

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter

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Fiona's expression darkened upon hearing this. Since Joshua had brought this up, this meant that he had seen the interviews she did, but... She had already downloaded the application that Jake had given her into both Joshua and Lucas' phones...so how could he have found out about the interviews?

"You told the media that even though Nigel and Nellie are just children, they're already wise beyond their age. Doesn't that imply that they had indeed kidnapped Janice?"

Fiona pursed her lips slightly. "That wasn't what I meant. All I wanted to say was that they were intelligent kids..."

"Is that so?" Joshua curled his lips into a cold sneer and opened the passenger side door. "Come on in. I have something to tell you."

Fiona contemplated for a moment before finally getting into the car.

As soon as he saw her entering, the bodyguard that had been keeping an eye on Fiona followed suit.

However, before he could even open the door to the backseat, Joshua stopped him and said, "I want to thank you for protecting Ms. Blake these few days, so go find Lucas to retrieve your reward."

The bodyguard was delighted to hear this. He immediately nodded and scampered off to find Lucas.

As soon as the bodyguard left, Joshua locked the car doors and started the engine. Fiona sat in the passenger seat and said in a gentle voice, "Joshua, I thought that you'd be able to find Luna in Sea City and bring her back."

With that, she let out a sigh and added, "I pity

Luna. If her children hadn't died, she wouldn't have lost her mind due to the emotional trauma and gone crazy. I was even thinking of visiting her at the mental asylum, but she escaped before I could do so Joshua narrowed his eyes slightly and smiled as he drove. "How did you know that Luna escaped?"

Joshua knew that even before he went to the mental asylum, Mr. Chase had kept Luna's escape a secret to prevent the public from finding out. Even after he had gone to the mental asylum and discovered that Luna had broken out, Joshua, too, instructed Mr.

Chase not to leak the news to the public. Despite that, Fiona somehow knew of this.

Fiona was a little startled by this question. Then, after a long pause, she let out an awkward cough and said, "Actually, I... I heard this from— "

"You heard this news from Mr. Chase," a cold, female's voice interrupted Fiona before she could finish.

Luna straightened up and fixated her gaze on Fiona, sneering. "You and Mr. Chase were in on this together, weren't you?"

"Luna?! " Fiona was so shocked by Luna's voice and sudden appearance that she could not even say a single word.

She turned to glance at Luna, then at Joshua, her face as pale as a ghost.

Since Luna was sitting in Joshua's car at this moment, utterly unscathed, this could only mean one thing...

Joshua and Luna had overcome their misunderstanding.

Fiona slumped feebly against the seat and glanced out the window, trying desperately to figure out an excuse to explain her behavior.

All of a sudden, she was struck with a realization.

"We're not heading to Orchard Manor! " Fiona turned to stare at Joshua in shock. "Joshua, where

are you taking me?"

Joshua stared at the road ahead of him with an expression of nonchalance. "The hospital."

Fiona's eyes widened. "Why are we going to the hospital?"

"I've made an appointment with another expert medical team to diagnose and treat you. I want to find out if there's a cure for your disease or not."

Fiona's face flushed scarlet immediately upon hearing this.

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Fiona then said, her throat tight and her lips trembling, "Joshua... I...don't think that's necessary, isn't it? Didn't Dr. Robert already give me a diagnosis for my illness? He's the most reputable doctor in the world who's never made a mistake."

Joshua glanced at Fiona's pale face through the rearview mirror and sneered contemptuously.

"He's never made a mistake? Fiona, from the moment you bribed Dr. Jenson to make a false diagnosis for Luna, he's no longer the reputable Dr. Jenson that we know of anymore.

"I've been wondering this for a while now: Why is there no medicine nor any treatment for your illness? Does this mean there's nothing we can do apart from waiting for you to die in a year?"

"Because of this, I've asked many other doctors apart from Dr. Jenson for help, but none of them could give a definite answer to my question. I even wondered how you acquired such a strange and rare illness, but now I know the answer."

Joshua gave Fiona a cold, penetrating stare and continued, "If you're not sick at all, of course there won't be any medicine or doctor available to treat you. If you're not sick, of course there won't be a way to make you better."

The color had drained entirely from Fiona's face.

Seeing that she was about to be exposed at any moment, she was so nervous that she started stuttering, “Joshua, I... I’m not faking anything! I’m

really sick! I have a fatal disorder that makes me prone to passing out when experiencing emotional trauma! “

She bit down on her lip and stared at Joshua with red-rimmed eyes. “I’m upset that this is how you think of me. If I lose control of my emotions again...”

Joshua was not intimidated by her threats at all and instead curled his lips into a sneer. “Well, that won’t be an issue since we’re already at the hospital anyway.”

With that, he parked the car.

Luna glanced out the window and realized that they were already at the entrance of Central Hospital.

As soon as the car stopped, a few nurses approached them and dragged Fiona out of the passenger seat without any warning.

“Joshua, I can explain everything! Joshua—!”

Luna let out a small sigh as Fiona’s cries grew further away. Then, after a moment, she lifted her head to glance at Joshua in the driver’s seat.

“What a surprise. I didn’t think you’d ever suspect your precious Ms. Blake of fraud, Mr. Lynch.”

Joshua could see the taunting look in Luna’s eyes. He let out a sigh and slumped against the leather seat feebly.

He had been suspecting Fiona of this for a while, but He always thought Fiona was a kind person.

After all, she had flown in from abroad to Banyan City just to donate bone marrow to Nigel.

Therefore, he did not think that she would turn out to be someone who would use her own health as a tool to gain other people’s sympathy. Because of this, every time he suspected Fiona of faking her illness, Joshua would always remind himself not to

have such doubts about a woman who had donated bone marrow to his son.

Besides, Fiona had Dr. Robert's diagnosis as proof, so Joshua did not have any reason to suspect her of fraud either, until...

Until yesterday, when he saw Janice in Luna's ward.

Janice's words had awoken him to the truth: that he should believe his own eyes and his gut feeling rather than cold, hard statistics and prescription notes.

Luna and Joshua continued to sit in the car in silence.

Half an hour later, Joshua received a call from the hospital. "Mr. Lynch, can you come upstairs for a bit? We've arrived at a conclusion...about Ms. Blake's illness."

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Joshua's expression darkened upon hearing this. He put down his phone, then turned to glance at Luna. "The doctors have concluded Fiona's disease. Do you want to come with me to hear what they have to say?"

Luna contemplated this for a moment, then chuckled. "Of course I do."

She got out of the car and added as they made their way to the hospital, "How can I miss the opportunity to witness the love of your life falling from her pedestal, Mr. Lynch?"

Joshua froze upon hearing this. A bitter smile crept across his face as he watched Luna walk further away.

The love of his life...

He would never allow her to fall from her pedestal. Never.

The two made their way into the hospital and arrived at the 18th floor, where Fiona had been undergoing her checkup.

Initially, Luna thought that they would be met with the sight of a defeated-looking Fiona and a group of experienced doctors when they arrived.

To her surprise, however...

When she and Joshua entered the ward, the first thing they saw was Fiona casually munching on some fruits, sitting gracefully on the hospital bed with her legs crossed.

Meanwhile, a group of doctors was sitting on stools surrounding her, their faces etched with confusion and helplessness.

Luna frowned upon seeing this. She had a feeling that something was wrong.

Joshua, too, furrowed his brows when he entered the room.

As soon as they arrived, the head doctor immediately stood up and approached them. "Mr. Lynch."

Joshua glanced at him impassively and said, "Tell me what happened."

The doctor cleared his throat. "Basically, we cross — checked and compared Ms. Blake's symptoms, and the conclusion is—

"Her symptoms match up with that of Dr. Robert's diagnosis, so we believe that Dr. Jenson's initial diagnosis was correct: Ms. Blake has indeed acquired a rare disease that causes her emotions to influence her physical health, and she has only less than eleven months to live."

Luna immediately froze upon hearing this.

Joshua, too, frowned as he then asked icily, "What do you mean by this? Does this mean that after spending such a long time examining her, the conclusion you get is that her symptoms match with those that Dr. Jenson described, and so he's correct?"

The doctor remained silent for a moment, then nodded. "Yes... That's correct."

Seeing that Joshua's expression was growing darker by the minute, the doctor let out an

awkward cough and lowered his head. "Mr. Lynch, please don't blame us... Ms. Blake was diagnosed by Dr. Robert himself, and you should know that Dr. Jenson is a reputable and experienced doctor... He's been in this field for more than forty years now and has never made a mistake. His diagnoses are always a hundred percent accurate.

"We've never seen anything like what Ms. Blake is experiencing before, so we didn't dare come to another diagnosis. However, since Dr. Robert has stated that her illness is an incurable one...then it must be true..."

Luna immediately glanced in Fiona's direction when she heard this.

At this moment, Fiona was sitting elegantly on the hospital bed, chewing on an orange nonchalantly. Luna narrowed her eyes, and a cold sneer spread across her lips.

Fiona knew that not a single doctor dared to challenge Dr. Robert's expertise for fear of offending him, and so she would not be exposed at all.

No wonder she did not seem worried at all. It turned out she had expected this to happen all along.

Joshua glared at the doctor in anger.

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"Just because Dr. Robert says it's correct, does it mean it's absolutely correct?"

The doctor nodded timidly. "That's one way of putting it... Dr. Robert is one of the most reputable names in this field... To doubt his expertise is to doubt the entire field of medicine itself... We... We don't have the guts to challenge that."

As soon as the doctor finished his sentence, Fiona gave Joshua a gentle smile and said, "Joshua, please don't make these doctors' lives any more difficult than it already is. If you really think I'm faking my disease, why don't you ask Dr. Robert to

come over and give me another checkup?”

With that, she leaped off the bed and approached Joshua with a grin. Then, she grabbed hold of his arm and gently swung it to and from as she continued, “Why did you have to get so many doctors to examine me? I was afraid that I had done something wrong...”

Joshua furrowed his brows slightly and flung Fiona’s arm away, then snapped with a cold expression, “Do you honestly think that you can get away with anything just because you have Dr. Robert’s proof?”

Fiona curled her lips into a small smile and blinked at Joshua innocently. “That wasn’t my intention at all, Joshua. I’ve been nothing but cooperative with the doctors as they examined me. It’s not like I can control their minds and force them to challenge Dr. Robert’s diagnosis, right...?”

Luna frowned upon seeing this. She could not believe how daring Fiona was!

Luna knew that the only way to make Fiona admit that she had been lying was to get Dr. Robert to contradict his initial diagnosis himself!

As soon as she thought of this, Luna lowered her head to glance at the time. It had been quite a while since they had left the mental asylum. If everything went according to plan... Dr. Robert should have reached the mental asylum and talked to Janice already.

All of a sudden, Luna’s phone rang. It was a call from Janice.

Luna immediately picked up her phone.

On the other end of the line, Janice wiped her tears away as she sat in the ward calmly. “Luna, Robert has left the asylum now. I’ve already told him that if he doesn’t face the mistakes he made... I’ll never step foot outside this ward ever again.

“He was so devastated and regretful of his actions that he cried, and he even promised me that he’d come to you immediately. He should be arriving

soon.“

With that, she let out a relieved chuckle and added, “ Thank you so much for your help, Luna, as well as your two children. After talking to Nigel and Nellie the other day, I had an epiphany and realized that even though I’m over fifty years old now, I’m more timid and fearful than two six-year-olds...”

As soon as she heard this, Luna let out a sigh and replied, “Please don’t say that, Aunty Janice... I should be the one thanking you for your help instead.“

At this moment, Fiona was triumphant because the doctors did not dare to challenge Dr. Robert’s diagnosis and, therefore, could not expose her lies. If Dr. Robert were willing to step forward and admit that he had faked Fiona’s diagnosis, then it would be of tremendous help to Luna!

“I’m happy to help you, even if it’s just a minuscule favor.“

Luna pursed her lips and was about to say something when she received another call from an unknown number.

She quickly hung up the phone and picked up this new call.

“Luna...” A feeble, male voice rang out from the other end of the line as soon as the call was connected. “Come to me... Quick...”

Then, without any warning, the person hung up the phone just as unexpectedly as he had called.

Luna furrowed her brows in shock. Who was this? She immediately dialed the number back, but the call could not go through.

Just as she was feeling confused about this, Joshua’s phone rang as well.

“Mr. Lynch, Dr. Robert has been involved in a car accident... He’s severely injured... Do you want to come over and check on him?”

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“Dr. Robert has been involved in a car accident.”
Joshua frowned and glanced at Luna as soon as he hung up. “He was on his way to see us.”

Dr. Robert was caught in an accident?

Luna felt her mind go blank as soon as she heard this. How did this happen?

Just a few minutes ago, Janice had told her that Dr. Robert was on his way to the hospital to see them and admit his mistakes in front of Joshua, so how could he suffer an accident so abruptly?

Was this simply a coincidence, or did someone plan this?

If this accident was intentional, then did Dr. Robert deliberately cause an accident to avoid telling the truth, or...

All of a sudden, Luna recalled the strange phone call that she had received just a few minutes ago. The person who called her...was probably Dr. Robert himself!

Luna bit down on her lip and felt as though something was stirring in her heart.

Since Dr. Robert had called her immediately after he got into the accident, this meant that he was willing to face the truth and rectify his mistakes. Therefore, if this accident was not a coincidence, then someone else must have caused this to stop Dr. Robert from coming clean with the truth!

As soon as she thought of this, Luna bit down on her lip and lifted her head to gaze at Joshua. “I want to go to the site of the accident and see Dr. Robert.”

Joshua furrowed his brows slightly upon meeting Luna’s determined gaze. “Are you sure?”

The person who had called Joshua said that the accident was extremely serious and that Dr. Robert was barely holding on. He was trapped inside his car, unable to escape, and the firefighters were trying desperately to rescue him...

Therefore, he did not think it was appropriate for Luna to go to the accident scene since she had

only recently recovered from her injuries.

Regardless, Luna bit down on her lip and stood her ground. "I'm sure. I want to go."

If someone had deliberately planned this to murder Dr. Robert, then he could not possibly make it out alive. However, as he was still putting up a fight, Luna knew she had to rush over immediately to listen to what he had to say before it was too late. Seeing that there was nothing he could do to change her mind, Joshua had no choice but to relent. He let out an exhale and strode out of the room. "Let's go, then."

Luna paused for a moment, then quickly followed after him.

When the two of them reached the elevator, one of the bodyguards caught up with them and asked, "Sir, what about Ms. Blake? Should I let her leave?"

Joshua narrowed his eyes. "No one is allowed to let her leave without my orders! "

"Yes, Sir! "

Joshua did not wait for the bodyguard's response and instead got into the elevator with Luna and descended to the ground floor.

Throughout the drive from the hospital to the accident site, Luna put her hands together and prayed for Dr. Robert.

She knew that since Dr. Robert was willing to kill both Violet and Shaun Lewis so that he could be together with Janice, this was karma for what he had done in the past.

However, she had to obtain his final confession to prove that he had been lying all along and expose Fiona's true colors.

The car soon arrived at the scene of the accident. The air was filled with the stench of gasoline and blood. The accident scene had been sealed off with police tape, and the firefighters were hard at work, trying to rescue Dr. Robert from his car.

Luna initially wanted to rush to Dr. Robert's side

and talk to him, but...

He was trapped inside his car and so severely injured that some parts of his body had been punctured down to the bone, exposing his innards within. His limbs were paralyzed and bent in such crooked angles that he looked like a doll.

Just a single glimpse made Luna nauseous, and she had to stop by the roadside to vomit.

Joshua let out a sigh and patted her back while holding a bottle of mineral water. "I already told you not to come."

Luna closed her eyes. She wanted to talk to Dr. Robert, but the sight of him was so mortifying that she felt as though her stomach would turn itself inside out.

She did not even dare to go near him, much less find out if he was still alive or not...

At this exact moment in the hospital, the elevator arrived on the 18th floor.

A young boy in a black tuxedo came out of the elevator.

The bodyguard caught sight of this boy and quickly approached him. "Young Master Nigel? Is that you?"

The boy remained silent for a moment, then nodded.

"Yes." "Didn't you go to the villa in the countryside with Granny Lynch? Why did you return so suddenly?"

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The little boy furrowed his brows, then curled his lips into a small smile. "The countryside is too boring for me, so I came back early."

Then, he glanced into the ward and asked, "Is Aunty Fiona inside?"

The bodyguard froze for a moment. This was the first time he had ever heard Nigel bring up Fiona on his own accord. He scratched his head in slight confusion and replied, "Yes, Ms. Blake is inside. Sir

gave us orders to— “

“Ask her to come out and play with me, “ the little boy interjected curtly. “I’m a little bored now.” The bodyguard remained silent for a moment, then replied, “But Sir said that— “

“I’m Mr. Lynch’s son.” The little boy shot the bodyguard a cold glance and continued in a calm tone, “Everything that belongs to Mr. Lynch now will become mine in the future. If you don’t listen to me and instead choose to offend the future President Lynch, do you know what the consequences will be? Do you need me to remind you?”

His answer made the bodyguard hesitate for a moment. “But...”

“If anything goes wrong, then ask Mr. Lynch to blame it on me. I’m his son, Nigel. What are you still so afraid of?”

As soon as they heard this, the bodyguards standing in front of Fiona’s room exchanged glances, then finally relented. They opened the door to Fiona’s ward and released her.

Upon exiting the room, Fiona still looked a little puzzled. She stared at the young boy before her and asked, “Nigel?”

“Yes.” The boy furrowed his brows and seemed a little reluctant to be called this. He turned and headed toward the elevator. “Come with me, Aunty Fiona. I’ll bring you out to play.”

Fiona froze for a moment, then quickly followed him. The two got into the elevator together.

As soon as the doors slid shut, the little boy let out a sigh of relief.

It did not feel nice at all to be impersonating someone else.

Fiona frowned and glanced at the young boy standing next to her. “You...”

“Nice to meet you,” Neil said as he extended his hand to shake hers. “I’m Aura Gibson’s son; my name is Jake Landry.”

Fiona's eyes widened in shock. "You're Aura's son?"

Even though she had seen Jake before and knew that he looked identical to Joshua and Luna's son, she had always thought this was just a boy that Aura had brought from abroad to impersonate Nigel.

All of a sudden, this boy claimed to be Aura's son instead.

"Are you surprised to know this?" Neil gave her a small smile. "My mom finally told me why I look identical to Nigel today. It's because..."

He narrowed his eyes and continued, "My mother, Aura Gibson is Luna's sister. As for my father, he's the same person as Nigel and Nellie's father..."

Fiona's eyes were as wide as saucers. "Are you saying that you're..."

"Yes." Neil lifted his head to gaze at the direction ahead of him, a somewhat complicated look in his eyes. "I'm also Joshua's son. The reason my mother Aura returned to Banyan City is to take my father away from Luna."

With that, Neil let out an internal sigh. Truth be told...he was quite fond of the woman known as Luna. He was even delighted to find out that she was his aunt, but...

He recalled the way Aura had looked when she held the knife against her neck and demanded to know if he would help her steal Joshua away from Luna, and he closed his eyes.

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Luna and Joshua waited at the scene of the accident for half an hour before the firefighters finally managed to break Dr. Robert free from his car.

By the time he was wheeled onto an ambulance, he was so weak that there were barely any signs of life.

However, as soon as he caught sight of Luna, his eyes lit up, and he lifted his head and gestured for Luna to approach him somewhat feebly.

Because of the profuse vomiting, Luna's footsteps were a little unstable as she slowly made her way to Dr. Robert. She tilted her head sideways to listen to what he had to say.

"I „ve...disappointed Janice. Please help me pass on a message to her and tell her to continue living... Also, I have a copy of Fiona's real diagnosis... I've kept it at the hospital abroad, where I murdered Violet and Shaun Lewis... You can ask someone to retrieve it, and the truth will surface..."

As soon as he finished his sentence, Dr. Robert rolled his eyes, and his hand fell back onto the railing of the gurney.

A few doctors shoved Luna to one side and immediately tried to resuscitate Dr. Robert.

"Patient's respiration and pulse have diminished."

"Patient has no signs of life."

"Patient is clinically dead."

After ten minutes of resuscitation, the paramedics officially declared Dr. Robert's death.

Luna remained motionless and felt as though her body was about to float away. This was the first time she had witnessed such a serious accident and the first time she had watched someone die right in front of her.

A few hours ago, this man had furiously threatened to send her back into the mental asylum after finding Janice, yet...

All of a sudden, Luna caught sight of an ambulance belonging to the mental asylum parked at a distance.

A middle -aged woman dressed in a hospital gown staggered off the ambulance. It was Janice.

She had lost her usual air of gracefulness and tranquility and was sprinting toward Dr. Robert, sobbing.

Finally, she slumped against Dr. Robert's limp,

lifeless body and wailed in sorrow.

Rain started to pour from the sky. However, no one dared to stop Janice from crying.

She continued to sob for a very long time until finally, she took out a fruit knife from her pocket and stabbed herself in her chest before anyone could stop her—

The ambulance rushed toward the hospital, sirens blaring.

This time, the one sent into the emergency room was Janice. Luna and Joshua, too, followed the ambulance to the hospital.

After an hour of emergency surgery, Janice, too, was declared clinically dead.

Luna was so astounded to receive this news that her legs almost gave out beneath her.

In less than a few hours...she had witnessed two people die right before her eyes.

At this point, she was starting to suspect if she was doing the right thing. If she had not been so determined to seek the truth and expose Fiona's lies

..would Dr. Robert and Janice still be alive?

However...

Hurting people had never been her intention at all.

The only reason she was doing this was so that Aura would resurface, and she would be able to bring Neil and Theo back to her side.

Was everything...her fault?

"It's not your fault." Joshua seemed to know exactly what she was thinking and let out a sigh, pulling her into his arms. "Dr. Robert's accident was just that: an accident. Janice loved him too much to leave him alone, so she chose to go with him. None of this was your fault."

Luna closed her eyes and immersed herself in the warmth of Joshua's embrace. She knew that she should have pushed him away and that he had no right to be holding her like this, but...

At this moment, she was confused, helpless, and

uncertain about everything.

She needed someone to rely on.

It did not matter if that person was Joshua or someone else... All she knew was that she needed a hug.

She convinced herself to pretend that he was just a stranger.

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It felt good to savor this temporary feeling of warmth.

After God knew how long, Luna let out an exhale and said somewhat dejectedly, still wrapped in Joshua's arms, "I want to bury them."

Joshua nodded. "Alright. Let's bury them as soon as the weather clears up. As for the grave..."

He narrowed his eyes before continuing, "We'll use the one that I bought for Fiona."

Initially, he had bought the grave plot for Fiona because he genuinely thought that she would die in a year. However, judging from what was happening, he guessed that the grave would not come into use, whether it was in a year or two.

As soon as she heard the mention of Fiona, Luna finally came to. She released herself from Joshua's embrace and lifted her hand to wipe her tears away. "Is Fiona still inside the ward?"

She had a feeling that Dr. Robert's death was not a simple accident and that someone had murdered him to stop him from telling the truth.

Even if Fiona was not the mastermind of this, she had to have an accomplice!

Luna immediately let go of Joshua, strode into the elevator, and arrived at the 18th floor.

However, to her surprise, she discovered that the room Fiona was initially in was empty. Not only was Fiona missing, but the five or six bodyguards that had been standing guard on the 18th floor were gone as well.

Luna furrowed her brows in shock. Then, she

turned and glanced at Joshua, who had been following behind her.

Joshua, too, was shocked by this sudden turn of events. A split second later, he took out his phone and dialed the number of the bodyguard he had talked to before leaving.

When enquired about Fiona's whereabouts, the bodyguard answered timidly, "Ms. Blake was taken away by Young Master Nigel."

Joshua frowned upon hearing this. "How is this possible?"

Nigel and Nellie were at the countryside villa with Granny Lynch. He had even talked to Nigel this morning, and Nigel had not mentioned anything about wanting to return to Banyan City!

Besides, even if he did change his mind and decided to return to Banyan City, how could he possibly be alone?

"But..." the bodyguard's voice grew even softer as he admitted, "We didn't make a mistake at all. It was really Young Master Nigel... He told us to release Ms. Blake and claimed that he wanted to take her out to play. He even said that...if you wanted to hold someone responsible for this, you should blame him, Mr. Lynch..."

"Atrocious!" Joshua's voice was as cold as a block of ice. "How long has Fiona been gone?"

"More than... More than two hours now..." More than two hours.

Joshua rubbed his brows in frustration. "You and your men, go to the butler immediately to process your termination and get out of here."

With that, he put down his phone and lifted his head to shoot Luna a somewhat helpless glance.

"Fiona has run away."

Luna bit down on her lip.

Since Fiona had escaped from the hospital...this made her even more determined that Dr. Robert's death had everything to do with Fiona.

After letting out a sigh, Joshua took out his phone

again and ordered, "Lucas, Fiona has escaped from the hospital. Track her location and see where she went."

Ten minutes later, Lucas returned his call and said, sounding a little anxious, "Sir, something bad has happened... Fiona has left Banyan City! According to our security cameras and GPS location, she has left Banyan City...and is heading toward the countryside! "

At this moment, Luna's phone rang. It was a call from an unknown number.

As soon as she picked up the phone, Luna heard Fiona's triumphant cackle ring out from the other end. "Luna, you owe me a favor, so why are you doing this to me? You won't stop until I lose everything, including Joshua, won't you? Alright ! Since I have no way of escaping anymore, I'm going to make Nigel pay for this. After all, if it weren't for me, he wouldn't be alive now anyway !

"

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Luna gripped her phone tightly and retorted icily, "I owe you one? Are you kidding me, Fiona?"

Fiona paused for a moment upon hearing this, then chuckled. "You dumb*ss. How are you still so clueless? Though, I guess it's okay that you know nothing. You have no right to find out anyway!

"I just want you to know that if I die, Nigel will go down with me! "

With that, she hung up the phone.

Luna clutched her phone and felt as though her entire heart quivered. She turned and glanced at Joshua anxiously. "Fiona said she's gone to find Nigel... Where is he?"

Yesterday, she had suspected that Joshua had sent Nigel and Nellie to the youth education center he mentioned, but he denied it, so where were they? Joshua saw the worried look in Luna's eyes and

tilted his head away so as not to meet her gaze.

“Nigel, Nellie, and Granny Lynch are at the villa in the countryside. Lucas called me just now and told me that Fiona had already left Banyan City two hours ago.. and she’s headed...to the villa.”

Luna was so shocked that her legs almost gave out beneath her.

Two hours!

This meant that Fiona had escaped at the same time that Luna and Joshua arrived at the scene of Dr. Robert’s accident!

That also meant that the first destination she was heading to as soon as she escaped was the villa where the children were, no less!

As soon as she thought of this, Luna felt her legs grow weak.

Fiona had claimed on the phone that if she died, she would bring Nigel down with her...

It had been two hours since she left the hospital.

At this rate, she was probably already near the village!

Luna wished she had wings so she could fly off, but unfortunately, she did not.

She took a few steps back and felt anxiety overwhelming her.

She recalled the time when Neil was caught in the explosion... At that time, she was not with him, and she could not make it there in time, so she had no choice but to let Neil and Theo manage the entire situation on their own. In the end, they almost died.

Fortunately, Neil and Theo got lucky and did not lose their lives in the accident, but what about this time?

Luna was two hours away from Nigel and Nellie.

Was she going to have to watch them suffer at the hands of Fiona?

As soon as she thought of this, Luna grabbed onto Joshua’s arm. “We have to go now. If we go as fast as we can, we might still make it!”

Even if they could not make it in time, she still had to try!

Joshua caught sight of the look of determination in Luna's eyes and nodded. "Okay."

"But..." Lucas, who had arrived hastily, immediately furrowed his brows upon hearing this. "Sir, there's a storm outside. We can't possibly drive fast in this weather."

With that, he lifted his head to glance at the downpour outside the window. "According to the weather forecast, there's a tornado out there which caused this never-before-seen thunderstorm. They ordered citizens to stay home and refrain from going out..."

"To go out during a tornado is already risking our lives, so we can't possibly drive as fast as we can, as Luna wishes to. Otherwise, we might not make it and die on the way to the countryside!"

Lucas turned to glance at Luna before continuing, "Luna, you witnessed Dr. Robert's accident just now. Are you really...willing to take such a risk?"

"That's enough!" Before Lucas could finish, Joshua interjected coldly, "We'll do as Luna wishes."

Lucas frowned and turned to stare at Joshua. "Sir, I still think we have to keep our wits about us. This kind of weather—"

"You're not the one whose children are in danger right now, so of course you can keep your wits about you!" Luna snapped, no longer able to suppress the angst and fury in her heart.

"Lucas, do you want me and Joshua to witness Nigel and Nellie get into another life-threatening situation? Do you want us to go through the pain we suffered a few months ago again?!" Luna roared with all her might.

Lucas' entire body stiffened, then after a moment, stopped trying to resist. "Alright. Let me arrange this."

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With that, he turned and left.

Joshua glanced at Luna, who tried desperately to hold back her tears, and strode over to her side, wrapping an arm around her shoulder. "Don't worry. Even if we die, we'd be dying on our way to save Nigel and Nellie."

If it were not for them, Nigel and Nellie would not even be in this situation in the first place. As parents, even if there was not much they could do for the children, they still had to try their best.

Lucas soon got the cars ready. He had prepared a few high-spec SUVs for the journey in case they got into trouble while traveling during the storm.

In

addition, the SUVs were equipped with necessary supplies and tools in case of any emergencies.

Joshua immediately dragged Luna onto the car, even though he was still wearing the bloodstained clothes from Dr. Robert's accident.

He used to be someone who could not tolerate dirt and messes like this, but at that moment, the thought of changing his clothes did not even cross his mind. He was too occupied with chasing after Fiona and finding the children.

Lucas started the car.

The SUVs zipped through the city roads through the heavy downpour.

Inside the car, Joshua gripped Luna's uninjured hand tightly and said, "Don't worry. Since we're caught in this bad weather, I'm sure Fiona is, too. It takes four to five hours from Banyan City to the countryside, so Fiona must still be on her way. We can catch up to her in time."

Luna nodded, then removed her hand from Joshua's grasp. "Thank you for your comforting words, Mr. Lynch."

Joshua's hand remained in its original spot somewhat awkwardly, his fingers still curled in the position before Luna removed her hand.

His expression darkened upon seeing this, and he lifted his head to stare at Luna's face. "I wasn't trying to comfort you; I was comforting myself."

Luna closed her eyes and let out a bitter smile.

"Are you worried about my children too, Mr. Lynch?"

"My children, „ she said. Not theirs.

Joshua's chest tightened upon hearing this. He gazed at her with a complicated expression and said, "Well, of course. They're my children, too."

"But you've never cared about them, Mr. Lynch." He never paid for their medical bills.

Even after Nigel came out of surgery, Joshua had always remained by Fiona's side.

For two months after Nigel's surgery, he never even paid him a visit at Blue Bay Villa.

This time was no different. Even though he did not lie about sending the children to the youth education center, he confiscated the children's devices and let

Granny Lynch take them back to the countryside, where there was barely any phone signal.

Luna had been trying to call Granny Lynch's phone ever since she got into the car, but she could not reach her number at all.

She could not get in touch with Nigel and Nellie, and they could not locate Fiona either.

The anxiety and worry in Luna's heart prevented her from staying calm, and she could not help feeling reproachful of Joshua.

Joshua's heart sank upon hearing Luna's words. After a moment, he turned his head away to gaze at the window. "It's not that I never cared about them. Whether it's Nigel, Nellie, or Neil, I've never—"

"Is that so?" Luna curled her lips into a sneer.

"Then why don't you explain everything to me, Mr. Lynch? Why did you find a new girlfriend so soon after Neil's accident and even live with her? Can you explain why you were with Fiona all

throughout Nigel's surgery, even though it was the most crucial surgery in his life?"

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Joshua fell into silence upon hearing Luna's question.

Truth be told, the only connection between him and Fiona since the start was the bone marrow that had been placed in Nigel's body at this point, but he did not feel like telling the truth to Luna.

He did not want Luna to think he helped Nigel in any way, and he did not want her to leave Banyan City feeling indebted to him or guilt-ridden.

He would rather she left with resentment toward him because this hatred would make her stay away from him, and she would finally be able to start a new life with the children.

"No answer for that?" Luna sneered, then turned to look outside the window.

She already knew this would be the outcome.

Joshua had never been one to face his mistakes, whether it was six years ago or at this very moment.

The rain continued to pour outside the window, so heavy that the windshield was blurred, and it grew increasingly difficult for the SUV to travel on the road.

Every time the car circled past some fallen trees by the roadside, Luna could not help but feel anxious. She used to be terrified of this kind of weather...but at this moment, she could not care less, as long as she could find Nigel and Nellie and protect them.

After three hours, the cars arrived at the district where Granny Lynch's hometown was. However, they stopped a few kilometers away from Granny Lynch's villa.

"Sir, the road in front has been blocked off. The cars can't possibly go through, so we'll have to

walk.”

Luna furrowed her brows and glanced at the direction ahead of her.

The road ahead of them was submerged with water up to calf level. In addition, there were rocks and tree branches strewn all over, so they had no choice but to continue the journey on foot.

Luna, Joshua, and the rest descended the SUVs. As soon as she got out of the car, Luna caught sight of Fiona’s car parked a short distance away.

Clearly, the road had already been blocked off when Fiona arrived, and she, too, had continued her journey on foot.

“The engine’s still warm.” Lucas approached the car and reached out his hand to touch the side of the vehicle. “She can’t have gone far. If we increase our speed, we might be able to catch up with her.”

With that, he took out some raincoats and walking canes from inside the SUV and handed them around to everyone.

Luna watched as Zach and Yuri put on the raincoats and pulled up their pants legs, then followed suit. After putting on her raincoat, she bent down to lift her pant legs, exposing her slender, pale calves.

The bruises and wounds from the so-called physical therapy she had suffered at the mental asylum were glaringly obvious against her pale skin.

Joshua furrowed his brows at this sight. Then, he walked over, bent down, and helped lower her pants down.

Luna froze for a moment, then lifted her head to shoot him a displeased look. “What are you doing?”

Joshua glanced at her impassively. “Have you seen how dirty the rainwater is? Do you want to get an infection and lose your legs?”

Luna paused, then glanced at the puddle of water

on the road, as well as the stream of water flowing continuously down the slope.

She remained silent for a moment as she contemplated this.

If the water seeped into the open wounds on her calves...then she might contract an infection and lose her legs.

However, they had no other choice except to walk into the village. If she did not go with them, she would be worried sick about Nigel and Nellie's whereabouts!

Seeing how anxious she was, Joshua let out a sigh and put on his raincoat. After pulling up his pants legs, he strode over to Luna's side and crouched down before her. "Get on my back."

Luna took a step back. "I think I should—"
"You're too slow," Joshua said curtly. "If you want to find Fiona quicker, then stop acting like a prissy and get on."

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Luna had no excuse to refuse Joshua's offer. She let out an exhale, lowered herself down, and got onto Joshua's back.

Lucas witnessed with his own eyes the way Joshua's movements turned gentle as he straightened up with Luna on his back.

Joshua had never acted so gently toward anyone before, whether it was Alice or Fiona.

Carrying Luna on his back, Joshua started to make his way up the slope. He held onto Luna carefully through the few kilometers' journey and dared not make a single misstep.

Even after Lucas, Zach, and Yuri began to grow tired, Joshua continued onward with steady footsteps.

Luna noticed that the rest had slowed down and could not stop herself from asking, "Joshua, why don't you put me down? I can walk by myself for a

bit.”

The puddles of water were shallower the closer they got to the village, so even if she walked by herself, the dirty water would not seep into her wounds.

Since Lucas and the rest were already exhausted, Joshua had to be just as tired.

“I can still go on.” Joshua curled his lips into a smirk. Then, he quickened his pace as though trying to prove his strength.

Lucas, Zach, and Yuri saw this and had no choice but to follow suit.

The five of them soon arrived at Yellowstone Village, the place where Granny Lynch grew up. As soon as they stepped foot in the village, they caught sight of a large bungalow at the end of the end. It was clear that this was the house where Granny Lynch used to live in.

They finally made it!

Luna leaped off Joshua’s back in excitement and immediately sprinted toward the bungalow.

Even though they did not run into Fiona on their way here, Luna guessed that Fiona had possibly taken a different route.

Besides, they had not stopped throughout the entire hike up here, so Luna was confident that Fiona could not have possibly arrived before them.

On top of that, the bungalow was quiet, without a single trace of any forced entry. Therefore, Luna was sure that she had made it before Fiona.

She even mentally prepared what she would say to the children as soon as she saw them: she would brag to them about how impressive Joshua’s SUVs were and how quickly they had rushed to the scene to save them.

However...when she entered the villa, there was no one there.

The entire house was silent and empty.

If it were not for the backpacks in the living room, which Luna recognized as Nigel and Nellie’s, she

would have thought she had entered the wrong house. There were no signs of forced entry, no evidence of a struggle, nothing.

Even Granny Lynch's phone—the same one Luna had tried to call to no avail—was placed on the coffee table.

This scene made Luna's heart drop. If Granny Lynch had brought the children out, it was impossible that they would leave their phones behind...

Granny Lynch's phone was here, and Nellie's easel and Nigel's laptop were left behind as well...

Luna bit down on her lip as a bad feeling crept across her heart.

Was she too late after all? Had Fiona arrived before her?

Joshua ordered his men to search the entire house, but they could not find anyone at all. He, too, furrowed his brows as he continued to bark orders, "Lucas, go to the neighboring villagers and ask them if they noticed anything strange going on here."

"Yes, Sir!" Lucas replied obediently, then left with Zach and Yuri to interrogate the neighbors.

Luna plopped down on the sofa and placed her head in her hands somewhat helplessly. What did Fiona do to the children?

All of a sudden, Luna heard a knocking sound coming from below the sofa.

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Initially, Luna thought she had misheard it, but the knocking persisted.

She tilted her head to listen carefully, then realized that this was not a coincidence, that she had not misheard at all!

The knocking came from underneath the floorboards beneath the sofa!

Luna lifted her head and met Joshua's puzzled

gaze. Clearly, he had heard the sound, too. The two of them exchanged glances, then quickly jumped into action and pushed the sofa away. Once they got the sofa out of the way, they discovered a hidden door leading toward the basement!

The knocking was coming from the basement! Joshua immediately picked the lock and pulled the door open. He took a step into the basement, then turned around and opened his arms wide. "Come on," he said to Luna.

Luna was so intrigued that she did not even have time to mull over anything. Instead, she leaped without a second thought, landing squarely in Joshua's arms.

In this cramped space, the two of them got lost in the sound of each other's breathing and heartbeats.

Luna could feel her face grow hot, and she blushed a deep shade of scarlet.

„What is wrong with me?“ she scolded herself. „You've already had three kids with this man! Why are you still blushing like a high schooler every time you get in close proximity with him?“

However, at this moment, they could not ponder over minor details like this any longer. Instead, they followed the knocking sound and entered the basement, using their phones as a light source.

Finally, at the far end of the basement, they discovered Granny Lynch, Nellie, and a few of the bodyguards and servants that Joshua had sent to the countryside with them, all tied up and restrained with ropes.

Nellie had instructed them to bang rocks against the basement floor, creating the knocking that led Luna and Joshua here.

All of them were tied up and gagged, so they could not make a single sound and had no choice but to resort to measures like this.

Nellie was so relieved at the sight of Joshua and

Luna that droplets of tears fell out of the corners of her eyes. She continued to struggle against her bonds, crying at the same time.

Luna could not help but feel devastated at this sight. She quickly rushed over, pulled Nellie into her arms, and removed the gag from Nellie's mouth. "Are you okay?"

"I „m fine! " Nellie, finally able to speak and breathe comfortably, immediately let out an exhale. Then, she cried, her forehead beaded with sweat, " Mommy, please go save Nigel, quick! Fiona has taken him to the top of the mountain! "

Luna felt a chill go down her spine.

As soon as she entered the room, she had already noticed that Nigel was missing. Only Nellie and Granny Lynch were here.

She had wanted to ask Nellie if Nigel had sneaked out to get help since he was the calmest and most level-headed among the three children.

However, it turned out that Nigel had been taken away by Fiona.

Luna bit down on her lip and tried to suppress the worry in her heart. "Nigel..."

"Fiona brought some burly men over and claimed that she wanted to kill us, especially Nigel. Nigel tried to buy us some time by offering to go with her alone so that she wouldn't bother us. Initially, Fiona didn't want to, but Nigel managed to convince her, so she tied us all up and locked us here in the basement and left with Nigel! "

With that, Nellie grabbed onto Luna's hand and lifted her head to glance at Joshua. "Daddy, I've never asked for much from you, but please, save Nigel! I „m begging you! Please don't let Nigel get hurt because of your precious Ms. Blake any longer. I'm begging you! "

As soon as she said this, Nellie almost got down onto her knees.

Joshua was so shocked by this that he took a step back, then lunged forward and pulled Nellie into his

arms with a pained expression. “Do you really think Daddy is such a bad person? Nigel”s my son, too. I”ll never leave him!
”

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