

Chapter 1197 A Trafficked Woman

Damon sought understanding from his usually impulsive nephew but was instead met with a challenging question.

Stunned, he paused before responding haltingly, "It's different. Kaley and Jaylah deceived us in the past, but Loraine knows the truth and she isn't deceived. How can she remain so detached from family ties?"

Edwin, lounging on the sofa, had recently embraced a more earnest lifestyle, working diligently at the grassroots level. His newfound maturity and dedication had surprised even Francis. He managed his tasks without complaint, a stark contrast to his former luxurious lifestyle.

Confronting Damon's evident distress, Edwin offered a candid response with a smile. "The Wilson family hasn't nurtured Loraine for even a day. What familial affection could she possibly feel towards us?"

Damon found himself at a loss for words. After a moment, he replied weakly, "But we are still bound by blood."

Edwin glanced at Damon and sighed. "You..."

He began to grasp why Francis had often been so frustrated with them. His own experiences at the Universe Group had also illuminated why Loraine held such disdain for their family.

However, expressing these thoughts clearly was challenging, especially since Damon was his uncle, and it seemed futile to

explain sentiments that Damon might not grasp.

Resigned, Edwin concluded, "Damon, try to see it from her perspective. I need to get to work now."

Damon watched Edwin rush off, a mix of confusion and contemplation on his face.

Why were the younger generation seemed so eager to adopt an air of maturity around him? Perhaps he was the one who was too naive and thoughtless...

No matter his confusion, Damon had responsibilities to fulfill. The following day, he ventured into the community to conduct scheduled visits.

As he navigated through a bustling downtown area, a disheveled woman burst through the crowd, rushing toward him in desperation.

Positioned near an alley's dead end, Damon became her inadvertent sanctuary. The woman swiftly assessed his distinguished appearance and status, and in her panic, she took refuge behind him, trembling and referring to him as "dad."

The scene unfolded so quickly that the other staff members barely registered what was happening. Although confused, Damon noticed the woman was cautious not to make physical contact with him.

At that moment, several menacing figures approached. They halted upon seeing the woman shielded by Damon, their expressions turning hostile.

One, eyeing Damon's expensive suit and the less imposing staff around him, mistook him for a high-ranking official.

Attempting to defuse the situation, he reached out his hand toward Damon for a handshake with a forced smile.

"Sir, this woman is my wife. She suffers from a mental condition; she calls anyone she sees 'dad.' We apologize for the inconvenience," the man explained.

Damon frowned, instinctively stepping back to dodge the man's hand. Then he turned to assess the woman hiding behind him.

The woman shivered, raising her tearful eyes to meet Damon's. Her tears brimmed with desperation as she subtly shook her head.

A heavy feeling settled in Damon's chest. This moment reminded him starkly of the video evidence Joseph had shown them.

In that footage, Tessa appeared just as powerless, her plight similarly dire as she was forcibly taken by the men.

At the time, only Jaylah was present, watching indifferently. No one intervened as Tessa was forcefully dragged into a car by burly men and taken to a remote mountain area to endure unthinkable hardships...

The man before Damon, with his obsequious smile and sycophantic demeanor, eerily mirrored the brutal figures in the video.

With an icy expression, Damon shielded the woman and demanded in a stern voice, "Is she truly your wife? Can you prove it? Show me your marriage certificate."

The man's smile vanished, and he spat to the side, his tone turning menacing. "What's it to you? You should mind your

own business. You don't look tough enough to play the hero here."

Damon was overseeing the induction of new recruits today, who were unaccustomed to such confrontations, and they had ventured out without any security for what was meant to be a routine community visit. The new recruits turned pale, and while some attempted to call the police, their phones were quickly confiscated by the watchful thugs.

Though the downtown area was bustling with cars and pedestrians, this particular corner remained unnoticed.

Damon clenched his fists, his eyes filled with resolve.

Even if he hadn't seen Tessa's ordeal, as a senior government official, he couldn't overlook such blatant wrongdoing. These men clearly harbored malicious intent.

The thugs exchanged smirks and moved closer, ready to confront Damon.

Just then, a car drove past the alley entrance without stopping.

As the situation escalated, however, the car suddenly reversed, halted, and a door swung open.

A figure stepped out of the car. When Damon looked up and recognized the newcomer, he exclaimed in surprise, "Marco?"



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Marco emerged from the car. He was en route to supervise a company project at the construction site. Driving past this junction, he initially continued but then noticed Damon and the female figure behind him, causing him to return.

Attired in a suit and radiating authority, Marco lazily scanned the thugs. They quickly comprehended this was not an individual to be trifled with.

Assessing their chances, they eyed Marco's luxury car and the imposing driver, understanding that a confrontation would likely end poorly for them and could attract the police.

Unwillingly, they withdrew, casting hostile looks at Damon before vanishing.

Relief spread among those on Damon's side. Damon himself gazed at Marco with mixed feelings and earnestly expressed gratitude.

He realized if Marco hadn't intervened, it would have taken much more effort to handle those men, potentially putting his companion at risk.

Marco's demeanor remained unchanged as he glanced at the disheveled woman behind Damon. "I only intervened out of pity for the woman with you, not to save you."

Damon frowned, noting the woman's clear, bright eyes despite her shabby state. Could Marco be swayed by her appearance?

Damon instantly became serious. "Marco, you must not betray Loraine!"

Marco immediately grasped Damon's misunderstanding.

Though he had initially saved Loraine, which led to their relationship, he wasn't an unfaithful man. Their connection was established over years of shared experiences.

Giving Damon an irritated glance, Marco observed the trembling woman behind him and said, "Those men are trouble. I suspect they trafficked her, and she managed to escape from their grasp. I'll leave it to you to handle the situation."

Damon, confused and unsure of the next step, was about to ask Marco for guidance. But Marco had already closed the car door and driven away.

With a bitter smile, Damon watched Marco leave. The woman suddenly knelt down, weeping. "Thank you for saving me, sir! I'm truly grateful!"

Damon swiftly assisted her to her feet and reassured her, "No worries, but you need to explain what occurred so I can assist you more."

She nodded, still tearful. "I was abducted by a trafficking ring. It took all my strength to flee. If you hadn't rescued me, they would have recaptured and killed me!"

Touched by her story, Damon observed the bruises on her visible skin and understood the torment she had suffered.

"We must inform the police," Damon said solemnly. "We need to ensure that the trafficking ring faces justice and get you safely home."

The woman thanked him earnestly once more, and Damon summoned his bodyguards to escort them to the nearest police station.

At the station, a female officer handed the woman a cup of water, offering comfort as she recounted her ordeal through tears.

The police swiftly identified the area where she had been abducted and began tracing potential hideouts of the trafficking ring along her escape route.

Throughout it all, Damon stood by her side, providing unwavering support. Each time she broke down, tearfully expressing her gratitude, Damon's heart grew heavier.

He couldn't help but think of Tessa, wondering if she had endured a similar fate during her abduction. Had she suffered physical abuse?

If those two young people in Vagow hadn't intervened to rescue her, what grim fate might have awaited her?

These thoughts burdened Damon deeply, prompting him to sigh and run his fingers through his hair in frustration.


He could no longer console himself with the belief that Tessa's abduction had nothing to do with him.

His unchecked favoritism towards Jaylah had played a significant role in the rift between Tessa and his family.

Rather than rectifying his mistakes, he intensified his efforts, targeting Loraine as he sought revenge for Jaylah and Kaley.

After Loraine learned the real reason for her mother's departure from the Wilson family, Damon grasped the depth

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of resentment Loraine likely harbored towards him.



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