Quadruplets Unite: Mother's Words Are Law! Chapter 91 - 110

Chapter 91 Hoping for a Miracle

Emmeline and Abel went back to the pediatric ward. Landen had already contacted Adam, his eldest son.

"We can't rely on Adrien, so I had to ask Adam."

"There's me too, Uncle Landen. If more people are tested, the chances for a match will be higher," Abel said.

"If there's no other option, I'm willing to get tested too," Landed said. "I don't want to lose a grandson while I do nothing about it."

Julianna turned her head to look at Emmeline. "Emmeline, if my husband or eldest son is discovered to be a compatible donor, you and the children should consider settling down. If you marry Adrien, he might learn how to behave!"

Emmeline lowered her head.

Is Julianna holding me hostage with Hesperus' life?

However, she had no way of fighting back.

What was her happiness compared to her son's life?

"Did you hear me, Emmeline?" Julianna said threateningly.

Emmeline bit her lower lip and said with much difficulty, "Yes, I did."

Abel turned his head away. His gaze was as cold as ice.

Just like Emmeline, he was in no position to say anything about Julianna's decision.

The child's life was more important than anything else.

The only way for him to salvage the situation was if Landen and Adam were found incompatible, but somehow he was.

The chances of that happening were close to zero.

If the child's grandson and the father's brother were not compatible, the father's cousin would be less likely a match.

Abel could only pray that at least one of them was compatible.

The most important thing was to save Hesperus' life!

Half an hour later, Adam showed up at the hospital dressed in a black suit.

Alana and Rosaline also received the news. They came to the hospital bringing supplements.

"Abel." Adam stood in front of Abel.

Adam's build was tall and stout, but he was nonetheless shorter than Abel by an inch.

His arrogant and wild demeanor seemed like a joke compared to the serious and domineering Abel.

Abel looked like a natural-born leader, while Adam looked more like a thug.

Oscar stepped out of the elevator and saw his two grandsons facing each other.

He could tell he had chosen the right person to lead the Ryker Group.

"Adam," Abel returned the greeting solemnly.

Adam wanted to say something to intimidate Abel, but he said nothing in the face of Abel's dominating presence.

"Get Adam tested first. If he can't do it, I'll go," Landen said while furrowing his thick brows.

"Adrien, that useless brat!" Oscar said angrily. "I won't forgive him if he costs me my great-grandson's life!"

"Adrien didn't want that to happen, Father. His life is still in danger!" Julianna said.

Oscar was furious. "He shouldn't have been in the Imperial Palace in the first place! You two spoiled him, and look what you made him. He doesn't look like he belongs to the Ryker family!"

Landen and Julianna lowered their heads sheepishly.

Adam shot a murderous glare at Abel. His eyes were filled with resentment.

Just wait, Abel. You're not the only person in your generation who's capable!

The results of Adam's compatibility test were disappointing.

"It's my turn now. I can't afford to lose my grandson," Landen said.

"Thank you, sir!" Emmeline bowed deeply.

"Words aren't enough. I hope you remember what I told you earlier," Julianna said.

"I will!" Emmeline nodded.

All she wanted was her son's safety. Nothing else mattered at the moment.

Landen went to the laboratory. He was also found to be incompatible.

"I should try. I might only be Adrien's cousin, but it's not impossible to find a match," Abel said.

"You?" Julianna smirked. "Why should we place our hopes in you if no one in our family is compatible?"

Chapter 92 Why Must It Be Abel?

Rosaline's face sank. "Abel! Don't bother offering yourself. Those ingrates won't be grateful anyway!"

Julianna's eyes widened in anger. "Rosaline! Who did you call an ingrate?"

"Who, I wonder?" Rosaline retorted. "Abel wants to save Hesperus, and that's the treatment he gets?"

"Abel is only twice removed! Do you think he may be a match?" Julianna said.

"I'll be happy if he's incompatible! I wouldn't want my son to go through the pain of bone marrow extraction!" Rosaline said.

"It'll be hopeless anyway! You don't have to feel sorry for him." Julianna scoffed. "Take your dear CEO son and leave. I'll find some way to help my own grandson!"

Rosaline took Abel's hand. "Let's go, Abel. Whatever happens here is none of our business!"

Abel frowned. "I can't do that. Stop bickering. I'm not doing this for anyone other than Star!"

Alana added, "But Abel, I've heard that the bone marrow extraction process is very painful. It's not very likely you're compatible anyway. I don't think you should try."

Abel seemed determined. "I'm not going to give up any hope to save Star, as impossible as it might be!"

He took Emmeline's hand and gazed into her eyes deeply. "Wait for me, Emma. I'll get tested now!"

Emmeline shook her head. "You shouldn't bother. It's impossible."

"You won't know unless you try," Abel said before turning around and heading into the lab.

Alana quickly turned around and sent a message to Cristopher.

"He's going into the lab. Tell them not to conduct any tests other than bone marrow compatibility! Even if it's a match, emphasize that it's a sheer coincidence!"

Christopher replied, "Don't worry, Alana. It's hard work deceiving so many people though. How are you going to repay me?"

"D*mn it!" Alana cursed.

"Don't say that. I'll go bald if I'm sad," Cristopher replied.

"I'll go to your house tonight. Just do what you're told!"

"That's good news. I'll be waiting for your company, Alana. Don't worry, I'll take care of everything!"

Everyone was shocked by the results of the compatibility test.

Julianna blushed in embarrassment. She did not dare to face Rosaline.

In a miraculous coincidence, Abel's bone marrow was a perfect match with Hesperus!

"Why must it be Abel?"

"I didn't expect him to be a match!"

No one could figure out an explanation.

"It's nothing unusual, really," Alana said. "I read on the Internet some time ago, there was a case where an old man needed a liver transplant, and his daughter-in-law turned out to be a compatible match! Even his son wasn't a match."

"It doesn't matter who it is, as long as my grandson is saved!" Landen said. He took Abel's hands and said seriously, "Abel, I owe you one!"

"Don't mention it," Abel said, "We're family after all."

Oscar said to Adam, "See that, Adam? Now, do you know why I chose Abel over you? Look at his demeanor!"

Adam lowered his head sullenly.

It did not matter to him why his grandfather chose Abel over him. All that mattered was that Abel was sitting in his position!

Emmeline was dumbfounded. She stared at Abel while the question repeated over and over in her mind. Why is it him? Why is it him?

Rosaline was also pondering something.

Hesperus was allergic to kiwi fruits, just like Abel. Earlier, at the banquet, Julianna said that Timothy should have been one of Emmeline's quadruplets. Today, Abel's bone marrow was found to be compatible with Hesperus.

Why were there so many coincidences between Abel and Emmeline's children?

Rosaline frowned hard. Something seemed to be amiss.

Abel held Emmeline's hands excitedly. "There's hope for Hesperus! I didn't expect myself to be compatible!"

Emmeline buried her head into Abel's chest and began to sob. "Looks like I was right to look for you!"

"You're right, Emma!" Abel caressed her hair lovingly.

Chapter 93 He's the Blind One

Alana forcefully pulled the two apart and said angrily, "Watch it, Emmeline! Don't flirt with Abel! Your son's father is Adrien, so you're wrong to look for Abel!"

"I know that," Emmeline said. "You can't deny that Abel saved Hesperus this time, and my only goal for looking for the children's father is to save Hesperus!"

Alana snorted coldly. "You got lucky this time. Next time, get Adrien to save your son! He should be your husband after all!"

"Mind your manners, Alana," Abel said coldly. "You're in no position to speak here."

"Abel..."

"I told you not to call me by my name!"

"Mr. Ryker, Auntie Rosaline said she'll arrange our wedding reception as soon as possible. I'll give birth to several children for you too!" Alana said hastily.

"I did say that," Rosaline said, "But it's more important to save Hesperus now. You should get ready for the extraction procedure, Abel!"

"Mm," Abel replied. He gazed at Emmeline longingly. "Wait for me!"

Emmeline nodded.

"Emma!"

"Sis!"

Someone from the other end of the corridor called out to Emmeline.

Emmeline turned her head. It was Ethan, her brother, and his wife Grace.

To her surprise, Benjamin followed behind them.

It was no surprise that Emmeline's brother and sister-in-law would visit her at the hospital, but it was bizarre to see Benjamin York, Adelmar Group's CEO, together with them.

Emmeline frowned. Isn't Benjamin worried about exposing my identity?

Benjamin noticed that everyone was staring at him. He waved his hand and smiled. "I've heard about what happened from Mr. Louise, and I thought I should show his relatives some concern"

Abel frowned slightly. Somehow, the image of the Wonder Doctor's assistant came to mind.

Both of them were named Benjamin York, and they were about six feet tall. It was an incredible coincidence.

Ethan took Abel's hands and said, "Mr. Ryker, I wonder why my sister was so blind. If only you were her sons' father! That would be so great!"

Abel was speechless. I think I was the one who was blind.

Emmeline was exasperated. "What nonsense is that, Ethan?"

"I'm sure your brother is only feeling sorry for you," Grace said.

"Mr. Louise rushed here as soon as he could when he heard about you from the nanny," Benjamin added.

Emmeline rolled her eyes at him and mouthed, "None of your business!"

Benjamin coughed and looked away.

"Isn't that so?" Ethan said to Abel. "You can't rely on Adrien when you really need him!"

Abel did not reply. He tried to pull his hand away, but Ethan was gripping his fingers tightly.

"Watch your words, brat!" Adam glared at Ethan coldly. "You're in no position to speak here!"

"Was I wrong? Tell me then, where is Adrien when my sister needs him? He's the father of the child!"

Julianna stomped up to Ethan. "My son isn't any worse than Abel! He happens to be busy with something and can't leave."

Ethan finally let Abel's hand go. "He's worse because he's not here when his son needs him! Instead, Abel is here!"

Grace helped her husband. "Don't forget that Abel saved your grandson! You should be grateful about that!"

"Alright, that's enough!" Emmeline said impatiently. "You can keep your opinions to yourself. Things are already as messed up as they are."

Benjamin said, "Ms. Louise, if you need any help, Adelmar Group will always be here for you..."

"Thank you, but I don't think I'm worthy," Emmeline interrupted him.

Benjamin kept his mouth shut. He knew that his concern had made Emmeline angry instead.

Abel and Hesperus were brought into the operation room. The operation lasted for eight hours and was a success.

The two people were transferred to the sterile room.

Hesperus needed to be kept under observation for 72 hours in case his body rejected the transplant, and Abel needed six hours to recover.

Meanwhile, Rosaline and Alana left the hospital and went back to Levan Mansion.

After dinner, Timothy climbed onto Rosaline's lap and asked, "Granny, is Star feeling better? Is he still angry at me?"

Chapter 94 Pluck Alana's Hair

"Good boy." Rosaline hugged Timothy close to him and gently patted his fluffy hair.

"Star is okay now. Your Daddy saved him. He won't be angry at you anymore. Also, you didn't do it on purpose, did you?"

"I thought someone shoved me from behind," Timothy pouted and said. "That's why I stumbled forward and shoved Star into the pond."

"Who could have done it?" Rosaline frowned hard. "I must get someone to investigate who else was in the garden that night!"

Alana was nervous when she heard that. "You shouldn't believe everything a child says! Timothy must be lying because he's feeling guilty!"

"I'm not lying!" Timothy's face turned red with anxiety. "Someone really shoved me from behind!"

"Enough with your lies!" Alana lifted her hand threateningly.

"How dare you!" Rosaline shielded Timothy and said to Alana sternly. "Is that how you should behave as a mother? I won't let you hurt my grandson!"

Alana was taken aback. Indeed, she had overreacted.

She was afraid that Rosaline might find out Alondra was the culprit.

Timothy was already on the verge of tears. "I told you she's not my mother! I've never seen Auntie Emma treat Sun, Moon, and Star like that!"

"You..." Alana wanted to say "son of a b*tch" but stopped herself.

She could see that Rosaline was already red with anger and would not hesitate to get physical with her.

As expected, Rosaline said, "You're done here, Alana. You can go to your room now!"

"Madame Ryker..."

"Go," Rosaline ordered coldly. "Remember to coax Timothy to sleep later."

Alana nodded. "Yes, Madame Ryker."

Alana went up the stairs. Timothy buried his head in Rosaline's chest and said, "Granny, I don't want Alana to sleep with me. I want you."

Rosaline whispered in Timothy's ear. "I'll let you sleep with me if you can do something for me."

"What is it?" Timothy lifted his head in anticipation.

"Pluck a strand of Alana's hair and give it to me."

Timothy pouted. "Why do you need her hair? It'll be dirty!"

"I have my uses," Rosaline said mysteriously. "All you have to do is pluck a strand of her hair for me, and you mustn't let her know I told you to do it."

"Okay. I'll get the hair for you, Granny," Timothy said.

Timothy ran up the stairs with his stumpy legs.

"I'm sleepy, Mommy. Can you sleep with me?"

Alana was about to go to the bathroom. "You're annoying! I've been out the whole day, and I want to take a hot water bath!"

"You can take your bath after I'm asleep." Timothy looked at her with puppy eyes.

"What am I going to do about you?" Alana said sullenly. "Children are so annoying!" "Hmph!" Timothy pouted.

Why doesn't Pretty Mommy think children are annoying? She looks like she loves children!

Alana carried Timothy in her arms, brought him to his room, and tossed him on the bed.

"Sleep!" Alana said gruffly. "I'll spank you if you don't sleep in three minutes!"

"Ahh!" Timothy covered his bottom with his hands. "Don't spank me, Mommy. I'll sleep soon."

"You'd better be sleeping then!" Alana leaned over to pin him down, and Timothy took the opportunity to pluck a strand of her hair.

"Ow! That hurts!" Alana yelped while covering her scalp.

"Sorry, Mommy. I didn't mean to do that."

"Sleep!" Alana growled. "I'll lock you in the bathroom if you don't behave!"

"Okay, okay! I'll sleep!" Timothy hid under the blanket and pretended to fall asleep.

"Hmph! You'd better behave, you son of a b*tch!" Alana snorted.

Chapter 95 You Had Fun

Two minutes later, seeing that Timothy had already "fallen asleep," Alana got up and returned to her room.

Timothy opened his palm and looked at the strand of hair he held. He quickly got up and ran down the stairs.

"Granny!" Rosaline was sitting on the sofa in the living room. She saw Timothy running toward her.

Has he already gotten it?

Rosaline went up to him and carried him in her arms.

"My dear grandson! Do you have what I told you to get for me?"

"This is it!" Timothy opened his palm and showed the strand of hair to Rosaline.

"That's great! I can finally confirm that!" Rosaline said happily.

"What is it?" Timothy asked.

"This is a secret between you and me, Timothy. You can't tell anyone else!" Rosaline said and plucked a hair from Timothy's scalp.

Timothy grimaced from the pain. He did not complain because his grandmother told him it was a secret.

The next day, Rosaline placed the two strands of hair in an envelope and went to Ryker's Hospital to look for Cristopher Reid, the head of the biology department.

"Is there something you need, Ma'am?" Cristopher asked curiously.

"I want to know if Alana Lane is really the mother of my grandson," Rosaline said.

"Conduct a maternity DNA test for me!"

Cristopher gasped but recovered in a split second. He said with a smile, "That can be arranged. I'll let you know when you can collect the report."

"Mm." Rosaline nodded. "Don't tell anyone else about this."

"Don't worry, Ma'am." Cristopher nodded and bowed.

After Rosaline left, Cristopher sent a message to Alana.

"I saved you again, Alana. How are you going to thank me this time?"

Alana was in the beauty salon when she received the message. She was shocked after she read it, and she quickly replied, "What do you mean?"

"We'll talk when I see you. Let's meet at Blue Skies Café."

Alana could sense that something was amiss. She urged the beautician to wash her face quickly, then took her sports car to Blue Skies Café.

Blue Skies Cage was located opposite Ryker's Hospital. Cristopher was already waiting for her in the private room.

"Rosaline Turner brought me two strands of hair today," Cristopher said with a cloying smile on his corpulent face. "What do you think she wants to do?"

Alana's heart skipped a beat. Suddenly, she remembered that Timothy plucked a strand of hair from her scalp last night.

"What... does she want?"

"She wants to know if you're the biological mother of Timothy Ryker!"

Alana's face turned pale. She felt a chill course down her spine.

Is Rosaline suspecting me?

"Don't worry." Cristopher's meaty hand was already fondling Alana. "You know what I can do for you."

"You have to help me, Cris." Alana leaned close to Cristopher. "You can't let Rosaline know the truth!"

"Of course. Why else would I call you over?" Cristopher said smugly.

"How should I thank you?" Alana allowed Cristopher's hands to travel brazenly around her body.

"You should come to my house and spend the night more often," Cristopher said. "My wife is on a business trip again."

"Okay then." Alana did not complain when Cristopher pressed his oily face against her cheek. "As long as you write in the report that I'm undoubtedly Timothy Ryker's mother!"

"You don't have to worry about that, Alana." Cristopher grinned like a pervert as he fondled Alana's bosom. "All you have to do is satisfy me!"

"Oh, Cris!" Alana fell onto his chest. "I'll definitely look for you after the report is done..."

"Good girl." Cristopher gently kissed Alana's cheek and left the room.

Alana's expression instantly sank. She considered her options for a while before calling Adam.

Adam only answered the call after several rings. He said lazily, "Why are you calling me again? I told you I'm not interested in you!"

"Adam!" Alana said coyly. "You say you're not interested, but you looked like you had a lot of fun that night!"

"Heheh. You should know I want to get rid of that wretched child in your womb!"

Chapter 96 Had It My Way

"You won't," Alana said. "I know you want me to help you get rid of Abel, so why would you get rid of the only bargaining chip I have of him?"

"Aren't you afraid I might get rid of Abel?" Adam laughed mockingly. "He's the man you love, right?"

"I want you to get rid of everyone standing in between Abel and me. When it's only you two remaining, you two can duke it out. I don't care if Abel loses to you. All I want is for Abel to marry me!"

"Tell me, how can I help you?"

"I need you to eliminate a few people for me." Alana's eyes were brimming with hostility. "I can't rest easy as long as they're alive!"

"How do you know I'm in the business of contract killing and smuggling?" Adam smirked coldly.

"Because I believe the owner of the Imperial Palace is the real lord of Struyria!" Alana said fawningly.

"Heheh. I like what I hear, and for that, I'll help you!"

"First, I want you to eliminate the doctor and two nurses of that maternal hospital in Brookwater Village!"

"Why?"

"They were the ones who assisted Emmeline's delivery of her babies. They know how many children Emmeline gave birth to!"

Adam said nothing, but a wicked smile appeared on his face.

Things are getting more and more interesting.

Cristopher went to Levan Mansion and handed Rosaline the completed maternity DNA test report.

He said fawningly, "According to the results obtained from the two strands of hair, Alana Lane and Timothy Ryker are undoubtedly biological mother and son."

Rosaline frowned. "Have I been overthinking?"

Cristopher stood up. "I'll be leaving if there's nothing else."

"Mm." Rosaline nodded and handed a fat envelope to Cristopher. "This is for you."

"Thank you, Madame." Cristopher stashed the envelope away and left hastily.

After he left Levan Mansion, he gave a call to Alana. "I've handed Rosaline the report. She gave me a reward too! Hahaha!"

Alana was incredibly frustrated. "Sure. You keep playing both ends!"

"Let's get to serious business. I'm waiting for you to reward me. I'll be waiting for you at my house at eight o'clock!"

Before Alana could say anything, Cristopher chuckled and hung up.

Alana arrived at Cristopher's house at eight o'clock that night.

Cristopher had already taken a bath. He was lying on the bed draped in a towel.

Alana reluctantly took off her clothes and lay on the bed next to him.

"Alana, my dear!" Cristopher prepared to smooch Alana.

Alana held her arm between them. "Cris, you know that I'm already pregnant. I'm hoping to cement my marriage with Abel with this child!"

"That child? Heh." Cristopher chuckled.

"Why are you laughing?" Alana was suddenly creeped out.

"Who knows? The child could be mine. Heheh. Heheh." Cristopher sounded like he had won a prize.

Alana gasped. "It's been very long since we made out. The child can't be yours. It's..."

It's either Abel's or Mr. X's.

Abel slept with her once, but Mr. X slept with her for an entire month!

"Ah, you don't know," Cristopher said. "That night, Abel called me to send him a tranquilizer shot."

"What do you mean?" Alana's heart skipped a beat.

"Still playing dumb? You wanted a dose of aphrodisiac from me, right? Who did you give it to?"

"I put it in Abel's bathtub, of course!"

"That's right," Cristopher said. "That night, Abel wanted me to deliver him a tranquilizer shot. I accidentally went into his bedroom and saw you lying naked there. You know... I couldn't hold myself back, so I had my way with you..."

Chapter 97 It Was All In Vain

"Ahhh!" Alana covered her ears and shrieked

She finally understood why Abel never admitted to touching her.

Abel was indeed telling the truth!

He had stopped himself at the very last minute, and Cristopher had taken advantage of her!

That orgasmic sensation she felt that night... was from Cristopher!

"Ahhhh!"

Even though it was not the first time Alana slept with Cristopher, she did not know how to approach that face.

It was worse when she insisted that the child in her womb belonged to Abel!

It turned out that the child either belonged to Mr. X or Cristopher.

Abel wanted her to give birth to the child so he could prove once and for all the child was not his! At the same time, Alana's reputation would be ruined!

She would be the most despicable being in all of Struyria once the truth was exposed!

What should I do? You're so cruel, Abel!

"Ahh!" Alara shrieked again. Her face had turned pale, and her forehead was drenched in a cold sweat.

Cristopher did not know what she was thinking. He hugged her waist and said, "Alana, are you thinking of ditching me once you're done using me?"

"I don't have the time to mess around with you!" Alana yelled. "Now I'm in big trouble, and you might be too!"

"What do you mean? Trouble?" Cristopher was confused.

"Now I know Abel didn't touch me that night, and the baby in my womb is yours, but I told Abel that the baby is his! You can guess that he's waiting for me to give birth to the child and show it's not his!"

Cristopher fell to the floor. "If the child is mine, I'll be dead for sure!

"We can't keep the baby! I'll have to abort it!"

"But that's not going to salvage the situation. How would I know Abel never touched you?"

Alana fell to her knees. "Cris, I need you to do me a favor as a good friend."

"I'm also in trouble! What's the point of begging me?"

Alana took Cristopher's hands passionately. "Both of us are in trouble, but you can take the fall for me. Once I'm safe, I can still find a way to save you."

"Well..." Cristopher hesitated.

"If Abel comes to look for you, tell him you violated me, and I don't know anything. I'm only a victim," Alana said while falling into Cristopher's lap. "After the incident blows over, I'll be all yours. You can do whatever you want to me."

Seeing that Cristopher was still hesitating, Alana leaned close and pecked his mouth. "Cris..."

"Alright then." Desire overcame logic at that instant, and Cristopher agreed to it.

"I don't have time. I need to go ask my aunt for a solution!"

Alana shoved Cristopher away, hastily put on her clothes, and ran out of the house.

Half an hour later, Alana arrived at the Louise family residence. Alondra had taken her bath and was going through her nightly beauty routine.

"I'm in big trouble!" Alana fell into Alondra's lap. "You have to save me, Auntie!"

"What happened? You look like you're going to die!" Alondra tore the beauty mask off her face.

"Auntie!" Sobbing, Alana told Alondra what she just found out.

Alondra locked the door. "Did Cristopher really say that?"

"Yes!" Alana said with tears in her eyes. "It matches what Abel said. I guess it's true, I had made out with Cristopher and not Abel!"

"No wonder Abel is so sure the child doesn't belong to him!" Alondra was also dumbfounded. "I thought he couldn't bring himself to admit it. Looks like whatever we did was all in vain!"

Chapter 98 Tragedy at the Hospital

"What should I do, Auntie?" Alana said while sobbing. "You have to save me! Otherwise, I'm finished!"

"Let me think, let me think," Alondra repeated while pacing around the room. Eventually, she said, "Why don't we ask Adam for help?"

"Adam?" Alana panicked. "That guy is a heartless tyrant!"

"But only someone like him can save us," Alondra said. "Only he can convince Oscar to be on our side."

"Auntie, why are we involving Oscar in this?" Alana became even more flustered. "It's already a huge mess!"

"Only Oscar can settle this with his authority. We'll ask Adam to get Oscar to help us!"

At the hospital, Hesperus finally woke up.

Emmeline smiled at him while tucking him in.

"I'm feeling a lot better now, Mommy. You don't have to worry about me anymore."

"Mm." Emmeline felt a lump in her throat. "It's all thanks to Mr. Ryker."

"He's not Mr. Ryker. He's Daddy," Hesperus said seriously. "All three of us think that he's our daddy."

Emmeline shook her head. "But... he's not."

"Mommy, you can marry Mr. Ryker. That way, he'll really become our daddy, and Timothy will have a mommy."

"Shh, don't say that." Emmeline gently pinched Hesperus' nose. "Timothy already has a mommy."

"But Timothy told us his mommy doesn't love him at all. He thinks she's not his real mommy."

Emmeline was amused by what the little boy said. "That's impossible! Alana is Timothy's real mommy."

"But that's what Timothy says." Hesperus pouted. "If you don't believe me, you can ask Timothy."

Emmeline was about to read a storybook to Hesperus when she noticed a news notification on her phone. The headline read, "Tragedy at Brookwater Maternity Hospital! Three Dead."

Brookwater Maternity Hospital? Isn't that the hospital where I gave birth to the triplets?

She continued reading the article. Her heart skipped a beat when she saw the names of the victims. The doctor and two nurses were the ones who assisted her delivery back then!

Of course, the triplets were among the countless babies they had delivered over the years.

Emmeline could not help but feel sorry for them. She wondered who could have been so cruel to murder them.

Suddenly, she heard a voice at the door.

"How are you feeling now, my son?"

Emmeline turned her head around abruptly. She saw Adrien jog into the room and fall on the bed.

"I'm sorry I'm late, my son. It's not that I didn't want to save you, but I had an accident!"

"That's not how you speak to your son. You've always been playing with fire, so it's no surprise you got burned this time. If you can't be responsible for your own actions, can I rely on you to take care of the child?"

"Emma, I..." Adrien took Emmeline's hands. "Please forgive me. I've already learned my lesson. I promise it won't happen again!"

"It won't happen again, of course. I've already saved my son, and I don't need you anymore!" Emmeline said.

"Emma!"

"Let go of me!"

Adrien did not let go. Instead, he tried to pull Emmeline closer to him.

Emmeline was about to hit him when a stern roar was heard at the door. "Let her go!"

Abel strode over, shoved Adrien aside, and hugged Emmeline tightly.

"Why are you here, Abel?" Adrien roared.

"I should ask you that!" Abel said ferociously with murderous intent in his eyes.

Adrien shuddered. "Abel, you know I had an accident that day!"

"That's what you get for messing with the wrong people at the Imperial Palace! You're lucky that you're still alive!"

"I've changed, okay?"

Chapter 99 Not a Regular Banquet

"You should've changed a long time ago!" Abel roared. "Have you ever considered Hesperus' feelings? He barely escaped death!"

"I know you saved Hesperus!" Adrien was also shouting equally loudly. "You want to tell me that my son would've died if you hadn't saved him, right? Fine, I owe you one then! Are you happy now?"

"This is ridiculous! You haven't changed at all!" Abel said coldly.

"That's enough! You two are cousins. Why are you bickering over a woman?" An icy voice was heard at the door.

Emmeline, Abel, and Adrien turned their heads. They saw Adam enter the room escorted by bodyguards.

Abel narrowed his gaze. "What do you mean, Adam?"

"I'm talking about this woman," Adam said while pointing at Emmeline. "It's your duty to save the child because he has Ryker family blood, but the woman? You shouldn't tear each other apart because of her. No man from the Ryker family is ever short of attention from women."

Abel shielded Emmeline behind him. "You're talking about yourself and Adrien, right?"

Adam scoffed. "Abel, rumor has it that you don't like being close to women, and Timothy was the result of someone's trap. I didn't expect you to be as eager as Adrien to fight over a woman!"

Abel chuckled. "Are you here just to tell me that?"

"Of course not," Adam said. "Grandfather wants to host a party to celebrate his great-grandson's recovery. I'm here to inform you two of that."

Abel and Adrien were surprised. Emmeline was surprised too.

Oscar wants to host a party to celebrate Star's recovery! That's... very sudden!

"I don't think that's a good idea. Star is still young, and it's not very prudent to host a party for him," Emmeline said.

"Are you in charge here?" Adam gazed profoundly at Emmeline before turning to speak to Abel and Adrian again. "Tomorrow night, at Ryker Mansion. Got it?"

He turned around and left. Adrien also left soon after that.

"Um... I'll bring some formal clothes for you and the children to the café," Abel said.

Emmeline nodded. "Mm. Sorry for troubling you."

Abel gently held her face with his hands, planted a kiss on her forehead, and left the room.

Emmeline pressed her lips together to hide her embarrassment, even though no one was looking at her.

She sent a message to Benjamin on her phone.

A while later, Benjamin arrived at the ward with a fresh fruit cake.

"If you have anything to tell me, you can tell me through the phone, right?" Emmeline said as she took the cake from Benjamin.

"Don't worry. The Ryker family knows that I'm here on Ethan's behalf," Benjamin said.

"I still don't think it's appropriate," Emmeline said. "The Adelmar Group will be affected if my identity is exposed!"

"They wouldn't think the incident is related to Mr. Adelmar. If it comes to it, I'll just admit I'm your secret admirer. They wouldn't think too much about it!" Benjamin said.

"Benjamin! I know you've been waiting to say that!" Emmeline said angrily.

"Shh! Star is sleeping! Careful you don't wake him up!" Benjamin smiled and whispered.

"Anyway, back to serious business. I think there's more to the party than meets the eye," Emmeline said.

"I gave some thought about that. I'll bring Ethan and a few bodyguards along with me. We'll be there to give Star a present. You don't have to worry."

"Daisy, too," Emmeline said. "I'll let her keep an eye on Star."

"Mm. Abel will also protect you. There shouldn't be anything to worry about," Benjamin said.

"Troubles never left me ever since I was involved with the Ryker family, but I can't keep myself away either," Emmeline said.

"At least Star is okay now. If you want to extricate yourself completely, I'll be waiting for you at the Adelmar Group."

"It's not the time yet. I'll have to wait and see," Emmeline said.

Benjamin walked up to Emmeline and gazed at her. "Emma, have you really fallen in love with Abel?"

Chapter 100 This One Is for Daddy

Emmeline did not say anything, but her red face told Benjamin everything that needed to be said.

"Don't forget what Mr. Adelmar told you," Benjamin reminded her. "He and Mr. Ryker were..."

Emmeline nodded. "I know. I never forgot Master's words."

"I'll be leaving then. Someone will deliver formal clothes for you and the children to the café."

"No!" Emmeline blurted.

Benjamin stared at her.

"I mean... Abel has already made preparations," Emmeline explained bashfully.

Benjamin was silent for a few seconds before nodding and saying, "Alright then."

The next morning, Emmeline went to settle the discharge paperwork for Hesperus.

Everyone from Meriwether Mansion, other than Adam, was present.

Abel had been there since early in the morning.

Adrien was hostile. "Abel, I'm very grateful that you saved my son, but whatever happens after that is none of your business. You should return to your office."

"Don't leave, Daddy!" Hesperus desperately clung to Abel's hand.

"I'm your daddy, Star!" Adrien crouched to the boy's eye level. "This man is your uncle."

"He's not my uncle." Hesperus pouted and shook his head. "Sun, Moon, and I want him to be our daddy."

Adrien was about to throw a tantrum when Julianna came to Hesperus and spoke gently, "Be a good boy and follow your granny home. Sun and Moon are waiting for you."

"But I want to be with Mommy." Hesperus looked at Julianna with his puppy eyes.

"Mommy, you haven't spent any time with Sun and Moon lately because you're in the hospital with me. Why don't you ask Granny to let them come home with us?"

"No way!" Julianna said angrily. "You will return to the Ryker family!"

"I don't wanna!" Hesperus reached out to Emmeline. "I don't want to leave you, Mommy!"

Emmeline hugged Hesperus and kissed his cheek. "Don't worry, Star. No one will take you away from me. You're all my children, and I'll always be by your side."

"But Granny said..."

"No one wants to separate you and your mommy," Julianna said. "My home is your home too, isn't it? It's very normal for you to stay over at your granny's house. Isn't that so, Emmeline?"

Julianna turned her head to gaze at Emmeline authoritatively, though Emmeline could see that she was also begging her.

Emmeline smiled and nodded. "That makes sense. You don't have to worry, Star. Your Grandpa and Granny love you very much."

"Okay then." Hesperus nodded.

"I'll carry you." Adrien reached out to take Hesperus from the bed.

"No!" Hesperus turned and faced Abel. "I want this Daddy to carry me."

Abel picked Hesperus up, which caused Adrien's expression to drop.

"Must you always fight with me, Abel?"

"The child chose me."

"That's enough." Landen did not want them to argue again. "The party will be at Ryker Mansion, and the kids will be there in the evening anyway. It doesn't matter who carries the boy."

"I'll bring the kids home with me," Emmeline said. "I'll dress them up, so they can be at their best when they meet their great-grandfather."

"Okay." Landen nodded and said to Adrien, "Fetch Sun and Moon from our home and bring them to Emmeline's house. After she's done grooming them, you can send them to Ryker Mansion."

"Yes, Father!" Adrien agreed to it without showing any hesitation.

Landen turned to speak to Emmeline authoritatively, "Does this arrangement satisfy you?"

Emmeline smiled and said, "It's a good plan. I agree with it."

Both of them were thinking, No one can take my sons (grandsons) away from me!

Not long after Emmeline and Hesperus returned to the café, Adrien brought Helios and Endymion over.

The triplets were finally reunited once more.

In the afternoon, Emmeline helped the boys take baths and dressed them in the tuxedos Abel had brought them.

"Wow, Ms. Louise! They look so handsome! They're like the sun, moon, and stars in the sky!" Daisy exclaimed.

Chapter 101 Little Brats

Emmeline was also happy as she looked at her cute and handsome sons.

A year ago, she had returned to Struyria under an assumed identity to search for her sons' father. All that effort finally paid off.

No matter who the father was, Hesperus was finally cured.

Now that I've gotten what I came back for, I can go wherever I want, and no one can do anything about it! Hahaha!

I still have Abel to thank though.

While Emmeline was thinking about what to do next, Adrien arrived at the café.

Tears welled up in his eyes when he noticed the three cute children.

He went up and took Emmeline's hands. "Emmeline, won't you give me a chance? I'll stop all my bad habits, and I'll be a good father to the children and... a good husband."

Emmeline pulled his hands away and smiled. "I told you before. You were no use when I had to save Hesperus, so you have no use to me now. Mind your manners, Mr. Ryker."

"But I'll protect you," Adrien said. "I'm also a shareholder of Ryker Group. I'll ensure a life of luxury for you and your children. It's much better than selling coffee, right? That must be hard work."

"Heheh. Selling coffee isn't hard work. I quite enjoy it, actually," Emmeline said with a smile.

"Wouldn't it be better to be my wife? I'll make you the most envied woman in the entire Struyria."

"Do you even hear what you're saying?" Someone chuckled behind them.

Adrien turned around and saw Abel leaning against the door frame.

Abel was dressed in a low-profile yet extravagant black suit. His tall frame and icy demeanor gave him an air of royalty, and that made Adrien feel inferior.

He knew he could never catch up to Abel.

Grandfather is right. Abel is indeed the chosen one.

Even though Adrien felt defeated, that did not stop him from taking a dig at his cousin. "Abel, why do I see you everywhere?"

Abel scoffed. "Hmph, I'm renting a room here. What do you think?"

It was then that Adrien remembered it was indeed the case.

He finally understood it was not because Abel wanted some peace and quiet. Instead, Abel wanted to be closer to Emmeline!

"Heh, I didn't expect you to be so relentless when you want to go after the woman you love!"

"That's because I'm serious about this, and you're only treating it like a game! It won't be the same, of course." Abel did not hesitate to mock Adrien.

Adrien was embarrassed. He shot a glance at Emmeline.

"I don't really care which woman you're going after, Abel, but... can you stay away from mine?"

"You mean Emma?"

"Who else?"

"I know you have at least eight women you sleep with!"

"But only Emmeline gave birth to my children!"

"So what about it?" Abel strode up to Emmeline and hugged her waist. "As long as Emma doesn't marry you, I have the right and freedom to woo her!"

"Don't you think you've gone overboard this time, Abel?"

"So?" Abel smirked regally.

Emmeline lifted her head and looked at Abel.

Abel sounded serious, but she was not moved. He still had a long way to go to claim her heart.

"It's about time," Abel said to Emmeline. "GO and get changed. I'll take you to Ryker Mansion."

"Mommy! Mommy!" The triplets called out to Emmeline. "You have to do your best.

Daddy, you have to do your best too!"

"Hey! Who are you calling Daddy?" Adrien shouted.

"The one who donated bone marrow, of course!" Hesperus giggled.

"That's right! According to our investigations, you failed as a father!" Moon said.

"You've been eliminated!" Sun said.

Adrien was furious, but he had nowhere to release his anger.

"You know how rowdy kids can get sometimes," Abel said. "Why don't you leave them to me?"

"Hmph! You... You... Argh!" Adrien left the scene angrily.

He was not going to lose his temper over those unruly children!

Chapter 102 He's Here

"Yay!" The triplets cheered. "The Big Bad Wolf is gone. We can live with Mommy and Daddy now!"

"A happy ending!"

"Three cheers to Mommy and Daddy!"

Emmeline was also very happy. She bent down and picked up Sun, while Abel picked up Moon and Star.

However, something still bothered Emmeline. "Do you think your grandfather might have some ulterior motive for hosting this party?"

"I think Grandfather genuinely wants to celebrate his great-grandson's recovery, but I can't say the same for Adam."

"Adam?" Emmeline did not understand. "I don't think we have a grudge against each other."

"Don't forget he's Adrien's elder brother. Also, he was the one who suggested the idea of the party to Grandfather."

Emmeline nodded. "I see. That makes sense."

"We don't have to go if you don't feel like going. I can make up an excuse," Abel said.

Emmeline smiled. "It's fine. If someone wants to target us, the best solution isn't to hide but to face them head-on so they'll give up. We have to go!"

"I'll make sure you and the triplets will be safe. You have nothing to worry about," Abel said.

Emmeline smiled warmly. She put Sun down and said, "I'll go upstairs and get changed."

"Mm."

"Take your time, Mommy. We want you to look your best!" the triplets said.

"That's right. Daddy doesn't mind waiting!" Abel said jokingly.

"I'm not going to spend hours in front of the vanity!" Emmeline said.

In her bedroom, she admired the wine-red evening gown that Abel brought over.

She thought for a moment and decided to wear a bodysuit beneath the gown. In case she had to fight, her skin would not be exposed.

After that, she stored several special steel needles in her handbag.

After everyone was ready, Luca and Daisy sat the triplets on the car seats in the Rolls-Royce. Abel and Emmeline, on the other hand, rode in Abel's Rolls-Royce Ghost.

As soon as Abel started the ignition, his phone began to ring.

The call was from Alana.

Abel grunted softly and rejected the call.

The phone continued to ring again.

Abel answered the call impatiently. "What's wrong, Alana?"

"Mr. Ryker, Grandfather said you have to come and pick me up," Alana said gently.

Abel did not say anything. Grandfather wouldn't bother to care who picks Alana up.

"Grandfather said I'm bearing your child. If you don't pick me up, no one else can!"

"Mm. Wait for me," Abel said murderously.

Just wait, Alana Lane!

Emmeline turned her head to look out of the window.

She believed to a certain extent what Abel said, that Alana's pregnancy had nothing to do with him.

However, before the truth surfaced, she could not help but feel uneasy about it.

"Go to the Lane residence!" Abel ordered the driver.

The Rolls-Royce Ghost stopped in front of the Lane residence.

The front gates were open, but Abel said to the driver, "Wait here. Let her come out on her own."

The driver turned off the ignition.

"I'll take a smoke," Abel said to Emmeline.

Emmeline nodded.

Emmeline's collarbones were visible under her wine-red evening gown. Abel was aroused, but he got out of the car and lit up a cigarette.

Alana was overjoyed when she saw Abel's car come down the road.

That arrogant man is finally here! Looks like Adam managed to convince Grandfather!

Of course. Adam nearly became the CEO of Ryker Group. It's no surprise Grandfather listens to him

Soon after that, Alana saw the vehicle parked in front of her residence, despite the gates being already open.

Then, she saw Abel get out of the car and light up a cigarette.

Her face instantly sank.

Chapter 103 I'm Not Doing It

It was obvious Abel did not intend to pick her up at the door!

However, his car was already at the Lane residence, which was what Oscar wanted him to do.

Alana was furious. She was in a dilemma about whether to go downstairs by herself.

She thought for a moment before running to the stairs and pretending to land on the wrong side of her foot.

"Ouch! I sprained my ankle! It hurts!"

"Ms. Alana! What happened?" The servant came running toward her.

Alana rubbed her foot. "Go and tell Mr. Ryker that I sprained my ankle. Ask him to come and help me."

The servant went out of the door to convey the message.

Abel frowned when he heard that. He said to the driver, "Go and carry Ms. Lane here."

"What? Me?" The driver was shocked.

"I'm not doing it." Abel narrowed his gaze.

"Yes, Mr. Ryker!" The driver stepped out of the car and followed the servant into the house.

Abel leaned on the car door and smirked.

A few minutes later, Alana was seen limping out of the house. The driver followed behind her. He shrugged when he saw Abel.

Through the window, Emmeline could tell there was nothing wrong with Alana's foot.

She's really convincing though. With such talent, she should've been an actress!

Alana was unhappy. When she saw Abel leaning against the car, a smile appeared on her face.

That man is too enchanting! Under the sunlight, he looks like a god!

Other people will be so envious when they see him standing next to me at the party!

As for Emmeline, she can die in a ditch for all I care. All she deserves is Adrien, that useless playboy!

"Mr. Ryker." Alana lifted her gown and curtsied at Abel.

"Mm." Abel nodded and opened the side passenger door for her.

Alana was surprised. Shouldn't I be sitting in the back seat with him? Why am I seated next to the driver?

Alana stuck her head in curiously. She saw a beautiful woman sitting in the back seat.

"Emmeline! Why are you in Mr. Ryker's car?" Alana blurted in surprise.

"Why not?" Emmeline replied with a smile. "Mr. Ryker was supposed to only pick me up!"

"But Grandfather..."

"If you're not satisfied with this arrangement, you can call him to pick you up instead."

"You!" Alana was about to blow her top.

Does Oscar even know who I am? If I called him, he'd know Adam was speaking on his behalf! But...

Alana smirked. Don't think I can't get Oscar on my side. Once I do, you'll be history, Emmeline!

"I guess I'll have to make do for now."

Alana picked up her gown and sat in the front passenger seat. She turned her head around and smiled. "We're relatives after all. I'm not going to argue about seats with you."

"You should argue about the things that are important to you," Emmeline said with a smile. "But I won't yield that easily!"

Alana was at a loss for a reply. She stopped talking, and her thick makeup did not manage to conceal the displeasure on her face.

Half an hour later, the car arrived at Ryker Mansion, which was situated halfway up a hill.

That was Oscar Ryker's residence. Security was tight.

From afar, one could see early-warning lights flashing under the gray sky.

Adam and a few others were standing in front of the sculpted bronze gates, welcoming the guests.

A silver Bentley parked next to Abel's Rolls-Royce Ghost.

The back seat door opened, and a tall young man stepped out.

"Benjamin York?" Abel frowned. "Why is he here?"

Another man stepped out of the side passenger seat and stood next to Benjamin.

"Emma, that's your brother," Abel said.

"He's the triplets' uncle. It's not surprising that Adelmar received the invitation too," Emmeline said.

"I think Mr. York is making a big fuss over such a minor issue," Alana said mockingly. "Don't tell me he has a crush on you, Emmeline."

Chapter 104 Watch Over Your Husband

Emmeline raised her eyebrows. "I'd be happy if he does have a crush on me. It only means that I'm popular."

"Tch!" Alana scoffed jealously.

Everyone knew that Benjamin York was the most desirable bachelor in Struyria. Any woman would find it a great honor if Benjamin had a crush on them.

Alana could tell that Benjamin did not even look at her!

Abel slightly narrowed his gaze.

Benjamin would pose a huge threat if he were interested in Emmeline.

There's something more to that man than meets the eye.

The three people got out of the car. Ethan jogged to Emmeline. "Emma!"

"Ethan."

Benjamin smiled warmly at Emmeline. "We meet again, Ms. Louise."

"You're so enthusiastic, Mr. York. I didn't expect you to be interested in a child's party," Emmeline said with a smile.

"It's not really about the party," Benjamin said and flashed a knowing smile.

Emmeline also smiled at Benjamin, while Alana's face sank.

Emmeline is such a seductress!

Everyone at the scene could tell that Benjamin had a crush on Emmeline. It was not surprising that they were seen together.

Abel said nothing, though he could feel the jealousy brewing in his stomach.

"Where are the kids, Emma?" Ethan asked. "Mr. York brought them presents."

"They're with Daisy and Luca," Emmeline replied. "They should have gone in by now."

Adrien came over, dressed smartly in a suit. "The triplets are with their great-grandparents. They're waiting for you, Emmeline!"

He reached out to take Emmeline's hand, but Benjamin stepped in between them.

Adrien shifted aside to take her other hand, but Abel discreetly stood in the way.

While Adrien hesitated, Emmeline lifted her gown and stepped into the mansion.

The banquet hall was very extravagant. Guests filled every seat, and most of them were Oscar's friends.

Abel, Emmeline, and Benjamin's appearance attracted everyone's attention.

What caught the guests' eye the most was the beautiful young woman being flanked by two extraordinary men.

While they admired Emmeline's appearance, they began to whisper to each other.

"Abel Ryker, the CEO of Ryker Group, is escorting her. Is she his girlfriend?"

"No, the CEO of Adelmar Group is next to her too. Who is she?"

"Don't tell me you don't know her!" Alana said to the woman next to her. "That's Emmeline Louise, the loose woman who gave birth to a set of triplets for Adrien Ryker! Five years ago, she's the epicenter of a scandal!"

"Oh, so that's her! No wonder she looks familiar."

"Why would Emmeline be standing next to Abel? There's also Mr. York from the Adelmar Group!"

"If she's loose enough to have babies for Adrien, it wouldn't be a surprise to see her with other men!" Alana said with a smirk. "You'd better keep a close eye on your husbands. They might be her next target!"

"That makes sense!" The woman quickly went over to chat with her friend, and the gossip began to spread around the hall.

"Heh!" Alana grinned smugly and went away.

She had achieved her goal. She kept her distance from the gossips in case Abel noticed her with them.

It did not take too long before many people in the hall started pointing at Emmeline and talking about her.

"So that woman is the father of Adrien Ryker's sons!"

"Why is she with Abel Ryker then? Doesn't she know how to keep her legs shut?"

"There's also Mr. York from Adelmar Group too!"

"Tsk tsk, I wonder who hasn't she slept with?"

Alana was sipping some red wine when the rumors got back to her. She could not stop grinning.

Hear that, Emmeline? Don't you feel humiliated now?

Emmeline was not bothered.

She could tell Alana was behind it, and she was not going to lose her cool over something so trivial.

However, the rumors were getting annoying.

Emmeline took a glass of red wine and inserted herself into a conversation among several middle-aged women.

"Don't you have anything better to do?"

Chapter 105 Is Your Husband Handsome?

The women clammed up when they saw Emmeline.

One of the women spoke up first. "We're discussing how to stop you from seducing our husbands!"

"Is your husband handsome?"

"..." The woman was at a loss for a reply.

"Hahaha!" The other women laughed at her. "Her husband is thin like a stick and balding!"

"How about your husbands? Are they handsome?" Emmeline's gaze swept over the other women.

"..." The other women also did not say anything.

Their husbands were either fat or bald. None of them could be considered handsome.

"If that's the case, why are you worried then?" Emmeline chuckled. "Do you think I'm like you all? I'm not willing to sleep with pigs!"

The women turned red-faced. Another woman said, "Well, at least we're not seducing men!"

Emmeline splashed the glass of wine on her face. "Did you see me seducing anyone?"

"You came in with Mr. Ryker and Mr. York, right? Didn't you seduce them?"

"Oh, those two?" Emmeline said with a smile. "I'm sure your family has businesses in Struyria, and all of you look up to Ryker Group and Adelmar Group. If you think you have too much money, I can ask them to bankrupt you!"

The women scattered immediately.

They did not want to get into trouble because of what they said!

Clap! Clap! Adam walked toward Emmeline while dramatically clapping his hands.

"Pardon me for causing a scene, Mr. Ryker," Emmeline said coldly.

"You're very interesting." Adam narrowed his gaze.

"Really?" Emmeline lifted her chin. "I haven't thanked you for setting up this trap."

"Hahaha! You're overthinking. There's nothing else to tonight's party!"

"That would be the best." Emmeline stepped in front of Adam and flashed him a charming yet threatening smile. "I wouldn't want any of us to regret our decisions!"

"Really?" Adam suddenly reached out to touch her. "You have a stray strand of hair, Ms. Louise."

Emmeline pushed his hand away, and they exchanged several moves in a split second.

"No wonder Abel is head over heels for you. You are indeed extraordinary," Adam said.

"Where are my sons? I hope they're safe," Emmeline said.

"I can't be bothered to lie to you. They're over there!" Adam pointed in a direction with his chin.

Emmeline turned her head around and saw Oscar, dressed in a suit, with the triplets and Timothy next to him.

The guests cheered and lifted their glasses at them.

Oscar announced, "Tonight, we are gathered here to celebrate my great-grandchildren! Please shower them with your blessings!"

The guests turned their admiring gazes toward the four angelic boys.

The boys were dressed in the same tuxedo and had the same hairstyle. They looked like a mini-sized version of Abel.

However, the guests heard that only one of them was Abel's son. The other three were Adrien's.

But that can't be... all of them look like they're from the same mother!

Rosaline was not happy about it, but she had no other choice.

According to the DNA test report, Timothy was Alana's son.

Julianna was very proud when she saw the triplets.

They're the pride of our family!

Oscar said, "My great-grandsons are Adrien and Abel's children. Their mothers are..."

Alana lifted her chin. What Oscar would say next would cement her position in the Ryker family,

She was the woman destined to be Abel's wife, and Emmeline would have to marry Adrien!

"Let me do it," Adam said. "I'll get the children to stand in front of their parents so everyone can have a clearer picture."

Adrien immediately followed up and waved at the guests. "I'm Adrien! Emmeline and I are the parents of the triplets!"

Chapter 106 Walked Into a Trap

"Woo! Way to go, Adrien!" Some people in the hall shouted.

Undoubtedly, they were good friends of Adrien.

However, that led the way to more cheers from the guests.

"You're so lucky, Adrien! You scored a hat trick on your first shot!"

"You're awesome, Adrien!"

Adrien was feeling very smug about it. He crouched and hugged the triplets in his arms.

The triplets shuddered, but Adrien held them even more tightly.

Alana walked elegantly up to Timothy and gently clasped his shoulders. "Good evening, everyone! I'm Alana Lane. I gave birth to Abel's son, Timothy Ryker. I'll continue to bear children for him too! This one's already two months!"

She smiled blissfully while rubbing her stomach.

"Wow, she's the future heiress of the Ryker Group!"

"Ms. Lane will be Abel's future wife. I'm so jealous!"

The female guests gasped in surprise. They admired and envied Alana.

Alana was extremely gratified. It felt as though she was already the matriarch of the Ryker family.

Next were Emmeline and Abel. They looked at each other, wondering what they should do.

"Emmeline!" Someone in the crowd shouted. "You're the mother of Adrien's children, right? Why are you still hesitating?"

"The children are yours, right? Admit it!"

Alana took Emmeline's hand. "Come closer, won't you? The children are waiting!"

Sun yelled, "Mommy! I wanna leave!"

He knew his mother did not like Adrien. He did not like Adrien too, and the only thing he could think of was to leave as soon as possible.

"I wanna go home!" Moon yelled.

"Me too, Mommy!" Star waved his hands. "It's boring here!"

"Shush! You still have me!" Adrien said sternly.

"But we only want Mommy!"

"Mommy!"

Timothy was standing there, looking at Abel with teary eyes. "Daddy! Don't you want me? Why aren't you coming here?"

Abel and Emmeline exchanged glances again, and they walked over.

The former stood next to Alana, and the latter next to Adrien.

"Abel." Alana leaned her head on Abel's shoulder.

"My wife!" Adrien hugged Emmeline with his arms.

That was all there was to be said.

Emmeline realized she had fallen into Adam's trap. There were no flaws to it.

She shot a glance at Adam and realized he was smirking at her.

"Look at these families! Two loving couples and four adorable children. Is there anything else the Ryker family can ask for?" Oscar said happily.

"You're so lucky, Mr. Ryker!"

"You're a winner in life, Mr. Ryker!"

The guests cheered and clapped to congratulate Oscar.

Suddenly, the chandelier above Oscar's head exploded with a loud bang. Crystal shards fell all over the hall.

The cheers and applause stopped abruptly as the guests scattered in all directions.

"Assassins!" Adam yelled. "Protect Grandfather!"

Before the bodyguards could get into formation, several armed thugs surrounded Oscar.

Abel wanted to rush to Oscar's aid, but a thug pointed a gun at his head.

"Don't harm Grandfather!" Alana wanted to save Oscar, but she fell after a thug kicked her.

"Adam!" Oscar was furious. "Why are there assassins? What did you do?"

Adam said nothing, though his expression was sullen.

Benjamin and Daisy rushed over and picked up the four children.

"Timothy!" Rosaline snatched Timothy away from them.

Landen and Julianna wanted to take the triplets with them, but Daisy stood in their way.

Ethan and Benjamin took the triplets away.

Emmeline was confused. Isn't the trap tonight set for me? Why are they targeting Oscar?

Chapter 107 Alana Took a Bullet

There was no time to think. Emmeline lifted her gown and kicked away the gun that was pointed at Abel's head.

Abel took the opportunity and punched the assassin behind him.

"Save Grandfather!" Abel roared.

Emmeline threw several needles from her handbag to repel the assassin. She reached out to grab Oscar.

Whoosh! A bullet grazed the back of her hand.

"Emma!"

Abel pounced at Emmeline and shoved her away, putting himself in the path of danger.

"Abel!" Alana shrieked. She jumped in front of Abel.

Thud! Thud! Two bullets found their way into Alana's body, and she fell into a puddle of her blood.

"She's dead! Someone help!"

The banquet hall was in chaos, and the lights flickered. The assassins took the opportunity to retreat.

"Save me, Abel!" Alana cried out. "I don't want to die!"

Abel's mind was blank as he gawked at Alana lying in a puddle of blood.

What just happened?

I tried to shield Emmeline, but Alana shielded me instead.

"Save Alana!" Oscar was furious. "Alana saved you. Are you going to watch her die?"

"Why are you just standing there, Abel?" Adam roared. "Alana was shot! The baby isn't going to survive!"

Emmeline's face was pale. "Abel, take her to the hospital."

Abel came to his senses. He picked up Alana and yelled, "Get the car, Luca!"

Alana was curled up in Abel's embrace. She was smirking. I win this time, Abel! Those two bullets were worth it! If only Adam could think up a less painful plan though!

Meanwhile, Adam had already contacted the doctor at the emergency department. "Make it sound as serious as you can. You can even say that her heart stopped for a while!"

"Yes, Mr. Ryker!"

Emmeline felt cold as she watched Abel leave with Alana.

Everything happened so fast, she was not sure what actually transpired.

She thought there was something fishy about the entire ordeal, but she could not pinpoint any flaws.

Benjamin came over and draped his arm on Emmeline's shoulders. "Let's go, Ms. Louise."

"Where are the children?" Emmeline was trembling slightly. She leaned onto Benjamin's chest.

Benjamin rested his chin on her forehead. "They're in my car. Ethan and Daisy are taking care of them."

"But Timothy..."

"Lewis and his wife took him away," Benjamin said. "Let's go. We shouldn't stay here."

Emmeline lifted her head. "I want to go to the hospital to meet Alana."

"I'll go with you."

"Mm."

Half an hour later, Emmeline and Benjamin arrived at Ryker's Hospital.

Abel was sitting on the bench outside the emergency room with his head buried in his hands.

Luca stood next to him, and surrounding them were six bodyguards.

Abel was frowning hard. He seemed to be thinking of something but could not come up with anything.

In just an hour, he looked much haggard than before.

Emmeline felt sorry for him.

He was willing to take a bullet for her.

"Abel..."

She was about to go closer when a doctor came out of the emergency room.

"How is she?" Abel stood up abruptly. "Is Alana okay?"

The doctor shook his head grimly. "It's not looking good. She was hit by two bullets, and one of the bullets penetrated her lung."

"How did that happen? You'll have to save her no matter what. If you don't, there's no need for Ryker's Hospital to exist!"

"I understand, Mr. Ryker," the doctor said nervously. "We're getting an emergency medication dispatch from Dilophon. That should stabilize Ms. Lane's condition."

"She risked her life to save me. And she's bearing my child." Abel sounded like he was sobbing.

"We couldn't save the child. All we can do now is try our best to save the mother!" the doctor said.

"The child is... gone?" Abel said.

Chapter 108 She Won

"I'm sorry, Mr. Ryker. We did what we could."

"Then save Alana. Do whatever it takes!" Abel's eyes were bloodshot.

"Yes, Mr. Ryker!"

Luca turned his head and inadvertently noticed Emmeline, her face pale.

Her eyes were filled with tears. The baby is gone. That's an innocent life!

"Ms. Louise is here," Luca reminded Abel.

Abel turned his head and noticed Emmeline's frail figure.

"Emma," he called out softly and reached out to her.

"Abel." Tears were falling down Emmeline's face. "I'm sorry. I didn't expect this to happen. If I had known, I wouldn't have fought the assassins..."

Abel hugged her tightly and said, "Silly girl, we were all trying to save Grandfather. It's not your fault!"

"But the child is gone!" Emmeline sobbed. "It doesn't matter what we were trying to do, the child is gone!"

"I didn't want it to happen either. I don't want to marry her, but I don't want the child to die either!"

"It's all my fault... You were trying to save me."

"No, this one's on me. It has nothing to do with you." Abel smiled wryly. "I guess I owe her one now."

"You owe her? How are you going to repay her?"

"We'll see if she survives." Abel sighed. "I guess that's fate..."

He looked at Benjamin and smiled. "Mr. York, please help me send Emma home."

. . .

Emmeline did not see Abel for the next three days.

She knew he had been waiting at the hospital.

Alana's condition remained critical for three days.

Emmeline did not eat during that period.

Daisy was extremely anxious.

"You shouldn't torment yourself like that, Ms. Louise. Didn't you always say to let it go?"

"But..." Emmeline felt a lump in her throat. "Alana hasn't woken up yet, and she lost her child. If she dies, that's two lives lost. I can't help but blame myself.."

"It's not your responsibility to bear," Daisy said. "Alana wanted to save Mr. Ryker."

"But Abel put himself in danger to save me."

"You wanted to save Oscar!"

"I shouldn't have interfered!"

Daisy shook her head. "Tch. You're not the type of person who'd do nothing when seeing someone in danger!"

"But... It seems that Abel is so distant now. We fell in love at first sight, and things were progressing smoothly."

"I don't see how this affects things."

"But what if Alana dies?" Emmeline wiped her tears. "That would put a psychological barrier between us, wouldn't it?"

If she doesn't die, she'll be a physical barrier between the two of you! Daisy thought but decided not to say it.

Alana did not deserve to die after all.

Daisy only sighed.

"It doesn't matter if she dies or not. Abel and I are irrevocably affected by this incident." Emmeline sniffled. "I thought Adrien was the only obstacle, but now there's Alana."

"Sigh, I guess you two are just not meant to be," Daisy said before slapping herself. "Silly me. I'm running my mouth again!"

There was a knock at the door.

Daisy went to answer it. It was Benjamin.

"Mr. York! What brings you here at this time of the day?"

"Do I need a reason to come here? The entire Struyria knows I have a crush on Ms. Louise. No one would suspect anything!" Benjamin said.

"That makes sense." Daisy nodded.

The move was unconventional, but it allowed Benjamin to protect Emmeline publicly.

Emmeline's eyes were still bloodshot. "Benjamin, has Alana woken up?"

Benjamin nodded. "I came here to tell you that."

When she heard that, Emmeline felt hollow all of a sudden.

She had to admit she was relieved to hear the good news, but she nonetheless felt uncomfortable.

Suddenly, she felt dizzy. She had not eaten for three days, and the hunger was setting in.

Benjamin spoke to Daisy, "Ms. Louise is hungry. Make her some oatmeal."

She's finally eating! Daisy was delighted. She ran to the kitchen.

Benjamin looked at Emmeline's pale face and smiled wryly. "Looks like Alana has won this time."

Emmeline's eyes widened. "She won?"

Chapter 109 He's Mine Now

"Yes, she won. Think about it," Benjamin said.

Emmeline pondered for a moment before sighing. "It doesn't matter who wins. I'm relieved that she survived!"

"Yeah," Benjamin said. "Even if you lose Abel, you still have..."

"Mm?" Emmeline shot him a stern glare.

Benjamin whistled and swallowed the "me" that was on the tip of his tongue.

At the hospital, Abel stood in front of Alana's bed.

"Abel..." Alana moaned softly. "Don't leave me... I'm scared..."

Oscar had just left the room, and Abel was feeling exhausted.

His grandfather had told him earlier that Alana was his savior, and he had a debt of gratitude to pay.

Abel wished the bullet had killed him instead.

He would rather die than fall into Alana's trap, but he could not turn back time to stop it from happening.

"I'm here, Alana. How are you feeling?" Abel said with some difficulty.

Alana slowly opened her eyes and tried to focus on Abel next to him.

She stared at him for the next two minutes.

He looked haggard, and there was some stubble on his chin.

Has he been staying by my side?

Hahaha, I can't believe I won!

This man is out of tricks now!

Alana began to cry. "I was so scared, Abel. I thought I wouldn't wake up anymore, and I'll lose you forever. I thought I was dead..."

"I won't let you die," Abel said. "With the entire Ryker's hospital at my disposal, you can't possibly die."

"But... I'd rather die..."

Abel frowned. "What do you mean?"

"I lost our baby trying to save you. There's no more meaning to my life. Boo hoo hoo..."

Abel was speechless. What's wrong with you? Are you still trying to hold me hostage with the baby?

"I was so happy to bear a child for you once more, but why didn't you like it? You even... You even announced publicly that you never touched me. How would I become pregnant if you hadn't touched me? You made me sad. I know you said that not to make Emmeline sad, but I'm so sad. I can't believe you were so irresponsible..."

Abel frowned even harder.

Alana still insists that the child was mine. She can't be so stupid to pin that on me when she knows I didn't touch her... There must be some flaw in my thinking.

"I know I shouldn't have drugged you, but your mother kept urging me to give birth to another child for you. She wants to have more grandchildren than Julianna, so what else could I do? That was the only way I could think of..."

But you don't know I got Cristopher to deliver me a tranquilizer!

I never touched you!

Wait a second...

Abel suddenly remembered that he was in his study when Cristopher was supposed to deliver the tranquilizer to him, but Cristopher went to the bedroom instead. Alana was passed out on the bed naked...

Cristopher Reid! He must be the missing link!

Don't tell me he took the opportunity...

Murderous intent appeared in Abel's eyes.

He abruptly stood up and walked out of the room.

As soon as the door slammed, Alana smirked. "I'll be waiting for your good news, Abel!"

Luca was shocked to see Abel suddenly come out of the room. He thought Alana did not make it.

Abel gritted his teeth and said, "Get me Cristopher Reid of the biology department!"

Luca was confused. Cristopher Reid? What does anything have to do with him?

He had to follow orders anyway. In any case, it was not too much trouble because they were all at the hospital.

Luca and the bodyguard rushed to the biology department.

Chapter 110 To the Imperial Palace

Half an hour later, Abel leaned back on his chair in his private interrogation room and rested his legs on the table.

In front of him, Cristopher sat cowering on the wet floor.

He had passed out twice from the beatings, and the bodyguards splashed water on him to wake him up.

Everyone knew one would suffer a horrifying end when they fell into Abel's hands, but Cristopher did not waver from his story. He said he saw Alana lying naked and unconscious on the bed, and he could not hold back his desires...

Cristopher knew that it was better to save Alana than to confess that they had an affair.

Once Alana married Abel, she would reward him for everything he suffered today.

I'm risking my life for you, Alana!

"Ms. Lane passed out on the bed, and you know, I can't possibly resist the temptation... I took off my pants and did it there and then... Ms. Lane doesn't know anything about it. It's all my fault. She's a victim. If you have to punish someone, you can punish me..."

"My reputation suffered for so long because of you! Tell me, how do you want to die?" Abel roared angrily.

Cristopher fell to his knees. "Mr. Ryker, everyone saw you drag me away from the laboratory. It won't look good on you if I died. You wouldn't want to ruin the reputation of your family, right?"

"I can make you wish you were dead!" Abel slammed the table. "Beat him up again!"

"Mr. Ryker!" Cristopher crawled toward Abel. "If I had known you had feelings for Ms. Lane, I'd rather chop off my member than lay a finger on her! Please spare my worthless life, Mr. Ryker..."

"Who told you I had feelings for Alana?"

"Don't you?"

"Of course not!"

"Then there's no point torturing me any further, isn't it? I promise I won't do it again, alright?" Cristopher lay prostrate on the floor.

Abel smirked. "Tch, you sly fox! Luca, throw him out of Struyria and make sure I don't see him ever again!"

Abel was incredibly frustrated as he left the interrogation room.

His original plan was to wait until Alana gave birth to the child and prove to the whole of Struyria that the child was not his.

Things had gone horribly wrong. Not only had Alana saved his life, but it was also shown that Cristopher had violated Alana because of him.

She was a victim in the entire ordeal, and Abel was the reason for her suffering.

How was he going to face her from now on?

There were certain things he could not say.

He could not tell Struyria that Alana had been violated by someone else and that the baby was not his.

That would make him seem like a scumbag.

Argh! This is bullsh*t! Abel punched the wall hard.

Paint flakes fell off the whitewashed wall of the underground parking lot, and faint bits of blood could be seen where Abel had punched the wall.

"Don't hurt yourself, Mr. Ryker. You can release your anger on me," Luca said.

"How many punches can you take?" Abel asked coldly.

"... Not many!"

"Go to the Imperial Palace with me."

"The Imperial Palace?" Luca thought he had misheard.

He could never expect Abel would want to willingly go to that chaotic place.

"I want to have a drink."

"Yes, Mr. Ryker!" Luca quickly went to get the car.

Abel did not have a habit of drinking. He must be feeling incredibly frustrated now.

A drink once in a while is fine. It's better than keeping it all inside, I guess.

Abel did not request a private room at the Imperial Palace. He sat at the bar counter and ordered a glass of beer.

Luca sat next to him and watched him chug glass after glass.

Several bodyguards were patrolling behind Abel and Luca.

Two "princesses" in flamboyant clothing came over to Abel and asked, "Hey! Do you want some company? There's no charge!"

Luca frowned. "There's no charge?"