

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

chapter 1181

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No one responded despite Charlotte calling out for a long while.

She was very nervous and had every subordinate with her join the search; so, only Louis remained with her.

Louis comforted her as he searched. "Charlotte, don't panic. We'll find her. Everyone in the manor is our people. The child will be fine."

"What am I supposed to tell Danrique if anything happens to the child?" Charlotte was panicking. "I shouldn't have gone back alone. I should've brought them along with me."

"Don't be like that, Charlotte. It'll be fine." Louis' heart ached for Charlotte. "I'll ask for more help."

He was about to inform his subordinate but soon realized nobody else was there. They probably went searching at other places.

"Charlotte, I didn't have my phone with me. I'll go call for some help."

Louis was about to head back and look for more help when he noticed a small accessory on the ground in the bush beside him. He picked it up urgently and examined it. It was a star-shaped hair clip.

He immediately called, "Charlotte, come over here and see if this belongs to Alpha."

Charlotte ran over and examined the hair clip. "This is Alpha's hairclip. Where did you find it?"

"Over there." Louis led Charlotte over to the place where he found the accessory.

There was a small shoe print beside the bush. It probably belonged to Alpha. There weren't any other shoeprints there besides hers. And there was no abnormality with it.

Charlotte's anxiety increased. She immediately phoned Lupine. "I need you to release Fifi."

"Got it." Lupine instantly went to arrange.

Sometimes, animals were capable of carrying certain tasks humans couldn't do.

Fifi could sniff out Alpha's location by the scent lingering on her clothes.

"It has started raining." Louis stretched his hand outward to catch the raindrop.

Charlotte looked up at the dark sky, and soon fat water droplets dripped onto her face.

"Charlotte, you should find shelter, and I'll continue searching."

Louis took off his coat and covered Charlotte with it.

"I can't rest now."

Charlotte continued staring at the sky. Fifi had flown over from the hot spring resort.

Charlotte whistled. Hearing the sharp sound, Fifi immediately flew in her direction. It picked up the accessory in Charlotte's hand and took off searching for Alpha.

Louis was baffled by the entire scene. Fearsome screams sounded not far away.

Charlotte turned in the direction, and Louis replied, "The screams belong to the maids. They were probably shocked by Fifi. It's fine."

"You should head back first."

Charlotte followed after Fifi.

"I'll be right behind you." Louis followed.

"Louis..." Diana yelled.

Louis didn't turn his head but increased his pace to trail after Charlotte.

The rain got heavier, and soon Charlotte was drenched. But that was the last thing on her mind at that moment. All she wanted was Alpha to be found.

Charlotte was a fast runner. Louis almost lost her.

Luckily, she stopped in front of a cabin. Perching on the roof was Fifi.

Charlotte barged in the door. "Alpha!"

Alpha was sitting in a corner, holding an adorable rabbit in her arms. She was drenched from the rain, shivering from the cold, and curled up in fear.

She raised her head, hearing Charlotte's voice. "Aunt Charlotte!"

"Alpha!" Charlotte rushed to Alpha's side with her arms wide and embraced the latter. "You scared me to death. Let me see. Are you hurt anywhere?"

Charlotte looked her up and down.

"I'm fine, Aunt Charlotte." Alpha sniffled. "I was playing hide-and-seek with Beta and Gamma. But I saw this cute bunny. So I chased after it. After a while, I realized I was lost. Then, it started to rain, so I came inside for shelter."

"Good girl." Charlotte ran her fingers through Alpha's messy hair. "I'll take you home."

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“The rain is getting heavier. Let’s wait here for a little longer.” Louis was rummaging throughout the cabin. “Let me look if there is anything I can use to start a fire.”

With an arm full of firewood, Charlotte started a fire in the fireplace. She even found a pot. Then, she began to peel a pear while waiting for the pot of water to boil.

“Wow! Aunt Charlotte is amazing! You’re like Mommy!”

Alpha noted Charlotte was able to do everything from starting a fire and cooking.

“Do you miss your Mom?” Charlotte gently caressed Alpha’s face.

“Yeah.” Alpha nodded. Tears started streaming down her face as she pouted.

“Don’t be sad. You’ll see your mom soon enough.” Charlotte’s heart ached for Alpha as she pulled the latter into her arms.

“Charlotte, allow me.”

Louis took over peeling the pear with a paring knife. Once done, he handed Charlotte the perfectly peeled pear.

“Dice it, then put it into the pot.” Charlotte said, “Alpha is catching a cold. She needs some pear stew.”

“Oh, I see.” Louis did according to her instructions.

At that moment, Fifi flew inside, surprising Louis, causing him to drop the paring knife.

“Don’t be scared. It won’t hurt you with me here.”

Charlotte gestured for Fifi to obediently stay beside the fire, allowing the heat from the fire to dry its feathers.

However, its sharp gaze was fixed on the rabbit in Alpha's arms.

"Fifi, you can't eat my bunny." Alpha tightened her arms on the rabbit. She warned, "If you dare eat my bunny, I'll tell Daddy."

Fifi seemed to understand her words as it quickly averted its eyes and started to clean its wings with its beak.

"Aren't you afraid of it, Alpha?" Louis asked softly.

"Nope." Alpha lifted her head proudly as she answered, "It's scared of me."

"You're amazing. As expected, you're your Daddy's daughter."

Louis let out a sigh. He was still scared of Fifi every time he saw it. Yet, this two-year-old child wasn't.

"You have to do better. Aunt Charlotte's fiancé" encouraged Alpha innocently.

Louis was taken aback briefly. He laughed at Alpha's response. "I will try harder."

It was the first time someone had a positive outlook on his relationship with Charlotte. He was happy about it.

Charlotte fed Alpha a bowl of soup and held her as she slept. The latter's clothes were hung to dry by the fireplace.

Charlotte forgot her phone, so she had Fifi act as a messenger.

Alpha slept in Charlotte's arms while the rabbit sat quietly in Alpha's.

Charlotte softly ruffled Alpha's hair. Her gaze was gentle under the firelight.

Louis's heart pounded as he stared at her.

Charlotte felt his gaze for a long while. She lifted her eyes to look at him.

He instantly averted his gaze and blushed.

Charlotte coughed dryly to relieve the awkwardness. "Aren't you cold? Take off your coat and come sit by the fire."

Louis had been drying Charlotte's and Alpha's clothes the entire time. He was still wearing his drenched clothes.

"I almost forgot."

Louis removed his coat and left it to dry by the fire. The clothing under his coat was also drenched, but he didn't dare take them off. He merely scooted closer to the fire.

At that time, both Charlotte and Louis had their coat removed, leaving them with a thin layer of clothing as they sat by the fire.

Probably from the warmth of the fire, Louis fell asleep on the sofa.

The rain outside continued to pour as the sky turned darker.

Why hasn't Morgan found us yet?

It has been over an hour.

Suddenly, she heard a car stop outside, followed by Diana's and Morgan's voices.

"Louis!"

"Ms. Lindberg!"

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"Louis, Louis," Charlotte called as she put on her coat. "They're here. Wear your coat quickly."

Louis muttered something incomprehensible under his breath. But there was no sign of wakefulness.

Charlotte was resigned, so she gently set Alpha down by the sofa and swiftly put on her clothes.

The voices were getting nearer and nearer.

Charlotte urgently pushed Louis. "Louis. Louis. Wake up..."

Louis was still half asleep when he saw Charlotte's beautiful face right in front of him. His heart skipped a beat at her beauty. He instinctively wrapped his arms around her.

"Louis, what are you doing?"

Charlotte was stunned. She quickly pushed him away.

At that moment, the door opened, and she accidentally fell deeper into Louis's embrace.

Sherlyn screamed in surprise, then quickly shut the door. "I'm sorry. I'm so sorry about the intrusion. Please continue."

Charlotte was blushing bright red. She pushed Louis harder and dashed to the other side to smoothen her clothes.

"Charlotte, I'm sorry." Louis finally fully snapped awake. "I didn't know what happened earlier, I-"

"Stop. Quickly put on your clothes," Charlotte reminded with a frown.

"Okay." Louis quickly got up and began putting on his clothes.

Soon, they were both dressed appropriately. Charlotte went outside with Alpha still asleep in her arms.

Morgan went up to take Alpha into her arms and passed the rabbit to the bodyguard.

"Are you hurt?" Lupine asked softly.

Charlotte didn't reply but turn to Sherlyn to explain. "Lady Sherlyn, we're both drenched. Our clothes were wet. So-"

"I understand completely." Sherlyn cut her off with a laugh. "You're both young. I understand there are times when your feelings overcome you. Moreover, your wedding is coming soon."

"No. We're-"

"It's fine." Sherlyn interrupted Charlotte again. "It's already dark. The kids are waiting for you. Let's hurry back."

Charlotte stopped explaining and got in the car.

"Charlotte!" Louis dashed out the door, wanting to follow Charlotte into the car, but she shut the door in his face.

"Louis, get in my car." Sherlyn pulled Louis into her car. "Finally, some improvement, my son."

"What?" asked Louis confusedly.

"I told you to work harder to woo Charlotte." Sherlyn blinked her eyes cheekily. "She won't run from you once you have wooed her."

"Mommy, what are you talking about?"

Louis sneezed before he could finish his sentence. Then a string of sneezes followed.

"Oh no. You've caught a cold. Let's hurry back and get you some medicine." Sherlyn quickened her pace to the car with Louis in tow. She felt the temperature on his forehead. "Your temperature is rising. It was raining heavily. You shouldn't push yourself."

"Mommy, Charlotte came all the way to search for the child. I surely have to accompany her." Louis frowned. "How are we going to explain if we lost the child?"

"She won't go missing," Sherlyn blurted out, then immediately covered her mouth with her hands.

"I also think she won't. But the child is so small. We have to search for her." Louis added unhappily, "I hope I'm not overstepping my bounds by telling you this, but you have to be careful when watching children. It would be bad if anything bad happened."

"All right. I can't believe you got sick after all this trouble."

"It's merely a cold. It's nothing serious. I'll be fine with some medication from Dr. Felch."

"Right. Let's head back quickly," Sherlyn urged. "I have some medication back at the resort. You'll recover soon. We're not used to the herbal concoction."

"Aunt Sherlyn, it's better if Louis consulted Dr. Felch." Diana added, "Louis got sick because of Ms. Lindberg. She would feel bad if she knew about it and might even ask to take care of Louis."

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Sherlyn agreed. "You're right, Diana. Louis, you should get closer to Charlotte with this opportunity."

"Mommy, what are you saying?"

Louis couldn't stop sneezing, his head was heavy, his thoughts blurry. He couldn't focus on Sherlyn's words.

"You just rest since you're not feeling well."

Sherlyn gently patted his back like taking care of a child.

Louis fell asleep in her arms.

Diana covered Louis with a blanket. Her action was gentle, but her gaze was complicated.

Meanwhile, on the other car, Charlotte covered Alpha with a blanket. "Are Beta and Gamma back home?"

"They're back home, Ms. Lindberg," Lupine answered softly, afraid of waking Alpha up. "They weren't willing to leave at first, but Fifi came back with the news that you've found Alpha. Only then, they went back."

"Luckily, it was just a scare." Charlotte glanced at Morgan. "What's wrong with you today?"

"I'm sorry, Ms. Lindberg." Morgan apologized, "I admit to my mistake and am willing to accept any punishment."

"You're not usually like this. What exactly happened today?" Lupine was curious as well. "Did something unusual happen?"

"We were following the kids closely, but Lady Sherlyn said she wanted to play hide-and-seek with them. She didn't allow us to follow."

Morgan lowered her head as she explained.

"I did tell her you gave us an order to follow the kids closely. But Lady Sherlyn was persistent. I didn't want any trouble with her."

"Also, the kids were hyper by then. They already ran into the grape farm. We were thinking of following the girls inside but were stopped by Lady Sherlyn. In the end, we could merely wait outside."

"After a while, we heard Alpha was missing. We urgently went inside to search."

Charlotte stayed silent and started pondering her words.

"What do you mean?" Lupine was confused. "You're saying Lady Sherlyn had done it on purpose?"

"I did suspect so initially, but why would she do that?" Morgan couldn't understand. "Alpha was fine in the end. She said she ran off because she was chasing after the rabbit."

"Let's not speculate without any evidence." Charlotte ordered, "I'll forgive you this time, but there's no next time."

“Understood.” Morgan held her breath with her head bowed.

They have finally arrived at the villa. Charlotte got out of the car with Alpha in her arms. Beta and Gamma rushed to her side.

“Alpha!”

Charlotte gestured for them to keep quiet, not to wake Alpha up.

Beta and Gamma quickly covered their mouth.

“Alpha has fallen asleep, so I’m carrying her back to her room. Why don’t you girls follow us?” Charlotte asked the girls gently.

“Okay.” Beta and Gamma obediently trailed after Charlotte.

“Mommy, is Alpha alright?”

Ellie and Robbie approached. They worriedly accompanied Beta and Gamma the entire time Alpha was gone.

“She’s fine. She got lost chasing after a rabbit.” Charlotte explained, “She was drenched in the rain and is sleeping now. Let’s not disturb her tonight. All of you go to sleep too.”

“Okay.”

Charlotte took Alpha back to her room. After comforting Beta and Gamma, she ordered Morgan, “Ask Hayley to check on Alpha. See if Alpha needs any medication for cold.”

“Lupine went looking for her a while ago. She’s currently making ginger soup.” Morgan said softly, “Go shower and change. I’ll be right here.”

“Wipe Alpha down and change her out of her clothing.”

“Understood.”

Charlotte saw Sherlyn when she exited the girls’ room. The latter was coming toward her with the maids and Louis following behind her.

Louis was covering his sneezing nose and mouth with a handkerchief.

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“It’s great that you’re here, Charlotte!” When Sherlyn saw Charlotte, she quickly said, “I think Louis caught a cold. He’s not been feeling well during the journey back. Can you ask Dr. Felch to check on him?”

“Sure! Help him back to his room first while I get Dr. Felch over.”

Charlotte glanced at her watch and saw that it was already nine at night. I wonder if Dr. Felch has slept.

She decided to visit Dr. Felch personally.

However, Dr. Felch did not go to sleep after he knew that Alpha went missing and was worried that she might be ill after being found.

After Charlotte explained the situation to him, he brought Sam along to check on Louis.

Louis had already changed his clothes and was drinking some warm water on the sofa. He was even chastising his mother for making a mountain out of a molehill—it was already so late, but she still asked Charlotte to get Dr. Felch over and disturb his rest.

At that moment, Charlotte and Dr. Felch knocked on the door and entered. Sherlyn quickly got up and greeted him respectfully.

Charlotte served as the translator for them. After some polite small talk, Dr. Felch started checking on Louis. “He has indeed caught a cold, but he’ll be fine after two prescriptions of herbal concoction. Have a hot bath and rest early!”

Then, he wrote his prescription and instructed Sam to prepare the medicine.

Charlotte translated what Dr. Felch said to Sherlyn.

Still worried, Sherlyn asked, "Will he be fine after taking the medicine? Doesn't he need to go to the hospital? He seems like he's severely ill... His body is cold and he feels dizzy."

"Don't worry, Lady Sheryln. Dr. Felch is highly skilled, so his prescriptions will definitely cure Louis' cold completely," assured Charlotte.

"Yeah..." Louis wanted to say something, but he started sneezing again. "Achoo!"

"Okay, we'll go out now so we won't disturb your rest."

Sherlyn's heart was aching for Louis, then she quickly asked the subordinates to leave.

After giving Louis a few more reminders, Dr. Felch and Sam left as well.

Charlotte was getting ready to send them off when Sherlyn held her back. "Charlotte, I'll send Dr. Felch off. You should stay here and keep Louis company."

"I..."

Charlotte was about to speak when Sherlyn and her maids left.

Before leaving, Diana even reminded her, "Ms. Lindberg, I'll leave Louis to you."

Everyone left promptly and closed the door behind them.

Charlotte stood there with a frown.

"Charlotte, don't worry about me. Go back and rest! Achoo... Achoo..."

Before Louis could complete his sentence, he sneezed a few times. He even had a running nose, which made him look extremely miserable.

“Louis, drink more warm water.”

Feeling sorry for him, Charlotte turned around to pour some water for him. When she discovered that the kettle only contained cold water, she instructed the maids to fetch some warm water over.

Only Charlotte had the habit of drinking warm water—Louis and the rest did not.

As the maid was used to Charlotte’s habit, they would prepare some warm water every day.

“The pear stew you made just now was so delicious. It’s a pity that I only drank half a bowl just now,” lamented Louis as he covered his nose with a handkerchief.

“I’ll cook more for you.”

Charlotte remembered how Louis got drenched in the rain because he was looking for Alpha for her. Furthermore, he had been so focused on drying Alpha and her clothes by the fireside that he did not bother about himself. As such, he caught a cold.

Since he had always treated her so nicely, it was only appropriate for her to take care of him.

“Will it be too much of a hassle for you?” Louis looked at her worriedly. “You were drenched in the rain too and I’m sure that you’re exhausted...”

“I’m fine. It’s a simple recipe anyway!” Charlotte hurried away. “Rest for a while. I’ll bring it over when I’m done.”

“Okay! Thank you, Charlotte.”

Feeling touched, Louis smiled sweetly. He no longer felt uncomfortable—instead, he felt strangely happy.

If I’m sick, Charlotte will take care of me. Perhaps she’ll spend more time with me tonight...