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Chapter 153

Kenneth alighted the Maybach that pulled up nearby. He then walked toward Franklin and Sophia with an Icy expression before lecturing, "What kind of behavior is this? I heard that you two have been treating Yara poorly, but this is unacceptable! She gave birth to the both of you after ten difficult months of pregnancy. Is this how you repay your mother's hardships?"

The twins fell silent as that was the first time Kenneth had yelled at them with such a harsh tone.

However, the twins refused to give in.

They thought in unison, Treat Yara as our mother? Never! Over our dead bodies!

"Great-grandpa, I've done nothing wrong!" Franklin exclaimed. "That woman started it! She forced us to call her our mommy, and she even hurt Sophia! I told her to let Sophia go, but she refused! Sophia was crying in pain!"

He would not have reacted so violently if Yara had chosen to hurt him instead of his sister.

Meanwhile, Kenneth's arrival had surprised Yara too. She did not expect him to witness Franklin's attack on her but was pleased that it worked in her favor.

Yara knew the twins harbored a great deal of respect for Kenneth. Thus, she decided to brainwash the latter into taking her side. That way, the twins would have to think twice before ever disobeying her again.

"It's my fault..." she uttered, fake tears rolling down her cheeks. "I know that you two don't like me very much, but I've been trying my best. All I wanted was for us to spend some quality time today. I didn't think that you guys hated me that much..."

"You're a wicked woman!" Franklin clenched his jaw. "Who would want to spend quality time with you? Why don't you talk about how you hurt Sophia?"

"I would never do that!" Yara uttered pitifully. "I'm your mother! Plus, all I want is to spoil Sophia rotten. Why would I ever hurt her?"

"You're lying!" Franklin rebuked.

Yara feigned a hurt expression as she said, "Fine. This is all my fault, okay? Please don't be upset..."

Franklin was a smart kid, but he could never win against Yara's sly acting.

Kenneth was losing his patience as he stood by and listened.

Eventually, he had enough and bellowed furiously, "Shut your lips, Franklin! I will punish you once we get home!"

Franklin and Sophia were the precious twins of the Bowers family.

Even Steven had to give in to them when they played tricks on him.

The only people that the twins feared were Samuel and Kenneth.

Thus, the twins obediently entered the car under Kenneth's instruction.

Sophia glanced over at her brother with an anxious look. "F-Franklin..."

"Don't be afraid, Sophia..." Deep down, Franklin was afraid of whatever punishment awaited them at home. However, he did not want Sophia to worry, so he reassured her, "I'm not afraid of a little punishment! I would rather suffer than apologize to that woman!"

Sophia nodded but held tightly onto her teddy bear out of guilt.

She secretly felt bad that Franklin was getting punished for protecting her.

Once they got home, Kenneth sat in front of the twins at the Bowers residence's living room.

It was the first time that the two witnessed Kenneth's anger, and thus, they were starting to worry.

Yara, who sat beside Kenneth, felt utterly pleased with the situation.

Even without Samuel's help, she was confident that she could deal with the twins; After all, she had Kenneth's support.

"Grandpa, I'm fine..." Yara pretended to assure as she exposed the wound on her arm. "I haven't been a good mother. I failed to spend quality time with them while they were growing up. I am to blame for our estranged relationship... Everything is my fault!"

"Blood runs thicker than water," Kenneth emphasized firmly. "Family comes first. Yet, those two don't seem to understand something fundamental like respect for family members at all."

The twins remained silent.

Family comes first? They thought to themselves.

Does Great-grandpa think we're idiots?Of course, we understand the importance of respect within our family! But this woman isn't our Mommy!

"I want you both to prove that you've learned your lesson by apologizing to Yara at once!" Kenneth ordered.

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Kenneth valued Sophia and Franklin.

Although he pampered them, he would never allow them to behave nastily.

He had handed the Bowers family to Samuel, so he knew Samuel would hand it down to the twins in the future.

Hence, he could not let the two children get away with such arrogant behavior.

"As long as both of you apologize and admit that you're wrong..." Kenneth trailed off. Nevertheless, his voice remained stern as he continued, "I'll be lenient in meting out your punishment. What I want to see is to admit your mistake."

However, the two children didn't even take a second glance at each other.

They knew very well that all they needed to do was apologize, and their great-grandfather would not punish them.

Even so, they shook their heads simultaneously as if they had a telepathic connection.

At once, Kenneth's blood pressure surged. He raised his voice and scolded, "You... What do you mean by shaking your heads?".

Franklin had a look of determination on his face as he stated, "I didn't do anything wrong, so I'm not going to apologize to that woman."

"Franklin didn't do anything wrong," Sophia chimed in.

On the other hand, Yara did not expect the twins to be so stubborn.

What people say is true indeed! Someone else's kids would never become my own. How dare they team up to bully me and still refuse to repent!

Yara scoffed internally. Since they're not my kids, they deserve to be punished.

"Grandpa, they are still young..." she muttered, fanning the flames. "Please don't take it to heart. They will understand by the time they grow up. I know that no one in this family acknowledges me, and no one likes me. Maybe I'm the crux of the problem!"

"I'm glad you know that," Franklin retorted. "Don't ever appear in front of Sophia and me. We hate it whenever we see you!"

I detest all these! Why is our mommy like this? What a joke!

When Kenneth heard how blatant Franklin was with his words, he had no reason to persuade himself not to punish them.

"How defiant! Since your dad doesn't have the time to discipline you, I will do it for him personally!" Kenneth yelled with a stern look on his face. "Gavin, hand me the cane."

Instantly, a look of worry crossed Gavin's face. "Old Mr. Bowers... Please don't do this!"

"I said, hand me the cane! Did you hear me?" Kenneth barked, glowering at Gavin. They became so defiant because they've never been disciplined before! Are you questioning my command?

Although Gavin felt concerned for the two children, he could not do anything to help. After all, he was only a housekeeper. Trembling, he went to bring the cane.

"Old Mr. Bowers, please think twice! Both of them are still so young..." Gavin muttered.

On the contrary, Yara merely sat on the couch without a word.

Holding the cane in his hand, Kenneth pointed it at Franklin and said, "Franklin, I'm going to ask you one last time... Are you going to apologize or not?"

Without a hint of hesitation, Franklin lifted his head and replied in a loud, clear voice, "No! If I've done something wrong, I'll apologize. However, I did nothing wrong this time, so I'll never apologize! You can punish me, Great-grandpa, and I will not resist."

"Very well. As you wish!"

With that, Kenneth raised his arm and swung the cane.

Smack!

Franklin let out a grunt in pain.

Although Sophia did not feel the pain physically, tears began rolling down her cheeks.

Franklin did this all for me! However, just like him, I don't want to admit it's my mistake when it's not. I don't want to bow my head in defeat, and I don't want to call that woman my mommy!

Sophia couldn't watch them any longer. She hurried off to a corner and fished out a phone from her backpack. Immediately, she dialed a number that belonged to someone she regarded as her guardian angel.

As the ringing tone resounded through the phone, she felt her heart wrenching with anxiety.

Please pick up the phone! Quick!