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Despite that, Gwen did not know who the organ donor was. She tried asking the doctor, but the doctor told her the same answer every time; the information of the donor was confidential and he was not allowed to tell.

The way Gwen understood it was that it was a rule set by the organ donation association. Thus, she did not ask further and thought it was a kind anonymous person who donated the organs.

Never did Gwen imagine...that the person who donated the organs was not a terminally ill patient. It was Luke, a healthy man without any sickness. He wanted her to live so badly that he was willing to give up his life.

Her fingers clenched around the phone in a vice–like grip as tears sprung into her eyes once more.

Neil was the one who left the tapping device that was linked to her phone when he left.

When Joshua requested Mrs. Flores to bring Nigel, Neil, and Nellie out, Neil was videocalling Gwen in fear that she felt lonely being all by herself in the hospital. Mrs. Flores went upstairs to tell the three children that Joshua and Jim were downstairs and that they had some 'adult matters' to discuss with Luna and Bonnie. Gwen heard that too.

She even laughed during the video call. "What sort of adult matter that you three aren't allowed to hear?"

Neil pursed his lips. "I'm not an adult, so how would I know? Still..." The boy rolled his eyes. "Aunt Gwen, you're an adult. I can't listen, but you can. Why don't I put a tapping device for you? Then you can tell me what the adults are talking about."

Gwen, despite finding Neil's intelligence amusing, rejected Neil's suggestion. "If they wanted to let me know, they would've asked me to join the discussion. Since they didn't invite me, it means they don't want me to know. I'm not going to eavesdrop."

Neil pursed his lips. "Then no one is going to talk to you once I go out to play. Why don't we do it this way? I'll just put the tapping device in the corner. If you want to listen to it, you can. If you don't, you can just sleep. Deal?" Gwen turned down Neil's offer, but Neil was adamant as he sent her the link to connect to the tapping device.

At first, Gwen did not want to listen in, but mankind had always been curious beings. Furthermore, she was bored out of her mind in her ward, so she linked up her phone to the tapping device. Guilt consumed her heart when she listened to their discussion.

The last thing she ever expected to hear was that Luke had died.

It was wrong to eavesdrop, Gwen knew this, but she felt fortunate that she was a person who liked to gossip. That was how she was able to hear all that information. Otherwise, Luna, Joshua, EhRb_+IK the rest might have kept the truth from her forever.

Her tears continued to fall like running tap water when she remembered Luke was the one who requested to keep it from her.

Luke... She wondered how important she, a common girl, was to him. How could she possibly be so important that he would give up everything, including his life, to save him? Gwen did not dare to think further. The more she did, the more her heart would ache like it was squeezed by an invisible hand.

Lying down on the bed, she failed to suppress the tears that spilled every time she thought of Luke. That evening, Luna and Bonnie returned from paying their last respects to Luke before going to visit her.

Luna tried to steel herself from showing unwanted emotions, but...

"What happened?" Luna gasped, startled to see Gwen's swollen eyes when she entered the ward.

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"I'm fine." Gwen sniffled. She raised her head to look at Luna with a faint smile on her face. "The nurse accidentally hurt me when she came to give me an injection." Luna furrowed her brow warily. It was difficult for her to believe Gwen would cry like a baby just because she felt pain during an injection. She knew how strong Gwen was.

Over the past month, Gwen was required to have special medicine injected into her body after the transplant surgery. According to the doctor, many patients would rather kill themselves due to the pain they suffered when the medicine was injected into them. Luna was worried Gwen could not handle the pain, but surprisingly, Gwen silently took it all like a champ, not even emitting a groan upon the injection. She barely reacted when the needle pricked her skin. The doctor and nurse even wondered if they had given the wrong medicine to Gwen.

Luna remembered how when the injection was over, the doctor pulled Luna to the side and asked if something was wrong with Gwen's nerves. It worried Luna so much that she found several doctors to check on Gwen. In the end, they realized Gwen could feel the pain, but her pain tolerance was strong. That was why Luna did not believe it when Gwen told her she cried so much that her eyes became swollen because the injection from the morning was too painful.

Bonnie, on the other hand, sighed and walked over to hold Gwen's hand lightly." You… Were you thinking about Luke?" Gwen's tears came rushing out of her once more when she heard Bonnie mention Luke's name. She had been trying hard to hold it in. She knew she should have acted calm by not crying and looking devastated so that Bonnie and Luna would not realize something was wrong.

Since Luke had requested everyone to keep the secret from her, she could not possibly let them know she knew the truth. After all, Luke wanted everyone to tell her, when she got better, that he was killed in an ambush during a fight for territory with another gang in Sea City. Hence, in her mind, she should wait for that day to come.

On that day, she would go to Luke's grave to bid him a proper farewell GaUa\%{L tell him that his plan had worked.

She was lying to herself, sure, but she wanted everyone to think that Luke's plan went accordingly. Everything Luke planned to do was right, and it would succeed. Nonetheless, she could not control herself when Bonnie mentioned Luke. She tried to stop crying and looked outside the window. "Yes, I was thinking about him," she spoke, her voice quivering. "Hey, do you guys think he's dead? Why hasn't he come to visit me after all this time? He didn't even call me once."

Luna and Bonnie did not know how to answer. They exchanged looks with each other, and their gazes were filled with sorrow.

After a period of silence, Luna took a deep breath.

"Gwen, just forget about him; maybe he...doesn't care about you anymore. Didn't you plan to leave Merchant City and him? When your body recovers, you should travel and leave this place. Luke...

"That jerk isn't worthy of your concern and tears," spoke Luna, gazing at Gwen's side profile as her heart ached.

Gwen was a resilient woman. No matter how painful the surgery and injection were, she could tolerate them without even a whimper. However...every time Luke crossed her mind, her tears could not stop falling.

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Gwen was this grief stricken when she did not even know Luke had died. What would her reaction be is...she knew? What if Gwen knew Luke died for her? She might just pass out from the news alone, With those thoughts in mind, Luna clenched her fists as she said, "Gwen, the doctor said you can be discharged after one week, and all you need to do at home is to monitor your condition. The process is about the same as when Neil had his bone marrow transplant surgery. You just need to take your medicine and come back to the hospital routinely as you'll slowly recover." "Why don't I...go travel with you a week from now? You don't have to stay in this city or wait for Luke. He's not worth it."

The atmosphere was silent.

Gwen nodded and looked at Luna smilingly, though her eyes were still glossed with tears. "Okay."

She could not help but tilt her head to look at Luna again. "Will Joshua be angry if you travel with me?"

Luna pursed her lips. "There's nothing for him to be angry at. Going traveling with you...is also the chance for me to go search for our daughter's information." Gwen paused. "Sounds like a plan, then. It's about time you and Joshua start to search for your daughter. She's about three months old now..." Suddenly, she thought of something and looked at Luna. "How's Riley doing?" Luna's smile froze when she heard Gwen asking about Riley. She sighed. "Riley... isn't doing well." For the past month, Joshua was caught up with Gwen and Luke's matters, while Luna was busy with her studio. She had signed a contract with Thomas, after all, so she would be in deep trouble if she did not start the work on her studio.

Furthermore, Rosalyn and Charles were not doing quite well with their health too. Jim had been busy with Bonnie and Harvey.

Luna, with barely enough time for even her three children in the past month, could only free up a certain limit of time to take care of Riley. In addition, Joshua said he knew who Riley's father was a month ago, but even then, her father never made an appearance, much to Luna's chagrin. On one hCbSd[,|L, she felt that since they had found Riley's father, she should not invest too much in caring for Riley anymore; she wanted to avoid feeling allached and sorrowful when it was time to hand Riley back to her parents.

Then again, she felt pity for Riley. Riley had left her parents' care for more than three months, but her parent did not even look for her.

Luna even doubted that the infant's father would treat her with love and care when he took her back home. Her heart felt suffocated as if her veins w*ere* blocked by stones at these thoughts.

"Didn't you say that you've found Riley's parent, Joshua?" Luna asked. After dinner, Luna went into Joshua's study and sat beside him. While Joshua was reading the document he brought back from work, she asked, "When are you going to let Riley meet her father? I have to see if this man is capable of taking *c*are of Riley. She's very frail now... If her family doesn't care about her, I want to proceed with adopting Riley." Then, legally, Riley would be her daughter, and she could be at ease expressing her maternal love to Riley.

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Silence blanketed the atmosphere in the study. Joshua's finger trembled as he was flipping the document. Looking to the side, a small smile was present on his handsome angular face." Why are *y*ou in a hurry?" He had yet to figure out what Thomas wanted to do.

Two weeks ago, Yannie had brought Thomas' nails and hair strands complete with hair follicles to him. The first thing he did was that he had sent those specimens for the test. A day later, he received results from different DNA testing centers, and each result stated Thomas was Riley's biological father, with a 99.99 % probability of paternity. Only then did Joshua believe Thomas came to Merchant City because of Riley. Despite that, it shocked Joshua that Thomas did not visit Riley anymore after the day Kate took photos of Thomas visiting Riley.

Thomas had been very busy, it seemed–with work and making a fool out of Yannie. Sometimes, he would also cause trouble for Joshua and Luna, too. Other than that, Thomas did nothing else. The number of times Thomas visited Riley was lesser than Luna, Riley's adopted mother, and Yannie, Riley's godmother. His men, meanwhile, were still searching for 'a woman' in the city.

Joshua guessed the woman Thomas was searching for was Riley's birth mother. He was curious about what Thomas would do when he found Riley's birth mother. Thus, he did not confront Thomas nor let other people know about the relationship between Thomas and Riley all this time. He wanted to unravel whatever plans Thomas had.

"I just think we shouldn't wait any longer," Luna sighed helplessly. She shifted to a more comfortable position and leaned on Joshua's body.

"I promised Gwen that I'd go traveling with her once she feels better after a week. I'm planning to bring her to a couple of places outside of the country. Depending on which place she likes, I'll buy her a house for her to settle down and let her recover there. When she's finally all better and ready to move on from Luke, I'll tell her then that Luke has died. Will that be better?"

Originally, Luna thought they should do according to Luke's plan Gbsd[(}K announced Luke passed away in Sea City after Gwen was discharged. However, she could not bear to do it after seeing how hard Gwen cried when she visited her in the hospital this evening.

Gwen was allowed to discharge after one week. Based on Gwen's feelings toward Luke, Luna did not think it was appropriate to announce Luke's passing right after being discharged. "Okay." Joshua wrapped an arm around Luna's waist as he then spoke, his voice husky and alluring, "You are Gwen's best friend, and you know her situation more than I do. If she's not mentally prepared, then it's not the right time to tell her Luke has passed." Luna bit her lip and nodded quietly. "If I'm going to leave with Gwen, I need to handle everything there is, whether it's related to the company or Riley…"

She took a deep breath and looked at Joshua's face resolutely. "If Riley's father can take good care of Riley, as well as providing her the care and love she needs, I'm willing to give him money to help him if he cannot afford to give Riley the treatment she needs. But..."

Luna paused for a while. "If her father is reluctant to be responsible for her and thinks of Riley as a burden, then I won't give Riley back to him, even if he's wealthy.

"Saying all this, I hope I can meet him. If he can be a good father to Riley, it'll ease my heart to give Riley back to him and leave the country with Gwen. If he doesn't..."

Luna pursed her lips. "I can make arrangements in advance. Maybe Bonnie, Sean, or even Yannie can help to take care of Riley." Joshua curled up his lips into a smile upon hearing what Luna said. He raised his hand and softly poked the tip of Luna's nose. "It's very thoughtful of you. But..." He cuddled her and kissed her cheeks. "I need to make arrangements if you want to meet with Riley's father." He frowned and thought for a while.