

Under the gloomy night sky, a silver sports car streaked through the roads. All the other cars hurried swerved out of the way for fear of bumping into the lunatic who was speeding a luxury car through the city center.

That lunatic was none other than Maurice.

The moment he found out that something had happened to Eliana, he immediately got into his car and raced to the company.

On the way, he kept dialing Eliana's number, only to be met with the same cold busy tone.

Maurice felt as if his heart was being grilled on a fire.

He silently prayed that Eliana could have the strength to hold on until she was found. She had to stay safe until then.

The moment Maurice arrived at the company, he saw Corbin waiting anxiously for him downstairs at the entrance of the building. Corbin had already gotten a call from Maurice earlier, asking him to get some firefighters to open the door.

Maurice got off the car and began striding towards Corbin in one swift motion. "How's it going?"

The two of them entered the building together. Inside, the space was shrouded in pitch black darkness.

"Why are the lights off?" Maurice asked anxiously.

"Mr. Moran, the building is under maintenance, so

power can't be restored for the time being. We can only get someone to launch the emergency power. But..."

Corbin paused hesitantly, going pale.

"But what?" Maurice's eyes narrowed. He could feel his heart leap to his throat.

"If we launch the emergency power, the elevator will either rise or fall rapidly. We have to get Eliana out first, but..."

"Just spit it out. What's the problem?" Maurice was skirting on the edge of losing his temper.

"Mr. Moran, we still haven't been able to identify which floor Eliana is on yet."

Corbin lowered his head, feeling guilty.

"Then let's search floor by floor."

Maurice clenched his fists and stood straight like a mountain, without the slightest hint of trembling.

Corbin had been awed by Maurice's unassailable demeanor countless time, but now, he felt like Maurice was bravely standing his ground on the edge of a cliff even though one wrong step would lead to his fall in an abyss.

Without the slightest fear or hesitation, Maurice followed the rescue team into the elevator shaft and searched floor by floor.

"Eliana! Eliana!"

She was not on this floor, nor was she on the next...

Every single time, Maurice's hopes rose only to crash back down again.

'Where on earth is Eliana? Is she hurt?'

Maurice desperately shouted her name again and again, but there was no response. In the quiet corridor, the only thing he could hear was his breath getting heavier and heavier. He felt like he had fallen into a sinkhole, grasping at a branch to hold onto.

Panic surged through Maurice like a tide, suffocating him. This was the first time in his life that he had truly felt fear. He was afraid of losing Eliana like this.

Meanwhile, in the stuffy elevator, a petite figure was curled up on the floor.

The elevator had jerked to a sudden stop and been stuck at this place ever since.

In the dark, infinite fear overwhelmed Eliana. All the news headlines about elevator accidents she had seen flooded her mind at once.

'Am I going to die here?'

At that thought, a terrible chill rose in her heart, and she hugged herself tightly.

In her wild panic, she began to make blind and disorderly conjectures. If she died, what would happen to Aileen and Adrian?

Eliana couldn't imagine how the children would react when they saw her dead body.

'No way! I can't die like this. I should at least... leave something for my loved ones.'

Eliana hadn't dared to turn on her phone before, because it was dangerously close to running out of battery, but at this moment, she finally took it out. These could be the last moments of her life. She had to hurry up and use them wisely. At the very least, she wanted to record... her last words.

"Aileen and Adrian, when you hear this recording, I might have left you. But don't be sad for too long. Remember to grow up happily and do everything you like. I won't ask you to become rich or powerful. All I want for you is to be safe, happy, and healthy. Nana, don't cry too hard. You are the one I trust most in this world. I know that you'll take good care of my two children. I will bless you all the time in heaven. And... Preston, I shouldn't have been so mean to you. You are a good man."

At this point, the battery on Eliana's phone had almost run out. There were only a few important people in Eliana's life, and she had addressed all of them...except one.

Maurice.

At the thought of him, a bittersweet feeling came over Eliana. Now, under the premise that she would die in this elevator, all the feelings that she had suppressed until now exploded to the surface.

"Maurice, I have something to tell you. I..."

Just as Eliana began speaking, a familiar voice shouted from above.

"Eliana!"

Hearing that, Eliana frowned. Was she so absorbed in her thoughts of Maurice that she was now even hearing his voice? "Eliana! I heard your voice. Save your energy. Don't talk nonsense at this time."

This time, Eliana knew that she wasn't just imagining things. Maurice was here!

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THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 282 The Scar

Eliana slowly raised her head and saw Maurice's worried face appear in the dim light of her phone.

"Maurice? Is that you?"

She squatted on the floor in a daze, fearing that what she saw at this moment was only an illusion before she drew her last breath.

"I don't know what happened. Are you here to save me?"

Eliana felt her sanity slipping away. She was startled when Maurice suddenly appeared after she murmured his name.

"It's me, Eliana. Everything's alright now. I'm here to rescue you. Can you stand up?"

Maurice stared at the pale woman in front of him, fearing that she would disappear the moment he closed his eyes.

Just a few minutes ago, Maurice and the rescue team started on the first floor and worked their way up in

search of Eliana. When they arrived on the ninth level, Maurice heard whispers from inside the elevator.

It turned out that the elevator malfunctioned and abruptly stopped between the eighth and the ninth floors!

After confirming that Eliana was stuck inside, the rescuers quickly sprang into action. They forced the emergency trap door open with great strength. Maurice peeked inside and saw Eliana curled up on the floor murmuring something.

She was still in a haze, obviously disoriented due to the stress and long period of isolation. Other than her disheveled appearance, it seemed that she was safe and sound.

Maurice finally breathed a sigh of relief.

"Eliana, give me your hand. I'll pull you out of there."

Maurice stretched out his arm towards Eliana.

The frightened girl desperately wanted to survive. She stood up on her toes and tried to grab Maurice's hand.

Just as their fingers were about to touch each other, an accident happened! One of the steel cables tied to the elevator suddenly snapped. In an instant, the elevator dropped a few feet below!

"Ah!" Eliana screamed at the top of her lungs.

"Eliana! Don't make any sudden movements and listen to my instructions. Are you injured?"

Maurice peered inside anxiously and immediately threw down the safety harness. "Here! Put this on quickly!" "I'm alright, I think."

Trembling in fear, Eliana slowly moved over and picked up the safety harness that had fallen in the elevator.

But her hands were shaking so badly that she couldn't fasten the straps of the safety harness around her body.

Suddenly, the elevator lurched downward again, causing Eliana to stumble sideways. It seemed that the remaining cables were about to snap at any moment.

Her legs were so weak that she squatted down and kept trembling.

After a series of close calls, she began to lose hope,

and her body started to fail her.

"Eliana, pull yourself together! You have to be strong!"

If it went on like this, there was no way for them to rescue her. The situation was looking grim, and they were running out of time.

Thick veins bulged on Maurice's forehead, and he didn't even notice the sweat flowing into his eyes. The woman he loved was in mortal danger, and he had to figure out a way to save her at all costs.

"Maurice, I can't do it! I'm too scared! Uh, hold on. I have an idea. Say something to me. Gossip! Yeah, tell me some gossip to distract me." Eliana closed her eyes and tried to steady her breathing.

Gossip?

How could Maurice know anything about other people's personal affairs?

But then he suddenly remembered something.

"Did you know that Wyatt and Nicole were once a couple? They were together many years ago and then broke up. Now they meet again and are trying to rekindle their romance." Without any hesitation, Maurice revealed his good friend's secret.

"Is that so? My goodness!"

Eliana was surprised that Wyatt and Nicole had such a dramatic love story. It was the last thing she expected.

She was curious to know what happened, and her attention was immediately diverted. She stopped trembling and stared straight at Maurice, noticing his eyes soften towards her.

"But I've learned something valuable from Wyatt. When I meet the right person, I need to tell her how I truly feel about her and treasure her forever."

The passionate look in Maurice's eyes affected Eliana unconsciously and lifted her spirits.

Eliana gradually calmed down and finally strapped on to the safety harness without difficulty.

Above her, all the rescue workers alongside Maurice pulled on the rope together to pull her up.

As she got hoisted higher towards freedom, Eliana fixed her eyes on Maurice's handsome face.

Finally, she was close enough to touch the man.

Once Eliana was lifted to safety, Maurice immediately pulled her to his side and held her hand.

But the exhausted woman ran out of energy and collapsed into Maurice's arms.

All her weariness disappeared once she realized what had happened. She immediately panicked and accidentally undid some of Maurice's shirt buttons. Because of the struggle, her hands ended up touching his broad chest.

The rescue workers stood nearby with their flashlights illuminating the area, but Eliana could only hear and feel Maurice's steady heartbeat. It felt like they were the only ones there.

In the dark, Eliana's other senses became more heightened to compensate for her lack of sight.

Her small hands were on Maurice's hot skin. She could still feel his heart pounding under his chest.

However, there seemed to be something wrong with Maurice's chest that immediately caught her attention.

As she traced the uneven mark with her fingertips, Eliana's eyes widened in shock.

'Wait a minute. Is this a scar? It seems to be exactly the same as the one on Preston's chest!'

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THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 283 Injured

How could Maurice have a scar on his chest? Strangely, when Eliana touched the scar, it felt exactly like Preston's.

Eliana couldn't help but touch him more to confirm her suspicion.

Maurice noticed it right away. "You just got out of an accident and now you want to flirt with a man," he teased. "What are you thinking, Eliana?"

"Maurice, why is there a scar on your chest?" Eliana asked, raising her head and looking intently at him. "Why haven't I seen it before?"

Damn it! He was far too reckless.

Maurice realized immediately that he had just exposed himself.

For the time being, he couldn't let Eliana discover his two identities.

Maurice grabbed her hands that were touching his chest.

"Maurice! Let go of me!"

Since Eliana couldn't break free from his grip, she then tried to get closer to him and see the scar on his chest clearly in the beam of the flashlight.

Suddenly, the entire building's power was restored, and the lights were turned on.

Eliana had been in the dark for quite some time. Her eyes were uncomfortable when she suddenly saw the bright light, and she closed them reflexively.

The medical staff came up to her in time and

blindfolded her eyes, freeing her from Maurice's hold.

"Miss, please close your eyes so they don't get hurt."

As she fell into darkness again, Eliana was in a panic all of a sudden. Instinctively, she wanted to be held by Maurice.

"Don't be afraid. I'm always here."

Eliana calmed down instantly as she felt her hand being gently held by a big hand, as if she had found a harbor to protect her. She felt indescribably relieved.

The ambulance drove all the way to the hospital. Eliana was soon brought to a VIP ward for a thorough examination.

Maurice had been with her the entire time.

The doctor removed her blindfold and carefully examined her.

Maurice stood by the bed and asked nervously, "How is she, doctor?"

"Don't worry, the patient is fine. She was just scared. In fact, she can now go through the discharge formalities at any time," the doctor said with a smile.

Eliana wasn't even listening to the doctor as she was preoccupied with the thoughts of Maurice's scar on his chest. As soon as her eyes adjusted to the light, she moved closer to Maurice, who was standing beside the bed, and reached out to remove his clothes.

Were young people nowadays so daring? Was he invisible in her eyes?

The doctor had never witnessed anything like this before and immediately coughed in shock.

"Ahem, we're still in the hospital. Behave yourself."

Maurice held Eliana in place with one hand. But he didn't use too much force because of her condition. He just restrained her from taking his clothes off.

His action just made Eliana more suspicious. She was so adamant that she insisted on seeing his chest with her naked eyes.

She struggled so hard that Maurice could no longer control her with one hand.

"Stop it. My hand hurts."

Maurice frowned, one hand drooping by his leg. It hadn't moved since he entered the hospital.

"You're lying! You won't fool me."

Eliana demanded to see his chest. She accidentally hit Maurice's left hand while struggling.

"Ohh..." Maurice gasped. His face twisted.

Only then did Eliana notice that Maurice's left hand was drooping abnormally as if he had lost the ability to lift it.

She stopped struggling.

Seeing this, the doctor walked forward and gently lifted Maurice's left hand. He examined it with a serious expression on his face.

Eliana couldn't help but get nervous.

"Sir, you are so reckless! Your left arm has been severely injured and may be broken. It must be treated as soon as possible. Come with me so we can get an X-ray to see what the problem is."

"I'm fine." Maurice regained his cool, but sweat dripped from his forehead.

It was the first time that the doctor had seen a patient with a bone injury, who remained calm.

If the female patient hadn't been pressing, he wouldn't have told anyone that he was in pain.

The doctor crossly took Maurice away, leaving Eliana alone on the bed.

Maurice was badly injured.

Did he get injured while saving her?

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THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 284 Was Maurice Hiding A Big Secre

Sitting on the bed inside the hospital ward, Eliana felt emptiness in her heart. She was still unsure if there indeed was a scar on Maurice's chest.

Amidst the recent events, one nagging thought never left her mind. Eliana believed that Maurice might actually be Preston.

Otherwise, how could all these coincidences be explained? Something wasn't right.

She had presumed that Maurice and Preston were one and the same. But since the two men appeared simultaneously on a previous occasion, her suspicion didn't seem possible.

However, there were still too many coincidences between them. They also had the same scar. In Eliana's mind, such details were hard to ignore.

Deeply lost in thought, Eliana's eyes wandered the room until she spotted a shiny black object on the sofa.

As she leaned forward to get a better view, a look of recognition suddenly flashed across Eliana's face. It was Maurice's phone!

He must have left in a hurry, so he forgot to take his phone with him.

It was the best chance to finally learn the truth.

Eliana's eyes immediately lit up. She leaped from the bed and hurried towards the sofa. Her fingers were mere inches away from the phone.

However, something unexpected happened. The door suddenly swung open and Corbin entered the room.

"Eliana, how are you feeling? I didn't expect you to be up and about so soon."

In an instant, Eliana withdrew her hand and put it behind her back. Wearing a wry smile on her face, she said with nonchalance, "Corbin, what a surprise! Is Maurice doing okay?"

"Oh, Mr. Moran is still being examined. He forgot to take his phone and asked me to bring it to him. Have you seen it anywhere?" Subconsciously, Eliana took a glance at the phone on the sofa. Corbin noticed her reaction and turned his head in the same direction.

"Oh, there it is."

Eliana could do nothing but helplessly watch Corbin pick up the phone from the sofa and put it into his pocket.

Seeing Eliana open her mouth but hesitate to talk, Corbin raised his eyebrows. "What is it? Is there anything you want to ask me?"

Since Corbin stayed with Maurice all the time, he certainly must be privy to his boss' private affairs.

"Corbin, do you know if Maurice is hiding a big secret from me?" Eliana asked tentatively. Her question caught Corbin off guard. He looked flustered for a moment but immediately regained his composure.

"None that I know of. You think too much."

Corbin was so good at lying that he didn't change his serious expression at all.

He turned around to leave and paused at the door.

"Eliana, if you are feeling better now, you can go back home. The VIP ward is very expensive, and the company will not reimburse the additional charges if you stay longer."

Judging from his distant tone and aloof behavior, it was clear that something was wrong.

Eliana knew deep inside that Corbin didn't tell the truth. He immediately changed the topic and asked her to return home as soon as possible.

But he did have a point. The VIP ward was too expensive for an ordinary employee like her.

The harsh reality of poverty outweighed her curiosity. She decided to investigate Maurice later on when the opportunity presented itself.

Finally, Eliana went through the discharge formalities and left the hospital.

She arrived home shortly after with a spring on her step, eager to be with her family again.

The moment Eliana walked inside the door, she went straight to the room of her two children. As she quietly observed their lovely sleeping faces, an unsettling thought entered her mind.

If something bad had happened to her today, she might never have had the chance to see her children again. It was heartbreaking.

Eliana covered her mouth to prevent herself from crying out loud.

A few seconds later, the kids woke up and rubbed their eyes. It seemed they had sensed their mother's presence.

"Mommy, you're home." Aileen yawned in a daze and greeted Eliana in a sweet voice.

It sounded so pleasant and adorable that Eliana's heart almost melted.

"Mommy, we missed you. Don't come back so late

again," Adrian scolded her with a straight face like an adult.

Embracing the two children in her arms, Eliana kissed them on the foreheads and looked at them affectionately. "Okay, I promise you that I will be home early from now on."

"Oh, I remembered something." Adrian suddenly broke free from Eliana's arms and sat up straight. "Mommy, Silas wants to come to our home in a few days to play with us. He's our good friend. Is that okay?"

"Silas is my best playmate. Mommy, please let him come over."

Aileen tugged at Eliana's arm and acted like a spoiled child.

"Of course. He's welcome here anytime." Smiling fondly, Eliana caressed the heads of her two children. "I also like Silas very much. If he wants to come and play, that's fine with me."

"Hooray!" Aileen and Adrian cheered loudly.

The three of them cuddled together and looked very happy.

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THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 285 Don't Play Such Tricks On Me

As usual, the world continued on. As if nothing had occurred, Eliana went to work the following day as

normal.

When she entered the elevator, she was greeted by Maurice's face. The white plaster on his left arm drew attention, despite his regular appearance of a straight suit and great stature.

His left arm seemed to have been severely injured.

As Eliana looked at Maurice's arm, she couldn't help feeling terribly guilty.

She was ready to approach him and inquire about his well-being when she saw Harriet walking fast towards Maurice.

Eliana's perspective had completely changed, and she had no desire to continue. She made a U-turn and walked away, feeling dejected. Harriet rushing to Maurice was the last thing she saw before she turned around.

"What happened to your arm, Mr. Moran?"

Harriet reached out to grasp Maurice's hand, her face contorted in distress.

Maurice dodged to the side, his gaze icy and piercing. "There was a power outage and maintenance yesterday night, and someone in the Design Department was aware of it. Can you explain that? Miss Stone?"

"Oh my God! Who could possibly be unaware? Did anything happen?"

Harriet maintained her innocence charade.

"Do not play such tricks on me, Harriet, I tell you.
There are repercussions that you can't afford."

Maurice had a history of cruelty and vengeance. When someone crossed his red line, he exploded into a rage that no one could control. Eliana was the crux of his case now.

"Mr. Moran, you must have misconstrued what I said. I had no idea we hadn't notified everyone about the power outage and maintenance yesterday..."

Harriet resisted the need to lash out and instead spoke apologetically.

Even though she wanted to be the hostess of the Moran Group, she had to determine whether Silas was Maurice's son before she could forward with her next plan.

Maurice then disregarded Harriet and entered the

elevator.

Due to her "excellent" connection with Cheryl previously, Eliana had already drafted numerous bracelet designs based on her preferences and submitted them to Cheryl through email.

Eliana then headed to the pantry to have a cup of coffee to revive herself.

When she pushed the coffee maker's button, nothing happened.

What was the problem?

Eliana tapped the coffee machine twice, and then a letter dropped to the floor.

The coffee machine had a problem and couldn't be used for the time being, according to the note.

Could she be having such a bad run of luck?

Eliana was at a loss as to what to do with the cup she had in her hands.

Lilian, who had been feuding with Eliana, and a group of female coworkers entered the pantry at this point, laughing and talking. Eliana's presence quickly silenced the other people.

Only Lilian grimaced, "Someone was so ignorant that she didn't even realize she couldn't use the elevator while it was out of service for repair. I have a feeling she did it deliberately. That was simply a fantastic opportunity to have Mr. Moran come to her rescue by pretending to be in a bad position."

Eliana had always been a target for Lilian's wrath. It was only natural for her to make fun of Eliana after

she learned about her ordeal yesterday.

It was a shame that Mr. Moran had shown up in person to help Eliana. What a happy accident!

In the beginning, Eliana was awestruck. She regained her composure after hearing Lilian's remarks.

Clearly, Lilian's ruse was to blame for what transpired the day before.

Eliana then realized that when Lilian came to her desk yesterday, another female coworker looked to be trying to say something, but Lilian stopped her.

These specifics sprung into her head. Lilian, Eliana felt certain, had concealed the notification regarding the power outage and maintenance from her.

Eliana felt a burst of rage in her chest as she

clenched her fists in wrath.

It wasn't a hoax at all. She wouldn't have only been terrified if Maurice hadn't gone to such lengths to save her.

She may have been a goner.

Lilian's loathing for Eliana grew as the latter froze in place.

"Exactly what are you doing there? Unless you need that coffee maker, get out of the way!"

Lilian shook her cup she was holding with her hand. Eliana politely moved aside as she remembered what was written on the note.

"Of course."

Lilian rolled her eyes and sneered at Eliana.

She went over to the coffee maker and hit the power button.

Coffee blasted out of the machine and into Lilian's face in an instant. Like a hurricane!

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THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 286 Teach Her Colleague A Lesson

"Ah!"

Lilian was so terrified that she screamed in terror.

The coffee maker continued to release coffee. Lilian's colleagues behind took a quick step back, and none of them dared to assist.

"Find a way!"

Lilian awkwardly held her head with her hands, trying to avoid the splashing coffee.

The chaos went on, and there was even a faint smell of burnt coffee coming from inside the coffee maker.

After just watching for a few moments, Eliana smirked as she unplugged the coffee maker.

The coffee maker finally stopped splattering. Lilian was drenched in coffee all over her body, and the brown liquid ran down her hair, giving her a disheveled appearance.

Looking at her calmly, Eliana said, "Someone was so stupid that she didn't even know she couldn't use a broken coffee maker. Or did she do it on purpose to gain sympathy and lure me to help her?" Eliana echoed what Lilian had just said to her.

"Eliana! You did it on purpose!"

Lilian was so angry that she was almost out of breath. She clenched her teeth and yelled very loudly. If eyes could kill, she would have killed Eliana a thousand times over.

"Do you think I'm a pushover because I didn't lose my cool?" Eliana looked around her colleagues with an expressionless face and warned, "I warn you, you'd better not provoke me. Do you recall Gabrielle? She was fired because she was mean to me, right? Rachel, too. Do you need me to remind you of how she ended?" Eliana was really angry at that point.

She had previously tolerated them whenever they made things difficult for her at work. But this time, they'd gone way too far. She had nearly died. She would never have a peaceful day in the department if she didn't teach them a lesson.

The pantry was deafeningly quiet. Everyone was taken aback by Eliana's aura.

The employees in the Design Department had heard of those things before. Gabrielle, a former director, was fired for making things difficult for Eliana, while Rachel was taken to the police station for framing Eliana.

Everyone present was terrified now that the person involved had mentioned them in person.

"Eliana, you... Don't be too complacent..."

Lilian was so enraged that she wanted to say something to continue mocking Eliana, but she stopped the moment she met Eliana's deadly gaze.

Eliana walked out of the pantry with a sneer, not giving the furious Lilian or the other terrified and silent colleagues a second look.

At dusk, Cheryl gave her a reply via email. She had chosen one of the bracelet design drafts and asked Eliana to make a sample as soon as possible.

Cheryl urged Eliana to hurry, but it was about time to get off work. As a result, Eliana had to take the elevator downstairs to meet with those in charge of samples. When Eliana arrived at the elevator door, she happened to meet Maurice and Corbin.

"Boss, Silas wants you to keep your promise. He's going to Nana's house today to play with the twins," Corbin whispered to Maurice.

Maurice nodded in agreement.

Maurice had guessed that Silas simply wanted to go to Eliana's house when he imposed this condition.

Silas didn't have many friends. Now he finally had the twins. Besides, if he was in Eliana's house, Maurice wouldn't be concerned.

Corbin noticed Eliana standing nearby as soon as he finished his words. "Eliana, you're also here!" he exclaimed.

Eliana couldn't leave because she was caught on the spot.

Just then, the elevator came. Eliana walked closer to Maurice and followed him into the elevator. Her body was stiff.

She couldn't stop staring at Maurice as soon as she stepped into the elevator.

His arm injury appeared to be very serious.

After all, he was hurt in order to save her. What if she expressed her concern for him?

"How is your arm, Mr. Moran?"

Eliana was staring at Maurice's chest as she said this.

Suddenly, the elevator moved abnormally.

Eliana's heart began to beat fast. She immediately remembered what had happened the night before. Her hair stood on end, and the fear of dying overcame her once more.

She instinctively grabbed Maurice's clothes and closed her eyes. Her body began trembling. She felt as if she were drowning and unable to breathe.

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THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 287 Are You Hiding Something From Me

Maurice immediately noticed that Eliana was acting a little strange.

"Are you afraid?"

He lowered his head and looked at Eliana, who was still clinging to his clothes.

"No!"

Eliana was stubborn.

Maurice might have believed her if she hadn't trembled.

He pressed the button to stop the elevator. "I want to take the stairs. What about you?"

"Mr. Moran, you're my boss. You're going to use the stairs. How can I take the elevator? Of course, I'll come with you," Eliana replied quickly.

They both exited the elevator one after the other. Corbin, who was standing behind them, squatted down and pretended to tie his shoelaces.

There were, in fact, no shoelaces.

When Maurice and Eliana were already far away, Corbin stood up and took a glance at the stairwell with a smile on his face.

All of his efforts would be in vain if nothing happened between Maurice and Eliana.

Maurice and Eliana walked down the stairs together. At each floor, the man walking ahead of the woman would immediately turn on the lights.

Nobody was speaking between them.

Did Maurice walk her down the stairs on purpose?

Eliana was moved. Looking at the back of Maurice, she was not sure anymore who the man in front of her truly was.

If Maurice and Preston were the same person, what on earth did Maurice want from her?

Maurice could feel that Eliana was staring at him. He suddenly came to a halt and turned around, asking, "What's wrong? Are you afraid to take the stairs now?"

Under the dim light, Eliana could see the tender look on Maurice's face.

Her heart began to beat erratically. Right there and then, she made the decision to give Maurice and herself a chance.

"Maurice, are you hiding something from me?"

Did Eliana find out something?

"Aren't you hiding anything from me?" Maurice asked back, staring at her.

They stared at each other for a few moments, and neither was willing to admit defeat.

But how could Eliana be a match for Maurice? She unwillingly surrendered after a while.

Indeed, she had no right to ask Maurice that question. She had kept a bigger secret from him.

She would, however, do everything she could to keep her children hidden from others.

Eliana's heartbeat gradually returned to normal. She

calmed down and distanced herself from Maurice.

"Mr. Moran, I'll go ahead now. Take care."

Eliana exited the stairwell without looking back.

The light was turned off. Maurice was standing alone in the dark.

He frowned, his deep eyes unfocused.

He couldn't figure out what Eliana was hiding from him.

As soon as she handed in the design draft, Eliana received a text from Nana that she would be leaving work late tonight.

Hence, Eliana needed to leave work early because Nana was not at home. Besides, Silas was going to her house today.

After some thought, Eliana decided to ask Harriet for a leave of absence.

Harriet, sitting in her chair, raised her head and asked, "You want to ask for leave? Why?"

"A child will pay me a visit today," Eliana replied.

Harriet felt strange. Why did Eliana also have children at home?

"All right, go ahead, but don't forget your work."

Eliana nodded. She then packed her belongings and left the company.

As soon as Eliana left, Harriet received a call from a private detective.

"Miss Stone, we now know where Silas attends kindergarten."

Harriet rose from her chair in an instant, her eyes gleaming.

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THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 288 Being Photographed Secretly

Eliana got off work early and went to the kindergarten to pick up the children. Aileen, Adrian, and Silas walked out of school hand in hand.

"Mommy!"

Aileen's and Adrian's eyes lit up as they trotted into Eliana's arms.

"I'm sorry to trouble you, Eliana."

Silas walked over with a shy look on his face.

Eliana let go of her two children and reached out to touch Silas' soft hair.

"What are you talking about, Silas? There's no trouble. I'm happy to welcome you to our home today."

"Me, too. I like Silas the most."

Aileen was in a good mood. She held Eliana's hand with one hand and Silas' with the other.

However, Adrian, who was ignored, suddenly chimed in, "So does that mean that you like Silas more than you like me, Aileen?"

"Of course not. You're my brother. You're always going to be number one in my heart."

Aileen's words were as sweet as her appearance.

Eliana, Adrian, and Silas were all amused by Aileen. Their walk home was full of laughter.

But as they walked, Eliana felt that something was off.

She felt like she was being followed and watched again. For a moment, she caught the sound of a camera shutter.

Eliana stopped walking and looked around cautiously.

All of a sudden, she got a glimpse of someone behind them not far away.

She didn't recognize the man.

Eliana immediately pulled the three children behind her to protect them. She waited for the strange man to show himself again.

Aileen raised her head and asked in confusion, "What's wrong, Mommy?"

Silas was also keenly aware that something was wrong.

He held Eliana's hand and said in a low voice, "Don't worry, Miss Pierce. My bodyguards will take care of it."

Silas had found himself in a similar situation so many

times before that he had gotten used to it. It was one of the reasons he was constantly surrounded by his security detail.

He subtly informed his bodyguards to look for the man that was stalking them.

Hearing what Silas said, Eliana felt a little relieved.

To make sure that the children were safe, she led them to an isolated street corner and waited there for Silas' bodyguards to come.

Soon, Silas' three bodyguards came with the stalker who was very well-dressed for his job.

He had on a brown windbreaker, a pair of black sunglasses, and a hat. He had his camera around his neck on a thick nylon strap. "Sir, this man has been following you and taking photos of you and your friends."

The bodyguards pushed the man towards Eliana. His eyes were full of panic that he tried to break free from the bodyguards.

"What are you going to do with me? Don't you know it's illegal to drag people away against their will?" he hissed in a condescending tone.

"Illegal?" Eliana sneered. "What about stalking people and secretly taking photos of them? Is that legal?"

"I wasn't stalking you or taking photos of you. Don't talk nonsense!" The man was still quibbling.

"Why were you following me and the children and taking our photos?" Eliana snapped.

"Are these three all your children?" the man asked in surprise.

Silas' eyes darkened, and he lowered his head.

The next second, Eliana stood in front of the three children.

"Yes, they are, and I don't appreciate you following us around and photographing us!"

The bodyguards forcibly took away the man's camera and mobile phone.

"Call your employer."

"Well..."

The man looked hesitant at first, but looking at the three hulking bodyguards surrounding him, he gave in

and dialed a number.

A woman answered the call.

"Why are you calling me at this time? Have you finished what I paid you to do?"

That voice... Why did it sound so familiar?

"Who are you? Why did you have us followed?" Eliana suddenly asked, startling Harriet, who was on the other end of the line.

Damn it!

Harriet immediately hung up.

Frowning, Eliana tried to remember the woman who owned that voice, but she came up empty. She was convinced that she had heard that voice before. Did it really belong to someone she'd already met?

In the end, Eliana spoke with Silas and his bodyguards, and they all agreed that one of the bodyguards took the stalker to the police station while the other two escorted Eliana and the children home.

The entire trip to the police station, the stalker kept his head down as if he had already accepted his fate.

But unknown to anyone, he'd secretly stowed away something in his windbreaker before Silas' bodyguards got a hold of his camera.

The man had been in the game for a very long time and had acquired some unique skills. He might have gotten caught, but he was able to get a film out of his camera, which he would develop into a photo and hand over to his employer. After the incident with the stalker, Eliana picked up the pace on their way home.

Fortunately, the three children seemed to be unaffected by the commotion. Not long after they arrived home, they all played happily in the living room with the dog.

Eliana was relieved to see so.

Time passed quickly, and soon, it was already late.

Eliana looked up at the clock for the third time. She was beginning to get worried.

Where was Nana? Why hadn't she come home yet?



In the early hours of the evening, Nana finally finished her duties after a long day of hard work. She hummed her favorite tune and promptly left for home.

At the end of the street, she saw a large crowd of people gathering and talking animatedly to one another as if something exciting was about to happen.

Nana immediately became curious.

She soon decided to walk over and have a look.

Surely it wouldn't hurt to take a quick peek to learn

what was going on.

As Nana drew closer, she saw many candles on the sidewalk forming a big heart shape, and red rose petals were scattered around. It was very romantic.

Nana quickly made a guess. It seemed someone was going to propose to his sweetheart.

Touched by the grand gesture, Nana found herself smiling and eagerly waiting for the couple to show up.

At this moment, Mariage d'Amour suddenly played on the scene. Accompanied by the French piano music, a young man in an elegant white suit slowly walked toward Nana.

The thin man with a handsome face and an aggressive, cynic aura beamed confidently at Nana. It was clear that everything in his life was going

smoothly.

He walked up to her with a large bouquet of roses in his hands, got down on one knee, and stared at her affectionately. His twinkling eyes were filled with love and joy.

"Nana, it would be my greatest honor if you were to be my wife. Will you marry me?"

The crowd around them suddenly burst into cheers.

"Marry him, marry him!"

Nana was the only person in a bad mood.

She pursed her lips and gulped anxiously. "Huey, I don't know what to say."

Nana's eyes widened in disbelief as she stared at her

ex-fiance kneeling on the ground. The pressure was too much that she couldn't breathe.

"Nana, I..."

Huey cleared his throat and was about to declare his love for her.

But at this point, Nana was livid with rage. She snorted in disgust and stormed away.

However, Huey wasn't one to give up so easily. He immediately stood up and chased after her.

"Nana, please come back. Give me a chance to explain!" Huey grabbed Nana's hand and pulled her back. He looked her in the eye and said, "Nana, I admit my past mistakes. Trust me. I've changed for the better now. Can you give me one more chance?" Nana didn't buy his elaborate act at all.

She pushed Huey away with all her strength and said coldly, "Now you want to make up with me? I don't see a future for us anymore. It's too late. Good riddance!"

"No, don't say that. I really want to marry you. Please forgive me!"

Huey tried desperately to keep Nana from leaving.

Nana was repulsed by his persistent shower of affection and moved away.

It was clear that Huey would stop at nothing until he finally got her back.

Gritting her teeth in frustration, she said bluntly, "It's too late, Huey. I already have a new fiance, and we're

madly in love with each other. So please, leave me alone!"

"New fiance? But that's impossible! You are lying to me, aren't you?"

Huey was overly confident of his own charm. He knew that Nana was head over heels for him before. Even if he broke her heart, she wouldn't fall in love with another man so soon.

"Who the hell do you think you are? Do you really think you're such a big shot? I'm actually glad to be rid of you!" Nana exclaimed in disdain.

"You know what? I'll only believe your claim once you bring that so-called fiance of yours to me."

Huey smirked arrogantly. He was sure that Nana was lying and wanted to prove her wrong. "Fine, I'll call him right now."

Nana rolled her eyes and quickly took out her phone, seemingly eager to settle the matter in her favor. But deep inside, she was anxious.

As she aimlessly scrolled through her contacts, Corbin's name caught her attention. An idea suddenly entered her mind, and she immediately dialed his number.

"Hello, honey. How are things going at work? I miss you so much," Nana said in a sultry voice.

On the other end of the line, Corbin felt goosebumps all over his body.

He quickly double-checked the caller ID to see if it was a stranger calling him by mistake.

It was Nana's number. Corbin gulped nervously and scratched his head.

What was wrong with her? It didn't make sense.

Corbin couldn't figure out what was going on. He remained silent and decided to listen for possible clues.

Nana continued in the same tone, "I know, honey. Sorry for disturbing you. Go ahead with your work. I'll cook your favorite dish when I get home. Not too late, okay? You better save some energy for me tonight. I love you. See you later!"

With a sweet smile on her face, she hung up the phone.

The strange phone call deeply unsettled Corbin. He

took a deep breath and organized his thoughts. 'Nana is acting weirdly! Is she in some kind of trouble? Maybe she has been kidnapped!'

He jumped up from the chair and covered his mouth in horror.

'Was Nana speaking to me that way as a subtle cry for help? The kidnapper must've been listening in on the call.'

Corbin immediately called the police and informed the company's Security Department to trace Nana's location using her mobile phone.

'Nana, just hang tight wherever you are. Help is on the way!'

Pocketing her phone with a smug look on her face, Nana raised her eyebrows at Huey. "You heard that. The man I have just spoken to is my new fiance."

"You expect me to believe that? There's no way he's your fiance."

No matter how hard Nana tried to get away, Huey kept pestering her. With both sides unwilling to yield, the two loudly argued on the street.

To their surprise, a police car suddenly pulled up in front of them. The police officer quickly stepped out of his vehicle and shouted, "Police! Don't move!"

Nana and Huey stopped dead in their tracks, utterly speechless.

What the heck was going on this time?



"Let her go!"

Corbin rushed past the police and pulled Nana behind him.

"Sir, it's him. He attempted to kidnap the victim."

Kidnap?

Who tried to kidnap someone? Who was kidnapped?

Nana didn't know what to say.

Before Huey even knew what was going on, the police pounced on him.

Nana was shocked by the sudden events, but she was finally able to speak. "Sir, you misunderstand. There was no kidnapping. This man is my exboyfriend."

Silence suddenly fell over the chaotic scene.

"Your ex-boyfriend? So you were just..."

Corbin glanced at Nana and then at Huey.

"He badgered me to get back together with him. When I refused, there was some physical conflict," Nana said with an embarrassed expression.

She felt ashamed.

It was all just a misunderstanding.

Corbin could not believe what he was hearing. "Then why didn't you make that clear?"

"You didn't give me a chance to," Nana retorted.

Once they understood the situation, the police gave them a quick lecture and left. Now it was just the three of them.

Corbin looked at Nana's ex-boyfriend in confusion.

Wasn't Nana Jonathan's lover? How could she be involved with another man?

Huey had finally recovered from the shock of what had happened. Now that he was certain Nana had lied to him earlier, he felt his confidence grow. "Nana, a woman should take advantage of a favorable situation when she gets the chance. Do you really believe that you are still a popular star? I'm the only good man who will ever want you."

The presence of the police had caught the attention of people around them.

A crowd had gathered. Some of them recognized Nana.

"Nana... Isn't she the famous model who quit show business to marry a rich man? Didn't she marry into wealth? Why is she so down on her luck now?"

"It seems that her dream of becoming a rich woman has slipped through her fingers, so she has to work again."

The discussion was getting louder. Nan's face paled

and she looked down at the ground.

All of a sudden, a warm hand enveloped hers.

"Nana, lift your chin up. Earning money through your own hard work is nothing to be ashamed of. Why should you care what these strangers think? Let's go."

Corbin pulled on Nana's hand and led her past Huey. He did not look back.

"Don't go!" Huey blurted out. "Nana, think about what you're doing. If you leave with this man, don't come crying to me later, begging me to elevate you back to a wealthy lifestyle."

Nana felt rage rise in her chest.

She let go of Corbin's hand and walked to Huey.

A smug smile crept across Huey's face. He thought Nana was coming to join him.

Nana raised her hand and slapped his handsome face.

Huey's head jerked to the side and shock filled his eyes.

"Listen carefully. I don't care about anything you have to say. Go home and never enter my sight again."

After that, Nana took Corbin's hand and strode away.

When they were finally alone, Nana released Corbin's hand. Her face melted into a defeated expression.

"Nana, what's going on? Aren't you Jonathan's..."

"Corbin, can I use your shoulder to cry on?" Nana

interrupted him.

Without waiting for an answer, she leaned against his shoulder and burst into tears.

Corbin couldn't continue questioning her while she was like this. He stood still and let her lean on him.

Corbin could smell the faint jasmine scent of Nana's perfume. The scent seemed to enter his lungs and tickle his heart.

He felt a wave of warmth growing inside of him.

What was wrong with him?

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