Chapter 47

Chapter Forty-Seven Summary:

Nina finds herself trapped in the attic for over twenty hours, a punishment dealt by her husband, Andy, for using too much air freshener. This type of imprisonment has become a recurring tactic for Andy to exert control over Nina, leveraging her love for their daughter, Cecelia, to enforce compliance. Fearing for her future and that of any future children, Nina secretly gets an IUD to prevent pregnancy, a decision sparked by Andy's desire for more children. Her current predicament involves a self-inflicted pepper spray incident as a penalty for her supposed transgression.

During her confinement, Nina spots Enzo, a worker in their backyard, and inadvertently alerts him to her distress. After an exchange, Enzo attempts to intervene, offering Nina a chance at escape. Nina, however, refuses, fearing further repercussions from Andy, including harm to Cecelia or Enzo's potential deportation. Despite this, Enzo promises to break down the door if Nina's situation doesn't improve by the next morning.

Andy eventually releases Nina from the attic, maintaining a facade of kindness post-punishment, which includes bringing gifts as if to compensate for his abuses. Meanwhile, Nina and Enzo share a significant conversation, during which Nina confides the extent of Andy's torment. Enzo, incensed, vows to kill Andy, but Nina, fearing the consequences, dissuades him. Instead, Enzo suggests helping Nina leave Andy, marking the beginning of a potential plan to escape her abusive situation. This chapter sheds light on the dynamics of domestic abuse, the complexities of escape, and the fleeting moments of solidarity and hope presented through Enzo's support.