

Chapter 805 Unexplained Hostility

Following Liam's slap, Ruben sustained severe injuries, coughing up blood in pain.

In agony, consumed by rage, he vehemently declared, "I'm ready to fight you to the bitter end! I'll call and let people excavate your father-in-law's grave. I'll compensate tenfold for the damages. He won't be buried peacefully here!"

Julie watched with concern. Her father had dedicated his life to the family, and if he couldn't rest peacefully after death, she'd feel immense guilt.

Moreover, relocating her father's coffin in Salem would be challenging due to the city's funeral industry, controlled by a powerful group.

Despite the Haynes family's limited influence, they could still hinder Ulises' burial in Salem if Julie and Liam continued opposing Ruben.

Not being able to bury Ulises in his hometown would be a significant loss.

Yet, in that moment, Liam tenderly grasped Julie's hand. Meeting his resolute gaze, he reassured her, "Don't fret. He

won't desecrate your father's resting place. I'll find a solution. Trust me."

Julie nodded reluctantly, her hope dwindling.

She knew Liam could resolve this issue years ago when the Hoffman family held considerable sway. But now, with Liam's recent return and diminished influence, dealing with local antagonists like the Haynes family seemed daunting.

Suddenly, a sleek black extended off-road vehicle swiftly approached them.

The vehicle made an abrupt turn and came to a steady halt just a few meters away. As the door swung open, several bodyguards and an elderly man emerged. They swiftly made their way toward Liam and the others.

The moment Ruben spotted the man, his eyes sparked with recognition, and he exclaimed, "I'm over here! Come and assist me. These individuals are causing chaos in the cemetery. Send your men to handle them and excavate the grave they had."

Julie gazed at the man, her expression somber as she recognized him. He was Bernie Marquez, the president of the Marquez Group, the primary company in Salem's funeral industry.

Bernie held the ultimate authority over the Evergreen Cemetery. He possessed the power to determine whether

Ulises could be laid to rest here or not.

Throughout the years, Bernie had effectively overseen the operations of the Evergreen Cemetery, making it the preferred burial ground for influential individuals in Salem. It stood as the top choice for the city's elite. Logically, he wouldn't permit any disturbance to graves, as it could significantly damage the cemetery's reputation within Salem.

Julie, being a business owner herself, was well aware of Bernie's close ties with the Haynes family. Despite her own standing not being highly influential, she understood that due to Bernie's respect to the Haynes family, he would likely side with Ruben in this situation.

In that moment, holding onto a flicker of hope, Julie clenched her teeth and moved forward, saying, "Mr. Marquez, you must ensure justice prevails. It's Ruben..."

Before she could complete her sentence, Bernie swiftly moved past her and delivered a forceful slap across Ruben's face.

Before Ruben could gather himself, Bernie reprimanded sharply, "Why should I heed your words? You and your family have grown so arrogant after making some money these past years. How dare you offend Mr. Hoffman!"

Ruben, touching his stinging and throbbing face, was in a state of disbelief.

Since childhood, Ruben had been close to Bernie, and rumors suggested that his aunt had been romantically involved with Bernie. There was even speculation that Ruben might be Bernie's son.

Although these rumors were not substantiated, it was evident that the bond between the two was undeniably strong.

Over time, Bernie had shown kindness to Ruben. However, the sudden shift in his behavior, turning against Ruben and hitting him, left a perplexing question as to why this abrupt change occurred.

In that moment, Ruben recalled Bernie's words and was taken aback.

Who was Mr. Hoffman? Could it be Liam?