Love Coming from the Least Expected Chapter 491

Leave a Comment / Love Coming from the Least Expected / By "Come on, Eve! It's dangerous here!" Christopher shouted while dragging me toward the sidewalk.

"Let go of me!" I brushed his arm off violently and crossed the road, only to see that the car was slowly starting to move again.

"Stop right there, Isabelle! It's me, Yvonne! What, are you that much of a coward that you don't even have the guts to see your own daughter? Get out of the car right now!" I yelled at the top of my lungs.

There's no way a gentle and kind woman like Mom would be so heartless and leave me like that! I'm sure she must've had some unspeakable reason for running away! I just want to see her and find out how she's been! It's not like I want to go live with her or anything!

For a brief moment, I was reminded of how we used to play hide and seek in the garden when I was five.

Isabelle used to hide really well behind the trees, and I couldn't find her at all. Thinking she had disappeared, I began crying out loud where I stood. She would then come out of hiding and hug me tightly, kissing me on the cheek as she promised to never leave me.

We went to an amusement park when I was eight, and we were having a great time on the merry-go-round when tears rolled down her cheeks all of a sudden. I asked her why she was crying, but she kept quiet and refused to tell me anything.

Scarlett and Yvette showed up in the living room of the Tanner residence later that afternoon, and Nathan told Mom they were here because they were part of our family. There wasn't a trace of guilt on his face when he said that, and Isabelle objected to his decision on the spot.

However, Nathan simply slapped her hard across the face in response, scaring me so much that I broke out crying. Isabelle then carried me into the bedroom, and we both stayed up all night. She sang me songs and read me stories before crying silently with me in her arms. I eventually fell asleep in her embrace, and she was gone by the time I woke up the next day.

Thinking she had probably gone out for a bit, I waited all day for her to return, but she never came back. Instead, Nathan then brought me to Scarlett and asked me to call her "Mom" instead.

With tears in my eyes, I ran straight toward the car that had stopped at the traffic light while shouting, "Wait for me, Mom! It's me, Yvonne! Don't you recognize me?"

I hammered hard on the car window until it was slowly rolled down, revealing the familiar face that I had been missing for over ten years.

"Is there something I can help you with, miss?" The woman in the car asked in Angladurn and looked at me in confusion.

I kept quiet and simply stared at her as a look of disappointment filled my eyes. The woman was wearing the same dress and looked just like Isabelle from the side, but she was definitely not my mom.

"Are you all right, miss?" she asked while handing me a paper towel.

"Sorry, I mistook you for someone else." I shook my head and walked away. After making my way back to the sidewalk, my knees gave out beneath me, and I burst out crying outside a store.

"Why won't you come and see me, Mom? Have you forgotten me completely? Where are you? I'm all grown up now, Mom! Why won't you see me? Have you never missed me at all?"

Christopher then knelt down beside me and pulled me into his arms as he whispered, "Don't cry, Eve. You just mistook her for your mom. Who knows, your mom is probably missing you like crazy somewhere else!"

"No... No..." I shook my head and grabbed his arm tightly as I said, "I saw her, Chris! I saw her, I really did! I definitely saw my mom!"

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I buried my face in his chest and wept. "Why didn't she come and see me, Chris? Why is she so heartless? How could a mom be so heartless? All I want is to see her once... Why won't she just let me see her?"

Christopher patted me gently on the back. "It hurts me to see you cry, Eve. No matter what happens, I'll be right by your side, in this lifetime and the ones to come."

"Chris... Chris..." I cried out his name while my tears flowed onto his chest. I was certain that I had seen Isabelle, and that she simply chose not to see me.

Little did I know that that was really my mother who had abandoned me and the driver was her toxic boyfriend.

After what seemed like forever, I was able to finally regain my composure and stop crying. I hadn't seen my mom in ages, so running into her on the streets so suddenly caught me off guard and got me all emotional. That was especially the case since I knew she had never intended to see me at all.

I sat down on the bed and stared blankly at the carpet beneath my feet upon arriving at the hotel room that the event host had prepared for us. Christopher sat down beside me when he noticed how miserable I looked.

I looked at him after a while and asked softly, "Have you ever gotten into a fight with your mom when you were little, Chris?"

Christopher stroked his chin and replied after giving it some thought, "No. My mom was very busy when I was a kid, and my dad was even busier. I spent most of my time playing with a huge group of kids in the yard. My mom would let me do whatever I want as long as it wasn't overboard."

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"Well, I have." I smiled faintly and pointed at my face as I continued, "Mom hit me really hard once when she saw me fighting with Yvette over something. I was so stupid back then. With a scary look on her face, she told me to not treat an irresponsible b*stard like Nathan as my dad. I was too young to understand what a homewrecker was at the time, so I didn't know why she was so upset. Now that I think about it, Mom probably wanted to leave the moment she saw Scarlett show up at the Tanner residence. Do you think that's why she left?"

Christopher didn't answer my question and simply hugged me tighter in response. "Nothing I say would be of any good now, but maybe things aren't as bad as you think. I believe that things have a way of working themselves out, so you'll probably find your answers when you see her."

"Perhaps." I let out a helpless chuckle. "Given how smart Mom is, I bet she must've known about Scarlett long before she left. She probably didn't mind it as long as Dad kept that woman out of the house, and she finally chose to completely give up on their relationship the day he brought her home."

As Ansley's art exhibition was only three days away, I didn't have time to waste moping about. With Ansley being a world-renowned artist, the guests attending the art exhibition were all famous people from all over the world.

I was instantly surrounded by journalists the moment I got out of Christopher's car and entered the venue. With the blinding camera flashes in my face, I tried my best to straighten my back and stay calm so as to not embarrass myself in an international event.

"Don't panic. Just ignore their presence and act like they're not here. We're on a date and just casually strolling about." Christopher held my hand and slowly walked toward the crowd.

He looked really handsome in his black suit and shiny dress shoes which complemented his huge figure, broad shoulders, and slender legs. He had a graceful air about him as he walked with a steady pace, and his charming smile quickly removed whatever nervousness I had in me.

"You two sure are late. With the number of celebrities attending this art exhibition, I'm surprised you guys had it in you to arrive on the dot!" Remington said as he popped up in front of us.

"What are you doing here?" I looked at him in surprise.

"Have you forgotten that I'm a highly respected artist among the youth of our country? How could I possibly miss out on an event that you're attending?" Remington cleared his throat as he continued, "It's a shame that Ansley didn't display my work in the main studio, but I am fortunate enough to get it displayed during the event's finale for all to enjoy."

He's complaining about Ansley not appreciating his work when it's only chosen for the finale? He's obviously just trying to brag about it! Everyone knows how Ansley loves supporting the newer generation of artists, and this guy is anything but new! I rolled my eyes at the thought of that.

"Congratulations!" I said with a smile before whispering in Christopher's ear, "This guy is clearly here to show off, isn't he?"

"He's here to brag about it to me. We were both interested in drawing when we were kids, but I gave up after doing it for three days. Being the one who got me into art, Remington swore to make a name for himself in the world and leave me envious of his success," Christopher said with a chuckle.

"Pfft!" I snickered. Who would've thought a grown man like Remington would have such a childish side to him? It's obvious that Christopher wouldn't care about such things! He'll just feel happy for his friend's success!

Recalling how Christopher would comment on my art online, I gave him a light nudge and asked, "Do you know so much about art because you have a lot of friends who are into it?"

Christopher nodded. "You really think I sent Harvey so he could go easy on you? That guy thinks he's so great just because he can draw the Phoenix better than his peers, but I've seen how fast you drew the Phoenix back then. That's why I had Harvey attend that party."

Okay, Christopher has me beat...

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Being able to see Ansley was the main reason I had come all the way here, so I followed behind Remington with a hop in my step as he led me to Ansley. However, that excitement soon disappeared when I saw Crystal coming toward me.

"What are you doing here?" I asked with my eyes wide from shock.

Crystal simply snorted in response and said coldly, "I don't see why I can't be here if you are! What, do you think this art exhibition belongs to you alone or something?"

"Do you have an invitation?" With Crystal's horrible reputation, it was indeed surprising that someone would even send her an invitation to such a grand art exhibition. Surely the great Ansley couldn't be that supportive toward every single artist in existence!

"Don't think it's all over for me just because you and Christopher sabotaged me! I have a powerful benefactor on my side to help get me invited to this art exhibition and continue my career as an artist! Just you wait, Yvonne! I got you once, and I'll get you again!" Crystal shouted angrily.

"You never learn, do you? Was Dad kneeling before Grandma not enough of a lesson for you? Do you not feel guilty having a man of his age apologize for your wrongdoings?" I asked with a frown.

"Are you lecturing me?" Crystal snorted as she continued, "You think you're that great just because you've cleared your name and earned Ansley's respect? Well, think again! I'm not down for the count yet, and you're in no position to lecture me either! I suggest you mind your own business and pray that I don't find another opportunity to get back at you!"

Not wanting to back down, I forced a smile and snapped back at her, "Heh, bring it on! I'll be right here waiting for you!" Da*n it, why is Crystal always around? I can't believe I'm running into her here in Anglandur! Good thing Lyle isn't here, or I might really check the almanac before leaving the house next time!

Crystal snorted in disdain and walked away arrogantly with her arms folded. I saw her approach a man who was waiting for her next to an easel, who then politely pointed her in Ansley's direction.

"Benefactor, huh?" I mumbled and pouted as I watched her make her way toward Ansley.

Remington frowned too when he saw Crystal and said, "Ansley is waiting over there. Come on, let's go."

I glanced at Crystal who was standing next to Ansley and hesitated for a bit before nodding my head. I don't owe Crystal anything, so I shouldn't have to back off just because she's standing there with him! Besides, she couldn't possibly do anything to me in a public place like this!

Ansley was an old man in his sixties and was having a chat with Crystal, but he quickly waved at us with a smile when he saw us approaching.

"Mr. Fowler, is this the new school artist you said you'd introduce me to? Does she really have more potential than the artist of Moonlight Heaven? You're not pulling my leg, are you?"

Being praised by Ansley got me really excited, and I quickly greeted him, "Greetings, sir! My name is Yvonne Tanner, and I'm the artist behind Moonlight Heaven. It's a pleasure to make your acquaintance!"

"The new school artist with the most potential? Did you give yourself that title? Have you no sense of modesty at all, Yvonne? You don't just call yourself an artist! You need to earn that title from others! Don't get too carried away and end up falling back down later on!"

Unhappy that Ansley had ignored her, Crystal lashed out at me in Chanaean as she knew Ansley didn't speak the language. She then turned toward him and said in Angladurn, "Don't let her fool you, sir. She's just a university graduate who studied economics who hasn't even made it into the third round of Hawen's art competition! There's no way a person like her is an artist! She's definitely lying to you!"

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Ansley frowned upon hearing that and turned around to look at me. The
fact that Crystal had the audacity to slander me in front of the great
Ansley sent a shiver down my spine.

"Sir, I..." I was about to explain myself, but Crystal was quicker and cut me off, "I know Yvonne. She's my cousin, but her character is questionable at best. She was rude to Spencer at the art exhibition and shows no respect for Julian whatsoever. Be careful not to let her sweet words fool you, sir!"

I bit down on my lip and made no further attempts to clear my name as I believed a wise man like Ansley wasn't the type to blindly believe in rumors.

He may be a great artist, but he is still a human being like everyone else. If he really believed Crystal's words, then I would have nothing further to say.

Ansley eyed me from head to toe before shifting his gaze toward Crystal as he asked, "Sorry, what did you say your name was?"

"Crystal Yates, sir. I've told you my name three times now." Crystal was so angry that she made no attempt to hide it at all. She then pointed at me and said, "You should get rid of this liar or she'll mess up your art exhibition!"

The look in Ansley's eyes grew cold all of a sudden as he said sternly, "Ms. Yates, my art exhibition welcomes any and all young artists with a passion for art as well as those who would love to paint with me. However, people like you who make up stories and slander others are not welcome here. Is there anything else you would like to talk about? If not, please get your assistant and leave at once."

"Yeah! We need to get rid of Yvonne so we can..." Crystal paused halfway through her sentence when she realized what Ansley had said, and the look on her face was twisted in disbelief. "Sir, she's the one you should be kicking out of here!"

"I know what I should do at my own art exhibition, and you'd better not make me repeat myself. Go now, or I will have security escort you out." Ansley pointed at the entrance to the art exhibition with a firm expression.

Crystal let out a scream in anger and frustration. She looked like she was about to say something, but the man behind her noticed and quickly clamped his hand over her mouth. He then apologized to Ansley before dragging Crystal outside.

As expected of the wise and brilliant Ansley! I let out a sigh of relief before turning toward Ansley with a look of admiration and respect in my eyes. The two of us then had a brief chat about my painting which benefited me greatly.

"Thank you so much for this conversation, sir! I was feeling uneasy when I first came here as I haven't painted for six years. It wasn't until I recently found my goal in life that I had the courage to pick it up again."

"If you're able to pick up painting again, then I'm sure you will be able to pick yourself up in life as well. Make sure you don't give up on it ever again, because you'll be giving up both your dreams and your youth along with art itself."

Ansley then pointed at the painting and said wisely, "You see, your paintings reflect your yearning for art, your passion for your career, your ambitions, and your eagerness to prove yourself. I have witnessed your brushwork and painting skills, so the rest boils down to your continuous hard work and discipline."

I nodded and said solemnly, "Understood. You might not know this, but your painting, Dream, has always been a huge inspiration for me to keep pushing forward in art. In fact, I used to base most of my paintings on Dream when I was little. I'll be sure to continue carving out my own path from here on!"

As I was about to leave, I couldn't help but ask Ansley out of curiosity, "By the way, why did you choose to believe in me instead of Crystal?"

Ansley stroked his beard and pointed at my painting on the wall as he said with a smile, "A picture is worth a thousand words, and this painting speaks for itself. I have faith in my judgment."