain the unsettling feeling she had about Duncan.

Bella and Aaron exchanged glances, a mix of confusion and disappointment etched on their faces. It was evident that Lisa's inability to articulate her thoughts had left them feeling somewhat deflated.

Aaron's frown deepened as he glanced at his mother, who was visibly disappointed. Then feeling the weight of the situation and showing no concern, he slumped on the bed behind her as Bella shook her head.



Sensing the escalating tension, Lisa made a conscious decision to let go of her nagging suspicions about Duncan, at least for the time being. Overwhelmed by the events that had transpired earlier in the dining room, she decided to shift the conversation to a lighter topic in an attempt to diffuse the tension.

"It was quite a sight, wasn't it?" Lisa said, her voice laced with a touch of sarcasm. "Watching Zinnia play the role of a maid and serve us food. She really went all out." A small chuckle escaped her lips as she clapped her hands in amusement.

Bella's face lit up with a hint of amusement, finally breaking the tension that had filled the room.

"She really did stink like a maid," Aaron chimed in, joining in the taunt. The three of them erupted in laughter.

Bella nodded in agreement with a mocking tone, emphasizing the satisfaction of the situation. "You know, it served her right. Laila couldn't believe what her mother did," she stated, relishing in the irony of the situation.

Aaron joined in the playful banter, his tone filled with amusement. "Grandmother did the right thing. Poor Zinnia, I can't help but feel sorry for her," he remarked, his words laced with sarcasm.

Bella, catching onto the playful atmosphere, chimed in with a mischievous smile. "I'm sure in the future, my dear sister-in-law Laila will learn not to hold her children up so high and feel unbeatable," she scoffed, adding her own touch of mockery to the conversation.

Lisa raised an eyebrow, teasingly challenging her mother's statement. "Don't worry, Mom. Soon, I'll fulfill your desire, and Grandmother will

have no choice but to make me the heiress of the family business and the CEO," Lisa responded, her giggle filling the room.

As they continued to revel in their imagined future of power and control, Aaron added, "Zinnia will soon bow down to us." They nodded in agreement, raising their imaginary glasses in a toast. "Cheers to us being in charge of everything soon," Aaron proclaimed, a sense of triumph in his voice.

"Cheers to us," Lisa muttered, joining in the celebratory spirit. She reached out and high-fived her mother, Bella, as they indulged in their gloating over Zinnia's downfall and miseries.

However, their moment of self-congratulation was abruptly interrupted when Lisa's father, George, walked into the room. His face displayed a clear expression of disapproval, causing their smiles to fade into astonishment.

"Father..." Lisa began, her voice trailing off as she attempted to find an explanation for their callousness.

George's voice was filled with disappointment as he questioned them, "How could you all be this callous?" The weight of his words hung heavy in the room, silencing their previous jubilation. He had overheard them while he was approaching and he couldn't believe his ears.

Lisa's reaction was unexpected as she responded, "I care less, Father. Sorry." Her words were laced with defiance, indicating her lack of remorse or concern for the consequences of their actions.

The room fell into an uncomfortable silence as George's disapproving gaze lingered upon them. The realization of their insensitivity and disregard for family bonds began to sink in, casting a shadow over the

room. It was evident that George's presence had served as a stark reminder of the values they seemed to have forgotten in their pursuit of power and superiority.

Aaron stood up from the bed, his movements deliberate and composed. With a calm demeanor, he straightened his shirt, as if to signify his readiness to engage in the conversation. Although his father's words had struck a nerve, he chose not to react visibly, maintaining a facade of unawareness.

Meanwhile, Bella was not one to back down. Her boldness shone through as she fearlessly confronted George, her husband.

"George, Zinnia deserved whatever thing she gets," Bella asserted, her voice filled with conviction. Her statement revealed her firm belief that Zinnia's actions or behavior warranted the consequences she faced.

George's response, however, left Bella taken aback. "I can't believe you're saying that," he exclaimed, eyeing her. Turning her attention to Lisa, he expressed his disappointment. "And you, Lisa, I thought you weren't anything like your mother," he said, his voice tinged with sadness. George had hoped that his daughter would possess different qualities and values than his wife's own.

Although George's insult towards Bella had struck a chord, she managed to maintain her composure. The shock lingered on her face, evident in her parted lips, as she processed his hurtful remark. It was a moment of disbelief and disappointment in her husband's words.

Aaron, however, chose to break his silence, offering a surprising response to his father's insult. ①

"Don't tell me she finally had her way with your brain and made you self-



centered," George continued, his voice carrying a hint of disregard. His words suggested that Bella's influence had indeed led Lisa to become self-centered. 1

But Lisa was content with the outcome. "If that's the case, then I'm happy about it, father," she responded.

At that moment, Lisa's response revealed a different side of her, one that didn't align with her father's expectations. It hinted at defiance and willingness to challenge his father's opinions, even if it meant supporting his mother.

George's disappointment grew as Lisa responded in a manner that further defied his expectations. Struggling to find the right words to express his feelings, he let out a sigh of resignation. "Lisa, don't let your mother lead you astray, my dear," he said, his voice tinged with a mix of concern and frustration. George hoped that Lisa would reconsider her stance and not be swayed by Bella's influence.

Bella, however, scoffed at George's comment, dismissing his words with a hint of defiance. "Tell that to your sister, Laila," she retorted, implying that his family had their own issues.

"I'm not doing anything wrong with our daughter. I just want her to be at the top."

Bella defended her actions, asserting that she was not in the wrong for wanting the best for their daughter. Her desire for Lisa to excel and achieve success was a driving force behind her actions.

Disregarding his wife's words, George hissed in frustration and left the room. His departure indicated his frustration and inability to find a resolution to the current situation. The tension in the room lingered as

George's exit left an air of unresolved conflict.

Lisa, seemingly unfazed by the exchange, rolled her eyes at her father's departure and nonchalantly found a seat on the couch. Her body language suggested a level of indifference to her father's opinions and actions.

"Whatever it is, I'll make sure Zinnia and Marcus don't topple me," Lisa declared with determination. Her words revealed her competitive nature and a drive to succeed, vowing not to let anyone, including her relations, surpass her. It was clear that Lisa had set her sights on achieving her goals and would not allow any obstacles or competitors to stand in her way.

A pleasant smile played on Bella's lips as she observed Lisa's determination and strong-willed response. She felt a sense of joy and pride over her daughter's decision to strive for greatness and surpass her siblings. Bella's supportive nature shone through as she expressed her approval.

"You're on the right path, my dear," Bella stated, her voice filled with encouragement. "Only you alone deserve to be above Zinnia and Marcus, and you'll surpass them." Bella firmly believed in Lisa's abilities and wanted her to recognize her own worth and potential.

Aaron, sensing an opportunity for some playful banter, cleared his throat and leaned forward on the couch. He whispered to Lisa, teasing her gently, "And what about Duncan?"

The mention of Duncan's name caused Lisa's smile to fade, and a sneer replaced it on her face. The reminder of Duncan's presence seemed to ignite a competitive fire within her for no obvious reason. It was just her gut feeling. And she was quick to reaffirm her own skills and superiority, reminding herself and others of her capabilities.



"I'm a better player," Lisa asserted confidently, her voice laced with a sly chuckle. Her reaction indicated a determination to outshine not only her siblings but also anyone else who might pose a challenge to her. It was clear that Lisa had a strong belief in her abilities and was ready to prove herself on her chosen path.

"I have faith in you, my child," Bella stated, patting Lisa's arm. "Duncan isn't a threat. He's a lowlife. He's nothing."

"You're right, mother. That nobody, Duncan, can never stand in my way. I don't see him possessing any greatness," she added and relaxed her back, smiling with complacency.

Meanwhile, Duncan who had passed by and overheard Lisa, took some steps passed her room door and stopped, a crafty smile displayed on his face. He tilted his head and nodded.

"Let's see who's the better player then, Lisa."



Gem Lynne author

"Hello, my dear readers. Hope you enjoyed the chapter. So many players seem to be revealing themselves and just saw you no, something fascinating is coming soon as the story unfolds 😊😊"

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