

## **The secret 9**

### Chapter 9

Twenty minutes later, the car came to a slow stop at the Farwell residence.

Estella didn't want anyone to carry her. She quietly got out of the car going down slowly.

Lucian followed right behind and didn't utter a word.

The moment father and daughter entered the house, they heard someone calling Estella.

"Essie!" Aubree, who was playing on her phone in the living room, exclaimed as she looked up to see them enter the house.

The moment he saw the girl from a distance, he ran to her and hugged her. "Essie, you're finally home! How could you run away and not tell us? I had the scare of my life when you disappeared, you know that? Are you OK? Are you hurt?"

He started inspecting Estella's body to make sure she was okay.

Estella froze for a moment, as Aubree's actions took her by surprise.

But the cold gaze soon returned to the little girl's gaze as Aubree's voice continued to ring in her ear, expressing her insincere concern.

She doesn't know why I ran away? She wouldn't have run away from me if she hadn't told me that Daddy wouldn't care about me anymore.

Feeling disgusted after seeing the hypocrite's face, Estella recalled the beautiful woman she had met today.

There was a world of difference between these two women.

Estella absolutely despised Aubree's pretentious behavior.

She began to struggle and pushed away from the woman.

What's up, Essie? Stay still, okay? Let me check if you're okay.

Aubree could sense that Estella wanted to avoid her. She tightened her grip on the girl and sighed helplessly in front of Lucian.

Estella began to react more aggressively, since she was in pain.

Aubree was running out of patience.

When she punished Estella in the past, the girl trembled in fear and she didn't make a sound.

This was the first time she had defended herself!

Aubree would have been tougher if Lucian hadn't been around.

But since Lucian was there to watch her interaction, she had to be more careful not to arouse her suspicions. A hard gleam flashed in her eyes and an idea flashed through her mind. Rather than continue this tug of war, she decided to let go of Estella and fall to the ground.

Aubree then looked at Estella in disbelief. "Essie, I know you don't like me. But I'm really worried about you. How could you..."

She choked on her words as she looked at the little boy with bloodshot eyes.

Noticing Aubree lying on the ground after shedding her coat, Lucian frowned and pushed Estella away. "Essie, I know you're not happy and you can take it out on Daddy. But you can't vent your anger like that on others. It's rude, you know?"

Estella refused to admit that it was her fault, but at the same time she felt helpless.

Daddy always sides with that wicked woman!

She pulled his hand from her grasp, hugged her wrist tightly, and ran up the stairs.