

Chapter 1174 Trying To Salvage Her Situation

The police were stunned, and the expressions on Adolf's and Idris's faces were particularly telling.

Everyone in Zodiac was aware of Jaylah's connection to the Wilson family, but none had anticipated the depth of the secrets involved.

The truth about what happened to the real daughter of the Wilson family, a victim of the trafficking ring, had been concealed in an old police file for over twenty years. It only surfaced thanks to Loraine's relentless pursuit of the truth.

Facing this revelation, Adolf and Idris, the senior leaders of the police station, hesitated to act without guidance. They turned to Joseph, seeking his direction.

Joseph, overwhelmed by a mix of resignation and pain, gestured weakly and closed his eyes. "Proceed with the investigation!"

He had already lost his biological daughter and could not bear the thought of losing an adopted one. However, if Jaylah was indeed responsible for harming his daughter, he could not let that pass unaddressed.

Idris, prompted by the situation, hastily arranged for his team to restore the damaged documents and approached Joseph with a difficult suggestion. "Mr. Wilson, we may need to summon Jaylah Wilson as a suspect..."

By now, Joseph had regained his composure, his expression resolute.

He stated firmly, "Ensure justice is served fairly."

Idris, caught off guard by Joseph's firmness, nodded in agreement and proceeded to initiate the investigation into Jaylah.

Joseph sat down slowly, clutching his chest, a gesture of both physical and emotional strain. He had also caught a glimpse of the message from Marco on Vincent's phone, hinting at further depths to Loraine's investigation.

Despite feeling like a failure as a father for having been oblivious to his daughter's sufferings, he found solace in the knowledge that Tessa had a capable daughter working to ensure justice for her.

He turned to Vincent, weary yet resolute. "What's the name of the trafficker who took your sister? I want to visit him in prison."

Joseph struggled with the revelations about Jaylah. Given his years of affection for her, accepting such a stark reality was overwhelming.

Vincent hesitated before nodding.

He feared Joseph might waver, but he also knew that undeniable evidence would guide Joseph to discern right from wrong. Reaching for his phone, Vincent sent a message to his team to execute his instructions.

Meanwhile, the police couldn't officially summon Jaylah until the evidence was fully restored, prompting them to probe her recent activities instead.

Within the Wilson family, Jaylah wielded her own influence and was quick to discover the ongoing investigation.

Her anxiety grew as she paced back and forth; Joseph's unexplained absence only heightened her unease.

During this tense time, a long-concealed associate of hers unexpectedly reached out. He informed her that Marco and Loraine had visited Deniz in prison and that Joseph, accompanied by Vincent, was there as well.

Jaylah felt a cold dread wash over her as she realized her past misdeeds were likely unraveling.

Joseph's secrecy and sudden investigation suggested he had harbored suspicions about her for some time.

As the weight of her situation sank in, Jaylah's complexion

paled. Despite her attempt to remain composed, the gravity of the circumstances was clear.

Faced with imminent exposure, she knew she needed to devise a plan to mitigate the damage.

Previously, she had managed to eliminate the biological daughter of the Wilson family. She couldn't fathom losing now.

Soon, Jaylah regained her composure. She knew Joseph was a man of deep affection and tenderness; perhaps she still had a chance to salvage her situation.

She understood she couldn't receive help from Francis, nor would Vincent—someone who had always been antagonistic toward her—lend a hand. Likely, it was Vincent who had persuaded Joseph to initiate this investigation.

That left only Damon, who was known for his soft-hearted nature and his fondness for her. Jaylah saw her opportunity through him.

Without delay, Jaylah sought out Damon in his room, intent on swaying him to her side.

Damon had been suspended from work and was now at home. Having been cautioned by Francis to be wary of Jaylah, he hesitated when she approached him for a conversation but eventually let her in.

Once inside Damon's room, Jaylah burst into tears, pleading for his help.

In the past, Damon might have been moved to compassion and inquired about her troubles to help her.

However, this time, he hesitated. Before Jaylah could elaborate on her situation, he declined, saying, "Jaylah, you should seek Francis's help. I've committed to a low-profile apprenticeship under Mr. Castillo to regain my former position."

Taken aback, Jaylah attempted to argue, but Damon had already excused himself and departed.

Stunned, her expression contorted with frustration, she realized that if Damon would not support her, she would need to devise another strategy.

After much contemplation, Jaylah decided she might gain sympathy through feigned vulnerability.

Just as she was about to enact her plan, a group of stern-faced bodyguards in black suddenly appeared. Without a word, they subdued and detained her.

Chapter 1175 Stop Using Me As An Excuse!

Meanwhile, at Zodiac Prison, Joseph sat in stunned silence, his face pale after Deniz recounted the entire story. He had lost any lingering hope, processing the grim reality in silence.

Vincent, recognizing that his father needed time to absorb everything, quietly stepped out to send a message to Marco, updating him on the situation.

Simultaneously, Loraine, having composed herself with Marco's support, was on her way home.

Upon reading Vincent's message, a faint smile appeared on Marco's lips. Loraine noticed his expression and looked at him with curiosity.

Marco decided it was time to reveal more, explaining that he had been in constant communication with Vincent since their trip to the southern suburbs.

Loraine was surprised, then hugged him tightly, whispering, "Marco, thank you. I had no idea you did so much behind the scenes."

Marco might have appeared simply as her constant companion, but in reality, he had been diligently utilizing all available resources to support her investigation.

His efforts were a testament to a love that prioritized her above all else.

Marco, his eyes soft with affection, rested his chin on Loraine's head and assured her, "Don't worry, the case will soon reach a satisfying resolution."

By then, their engagement party was set to proceed without

further obstacles. Marco was determined to ensure that it would be even more grand and flawless than the previous one.

Suddenly, Loraine wrapped her arms around his neck, her eyes sparkling, and whispered suggestively, "You've done so much for me. I owe you a reward."

As Marco's gaze deepened at her words, he was about to reply when Loraine leaned in and kissed him.

Marco reciprocated her affection eagerly, tightening his arms around her waist and deepening the kiss, a satisfied sigh escaping him.

When they finally parted, both breathless, Marco chuckled and gently rubbed her back, saying, "Loraine, I didn't do all this for a reward. You don't have to feel that you owe me anything. I just want to see you smile more."

Loraine smiled, her understanding clear, and nodded.

Marco continued, "Jaylah has left too many traces with her misdeeds. The Wilson family has been oblivious for too long, but now they're starting to face the truth."

As Loraine sighed in agreement, Marco checked his phone and smiled, "Let's go. There's a show we shouldn't miss."

Meanwhile, all members of the Wilson family had been summoned to a hotel they owned, indicating that significant revelations were imminent.

Joseph sat at the head of the table, his expression stoic as he leaned on his cane, a subtle anger flickering across his features.

Francis remained composed, casting occasional glances at Vincent, who seemed preoccupied with his phone. Soon, he formed a hunch about the situation.

Damon and Edwin appeared confused, their gazes shifting among those present. They noticed Kaley's discomfort but hesitated to offer the usual comfort, choosing instead to remain silent.

This silence only heightened Kaley's anxiety, her fingers twisting tensely in her sleeves.

She was particularly disturbed because she had been unable to reach Jaylah.

Now, with Joseph having summoned everyone except Jaylah, her mind was overrun with worry.

Amidst the tense atmosphere, Loraine and Marco entered, hand in hand.

Kaley watched them, a flash of jealousy passing through her eyes. Struggling to maintain composure, she adopted her familiar tone of feigned understanding.

"Loraine, Marco, Grandpa is really upset right now. You shouldn't be so lovey-dovey. It might upset him more," she cautioned.

Marco disregarded her comment, while Loraine simply gave her a fleeting, amused look.

Kaley was clearly unaware that Jaylah's misdeeds had been revealed. Despite her efforts to exude influence, she appeared insignificant and unlikely to incite significant trouble.

Loraine observed Kaley with a touch of pity, choosing to remain silent.

Feeling increasingly ignored and demeaned under Loraine's pitying gaze, Kaley clenched her teeth. She mustered a forced smile, ready to escalate the situation, but was abruptly cut off.

Joseph's commanding voice resonated through the room. "I don't care about them being lovey-dovey. Stop using me as an excuse!"

Chapter 1176 Setting Things Right

Upon hearing Joseph's reprimand, Kaley's eyes widened in astonishment. She glanced back and was taken aback by the grim expression on Joseph's face.

Fear washed over her immediately. She stuttered, "Grandpa, that's not what I intended. It's just... Mom has brought it up a few times. I was concerned their closeness might upset you..."

Joseph gave her a chilling stare and remained silent.

He had long held the reins of the family and his presence was undeniably commanding. Usually, he was affectionate towards Kaley, which made her feel at ease. But under his harsh stare now, her heart raced and she found it hard to breathe.

Damon and Edwin, seeing her distress, couldn't stand idly by. They opened their mouths, prepared to defend Kaley.

But as they began to speak, Joseph slammed his hand on the table with a force that silenced the room and barked, "If you want to be thrown out along with Jaylah, go ahead and talk!"

Everyone in the room was taken aback. They all sensed that something was wrong. This outburst was unprecedented for Joseph, especially directed at Jaylah.

It was common knowledge that Joseph had always shown a preference for Jaylah and treated her with more kindness than even his own sons. The idea of him now throwing her out was bewildering.

Feeling a bit uneasy, Damon frowned and asked, "Dad, what's happening?"

Joseph shut his eyes. A vein throbbed visibly on his forehead.

After what seemed like an eternity, he gestured dismissively and said in a raspy voice, "Bring it here."

His man hurried in, holding a laptop. He opened a file, revealing a projection on the screen in the room.

With a stern tone, Joseph announced, "Here's a document I found. I've had it restored. Watch, and you'll understand everything."

As soon as he finished speaking, a gentle, youthful voice filled the room. It was unmistakably Jaylah's, a voice well-known to all the Wilsons.

It seemed like she was conversing with someone. Her voice sounded casual yet laced with condescension. Jaylah scoffed, "Tessa is such a fool. She longs for family and affection? Really? Something most likely went wrong during her disappearance. Her mind just isn't right! In this family, Francis is detached and cold, while Damon is too trusting. Just a few words, and Damon sides with me instantly. And Vincent is just a kid. He couldn't be of any help! So what if Dad gave her the Tear of the Sea? Dad is caught up with his work and hardly ever home. I'm the one in charge here!"

A man's voice joined hers. He smirked. His tone indicated his irritation with her boasting. "Ms. Wilson, I couldn't care less about your family drama. I just need to know where the person you want me to kidnap is, and when you'll pay me."

Jaylah gave a dismissive snort. She then plotted with the man. She set up a meeting place and described Tessa's physical features to him.

As the recording ended, she clenched her teeth in anger and declared, "Tessa is such a nuisance! I am and will remain the sole daughter of the Wilson family!"

It wasn't Joseph's first time listening to the recording, but the pain was fresh each time. With his eyes closed, he said with a bitter tone, "I always believed Tessa had run away from home on her own accord. I never knew she was taken against her will! She endured so much, and for over twenty years, I showered

affection on the very person responsible for her misery!"

For those in the Wilson family hearing this for the first time, the revelation was shocking, and Kaley turned deathly pale. She now understood the reason Joseph had called this meeting.

If it was true, what would be her fate and Jaylah's... They'd certainly be kicked out!

In shock, she exclaimed, "Grandpa, that can't be true. You know what kind of person Mom is! That audio must be fake!"

Hearing this, Joseph remained quiet for a moment. Then he fixed her with a stern gaze and responded, "The trafficker she worked with left this evidence, and he also admitted to the crime."

"No... That can't be true..."

Perhaps because he saw Kaley's ghostly pale and distressed face, Joseph let out a sigh and waved his hand.

A bound and gagged man was brought forward. It was Lennox, once a trusted aide to Joseph.

Looking at Lennox, Joseph remarked sharply, "It's hard to believe that the daughter I've cherished for over twenty years could be such a snake. But the truth remains. I must accept it! She even conspired with Lennox to trick me with false information!"

Reflecting on the hurt inflicted on Loraine due to Lennox's deceptive actions, Joseph was overwhelmed with guilt and remorse as he gazed at her.

"Lorrie, this is my fault. I failed to see through it, and my trusted aide maligned you. I apologize. Today, I will set things right. Jaylah will be expelled from the Wilson family!"