Chapter 450 She Found The Medicine Bottles On The...

Korbyn looked at his children.

The ambiance held a delicate subtlety.

Waylen glanced over at Cecilia and noticed a slight blush gracing her face. Clearly, she couldn't withstand such teasing.

Mark was much more thick-skinned.

At his age, he found himself once more in Cecilia's company, and he paid little heed to anything else.

His affectionate gaze upon Cecilia was even more unreserved than before.

Waylen let out a chuckle.

In agreement with his father, he added, "Dad, if you keep on going like that, Mark might never show his face here again."

Korbyn shot Waylen a grave look before inquiring, "Is he that really shy, Waylen?"

Both Korbyn and Waylen possessed sharp tongues.

Mark had no option but to take it.

As Cecilia drew near, Mark strolled alongside her and tenderly asked, "Why didn't you invite me to join you for shopping?"

Cecilia cast a brief glance at Mark's way.

"Even my brother didn't go."

After a brief pause, she added, "You were planning to go to the office, weren't you? Besides, I prefer shopping with Rena."

06:52

Beneath the table, Mark discreetly clasped Cecilia's hand.

"You're absolutely right. Women understand each other best."

With that, Mark offered a gentle smile and whispered, "I'll go get Olivia."

Typically, Olivia didn't dine at the table. She was still quite young, and her meals were either prepared separately, or she would just have her milk.

Cecilia wanted to say something, but Mark had already ascended the stairs.

Observing his daughter's expression, Korbyn curled his lip. "Feeling sorry for him? Well, don't thwart a man's desire to prove himself. You shouldn't concern yourself too much. Simply follow your sister-in-law's lead and give him a hard time."

Rena served a portion of food to Korbyn.

In a hushed tone, she said, "Dad, if I've ever wronged Waylen in any way, please forgive me."

Korbyn quickly reassured her, "No. No, you've been really good to Waylen."

Witnessing that, Cecilia couldn't help but feel a twinge of envy.

Rena not only had a grip on Waylen, but she also managed to please Korbyn.

As Cecilia pondered, Mark descended the stairs, holding Olivia in his embrace.

Just in time for summer, Olivia wore a white dress adorned with red flowers. She appeared plump and utterly adorable.

Olivia wrapped her tiny arms around her father's neck, her curious eyes fixed on the dishes set on the table.

Mark instructed the servant to prepare vegetable soup, mashed potatoes, and boiled fish.

Most of it was devoid of salt or other seasonings. Olivia found them quite plain and refused to eat.

Yet Mark patiently cajoled her.

Olivia radiated pure delight. She let out joyful giggles and devoured all the food her father fed her.

Korbyn chortled. "I am truly impressed. Mark, you could run a nursery school. You have a real knack for handling kids."

Mark responded promptly, "Olivia is quite a good girl."

Olivia held a deep fondness for Mark. She nestled against his chest.

Mark couldn't resist rubbing her plump little belly.

During the meal, he refrained from eating much as he mostly focused on his daughter.

Cecilia harbored concerns about Mark, yet her entire family had gathered, and her shyness held her back.

She stole a quick glance at Rena.

Rena grasped Cecilia's unspoken message and addressed Mark, "Uncle Mark, why don't you grab a bite?"

Mark appeared momentarily taken aback.

Then, he offered a gentle smile and replied, "I'm not much of an eater."

Rena let the matter rest and turned her gaze back to Cecilia, noticing the hint of wetness in her eyes.

In private, Rena inquired, "Are you worried about him?"

Cecilia felt a touch awkwardness. "No."

Rena refrained from further questioning.

Following the meal, Rena and Cecilia attended to the children's belongings, while Mark was summoned to Korbyn's study.

The door closed behind him.

Korbyn's jesting ceased.

He motioned for Mark to take a seat.

The two grown men faced each other, their expressions serious.

In truth, Korbyn cherished his daughter deeply, valuing her even more than his own reputation. Korbyn let out a soft sigh. "I don't oppose your relationship, but I won't actively support it either. Whether you two make it in the long run depends on you. Mark, I'm being honest with you. Cecilia isn't young and reckless anymore. She can't chase after you as she did seven years ago."

Mark felt a pang of sadness. "I understand."

Korbyn waved his hand.

There was a tinge of sorrow in his expression, but he had something important to say.

"She's been doted on since childhood. All her hardships trace back to you. As a father, I can't say much because she cares for you deeply. Of course, you've made numerous sacrifices for her. Mark, I'm not asking for anything else at this moment. I just wish you could be there for her a while longer."

Having spoken those words, Korbyn turned away.

His eyes glistened with moisture.

His beloved daughter was barely in her early thirties.

Mark, considerably older and plagued by frail health, weighed heavily on Korbyn's heart.

But what options did Korbyn have?

Mark sat in contemplative silence for an extended period, grappling with the very concerns that had been voiced by Korbyn.

If Mark weren't somewhat self-centered, how could be muster the courage?

After a prolonged pause, Mark uttered in a raspy voice, "Please, don't worry."

Korbyn wiped away his tears discreetly and spun around with renewed determination. "Why should I? You two just live a fulfilling life and raise the two children. I believe Edwin holds tremendous promise. He inherits his personality from the Evans family."

Mark fell silent.

The two of them engaged in a brief discussion regarding some business affairs.

Upon Mark's descent, Rena grasped Edwin's hand, while Cecilia cradled Olivia in her embrace.

As soon as Olivia spotted Mark, she stretched out her arms.

"Daddy!"

Mark advanced and scooped up his daughter, a suitcase in his other hand.

He cast a gentle gaze at Cecilia and uttered, "You take the wheel."

Cecilia nodded in agreement.

As the family of four departed, Rena stood on the porch, her emotions a swirling mix.

That very scene had been Rena's unspoken longing for a considerable while, and it had finally materialized.

Waylen wrapped an arm around her shoulder, both of them

Chapter 450 She Found The Medicin \$\pm\ \pm 120 Points at most observing their receding figures.

"Are you feeling emotional? I thought Mrs. Fowler isn't as delicate as that."

Rena shot Waylen a quick look.

She had been aware of his feigned mental issues and hadn't talked to him for days.

Waylen, she thought, could be quite insufferable at times.

He had tampered with her phone. Once she discovered his actions, he claimed to be mentally unwell and even proposed therapy together.

Yet, each time, he just slept inside the therapy's office, since there was really nothing wrong with him!

Rena cast a sidelong glance at him, remarking, "I haven't forgiven you, you know."

Waylen wrapped his arms around her shoulders.

He pinned her against the wall, his fingers delicately brushing against her waist as he intentionally allured her with his mesmerizing features. "So, Mrs. Fowler, how may I soothe your anger?

What if you also tampered with my phone?"

Rena playfully kicked him and quipped, "Don't get ahead of yourself. Who on earth would want to tamper with your phone? You think everyone's as perverted as you?"

Waylen chuckled.

He nuzzled his face against her slender shoulder, a mischievous streak evident.

Rena couldn't find it in her to push him away. There was an undeniable helplessness in dealing with him, and it seemed his antics had an effect on her.

Cecilia arrived at Mark's villa half an hour later.

The villa boasted considerable size, and the car didn't come to a halt until it had maneuvered around.

Zoey had been eagerly anticipating Cecilia's visit for quite some time.

While Zoey had often crossed paths with Cecilia and her children over the past few years, there was a distinct significance to the family of four arriving together in such an orderly fashion. Moreover, Olivia, being so young, hadn't been seen by Zoey frequently.

Olivia was taking unsteady steps.

The night breeze playfully lifted her skirt.

It ended up revealing half of her little bottom, making her appear incredibly endearing.

Zoey couldn't resist the urge to playfully nibble Olivia's behind. Her affection for Olivia knew no bounds.

Zoey cradled Olivia in her arms, showering her with kisses repeatedly.

Edwin, standing nearby, didn't harbor any jealousy. He patiently waited for his turn.

Certainly, Zoey wouldn't turn a cold shoulder to him.

Following the affectionate embrace with her grandson, Zoey's gaze drifted toward Cecilia in the night breeze. Cecilia remained elegant and beautiful.

Zoey's nose twitched.

She clutched Cecilia's hand, her voice choked with emotion. "It's good to have you back. It's truly wonderful."

What Zoey uttered held significance to Cecilia.

It wasn't only to her but also to Mark.

At her age, Zoey had grieved the loss of her beloved daughter in her early years, and her son's life had been shrouded in uncertainty following that. How could Zoey not be plagued by fear and sorrow?

It wasn't due to Zoey's fear of growing old and vulnerable, but rather her apprehension of not finding peace in her later years.

Despite her attempts to maintain composure, Zoey struggled to hold back her tears.

She took a step to the side and discreetly wiped them away.

Mark's eyes held a profound and mournful gaze.

Cecilia's eyes welled up as well. She regarded Zoey as her own mother and playfully said, "I'm famished. Do you happen to have any home-made wontons? I want chopped coriander in it."

Zoey dabbed away her tears and smiled warmly.

"Of course. I'm aware of your fondness for it. I've also fried some mini meatballs you like, but be careful not to get scalded again, or someone will worry over you."

Cecilia offered a shy smile.

The conversation served to alleviate Cecilia's melancholy, evoking memories of the past.

Both the pleasant and challenging moments triggered a mix of emotions inside her.

It was a night of a remarkable reunion. Cecilia couldn't help having a myriad of thoughts race through her mind.

Zoey took charge of the children.

She was setting up a small bathtub and a tiny bath towel in the yard for Olivia.

Olivia reclined in the bathtub, completely bare, her face brimming with pure joy.

Zoey assisted the adorable little girl in her bath.

Edwin skillfully poured water into the tub.

Cecilia bent her head to savor her wontons. Midway through the meal, Mark whisked her bowl away.

"You had quite the dinner. If you eat so much now, you'll feel overstuffed."

Then Mark settled down and dug into the leftover.

Cecilia felt a flush of embarrassment.

She expressed, "I'm simply concerned that Zoey might be upset."

Mark grinned. "If you put on some weight, you might regret it later."

His words were tender, making it challenging for her to respond.

Cecilia gazed at Mark with an affectionate foolishness.

As they dined with decorum, Mark suddenly inquired, "Why do I sense you've been avoiding me lately?"

"I haven't."

She softly replied, "I've just been extremely busy."

Mark affectionately ruffled her hair and remarked, "Well then, keep yourself occupied. But when you're free, be sure to spend some time with me."

Cecilia tightened her lips, opting to remain silent.

"Would you like to sleep in my room tonight?" Mark inquired.

Cecilia hesitated, feeling a reluctance.

Despite their history as a couple and the fact that they had two children together, she considered herself a guest in his home at that time and didn't deem it appropriate to share his bedroom.

Mark's gaze held a profound intensity.

He suggested, "I mean we'll Edwin and Olivia with us. What's on your mind?"

Cecilia grew somewhat impatient. "What do you mean? I haven't been thinking about anything."

Mark devoured the rest of the wontons.

He took charge of washing the dishes, and then turned to affectionately pinch her cheek. "You're not as carefree as you used to be years back."

Cecilia found his remark mildly unsettling.

Their interactions alternated between moments of sweetness and awkwardness.

The time came for them to retire for the night.

Zoey decided to have the two children sleep in her room.

Cecilia considered it somewhat improper.

However, Edwin had already sprinted off with his sister in tow.

Zoey trailed after Edwin, taking her time.

Mark led Cecilia to his bedroom. After all, they had once shared his room during a brief period of their life together.

Everything seemed just as it had been before.

Mark displayed no sense of urgency.

He even made a detour to the study to tend to some work, allowing Cecilia to unwind to some extent.

Once he concluded his tasks, he returned to the bedroom.

Cecilia settled onto the sofa by the window, her mind adrift.

She still wore the garments she had upon arrival, having skipped the shower and makeup removal.

Mark approached, tenderly tousling her hair as he murmured, "Feeling uneasy?"

Cecilia stammered before answering.

"Yes, I do feel somewhat reserved. I don't think I'm as carefree as I once was."

In truth, they had already reconciled, sharing a bed in their previous home on Gamous Road.

And they had been intimate.

Yet, she couldn't help but feel like a visitor in that place.

Her inhibitions remained intact

Mark, understanding her unease, seated himself beside her and encouraged her to lean against him.

He gave the situation a careful consideration.

He then said slowly, "I was thoughtless. Next time, I'll bring you here during the day and send you back in the evening. If we wish to spend the night together, we can go to our home on Gamous Road. Cecilia, if you want to take things slowly, I'm willing to go at your pace. However, it's rather late tonight. We'll have to make do. I won't make any advances."

Despite her unease, Cecilia remained genuine.

Moreover, they were responsible for two children.

After a heart-to-heart conversation, he suggested she take a shower and provided a modest set of pajamas.

Cecilia complied, showering before returning to the bedroom.

Mark fetched an additional lightweight blanket, ensuring they each had their own.

She observed him bending down and engrossed in the task.

It was difficult to discern his usual dignified air. He simply appeared as an ordinary man.

Unable to resist, she approached him from behind and embraced him tenderly.

Mark gently patted her hand and remarked, "You mentioned feeling uneasy a moment ago, and now you're hugging me. You truly have a childlike temper."

He playfully feigned an attempt to take the extra blanket away.

Cecilia hastily protested, "No. This is fine."

Mark smiled.

With her cheek resting against his back, Cecilia softly murmured, "Even if I'm being a bit wayward, please be patient with me, okay?"

Mark's smile persisted. "If I'm not patient with you, then who will be?"

He retrieved the towel from her grasp and proceeded to gently dry her hair.

Cecilia had a lush mane of hair, and her nightly hair-washing ritual was a well-established routine.

Mark devoted quite some time to meticulously drying her hair, and his gentle demeanor made the task all the more intimate.

Gradually, she began to unwind. She placed her head in his lap, gently encircled her arms around his waist, and asked, "What did my father say to you?"

Mark continued what he was doing.

"He mentioned that you were opposing his wishes every day, insisting on reconciling with me."

Cecilia lifted her head and responded, "I didn't."

Mark met her gaze, his expression inquisitive.

She returned her head to its previous position but accidentally bumped into his private parts, prompting a faint groan from him.

Cecilia's gaze lowered as she moved her head a little, her movements discreet. She murmured in hushed tones, "I didn't intend for that to happen."

Mark lightly patted her cheek and quipped, "This is yours. If you happen to ruin it, you're the one at a loss."

His words stirred a hint of jealousy in Cecilia.

In response, she countered, "Are you absolutely sure it's not public property?"

Mark set aside the towel and studied her silently for a prolonged moment. Then, he playfully pinched her cheek and asked, "Are you still jealous? It's been exclusively yours for at least seven years."

Cecilia suppressed a laugh, her cheeks tinged with embarrassment.

Despite Mark's initial intent to tease, he settled for merely pinching her cheek and remarked, "I'm heading for a shower. Don't switch off the light and get lost in your phone."

She nodded in response.

Mark rose from his seat, unbuttoned his shirt, and proceeded toward the bathroom.

Cecilia made her way onto the bed.

After a couple of restless turns, she eventually settled against the headboard.

Then she opened the nightstand to check if there were any books available.

Yet, it contained over ten different medications, neatly arranged.

She picked up two bottles.

The labels on them were inscribed in foreign languages. Cecilia possessed proficiency in multiple languages, granting her the ability to comprehend the text.

As she perused the labels, tears welled up in her eyes.

Despite reconciling with Mark, she had never shared the details of her life over the past few years with him.

He had endured hardships just as she had.

During her pregnancy with Olivia, Cecilia had been plagued by nightmares in which Rena called her with distressing news.

Thus, when Mark returned, Cecilia finally felt a profound sense of relief.

Emerging from the bathroom, Mark discovered Cecilia seated at the head of the bed, sobbing quietly.