Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 2586

Thomas sneered upon hearing Gwen's words. "There was never any misunderstanding between me and them." After all of what Joshua and Luna did to Riley, what misunderstanding could there be? In the first place, Joshua and Luna lost their baby, so they deliberately took the newborn baby from the hospital and pretended that she was theirs. The newborn baby was Riley! Thomas would not have hated them so badly had they taken care of Riley and treated her as their own, but what happened? They failed to protect Riley. Malcolm had to take Riley from them, and Riley was nearly dead because of Quentin!

Quentin was captured in the end, and Riley was once more back with Joshua and Luna. However, they did not feel the bond with Riley when they reunited with her.

They continuously searched for their biological baby and neglected to accompany and take care of Riley. If it were not for them, Riley would not have ended in such a pitiful, sickly state!

Joshua and Luna were to blame for all the misfortune Riley had suffered, and that meant Thomas did not misunderstand them. He just knew them too well!

Amid Thomas' train of thoughts, his mother's recording voice rang in his ear. She said he should never ever be in contact with the Lynch family, especially Joshua. After all, Joshua's father, Adrian Lynch was a good-for-nothing person. Adrian was the one who caused his aunt's death, and Joshua shared the same dirty blood as Adrian.

He sneered and raised his head to look at Gwen. "I know you just underwent a massive surgery not long ago while having lost your lover, Luke. I know how frail you are, physically and mentally, so I don't want to quarrel with you right now. At the same time..."

He squinted. "I hope you don't get in the way of whatever is happening between me, Luna, and Joshua. The hatred between us isn't so easily solved with just a word or two from you."

After that, he looked at Luna sharply. "What? You think you could bring along your friend since you and Joshua are running out of options to keep Riley? I didn't think you'd be that cold -blooded Dwl.+a{a ruthless like Joshua was in the past.

"You know, Yannie kept telling me how nice you were when I spent time with her lately, and I nearly thought twice about you. But..."

A cold smile appeared on his face. "I never thought you'd bring your friend to stop me and create trouble when you know I'm bringing Yannie over to meet with Riley. Do you think I don't dare to do anything to your friend? Don't forget that Luke is dead. Your friend doesn't have anyone to back her up anymore!" Luna's heart trembled. Her face turned pale while she subconsciously looked at Gwen, who was sitting in the wheelchair.

Gwen...did not know Luke had passed away!

They had been keeping that a secret all this time and tried several methods to stop Gwen from thinking about anything related to Luke.

They did not think Gwen would find out about it from Thomas now.

In spite of that, Luna did not notice one thing... Gwen's expression did not change at all when she heard Thomas mentioning Luke's passing,

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Gwen's eyebrows furrowed as she stared at Thomas, seemingly not understanding the meaning behind Thomas' words.

"You're wrong. We're here because of the live broadcast between you and Yannie, but..." She curled up her lips. "Luna's here not because she wants to stop you and Yannie from taking Riley away. She's here because I want to visit Riley."

Her crystal clear eyes looked deeply into the man in front of her and said plainly, "I was too bored alone in the hospital, so I thought of visiting this baby of yours and Yannie's."

She then took a good look at Yannie and Thomas. "By the way, Riley does resemble both of you very much."

Yannie was slightly uncomfortable with that comment. She tried to contain herself, but she sheepishly blurted, "Ms. Gwen, Mr. Thomas had stated Riley is our child because he wanted to silence the people. I did have a baby, but... Anyway, Riley is Mr. Thomas' baby, not mine."

Luna and Gwen exchanged looks. 'How could that be? Yannie did have a baby with Thomas, didn't she? The hospital Yannie gave birth to is exactly the same hospital where Hunter took the baby from. Is Riley...not Yannie's baby?' Luna thought. Luna pursed her lips and wanted to tell the truth, but Gwen piped in, saying, "Is that so?" Gwen sighed sadly. "That's too bad. I thought Riley was your baby. I mean, faith did bring you and Riley together."

Then, she looked to the back and winked at Luna. "Since both of you want to visit Riley, we'll be taking our leave now."

Luna did not know what Gwen was trying to do, so she nodded.

Then, she pushed Gwen's wheelchair and passed Thomas and Yannie to leave the place. As she did, however, she thought of something and looked back at Thomas. "I think I still need to explain why we didn't transfer Riley to the normal ward.

"The doctor did tell us Riley is suitable to transfer to the normal ward and leave the ICU, but we gave it a thought and decided it was best not to. Riley will need to transfer back to ICU if she falls sick again, and there are too many people walking in Bj{.(f{d out of regular wards.

"It's not as safe as the ICU, too, so with all things considered, we decided to keep her here, not because we want to stop you from visiting her. On the contrary..." Luna paused. "I've been requesting the hospital staff to be on the lookout if there's any stranger who comes to visit Riley over the past month. Before today, I didn't know Riley was your child. I've been hoping for Riley's parents to come to look for her all the while, but you never came."

After that, Luna pushed Gwen and left. Thomas remained standing as he narrowed his eyes fiercely. Yannie, who was beside him, bit her lip.

After a moment of silence, she found her courage and raised her head to look at Thomas. "You ...never came to visit Riley before? Not even once?"

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 2588

Thomas furrowed his brow upon hearing Yannie's question. For a moment, he fell silent, but it was not long until he raised his head and looked at Yannie's face. "Yes, I didn't come to visit Riley this past month. But —" "But you used Riley when you needed her to help dissolve our rumors!" Yannie interrupted Thomas coldly, her anguish evident on her face. "Thomas Howard, I never knew you'd be this kind of person. I thought you just dislike me and are terrible to me. Who knew you could be so heartless with your daughter, too!" She walked past Thomas and strode toward Riley's ward, leaving Thomas rooted on the spot as he watched Yannie walk away. He furrowed his brow vehemently. 'Can this woman wait for my explanation? But...' His lips curled into a smile when he saw how anxious Yannie was when she walked to Riley's ward. Since way back, he knew Yannie was fond of Riley and often came to visit the infant, Every time Yannie came to visit, he would place a hidden camera on Yannie before she went to the hospital and used this method to look at Riley. Yannie did not know all of that, however, and that was why she thought Thomas did not care about Riley

Riley was his only daughter. There was no reason for him to not care about Riley.

After his last visit, he was scared his rash action would alert the enemy, that Joshua would discover it and mistreat Riley. If it was not for that reason, he would have visited regularly.

He sighed and started to catch up with Yannie. Both of them changed into sanitary safety suits and entered the ward, one after the other. Yannie was still mad at Thomas and was reluctant to let Thomas visit Riley. Then again, she knew she had no right to do so.

As Riley's birth father, not even Luna and Joshua could stop Thomas from visiting Riley. What right did she have?

Yannie's anger mounted when she thought of that. She did not understand why Thomas never once came to visit Riley after so long if Luna and Joshua never stopped him.

With that, she entered the ward with rage churned inside of her.

In the ward, the little girl, lying on her bed, smiled as she saw the two adults beside her. Her clear, crystal eyes twinkled with mirth as though she knew Thomas Ak{\$!b}b Yannie were her parents.

Yannie's heart melted when she saw the smile on Riley's face. She stretched her hand out to play with Riley. "She got chubbier than the last time I was here."

That sentence was purely something Yannie felt when she saw Riley. To her surprise, Thomas chimed in, saying, "Yes, she looks chubbier now. I saw her medical report, and it looks like she's recovering steadily. Maybe she can be discharged soon." He looked the same when he said those, and he even made an ugly face to play with Riley. Yannie was shocked to hear that as she looked at Thomas incredulously. "How did you... know?

Why did Thomas know Riley was chubbier than before? He had not visited Riley ever before, had he?

Thomas sighed as if he read Yannie's mind. He extended his hand and grabbed the necklace on Yannie's neck, much to her shock. "What are you doing?"

Luna was the one who gave her the necklace.

When she resigned from Luna's jewelry design company, Luna was reluctant to see her go. As such, Luna gave Yannie a necklace she had made herself as a gift. She even told Yannie that she was free to return to work in the company if she was unhappy working at other places.

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 2589

This was why Yannie treasured the necklace tremendously.

There's something in here." Thomas took out a pinhole camera from the inside of the necklace without any trouble. "It's a customized high-definition camera.

"Every time you enter Riley's ward, the camera will capture everything you see with high definition quality. It's connected to the Wi-Fi in this room too, and with my phone linked to this camera, I can see everything that you see."

He took out his phone and opened an application. True enough the screen showed the exact scene that the camera was pointing at.

Yannie was shocked as she widened her eyes. "This..."

"It's true I never came to visit Riley, but every time you came, I'd know. With your help, I saw Riley, too," explained Thomas.

Yannie bit her lip upon hearing this, and her eyebrows pressed together. "So it's not that you didn't visit Riley, but you've...been seeing her with my help." She did not understand. "Why? You could've come to visit in person."

In addition, he mentioned he had been monitoring Riley's condition. Yannie did not even know Riley had been doing quite well these past few days, but he knew it very well.

"I'll tell you later after we leave the hospital," said Thomas. He smiled and looked back at Riley, who was on the bed. "Hey, Riley, did you miss me?"

Riley looked at him with her clear, pure eyes. She made grabby hands in his direction as though telling Thomas she missed him.

Thomas was amused with Riley's action, unable to refrain himself from pinching her cheek repeatedly.

For some reason, he truly thought Yannie and Riley shared some similarities, like how bouncy their cheeks were when he pinched them. Because of that, Thomas could not help but pinch Yannie's cheek twice when they were in the car leaving the hospital.

Exceptionally, Yannie did not resist it this time. She furrowed her brow and looked at Thomas. "Can you tell me now why you have to be so secretive with visiting Riley and scared that Joshua would out about it?"

Thomas narrowed his eyes Ell'\$d{g looked to the front. His voice sounded indifferent. "I have to start with my mother and Joshua's mother... My mother and Joshua's mother are twin sisters."

Yannie nodded, having known this. Joshua said it before, too. However, Yannie did not understand why Thomas treated Joshua like his enemy when they were cousins.

"Because he's that person's son." Thomas looked to the front and said coldly, "After my aunt delivered Joshua, she was announced dead. But the truth is...my aunt didn't die because of a difficult birth. She was dead because of Adrian, Joshua's father."

He sighed and closed his eyes. "Luckily, on the day my aunt gave birth, my mother was worried and found someone to rescue her. Unfortunately, she was too frail then, and she didn't last long afterward..." Yannie bit her lip. "But that has nothing to do with Joshua." Joshua's father was the one who did all of those, did he not? Thomas opened his eyes instantly. "And what made you say that? In the end, my aunt died because of Joshua!"

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 2590

Yannie did not understand.

According to what you said, your aunt, Joshua's mother, was dead after she delivered Joshua, and she was taken away by your mother after that. How could her death be related to Joshua?"

Theoretically speaking, it did not make sense at all. Joshua had been in Banyan City and had never left in the past. Thomas and his family, meanwhile, resided in Saigen City at Europa. If Thomas' mother rescued Joshua's mother and brought her to Saigen City...then Joshua did not have the chance to see her mother. The distance between Saigen City and Banyan City was more than several thousand kilometers!

Thomas sneered when he saw the perplexed look on Yannie's face. "Guess you're not as stupid as I think you are."

He sighed deeply again and told Yannie the story about Joshua's mother.

Rianna and Eanne were twin sisters. When Rianna was 20 years old, she met Adrian, a handsome ladies' man. In fact, he changed his name to Adrian because he was pursuing Rianna. He wanted to tell Rianna his determination to surrender himself entirely to her.

Under his fierce pursuit, Rianna fell in love with Adrian very soon and married him in spite of everything. However, after the marriage, Rianna found out Adrian pursued her not because he was in love with her.

At that time, Adrian was just a nobody in the Lynch family. Joshua's grandfather passed away a long time ago, and Granny Lynch knew Adrian was an incapable man and unworthy of taking over Lynch Group. Thus, she never handed the authority over to Adrian.

Adrian knew he did not have the gift in him. Hence, he put all of his hopes in his future wife. Rianna was born into a famous noble family with a huge net worth and was talented in managing the business. She became his target. After Adrian and Rianna got married, Adrian kept forcing Granny Lynch to pass her authority to him. He had the authority in his hands and let Rianna work for him.

As Rianna's sister, Eanne saw everything that was happening. She had many times talked Dp{! +b|d advised Rianna to leave Adrian, yet Rianna was stuck in the fantasy romantic world Adrian created for her. She never once listens to her family and sister's advice.

After that, she was pregnant and could not work hard to handle Lynch Group. Granny Lynch ordered her to rest at home since her body was not doing well. Shortly, Granny Lynch gradually took back control of the business.

When Adrian knew the power and money were slipping away from him, he began to smoke and felt disgust for Rianna, stemming from the bottom of his heart. Hence, he locked up Rianna during her pregnancy and abused her. There were a few times Rianna nearly suffered a miscarriage, but she did everything she could to keep Joshua. Later, Adrian secretly transferred a huge sum of money away from Lynch Group and intended to use that money to travel around the world after Rianna died of a difficult birth. Thus, he secretly made a plan to let Rianna die after the labor. Things did not go as he planned.

After Rianna was pregnant, she continued to be hopeful with Adrian. However, in desperation, she also looked for her sister and hoped Eanne could save her if she was in trouble. Because of that, Eanne was able to rescue Rianna when she was nearly killed in the delivery room.

After that, Rianna became crazy and searched for her son every day. The doctor said she missed her son too much, which caused her sickness. She would only recover if she was to see her son Although Eanne hated the Lynch family, she was helpless with it. When Joshua was five years old, Eanne brought the demented Rianna back to Banyan City in secret. She wanted to let Rianna meet with Joshua secretly, and she did. However...

Joshua was too well-protected that he treated Rianna as a bad person. He used his phone to seek help and sent a photo of him with Rianna to Adrian, who had just returned to Banyan City after a vacation. He pleaded with his father to rescue him.