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/ The Three Little Guardian Angels by Ginger Bud Chapter 13 Seeing that Nolan was really annoyed, Leila knew that it would not do her anything good if she were to provoke Nolan at that moment. She gnashed her teeth and bowed her head to the two children. "I'm sorry, kids. It's aunty's fault, so please forgive me."

'D*mn, I can't take things lightly before I get to the bottom of this matter. They definitely can't stay here if they're really that b*tch's children!'

Nolan looked at Daisie after Leila left.

Daisie suddenly raised her face and grabbed Colton's hand. "Sorry, mister, we don't want to eat anymore. We want to go home."

Nolan was flustered, but thinking back to what happened just now, he knew that the children were probably frightened too. "Okay, I'll send you back."

"Never mind, we'll go back by ourselves." Daisie took Colton's hand and left quickly.

Quincy looked dumbfounded. "Mr. Goldmann, these kids do have quite a temper, huh?"

Nolan did not respond to him but looked at the two small figures from behind. He was not sure what to think about at this moment.

Colton's tears had already dried out when the two came out of the hotel. He even smiled while bragging to Daisie, "How was it? Aren't my acting skills top-notch?"

However, Daisie could not laugh.

Colton looked at the redness and swelling on her cheeks and said angrily, "D*mn it, that old witch actually had the guts to hit you. I'll never let her go when I meet her again!"

"Colton, that aunty is Willow's mother. Is it true that Daddy won't want to recognize us?"

Daisie's eyes were bloodshot, and she had not felt any pain when she got beaten. However, she could not get by the fact that her father had only demanded Leila to apologize, not pressing the matter further. It was obvious that he did not care because she was that woman's mother. She felt that their father surely did not want them anymore, and she was a little disappointed with him.

Colton rubbed her cheek. "Don't worry, that won't be the case. That vicious woman has only blinded Daddy. Let's wait a little longer. We'll be able to reveal who our daddy is when the time is right."

'We can't acknowledge him so easily now. Daddy will surely fight with Mommy for our custody if the person that he truly loves is Willow. He's so powerful in Zlokova, and Mommy will definitely lose if he wants to pursue the matter through a lawsuit.

'We have to wait for a while longer.

'He's not the daddy that we want if he keeps on protecting Willow. We can protect Mommy anyway! And we can afford to support Mommy through all this too!'

Daisie nodded. "Yeah!"

At Vaenna Jewelry...

Leila had been oppressed when she met Nolan, and the more she thought about it, the more she could not let it slide. Thus, she had rushed to Vaenna Jewelry to look for Maisie.

"Maisie, you b*tch, come out here!" Maisie could already confirm whose voice it was before Leila entered the office.

She was sitting at her desk, going through the information on the acquisition of the rough diamonds, and did not even bother to lift her eyelids. "Ms. Scott, can you quit b*tching around with the world 'b*tch? This is really not a flattering quality."

Leila walked up to her and glared at her fiercely. "You're really quite a schemer, huh? You actually returned to Zlokova with two b*stards after six years later?"

'B*stards?'

Maisie closed the documents immediately and looked up at Leila indifferently. "What do you mean by that?"

"What do I mean?" Leila scoffed. "I met two children in a restaurant today. Now give it to me straight. Are the two children yours?"

"What children? I don't understand what you're talking about." Maisie placed the folders down.

'She saw them in a restaurant? Could it be that Ryleigh brought them to a restaurant for dinner?

'No, I don't plan to let the Vanderbilts know that I've brought my babies back as I don't want to be threatened with my babies!'

"Do you really not know about this?" Leila looked at her suspiciously.

"Why do you think that they're my children? I don't even know them myself, but you're blabbering here as if you've seen them in person before this."

Leila wondered.

'Is it true that those two children really don't belong to this b*tch?'

"Ms. Scott, you've come over here and questioned me as if this is an interrogation just because you saw two children. Why are you so worried that the children are mine? However, no matter whether the children are mine, what does it have to do with you?"

Seeing that Leila did not speak for a split second, Maisie laughed. "You made it sound like I've given birth to your children. Instead of bothering yourself with issues related to me, I would advise you to care more about your daughter."

"You!" Leila was so angry that she was speechless.

"What about me? It's been years since my father let your daughter take over Vaenna Jewelry, and I've found a batch of adulterated rough diamonds now. So do you think my father would still give your daughter the management of the company if he were to know about this?"

Leila's expression changed slightly. "What adulterated rough diamonds? Don't you give me such crap."

'F*ck man, six years have passed, and this b*tch still has such a glib tongue?'

"But this is normal. You now live in a wealthy family, and all you care about now are only what to eat, what to drink, and where you can have fun. So why would you care about the company?" Maisie leaned back slightly. "If you don't have the brain for the game, then learn from your daughter and build up your knowledge base. Don't just learn how to dress yourself up like a tasteless nouveau riche."

Leila blushed after being humiliated, but she smiled triumphantly as soon as she thought of something. "You were only born with a silver spoon in the Vanderbilts since you were a kid, but if your father hadn't married Marina Gonzalez, I would've long been the missus of the Vanderbilts."

"Then why didn't my father marry you sooner?" Maisie's chuckle sounded so exasperating.

Leila clenched her hands, gritted her teeth, and said, "Because as a man, he'd choose a woman who could assist him in his career first. Frankly speaking, your

mother was really a pitiful woman. Even though she was the official wife, didn't your father cheat on her in the end?"

Seeing how cold Maisie's eyes were, Leila continued proudly. "Some people are destined to be bestowed with a good life, but it's a pity that they run out of luck rather quickly too. You and your mother are classic examples of such people. Would your father marry your mother if she wasn't a designer at the beginning? And would he cheat on her with me after three years of marriage?

"Men don't like capable women and will choose the weaker side. I know your father's preferences and know how to please him, while your mother only knew how to remind him to prioritize his career. All men will get tired of such a woman very easily."

Listening to Leila's pride and complacency in her action and her explanations regarding her observations, Maisie burst into laughter. "You're right. A person will become invincible when they achieve a certain extent of shamelessness. If my mother could be as thick-skinned as you were, how could you have the chance to get yourself involved in her marriage?"

"You..." Leila was so furious that she could not utter a single word.

Maisie waved her hand impatiently. "Ms. Scott, if there's nothing else that you wish to bring to my attention, please forgive me for the lack of hospitality. After all, your daughter has messed up the whole Vaenna Jewelry, and I think the company is truly tenacious enough to still be in business up to now."

Leila folded her arms with a disdainful expression. "Don't act so arrogantly just because you're the world-renowned jewelry designer, Zora. You're nothing when compared to Mr. Goldmann.

"Let me put it out there first. You'd better not have any thoughts about Mr. Goldmann. Willie is Mr. Goldmann's true girlfriend, and you're in no place to compete with her."

Leila said so, turned around, and walked out of the office.

The smile at the corners of Maisie's lips gradually disappeared.

'I'm not interested in Willow's boyfriend, but when it comes to Vaenna Jewelry, it's something that I won't let go of no matter what happens.'

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Leila may be angry with Maisie, but she had accumulated all the wrath within her. Thus, she went to Stephen and complained about Maisie as soon as she got home.

Stephen put down the newspaper, obviously a little surprised. "Zee has returned to Zlokova?"

"Yeah, she's now Zora, a world-renowned jewelry designer. I heard Willie say that she's so bold that she doesn't even care to flatter Mr. Goldmann, let alone Willie and I."

Since Stephen knew that his daughter Willow was in a relationship with Mr. Goldmann, he had high hopes for her and valued her a lot.

Hence, it was only natural that he could not just sit back and watch from the side when he learned that Maisie was talking back to Mr. Goldmann. After all, not only did Stephen want the reputation and status, but he also did not want to offend the Goldmanns. How could he bear to sit on the bench through this whole incident and witness as his perfect son-in-law was being taken away from him?

Stephen folded the newspaper and put it down. "This girl, I haven't seen her in six years, and she's managed to provoke Mr. Goldmann?"

Leila sat beside him and held his arm, pretending to be aggrieved. "Yeah, right? I went to the company today to remind her about that out of kindness, but she... She scolded me.

"Dear, Zee has always listened to your advice the most. We can't let her keep on acting so foolishly. We won't know when Willie will be embroiled in Mr. Goldmann's wrath for her. It'd be difficult to handle when that time comes."

Stephen's expression dimmed slightly as he suggested solemnly, "I will get that girl to come back home tomorrow."

Leila was complacent deep down when she heard this.

'I might not be able to talk back at you b*tch, but I refuse to believe that even your father cannot do anything about that foul mouth of yours.'

When they were eating dinner, Maisie saw that Daisie's cheek was a little puffy and then creased her brows. "Daisie, what's wrong with your cheek?"

"Mummy, we went to lunch with Godmother today, and we ran into Willow's mother. That bad woman questioned us if we were your kids all of a sudden, and she even hit Daisie."

Maisie's expression turned gloomy instantly, and she almost bent her metal spoon. If it weren't for fear of scaring her triplets, she would have gone out with a knife now.

'D*mn you, Leila! That's why she came to my office to look for me earlier today.

'But wait a minute, how would Leila know that I have children? And how is she so sure that they are my children?

Daisie raised her hand and placed it on the back of her mother's hand. "Don't be angry, Mommy. It doesn't hurt much. The reason I'm sad is that the children of other families are protected by their daddy, but I'm not."

Maisie's heart skipped a beat, and her eyes dimmed. Although she could give her kids an incredible growth environment, they still lacked a father's love.

She felt very sorry for the kids because she did not know how to tell them about their father.

After all, even she herself did not know anything about the man.

Waylon raised his head and asked earnestly, "Mommy, why did Daddy abandon us?"

Colton followed the flow and nodded. "Yes, yes, why doesn't Daddy want us anymore?"

Maisie was about to say something when Daisie cried out loud next to her. "Boohoohoo, Daddy must've found himself another woman. That's why he doesn't want to be with Mommy and us. Boohoohoo."

Colton and Waylon looked at each other.

'Daisie's acting skills are truly impeccable.'

"Don't cry, Daisie, there's no such thing. Your daddy didn't abandon you." Maisie had run out of ideas. She gently wiped the tears for her as she comforted her.

Daisie stopped crying and stared at her mother with her bloodshot eyes. "Really?"

Maisie bit the bullet and said with a grin, "Yes, why would your daddy abandon you?"

"Then why have you never told us anything about Daddy? Why did Daddy abandon us?"

Daisie was planning to continue her questioning barrage in order to get to the bottom of the matter.

Seeing that the three rugrats' gazes were fixed on her, Maisie covered her mouth and became sad. "Let's not continue with this topic anymore. I won't mention your daddy to the three of you because your daddy died very young. I can imagine that weeds have fully covered his grave at this very moment."

The three rugrats were rendered speechless.

'Mommy, won't that hurt your conscience!?'

Ryleigh's call was connected while Maisie was thinking about ways to put off the three little rugrats. But she was safe now thanks to the phone call.

She got up and went to the balcony to answer the call. "I'm eating. What's the matter?"

However, there was a strange man's voice on the phone, "Are you a relative of Ms. Hill? We're from the traffic police department..."

Maisie rushed to the precinct and saw Ryleigh sitting in a chair pitifully.

She took a deep breath and stepped forward. "Sis, what have you done?"

"I... I accidentally ran into someone else's car, and it... It... It belongs to someone that I can't afford to offend."

She might have provoked a tiger with this accident. She would be skinned when she got back to her house if her father were to know about this incident.

Maisie looked at her. "Whose car did you hit?"

Ryleigh looked inside cautiously while a traffic policeman walked out of the office with two men politely.

That man was none other than Nolan Goldmann, a man that had been lingering around inexorably.

Maisie's facial expression stiffened all of a sudden. She looked at Ryleigh and gnashed her teeth. "You're really good at picking your victim, but why didn't you kill him in the accident?"

Ryleigh's eyebrows creased, and she claimed innocently, "I really didn't mean it. I was in a hurry, who knows..."

She had been petrified when she ran into the Rolls-Royce, and she felt as if she had been struck by lightning when she saw the people in the car.

Nolan's eyes dimmed slightly when he saw Maisie.

Especially the image that would not stop appearing in his mind when Willow approached him last night.

He walked toward them as his faint gaze fell onto her. "The guarantor that she gave us is you?"

Maisie smiled slightly. "Yes, this is my friend's fault. Let's just follow the procedure, Mr. Goldmann, just name the amount of compensation that you want."

Nolan's expression did not change at all. "The compensation is unnecessary. After all, the car is going to be written off already."

'Written off?'

Maisie looked at Ryleigh. "Is it that serious?"

Ryleigh shook her head, "No, there was a dent."

Quincy, who was standing at the side, explained with a smirk, "Miss Vanderbilt, each and every car that Mr. Goldmann owns is always new and is never repaired or refurbished. Mr. Goldmann's cars will be written off even if it's only missing a screw."

"So are you saying that you want my friend to buy you a brand new car?" Maisie's expression turned gloomy in an instant.

Quincy sounded as if it was the right and proper thing to ask for. "It depends on the attitude that you emit at this very moment."

"You..." Maisie was about to lose it while Ryleigh jerked the hem of her clothes hurriedly. There was no way that she could afford to pay for a new car.

Maisie knew that this man was not short of money, so it was only natural that he would not ask Ryleigh to compensate him with a brand new car. He was only doing so just to retaliate against herself.

"Judging from Miss Vanderbilt's attitude, are you not satisfied with the offer?"

Nolan stared closely at her. He originally planned to hand this matter over to the traffic police and did not have the intention to make this woman pay for the whole car. It was just that he thought of what Willow had said to him last night and felt a little impetuous when he found out that the guarantor that she had summoned here was actually Maisie.

'No one has ever affected my emotions to such an extent, not even a woman. However, I've made an exception and lost my cool because of the two kids, and I'm being affected by this woman right now?

'Plus, did this woman really do something like that to Willow six years ago?

'Then I would like to see what she would do for her so-called friend today.'

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Maisie took a deep breath to calm herself down and smiled. "I'm not sure what's the attitude that Mr. Goldmann wants to see from us. If it's an apology, then I'll apologize to you on her behalf."

'All he wants is an apology, isn't it?'

Maisie harnessed all the positive attitude that she had in her and bowed to him. "I'm sorry, Mr. Goldmann."

Seeing that she had lowered her posture, Nolan felt a little ironic. "I didn't expect Miss Vanderbilt to apologize on behalf of her friend. I really can't tell that you're someone who would do something to hurt your sister."

Maisie straightened her body suspiciously. "What does Mr. Goldmann mean by that?"

'I hurt my sister? Is he talking about Willow?'

Nolan approached her, leaned closer to her face, and said with an unconcerned tone, "I thought you're someone who would bear the consequences of all her doings, but now it seems that you're nothing more than that."

He said while turning around indifferently, "I'll let today's incident slide this once."

Ryleigh's heart, which had been on the brink of beating its way out of her chest through her throat, finally calmed down upon seeing them leave. But as soon as she thought of the words that Nolan said to Maisie just now, she asked, "Zee, what does Mr. Goldmann mean by that?"

"How would I know?" Maisie smiled. "I guess it's because he thinks that I'm currently targeting Willow deliberately, so he has to speak up for her as her man, am I right?"

"What? Willow Vanderbilt is Mr. Goldmann's lover?" Ryleigh was shocked. "Is Mr. Goldmann blind? There are so many women in the world, and he took a fancy to a woman like Willow?"

Maisie turned her head and glanced at her. "You're still thinking about gossip? I would suggest you start coming up with an explanation for your father when you get home."

She walked away right after she finished speaking.

Ryleigh pouted and caught up to her footsteps immediately.

The next day...

Maisie took out a list of the raw materials that needed to be purchased and handed it to the purchasing department staff. "Just order the rough diamonds according to my purchasing slip. You'll be responsible for any mistake that emerges this time around.

The clerk in the purchasing department took a look at the list on the slip and nodded. "Alright."

The purchasing department staff was sorting out the list of required acquisitions when Maisie was about to leave, and that was when the office phone rang.

She put the list on the table, got up, walked up to the phone, and answered the call.

Another female clerk got up, walked to her desk, and took a picture of the original ore manufacturer's address and contact information, which were stated on the purchasing slip, with her mobile phone.

After returning to her seat quickly, she sent the photo to Willow secretly.

Willow, who was sitting in her office, could not help but lift the corners of her lips when she saw the photo that the clerk from the purchasing department sent to her.

'Since you're in charge of the purchasing department, then don't blame me for this.'

The office's landline rang. Willow picked up the phone and answered, "Hello?"

"Willie, I called your cell phone several times, but why has it been turned off?" Leila could not get to her over her cell phone, so she could only call the landline of her office instead.

Willow's face turned pale when she heard this. "My phone was smashed into pieces by that b*tch, so it's nothing unusual if you couldn't reach me through it. I'll buy myself a new cell phone tomorrow. Why are you looking for me?"

"Your father will call that b*tch to come home tonight. You should also bring Mr. Goldmann back for a meal with you tonight. Your father won't let that b*tch succeed as long as you go official with Mr. Goldmann!"

Willow could not help but frown. "Mother, since when did you see Nolan go back for dinner with me, and what if he doesn't want to go?"

In the past six years, Nolan had never said that he wanted to go to the Vanderbilts manor for a meal.

"All you need to do is to coax him to come over, no matter what you need to do to achieve that. Don't forget, your father has high hopes for you now. How can your father and I help you if you can't even do this?"

She had to hurry up and get her daughter to secure her position as the official Mrs. Goldmann. She had been feeling extremely disturbed ever since she saw the two children at the restaurant the other day.

Leila's words made sense.

'Father has been taking me more seriously in recent years because of my relationship with Nolan. Now that Maisie has come back, and in addition to her return, she's still a top-notch international jewelry designer. I would be nothing in front of Maisie without Nolan's support.'

Maisie sat in her office and went through the information of all the company's previous staff. Her eyes were fixed on Mr. Kennedy Fannon.

She remembered Mr. Fannon as he was originally her mother's assistant. He had been managing Vaenna Jewelry and had maintained Vaenna's sales in Bassburgh after her mother's death.

Vaenna's sales had started declining ever since his resignation.

Her phone vibrated all of a sudden.

Maisie took a glance at the caller's identity that appeared on the screen—it was her father that she had not contacted in years.

She could not help but hesitate for a moment.

Everything felt a little new and strange to her when she came back to the Vanderbilts manor once again. After stepping into the villa, the nanny was the first person to have recognized her. "Milady?"

Leila was wearing a one-piece evening dress, sitting on the sofa and drinking tea. She put down the teacup and got up as soon as she saw Maisie's arrival. "Oh, Zee, you're finally back?"

Glancing at Leila, Maisie could not help but think of the slap that Daisie took on her cheek, and her expression dimmed instantly.

'You still owe me a slap. You'll have to return it sooner or later.'

Leila grinned and walked forward. "Your father knows that you've returned to Zlokova. That's why he called you to come back here for a meal. What's with the look? It's not good to let your father see you in this mood."

The corners of Maisie's lips raised coldly. "Why do I have a feeling that this meal is going to be my last supper?"

'I've never contacted my father ever since I returned to my home country. He must've gotten the information from either Willow or Leila.

'He's never contacted me throughout the six years too, but he specially asked me to come home for dinner today. The main thing that gave me the chill was that he didn't even start the invitation with a greeting.'

"How can you call our family dinner your last supper?"

"Please don't nauseate me. I'm more used to hearing you yell me a b*tch. That somehow feels a lot kinder." Maisie emphasized the word "kinder" as if she was trying to provoke her deliberately.

Before Leila had the chance to lose her head, a deep voice had already come from upstairs. "Zee, it's been six years, but you're still so relentless. Is that how you speak to your mother?"

Maisie chuckled. "My mother is dead. If I'm not mistaken, you were there too when she was cremated."

"What have you learned throughout the six years abroad? is this how you talk to your elders now?" Stephen almost kicked the bucket from all the accumulated fury.

He originally felt a little guilty about driving her out of the house back then, but he did not expect that she still had not repented.

Leila walked to Stephen and persuaded him, "Dear, don't be angry with Zee. I'm just her stepmother, after all. I can understand the reason Zee hasn't accepted me after so many years."

"In my opinion, you're worse than a stepmother."

"Maisie Vanderbilt!" Stephen reprimanded her angrily, "I asked you to come back for dinner instead of a family feud today. If you're so discontent, then get out!"

Maisie stared at her ferocious father.

'He was as heartless as today when he drove me out of this manor six years ago. He'll choose to believe in whatever Leila and Willow tell him. But on the contrary, I'm just the unreasonable brat who's constantly creating stirs and disrespecting the elders.'

Maisie scoffed. "I really don't plan to stay for another second longer."

She turned around and was about to leave the manor, and that was when Willow walked in the door with her arms wrapping around Nolan's arm.

When Leila and Stephen saw Nolan, they all went up to him to greet him. The fury on Stephen's face dissipated completely as if he was not the same person as seconds ago.

"Mr. Goldmann, I didn't expect you to come."

"Yeah." Nolan only nodded symbolically while his gaze was fixed on Maisie all of a sudden, and his tone sounded rather indifferent. "The Vanderbilts manor is really boisterous today."

Stephen took a glimpse at Maisie and introduced her awkwardly, "Uh, this is my younger daughter, Maisie Vanderbilt."

"Oh, I just learned that the famous jewelry designer Zora is the daughter of the Vanderbilts."

Stephen smiled implicitly. "Yeah, she... She inherited the talent from her mother."

Maisie stood with her arms crossed, watching the others like an outsider. She could not help but laugh at all the flattery that assaulted Nolan.

"I shall take my leave now. Please, do enjoy your dinner."

Willow stopped her as soon as she was about to leave. "Zee, now that you've finally come back let's have a meal together."

Leila played along with the script and responded with a motherly appearance. "Yes, Zee, don't go against your father during such an occasion."