

Mighty Mom 201

Chapter 201 Teaching Lyla a Lesson

Lyla's stomach began to turn over, and she started to retch. She then looked at the man who was getting closer and hurriedly said, "Wait, wait! Do you know Andy Yard? He used to be the chief of you guys. I know him. Could you please let me go out of respect for him? I'm willing to give you any amount of money." The curly-haired man frowned deeply. "You know Andy?" "Yes, he helped me with something seven years ago, so he should recognize me."

The curly-haired man turned his head and glanced at the several men behind him before lifting the corner of his mouth into a cruel smile. "So it was you who gave him that opportunity. Do you know that, because of you, he had the opportunity to cozy up to a rich woman? Later, he had people drive us away and make us suffer until we gave him a percentage of our daily earnings. Now that we've just gotten out of his control, how dare you bring him up? Brothers, let's make her pay today!" They were all persecuted by Andy before. Hearing this, anger rose in their chests, and they surrounded Lyla at once. Lyla regretted it deeply. Sh*t! Why did I bring Andy up? "D-Don't come near me!" "Number Five, you take the video. We'll switch roles later. Make sure you get a better angle so that we can exchange for more money later." Number Five reluctantly agreed. "Number Six and Number Seven, give her the medicine!" The two men were unusually excited. Holding the medicine that the curly-haired man had just prepared, they walked toward Lyla. "Don't come near me!" Lyla was so frightened that she started picking up things from the ground and the table before throwing them at the men. Unfortunately, the men were physically strong from running around outdoors all day long, so she was caught in just a few seconds. Meanwhile in the van, the driver and the masked man closed their eyes to rest. From time to time, they looked at the clock. "Why do you think our boss is doing this?" asked the driver. The masked man drawled, "He's obviously teaching her a lesson!" The driver asked again, "I mean, why did he want us to find beggars for the job?" The masked man shrugged. "I don't know. Maybe he was too angry." Sighing, the driver said, "Our boss looks benevolent, but damn is he scary when it comes to punishing people." The masked man replied, "Are you serious? Since when had our boss been benevolent? If he were benevolent, how could his hotel become so successful?"

The driver nodded. "Yeah. Actually, he was forced into doing this. Nowadays, if you don't treat others harshly, you'd be the one who suffers. In the past few years, our boss had also suffered a lot." The masked man replied, "Yeah. Did you notice that other than having the brains to strategize well, successful people possess a kind of toughness as well? They never fear death."

The two of them chatted for a long time. Soon, someone finally came out of the house. The curly-haired man passed over the videocam and uttered, "Boss, here you go."

The masked man took it and briefly checked the footage. The clear footage caused the man's body to heat up as he watched. This woman has ended up in such a wretched state. I suppose the boss will be satisfied now. "Okay, this is for you." As he spoke, he handed over a thick envelope. "Take the money and leave this place. Don't say a word to anyone about this; otherwise, the consequences will not be something you can bear. Understand?" The curly-haired man took the envelope and said, "Yes, we understand. Boss, you may look for us again if you need anything else." The masked man was speechless. Who would look for them for no reason? "Okay, tell her to behave in the future, or I will send this video to everyone who knows her." The curly-haired man replied, "Yes, Boss. Don't worry."

The masked man took the videocam and left the beggars' rented house.

After Silas left, Camila searched the Internet, but there was no mention of anybody slandering her.

Chapter 202 Did Lyla Offend Someone?

Instead, Lyla was the one who was horribly insulted by netizens. Having found nothing, Camila decided to let it go. Since they all wanted to protect her, there was no reason for her to feel upset. When she arrived at the studio, her employees had already arrived.

They had to catch up on designing, patterning, and production this week because there were still a lot of products that needed to be customized. After all, they had promised to deliver the products as soon as possible on top of making new samples. The thought that they would be sold out just hours after the grand opening had never even crossed their minds. In hindsight, they should have prepared more products. After Camila arrived at the studio, she held a meeting and told everyone to increase their speed, but not at the expense of quality. Camila herself also worked overtime to design according to their customers' requirements. Actually, she had recruited a few talented designers, but their skills were not as good as hers. They had designs in their heads, but they were not skilled enough to deliver on paper and fabric. Hence, she had to monitor them all the time. The silver lining was that they were smart and got the hang of things quickly. They often said that the work that passed through her scrutiny seemed to have been given life. Despite the hectic schedule, the whole studio worked in a harmonious and organized way.

During the noon break, Sophia mentioned to Camila casually, "Miss Brooklyn, that Lyla Fashion Studio opposite us was closed down by authorities." Only then did Camila notice this matter. "Looks like it. What went wrong with the inspection?" Sophia answered, "This morning, I heard a street cleaner say that the fire prevention equipment in the studio did not pass inspection." Camila commented, "Our studio is fine, though. If there is any problematic equipment or wiring, just replace them in time. Also, we have to make sure everything is neat and orderly; any mess would just make us look particularly unprofessional!" "I got it. Rest assured; everything is new here since we've just opened. There won't be any problem!" Sophia stated. Camila nodded but couldn't help overthinking a little in her heart. Their fire prevention equipment did not pass inspection? This reason is too vague.

Besides, even if it's true, it can be rectified easily. Why does the entire studio need to be closed down? Did Lyla offend someone?

The next day, Lyla returned to the Brooklyn Residence. Although she had changed her clothes and her hair had been neatly combed, her sluggishness was still obvious. When Leila saw Lyla, she initially wanted to scold her, but then she noticed Lyla looking rather strange. Hence, she hurriedly asked, "What's wrong with you?" Then, she saw the traces of bruising on Lyla's neck. Suddenly, fury coursed through Leila's veins at the thought of Lyla still having the mood to get into bed with someone when the Internet was in an uproar about her. "What did you do last night?" Lyla was really exhausted. When she woke up today, she was still in that god-forsaken place, but the beggars were gone. She was tormented all night and didn't sleep at all. At this moment, she could barely keep her eyes open. "Mom, stop asking questions. Let me sleep for a while!" Leila frowned. "How are you still in the mood to sleep? Your dad has been looking for you! W-What's the matter with you? Why are you making trouble on the Internet again? Your poor dad was completely humiliated by your actions! Tell me-why are you behaving worse the older you become?"

Lyla didn't listen to her mother's scolding and went straight into her room before slamming the door shut. It was an effective way to isolate herself from Leila's nagging voice.

She collapsed on the bed at once.

As she closed her eyes, her mind was filled with the scenes of her desperate yet futile calls for help last night. There were so many of those long rods and so many disgusting men surrounding her. The dirty hands that lustfully rubbed over her body were too many to count. Dirty! I feel so dirty. Not only am I dirty, I'm also sleazy! She got up suddenly and went straight into the bathroom to turn on the shower. Then, she rubbed herself mechanically over and over again until her skin turned red. Nevertheless, she didn't even feel the pain. She used to be the second young lady of the Brooklyn Family, the young madam of Ryan Group, and a well-known fashion designer. Before Camila returned to the country, Lyla was highly regarded by all.

Why is it that I've been reduced to nothing after her return?

Chapter 203 I'll Destroy You or Die Trying

It's all thanks to Camila that I've become like this! I only uploaded a post about Camila having a child with a beggar. So what? Was I not telling the truth? She spent a night with a beggar, so she took revenge on me in the same way? Lyla's eyes were bloodshot with rage. Camila Brooklyn! I swear by my name, Lyla Brooklyn, that I will destroy you, or die trying! As for the shame you brought upon me today, I will retaliate back dozens of times over in the future.

For several days straight, Camila had been working overtime in the studio. In the beginning, her employees were still finding their feet and adapting to the new environment. Moreover, most of the new designers were unable to work independently, causing Camila to be extremely busy as she personally handled everything at the same time. She did not have the time to pick up her son from school, so Sophia helped her with it several times.

On this day, a client was in the store, and they were halfway through their discussion. It wouldn't be appropriate to send the client away at this time, so she could only listen to the latter's thoughts and ideas patiently. She winked at Sophia to signal her to go pick up South. In response to that, Sophia nodded and went out. Camila combined the client's ideas and her favorite styles before sketching out a design draft. Then, she handed it to the woman. "Miss Camidge, do you like something similar to this?" The woman was surprised. "Wow, you're quick!"

Camila explained, "This is just a sketch; it's a rough outline of the outfit. I just added some features to it according to your requirements, and then I've added some suggested elements according to my experience. You can take a look first and let me know your thoughts. I'll modify the parts you're not so keen on!" The woman held the sketch and carefully considered it. "I'm a little short, so I don't think the skirt part should be this long. It will make me look shorter."

Camila smiled and said, "Miss Camidge, I did take this into account. Your outfit design is actually a mullet style, which just means that the skirt is short in the front and long at the back. In this way, not only can it set off your elegance, but it can also lengthen the overall visual effect."

The woman was pleasantly surprised. "Oh, is that so? You're so thoughtful. By the way, I want it to look unique. Is it possible for you to add some decorative elements here?"

Camila replied, "Yes, but any embellishments should be kept to a minimum. If the dress is overly embellished, it will look overdone, and the beauty of the skirt itself will be lost!"

"Okay, then I'll leave it to you!" the woman said. Camila discussed with the woman for a long time before sending her off. Just as she straightened up, the phone in her hand rang. "Miss Camila, the teacher said that South had been picked up 20 minutes ago. Do you mind finding out who picked him up?". Hearing this, Camila was taken aback. "Didn't the teacher say who came to pick him up? Was it a

man or a woman?”

Sophia replied, “The teacher said it was a woman who wore a mask.” After hanging up, Camila pondered for a while. Could it be that Kate took South away? But she would’ve told me first, right? Although this possibility was remote, she still called Kate. “Katie, did you pick up South from school?” Kate was dumbfounded. “Huh? Pick up the child? No, I didn’t. Did you ask me to?” Camila’s heart began to pound uncontrollably. “It wasn’t you? South was picked up by someone at school. It’s okay, I’ll ask someone else.” With that, she hung up the phone. Suddenly, hundreds of bad thoughts sprung up in her mind. The more she thought about it, the more scared she felt. Holding the phone, she immediately called Silas without even thinking about it. Silas was flipping through some documents in his office at this time. Although his face was expressionless, his body exuded a terrifying pressure, as if a violent storm was brewing within him.

A few managers stood across his desk with their heads lowered, not daring to even breathe.

Chapter 204 South Was Kidnapped

“How dare you show me work of such quality?” Silas threw a folder at them. “And you’ve been preparing this for a whole week? Can’t you even do this well? Just leave if you can’t do it properly!” The managers were frightened and quickly bowed. “We can, President Nolan. Please give us another chance.”

Silas was about to say something more when the phone in his hand rang. He didn’t want to answer it, but when he saw it was from Camila, he turned his head and answered the call. In a second, his voice turned gentle. “What happened, Camila?” Camila’s anxious voice came from the phone. “Silas, South is missing. Can you help me find him?” .

Hearing this, Silas immediately sat upright. His voice rose slightly as he asked, “What did you say? Missing? Where did he go missing?” Camila replied, “He went missing at school. I asked someone to pick him up, but he was gone. The teacher said that a woman picked him up. I called Kate just now, and it wasn’t her. I suspect he’s in trouble. Silas, please help me.” Her trembling voice caused Silas to feel distressed as well. “Don’t be anxious. I’ll send someone to check the surveillance cameras. Where are you?”

“I’m at the studio.”

“Wait for me there. I’ll come and pick you up. We’ll go and check around the school together.” “Okay. Thank you, Silas!” “Don’t mention it. Don’t worry, nothing bad will happen.” Silas then turned to Xavier. “Xavier, call the police and send someone to check the surveillance cameras near the school. Do it right now!” he ordered.

Xavier answered, “Very well, President Nolan!” Silas didn’t even bother to say another word to the managers he had just scolded and hurriedly left the room.

In half an hour, he had already arrived at Camila’s studio. Looking at Camila’s panicked expression, Silas’s heart twitched in pain. He stepped forward and took her into his arms without hesitation. All he wanted to do was to offer her a little comfort and nothing else. “Don’t be afraid, alright? Everything will be okay. Let’s go to the school to find out about the situation.”

“Okay.”

Camila nodded obediently and followed Silas into the car. Then, they drove directly to the kindergarten. As soon as they got there, Sophia came up to greet them. “Miss Camila, Mr. Nolan.”

When the teacher saw Camila and Silas, she started to feel afraid and explained in a panic, “I thought you two were busy today, so you had someone else pick up the boy in advance. The woman was wearing a mask, so I couldn’t recognize her properly. As the car was the same model as usual, I thought

it was the same woman who always came to pick up the boy!”

Sophia looked at the teacher. “Every time I picked up the child, I would get out of the car and say hello to you before leaving. Today, this woman didn’t even get out of the car at all. Why did you let them go so easily?” The teacher hurriedly explained, “She asked the security to inform me that there was an urgent matter today. I thought it was you in a hurry and didn’t think much about it.” Camila knew that the woman who kidnapped the child was very cunning, but the child who went missing was her own son, so she couldn’t remain calm. When she looked at the teacher, her voice turned icy. “No matter what, I left my child here with you, so at the very least, you should have guaranteed his safety. Every time I got someone new to pick up the child, I would call you and let you know. Today, not only was it someone new who picked him up, but she had also arrived in advance. I didn’t call you to tell you about this special arrangement, so shouldn’t you have at least confirmed with me before handing the child over?”

Silas patted her shoulder comfortingly. “There, there. Don’t panic. Now is not the time to pursue whose responsibility it is. Let’s find the child first.”

He turned to the teacher. “Can we see who picked up the child through the surveillance cameras?”

The teacher hurriedly said, “We just saw the footage. It was a black car, but the woman was wearing a mask.”

Chapter 205 It Was Lyla Brooklyn

Silas ordered, “Let us watch it too!” The teacher nodded and took them to the surveillance room. Then, she asked the security guard to stop the footage at the moment when South got into the car. “It’s this car. Please take a look. Are you sure you don’t know this woman?”

Camila squinted at the screen. “This car is really the same model as Sophia’s. If I didn’t look at the license plate, I would have really thought it was hers.”

From the surveillance footage, everyone could see that South paused briefly. It was probably because someone was calling him from the car that he walked toward it. Then he got into the car, which later drove away. Silas magnified the license plate number, wrote it down, and then called Xavier to ask him to check it.

Nevertheless, he was aware that in all likelihood, it was probably useless to check the license plate number. It was highly possible that the woman had bought it from someone else, or it was just a temporary hire car. In this case, it would be troublesome to find out anything about it.

“Are there any shots of that woman?”

The teacher replied, “Only the moment when she rolled down the car window to greet me. She had her mask on then as well,” she replied as she asked the security guard to look for that particular shot. The security guard operated the footage for a long time and finally found the shot.

Although the woman in the car wore a mask and they saw only half of her face, Camila recognized it right away. “Lyla Brooklyn! It’s Lyla, that crazy woman! Why did she kidnap South?” Camila was completely panicked. Lyla didn’t look like she had been caught by someone.

She kidnapped a child who is not even seven years old. No matter how clever he is, he is still a child!

Silas calmed her down in a soft voice. “Don’t panic. I’ll send someone to look for her. South will be found soon.”

Camila was a little frustrated. “If South were here, he’d be able to find the location quickly. We’re all too slow.”

A flash of inspiration suddenly crossed Silas’s mind. Since the day of Lyla’s wedding anniversary, South had synced the location setting on both their phones. No matter where they were, they could check

each other's location using their phones.

"Did South bring his phone?" As he asked, he instinctively started tinkering with his phone. Camila broke his fluke in the next second. "I think he didn't bring it." Sure enough, Silas had also found that South's phone was located at Muse Peninsula. Camila exclaimed anxiously, "Lyla will definitely harm the child!" Silas soothed her, "Don't worry. Lyla must have had some purpose in taking South away. He will be fine until her goal is achieved." He had blurted that out without thinking. Did I say that to comfort Camila or myself? As he arranged the investigation with his phone, he dragged Camila into the car. Camila frowned. "Where are we going?" Silas answered, "Your house!"

Camila's brows furrowed. "Why are we going to my house? I have to look for my child. Even if I have to check every intersection in this city, I'll do that. Let me go."

Silas spoke anxiously, "I know that. Someone is looking into that on your behalf!"

"Then what can you find in my house?", "We're going to the Brooklyn Residence!" Hearing this, Camila seemed to have understood all of a sudden. Now that she had recognized Lyla from the footage, she figured that Lyla wouldn't ignore her mother's phone call. After figuring it out, she willingly followed Silas into the car, and the two drove directly to the Brooklyn Residence. They had just arrived when a car came up right behind them. A man with a silver mask got out of the car. Camila remembered him as one of Silas's men. He was the one who caught Robin at Ruby Palace previously. The man walked over and nodded at Silas politely. "Mr. Nolan!" After nodding in response, Silas led Camila directly through the main entrance of the Brooklyn Residence.

It had been seven years since Camila last visited this place. However, this villa was no longer how she remembered it to be. The exterior of the house seemed to have been repainted. The flowers in the courtyard had all withered, while all the furnishings in the rooms had been changed; she couldn't find any shadow of her previous life here.