Trapped 521

Chapter 521 Walk Away

Tyler shrugged. "I'm just being honest."

Caroline glanced at the children, frustration written on her face. "Stay here and wait for me. I'll be back

soon."

The children nodded.

Caroline loosened her grip on the children's hands and approached Paige. "Let's go inside first, Paige."

Paige was nearly in tears. "I can't stand this place, Carol!"

Caroline leered at Alex. "He should feel bad, not you."

She turned away, not even looking at Evan,

Evan watched their retreating figures while Alex's eyes remained fixed on Paige. Both wore pained

expressions.

After checking in, Caroline and Paige headed upstairs.

However, the opening ceremony was in full swing downstairs, creating quite a racket.

Paige collapsed on the bed and sobbed loudly. "Alex is a liar!"

Caroline comforted Paige, stroking her back. "Maybe there's more to it than we think?"

"Why would that be?" Paige abruptly sat up, mascara streaking her face.

The sight shocked the two children.

"That's hideous!" Tyler stared at Paige in contempt.

Liora looked at Tyler in disbelief. "Why are you still bullying Godmother, Tyler?"

Tyler casually squeezed Liora's hand.

Liora realized her brother was subtly trying to improve Paige's mood.

Paige glared at Tyler. "Who are you talking about, brat?"

Tyler pointed at Paige. "The one who's crying."

Paige turned to Caroline, wiping her face. "I might strangle your son today, Caroll"

Saying that, she playfully pounced on Tyler.

+15 BONUS

Caroline felt relieved seeing the three of them playing on the bed. She approved of Tyler's tactics. Sher

didn't know how else to comfort Paige.

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door.

Caroline got up to answer it.

When she opened the door, she saw Azure standing in the hallway.

Caroline's expression turned cold. "What do you want?"

"May I ask if Ms. Watson is here? Azure asked respectfully.

The playful noises in the room ceased. Paige leaned over to see who it was, and her expression changed

upon spotting Azure.

Paige looked at her warily. "Why are you here?"

Azure nodded at Caroline and entered the room, carrying a gown.

Caroline leaned against the door, keeping an eye on Azure.

Azure stole a glance at the children. "You have lovely kids."

The children stared at her without saying a word.

Paige got

out of bed and confronted Azure with her head held high. "Spill it!"

Azure smiled. 'I'm here to clarify things on Alex's behalf."

"Why can't he do it himself?" Paige asked, displeased.

Azure explained, "He's caught up with the opening ceremony. He won't be here anytime soon."

Paige was furious. "You don't have to act like his girlfriend and defend him!"

Azure's smile faded. "Alex and I have been friends since childhood. I only recently returned to the country after studying abroad. Our relationship is purely platonic."

Paige scoffed. "Are you trying to tell me that you're inseparable?"

"No, but it's true that Alex's mother doesn't approve of you," Azure stated calmly. "If I were in your shoes,

I'd reconsider. It's tough to be in a marriage without blessings, Isn't it?"

"Are you trying to take advantage of the situation?" Paige retorted.

Chapter 522 I Won't Regret This

 "I really like Alex a lot," Azure admitted. "I'm sorry for lying to you a few days ago. Now, I must warn you

that if you intend to compete with me for Alex, you'll end up losing."

Tyler and Liora were taken aback.

'She's so bold, coming here to wage war all by herself, they thought.

Paige said, "I have no interest in competing with you. I'll gladly give him to you, especially if he's so eager!"

The children were impressed by Paige's boldness.

"Give me away?" Suddenly, Alex's voice filled the room.

The crowd turned and saw Alex and Evan at the door.

Caroline briefly locked eyes with Evan but quickly looked away, treating him like a stranger.

Evan's expression darkened, and he tightened his grip on his hands.

Paige calmly asked Alex, "What's wrong with what I said?"

Alex approached her incredulously. "Are you really willing to give me to someone else?" he asked.

Before Paige could respond, Azure interjected, "I shall take my leave, Alex."

Alex ignored her words but watched her leave.

Paige sneered. "See that? Your childhood friend is here to fight for you. What did you do to make her so

bold?"

Alex stared at Paige intensely and said sternly, "I just want to know, are you really giving me away?"

"What if I am? It's either your pre–arranged dates or your childhood friend! I'm sorry, but I can't continue

living like this!"

Alex scoffed. "When you were angry, I stood by you without hesitation. When you argued with my mother,

I chose you. Yet, now you want to leave me? Does none of that matter to you, Paige? You just don't care!"

"I don't care?" Paige burst into laughter. Then, she pointed at the door. "Alex, turn around and look at the door behind you!"

Confused by the sudden change in topic, Alex turned his head.

Seizing the opportunity, Paige kicked Alex's buttocks. "Get away from me as far as you can!"

+15 BONUS

Alex staggered a few steps before regaining his balance. He blushed in embarrassment. "You're utterly despicable, Paige!"

In a fit of rage, Alex stormed out of the room.

Evan remained silent throughout the ordeal. He glanced at Caroline and then left the room.

Caroline closed the door while Paige sat on the bed.

The two children gave Paige a thumbs up

"You're amazing, Godmother!" Liora exclaimed.

"You've changed my opinion of you!" Tyler said.

Paige didn't say anything, but she mustered a forced smile..

Caroline asked, "So you won't regret this?"

Tears welled up in Paige's eyes. She smiled at Caroline and said, I won't regret it!"

Alex punched the hallway's wall in frustration, his eyes bloodshot. "Damn it!"

Evan looked at him and advised, "Try to understand her perspective."

Alex retorted, "So you think I'm fickle too?

"How would you feel if men close to Paige showed up one after another?" Evan asked.

Alex said without thinking, "I'd beat them to death!"

Evan looked at Alex without saying anything, while Alex's expression froze suddenly.

Chapter 523 Your Children Are Adorable

Evan smirked and remarked, "Your statuses have quite the contrast from the beginning. Although she

may be carefree, she's still a woman, you know."

Alex said, "You seem to have a good understanding of women…"

Evan narrowed his eyes and asked, "What are you getting at?"

Alex smiled mischievously and quipped, "Oh, nothing much, just that you couldn't land a date with

Caroline either!"

Evan's expression instantly tensed up. "Are you trying to get yourself in trouble, Alex?"

Sensing the brewing tension, Alex quickly made a run for it..

Later that night, Paige stubbornly chose to stay in her room and sleep.

Caroline took the children downstairs to the hot spring with no other options.

After they changed into their swimwear, Caroline wrapped them in bath towels and walked out of the

changing room.

While keeping her head down to speak to the children, Caroline accidentally bumped into a man with

glasses. She stumbled back a couple of steps, looked up at him, and apologized, "I'm sorry, I wasn't

watching where I was going."

The man glanced at Caroline briefly before shifting his attention to Liora. His eyes briefly lit up, and he

asked, "Are you okay, ma'am?"

Caroline assured him, "I'm fine."

The man smiled and commented, "Your children are adorable."

Caroline pulled her children closer and said, "Thank you. If there's nothing else, I'll be on my way."

Caroline walked toward the pool, holding the children's hands, while the man followed Llora with a

sinister gleam in his eyes.

Tyler sensed the man's unusual gaze and turned to look at him.

The man quickly put on a friendly smile when he noticed Tyler's gaze, which eased the latter's

uneasiness. Tyler believed he might have been overthinking things, as the man appeared respectable.

+15 BONUS

Liora excitedly splashed around in the hot spring and even convinced the reluctant Tyler to swim with her. Afterward, she lay in Caroline's arms and expressed her delight, saying. "This place is amazing, Mommy. Can we come here again?"

Caroline lovingly caressed Liora's hair and replied, "Of course, sweetie. We'll come back."

Liora nodded enthusiastically and then licked her lips, looking up at Caroline with bright eyes. "Mommy, I'm thirsty…"

Tyler stood up and offered, "I'll get the waiter."

Concerned, Caroline said, "Stay with Liora, Ty. I'll handle it."

"It's alright. The waitress is just over there. Don't worry. I'll pay with NFC, Tyler declined and pointed to the waiter standing nearby.

Caroline nodded.

As Tyler left, Liora tugged at Caroline's hand and whispered, "Mommy, I need to use the restroom."

Caroline asked, "Can you wait until Tyler returns?"

With a pained expression, Liora replied, "I can't wait any longer."

Caroline reluctantly stood up, cradling Liora in her arms. "Alright. I'll take you to the restroom."

I

While getting up, Caroline noticed a passing waitress and called out to her, "Hi, could you please tell my

son to wait for me at the retail store?' Caroline pointed toward Tyler.

The waitress, named Sookie Waite, smiled and nodded. "Certainly, ma'am. I'll keep an eye on your son."

Caroline nodded and proceeded to take Liora to the restroom.

Meanwhile, Tyler encountered Sookie after buying water.

Sookie informed him, "Young man, please wait for your mom here. They're in the restroom and will be

back soon."

Tyler realized it must be Liora who needed to use the restroom.

"Sure," Tyler replied.

Sookie kindly covered Tyler with a bath towel to keep him warm while he waited.

Tyler occasionally checked his phone, growing increasingly concerned when Caroline didn't return even

after 10 minutes.

Chapter 524 Someone Has Passed Out

Tyler put on a sad expression as he gazed at Sookie and said, "Miss, can you please help me find my mom in the restroom?"

Sookie couldn't bear to see Tyler's plea, so she nodded and led him to the restroom.

At the restroom door, Tyler requested, 'Miss, could you please check on my mom inside?"

Sookie replied, "Of course."

Tyler waited nervously outside while Sookie rushed into the restroom with a worried look on her face.

After a brief moment, she dashed out of the restroom in a panic and spoke into her walkie–talkie. "Sir,

there's someone unconscious in the south side hot spring restroom!"

Panic–stricken, Tyler hurriedly entered the women's restroom. He discarded his drink and quickly located

Caroline, unconscious.

"Mommy"" Tyler called out, but there was no response.

Worried, he checked Caroline's breathing and felt relieved when he confirmed she was still alive.

However, his relief was short–lived.

'Wait, where's Lia?! Tyler wondered.

He swiftly checked the other bathroom stalls, but Liora was nowhere to be found.

Sookie entered the restroom and tried to reassure him, "Calm down, young man. Our manager is on the

way with help."

Tyler suddenly recalled the man he had encountered earlier, the one with the unsettling gaze.

"That man's a pervert! Tyler thought, shivering at the memory.

His heart raced as he dialed Evan's number.

Once Evan answered, Tyler urgently said, "Save Lia!"

There was a brief silence before Evan asked, "What happened?"

Tyler quickly recounted the incident, all the while making his way back to the lobby.

"Mommy is in the south restroom! I need a laptop! Can you bring one to Mommy's room?" Tyler
requested.

"I'll arrange for it immediately, Evan assured him.

www

+15 BONUS

Tyler quickly exited the restroom and headed to the lobby, his urgency growing.

He needed a laptop–now!

While on his way to the elevator to the eighth floor, Tyler called Paige and instructed her to open the door.

Paige was already waiting by the tim

was already waiting by the time he reached the room, rubbing her sleepy eyes

"Ty, why are you back so soon?" she asked, surprised.

Tyler replied, "I believe someone has incapacitated Mommy, and Lia is missing."

"Incapacitated? Lia is gone?" Paige's eyes widened in shock.

Tyler was about to respond when Alex rushed up the corridor.

"I brought the laptop!" Alex exclaimed, out of breath.

Tyler took it and rushed into the room. He powered on the laptop and swiftly began working on breaking

the hotel's network security key.

Paige and Alex watched in astonishment as Tyler displayed remarkable computer skills.

Paige eventually regained her composure and told Alex, "I thought your family owned the hotel. What are

you doing here? Get someone to search for Lia!"

Alex collected himself and nodded. "Understood."

As time passed, Paige paced anxiously in the room. "How's it going, Ty? Have you cracked the code?"

Tyler's voice was chillingly composed as he focused on the rapidly scrolling codes on the laptop screen.

Shh! Not yet."

Chapter 525 Don't Be Scared

Suddenly, several video windows appeared on the screen.

Tyler fixed the location at the southern restroom, setting the time to match when he bought his drink.

Shortly after he left, he witnessed Caroline carrying Liora to the restroom

A slender figure wrapped in a bath towel entered the restroom not long after,

Paige pointed at the person while staring at the surveillance footage. "That looks like a man!"

Ignoring Paige, Tyler continued to watch the scene.

Three minutes later, the man exited the restroom with Liora, covering her face. He calmly headed in another direction as if he had carefully planned his route.

Tyler swiftly typed on the keyboard once more.

In the next moment, the footage of the man carrying Liora appeared.

Tyler glanced at the surroundings and directional signs before quickly dialing Evan's number.

Meanwhile, at the southern hot spring.

Evan arrived at the scene and noticed several staff members and hotel medical personnel gathered

around the restroom's entrance.

Evan was about to approach Caroline, who had been carried out, when his phone rang.

He answered Tyler's call.

Tyler said, "I've located the man! I'll give you the directions to find Lia."

Evan's expression darkened. "Tell me the location!"

Tyler said, "Head southeast from the restroom for 200 meters, then take a left. You'll find it near 02 Park. Please hurry! It's been almost 40 minutes since Lia was taken!"

'40 minutes…

Evan grew anxious, fearing for Liora's safety.

For some reason, he felt his heart ache at the thought of Llora crying and trembling in fear. He was

"Understood!"

+15 BONUS

Following Tyler's instructions, Evan also ordered his bodyguards to search the area.

02 Park was a vast garden adorned with forests, making it a challenging place to search.

Evan moved swiftly and carefully, monitoring his surroundings closely.

About five minutes later, he heard a cry from the left side of the forest, followed by rustling in the bushes.

Evan turned to investigate and heard a menacing voice. "Try to run, and I'll end you right now!"

"I'm sorry… I won't do it again… Please don't hurt me…"

"Stay still and behave. I promise not to harm you, alright?".

"I'll be good…"

Liora's trembling voice reached Evan's ears.

He clenched his lips, his eyes filled with determinatio

After pinpointing the location and distance, he cautiously approached the source of the rustling sounds.

He switched on his flashlight when the sounds became distinct.

The moment the light illuminated the area, he saw a naked man restraining Liora in the bushes.

Evan's gaze turned icy when he saw Liora shivering uncontrollably.

With swift precision, he stepped forward and kicked the man's chest before the man could react.

Evan channeled all his strength into the kick, sending the man tumbling away.

Immediately, he checked on Liora. "Don't be scared, Liora."

Liora burst into tears when she saw Evan.

"Daddy…" she called out with quivering, pale lips.

Evan was stunned. Before he could react, Liora stood up and threw herself into Evan's arms.

Chapter 526 Don't Worry

Liora tightly clutched Evan's shirt, burying herself in his arms. "Daddy… I want to go home," she said.

Evan felt a sharp pain in his heart, inexplicably emotional. He extended his arms, embracing Liora's

trembling body.

With a gentle expression, he assured her, "Of course. We'll go home."

Reuben and the others arrived just as Evan's voice trailed off. Seeing Evan with Liora, Reuben rushed

over, apologizing, "Sorry we're late, sir!"

Evan looked coldly at the man attempting to stand and sternly instructed, "Castrate him, then take him to

the police station."

Reuben nodded. "y

sir!"

In the hotel room.

Caroline received an intravenous drip.

Paige sat nearby, her gaze fixed on Tyler, who sat motionless in front of a laptop. Tyler's phone rang just

as she was about to offer some comforting words. He quickly answered the call.

Evan's voice came through. "I found Liora, and I'm taking her to the medical office. How's Caroline?"

Anxiously, Tyler asked, "Is Lia…"

He couldn't find the words to finish his sentence.

Evan reassured, "She's fine."

Tyler lowered his head in relief, tears welling up in his eyes. "Please send her back after the doctor checks.

her. Mommy is on an intravenous drip now."

"Sure," Evan replied before hanging up the call.

Paige shared the relief. "Don't worry, Ty."

Tyler remained silent, his head lowered, visibly holding back tears.

Paige couldn't help but notice his emotional struggle. Tyler cares for his sister just like his uncle, huh…"

In the medical office.

+15 BONUS

Evan placed Liora on the bed. As he prepared to speak to the doctor, Liora clutched his shirt t tightly,

screaming and seeking refuge in his arms, "Stay, Daddy! Stay!"

Evan's body tensed slightly, his eyes filled with pity. "I'll stay."

Turning to Reuben, he instructed, "Fetch a female doctor."

Reuben nodded and left to find a female doctor.

Alex entered the room right after Reuben departed. "How is she?" he asked.

Liora trembled upon hearing Alex's voice.

Evan looked at Alex sternly. "Quiet!"

Alex was taken aback but complied with silence.

Evan gently patted Liora's back, comforting her, "It's okay. Don't be scared. Let the female doctor

examine you later, alright?"

"No!" Liora cried, clinging tightly to Evan. "You're lying to me, Daddy… I don't want to go…"

Alex's eyes widened in shock. 'Daddy? What's happening? Did Evan just become a father? And why does he seem so anxious, as if Liora is really his daughter?

Evan embraced Liora once more. "I won't leave. Let the doctor check on you, okay?"

Liora nodded, tears streaming down her face.

Soon, a female doctor arrived and conducted a cautious examination. Afterward, she reported, "There are

no signs of harassment, but she has some scratches. I'll clean her wounds."

Those in the medical office breathed a collective sigh of relief.

After Liora's wounds were tended to, Evan carried her and gently coaxed her to sleep.

Alex approached cautiously and asked softly, "What's going on?"

Chapter 527 Give Away

Evan shot Alex a quick look. "Such a nosy guy."

Feeling embarrassed, Alex rubbed his nose. "I need to ask and clarify things since this happened at my place, you know."

Evan turned his attention to Liora, who was nestled in his arms, tears streaking her face. He gently stroked her forehead and recounted the incident to Alex.

"Fuck! Where did this scumbag come from?" Alex exclaimed, anger evident in his voice as he sat down beside Evan. "And why does she call you Daddy?"

"She's confused, mistaking me for someone else. Contact Neil," Evan replied with a hint of regret.

Alex playfully nudged Evan's elbow. "You'd like her to be your daughter, huh? She's so cute, after all."

Suddenly, Evan glared at Alex. "Could you please be quiet?"

Unfazed, Alex persisted, "Could she really be your daughter, Evan? If she thought you were her father at

first, why still later? We know she's quite smart for her age!

Evan's patience wore thin. "Just get Neil!"

"Trying to give away your daughter, huh? But she called you Daddy," Alex said with a smirk.

Evan erupted in anger. "I'll say it one more time—she's Neil's daughter!"

Noticing Evan's fury, Alex wisely decided to stop joking. He left the room to call Neil.

As the door closed, Evan's gaze softened as he looked at Liora's delicate cheeks. He wondered if he and

Caroline had other children, would they have a sweet daughter like Liora?

At 11:00 p.m., Neil rushed to the medical office. He gently took Liora from Evan and said, "Thank you."

Evan stood up. "Don't mention it. Please, spend some time with her. She's been through a lot."

Neil nodded. "Yes, I'll take her to see Caroline."

Nell left with Liora, and Alex returned to the room.

Seeing Evan's crestfallen expression, he couldn't resist teasing him again. "I told you not to give her away."

Evan massaged his sore arms. "You should focus on what you're going to tell the media tomorrow rather

Alex's expression froze instantly.

+15 BONUS

Outside Caroline's hotel room.

Neil knocked on the door, holding Liora in his arms.

Paige hurriedly opened the door and was taken aback. "What brings you here?"

Neil glanced around the room with concern. "Is Carol okay?"

Paige understood the situation and stepped aside. "Come in. We need to talk.

Neil nodded and entered the room.

Tyler rushed over. "Is Lia asleep, Uncle Neil?"

Neil gently placed Liora on the bed and covered her with a blanket. "She was already asleep when I took

her from Evan "

Paige was astonished. "Has Evan been holding Lia all this time? That's unbelievable!"

"Yes. How is Carol? Neil asked, looking at Caroline on the other bed with her eyes closed.

"She was drugged and should wake up tomorrow. It's fortunate she didn't wake up earlier," Paige

explained.

Neil sat down on the bed, his expression serious. "I'll handle this matter. Keep Carol out of it."

Tyler's gaze was fixed on Liora as he spoke coldly. "We need to put that guy behind bars!"

Neil gently caressed Tyler's hair. "Ty, I have a favor to ask of you."

Chapter 528 We Can't Repay His Favor

The following morning, a viral sensation erupted on the Internet.

[Grand Hot Spring Hotel's Grand Opening Leads to Capture of Suspect]

The man's identity and his family's address became public on the Internet.

The Grand Hot Spring Hotel's reputation skyrocketed following this news release.

Numerous guests swiftly booked their rooms online, and the hotel reached full occupancy quickly.

Paige was shocked when she read the news and turned to Neil.

"Neil, are you helping to seek justice for Carol and Lia, or are you assisting in promoting Alex's hotel?" she

asked.

"It's a win–win situation, Paige. After all, Evan has invested in the hotel as well," Neil said, leaning against

the table.

Paige had an epiphany. "Oh! So, you're repaying Mr. Jordan's kindness.

Neil nodded, though his expression betrayed frustration. "He saved Lia, after all. We can't repay that favor

easily."

Paige glanced at Neil and Caroline, who was still unconscious.

She realized they acted like a family, able to distinguish their grievances and conflicts with Evan clearly.

Caroline slowly opened her eyes as Neil's voice faded. She looked around in confusion, then suddenly sat

up as if recalling something.

"Lia!"

Neil, Paige, and Tyler, who had ju

awakened, turned to her upon hearing her voice.

Neil approached Caroline. "Calm down, Carol. Lia is fine."

Caroline quickly looked past Neil and noticed Llora's scratched face. She threw off the blanket and

rushed over.

Paige intervened. "Carol, Lia is still sleeping. Don't wake her."

Caroline looked at Paige. "The man from last night…"

+15 BONUS

"He's been captured, Lia is safe. Evan saved her in time," Paige explained.

"Evan? He saved Lia?" Caroline was astonished.

Paige recounted the events of the previous day to Caroline.

Caroline's face turned pale as she listened.

She looked at Liora with sympathy and guilt. "It's my fault for not protecting Lia…"

Paige comforted her, "No one could have anticipated such a thing happening. But I am curious about how Lia only has a few scratches after being taken for so long."

Tyler chimed in. "I believe Eira's self–defense techniques helped to some extent."

Caroline gently caressed Liora's face. "If it weren't for Eira, I can't imagine what Lia would have endured last night."

'And Evan… she thought. 'How can I ever repay his immense favor?"

Later in the morning, Caroline and the others returned to Bayview Villa with Liora.

Liora developed a high fever as soon as they left the hotel, constantly calling out for her father.

Caroline called Scott after arriving at Bayview Villa, assuming Liora wanted to see him.

Scott answered the phone. "Carol."

Caroline asked, 'Is your ankle feeling better, Scott?"

Scott chuckled. "You ask me the same question every night before bed. Why the different approach now?"

Caroline blushed. "Lia has a fever, and she keeps calling out for you. Can you come?"

Scott was taken aback. "A fever? What happened?"

Caroline replied, "It's complicated to explain quickly."

"Alright, I'll be there shortly," Scott said. There were rustling sounds on the call.

Caroline added, "I'm sorry for asking you to come before you have fully recovered."

"Don't be a stranger. I'll be there in 20 minutes. And if you're feeling generous, you can make me a plate of

pasta."

Caroline chuckled. "Sure."

She remained by Liora's bedside, watching over her after ending the call.

Chapter 529 Give Yourself to Me

+15 BONUS

Liora had always enjoyed good health with very few instances of illness. However, last night's incident had left her with a high fever.

Caroline couldn't fathom what had frightened Liora so much.

Suddenly, Liora started talking in her sleep, saying. "Don't go, Daddy, don't leave me.

Caroline gently patted Liora's chest to comfort her, saying, "Don't be scared, Lia. I'm here."

Liora's mood gradually calmed, possibly due to the reassurance in Caroline's voice.

After seeing that Liora was comforted, Caroline sighed with relief. She pulled out her phone and opened her messaging app to contact Evan.

She took a moment to compose her message.

Caroline: [Il find a way to thank you for what happened last night.]

Evan promptly responded.

Evan: It's okay. Just take good care of the child.]

Caroline: [These are two separate matters]

Evan: Liora's situation is far from trivial. If you want to show your gratitude, how do you plan to do it?

Evan's response took Caroline aback. She hadn't yet figured out how to express her gratitude properly.

She knew that Liora's life would have been in danger last night without Evan. How could she ever repay

such a favor?

Caroline put down her phone and glanced at Liora. 'Should I reveal the children's true identities to Evan?

she wondered.

While she was still pondering. Caroline received another message from Evan.

Evan [If you can't think of a way to repay my favor, please don't bring this up again |

Caroline gripped her phone tightly, took a deep breath, and slowly made her decision. She knew that even

if her children's custody were at stake, they would be safer under Evan's protection than with her.

She started typing [Evan, Liora is actually your.

Just as she was about to finish her message, Paige suddenly walked in and interrupted her. "Carol *

+15 BONUS

Caroline jumped in surprise and put her phone down, asking, "What is it?"

Paige approached her and said, "Eira has prepared some food. Would you like to go downstairs and eat? I'll stay here and keep watch."

Caroline remained silent for a moment before nodding. "Sure, I'll have some food."

She got up and left the room. After closing the door, she retrieved her phone but couldn't find the courage to send the unfinished message.

Upon seeing Caroline, Eira immediately served her a bowl of hot soup and said, "Come and eat, Carol."

Caroline smiled and thanked her. "Eira, it's thanks to you that Lia is safely back with us."

Eira looked puzzled. "What do you mean?'

Caroline frowned. "Hasn't my brother told you?"

Confused, Eira scratched her head. "No, what happened?"

Caroline smiled and replied, "Never mind. Just keep teaching Ty and Lia martial arts and self–defense

techniques."

Eira giggled. "Of course! I'll make sure they can handle ten opponents on their own!"

Eira returned to the kitchen and sent a message to Neil.

Eira: [Carol thanked me! Don't worry, I didn't reveal that I know about Lias incident]

Neil: [What gift would you like? I'll get it for you.]

Eira: [Huh? Don't you already know what gift I want?]

Neil sent a sigh emoticon followed by another message.

Neil: [You're at it again.]

Eira: [Hehehe- I won't tease you anymore. You don't have to get me anything. Just give yourself to me in the future.]

After Caroline finished her meal, Scott entered the villa.

Caroline grabbed an apron and suggested, "Lia is upstairs. Maybe check on her first. I can make you some pasta."

Scott smirked and replied, "Don't tire yourself. I've already eaten."

Chapter 530 Psychological Trauma

Paige noticed both of them in the room and said, "I need to leave because I have something to attend to

this afternoon."

Caroline nodded and replied, "Alright. I won't send you downstairs then."

"Goodbye," Scott said gently.

Paige waved and exited the room.

After Paige left, Scott checked Liora's body temperature. Upon noticing her fever nearing 40°C, Scott frowned and stated, "I'll give her an injection to reduce her fever."

Caroline asked after the injection, "How long until her fever goes down?

Scott said, "If there's no inflammation, her fever should subside quickly."

Caroline nodded, and they sat together on the sofa while Scott packed his things.

Scott turned to Caroline and asked, "Can you tell me what happened now?"

Caroline sipped her juice and explained what she had learned from Paige.

Scott frowned and glanced worriedly at Liora. "I'm concerned that Liora might develop psychological

trauma from this incident."

Caroline suggested, "Wouldn't it be better if you stayed with her? She's been constantly calling out for you,

after all."

Scott's expression darkened. "Based on what you told me, Lia may not necessarily be calling out for me."

Caroline was surprised. "So, you're saying that Lia is calling out to Evan?"

"Yes. Lia has always wanted a father. She might become even more dependent on Evan after tonight's

incident," Scott explained, leaning against the sofa.

Caroline fell silent, and Scott continued to look at her. "What will you do if Lla needs her father?"

Caroline averted her gaze. "I haven't thought about it."

Scott genti

gently turned Caroline's head to face him. "Caroline, now is not the time to avoid this."

Caroline panicked and withdrew her hand from Scott's. "I don't know, but I let Lia make the choice."

Scott held Caroline's hand firmly. "You'll have to address this issue sooner or later. As Lia grows up. the

out of selfishness?"

+15 BONUS

Caroline couldn't bear the thought of Liora quarreling with her because of Evan. She was pained by Scott's words, which hit too close to home.

"There's another concern regarding Liora's psychological well–being." Scott said.

Caroline clasped her hands tightly and asked, "Are you suggesting that Lia might develop psychological trauma from this incident?"

"Yes. If she needs her father, I recommend that you and Evan work together to care for Lia," Scott suggested with a bitter smile.

Caroline looked down, struggling with her emotions. "What about you? Won't you be upset if I team up with Evan to care for Lia?" 1

"Carol, right now, the priority is the child. Our personal matters can wait," Scott said seriously.

Caroline couldn't argue but felt overwhelming guilt.

Liora didn't wake up until noon, so Scott returned to the hospital after prescribing some medicine.

Liora woke up shortly after, and her body temperature had returned to normal.

Caroline sat beside her and asked, "Are you hungry, Lia? Do you feel unwell?"

Liora looked around the room before meeting Caroline's eyes.

Her soft voice was hoarse as she whispered, "Mommy."

Caroline gently caressed her face and reassured her, "I'm here."