## Luna & Joshua 2821

Chapter 2821

"Riley is missing?" Luna was astounded by this. "Yannie, calm down and tell me what happened."

"Well, this is all I know—" Yannie was gasping for breath as she explained, "Tina and Dan have been

arrested because of Mr. Lynch's help. After Thomas and I came out from the police station, he wanted

to visit her, so I came with him to the hospital..."

She sniffed and continued, "But when we arrived here, we discovered that all the guards that had been

assigned to look after Riley disappeared.

"We couldn't help thinking something was wrong, and when we got out of the elevator, we ran into

Riley's doctor. When we tried to ask him what was going on, however, he immediately ran away as

though he had seen a ghost.

"Thomas and I immediately knew something bad had happened, so we ran all the way to Riley's room.

When we got there, we realized that Riley was missing, and there was another baby girl in there."

Yannie sobbed as she said, "Luna, we're in the security room right now, but the person in charge said

that all the surveillance cameras had broken down two days ago. It's too much of a coincidence, isn't

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"We investigated this and discovered that this hospital is part of the Miller family's corporation. Could Kate be behind this?" A twinge of pain shot through Luna's heart. She knew what Yannie was going through; she had been through the same pain and despair of losing her child before. "Don't jump to conclusions just yet, Yannie." Luna sighed and tried her best to console Yannie. "Joshua and I will try to help you." With that, she hung up and turned to stare at Joshua. "Thomas and Yannie are at the hospital now, but Riley has gone missing." At this moment, Joshua was pawing through some documents, but he did not seem at all surprised to hear this. He lifted his head to glance at Luna. "So?" Luna furrowed her brow at the nonchalant look on his face. "So we have to help them find her!

She knew the anguish Yannie was going through, and she could not help feeling a little surprised at



Luna and Joshua had flown all the way to Saigen City for other people; Luna had come to join Gwen on her trip whereas Joshua was here to help Thomas settle his business.

However, Sean did not possess any friends or family in Saigen City, so what was he doing here?

"He's here to experience the world–renowned Saigen City winter, of course." Joshua curled his lips into a smirk, gently clutched Luna's wrist, and pulled her into his arms. "Let's all meet for dinner tonight. We should invite Thomas and Yannie too."

Luna stared at him in puzzlement, her brow still scrunched. "What on earth are you talking about?"

Why was he suggesting inviting Thomas and Yannie to dinner with Sean?

The three of them did not know each other well, and even if they were friends... Thomas and Yannie would probably be worried sick about Riley, so how could they want to attend a gathering with Sean?

At the thought of this, Luna sighed and said, "I don't think this is the right time. Our priority right now is to help Thomas and Yannie track down Riley. Since Sean is already here, we could use his help too."

Finding Riley was more important than catching up with Sean.

"I think we should probably meet him first." Joshua smiled and gently pressed a kiss on Luna's cheek.

"Perhaps we won't need to go in search of Riley anymore once we see him."

Luna did not understand this. "What wouldn't we need to go in search of her once we meet him? He's

Joshua curled his lips into a wry smile, then reached out to tap her nose playfully. "That's not what I meant, stupid."

Luna frowned. "Well, what is it that you mean, then?"

not Riley, after all."

"All I need is for you to believe me; go call Yannie and Thomas right now and ask them to join us for dinner with Sean tonight. There's a surprise waiting for them."

Luna paused, and despite still feeling a little dubious over this, she still decided to trust Joshua.

She strode out of Joshua's office and dialed Yannie's number.

Yannie was in the midst of trying to figure out Riley's whereabouts, so she, too, was a little confused about why Luna and Joshua would invite her to dinner with their cousin. Nonetheless, she accepted Luna's invitation.

"Well, Luna, since Mr. Lynch says that meeting this Mr. Wheeler will help us find Riley eventually, I guess there's no harm trying. Don't worry; I promise I'll find a way to make Thomas come, too."

After hanging up, Yannie turned to glance at Thomas, who was fixated on watching the surveillance tapes from a few days ago. "Thomas, Luna told me that..."

"Come look at this," Thomas interrupted her before she could even finish. He grabbed hold of her arm excitedly and pointed at the computer screen. "I've finally found them! Look, it's Denise and Tina, isn't it?

"Those bitches! I should've known they were behind this; I was wrong to think they wouldn't dare lay a

finger on an innocent child!" Thomas slammed the table in fury and snarled, "I should've known not to show Denise mercy.

"Now that Tina has been convicted of murder, Denise will never admit to kidnapping Riley to avoid being arrested too. We have to find her as soon as we can!"

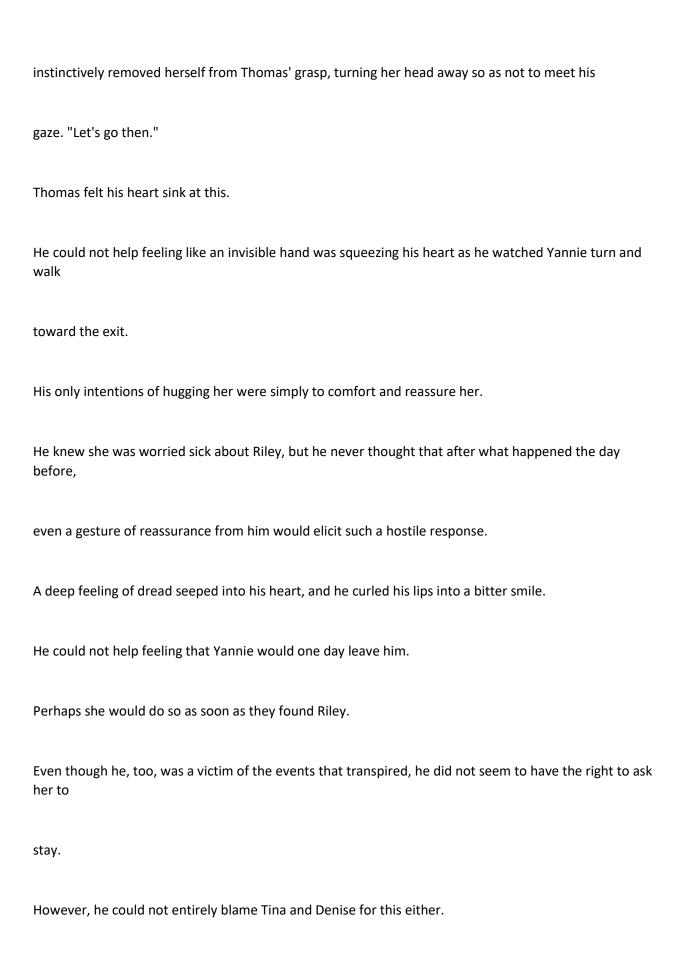
Chapter 2823

Yannie bit her lip when she laid eyes on the screen before her.

This was a surveillance tape from a few days before, just before Riley had gone missing.

Since someone had wiped all the security cameras on the day of Riley's disappearance, Thomas had no

choice but to attempt to find clues from previous surveillance footage.
To his surprise, he managed to find something.
Yannie clenched her fists as she stared at the image of Tina and Denise on the screen, smiling and chatting.
She, like Thomas, had thought Tina and Denise would not dare lay a finger on Riley since their primary target
was Thomas, but to their surprise
These people did not know where to draw the line at all!
Riley was not even six months old, so how could they do this to a small, innocent child?
"I'm going to Hughes Residence right now." Thomas caught sight of Yannie's rage and immediately pulled her
into his arms, frowning. "We'll confront Denise in person about this."
The familiar warmth of his embrace surged through Yannie, and for a split second, she did not want to pull
away.
However, the image of what happened at Howard Mansion the day before appeared in her mind, and she



	was his arrogance and lack of consideration that led to this tragedy. He should have known that omeone as
CI	unning as Tina would cease at nothing to drag him down, even stooping so low as to poison him!
н	le should not have believed a single word of hers
"7	Thomas."
Ya	annie did not hear Thomas's footsteps behind her after she left the surveillance room, so she turned to
gl	lance in his direction.
А	t this moment, Thomas was staring blankly back at her, but his thoughts seemed to have wandered
el	lsewhere.
TI	he sorrow and grief in his eyes made her heart lurch.
	he knew why he was feeling his way, but at the same time, she did not know how to make him feel etter.
	annie sighed, walked back toward him, and gently tugged on his sleeve. "Let's go. Didn't you say we hould
_	o over to Hughes Residence to confront Denise right now? Let's go, then. What's most important right ow is
to	o find Riley as soon as possible."

Yannie's voice immediately pulled Thomas back to reality. He was silent for a while before finally breaking into
a smile. "You're right. Nothing matters more than Riley."
With that, he grabbed hold of her hand.
Yannie instinctively tried to break free of his grasp, but the harder she tried to pull away, the harder his grip
became.
Finally, she sighed and decided not to struggle anymore.
The two of them left the room hand-in-hand, got into their car, and headed to Hughes Residence.
Chapter 2824
When Thomas and Yannie arrived at Hughes Residence, the whole place seemed to be in chaos.
Mr. and Mrs. Hughes could not seem to get in touch with Steven at all, nor could they find Denise anywhere. The two of them were absolutely sick
with worry.
At this moment, Kate was sitting elegantly on the sofa, consoling Mrs. Hughes as best as she could while ordering her men to go in search of the

missing siblings. "Mrs. Hughes, please don't overthink this. Steven and Denise are grown—ups now, so I'm sure they're fine.

"Perhaps they've found a private place to catch up as brother and sister."

"Catch up?" Mrs. Hughes furrowed her brow. "What do they have to catch up on when they see each other every day? Besides-"

She took out her phone and showed Kate the video that was taken at the entrance of Howard Group. "Look at this! Steven was at Howard Group

this morning, and he even stood up for that bitch, Gwen!

"Since Denise didn't leave the house with him, they're probably not together at this moment!"

The more she thought about this, the more upset Mrs. Hughes became. "Steven must be with that bitch right now. We must find them immediately

and bring Steven home as soon as possible!"

"She's right." Mr. Hughes sighed. "Steven is a kind soul, and that Gwen certainly is a looker. If Steven can't resist her deceit and end up agreeing to

help her recover Luke's memories...that would be a disaster."

Mrs. Hughes burst into tears when she heard this. "That's right. That body belongs to Luke, but we forcefully erased all his memories and

consciousness to replace them with Steven's. If they somehow find a way to recover Luke's consciousness...all our efforts would've been for

nothing!"
With that, she turned to stare at Kate longingly as though seeking an answer from her. "Katie, tell me, will it be hard for them to find a way to
retrieve Luke's memories?"
"Yes, it will." Kate nodded when she saw the concern in Mrs. Hughes' eyes. "Don't worry. We've spent a lot of time and effort erasing Luke's
memories in the first place, so it definitely won't be easy trying to retrieve it. However"
She furrowed her brow. "We still have to find them as soon as we can. Steven is too unsuspecting. The longer he stays in Gwen's company, the
higher the probability of something bad happening."
Kate was not stupid; she had seen the way Steven looked at Gwen.
Whether it was Luke in the past or Steven in the present, both of them seemed to have fallen for Gwen.
Kate was not worried about Steven regaining Luke's memories; the doctor who had been in charge of Steven's case was one of the most
outstanding in this field–not even Dr. Liddell could compare.
Therefore, even if they wanted to, Kate knew that it would take them years before they could
restore Luke's memories and consciousness.

However, she was worried about the possibility of Steven falling for Gwen.
This was the most fatal flaw in their plan.
Just as the three of them were pondering over Steven and Denise's whereabouts, someone kicked the front door down.
Thomas, Yannie, and their group of bodyguards stormed through the door.
"Mr. and Mrs. Hughes." Thomas strode into the living room. "May I ask, where is your precious and beloved daughter hiding?"
Mr. and Mrs. Hughes exchanged a nervous glance.
A split second later, Mr. Hughes stood up. "Mr. Howard, may I ask what is the reason you're looking for Denise?"
Thomas could not be bothered to entertain him at all. "My daughter has gone missing, and Denise is the prime suspect. Now tell me, where the hell
is she?"
Chapter 2825
Mrs. Hughes frowned when she saw Thomas storm in, then instinctively hid behind her husband's back.
She peeked at him tentatively and asked, "What does Denise have to do with your daughter
disappearing?"

Myr.Hughes furrowed his brow, glanced at the guards who stood behind
Thomas, then forced out a wry smile.
"That's right.There must've been a misunderstanding, Mr.Howard."
"Misunderstanding?"
Thomas scoffed, took out his phone, pulled up the news of Tina and Dan being arrested, and tossed
his phone to Mr.and Mrs.Hughes.
"Tina's been arrested, and since Denise has always been her loyal partner-incrime, there can't bea
misunderstanding!"
misunderstanding!" The color drained from Mr.and Mrs.Hughes' faces.
The color drained from Mr.and Mrs.Hughes' faces.
The color drained from Mr.and Mrs.Hughes' faces.  The two of them exchanged glances and then picked up the phone.
The color drained from Mr.and Mrs.Hughes' faces.  The two of them exchanged glances and then picked up the phone.  A photo of Tina in handcuffs stared back at them.

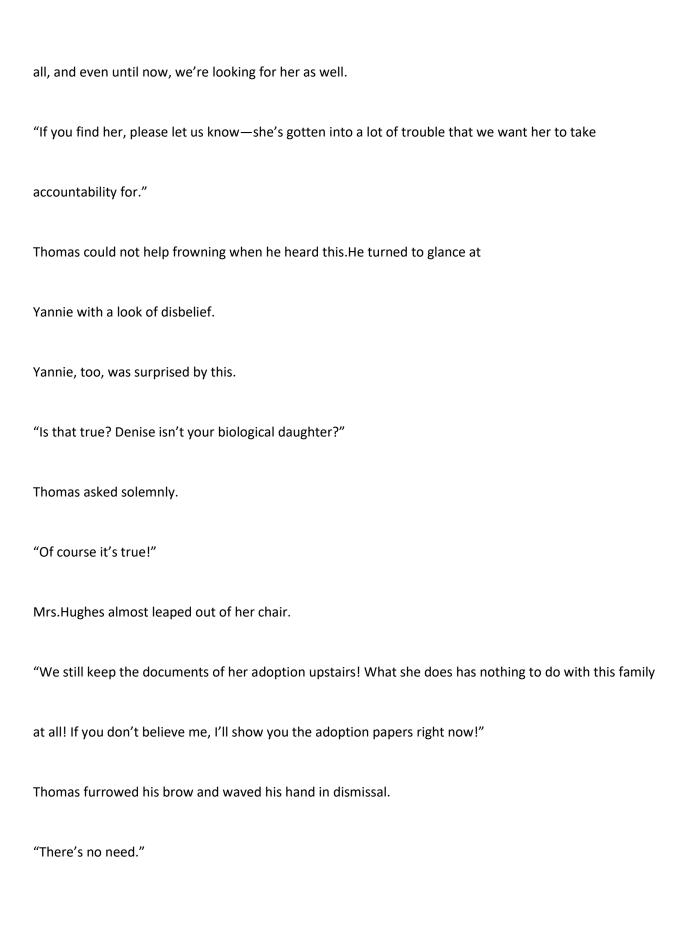
When Denise grew up to be a charming little lady, they decided to marry her off for social relations to
aid their family's rise to power.
The Howard family was the only people who were worth their time and effort in doing this.
Therefore, Denise's sole mission was to get married into the Howard family and become their
daughter-in- law.
However, due to Mr.and Mrs.Hughes' distaste for Dan, they decided Thomas would be a better target
and thus brainwashed Denise into thinking he was the love of her life and coerced her into plotting with
Tina.

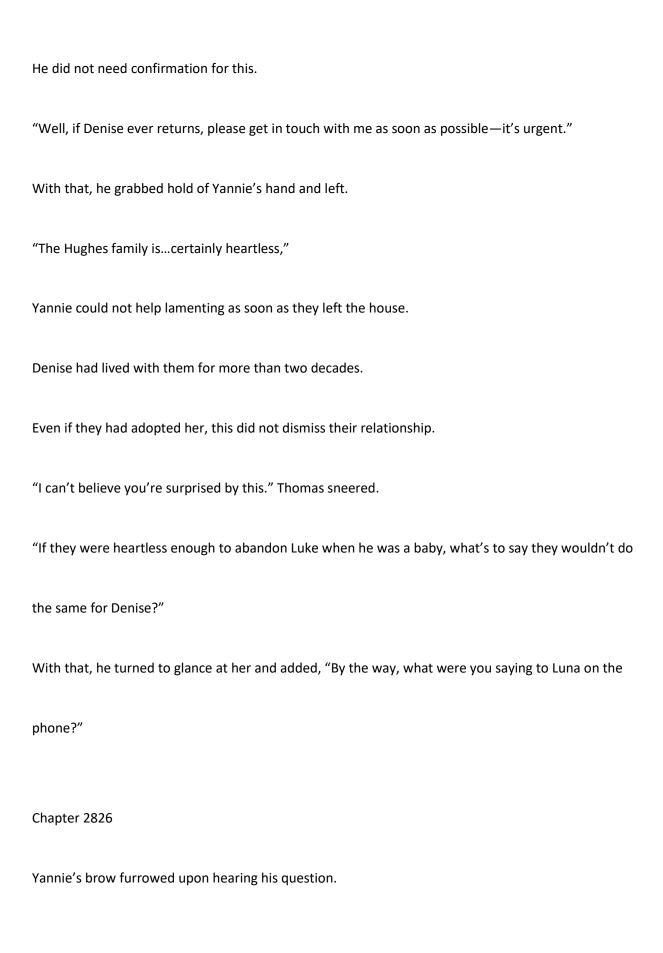
With Tina arrested and Denise gone without a trace, there was no point trying to protect her anymore, considering her and Tina's plan had failed miserably.

It was far more important to get on Thomas' good side in times like this.

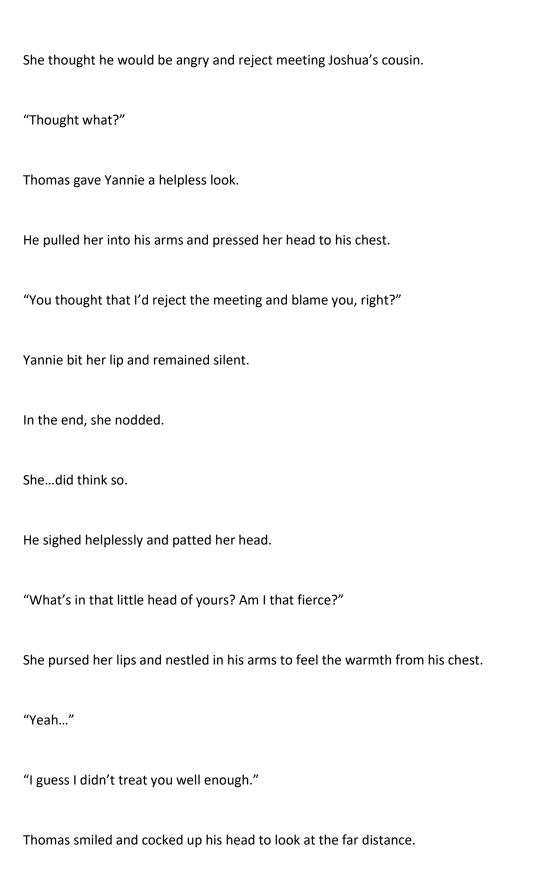
At the thought of this, Mrs. Hughes curled her lips into a smile and batted her lashes innocently at Thomas.

"You probably don't know this, Mr. Howard, but Denise isn't our biological daughter at all— we adopted her many years ago, and thus, what she does outside of this house has nothing to do with our family at











If things worked out as smoothly as Thomas saidRiley should be safe and in a good place for the
time being.
"Let's go meet Mr.Lynch's cousin now, then we can focus on looking for Riley.We can also ask his men
to aid us."
"Okay."
Thomas smiled.
He held Yannie's hand while getting into the car.
"Give me the address.We'll go over there now."
In a private room in a five-star hotel in Saigen City.
Luna was surprised to see Denise entering the room together with Sean.
"Why are both of you together?"
"We'd been together for the whole day now."
Denise smiled awkwardly as she sat down across from Luna.
"I've seen today's news.Mr.Lynch, you're very powerful and have good taste."

Luna furrowed her brow vehemently.
This was not the time when she wanted to hear compliments.
"Denise, do you know Thomas is coming later? Why did you come here? Are you not concerned for
your life?"
The Novel will be updated daily. Come back and continue reading tomorrow, everyone
Chapter 2827
Denise was shocked to see how nervous Luna felt for her, and tears slowly welled up in her eyes.
She did not expect the person who cared for her the most at this timewas actually Luna.
After she discovered the Hughes family's true colors, she thought that no one else would care or worry
for her anymore apart from her brother. Frankly speaking, she was prepared for the worst when she
decided to come.
She knew better than anyone else what awaited her upon seeing Thomas and Yannie.
Nonetheless, she did not want to escape anymore. If Thomas could kill her, it would be the best ending
for her. She had helped Gwen to get what she wanted, and she believed Gwen would keep her

promise and not bother Steven anymore.

Therefore....all that was left to do was to give Riley back to Thomas and Yannie together with Sean.

She desired nothing else in life.

Her birth itself was a joke. She thought she was the princess of the Hughes family while all along, she

was kept from the fact that she was adopted.

In the end, she was just a tool for her adoptive parents to atone for their sins when she was just a child.

Once she grew up, she became her adoptive parents' tool to fawn over the Howard family and Tina.

On the surface, Tina was her godmother. Denise thought Tina cared for her and wanted the best for

her, but... Tina merely wanted to use Denise because of her beauty. She wanted Denise to seduce and

brainwash Thomas with Denise's virgin self to make Thomas their puppet.

Even if Denise already had sex with Thomas, her support had fallen. There was no meaning to her

existence anymore.

Thus, it surprised her that Luna would care about her when she had given up on herself and had

caused so much trouble to her.

She bit her lip and looked deep into Luna's eyes before a feeble smile appeared on her face. "It's not

that I don't want to live anymore...but I know very well that there's no place for me to hide."

Even if she could hide, she could not possibly do so for the rest of her life. Thomas had great influence and power in this city, especially when Senior Howard was dead and Tina and Dan were in jail. An insignificant person like her would never be Thomas' match.

Hence, there was no place for her to hide. Since she had to face reality sooner or later, why not face it?

At least she would not have to live in fear anymore.

Luna was startled when she saw Denise's despair-filled eyes and was speechless for a good while.

She sighed. "You're right."

"Where's Riley?" Joshua asked Sean as he lifted his face and looked at Sean. He was sitting beside

Luna.

Sean paused for a while before pointing at the room across from them. "Sleeping." Luna's eyes widened the moment she heard Sean's response. "Riley is with you?!" Sean smiled. "Yes. Nigel asked me and Ms. Hughes here to go rescue her."

He stood up and raised an eyebrow at Luna. "Do you want to go take a look at her?" Luna quickly got

on her feet and strode out of the room.

Just as Sean said, a plump lady was guarding carefully beside Riley when they entered the room opposite where they were.

Luna felt like she had seen this lady before. She...looked like one of Denise's socialite lackeys from when they were at the ski resort a few days ago.

The lady smiled when she saw the astonished look on Luna's face. "Mrs. Lynch, we meet again.

Denise called me over to help look after Riley.

"Don't worry. Denise is my best friend, and I'll make sure to complete the task she requested me to do.

You can go back to discuss the serious matter for now. Once you're all finished, Riley should be awake

by then."

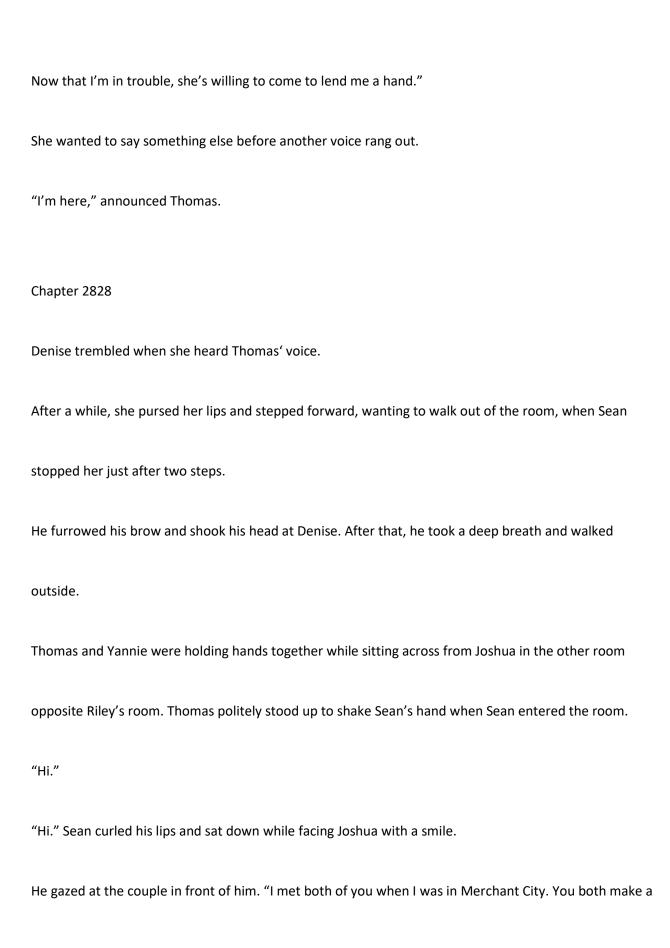
Luna was stunned. She curled up her lips into an awkward smile. "I thought...all of Denise's friends

are..."

"Snobs?" Denise curled her lips. "You're right. Those socialites who knew about my matter refused to

pick up my call, but not Eva. She's different."

She looked at the lady in front of her fondly. "When Eva was in trouble, I was the one who helped her.





Sean smiled. "I'm here because of two things. The first is that I'm now a member of the gang where Luke used to be. My brothers asked me to come here to take a look after they know what's happening here." He paused. "The other matter...is to help my nephew rescue a little girl." Thomas frowned. "Your nephew asked you to come here to rescue a little girl?" For some reason, he felt like there was an underlying meaning behind that sentence. He thought back on the situation when Joshua and Luna knew Riley was missing. They were never in a hurry to look for Riley. On the contrary, they requested that he and Yannie come meet Sean. He furrowed his brow vehemently. "How old is this little girl?" Sean smiled. "A few months old." A little girl that was only a few months old? Yannie widened her eyes instantly. She bit her lip and stood up nervously. "Is it Riley? Mr. Wheeler, is the name of the little girl you rescued...Riley?" Sean smiled and nodded. "Yes."

Yannie felt joy rushing through her at this answer. "Where is she now? Can you tell me?"

"Of course." Sean smiled. "But, before I give Riley back to you, I hope you can agree with my condition."

While moving the cup in front of him, he added, "To be more specific, exchanging Riley for another person.

He looked at Thomas. "It's within your reach. Is Mr. Howard willing to accept it?"

Chapter 2829

use my daughter to bargain with me?"

At first, Thomas frowned when he heard that request. After a while, he curled up his lip and smiled.

He looked at Joshua. "I should be grateful that your son asked Sean to rescue my daughter, but why

He leaned back and looked at Joshua coldly. "What are you guys trying to do?"

Joshua curled up his lips and smiled. "This is Nigel's plan, I have no say in it. He felt like Sean should

be the one who rescued Riley, and that's what he did. I'm just in charge of setting up this meeting."

Thomas squinted and glared at Joshua before turning to look at Sean. "Mr. Wheeler, let's cut the crap

and tell me what's your term. If it's not too absurd, I'll agree to it."

He did not like to be threatened nor negotiate terms with another person. This was for Riley, so he
needed to cave in. The most important thing for him was to avenge his mother and keep Yannie an
Riley safe.

"It's not a difficult thing for you, honestly." Sean curled up his lips and smiled. He took out his phone and found a photo.

It was a photo of Denise holding Riley with a bright smile.

"I hope you'll let her go," Sean said.

The smile on Thomas' face disappeared the second he saw Denise in the photo. He squinted and looked at the photo coldly. "Just as I expected. She's the one who kidnapped Riley!"

His assumption was right. Riley was in Denise's hand because Denise was the one who kidnapped her! "So you're really going to plead for Denise, Mr. Wheeler?" Yannie furrowed her brow and looked at Sean with disbelief. "Am I hearing this right?"

If what Thomas said was right, Denise was the person who kidnapped Riley. Yet, after Sean rescued Riley from Denise, he was pleading with them to forgive Denise.

## Was he nuts?

"Yes." Sean looked at Joshua before looking at Thomas and Yannie. He smirked. "However, all of you misunderstood one thing: Ms. Hughes wasn't the one who kidnapped your child. It was Kate Miller." He paused and took out the surveillance footage Nigel asked him to bring over. "These are the surveillance footage that the employee of the hospital deleted. You can clearly see the person who wanted to kidnap your daughter is Kate Miller. When she was about to take away your daughter, she was stopped by Steven. Kate still fantasized about being with Steven, so she handed your daughter to him to make him feel grateful to her."

Thomas furrowed his brow. His heart tightened when he looked at the surveillance footage from the phone.

All this while, he knew the Hughes family and the Miller family were on the same boat. In spite of that, he knew Steven was different from the others in his family.

If Steven did not take Riley from Kate, the consequences would be unbearable.

"After Steven took your daughter, he kept her safe in a mansion located outside the city. After you got into trouble, Steven and Gwen had been busy helping you to look for Mr. Zink. At that time, Kate

must've realized your daughter is still useful to her, so she sent many people to Steven's mansion,
trying to snatch her back. I got sent to rescue your daughter after Nigel discovered Kate's plan."
He stared into Thomas' eyes. "Denise went to rescue Riley with me. Without her, the rescue mission
wouldn't have gone as smoothly-"
Chapter 2830
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"I don't believe Denise is that kind-hearted," interjected Thomas curtly before Sean could finish.
He smirked. "Mr. Wheeler, you probably don't know what Denise did. That's why you said Denise lent a
hand in this matter."
He tried hard to suppress his anger. "Do you know that if it weren't for Denise, my family and I wouldn't
be in this mess?"
If Denise did not listen to Tina and tried to plot the thing she should not do to him yesterday, maybe
Riley would never have been in danger!

Saying Tina was the bad person and that Kate was the one who kidnapped Riley...

If it were not for Denise, none of these things would have happened.

Moreover, if it were not for that terrible woman, Yannie would never think about leaving him with Riley!

It was not just Yannie who thought that way. He himself was disgusted and wanted to retch once he

thought he probably had done the thing he should not do together with Denise.

After all the disgusting things Denise had done, how could he pretend that nothing happened and

forgive Denise just because Sean said Denise 'lent a hand' in rescuing Riley with him?

It was a dream-a pathetic one. It was not possible!

The pain was deeply engraved in their hearts. Even if they forgave Denise, what about the pain and

torture they experienced?

The hatred in Thomas' eyes shocked Sean deeply.

He thought he could resolve the hatred between Thomas and Denise, but he did not think that...

Thomas would be so furious when he mentioned Denise.

Sean fell quiet. Just as he was about to say something, someone opened the door from the outside.

Denise walked in. "Thomas."

Thomas furrowed his brow when he heard that voice. He looked over and saw Denise.

She was wearing a black outfit. However, she did not have that arrogance and disdain looked as before. She looked dull and gloomy instead. When Thomas laid his eyes on her, she smiled bitterly and walked toward him.

When she reached him, she immediately fell on her knees.

"I know what I did was unforgivable."

From the moment Joshua brought Yannie back to Saigen City, she had done everything Tina told her to. Every time Tina tried to plot against Joshua and his family, she took part in it, not knowing everything was a conspiracy. She naively thought she was the best match for Thomas because of their family's background.

She knew for a fact there were never feelings between her and Thomas. Moreover, she always thought there was no correlation between love and marriage.

No matter how much Thomas loved Yannie, he would still have to end up with her eventually. She thought her affection for Thomas was so much that she could sacrifice everything to be with him.

However...

It struck her deeply after she knew the truth. She wondered if her feelings for Thomas were real.
Maybe, just maybeshe did not really love him.
When everyone kept telling her how good Thomas was and what a perfect match they were, she
became deluded. She finally realized she was wrong and that everythingwas too late.
Just like what Thomas said, could all of the things that happened be written off so easily just because
she knew she was wrong?
She took a deep breath and looked at Thomas. "I'll accept whatever punishment you have in store for
me."