

The Marvelous Elijah's Return

Chapter 133-135

Chapter 133

Final Decision

A hesitant look crossed Elijah's face as he stared at the word "Mother," blinking a few times before looking behind to see Peach bareback as she shifted under the white sheet on the bed.

"Son?!" Mrs. Maxwell's voice suddenly drew Elijah's attention back to the call, and he smiled lightly at the sound of his mother's panicked cry.

"Good morning, mother." Elijah's voice was slightly hoarse from disuse and sleep, but the smile on his face never wavered.

"Elijah... Son! I have been trying to reach you for months now, and yet your phone always seems to be off... I know you have to prove something to your father, but how can you put your own mother on a blacklist?!"

"I am sorry, mother... Please forgive your son for his foolish behavior."

Silence settled on the line as Elijah looked back at his wife and then he let out, "I miss you."

"Is everything okay?" Mrs. Maxwell asked softly in return.

“Yes. Everything is fine. I just feel like I am in a better place now... I can’t talk to dad about these things.... But I think he already knows—”

“He wouldn’t let me know anything about your whereabouts or happens, and it makes me so heartbroken because I want to know, Elijah... As your mother, I would love to talk about your life and all that entails...”

“...I met a woman—” “You did?!” “Yes. And she’s the one... I woke up this morning, and thought it was time you knew about her.”

“Oh, Elijah...”

Listening to her husband’s soft voice, Peach’s lashes fluttered, knowing she had never met her mother-in-law or father-in-law before. But hearing Elijah talk to his mother about her made her feel like she was one step closer to being welcomed into their family.

“She’s sweet, a bit wild, a little reckless, but also smart and strong. She has an infectious laugh and the best sense of humor... She makes me so happy, and I couldn’t imagine having anyone better to spend my life with...” Peach heard him say and tears prickled in her eyes, not realizing she was smiling so hard that her jaw hurt. “And I thought you should know that we are planning to start a family...”

“Elijah! Honey! That’s a good thing! A great decision! Oh, mine, I am so overwhelmed right now, I don’t even have words!”

“I know,” Elijah replied, chuckling at the joy he could still hear in his mom’s voice. “Mom,” “Yes, son,”

“I was thinking, maybe... Maybe It’s time she meets you.” “Are you serious?!”

“Yes. I got a couple of things to handle this month, but next month, I think we should be in a good place for you two to meet.”

Swelling with happiness, Peach pressed her lips together, not wanting to make a sound, even though all she wanted to do was scream, "YES! YES! YES!"

"Yes! Yes! Yes, son! I would love to meet her!..." Mrs. Maxwell said, almost breathless.

After a while of listening in on the two conversations, Peach immediately squeezed her eyes shut when she heard Elijah say, "Goodbye, mom."

Once he ended the call, Elijah looked back at Peach for a long while and then headed over to the bed, laid down next to her, and kissed her back.

The moment his head hit the pillow, Peach rolled towards him and buried her face in his neck, wrapping her arm and leg around him.

"I love you..." She whispered, kissing the soft skin beneath his earlobe.

Eyes closed and head resting against hers, Elijah sighed, "Me too."

The silence in the room lasted for a couple of seconds before Elijah raised his gaze, meeting her calm stare, and said, "I will have to travel for about two days with Ryan, Matt, and Rookie, and I was thinking your mom and James could be here with you until I get back."

"Can't I come?" Peach didn't bother holding back the pleading tone in her voice.

"I would love nothing more than to do that, but it's a foreign country, and I don't know what to expect. I am not taking security because I don't want to raise others' eyes toward me. So..." Elijah trailed off, stroking his fingers through her hair.

"I can't come,"

Hmm. "

Seeing the look of disappointment on Peach's face made Elijah give her a small smile, mumbling, "I will be back by Monday or Tuesday... Okay?"

"Okay..." Peach whispered.

They lay there in each other's arms, neither saying anything for a while before Elijah let out, "Fuck!"

"What?" Peach lifted her head slightly, her eyes wide with concern.

"What's the time?"

"Huh?"

Pulling away from her, Elijah reached for his phone, turned the screen on, and blurted out, "I am going to be late."

"But it's Saturday." Peach called out after him as Elijah rushed out of bed.

"I know. But I have a meeting to attend."

"Huh?"

Watching Elijah rush into the bathroom, Peach sighed, wondering what kind of meeting her husband had in attendance, and then the door suddenly opened, and Elijah popped his head

out, letting out, "I have a shareholders meeting at Delphi Oil Co. concerning the new branch we are about to launch." "You have shares in Delphi Oil?!" Peach let out, her jaw dropped open. Not uttering a word, Elijah gave her a sheepish grin before shutting the door, leaving her staring in disbelief as it finally

dawned on her that it was an act all along... The lowlife image he had created for himself was nothing but a lie.

For a moment, Peach was numb, and then after a while, emotions came flooding through her, making her tear up as she hurriedly wore her robe before she ran to the bathroom and opened it, but then froze as she stared at Elijah's bared body.

Her lashes started fluttering uncontrollably as she stared at her husband's nudity and her face grew hot as she mumbled, "Wear something... we need to talk." Immediately recognizing the universal language that most men fear from their wives and noticing that his nakedness was the only thing keeping her from unleashing her words, Elijah gave her a dumbfounded look and mumbled, "About what?" "Wear shorts first." Peach whispered, her expression softened, and yet, she still wanted to stay mad. "Babe, I am already naked. Why can't you just say."

"Because I can't yell at you while that... That is standing up and staring at me!"

Even though he was fighting to hold it in as he watched her look away from his waist, Elijah couldn't help it and let out a small chuckle which quickly turned into giggles.

"Elijah!" Peach whined and crossed her arms.

"I am sorry," Elijah said, the smile still lingering on his lips as he struggled to keep a straight face, "It's just... You are so cute, I'm trying to fight my urges."

"Don't try to escape the inevitable," "Okay, okay, I'll wear pants..." Giving him another look, Peach nodded and waited for him to change clothes. When he finished and sat on the edge of the tub, looking up at her with seriousness, Peach cleared her throat, not angry anymore and yet still wanting an answer, "Was taking a loan from a bank to open a business a lie?... What James said before was not the truth right?"

"Yes," Elijah answered without hesitating. "The money you have spent and own... Umm, they are all yours, right?" "Yes," "Okay,"

After a brief pause, Peach turned on her heels to walk off, and Elijah took a long look at her back, letting out, "Give me a month... and I will come clean to you about everything. I won't hold anything back from you then." His words stopped Peach dead in her tracks. She knew that whatever it was Elijah hid from her, he wasn't ready to tell her. Hell, he hadn't been ready to tell her much from the very beginning, and even though, she was trying to play it off, and yet, it still hurt not to know him

like she wanted to, and she just couldn't ignore that feeling that was growing inside her.

"I want you to meet my mother, Peach..." Elijah continued after seeing that she didn't respond.

Then he got up from the bathtub, walked over to where she stood, grabbed her waist and pulled her close to his body, hugging her tightly. "I think I am ready for you to take your rightful place beside me. I want them all to know... to see that you are mine, and that time will come soon. I swear." Elijah murmured, nuzzling his nose against her neck, inhaling deeply, and closing his eyes. A small smile played on Peach's lips as she felt Elijah kiss her on the back of her neck before turning her around to face him. "Okay?" He asked as he cupped her cheeks. Leaning into his touch, Peach softly breathed, "Okay." The board room was occupied by a couple of middle-aged men, Joey, and a lady, and they all seemed impatient, except Joey.

"How long are we going to wait... the meeting should have started twenty minutes ago and we have to wait for one so-called shareholder!" Mr. Gant angrily said, leaning on the table. "Especially since all the other shareholders chose not to attend, and yet, we the board have to wait on just one!" Mr. O'Sullivan agreed with him as he also leaned back in his seat, crossing his legs and placing a hand on top of his stomach. "Why can't this damn meeting begin already?"

A frown settled on Joey's face as he glared at both men and said, "Am I invisible to you all as the founder and a shareholder of this company?!"

"We know that. That's why we are respecting your decision to wait, but how long should we wait to make a simple decision on choosing a real estate agent to make the branch building purchase from?!" Mr. Neon let out in a calm tone, watching his words.

"Well, he owns fifty-one percent of our shares, so if he says he wants to be present before we make our final decision, we are going to wait until he gets here. Are we on the same page?"

“Well... we wait then.”

Suddenly, the door opened, and Elijah walked into the board room, drawing everyone’s attention to him.

“Mr. Darius,” Florida whispered, fear showing through her gaze as she stared at Elijah.

“Sorry for my lateness,” Elijah said in a humble tone as he shut the door behind him, smiling apologetically at everyone at the table until his eyes landed on Florida.

Chapter 134

I owe you nothing

Raw shock swept across all the real estate agents’ faces as Elijah walked over to the head of the table, the only seat not occupied, and sat down. “Good morning, Mr. Darius.” Joey hastily greeted, offering him a slight nod. “Morning,” Elijah responded.

Still confused that the son-in-law of the Hayes family that is rumored to be leeching off his new wife and causing conflict between her and her family so he could be in control of her money is a major shareholder in Delphi Oil Co. and has such influence on the owner had Florida speechless for a while.

“Is he who we were waiting on?” Florida blurted out, confused and worried, slowly a sense of regret and embarrassment creeping upon her.

“You are Elijah Darius... Peach Hayes, husband... the one who just made a huge purchase from our agency...” A guy with a bald spot on his head said with a smirk.

“You are?” Elijah asked, raising an eyebrow.

“Oh, I am Zach, the CEO of Newlands Real Estate Agency.”

“I see,”

Feeling relief that his agency had a relationship with a major shareholder of the company and seeing that as an advantage for him, Zach smiled at Florida with pride in his eyes, saying, “Because of your purchase, she was able to make employee of the month and got promoted as my executive assistant... I am so glad you choose Newlands Real Estate Agency.” “I chose the house,” Elijah cut him off, his face emotionless and his eyes dull.

Zach blinked several times as realization dawned on him and then a small smile appeared on his lips as he chuckled nervously, saying, “Sorry, I don’t follow.”

“I did not choose Newlands Real Estate Agency. I chose the house. Honestly, your service was just the worst... it made my wife annoyed, which I hate, and umm... it belittled and also disrespected us, in front of others too... I would have never bought the house if I wasn’t in love with it.” Elijah explained, not even bothering to raise his voice, but somehow, the words came out harsh and cold. “Mr. Darius... 1-1-...” Florida stuttered while she tried to figure out what to say, feeling pressured by her boss’s glare. A small smile tugged on Elijah’s lips, and yet, his eyes looked uninterested as they met hers and he asked, “What? Do you also think this company is not compatible to buy the property you guys want us to purchase, now that you know that I am a shareholder here... Does my presence in this company diminish its worth, since I can not afford like some of the friends you have, as you said?” “Oh, she did what I did... judge a book by its cover before reading it.” Joey thought nervously, looking at Florida’s gaze as it darted from Elijah to him, and then to her boss. Looking back at Elijah, Florida hesitated, and before she could bring herself to say something, Elijah let out calmly, “I have wasted you all time, and let me not continue. Let’s begin the

presentation.”

“Umm... The Delta Real Agency will go first then.” Joey quickly offered.

The projector light suddenly came on, and everyone’s attention turned towards it, but the tension in the air was thicker than ever, as Elijah sat motionless, watching a guy stand from his seat and walk towards the projector screen.

“Hello everyone, I am Alexander Dreyer,” the man said while taking a deep breath.

The room was quiet as representatives from the agency took turns presenting to the shareholders and the board of directors until finally, it was Newlands Real Estate Agency turn to explain their proposal.

Nervously, Florida stood up, giving a shaky smile to Elijah, but his face remained blank and cold as he stared at her coldly.

When she tried to reach for the flash drive on the desk, her boss grabbed it, making her hands freeze in midair as he gave her the coldest glare in history.

“It’s probably best if you sit this one out?” Zach told her quietly.

“But I was the one who studied for the...” Florida tried protesting, her voice weak, but her boss gave her a don’t–you–dare look. Then when he noticed everyone glaring at them impatiently, he let out a nervous laugh and then walked over to the projector, meeting Elijah dull eyes, and immediately a sense of nervousness took over him.

“Honestly, Newlands Real Estate Agency ninety–nine percent of the time put their customer’s interest first, and though there is still that one percent chance, we are capable of giving all of our customers a hundred percent chance of a great experience with us, by eliminating the one percent from our company.” Zach said proudly as his voice became more energetic, while Florida lowered her gaze.

After his pause, silence took over the room, and then Mr. Jefferson, the head of the board of directors gave a dry cough, making the tension in the room even more noticeable.

Zach swallowed thickly and tried his hardest to remain calm and not show his nervousness, but he failed miserably.

“Are you selling us your customer’s service or a building?!” Mr. O’Sullivan mumbled, yet his voice was still audible throughout the conference room.

Seeing that Elijah's face was still blank and his expression stoic, Zach gulped once again, and then started speaking. "I am selling you a building... This building!" Plugging in the hard drive, an enormous skyscraper appeared on the screen as he explained, "It is located in a high profile location..."

His presentation was a bit longer than the others, and the board members, Joey, and the other real estate agents were growing frustrated, but Elijah was attentive, listening to every word Zach said, and not interrupting him once.

Finally, he finished, and the room went dead silent again, as everyone watched him leave for his seat.

After Zach was seated, Joey looked over at Elijah and said, "We have seen all the buildings, and

it's time for votes to go in."

"I am in love with Xander Agency's proposal. The Architecture of the building is very aesthetically pleasing, has a high level of quality, is excellent, and has many features that can improve the business and the customer's experience. I am willing to spend millions of dollars to buy this building."

Silence fell over the conference room again as people looked around, and Zach tightened his grip around the hard drive, as he fought against his rage.

"I was thinking the same thing. The location is great and the outside is spacious, making it perfect for parking and access." Joey said confidently and then looked around the room.

"Well, it seems like Mr. Darius has better judgment than I thought. I had that building in mind from the moment I saw it on the screen and thought he would choose differently." Mr. Neon stated proudly, his voice booming through the room. "But I am glad he didn't."

Once those votes were in, the rest of the board of directors immediately followed the exact lead, after all, Xander's agency did present the best building for a profitable deal.

“If that’s all, I would like to take my leave.” Elijah announced with cold authority as he began rising from the chair.

Not looking over at Zach or Florida, he turned and left the conference room, leaving behind a tense, silent room.

When he got outside, he was about to enter the car, when he heard, “Mr. Darius, please wait!”

Halting in his steps, he sighed before turning around, his cold eyes meeting the desperate orbs of Florida standing in front of him.

After hesitating and dragging the silence between them, she said softly, “Please, talk to Zach... My boss is going to think it’s because of our encounter that you didn’t choose our proposal –”

“But you are the reason.” Elijah said.

“Huh?”

“You see, I said that I love the house and that’s the reason I bought it from you. But in there, I didn’t like the building you guys presented so much—”

“So, how is that my fault?”

“In your desperate time, it’s the people you treated with respect and kindness that return the favor just for the sake of gratitude. Now, imagine if our encounter would have been different

“You were going to give the project to us?” “No. Xender agency won this fair and square. But I would have gladly make sure to speak to your boss and boost your portfolio for the future.” Elijah replied in his emotionless tone.

“Mr. Darius, I am going to lose my.” “I owe you nothing, Florida.” silence settled between them for a brief moment, and then Elijah turned around, leaving her staring at him as he got into the car.

The hotel lounge was less busy as Miss Grace sat alongside James and in the midst of Matt,

Rookie, and Ryan. They had been in such a deep conversation for so long that they didn't even see Elijah as the hotel hostess pointed him to them. Silently, he walked over to the group, and then he cleared his throat, making them turn to stare at him, a smile tugging on their lips. “Elijah, what brought you here?” Miss Grace asked him as she stood up and hugged him gently. “What do you say to you and James spending a couple of days with Peach while me and these guys take a little business trip?” Elijah asked her, smiling lightly, and then he looked at Ryan, Rookie and Matt. “Are you serious?” “Yes.”

A wide smile spread across Miss Grace's face, and she blurted out, “Of course. I would love to!”

Chapter 135

This is amazing

Silently, Ryan darted his gaze towards Elijah, then at Peach before dragging it to Miss Grace. taking it off her a second later to meet Rookie and watch Matt's face.

“Can someone check on James before he burns more than our breakfast?” Ryan finally let it out, his lips twitching into a chuckle.

“Come on, Ryan.” Miss Grace said, struggling to keep a straight face.

Suddenly, Matt cracked up, and everyone joined him, causing the sound of chuckles to echo in the dining room.

Walking through the doorway with a tray, James looked confused at the sight of them laughing, and once they noticed his presence, they all stopped abruptly, looking apologetic and almost guilty. "What's so funny?" James asked, setting the tray down next to Ryan and pulling over a chair for himself.

"Nothing," Elijah said, trying to cover his smile with a cough. "We just thought about some old memories."

Frowning, James raised an eyebrow and mumbled, "You guys are making fun of me for burning the eggs."

"Nooo... No! Of course not, James." Peach mumbled, waving her hands around wildly, and yet her face was red from holding back her laugh.

"Like husband, like wife... both terrible liars. And here I was excited to finally cook for you two."

"I miss your cooking. No one makes a mean omelet as good as yours." A faint smile crossed James' face at her words and he proudly said, "The secret ingredient is love."

"That is so cheesy," Ryan chuckled. Throwing him a hard stare, James frowned and let out, "No one ask you, Ryaaaaan."

"I miss this," Peach whispered beneath her breath. "I miss when papa's presence was with us in the motel..." But Elijah heard her and so did Miss Grace, and both of them rested their palms on the back of her hands at the same time, causing her to smile warmly.

At three o'clock, The car was ready for Elijah and the others to leave, and as Peach stood outside with her mother and James, she smiled brightly at Elijah with moist eyes.

"Hurry up and come back to me, okay?" Peach sniffed as the wind blew against her cheeks. "I promise," Elijah leaned forward and gave her a quick peck on the cheek, smiling softly. "I'll be back soon."

Silently, she beamed at him as he withdrew from her, watching him walk towards the car with Ryan, Rookie, and Matt.

“He will be back,” Miss Grace mumbled. “I know, mama.” Peach whispered, wiping away the tears with each sniff. “I know he will.” Shutting his eyes, Elijah rested back in his seat, feeling a dull ache in his heart as Dice drove off.

They reached the airport at five, and Elijah stepped out, Ryan, Matt, and Rookie meeting him at the car door.

Leaving his men, Elijah walked over to the front passenger door, staring at Dice, and he said, “Anyone threatened my wife or my mother in law life why I am gone, fuck them up.”

“Yes, boss!” Dice said with a half-smirk. With that assurance, Elijah turned away from the car and walked off with Ryan, Rookie, and Matt.

When they got into the airport terminal, the announcement sounded, calling the passengers to board the plane.

By Six thirty, Elijah was seated in the private wing with Ryan, Matt, and Rookie, and Rookie’s eyes never left his phone screen as he monitored Dr. William’s daughter-in-law’s social media. “We have boarded the plane. Don’t forget to eat and sleep properly, darling.” Elijah smiled softly as he pressed send before relaxing in his seat.

Slowly sleep started to overtake him, and he could feel his mind going into a deep slumber.

“Good morning, all passengers. We have arrived in New City. The plane will be landing in approximately fifteen minutes. Please buckle your seat belts, enjoy your flight, and thank you for flying with us.” The announcement came over the speakers.

Thirty minutes later, Elijah walked out of New City Airport with Ryan, Rookie, and Matt walking after him. “We have landed. I know you might be sleeping and won’t see this until later on, but if you are

reading it now, you need to go to sleep, and stop worrying.” Elijah absentmindedly wrote, halting in his steps.

“Boss!” Rookie voice startled him, and Elijah snapped his head to look at him, seeing that his men were far from him.

“We got us a taxi.”

“I am coming.” Shoving his phone into his jeans back pocket, he sighed and then walked over to the cab, getting into it before Rookie joined him in the back with Matt, Ryan eyeing them from the front seat.

“Where to?” The cab driver asked. “Silvershore hotel.” Rookie replied, turning his attention back to his phone. The ride was quiet, and even though the driver wanted to say something, he read the atmosphere in the car and kept his mouth shut.

It wasn't long till the cab pulled to a stop at Silvershore Hotel parking lot, and all four men exited from the cab, stretching their legs after being cramped inside for so long. A moment later, they arrived at the front desk, where a woman sat behind the desk, greeting them happily. “I made a reservation online for a suite,” Rookie said before she could greet them. Since he was the tech guy, he was the one in charge of almost everything regarding this trip, and the lady nodded, asking, “Name?”

“Rookie Daz.” He calmly replied.

Eyeing Elijah, Ryan, and Matt, the receptionist hesitated for a second before facing her computer screen and typing.

A while later, the door to suite thirteen opened, and Elijah walked inside before Matt, Ryan, and Rookie followed him in.

Finally, he pulled out his phone, and saw a message on his screen, “I am not worrying... but I have forgotten how to sleep easily without your warmth. I will just wait it out. Love you and be careful.”

“Okay, I specifically chose this hotel because Dr. Williams’s son lives just a block from here. By seven his daughter-in-law drops off his great-grandson at school and his son leaves at Eight, making the doctor the only one at home with the house help and security...” Rookie explained, drawing Elijah’s attention away from his phone. “So we are free to visit from nine to three.”

“We leave by nine then... Let’s get some sleep.” Elijah announced, dropping his phone onto the table.

A proud look crossed Dr. Jacob Williams’s face as he watched his son and his wife walk into the living room with little Dan.

“pop pop!” Dan chirped, running toward him.

Putting down his arms, Dr. Williams picked him up and held him close to him, kissing his soft forehead and cooing, “Hello, little man. Are you ready for school?!”

“Yes!!!” Dan exclaimed, grinning ear to ear. “That’s the spirit.”

“Love you, pop pop!”

A moment like this always relieved the burden of the truth that had hunted him and he couldn’t escape, and as always, he dreaded the thought of his family leaving him alone in the house, but slowly as the second turned into minutes, and to the hours, what he dreads met up to him.

“Bye, Pop-pop!” Dan shouted as his grandmother led him out of the house.

“Bye, little man!” Dr. William shouted out with a smile and an aching heart. Meeting his father’s eyes, Vance gave a small smile, saying, “I have a meeting early today, so I have to leave too.”

And just like that, the moment he dreaded the most arrived, an empty house with him alone with maids and security, and a memory that wouldn’t let him forget it.

At nine forty, a taxi stopped at the Williams gate, and Elijah got out with Ryan, Rookie, and Matt.

After paying the driver, they headed over to the gate, ringing the bell and waiting patiently.

“Who are you guys?” A voice came from the monitor.

“Is Vance William home?” Rookie responded.

“No,”

“We have an emergency, and it’s urgent! Is anyone from the family home?”

“His father,”

“Can we speak to him then?”

There was silence from the monitor for a long while before the gate slowly opened, and Elijah walked inside with his men.

Securities were standing watch, staring at them, and when Elijah’s eyes met with a particular guard, a nervous look crossed his face, staring down nervously and fidgeting.

“Please come this way,” The head of security said, drawing Elijah’s attention back to him.

Snapping himself out of the feeling of uneasiness he felt, Elijah sighed and followed the guard with his men.

With her eyes glued to the fancy chandelier, Madam Jewel was dried of sleep and full with worry as her mind ran wild with corrupt thoughts.

Suddenly the sound of her ring tone made her jump, reaching for her phone quickly and answering. "It's been a long while, Texan. What is it?" "Your grandson-in-law is here, in New city with three other guys and they are looking for Doctor Williams' son, but now, they are speaking to the doctor." Texan replied, his voice filled with urgency. Immediately, sitting up, fear washed over Madam Jewel features. Her hand grabbed the device tightly, holding it against her ear as she shouted, "Elijah is meeting Williams!... This is... this is

Pausing, her eyes darted around for a second, a smile tugging on her lips as she let out, "This is amazing!!"

