## Luna & Joshua 2431

Chapter 2431

Neil could not help laughing when he saw how frightened Nellie looked. He was just about to say something when Nigel, too, shot hima cold glare.

"You, too. Some things are meant to be joked about!

"I know that Daddy and Mommy are in love with each other and won't be affected by your jokes, but what will happen if an outsider overhears this? What will other people think of Daddy and Mommy?

"What if Aunt Yannie found out about this? Do you think she'll be able to work for Daddy and Mommy in peace after she finds out? Not only that, but have you considered Mrs. Flores' feelings? "If Aunt Yannie were to quit her job because of your 'harmless' joke, Mrs. Flores would do the same. Is that what the two of you want?"

Nigel's words were sharp but struck like a hammer on a nail.

Neil and Nellie instinctively exchanged glances, then sighed and clamped their mouths shut in unison.

A split second later, Neil put down his cutlery and declared, "I'm sorry, Mommy, Daddy."

Then, he turned and darted up the stairs.

Nellie followed in her brother's footsteps and excused herself from the table. Luna sighed as she watched the children leave. She turned to glance at Nigel, intending to say something, but no words came out. She knew that Nigel meant well. He was the most mature and thoughtful out of the three children, but Nellie and Neil were obedient children, and they meant no ill harm when joking about this. "Nigel," Joshua said calmly and lifted his head to meet Nigel's gaze. "How do you even know that Nellie and Neil weren't telling the truth?" Nigel let out a sigh. He knew that Joshua was not curious to know his answer; he just wanted to make things clear to Luna without utilizing his own words. Nigel was silent for a long time before finally deciding to help his father. "Firstly, I know that you'll never fall for Aunt Yannie, Daddy, and you must have other intentions for wanting her to work as Mommy's assistant. "Secondly, I know that Mr. Howard can't be in love with Mommy." Luna was perplexed by this. "How do you know?"

Nigel pursed his lips explained, "That's becauseI've been investigating him even after you and Nellie
went to your meeting with him, and I discovered that shortly after he landed in Merchant City, a new
group of people had begun searching for young, single mothers.
"These men are in search of single women who had given birth to children about the same time as you,
Mommy.The strange thing is, they're looking for a woman who had lost her child!"
Nigel lifted his head to stare at Joshua.
"Therefore, according to my speculation, these men must be working for Mr.Howard, and he must be
searching for his ex-girlfriend.In that case, he can't be looking for Mommy."
Joshua narrowed his eyes and leaned back against his chair.
Thomas Howard was looking for a single mother who had just given birth two months ago but lost the
child
"Now that you mention it"
Joshua squinted.
"I've also been looking for a woman who had just lost her two-month -old baby."

## Chapter 2432

Luna was still a little puzzled by this.

"Why have you been searching for a woman who lost her two-month-old child?"

As soon as she finished her sentence, however, her mind connected the dots. She lifted her head to gaze intently at Joshua.

"Are you...searching for Riley's mother?" Joshua nodded.

"I've been investigating this for a while now.Malcolm and Heather must've planned to take our daughter

away from us a long time ago so they could use her to threaten us.

"However, something unexpected must've happened in this process, which led to Riley winding up in

Malcolm and Heather's hands.

"The day you went into labor, Malcolm and Heather chose to pretend that Heather had done the same

to make the story more believable.

Therefore, on the day our daughter got kidnapped, both Heather and Malcolm had been in the hospital.

"I managed to get my hands on the surveillance tape, which showed that Heather had been in the

delivery suite the moment your water broke, while Malcolm, on the other hand, had been waiting outside the operation room with Charles for Heather." Luna's expression darkened upon hearing this. "That's right." Luna would never be able to forget this day—one of the most miserable days of her life. Her husband had become her enemy and could not be there with her while she delivered their baby. Not only that, but he had been absent for the entire 9 months of her pregnancy. Her mother had been in a coma, unable to move or even speak. Her father, on the other hand, only cared about Heather, who was not even his daughter by blood. Even though Luna and Heather had gone into labor at the same time, he had chosen to remain by Heather's side. Luna had known this would happen the minute she found out about Heather going into labor the same time as her, but to her surprise, not even Jim had come to visit her.

Her delivery had been a difficult one, complicated by a massive hemorrhage, but none of her family

The only people who were with her were the servants.

members was there with her, not even to hold her hGAw#\xIK.It was only after this that she discovered her baby had 'died" Luna would never forget the despair and devastation that was brought upon her that day. Joshua quickly sighed and reached out to hold Luna's hand when he sensed her mood change. "It's all in the past now." He sighed and tried to coax Luna out of her gradual descent into despair. "I've been thinking about this, and the only conclusion I got is that the only person who could've helped Malcolm and Heather during this time was Hunter, so I went to the prison to visit him. "Hunter told me everything that had happened that day: he had been ordered to obtain a dead baby to pass off as our child, whereas the real baby was to be transported to Malcolm and Heather's side. "However, a group of men hijacked his car on the way and stole the baby from him. Therefore, he had no choice but to go to the nearest hospital and grab a random baby girl to fool Malcolm and Heather." Then, Joshua sighed and gently pulled Luna into his arms.

"I'm guessing Riley's parents must be as desperate to find her as we are to find our daughter. After all,

I'm hoping that whoever got their hands on our daughter will be as willing to send her back to our side
as we are."
Luna bit her lip upon hearing this.She sighed and clasped Joshua's hand tightly.
"You're right."
Chapter 2433
"I guess you're still the thoughtful one in this relationship."
Luna used to think that since Riley was separated from her birth parents, her only obligation was to
treat the poor child like her own, but after hearing Joshua's explanation, she could not help thinking he
was right.
The two of them had been frantically searching for their daughter after finding out about her, and Riley's
parents must be doing the same.
Helping bring Riley back to her parents would be a more noble thing to do than keeping her by their
side.
Luna had to admit that at certain times, Joshua was much more thoughtful and detail-oriented than she



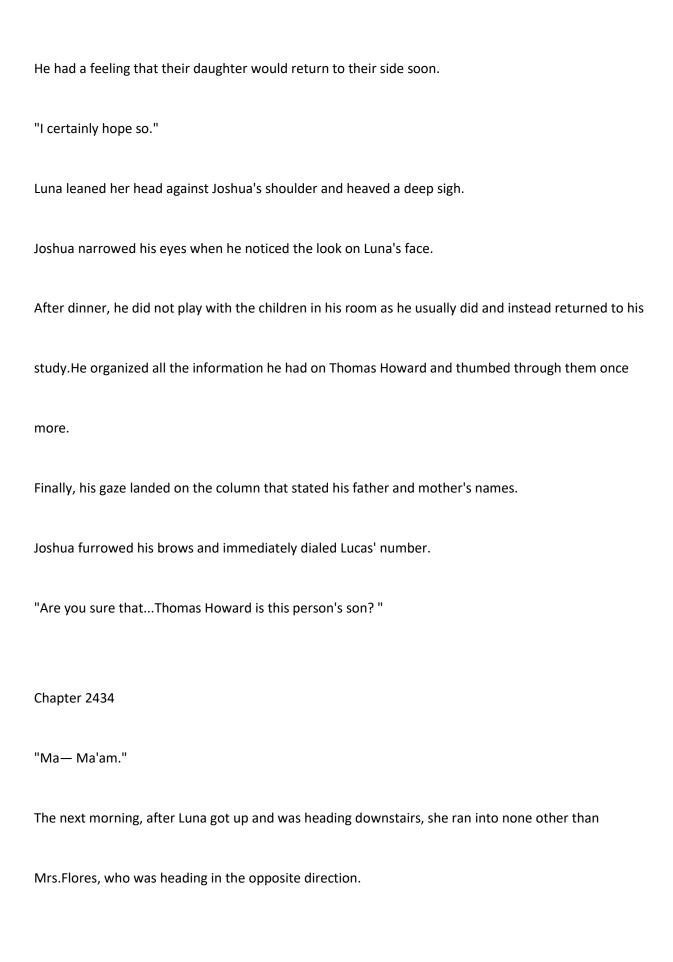
Joshua narrowed his eyes and tried to recall everything Thomas had done since his touchdown in
Merchant City.He was willing to put himself in a disadvantaged position to work with Luna and, when
that failed, did not even hesitate to threaten her.
At the same time, he had taken Malcolm in and even sent a team of men to track down Riley's parents
All this seemed to point toward one conclusion — Thomas Howard was trying to get revenge on him
FEu.{qKI Luna.
Because of this, Joshua could not help suspecting that Thomas probably had something to do with the
people who had stolen his and Luna's daughter two months ago.
Otherwise, there would be no way to explain why the child had disappeared into thin air that eventful

night.

Not only that, but this was the only logical way to explain why Thomas had been targeting him and Luna since his arrival in Merchant City.

At the thought of this, Joshua sighed and turned to glance at Luna.

"I think...we'll be able to find our child very soon."



She was holding three presents in her hands, meant for Nellie, Neil, and Nigel. Mrs.Flores did not expect to run into Luna on her way up, so she appeared flustered as she stammered, "Why are you up so early, Ma'am?" Luna's gaze fell onto the presents she was holding. At this moment, Mrs. Flores was holding three gift bags with ribbons, one in pink—Nellie's favorite color —and the other two in blue and dark lilac, which were Neil and Nigel's favorite colors, respectively. It was clear that she had prepared these for the three children. Luna furrowed her brows in confusion. "What are these for, Mrs.Flores?" Mrs.Flores was a little startled by the look in her eyes. She let out a cough and said, trying to hide the sheepishness in her tone, "I... I'm planning on quitting this job soon, but I truly am going to miss Princess Nellie and Young Masters Nigel and Neil. "I know that they came from Banyan City and aren't too familiar with Merchant City, so—" She raised the bags to show Luna the contents.

"I prepared some local delicacies that children here love and also got my hands on some traditional
Merchant City toys"
Then, she burst into a grin and added, "I've also prepared the same present for Ms.Riley, but since
she's not doing so well nowI didn't bring the gift over."
Then, Mrs.Flores let out a sigh of relief and said, "Ma'am, I've been thinking about how I would tell you
about my leavingbut since we happened to bump into each other here, I'll take this as a sign to tell
you the truth now.
"I want to terminate my job, and today will be my last day working here."
Luna's entire body was frozen in shock when she heard this.
The night before, she had just declared to Joshua that she would keep Mrs.Flores by her side as long
as she could because of how kind she was.
Not only that, but Nellie was so fond of Mrs.Flores that she wanted to design some jewelry pieces for
her.
Mrs.Flores was the first person that Nellie had ever volunteered to design something for, apart from





Before this, Mrs.Flores had wanted to stay at this job for as long as she could, but after her meeting
with Samuel the night before, she had a long discussion with Yannie and decided that it was best to
listen to her old friend's advice.
After all, Samuel had not been in touch with her for almost a year, and when he was about to leave
Merchant City, the first thing he decided to do was meet her one last time to warn her to stay away from
the Landry and Lynch families and the man named 'Howard "
After careful consideration, Mrs.Flores decided it was probably better to take her old friend's advice.
No matter how kind the employer was, nothing mattered more than a well-intentioned warning.
"Why?"
Luna furrowed her brows, determined to keep Mrs.Flores at all costs.
"Are you upset at Joshua or me or perhaps displeased at Lucas? If there's anything bothering you, you
can always tell me.I promise I'll be able to help."

If only she knew how difficult it was to find the perfect babysitter —one whom the three children liked

but at the same time was capable of taking care of them— including Shelly and Riley! In Luna's

opinion, no one could replace Mrs. Flores' position in their hearts.

Mrs.Flores bit her lip when she saw the crestfallen look on Luna's face. She wanted to say something in response, but no words came out. She did not know how to reject Luna's kind offer, nor did she want to break Luna's heart.

"Perhaps Mrs.Flores is saddened by the fact that we didn't secure a job for her daughter, Yannie," a male voice rang out from above their heads.

Mrs.Flores Luna lifted their heads in unison.

At this moment, Joshua was leaning against the railing of the floor above them. His arms were crossed in front of his chest as he stared at them as though he had been watching them for a long time.

Mrs.Flores grew even more flustered when she saw Joshua's expressionless face.

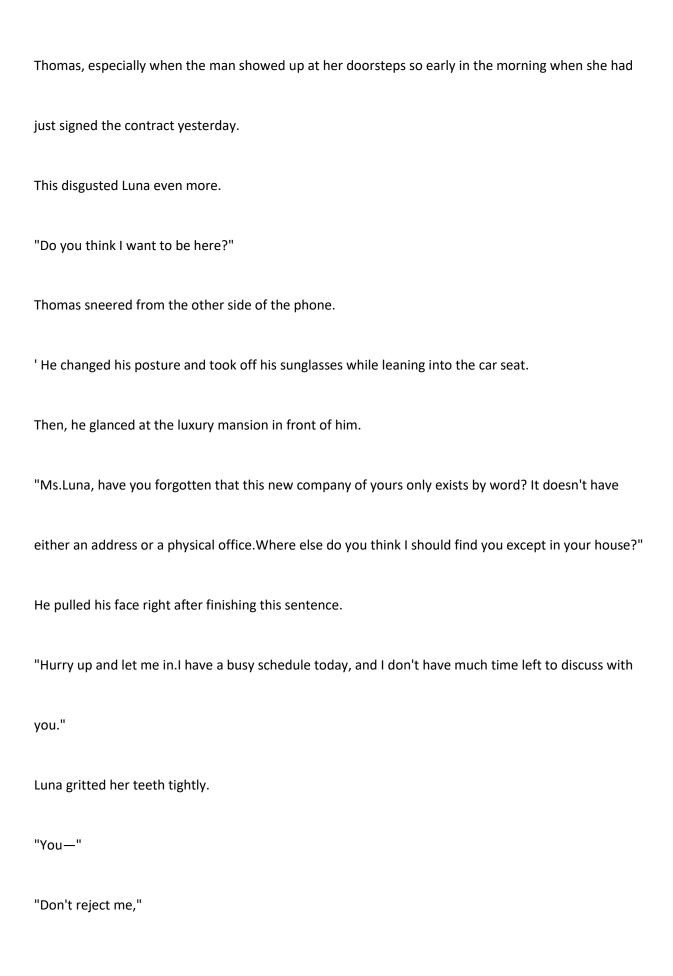
"Sir, I—that's not what I meant!"

However, Joshua's words made a lightbulb go off in Luna's head.

The night before, she had promised Yannie a job at her new company but never discussed her salary or benefits.



Finally, she had no choice but to call Yannie and ask her to come over to Joshua's house for a chat.
As soon as she hung up, Luna's phone rang. It was a number she had never seen before, but she
picked it up anyway.
"Hello?"
"This is Thomas Howard.I'm right in front of your house now."
Chapter 2436
"Why are you here at my house?"
Luna grabbed her phone tightly as she furrowed her brows.
"I remembered only promising to work together on business terms only, nothing more than that. Why
are you here, then, coming to my house early in the morning?
" Luna never liked Thomas to begin with.He disconcerted her to the very core, too.It was one thing that
he had bribed Joey Charles to pursue her, but he even said he liked Nellie. When Luna did not agree
with his offer, he forced Luna to sign the contract by threatening her with Sean and Kate's safety after
he kidnapped them! After all those incidents, no one would blame Luna for having a bad impression of





Thomas'	assistant.
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Both of them stood outside Joshua's home, with the assistant looking at Thomas, while Thomas leaned against the car and stared at Joshua's house.

"You only took a glance at the design sketches.Do you have so many details that you want to discuss with her? I thought you never liked jewelry, too.Why..."

Thomas glanced at his assistant remotely and snapped, "Do you think you can question my choices?"

He had ordered his men to track down Samuel carefully, but all of a sudden, a group of men appeared

out of nowhere and stopped his men.

When his men finally successfully tracked down Samuel again, they never heard him speak anything regarding Mrs.Flores ever again.

Originally, he wanted to capture Mrs. Flores first thing in the morning to ask what Samuel had told her.

However, when he was about to take action, Mrs. Flores arrived at Joshua's house.

Hence, he had to enter Joshua's house. He wanted to know how a simple maid by the name 'Flores'

had something to do with how Samuel left Merchant City and left nothing more than just a goodbye to

her.

According to Thomas' intel, Samuel should have gone to look for the woman from a year ago after Thomas had reminded Samuel of her.

## Chapter 2437

However, Samuel decided to look for this maid who was over her fifties! Thomas' instinct told him that

Mrs. Flores had to be related to the woman from a year ago.

Secondly, he wanted to go into the house to check out the situation.

After all...Thomas squinted, and his eyes faintly gleamed with coldness.

After all, Joshua and Luna were the ones responsible for causing his daughter to be kept in the ICU,

monitored at all times. He wanted to get to know the other children in their house so he knew which one

to capture when the time comes. He wanted to let Joshua and Luna understand the feeling to know

their children being tortured by a stranger.

"Sir." Thomas' assistant wiped off the sweat on his forehead silently.

"I don't mean to mind your business, but—ah!"

Before he could finish, however, Thomas' assistant screamed in pain, causing Thomas to furrow his





'What a small world.So, this girl is Mrs.Flores' daughter, huh?!
"Mr.Howard."
Just when he was eavesdropping on Mrs.Flores and Yannie's conversation, Joshua squinted and
looked at Thomas lightly.
"Should I be calling you that," he spoke, "or should I call you ' brother'?"
Chapter 2438
Joshua's words stunned Thomas for a good few seconds.
After a while, he managed to calm himself and looked at Joshua.
What makes you ask me this question, Mr.Lynch? If I remember correctly, we're not close enough to be
calling each other brothers.
Joshua changed his position to a more comfortable posture.He sat on the couch in a kingly manner
and stared at Thomas, who pretended to know nothing.
"Do you not know, or are you just pretending that you know nothing? I'm sure you remember your
mother's family name." Thomas squinted at this.

"I'm sure my mother's family name has nothing to do with you." Thomas' mother was, in truth, Senior Howard's first wife.

Back in the old days, Senior Howard was just a poor young man, while Thomas' mother was the second daughter of an affluent, powerful family. She met Senior Howard and thought he was her soulmate, the love of her life.

Thus, she decided to elope with him, leaving her family and twin sister behind, vouching to never reunite with them again.

At that time, she thought she was set for life as though she was the main character of a romantic drama, having lowered her status to marry a poor man. She thought she was the type to give up everything just for the name of love.

As it turned out...it was not what she thought after all.

The love Senior Howard had for her only lasted that long.

When she helped Senior Howard become a successful business in the town, he no longer appreciated this woman who supported him from the ground up.

Even when Thomas' mother was the one who funded the business through the money she earned in
her spare time, and even when Thomas' mother was the one who helped to earn the first bucket of
gold in the business

Senior Howard thought that it was all his hard work and had nothing to do with the plain- old housewife.

Thus, he chose to desert Thomas' mother to gain more benefits for himself.

After that, he married his current wife, the new Mrs. Howard, who was from a family with a powerful background.

At that time, Thomas' mother's family slowly declined, GEp, JuKL her twin sister passed away, too.

Since she had severed all ties from her family, she did not have anyone backing her up or supporting

her.

In the end, she was forced to a corner by the new Mrs. Howard where she committed suicide by jumping into the sea. Her son, Thomas— the true eldest son of Senior Howard—was then called a child born out of wedlock instead.

Everyone thought his mother was a maid in the household and that he did not have the right to inherit the family's wealth.

Moreover, they thought that was what Thomas thought, too.He was only four or five years old when his
mother passed away.
Naturally, they thought that he knew nothing.In factno one knew that Thomas had started to develop
memory at that time. He knew and remembered everything that happened when he was a child.
Everything was so vivid that he remembered his mother's real name.
"I followed the investigation's result closely, you see. Your mother was a maid working in Senior
Howard's house previously.Her family is Levine, am I right?" asked Joshua.
Thomas sneered at Joshua's words.
'Guess the almighty Joshua Lynch isn't that formidable after all"
He was expecting more from Joshua, thinking that maybe Joshua could truly get to the truth about his
He was expecting more from Joshua, thinking that maybe Joshua could truly get to the truth about his identity, but he thought wrong.
identity, but he thought wrong.

his deep, dark pupils.
Chapter 2439
"I've unearthed information hidden from the public. Your mother's family name isn't Levine— she's from
the Moore family. It was just a simple statement, but it struck Thomas like it was lightning, leaving him
petrified as he stood still.He looked at Joshua with his deep, dark pupils that were filled with disbelief.
"You"
'How did he find out? My real mother's family name is Moore!' Thomas thought.
"Not only do I know her family name, but I even know her name. Eanne Moore."
Joshua switched to a more comfortable position and looked at the man in front of him nonchalantly.
"You don't have to be so surprised.No one from the Howard family told me anything.After all those
despicable things Senior Howard had done over the years, he won't tell the truth, even if I point a gun
to his head."
Thomas squinted and looked at Joshua coldly. His lips moved a bit, but not a sound came through his
lips.He did not dare say anything, after all.He was afraid that this was Joshua's plan, trying to trick him

into telling the truth.

Hence, Thomas neither admitted nor denied the things that Joshua said. He merely stared at Joshua, thinking about what other information Joshua possessed. His reaction and thought were within Joshua's expectations.

Thus, Joshua squinted and continued, "Again, I'm not trying to pull a connection here with you by calling you my brother. You should know my status doesn't require me to pull a string with you and please you."

Then, he tilted his head backward and leaned back on the couch elegantly while his gaze was still trained on Thomas.

"If anyone here is trying to please someone, then it should be you pleasing me."

Thomas scoffed at this, merely glaring at Joshua silently.

Joshua admired Thomas' reaction. He reckoned Thomas was almost at the same level as he was. He sighed and continued to speak in his low, husky voice, "I didn't start to investigate you because I care about you.

I have the least interest in people like you, but you keep coming up with ideas on how to scheme Luna

threaten her, so that intrigued me.Of course, I never thought that looking into things would lead to your mother."He put his hands together and frowned in distress. "Maybe Mr. Howard doesn't know anything about my family." Thomas sneered, "I'm not interested to know." To him, Joshua and Luna were just devils and enemies that tortured the two-year-old Riley. He did not have any interest in getting to know the information regarding his enemies' families. "In the year I was born, my mother died, and my father was always cold to me. After all, my mother died while giving birth to me. He never cared for me after so many years, leaving me to be raised by my grandmother. She was the one who told me about my mother." Joshua sighed. "My mother's name is Rianna Moore. She has a rebellious twin sister who ran away from home. Her name is Eanne Moore." Chapter 2440

Thomas' pupils shrunk upon hearing Joshua's confession, and he squinted at him.

"Are you kidding me?"

Thomas' mother did have a twin sister, but how could it be Joshua's mother? If his mother and
Joshua's mother were sisters, this would make him and Joshua cousins! His cousin, Joshua,
accidentally brought the wrong child back home from the hospital and took the child in as his own.
When he knew that his child was still alive, he tortured the poor infant, causing the baby to end up in
the ICU as she fought for her life.

Thomas felt suffocated when he thought of this. If Joshua was his cousin, then he truly was a devil in disguise.

Thomas could only repeat this in his heart to warn himself from falling into Joshua's trap.

'This must be his trap. Something as coincidental as this could never happen! He must've gotten to know about my mother from that old man, and that's why he told me this now so that he'd ruin my momentum!' Thomas thought and sneered.

"What evidence do you have to prove this? And how do you know everything you said is related to me? Your mother's name is Rianna Moore, and my mother's name is also Eanne Moore, but many people have the same name in this world. How are you certain that your mother and my mother—"'

Before Thomas could finish his sentence, Joshua took a stack of documents from the side and threw it right in front of Thomas. The documents were all over the place as Joshua had thrown them with power.

Thoms furrowed his eyebrows and glanced at the papers with photos attached to them. These women looked eerily identical. They were...

Thomas bit his lip as he clenched his fists tightly.

Those two faces were exactly the face of his mother, which he remembered so strongly.

Although he only developed memories when he was a child, he had a good memory that allowed him to remember anything he saw.

It only took him one read to remember the scripts from the movie, what more his mother's appearance. This was why he could remember what his mother looked like GEn %[yMN how her voice sounded.

Thus, when he first saw the photo, he knew Joshua did not lie to him.

Joshua's mother was his mother's sister—his mother's twin sister, to be exact! This discovery had

Thomas' heart pounding rapidly as his blood coursed through his body in a rush.

All these years, he had been called a child born out of wedlock, a child without his mother.

Only God knew how many nights he had dreamt that he was not a child born out of wedlock and how
he dreamed of meeting his mother's family.
However
The man before him, whose mother was his mother's twin, was the same man responsible for causing
his daughter to be in acoma and kept in the ICU.
With that thought in his mind, he quickly replaced the excitement in his eyes with coldness.He picked
up the photos from the floor one by one as he looked at them.
Finally, his gaze clung to a photo where two women stood side by side, all smiles.
That photo was not the most special nor prettiest photo among the rest of the photos, but the woman in
the photo resembled how Thomas remembered his mother the most.He looked at the photo for a long
time, wordless.
Joshua narrowed his eyes and said, "If you want more of these photos, the Moore family has more."
After Lucas discovered Thomas was related to the Moore family during his investigation, he quickly
reported back to Joshua.

Thus, Joshua contacted the Moore family within seconds.

Joshua and Luna did a little part in helping Christian with the incident between Christian and Fiona.

Thus, Christian's mother, who was Joshua's aunt-in-law, trusted Joshua a great deal.

When Lucas requested to get Rianna and Eanne's photos, Mrs.Moore nearly took out all of the photos

related to the twin sisters. She sighed when she passed the photos to Lucas.

"They're the same.Rianna always said it was stupid to give out family because of love...but didn't she

do the same? When she went for the check- up, the doctor had advised her many times to undergo an

abortion, or her life will be at stake. Still, she didn't listen. In the end, she died on the operation table."

Mrs. Moore sighed again and asked Lucas to take good care of Joshua.

"Although Joshua indirectly caused her mother's death, Rianna was happy when she delivered the

baby. Eanne, on the other hand..."

Mrs. Moore stopped there. No matter how Lucas persisted that she continued, she refused to say

anything else.

According to Lucas, Luna could see that Eanne was the least favored child when compared to Rianna.



scary.Yet, before she started to dislike having Thomas as family, Thomas was the one who denied having Joshua as family.Who did he think he was? What right did he have to be disgusted with Joshua and Luna? She and Joshua should have been the ones disgusted to be related to him!