

Chapter 26

Noticing the look on Donald's face, Shannon reminded him, "Ms. Shaw went missing for slightly over ten minutes. That's enough for us to deduce that the mastermind acted within the residential area. The person probably lives here, too."

With that, they managed to narrow the search down, but Donald was conflicted.

The Shaws had lived in this neighborhood for five or six years now. It was a high-end residential area, so there weren't many neighbors around. Donald had met all of them before at some point, and he didn't recall any of them being their enemies.

Meanwhile, several cars that belonged to the neighborhood security team had pulled up outside the Shaw residence. Emilio Shaw, who descended from the first car, approached the house and heard what Shannon said.

He declared, "Before Emmie's incident, I investigated all of the families that appeared suspicious in the neighborhood. I don't think this is the work of someone with a grudge against us Shaws."

Emilio —the Shaws' son and Emily's older brother —spoke with a polite yet crisp tone. Sharing a resemblance to Donald, he had handsome features and a tall, broad-shouldered physique. After speaking, he stared at Shannon in silence.

Emily had been given a different name at birth. However,

growing up, she always clung to Emilio and mimicked him in every way. She always wanted to have the same things as he did, even his name.

In the end, the Shaws had no choice but to change her name to one that was similar to Emilio.

Ever since Emily's incident, Emilio had gone around trying to figure out what happened and find solutions. He heard about the Shaws inviting the daughter of the Jensen family over, but he didn't hold out much hope.

Nevertheless, he remained in touch with his family at all times, so he was aware of everything that had happened.

That being said, he was still slightly taken aback when he saw Shannon. Despite knowing she was younger than him, he didn't expect her to look this young.

Hector had been standing beside Shannon all along, so naturally, he also saw Emilio. Although the Jensens and the Shaws were acquainted, Hector didn't know Emilio all that well, so the two men simply nodded at each other in greeting.

Emily was thrilled to see that Emilio was back. She wanted to hug him, but she was afraid that would affect the magic thread around her finger, so she merely inched closer.

Emilio's expression relaxed somewhat when he saw that Emily was fine. Nevertheless, he knew the matter wasn't settled yet, so he ushered everyone to the cars.

There were seven cars in total. It looked like he had borrowed every single car that the neighborhood security team used for their patrols.

Just like that, the convoy of cars drove through the neighborhood. Soon, they followed the red thread to a four-story villa. When Helen saw where they were, she fell into disbelief.

"How could the mastermind be here?" Helen exclaimed.

It turned out to be someone Helen knew.

Shannon turned toward Helen, who clenched her jaw and explained, "The Johnsons live here. Our families weren't connected in any way at first, but Howard, the Johnsons' son, is one of the few children nearby who's willing to play with Emmie."

After all, Emily looked like a grown-up. The other children didn't like that she was mentally disabled and refused to play with her. However, Howard Johnson never cared about that. He often came to the Shaw residence to invite Emily out to play with him.

That was how the two families got closer. To thank the Johnsons, the Shaws even helped them close several business deals. Helen never would've thought that it was the Johnsons who harmed Emily's life!

She was shocked and sorely disappointed, of course.

"Did anyone in the Johnson family, such as one of their elders, come down with an illness—something life-threatening?" Shannon abruptly asked.

"Mrs. Johnson Senior has always been in good health," Helen mumbled at first, but she quickly thought of something. "However, I heard that Howard was taken to the

hospital a while back due to some illness."

Shannon nodded, having figured it out.

The Johnsons must have used the lifespan transfer to save Howard.