My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 61

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Chapter 61

Seven years had passed since Oliver and Arianna went their separate ways, a lot of things had changed in those seven years. Their personality, their character and even more. Aria had grown into a strong popular model.

Oliver had never been any less successful either as his company which had gone down the list after his divorce with Aria rose back to the number one spot again. His accomplishment made him more recognized as he was rewarded on several occasions. His name was on the front page of every business magazine just like Aria was on every beauty and modeling magazine.

The two of them had also been keeping tabs on each other's whereabouts. Even though Oliver never tried to reach her and Aria too fought back the desire to contact him. She believed they were both fine without each other and since seven long years had passed, there was no need trying to fix things between them.

Grandpa Go had traveled back to Asia for his therapy, so it was just Oliver at home. He had still not called back his house workers, he had given them a break for the past four years during which he still paid them their monthly wages. Their servants had pleaded with him to let them resume work but he had told them it was not yet time, he did not need their services yet. The Butler knew that there was only way they could resume their jobs and it was if the young madam returned to the house, but after seven long years, he was starting to doubt that such a day would come.

The servants really needed to resume their job, they were glad that they were still paid the same amount every month without having to do anything but they still missed working for Oliver. They would prefer working for him for free than not working and getting paid, because they gained even more than their large monthly salary at his house.

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Arianna felt someone touch her cheeks, she opened her eyes but saw no one. She yawned and closed her eyes back, she was really stressed out and did not want to get out of bed.

"Get up mom!!" she suddenly heard Princess scream in her ears and she jumped up, startled.

"Hehe... Good morning mom," Princess giggled.

"Why did you do that, you silly girl?" Aria scolded and held her ears as Princess's tiny voice was still echoing in it.

"Mom... did you forget I have to go to school today? I am already late unless you wish I go alone with the driver to school," she replied quickly in her sweet little voce.

"Huh? Oh my God, I forgot it is Monday, come let's get you... wait, you already dressed up? But the nanny is not here yet" she asked with wide eyes.

"Yes, I tried to wake you up the first time but you were still very sleepy, so I took a shower and got dressed, you should be happy, I made your job easier," Princess retorted with a small smile. Her adorable smile that lights up the room.

"Oh my! You had showered on your own? Did you even do it right?" Aria uttered with a crumpled face. She could not believe the little girl.

"Of course mom, I am not a kid anymore, I am seven remember?" she cut in quickly.

"Oh good God, you are a case, go and get me your comb so I can... wait, who braided them for you?" she half-yelled in surprise.

"Oh, I also did that on my own, don't worry... I had the mirror to help me, now please go get ready mom, so that you can drive alongside me to school, I am running late!" Princess yelled.

"Alright, I will do that now." Aria grumbled and came down from the bed. She had no idea which one of them was the child and who was the mother.

"Stay here, I will brush and bathe, then I will take you to school," she said and walked towards the door.

"Yeah, be quick mom, we don't have all day," Princess fired.

Aria sighed and shook her head. "I don't know who you took after because it is definitely not me," she muttered and walked away.

Princess climbed on top of her mom's bed. She was already dressed in her red school uniform and her black hair braided into two pigtails. She was a very smart girl with a high IQ.

She was very popular at school at such a young age and she made really good grades. Her teachers were always impressed with her performance while most of her friends envied her.

When Princess heard the sound of the shower rushing, she was certain that her mom had started bathing. That was her cue to make her next move, she had done everything on time today so she would have the chance to watch her dad's photos.

She quickly came down from the bed and walked to the bedside drawer, she opened the last shelf in it and brought out the gallery book. She jumped back on top of the bed and started to flip through the pages in search of her dad's photos.

"Is everything alright there sweetie?" Aria asked from the bathroom. She had heard the sound that Princess made when closing the cupboard.

"Yes mom, everything is fine here, take your time and make sure you do it right," she yelled. Aria chuckled and muttered "Silly girl."

Princess Lena found her favorite picture of her father and stopped flipping through the pages. She stared at it with great interest and a smile appeared on her face.

"Daddy is cute," she muttered to herself and giggled.

"Did you say something? Is the Nanny there?" Aria asked from the bathroom. "No mom, stop bothering yourself with me and just bathe," the little Princess instructed.

Aria grumbled some inaudible words to herself and kept bathing, princess was just one big fat hell of trouble.

Princess continued checking out the old photos, she could not understand why she could not be with both her father and mother like other kids. Her mom always gave her an excuse whenever she asked to see her father.

She got lost in the gallery book but the sound of the bathroom door knob jolted her back to reality, she was quick to hide the book under the bedspread and tried to act cool so that her mom would not suspect her.

"I hope you are not up to any mischief right now Princess?" Aria queried as she walked out in a white towel.

"No mom... Please be quick! I don't want to be late, it is the first day of a new week," she reminded.

"I won't, and why the hurry? It is still quite early," Aria grumbled.

"Well I like to be there before Lucy and Joyce, those two should not get to school before me." She said with a crumpled face and folded her hands.

"Oh my! You have a lot of trouble young lady," Aria grumbled while heading to the wardrobe.

Just then her phone rang, it was on top of the bedside cupboard. Princess reached it before she could get there.

"Hey look mom, it is Uncle Mike!" the little girl exclaimed.

Aria strode towards her immediately. "Give me the phone Princess," she ordered. "No, I want to speak with Uncle Mike," the little girl protested and waved the phone in the air.

"Don't be so stubborn Princess, you can talk to him later, that would be after I am through, now give me the phone!" she instructed.

Princess grumbled and finally handed the phone to her mother. "Good girl," Aria muttered and took the phone from her.

She was able to click the green button before the call would disconnect. "Hello Michael," she muttered.

"Hey, Miss beautiful, how is it going?" Michael asked from the other end with a tone of excitement.

"You sound excited, what is the good news?" Aria asked, and grinned. She could tell that something was up.

"Well, I wanted to keep it as a surprise for later but damn I can't," he exclaimed. "We got the contract, Aria!"

Arianna gasped and covered her mouth with one of her palms. "What?" she muttered.

"Yes Aria, I secured the contract for you!!"

"Oh my God, that is great news, you have done a very good job, I am so proud of you," Aria complimented.

"No, I should be the one to say that, I mean it was your talent that led us here in the first place, so thank you very much Aria."

"Stop it Mike, you are flattering me," Aria blushed and looked down shyly like she could see him.

"Well it is the truth, anyway, where are you now? And what are you up to?" He asked.

"Oh, I am getting Princess ready for school, she is giving me a headache," Aria grumbled.

"That is not true uncle, I am the one waiting for mommy to get ready, I have not been bothering her!" Princess yelled, hoping to get noticed.

"You see what I am talking about, this girl is trouble!" Aria groaned.

"Isn't the nanny there yet?" Michael queried.

"Nope, but we are almost through, I will take her to school then we will meet at the studio," she replied.

"Alright, don't forget to stay in a disguise, we wouldn't want everyone to know that Princess is your daughter, her identity should remain a secret for her own safety." Michael advised.

"I understand Mike, I always have that in mind." She smiled. "Alright, see you later," she added and hung up.

"You hung up already? Not cool mom!" princess grumbled.

My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 62

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Chapter 62

The car pulled up in front of the school and Princess grabbed her Backpack, ready to leave.

"Alright my angel, be good and don't get into trouble," Aria advised.

"Alright mom, are you going to come pick me up after school?" she queried.

Aria hummed while checking her appointments on her phone, then she sighed. "I am sorry dear, mommy would be too…"

"Busy and she would not be able to make it here on time," Princess concluded the statement for her.

Aria sighed and bumped her fist on her forehead. "I am really sorry sweetheart," she apologized.

Princess kissed her on her forehead and got down from the car, she waved at her with a face devoid of emotions and walked away.

Aria sighed again as she watched her leave, she really wished she could make out more time for her little Princess but that was not possible for her.

"Alright Harry, move the car," she instructed the Driver.

He nodded and took off.

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Princess walked into her classroom with a smile on her face, she walked to her chair and sat down. "Hi girls," she said to her classmates chattering behind. The class was mostly filled with girls, just a few boys. The teacher was not there yet so it was noisy, the pupils running around and throwing things in the air. "Hey, look what my Dad bought for me at our Daddy daughter date," Mandy exclaimed and waved a little doll in the air. Everyone turned to face her, including Princess.

"Wow!!!" the other children muttered with wide eyes.

"It is beautiful," Dolly said.

"I know right? I love it so much!" she half yelled and hugged it closer to her chest. "Well, it is beautiful but not as beautiful as what my Dad got me on my party," Gwen said and dipped her hand into backpack. She was the oldest among them and quite a bully.

"Here it is," she muttered and brought out a Woody the cowboy stuffed doll. "Oh my!" Mandy moaned. "Is that woody?"

"Yes, and I also have his friend from outer space, the one with the laser hands." She smirked.

"That is so cool," Mandy replied while the students drooled over it.

"Well yesterday, my daddy took me to the beach and we had a tea party, it was so much fun especially with the sand castles." Dolly said with visible excitement on her face.

"Wow... Daddies are so cool right?" Mandy asked with widened eyes.

"Yes, I love my daddy," the class chorused while Princess had her eyes locked on the cowboy doll, she was itching to touch it as she had not seen one of those before.

"Gwen, can I touch your cowboy, I want to know what it feels like," Princess requested politely.

Gwen crumpled her face, revealing her missing front tooth which she had lost in a fight, her face red with scars.

"Why should I give it to you? does your daddy not get toys for you? Oh I forgot, you don't have a daddy," Gwen mocked in a taunting voice and the other kids laughed.

"That is a lie, I do have a daddy!" Princess retorted.

"Really? Then where is he? Why doesn't he bring you to school or take you back? He doesn't attend any of the school activities, not even when you participate in tournaments. What kind of father would not attend his daughter`s birthday parties.

I mean, the last time we had celebrated your party, it was just your mummy there, there was no daddy, and you could not even provide a picture of you two together. What type of daddy doesn't take pictures with their daughter? So how do you expect us to believe you?" Gwen uttered and sneered at her. "You are right Gwen, poor Lena, she doesn't have a daddy!" Mandy said in support and the other children joined in the laughter, chanting "She doesn't have a daddy"

Princess was embarrassed and heartbroken; she placed her head on her desk and started sobbing. This had always happened to her and she was starting to get tired of it. Why did she have to go through all this? She would have felt better being teased if she had at least met her daddy for once, but her mom keeps saying that she can't see her daddy.

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Arianna returned from her meeting with Mike. Her driver stopped the car in front of the house and she walked in. she yawned, feeling famished. She needed food and good sleep as she had barely had any sleep the previous night.

She was up, making researches on trending fashion collections. Now that she had secured the biggest contract of her life, she needed to be ready, she needed to be at her best and she only had one month before that.

She had already instructed the cook on the type of foods to serve in that one month so that she stays fit, she was also advised to get as much rest as she could and take good care of her skin as well.

Well, her body was her major asset, so she had to take care of it at all times. She had managed to climb up to the fifth best model in the world, but she still wanted to achieve more, and with this global contract that she had gotten, she could get connections to win Miss Universe 2022; that was her major goal. Arianna walked into the sitting room and saw Princess sitting on the couch, she looked pale and off. That was unusual as Princess was always a cheerful girl, but

right now she was moody. "Hey, my angel... you are back already? I thought you were supposed to have extra hour classes?" Aria queried.

Princess remained quiet without moving or uttering a word.

"Um... Lena, Are you okay?" She asked and went closer to her. She discovered that her daughter was crying and that made her heart misbehave. She had a soft spot for Lena and she could not stand her cry.

What is wrong sweetheart? Did anyone say anything to you? Did anyone try to hurt you? Please tell me my angel," she pleaded and sat beside her, then placed her hand on her shoulders.

Princess looked at her and sniffed in. Aria cleaned off the tears on her face, "Go on dear, tell me what the problem is," she urged.

"My classmates mocked me again mom, they laughed at me because I don't have a father." She complained amidst tears.

Aria sighed, she was having a lot of this cases from Lena recently. "I am sorry dear, I told you not to listen to that mean girl, and who said you don't have a father, of course you do."

"Then where is he mom? Why doesn't he want to see me and why do you not want to take me to him? I want to know my father, please take me to my daddy, those girls said mean words to me, it was not just Gwen this time, it was my entire class, they laughed and made fun of me." she cried.

Aria hugged her gently and placed her jaw on Lena`s head. "Listen sweetheart, I understand that you are feeling a lot of pain right now, and I am really sorry, but I promise that I will have those kids reported and punished, I wont let them go free for hurting my Princess."

"No mom, that doesn't matter or help in anyway,. I don't want you to scold or report anyone, I just want to see my daddy, please just take me to him!" she requested in tears.

"I am sorry Princess, but I cannot take you to your father, he is very far away and we cannot meet him." Aria said and looked down. "Why mom? You always say that we cannot see him, I don't care if you want to see him or not, but please just let me see him, let me meet him and know who my daddy is. I want him to touch me, I want him to carry me to work and to the beach and to have fun with me, I want him to get me toys and tell me night stories, I want him to love me like every other kid mom!" Lena persisted.

"But I already do all of that for you sweetheart, don't I?" Aria asked while fighting back her own tears.

"Yes you do, but I want to experience it with my daddy, I want to do all that with him and not just you," she fired.

"Well you cant because your Daddy abandoned us! So stop asking to see him!" Aria yelled out of frustration.

The both of them went quiet for seconds, staring at each other, then Princess burst into tears, she stood up from the couch and ran off towards her room. "Lena wait, I am sorry!!" Aria yelled but the little girl was out of sight, crying as she ran.

Arianna sighed and slumped onto the couch. She always knew this day would come, maybe she should have just told Princess that her father was dead, but how could she do such a thing to Oliver, not just him but the little girl.

She had no idea what to do. One thing she knew for sure was that she would not be going back to Oliver, no matter the situation, she just needed a way to make Lena get over these thoughts.

My Baby' s Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 63

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Chapter 63

Princess ran into her room with tears rolling down her eyes, she went to the bed and sat down. She could not understand why her mom always scolded her whenever she insisted on seeing her father.

Why did she loathe him so much that she did not even want to hear her mention his name, but if she loathes him, then why does she have an album full of his pictures, why does she watch it in secrets and cry over it?

Princess had caught her mom on several occasions, flipping through the pages of the gallery book and viewing Oliver's photos, sometimes she would cry while doing it, why some other times she would chuckle if she came across one that brings funny memories. It was no secret that she still had a lot of love for him, she just didn't want to admit it.

Well, whether her mom likes him or not, it was none of her problem, she just wanted to see her father, she wants to know her father and experience the joy and happiness of having a father, she wanted to have daddy daughter stories to tell amidst her friends at school.

Was that too much to ask? Why was her mom so stone-hearted over that issue that she adamantly refused to let her see him. Did she really not have a father? Was the man in the album not really her father like her mom had said? But if he wasn't, then who was?

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Arianna walked sluggishly into her room, she had decided to give Princess some time before she would go and speak with her. She didn't know if she was doing the right or wrong thing, she was just afraid of going to face her past.

Here in London, she was strong enough to avoid all sorts of contact with Oliver but if she made the mistake of going back there, she feared that she might make the same mistakes that she had made in the past, she would fall for him and get hurt all over again.

She also felt bad for her daughter, the feeling of not knowing your father, it must be painful for her to bear, especially with those bullies at school reminding her of it every now and then.

Aria grabbed the edge of the bedspread to pull it out for laundry, she did so and uncovered something there. She recognized it immediately, it was the gallery book. She did not remember bringing that thing out today which means Princess must have sneaked in to take a peak at it.

Aria sighed and slumped on the bed. Now she could see that her daughter really missed her father, was she a bad mom for keeping her away from Oliver? What if they let him into their lives and he hurts them again? Aria was not ready for another painful heartbreak; she has already had enough in this lifetime.

Maybe she was just being selfish, holding her daughter back from her father because she was scared of forgiving him. What she had done was no different from kidnapping, she had fled with a baby that equally belonged to Oliver,

divorce does not change DNA or Bloodline, Princess was still Oliver's baby and he had a legal right to her. The fact that he had not come after her didn't mean that he couldn't.

Aria stood up and walked towards Princess's room, she arrived at the door and took a deep breath before knocking gently on it.

"Lena dear, please open the door sweetheart," she called out softly.

There was no response so she pushed the door and it opened, it was not locked like she had expected. Princess would usually lock her out when she was upset, but why did she leave the door open this time? Maybe she forgot to lock it. She walked in and saw Lena lying on the bed with her back, so practically she was sleeping, or was she?

Aria went closer and sat by her bedside. "Sweetheart, I am really sorry for all that I said, I understand how you must feel being taunted by those mean girls but you have to be strong, you can't let them belittle you, rather you should always put them in their place." She encouraged.

There was still no reply or movement from Princess. "Sweetie, I know that you can hear me, you are only pretending to be asleep, please look at me," Aria pleaded.

Lena was silent for a few seconds, and then she sighed and sat up. "How did you know that I wasn't sleeping?" she queried.

Aria chuckled. "Well you are my daughter, I always watched you sleep right from the day you were born, and you never sleep on your stomach, so that is how I could tell, but even if you switch to another position next time, I am still going to know," she replied and they chuckled.

"I am sorry Princess, I shouldn't have been so harsh on you, I understand that none of this is your fault, but you should understand that I am doing this to protect you,"

"Is my daddy a bad man?" Lena asked and Aria paused. This was a trick question and she knew it, whichever reply she gave would be used against her. Well Lena was one of the smartest kids in the universe.

"Look Lena, it's not like that, let's just say your father has a record of abandoning the people he loves because he feels helpless and too weak to fight for them, but he has a good heart and he loves the both of us, we just have to stay away from each other." She explained.

"I still don't understand Mom, I understand he did something bad but why can't you forgive him? I also did wrong things in the past and you forgave me, so why can't you forgive my Papa?" she queried. Aria sighed, "It is not that simple sweetheart, but I promise you that I would think about it, and when the time is right, I would take you to see your Dad, you want that right?"

"No, I want to have and live with my father like the other regular kids, but if I can only meet him then fine, take me to see him." She replied.

"Alright dear, mom has a lot of work at hand right now so we cant leave this city, not yet now, you just have to be patient with me for a few more months, then I will take you to see your father," Aria bargained.

"You promise?" Princess asked with scrutinizing eyes.

Aria chuckled. "It is funny when you look at me like that, yes I promise you sweetheart, you have my word."

"I am still not content, pinky promise?" she said and stuck out her little finger for a promise hook.

Aria smiled and did the same, "Pinky promise," she replied and merged with Lena's finger.

"Okay, thank you mom," Lena said with a smile and hugged her.

"Anything for you my angel, now come help mommy make a drawing."

My Baby' s Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 64

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Chapter 64

Sammy paced around in Oliver`s office, he was nervous and it was showing from his facial expression. Well he had to be nervous, what he was about to do needed a lot of courage especially for someone like him.

"Calm down Sam, you two have been together for seven years so I am sure that this would be easy for you." Oliver assured me.

"Are you sure? Because I am really nervous, I don't know if I can do this." He muttered.

"Of course, just pull up your big boy pants and do what is necessary, it would be easy peasy... just go down on one knee and look her in the eye, then you pop the question. You see, it is easy!" Oliver smiled.

"Well it is easy for you, but not for me," Sammy grumbled. "But I still have to do it anyway, even if I embarrass myself, as long as I actually propose. Wait, what if she says no? what if she doesn't want to marry me?" He asked in fear.

"First, I doubt that she would ever reject you, I mean it's obvious that she loves you, but if she does reject you, then you take it like a man, get up, dust your kneecap and leave. It might hurt but the pain you feel would only make you stronger," Oliver replied and chuckled softly.

"You are so mean and bitter, why did you have to say all that?" Sammy grumbled. "What? Aren't you the one who asked?" Oliver retorted.

"Never mind, I won't let your hopelessness and expectancy for the worst to rub off on me, I will see you later."

"Yeah, good luck... hopefully, one of us would have a wife who stays and does not run away with your kid," Oliver chuckled.

Sammy sighed and waved his head sideways, then he grabbed his suit from the office desk and headed for the door.

"You don't really need the Suit, maybe you should try being less formal," Oliver advised.

Sammy paused for a while and thought about it, then he threw the suit back at Oliver's desk. "This better work," he muttered and Oliver chuckled. Well it was fun watching his best friend looking scared like a potato.

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Sammy arrived at Rosie's house and knocked, it was evening already. The door opened and he came to face her, his heart started to skip the moment he set his eyes on her.

She was in a beautiful blue gown with one strap, it revealed a bit of her cleavage and one side below revealed her upper thighs.

"Hey, you are quite early, I thought you won't be here till the next one hour, good thing I also decided to prepare early." Rosie said and smiled. "I will just get my bag and we will go." She added and turned around.

"Rosie, wait!" He halted her and she paused.

She turned back and met him on a knee, with a diamond ring in his hand. Emotions flaring in his eyes already said it all. She muffled her mouth with her palm and widened her eyes in surprise.

"Rosie, for the past seven years of my life, I have waited impatiently for this moment, I would have done it sooner but I was scared that I might scare you away, you see right from the moment that I set my eyes on you in Oliver's office, something in me told me that it was you, the woman of my dreams.

I wanted to fight that thought as I remembered that relationships never worked for me, but you gave me the courage to step into the train and I must confess that ever since that day, my whole life has been filled with happiness. The way you smile, it's mesmerizing, and when my lips come in contact with yours, I feel this weakness on my knees that tells me that you are mine.

And when you speak of your past and the horrible people that you have had to deal with, I feel like going into your past and strangling the life out of them, I wish I had known you earlier and all I want is to hold you to my chest, listen to your heartbeat and ask you not to ever worry again, that you are safe in my arms. Even when I am away from you, the thoughts of you occupy my mind, the fear that I might lose you to someone else if I don't act engulf my heart and I ..." "Cut the epistle and put the ring on my finger already, Sammy!!" Rosie yelled in enthusiasm.

"Oh," Sammy muttered. "I thought that was necessary, in that case, Miss Rosie Granger, would you do me the favor of becoming my wife, would you like to spend the rest of your life with me? And everyday, you would wake up by my side and let me ..."

"Yes Sammy! Yes I do!" she yelled and pushed her finger into the ring. Sammy chuckled and helped her adjust it, then he stood up and hugged her. Sammy thanked his stars that he had not proposed at the hotel where they were heading for dinner or he might have been embarrassed, either way he was glad that this was all over, he proposed and she accepted.

"Thank you so much Sammy, this is the best anniversary gift ever!" she exclaimed. "Um... the best what?" Sammy muttered in confusion.

"Anniversary gift of course! Wait, don't tell me you forgot it is our seven years anniversary today, isn't that why you wanted to take me out for dinner?" she queried with a crumpled face.

Sammy changed his expression immediately and put on a nervous smile. "Of course it is, how would I forget?" he asked and they laughed.

"Yeah, you are a terrible liar, now let's go get some food or I might eat you Mr. Orlando," she threatened jokingly.

"Yeah sweetheart, let us go." Sammy smiled and held her hand.

"So when are we getting married?" Rosie asked.

"Hmm... in less than a month, that is if you are good with it."

"Of course, I can't wait at all, did you inform your best friend?" she asked

"Yes I did, Oliver has promised me his full support. That reminds me Rosie, I need you to do me a favor." Sammy said.

Rosie smiled. "Let me guess, you want me to invite Aria over for the wedding?"

"Yes, could you do that for me?" Sammy requested.

"Are you kidding me, there is no way I would get married without my best friend," Rosie replied and laughed.

Sammy nodded. "Then I guess it is a yes."

They both walked out of the house holding hands, Sammy helped her into the car and they drove off.

My Baby' s Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 65

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Chapter 65

Arianna gets a call at midnight and she wonders who is calling at that time of the day, she picks up the phone and realizes that it was Rosie. Of course, Las Vegas was eight hours behind London, UK.

Aria sat up and answered the call. "Hey, what is up girl?" She asked and smiled. The two of them had not spoken for almost one month now unlike when Aria had moved to London recently, she received calls from Rosie almost every day.

"Well, I thought I should call since you no longer care to do so," Rosie grumbled. Aria chuckled, she knew Rosie was only feigning anger. "I am sorry Rosie, I have been stuck with work and there is barely a chance for anything." She replied. "You always say that, I feared this would happen when you left Las Vegas," she whined.

"Come on Rosie, it is not like that, I promise you that I always have you in mind and I bet I would have called anytime from now if you didn't, you know our minds think alike." Aria giggled.

"Hmm... I will leave that aside for now, guess why I am calling you?" Rosie said and giggled.

"Hmm... you seem excited, you know I am terrible at guessing. Anyway, I guess it must be something important for you to wake me up in the middle of the night," Aria replied and laughed.

"Oh my god, I am so sorry, I forgot the difference in time zones, it is still evening here," she apologized. "I should hang up now; I could call back in the morning." "No please don't, it is fine... just tell me what is making you giggle so much?" Aria requested with a smirk. Even Rosie could tell that she smirked.

"Just try and guess Aria, what news could make me this excited?" she urged. Aria paused and stroked her jaw vertically. "Uhm... let me think... wait! I know it, Sammy proposed to you, didn't he?" she asked loudly.

"Yes, correct!" Rosie screamed from the other side of the phone. "He proposed to me yesterday night and he is already planning our wedding," she announced. "Oh my God Rosie, that is amazing!" Aria exclaimed and gasped. "I always knew you two would end up together, congratulations! I am so happy for you!"

"I know, I am happy too, so excited that the day finally came. I am going to be married in less than a month. It is going to be such a big wedding because the most popular businessman in Las Vegas is sponsoring it." Rosie said, she was indirectly referring to Oliver.

"Oh I see, well you are a very lucky girl, congratulations once more!" Aria said, she was really happy for her best friend but at the same time, she felt jealousy flowing through her. She never had a big wedding or long lasting marriage, but none of that was Rosie's fault so she shouldn't get jealous that her best friend was getting all that, and her ex husband was sponsoring it.

"Thank you. So when are you coming back? There is a lot to do," Rosie said and Aria paused. There was silence between the two for seconds or maybe a minute. "Um... aria, are you still there?" Rosie asked

"Yes Rosie, you see the thing is that... I ... I am really sorry but I cannot come back to Las Vegas for your wedding." She stated.

"Wait... what?" Rosie yelled.

Well Aria expected that Rosie was not going to take this nicely.

"I am really sorry Rosie, but there are so many reasons why I cannot come back to Las Vegas!" she replied.

"You must be kidding me! You don't want to share in your best friend's happiness, I was right to believe that you no longer care about me. Let me guess, you new found wealth and status had made you too big to attend poor me's wedding, it's fine, I made a mistake calling you, I will just hang up now." Rosie said solemnly. "No Rosie please don't hang up, listen I am really sorry but I do not want to come back to Las Vegas. Reasons are because; I don't think I am strong enough to face my past. I mean, you know everything Rosie, if I come back to that city, it will bring back old memories. You know how shattered I was when I left that city. I am afraid I would fall back into that depression being there and seeing Oliver again. Secondly, I just secured a very big contract for next month and I might lose it if I travel back to Las Vegas. This is worth a lot of publicity and income, it means a lot to me Rosie.

Believe me, this is nothing about pride or status. If you wish to have the wedding in London, then I will do everything in my power to make it happen and I will be by your side all through, but if it has to happen in Las Vegas, then I am sorry that I can help you in every other way but not in physical appearance, please try to understand Rosie."

"I don't care what you say Aria, if you really care about our friendship and you want us to remain friends after this, then you will swear with that very friendship right now that you will come back for the wedding.

I want my best friend by my side, Aria, I want the little adorable girl I shared a roof with and I want it to happen in a place where we are both familiar with. A place where we have family and friends, a place where we have our loved ones to stand by us, to support us and give us their blessings

If you are not able to make this happen Aria, that means you do not care about our friendship and I do not matter to you.

When you were leaving for London, it was just to get over the pain that you were feeling and achieve your goals as a model. Now everything has worked out, you suddenly care more about your work than family. You remember the reason why you and Oliver fell apart, he chose his Grandfather over the people he loved, at least that was human, but you chose your big fat contract over me Aria, how could you do that Aria? That is selfishness."

"I am really sorry Rosie, it is not like that, I promise you."

"I don't care! Just tell me now, are you coming back to Las Vegas to support me for my wedding or not?" Rosie asked in a stern voice. It was no secret that she had lost her cool. Even if Aria was to refuse anyone, she didn't expect it would be her.

Aria took a deep breath and lay her head on the pillow, she was already shedding tears.

"Alright, you are right Rosie, I was being selfish, I should have never said all the things I said to you, please accept my apologies." She uttered

"Does that mean you are coming back?" Rosie asked in a calm voice. Aria chuckled. "We are going to blow up that city girl, my best person in the whole world is getting married so it is illogical for me not to stand by her side. I mean, who is going to hold your gown and walk behind you to the altar, of course that is me!"

"Yes, thank you so much!" Rosie screamed in excitement and giggled.

"No Rosie, thank you for reminding me of the right path, I should not make the same mistake Oliver made, and I should not let my differences with him affect my friendship with you."

"Well I am glad to have my friend back." Rosie replied and chuckled. "Go get yourself a flight, there is a big hug waiting for you from your psycho bestie!" she laughed.

"Well I can't wait, you better prepare some gossip for me, I want my stay in Las Vegas to be filled with memories, so I won't miss you much when I return." "You can be rest assured, I will make that happen. Okay goodnight, sleep tight."

"I will, and you too."

My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 66

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Aria walks into her daughter's room and finds her having a tea party with her dolls. She shook her head and chuckled.

"I thought you had grown past these dolls," she said and smiled.

Lena looked up and wrinkled her eyebrows. "Not all of them mom, I still love Princess Sofia and Cinderella, they are my best friends." She whined

"Oh, best friends huh? I thought you said mommy was your best friend?" Aria grumbled, crumpling her face and folding her arms in each other.

Lena sighed and bumped her fist on her forehead. "Well yes, mommy used to be my best friend but these days she barely has time for me. Princess Sophia and Cinderella are always there for me so they are my new best friends," she replied boldly.

Aria came closer and squatted beside her. "Hmm... So what if mommy told you that she is taking you to see daddy and aunt Rosie tomorrow, would you make her your best friend then?" she smirked.

"Huh? Yes! I would love that Mommy, I promise you would be my best friend if you do that!" she yelled in excitement.

"Alright then, you should get ready, we will be boarding a flight to Las Vegas tomorrow night," she announced.

"Wow! Really mom? That is the best news ever, I would finally take lots of photos with daddy and show them off at school, Gwen and her friends would be so jealous," she said.

"That is right; let me tell you a secret. Do you know why they would be so jealous? It is because your daddy is really cute and rich," Aria whispered to her ears and she smiled.

Princess smiled, revealing her cute little dimples and shiny white teeth. "I will start packing immediately mom, I can't wait," she exclaimed in excitement. Arianna had not only accepted Rosie's invitation because she had made her swear on their friendship, she had also seen it as an opportunity to introduce Princess Lena to her father, after everything that happened, she thought that her daughter deserved to know her father, even if it was just for a few weeks, then they would travel back to London.

She was only worried about one thing. Not like she cared less about her best friend but the contract she had been giving was a very huge one, the biggest one of her life. If she lost it, she would go down the line in the list of most popular models and whoever received it in her place would rise above her with a huge difference. There was a lot of competition in the modeling department as new models were emerging from around the globe every new day. She had to work hard to keep her fame and influence in the business.

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Aria walked into her room in thoughts, she was worried that if she left London for the wedding, that she might not make it back on time to work. She desperately needed a way to keep that contract and still attend her best friend's wedding.

She decided to call her manager to know if he can help her, Mike had quite the influence in the business so he might be of help to her.

Mike picked the call at the first ring. "Hey miss beautiful, what's up?" he said in a neutral voice.

"Um... I don't know Mike, I am in a dilemma right now and I am confused on what decision to take. In fact, I want to make both choices because they are both very important but I don't know how I can do it." She complained.

"Okay, calm down...tell me what the problem is," he requested.

She took a deep breath before announcing. "Mike, I am leaving for Las Vegas tomorrow night, I need to attend my best friend's wedding and I will be away for maybe two to three weeks."

"What? You need about two weeks of practice before you perform on the grandest stage of all, and it is very important that you are there. You cannot risk losing this contract, it is a once in a lifetime opportunity," Mike replied with a serious tone.

"I know Mike, and that is why I said I am in a dilemma, I really need your help." She pleaded.

"Oh Aria, this is really difficult, is there no way that you can leave the wedding or stay there for just one week and come back? Starting from next week, you would need to practice for the performance, you can't risk losing this contract," he emphasized.

"Yes Mike but unfortunately I cannot stay back, the wedding will be in two to three weeks from now and that is just a week away from the date I have to perform. I really need your help. I was wondering if you could try speaking to the company on my behalf, asking them to shift the date to two weeks after the proposed date," she pleaded.

"Oh my God Aria, what you are asking for is quite very difficult, it would take a lot to convince the board. This contract was supposed to go to Eliza but I fought hard to get it for you. If I tell them that you would not be available on that date, they might not even consider you again, try to understand," he replied.

"I understand what you are saying Mike, I know you have already done more than enough for me but please try to get me this one more favor. Speak to whoever you have to, any of your contacts might be able to help us. I would appreciate it if you can get me an extra two weeks but if you can't, then it's fine... I also understand, I will just have to make the sacrifice," she said.

"Alright then, I will try my best. Call me when you get to Las Vegas," he replied. "Oh, I sure will... Thanks a lot for everything, I am really grateful."

"You don't need to be, it is my job okay? Alright, goodbye... I am hanging up now, I need to get to a meeting," He concluded.

"Alright then, take care of yourself," she replied and he hung up.

Aria took a deep breath in and out; she knew that the company would only consider her request by God's grace. What she was asking for was way out of bound, she was asking too much of them. To reschedule an event with so many major sponsors with no valid reason was almost impossible, but if she is lucky once again, then her will might be done.

Sammy walked into Oliver's office with a smug smile on his face; he was certainly up to something. Oliver looked up and wrinkled his face in scrutiny, wondering what was going on with his best friend.

"Hey Boss, you are still here," Sammy said with a smile.

"Yes of course, where do you expect me to be? It is just Four pm," he replied. "Oh... of course, anyway... I just wanted to ask you to be late to work tomorrow, or if possible, don't even come at all," Sammy instructed.

"Huh? Why?" Oliver asked with his eyes searching through Sammy for answers. "Well, you know you deserve a break, just stay back for a few hours or something, believe me you wont regret it," he said.

"Um... is it my birthday or something?" he asked curiously. Well these days he barely remembered which day was his birthday again, so he always relied on Sammy to remind him of those events.

Sammy burst into laughter. "The almighty Chief Executive Officer and founder of Stark Enterprises has no idea which day is his birthday," he replied in mockery. "Don't mock me Sam or it is coming off your paycheck," Oliver warned with a stern face.

"Hahaha... you always threaten me with that, not fair at all... anyway, it is not your birthday, so don't think about that."

"What are you up to Sammy? You just walk into my office and ask me to be late to work or even stay back entirely, spill it." Oliver ordered.

Sammy chuckled and sat on the chair on the other side, he placed his foot on Oliver's table and smiled. "Just do what I say boss, be three hours late, there will be a surprise for you."

Oliver scoffed. "Fine, since you are the boss now, we will do what you say. I will spend more hours at home than usual, but bear in mind that there would be a reduction in your salary," Oliver warned with a smirk.

He expected Sammy to frown and grumble as usual but his best friend smiled. "Alright, I think that is a sacrifice I am willing to make, after all... you are sponsoring my wedding," he chuckled and stood up, and then he walked out

being all dramatic. Oliver shook his bead sideways "Is be taking cracks now or what?" be mutter

Oliver shook his head sideways. "Is he taking cracks now or what?" he muttered to himself.

He started to think of what the surprise would be. He had no idea what his best friend was up to. Rosie's character was starting to rub off on him, these days, he was something of a psycho himself.

My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 67

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Chapter 67

There was a knock on the door very early in the morning and Rosie went to check it. She had just finished brushing her teeth after she got up from bed. She opened the door and screamed when she saw Aria.

"Oh my God, Arianna, it is you!!" she yelled in excitement.

"Rosie, I have missed you so much," Aria said and hugged her. Rosie noticed that her friend had become much more mature, she didn't scream or jump on her body like she would have done seven years ago.

"I have missed you more Aria, I am so happy to see you again," she confessed.

"Mgh Mgh," Lena made a small sound to make her presence noticed. She had her arms folded with pouted lips.

Rosie looked down immediately and saw her. She stared at Aria with widened eyes, then looked down again. "Is this... is this Lena?" she asked, just to be sure. "It is Princess Lena, and yes... mommy has told me a lot about you," the little Lena replied.

Rosie gasped. "Oh my God, she is quite the smart pants," she exclaimed. "Please come in guys," she said excitedly and opened the door for them.

They all walked into her little sitting room. "Is this where you used to live mom?" Lena asked with her hands placed on her waist and her face expressing surprise. "Yes sweetheart, this is where I and Aunt lived before I moved over to London," Aria replied.

"No offense, but it is quite small, where am I supposed to set up my tea party now? Princess Sophia and Cinderella have not even had their breakfast," she whined.

Rosie looked from mother to daughter, she was not upset that Lena called her house small, she must have been used to living in a big house, rather she was just surprised with how the seven years old girl spoke like an adult.

"Well you can have your doll tea party here while Aunt Rosie and I catch up in the other room," Aria replied.

"Fine, where is my doll bag, quick mom... Princess Sophia must be starving, she won't be able to sing if she does not eat," Lena continued.

Aria was quick to find the doll bag in the luggage and give it to her. "Here, go on and feed your dolls, I will be in the next room if you need anything," she said.

"Alright mom, that would be all, thank you," she uttered and sat down to set up her tea party.

Aria shook her head and headed to the bedroom with Rosie. They walked in and closed the middle door.

"Oh my God Aria, look how much you have grown, look at your curves and your boobs, you look so hot," she exclaimed.

"Stop it Rosie, you are making me shy," she replied and chuckled. "You have changed a lot too, I mean look at your backside, it's large now... tell me the secret," she said and they both laughed.

"Better stop mocking me, you became a star and forgot all about me, but I don't blame you anyways, why would anyone care about me, beauty with zero talents, I am not like the rest of you who are special," Rosie said with a sad face, well she was just acting to get sympathy from Aria.

"You look funny when you make that face, I mean... you are better off when you are a psychopath," Aria replied and she was forced to laugh. "But on a serious note, stop looking down on yourself, you do have a lot of potential but you refuse to see them. I won't tell you what to do but I can only say that your future is there, waiting for you to take it in your own hands."

"Hmm... forget about that, tell me what has happened in the past seven years," Rosie requested.

"Huh? No way, you should be the one updating me, we had a deal remember?" she queried with furrowed eyebrows.

"Fine, tell me which aspect you want to know about... or never mind, let me tell you about your beloved Ex husband," Rosie replied.

Aria rolled her eyes at her and Rosie chuckled. "So, I think I already told you over the phone. After you left, Oliver got married to Nora, he changed a lot, he became mean, unhappy and depressed.

First he took it out on the servants and soon it spread to the Company, poor Sammy had to pay the price for that but he stuck with him through thick and thin. Finally, Oliver was able to get rid of Nora; she had been caught by his grandfather cheating on Oliver because he refused to be intimate with her." Arianna felt happy hearing that Oliver refused to carry out his duties to his wife, she could be able to bear staying away from him but she would not be able to handle the thought of him being intimate with another woman.

"Ever since then, he has tried to move on without you. I don't think he did though because Sammy says he always spoke of you, but when both Sammy and Grandpa Go persuaded him to go and find you, he refused bluntly. He said you were doing fine without him so he would not bother you or force you to come back."

"Okay that is enough, let's talk about something else," Aria said. She did not want to talk about Oliver as it would bring back emotions that she had pushed behind her. That was the reason why she had avoided coming here all this time, the nostalgia and all that, she wanted none of that.

"Alright then, if you don't want to talk about your ex husband, then let us talk about my soon to be husband," Rosie said and giggled.

"Yes, let us talk about him," Aria replied with a smile. "Quick question, have you given him the forbidden fruit or is he still being a gentleman?" she queried. Rosie gasped and covered her mouth with her palm. "Oh my! Where did my best friend go?" she half screamed and Aria burst into laughter. She was shocked because the aria she knew was a shy innocent girl, she never had the courage to discuss such things with her but here now, she was starting the discussion herself.

"What? Don't give me that look, I am not a kid anymore," Aria replied with a funny face and they laughed.

"I can see that, I should be quick with my wedding and have children too, so that I can be even more bold and outspoken," Rosie joked and giggled.

"Oh girl, if you are any more bold than this, then there would be trouble in this universe," Aria uttered with humor and they laughed.

"Anyways, yes... we have done some pretty bad stuff, I had to teach him some bad things, I was tired of dating a big baby so I had to make him act like a real man, and oh my God, he is such a horse... all he needed was a push, you got to see him in action girl," she exclaimed, expressing a look of satisfaction on her face. "Hmm... I think I would rather not," Aria replied and they laughed.

"Alright, so... you are going to go check on Oliver right?" she queried. "Nope, I will just take Lena there to stay with him, then I will go and pick her up later in the evening. That girl is a lot of trouble so it would be better if she spends the day with her father. At least she can get to know him well before the wedding is over, then I am taking her back with me," Aria stated.

"Calm down Aria, don't you think it is time to settle your differences with him?" Rosie asked.

"No, not at all... I have moved on Aria, please don't even mention it," she warned. "Really Aria? Have you really moved on? Because I don't think so. I mean, it has been seven years since you two went apart, but you are still single. You can't tell me that no man has proposed since then, or that you haven't seen a man worthy of being your husband, it is just impossible. So tell me Aria, are you still in love with Oliver Gomez?" Rosie queried.

Aria crumpled her face and looked away, she opened her mouth to speak but ended up saying nothing, then she tried again," N...No," she stuttered. "No sis, I don't have any feelings for him again," she replied.

Rosie could see that the words which left her mouth were different from what her eyes were saying, and as they say... The eyes never lie, but since her best friend decided to deny it, then that was her choice to make, she would not persuade her to admit it.

"Fine, but what about staying back here in the states, you can still establish something here, you can continue your profession here in Las Vegas, I mean there is plenty of room for popular models like yourself," Rosie advised. "No Rosie, I have to go back, I already have a life in London and it will be difficult building up one here, I wouldn't even be here if not for you. I am worried that I am about to lose a big contract but it's nothing compared to what I will sacrifice for you, so I will just find a way to get back to the top when I return to London," she said.

"Fine then, if you won't stay back here, let's at least make your stay here memorable," Rosie said.

"Oh yeah girl, let me take Princess to her father, then I will come back and we have fun like the good old days, when it was just we girls, no men, no children." "Yeah sis, I remember those days, they were one of the best times of our lives," Rosie said and they smiled.

My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 68

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Chapter 68

Oliver was seated on his couch, still in his pajamas. He had taken Sammy's instructions to come to work late, even though he was curious to know the reason. I guess the only way he could find out is by obeying the instruction. He had a cup of coffee in his hand, he had made it himself since there were no more servants at home, even his breakfast was ready, he was just being lazy to go and eat. Well these days, he had breakfast before bathing and he didn't give a fvck if it was right or wrong. It was his life and he lived it the way he pleased, not minding anyone's opinion.

He picked up the remote to turn the TV on and just then he heard the doorbell ring. "Fvck!" he muttered. Only God knows where the hell he learnt that, he used to be just a billionaire playboy, not a thug, mafia lord or gangster. Maybe he had learnt that at the Casino.

He dropped the remote and the mug on his glass table, and then he stood up and headed to the door. He wondered who it could be because he was certain it wasn't Sammy. If it were Sammy, he would not care to knock, he would just walk in like he owns the place.

"Psychopath," Oliver muttered as he thought about Sammy.

He held the door handle and suddenly his heart started racing, he paused and remained quiet for a few seconds, trying to make out a sound from outside but it was silent. Why was he feeling that way? This strange feeling gripped his entire being, it was not actually strange rather it was nostalgic. He knew he had felt this before in the past but he could not make out what it meant.

His hand was shaking and his heart was racing, it was like he was about to have a panic attack but he was still very agile, he felt like his leg could not carry him but he was still standing. The doorbell rang once again and he took a deep breath in and let it out.

He turned the door knob slowly and opened the door, the first thing that his eyes met were the wonderful rays of the morning sun, then it fell on a pale face with long black hair, a hair that had been adorned by the morning breeze.

His jaws dropped at the sight of the damsel before him. Was it who he thought it was or was he daydreaming again? He thought he had gone past these daydreams, but she was never this beautiful in any of his daydreams, was his mind messing with him?

He rubbed his eyes gently to make sure it was real, that he was seeing clearly. The young lady standing before him could not be who he thought it was? But how could she be here, this was still morning. He thought again to remember waking up from sleep and he remembered when he had stood off from the bed. Well maybe he fell asleep on the couch again, he had to rub his eyes one more time to confirm.

"Daddy?" he heard a little sweet voice mutter and that's when his attention went down to the young lady beside Aria; she was the most beautiful little girl he had ever set his eyes on.

He looked up immediately, "Ar... Aria?" he muttered softly, scared to pronounce it fully.

"Good morning Mr. Stark," she replied in a solemn voice and that was when he realized that it was all real. She was here, his Ex wife was here; Arianna Joanna McQueen was standing right in front of him, and she was not alone, he didn't need a seer to tell him that this little angel was his daughter Princess Lena.

"Aria, it is you," he muttered for a second time and walked out of the door completely. He looked at her from head to toe and he was stunned by her beauty. She was ten times more gorgeous than the last time he had seen her in reality. She was now a full grown lady, with seductive curves and full body.

She was putting on a pink crop top and leggings, with two piercings each on her ears. Her face bore no makeup but it didn't look any less attractive, on her foot were white sneakers that looked adorable on her. She had expensive beads on her neck and wrist, now this was the hottest Aria he had ever seen in person. "Alright Lena, you wanted to see your father, well this is him, stay with him and I will come to pick you up later in the day," she said bluntly like she did not care about anything and she had no emotions to show.

"Alright mommy," Princess replied with a smile.

Arianna turned to leave and that was when Oliver found his tongue. "Aria please wait, you are not just going to leave like that, will you," he pleaded.

She sighed and turned back to face him, she had a solemn expression on her face, trying hard to stay strong and not get so excited at seeing him again, even though she really wanted to. I guess her ego was stronger than her desire to jump into his arms and kiss him.

"Look Oliver, I can't stay, I need to get back to Rosie, we have some wedding planning to do." She replied.

"Alright, I understand, but can you at least stay back for Breakfast, I made your favorites," he said with a smile.

She hummed. "I didn't know that the almighty CEO had become a cook, and seven years has passed, a lot of things have passed, including my favorites," she said sarcastically, with a face devoid of emotions.

"Oh, well I gave the servants a break, so I am doing the cooking now, please come in you two," Oliver pleaded and walked out of the way so that they could go in. Aria thought about it, she was reluctant about it. She did not really want to talk to him or give him the impression that she had missed him or that she wanted anything to do with him. This visit was meant to introduce the father and daughter; she had no interest in taking part in any of it.

"Well, I know I don't want to be around him but what harm would it cause to have breakfast with him and Lena, it is just breakfast after all," she said in thought, trying to convince herself that it was just a regular breakfast with a random person, nothing special.

After considering it with that mindset, Aria sighed and then took Lena's hand and led her inside. She noticed that a lot of furniture in the sitting room had changed to modern ones and the arrangements too had changed. It had been seven years since she left this house but she still remembered exactly what it looked like the day she left.

Without waiting for Oliver to come to the front, she led the way with Lena to the dining room. Well that was not supposed to change right?

"Wow... Mommy, this house is beautiful," Lena exclaimed while looking around. Aria pretended like she did not hear that and kept moving.

Oliver followed them behind; he was still shocked with what was going on. Aria was back in the states and she was right here in his house with their child. He had his eyes fixed on Lena as they walked, he could not believe that this little angel in this room was his daughter Lena, she had grown so much.

They walked to the dining and sat down, while Oliver headed to the kitchen. Aria brought out her handkerchief immediately and wiped her eyes of the liquid escaping them.

"Mommy, are you okay?" Princess asked and she smiled.

"Yes dear, something got into my eyes," she lied.

"You were right Mom, Daddy is so cute and rich too," Lena exclaimed. Aria hushed her and looked around to see if Oliver was close. "That is right, but

you should never mention it when he is here, don't tell him I said any of that," she instructed.

"Okay Mommy, I promise I won't," Lena replied and smiled.

Few minutes later, Oliver appeared with breakfast in a tray, he served them Vegan food which was Aria's favorite, even though she denied it, it was still her favorite.

My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 69

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Chapter 69

They all sat at the dining table, eating in silence. Oliver was itching to start a discussion but he was scared to say something wrong. He had no idea how to start or what to say, if Sammy had told him that this was the surprise, then he would have been prepared.

Well even if Sammy had told him about it, he would have still been dumbfounded when he saw her. She was just so gorgeous and hot, very few people would believe that she had actually bore a child that was seven years old.

And his daughter, she was just a carbon copy of her mother, take aside the gray eyes that she took from her Daddy. She was an epitome of beauty.

"Mom has told me quite a lot about you, I asked her to bring me here," Princess Lena said, while stuffing her mouth with food.

"Keep quiet Lena, have you forgotten your table manners? You can't talk while eating, it is dangerous," Aria scolded.

Princess crumpled her face and looked down feeling sad. She had a lot of questions for this man whom she had been introduced to as his daughter. "Easy Aria, don't be so strict with her," Oliver said in a calm voice.

"Excuse me Mr. Oliver, she is my daughter and I train her the way I see fit, you don't get to tell me how to train her," Aria replied in a gentle, yet hostile tone. "Calm down Aria, don't be like that... she is my daughter too, you know?" Oliver said and Aria shot him a mean glance.

"You mean the daughter you couldn't fight for, the one you gave up on seven years ago," she replied and looked down to the meal.

Oliver sighed; he did not want to argue with her especially in front of Lena, they would discuss this on a later date. He was glad to have Aria back, it was so difficult fighting back the impulsion to go searching for her all these years. Since she was here now, it means that they were meant to be.

Just like he had expected, she came back. Even though it took seven long years, it finally happened and that was what mattered to him. Now that she was here,

he had no intentions of ever letting her go again, she was obviously still upset with him, but he had plans to win her over and bring her back into his life, no matter the cost. This was the right time to right his wrongs and correct his mistakes.

"So tell me Mr. Stark, how is your wife doing?" Aria asked. Even though she already knew everything, she just wanted to hear him say it himself, that was her way of reminding him of the wrong choices he made in life and the price he had to pay for it.

Oliver smiled softly but covered it up, he knew that question was not meant the way it looked like it was meant. He was also aware that Aria knew the latest happening around here, she was friends with Rosie after all so she had to know. "She is gone Aria, I divorced her," Oliver replied.

"Do you mind telling me why?" she asked plainly.

Oliver looked from her down to Lena. The little girl was busy admiring the inner decoration of the building, it was not like she had not seen a nice house before, she had not seen such a mesmerizing pattern before. It was wonderful for the eyes to behold and it was not similar to the ones they had in London.

"Well, she cheated on me with a stranger, so Grandpa and I decided that she had to be divorced," Oliver replied with his eyes still fixed on Lena. He wanted to make sure that she did not overhear any of this, she was too young to have such thoughts in mind.

"Oh, I see..." Aria replied bluntly. "Speaking of your grandfather, how is the old man?" she queried with a look of less concern.

Hmm... well he has traveled back to Asia for his treatment, he is not feeling too good," Oliver replied.

"Okay then, I wish him good luck with his treatment," she said in a cold voice and picked up her spoon to keep digging into the food.

Not only was the food her favorite but it was also delicious. She wondered if it was Oliver that really made it, when did he become such a good cook? Also, he used to say that cooking was for the servants, but now it seemed like he enjoyed doing it himself. Indeed, things had changed.

She noticed that he had also been working out too, his muscles and abs were all impressive and her body shivered at every part of his unclad body that her eyes met.

"Thank you, I will tell him that the next time I call, he would be happy to know that you came back and you did check up on him even after everything that happened," Oliver said.

"Hmm... I am only here for the wedding, nothing else. As for everything that happened, I have moved on so that with every other thing that happened in the past has been buried in that time, I only think about the present and the future right now," she replied bluntly.

Oliver nodded his head and chuckled. He knew his Ex wife was quite a stubborn woman with a lot of ego so there was no need arguing over the unnecessary. "Alright, what about you? How have you been?" he asked softly.

"As you can see, I have been good, isn't it obvious?" she asked in a cold voice. "Mommy, do I have to remind you of the table manners, you just reminded me right now, so don't tell me you are having memory issues now," Lena said as she rounded up with her plates at the table, she had eaten in a hurry so that she would be free to bombard her father with questions.

Aria stared at her and sighed. Oliver chuckled and she shot him a mean glare, he quit laughing immediately as fear gripped him. His Aria had changed a lot and he loved this new version.

My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 70

/ My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO

Chapter 70

The three were through with breakfast and Lena helped Oliver clear the table. Arianna stood up to leave; Lena accompanied her to the door while Oliver watched her from the dining. He wished he could make her stay longer but he did not want to force her.

There was no need for the hurry; she was still around for the next few weeks so he still had time to do what he wanted. He just had to get close to his daughter first, and then his wife would be the next.

"Alright Lena, I will come to pick you up later. Be a good girl and don't talk much so you don't have a headache, also try to rest, we had been flying for hours so you must be stressed out," She advised as she squatted down to her level, holding her shoulders.

"Don't worry about me Mom, I am completely fine, now go and have fun with Aunt Rosie, but reserve some for me," she replied in her sweet little feminine voice.

Aria chuckled. "I will, okay? I promise," she said.

"Okay then, goodbye mom," Lena said with a smile.

Aria could tell that the little girl was excited to spend time with her father. She pitied Oliver because he was about to experience one of the most stressful times of his life. Princess was not someone to go easy on her prey, she always had something to say. Aria defined her as a headache, she was very stubborn and hotheaded.

Aria pecked her on the lips and stood up, then she looked towards Oliver and he smiled at her. She turned away immediately and walked off.

When she had left the house, Lena closed the door and turned back to face Oliver with a stern face. He smiled at her and she folded her arms, not returning a smile of her own.

"So... what would you like to do?" Oliver asked, not knowing if it was the right thing to say or not. He came closer to her in the sitting room with no idea on what to do.

"Don't talk to me Mr. Gomez, now start talking," she instructed with a crumpled face.

"Huh?" Oliver muttered in confusion. She had asked him to not talk and also talk at the same time, what exactly is he expected to do? Talk or not talk?

"Yes, why don't you try explaining why you sent mommy and I away, tell me why you abandoned us?" she queried.

"Abandoned you? But I didn't abandon you," he replied and scratched his head. "Oh, why don't you explain why Mom and I had to leave you for as long as I can remember, why did you never care to come and check on us even for once, you never texted nor messaged, you didn't even care about me," Princess fired. "No my Princess, that is not the truth," Oliver protested in his defense. "Then tell me what the truth is," she retorted.

Oliver sighed and came closer to her. "Alright, let's get you seated first, then I will explain," he said with pleading eyes.

She hesitated for a while, then she walked to the couch with the angry expression still on her face, she sat down without unfolding her arms and stared at Oliver. He went to the same couch and sat on the other end of it, then he turned to face Lena.

He held her hand and sighed, then he looked up to her eyes, they were just like his. "You are right Princess, I am a terrible father, I had issues with your mom years ago which was totally my fault and your mom decided to leave with you. She had done that out of anger and I tried my best to stop her from leaving. I guess my best was not enough, I should have tried harder. But then that wasn't my only mistake, I knew where you guys lived for all these years and I have had my men follow you two to ensure that you are safe but yet I did not try to make things right.

I should have come for you and your mom, I should have tried to get her back to me but I didn't. I am really sorry about that Lena, I was being very selfish that I did not think of what you would be facing because of rash decisions that your mom and I made.

But I have realized my mistakes now and I want to make corrections, I want to set things right with you and your mom, I want us to live together again as one happy family. Please forgive me Princess, I am really sorry," he pleaded in an appealing tone.

She was quiet for a while, still making that grumpy face that was quite adorable, then she pouted her lips. "Are you really sorry for all that?" she asked with scrutinizing eyes.

"Yes my Princess, daddy is so sorry for everything he has done, please forgive me," he begged.

"Hmm..." she scoffed, "Okay, I would give you a chance," she said and Oliver smiled.

"Thank you so much my Princess, so we are friends right?" he asked.

"Yes, daddy and Princess can be friends," she replied with a smile, exposing her beautiful set of sparkling white teeth.

"Awwn, thank you my Princess, Daddy is so pleased to hear that," Oliver said happily.

"Don't get too excited young man, there is a condition attached," she replied and his smile faded.

"Condition?" he muttered.

"Yes. Daddy and Princess can only be friends if Daddy can convince Mom to get back together with him. Mommy intends to take me back to London after the wedding is over, I really like it there but I want to live with both of my parents, so if you want to be my friend, then you have to make that happen," she said Oliver scratched his head. He knew Aria was very stubborn and it would be difficult to convince her, but this was something he had to do.

"Alright Princess, Daddy also wants the same thing, to live with you and mommy. But to make that happen, I would need your help. Will you help me win mommy back?"

"Yes, I will do anything I can to help you, I wouldn't want anything else than to be with my family, my mom and my dad as well." Lena replied.

"Alright then, we have a deal," he said with a smile and extended his hand for a handshake.

Lena accepted his hand and they smiled. Now they were united, but it was not as difficult as the task ahead of them.