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Never Late, Never Away Chapter 2131 - 2132

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Larry wouldn't harm Jessica, but the same couldn't be said for her father.

After returning home that night, Jessica sat on the sofa in the living room with a pensive look sprawled on her face.

If Larry is serious about this, Dad will really be in trouble. Her eyes glinted coldly at the thought. She immediately fished out her phone to call her father.

"Dad, I just met that guy Larry. You should hide. He's looking for you." Worry laced her voice.

"Jessica, why are you so stubborn? Didn't I tell you not to come back? Anyway, don't worry. He can't find me. He doesn't even know where I am. How can he find my whereabouts? Even if he can, it's going to take him some time, but you..." The person on the other line sounded anxious as he trailed off.

Jessica let out a sigh. "Don't worry about me, Dad. As long as you're all okay, everything will be fine on my end."

The two chatted for a while before ending the call. Full of confidence again after speaking to her father, Jessica walked to the windows with a spring in her step. As she gazed at the stars in the dark sky, she began fantasizing about her future with Larry.

The next morning, sunlight filtered through the windows and warmed the room. The woman on the bed turned over and reached out, only to find the space next to her empty again.

He still hasn't come home. Joan sighed sadly.

Suddenly, Lucius' voice rang loudly, interrupting her thoughts, "Mom, I'm going to be late. Can you send me to school?"

Joan bolted upright in bed and hastily threw on some clothes. Without even applying makeup, she dashed over to Lucius' room.

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“Mom, I overslept today.” The boy peered at the woman with pitiful eyes.

It’s all Caiden’s fault. He insisted on staying here till late last night to play games with Lucius. And now, Lucius is going to be late for school.

“Have you packed your stuff, Lucius? I’ll send you to school.” Outside the door, a familiar male voice reached their ears.

What the hell? Didn’t he go home last night? Why is he here again today? Joan quickly rushed out. Surprise flashed across her face when she saw the man at the door.

Pointing a finger at him, she started, “Caiden. Didn’t you-”

“I’m ready, Caiden. C’mon, I’m gonna be late. We have to hurry.” Lucius interrupted Joan and directly hopped into Caiden’s car.

“You little rascal. I knew you’d be late.” The man gently stroked the boy’s hair.

After getting into the car, he waved goodbye to Joan and drove away. The woman was left standing there alone, unable to wrap her mind around things.

Why do I feel like I’m dreaming? Since when did the two of them become so close? She watched as the car drove further and further, immersed in thought.

“Hey, is there something going on between you and Caiden?” Delilah came outside and asked softly while rubbing the sleep from her eyes.

What? We’re just normal friends! A hint of worry appeared in Joan’s eyes.

“It seems like he’s trying to get close to Lucius, but it’s just an excuse to get close to you,” Delilah muttered under her breath before trudging back into the house.

This situation left a bad taste in Joan’s mouth.

Delilah’s right. Caiden has been coming here too frequently. If this goes on, people will start to gossip. I have to make things clear with him before it’s too late.

“Joan, your phone’s ringing!” Delilah called out from inside.

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“Coming.”

“Joan, what took you so long? I’ve been calling you for ages.” Nancy, who had called, sounded displeased.

“Oh, I was doing caught up with something. What’s up, Nancy? Why did you call me?”

“I wanna go shopping and buy some new clothes for my baby. Jory is so busy with work every day. He doesn’t have time to accompany me. So, are you free today, Joan?”

Can I say no... I still have to help out in the supermarket. Many people there are asking me to go back.

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Joan found herself in a tight spot all of a sudden.

Sensing her dilemma, Nancy quickly added, “Is this not a good time? It’s fine then. I’ll go on my own.”

“That’s not it, Nancy. I can join you, so just wait for me. I’ll come over as soon as I get ready.”

After a brief conversation, they hung up the call.

Joan would never allow Nancy to go out shopping on her own. She wouldn’t be able to live with herself if something were to happen to the woman.

Soon, both of them arrived at the mall’s entrance. Nancy was brimming with excitement, but Joan seemed troubled.

“Isn’t it too early to be shopping for your baby’s clothes?” the latter asked casually.

“Too early? No, it’s not. He’s going to be born very soon.” Nancy stroked her belly affectionately, a content smile stretching across her lips.

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Seeing this, Joan broke into a smile of her own.

Nancy sure has changed a lot. She's no longer as impulsive as before. Instead, she's gentle and thoughtful.

"You probably don't know this, but the baby is my hope, my everything. I want him to come to this world smoothly. I want him to grow up healthy and strong."

She sure is happy. I'm glad. Joan patted her back softly. "He will."

The two of them didn't shop for too long because it wasn't convenient for Nancy to walk around with her big belly. Hence, they left the mall after she bought a few pieces of clothing and headed to a café nearby.

"Joan, how are things between you and Larry?"

Just the usual. How else can we be? He's working overtime every day and can't make it home, while I'm afraid of disturbing him. There's really nothing I can do. Joan bowed her head as hurt flickered across her eyes.

Forcing her lips into a small smile, she replied, "We're alright. He's just been busier than usual lately."

"Hey, what a coincidence! What are you ladies doing here?" Dustin appeared in front of their table right then.

"We came out to do some shopping. What about you?" Nancy inquired curiously.

"What else? I'm here for a market survey. The products in the supermarket are up to the mark, but I was thinking of adding some new ones," Dustin explained.

Then, he squinted meaningfully and observed, "No wonder Joan is being nagged by her friends at the supermarket. She didn't go to work. She's here to accompany you instead."

The atmosphere turned slightly awkward as the three of them carried on in a conversation.

Hidden in a corner not far from the café, a pair of eyes took in everything that was happening.

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“Can we go now? It’s nothing but a simple gathering between friends,” Jaden whispered.

“I know. I just want to see what kind of people Joan is in contact with,” Caiden murmured back.

Jaden had to consciously stop himself from rolling his eyes. He’s head over heels in love with her. That’s why he wants to know her inside out, but then what? Will she even appreciate him and his efforts? Exasperated, Jaden turned his face away, unwilling to look at his friend.

When the two men arrived back at home, Caiden said after some deliberation, “Hey, help me look into the background of those two people from earlier. Send all the information directly to me.”

Once a person fell too deep in love, it would be difficult to break free. Hence, Caiden’s behavior may have seemed ridiculous to Jaden, but it was as simple as breathing to Caiden himself.

“Have you gone mad, Caiden? You need to get your sh*t straight and think this through. Joan has a family. She’s living a simple and good life. Why do you insist on ruining it?” Jaden said impatiently, a grim expression taking residence on his face.

Jaden had once heard about Caiden and Joan’s story, but he never expected his friend to be so obsessed with her.

“What do you know? True love knows no bounds,” Caiden retorted.

This is ridiculous! It may be true love for him, but what about for Joan? Instead of wasting time, energy, and money on her when she clearly doesn’t reciprocate his feelings, why can’t he just settle with being friends?

“I’m done here. You’re on your own, but don’t go too far. If your mom finds out, Joan will be the one to suffer.” With that, Jaden went back to his room.

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