

Chapter 1169 Learning The Truth

When Joseph heard the word "abducted," he was momentarily stunned, feeling the weight of the word slowly sinking in, almost causing him to collapse.

Vincent swiftly moved to support him, equally shocked, and asked Rita incredulously, "What do you mean by 'abducted'?"

Rita, looking confused, responded, "Didn't you say you were the young woman's uncle? The young woman who was just here was inquiring about her mother. Isn't her mother this old man's daughter?"

Joseph pushed Vincent aside and approached Rita with the aid of his cane, his aged eyes brimming with tears. "Yes, she's my daughter. Could you please tell me everything you know?"

Rita recounted the same details she had shared with Loraine. Observing Joseph's emotional reaction, she expressed concern. "Are you alright? Your granddaughter cried just as you are now when she learned what had happened to her mother. It's all in the past; Your daughter is doing well now, and that's what matters. You should find comfort in that."

Joseph wiped his tears away and managed a grateful smile. He then instructed Vincent with a few words and began to walk away.

Vincent handed Rita a check as a token of their gratitude. After expressing his thanks, he quickly followed after Joseph.

As they walked, Joseph muttered, still perplexed, "Didn't your sister leave of her own accord? How could she have been abducted? Did she flee and then... But why didn't we hear anything about it?"

Considering the Wilson family's extensive network, it seemed incredible that such a secret could have been kept from them.

Equally shocked by the revelation, Vincent said, "Dad, something about this always seemed off to me. Even though I was young at the time, I remember that my sister wasn't the type to just run away over some harsh words."

Joseph remained silent, lost in thought. Just then, Vincent received a text message. After reading it, he hesitantly suggested, "Dad, maybe we should head back to Zodiac first?"

Joseph paused, then resolutely said, "No, I need to look into this myself! And we still haven't found Lorrie. I'm not leaving yet!"

Vincent frowned, conflicted.

The information that brought them here had come from Marco, but he couldn't disclose that to Joseph, nor could he simply disregard Joseph's determination.

After a moment of thought, Vincent suggested, "Dad, it might be more effective to use the Wilson family's

resources back in Zodiac to investigate why my sister was abducted. Since the incident occurred there, we might uncover more clues in Zodiac."

Joseph hesitated, then sighed in resignation. "Alright, let's head back then."

Vincent swiftly assisted him into the car.

Meanwhile, Loraine and Marco, having pieced together the situation in the southern suburbs, also decided to return to Zodiac.

Their first stop was the local police department. Given Rita's information about the traffickers being caught, there had to be records.


While it was puzzling how this investigation had remained hidden from Joseph all these years, they were confident that some trace would still exist at the police department.

Upon arrival, however, the officers were reluctant to grant them access to the archives.

One officer explained, "Those records are decades old and stored in our archives. To retrieve them, we'd need to re-catalog everything, which would consume a significant amount of resources!"

Considering that most records from that time were still on paper, searching them would indeed be challenging. Loraine understood the difficulty but was determined not to abandon her quest for the truth.

As she sighed and prepared to leave to explore other options, Marco interjected, "What if I offered to use

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Solar Company's AI technology to help the police build an electronic database? Would that facilitate access to the data?"

The officer was taken aback and responded, "I'd need to consult my superiors."

Solar Company's AI technology was renowned globally, and the police had a pressing need for better database management.

While current technology was somewhat helpful, it had limitations. Integrating Solar Company's advanced technology could resolve these issues and significantly enhance operational efficiency.

Loraine was surprised by Marco's offer and expressed concern. "You're offering to provide Qbot technology to the government at no profit. That could incur substantial financial losses for Solar Company."

Marco's decision to make such a sacrifice to access the information Loraine sought left her feeling guilty.

However, Marco just smiled reassuringly and said gently, "Don't worry about it. I'm doing this willingly."



Chapter 1170 Qbot's Assistance

Loraine bit her lower lip and shook her head.

The Solar Company, primarily profit-driven, had Marco as its CEO, who was anything but a philanthropist. Despite this, he allowed the police to utilize Qbot, even though it would result in financial loss for his company. Loraine couldn't fathom letting him bear such a cost for her sake.

Noticing her distress, Marco gave a helpless, affectionate smile. He scanned the surroundings, and seeing they were unobserved, gently kissed Loraine on the cheek.

As Loraine's cheeks flushed with color, Marco whispered, "Qbot isn't just mine; it's yours too. I've already discussed transferring the patent to the Universe Group with Aldo. We're merely lending it to the government. It's a fair trade in exchange for the information we require."

Loraine, her eyes brimming with emotion, met his earnest gaze and nodded in agreement.

The police officer returned promptly with his superior's approval for the trade.

Marco quickly sent a message to his team to make arrangements regarding the personnel who would interact with the government.

Meanwhile, the police started searching through the paper database for the case linked to Loraine's mother.

Soon after, Marco's phone lit up, and Qbot's cheerful voice filled the air. "Dad, I'll quickly organize the data and find the information you and Mommy need!"

Pulling out his phone, Marco chuckled. Programming Qbot with a robust computational ability was a task well done by Sullivan and his team; it could handle vast amounts of data swiftly and efficiently.

When Qbot noticed Loraine, it eagerly sought her praise. "Mommy, am I doing great?"

With a warm smile, Loraine responded, "You are wonderful. Truly powerful."

Qbot replied with a series of joyful emoticons.

At that moment, Police Chief Idris Natt, having learned of Marco's intention to lend the AI to the government, hurried over and arrived just in time to witness Qbot's human-like interaction with Loraine.

Idris was taken aback and asked curiously, "Is this the AI?"

Marco nodded. He spoke in a measured tone. "The police station is overloaded with documents, and sorting through them all would take considerable time. We'll leave a subprogram of Qbot here. You'll be able to interact with it normally. It's as intuitive as a ten-year-old child."

Idris's surprise gave way to a sigh. "The pace of technological advancement is incredible. Such cutting-edge technology is crucial for the police force to reduce crime and resolve cases swiftly! Mr. Bryant, Ms. Torres, your willingness to share this technology with the government is greatly appreciated."

Marco modestly declined the praise. "We seek your assistance as well, making this a mutually beneficial arrangement."

This response drew a chuckle from Idris, who then inquired, "Which case are you investigating? The police have already prepared the file from that year. It should be digitized by now... With Qbot, you should be able to access it easily."

Loraine and Marco were both pleasantly surprised. Loraine relayed some key terms to Qbot, which quickly sprang into action and commenced the search.

In no time, Qbot identified relevant data within a vast array of files, honing in on a particular surveillance video.

"Mommy, I've matched this surveillance footage to the kidnapping case in the southern suburbs, and it correlates with the other key terms. Take a look!"

Nervously, Loraine leaned against Marco, gesturing for Qbot to play the video.

The video dated back over two decades and its quality was notably poor. In the footage, two women in their twenties appeared side by side. The air between them was tense, hinting at a disagreement.

One woman, visibly upset, attempted to leave, but the other quickly reached out and grasped her arm, her gestures suggesting an apology.

Despite the grainy video, Loraine recognized a striking resemblance in the angry woman to herself; it must have been her mother, Tessa.

Her heart raced as she strained to identify the other woman.

Suddenly, the name "Jaylah" surfaced in her mind.

In the video, Jaylah was seen pulling Tessa toward a spot just out of the surveillance camera's range. Tessa hesitated but did not resist.

At that moment, several masked men burst onto the scene. They threw a sack over Tessa's head and, ignoring her struggles, dragged her into a minibus parked by the roadside before speeding away.

The sequence of events unfolded with alarming speed, leaving Jaylah, who had remained behind, visibly stunned. She soon hurried out of the camera's view as well.

Idris watched the video and recalled the context. "Back then, this trafficking ring was notorious! Their leader is still incarcerated at Zodiac Prison."

With a shared glance, Loraine and Marco immediately set off for Zodiac Prison.