

Rebirth Reclaiming Her Self by Fleur Delacour (Angela and Joseph)

Chapter 451

Chapter 451 Upsetting Florence

Fanny didn't get **any** sympathy as she wailed in pain from the beating, and her already pale face looked even more pitiful.

But there was no compassion to be found in that room, and the blows continued unabated.

Fanny knew she had upset Florence again with her words and begged for mercy while crying and screaming in pain.

When Fanny pleaded for the second time, Florence lazily called a halt to the beating.

The blows stopped, but Fanny's tears didn't. She cried loudly before, and now that she was beaten hard, her face and body were left in a sorry state.

Even though the fists stopped, Fanny still whispered in fear, "Miss Shelton, I was wrong."

Fanny realized that Florence was angry because she suggested tying down Angel with Kaydron

She thought Florence didn't like her and Kaydron being together.

"I shouldn't have made such suggestions..."

As Fanny wiped her tears, she vowed to be more careful with her words around Florence, who had a terrible temper.

"Good to know. Those kinds of people... Florence sighed with satisfaction as she relaxed her furrowed brow.

Fanny had guessed half of her intentions, but the main reason was that she had no intention of associating with Angela in the first place.

Secondly, even if she did want to involve Angela, she certainly wouldn't do it with someone like Kaydron.

After all, Kaydron was clearly a liability and was unlikely to be of any help whatsoever.

Perhaps sensing the disdain in Florence's unspoken words, Fanny hesitated before speaking cautiously, "Miss Shelton, even if you don't need assistance, you can definitely..."

But before she could finish her sentence, Florence interrupted her displeasably.

"I'm not planning to deal with Angela for now, and as for those rotten ideas you came up with earlier, forget about them.

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Initially, upon learning that Angela was Jonathan's **wife**, Florence had indeed considered taking action against her. However, she knew that directly targeting Angela would surely displease Jonathan.

She could tell that he had genuine feelings for Angela.

And today, when her men discovered that the bodyguards Jonathan had placed around Angela were all former soldiers or mercenaries, Florence became even more convinced that Jonathan cared deeply for Angela.

Florence was thankful for her team's thorough probe into Angela's security while they dug into Kaydron's case. Despite the rush, it helped her decide not to go after Angela, contrary to Fanny's suggestion.

Fanny couldn't grasp Florence's change of heart and was puzzled by her earlier interest, turning into a different stance.

Upon seeing Florence's frustrated face, Fanny felt silly. Florence had had enough of the latter's antics and gave her another hard kick, hitting her where it hurt the most.

Upon hearing Fanny's cries, Florence sighed. "We've got to figure out a way to get Christopher back to Northland. Until then, consider yourself my guest."

The mention of being a 'guest' sent chills down Fanny's spine.

Under Florence's stern look, Fanny kept silent, no matter how torn up inside she felt.

Florence got up casually and headed out the door.

Before leaving, she made sure her associates would take care of Fanny in her absence.

Fanny watched her leave, trembling, then turned to the two people left behind, not sure what to do next.

Reaching out to Christopher to return to Northland felt like a lost cause after his sudden hang-up. However, with two individuals monitoring her now, even though it was late, she reluctantly reached for her phone.

When she did, she realized her phone had unexpectedly powered off.

Earlier, when she noticed someone calling her, she discreetly muted it because she didn't want to upset Florence, especially when they were in the middle of an important conversation.

After muting it, she completely forgot about her phone.

But to her surprise, her phone had shut down **on** its own, and only when she tried to turn it

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Chapter 451 Upsetting Florence

back on did she realize it was out of battery.

Looking at the two ominous figures guarding her, she sighed and asked, "My phone died. Can I charge it first?"

The two didn't give her a hard time, and one of them quickly fetched a charger for her.

As she plugged in her phone to charge, she pondered how to convince Christopher to help her and how to ensure that after Kaydron showed up, he wouldn't target Angela again.

She didn't want him to focus on her instead of Angela, especially since he still had her photos.

Finally, when her phone was fully charged, she frowned at the missed calls on the screen, and her whole demeanor was tense with worry.

There were calls from Kaydron, Scarlet, and even from James. Her first thought was that James had arrived in Northland. After all, Scarlet had mentioned that she would get James to handle Joseph's affairs.

Thinking of James' capability and resourcefulness, Fanny felt relieved and decided to return his call first, but just as she was about to dial his number, Scarlet suddenly called her.

Earlier, Scarlet had encountered James hurrying back home. She immediately informed him that she had tried calling her several times throughout the afternoon, only to be met with silence. Eventually, her calls went straight to voicemail, indicating that Fanny's phone had been switched off. This raised her concern for the latter's safety.

After listening to Scarlet's account, James also tried calling Fanny, only to be met with the same outcome: her phone was unreachable. Scarlet's eyes glistened with unshed tears, and without uttering a word, she bolted toward the door, determined to seek help.

James quickly stopped her from going out as he was concerned about the late hour and the darkness outside.

"Mom, you're still not fully recovered. It's late at night, you shouldn't go out. I'll go check on Fanny," said James.

Upon seeing that he was also concerned about Fanny, Scarlet's worries eased a bit.

He immediately reached out to his acquaintances for help. While he wasn't deeply connected in the city, he knew a handful of people who might be able to help.

At least it was better than Scarlet going out alone to search for a needle in a haystack.

After **asking** for help from his acquaintances, he found himself at a loss for what to do next. His brows furrowed **in** frustration, prompting Scarlet to voice her suspicions.

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Chapter 451 Upsetting Florence

James, *do* you think it could be Angela...?"

Perplexed, he responded, "Why would you think it's her?" Despite his confusion, he couldn't shake the feeling that Angela didn't fit the profile of someone capable of such actions.

She elaborated, "Angela has always harbored resentment toward Fanny. I can't help but wonder if she's behind this." Recalling Fanny's exaggerated tales of how Angela allegedly caused her breakup with Yaxley, coupled with Angela's distant demeanor toward their family. and Zacharias and Joseph in particular, it was easier for Fanny to subtly blame Angela. Naturally, Scarlet grew even more disdainful of Angela.

If only I could turn back time, she mused, I would never have wished for someone as despicable as Angela to be a part of our lives.

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Chapter 452

Chapter 452 I Don't Have A Brother

James **raised** an eyebrow. "So, Angela has been holding a grudge against Fanny all this time?"

As memories of past clashes between Fanny and Angela resurfaced, he couldn't help but acknowledge the possibility. Still, **he** hesitated to believe Angela was the mastermind behind it all.

Scarlet nodded gravely upon realizing that James, residing far away in Riverdon, might have not been fully informed about Angela's previous misdeeds that led to conflicts between Fanny and Yaxley. Hence, she wasted no time in bringing it to his attention.

With a furrowed brow, James acknowledged her words. "Mom, I'm aware of that. Joseph filled me in."

The mention of Joseph prompted him to ponder, *I wonder what insights Joseph might have offered if I were present.*

The thought of Joseph still being detained weighed heavily on his mind as he sighed and turned to her. "Mom, have you considered the possibility that Fanny might have offended someone else?"

Scarlet swiftly defended Fanny's character, stating, "Fanny is so well-behaved and sensible. It's hard to imagine her offending anyone. Only someone like Angela would target her without reason.

Observing James' somber expression and lack of response, she continued her criticism of Angela. "Angela doesn't even have the courage to answer your calls. Clearly, she's feeling guilty about something!"

James remained silent as his thoughts were consumed by the dilemma at hand. "Mom, even if Angela is involved, we can't afford to antagonize her now, After all, aren't you still relying on her to help rescue Joseph and Zacharias?"

Scarlet looked extremely pale, but deep down, she felt that Joseph and Zacharias were indeed slightly more important than Fanny, so she could only sigh and shake her head.

James attempted to comfort her. "I doubt Angela's behind this. 'If it were her, Mom, you wouldn't need to worry about Fanny so much."

For some reason, he just couldn't believe Angela was capable of being cruel or ruthless.

Scarlet fell into silence, and her expression was grim.

The mother and son sat quietly on the couch and the atmosphere was silent as well.

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Chapter 452 I Don't Have A Brother

After a while, Scarlet picked up her phone again and said anxiously, "I'll give Fanny another call"

James didn't stop her. He felt that if she could get through, Fanny shouldn't be in any life-threatening danger.

On the other side, Fanny, who was left at the villa by Florence, saw her phone fully charged and was about to call James back when she spotted the incoming call from Scarlet.

Her hand trembled as she took the phone, but she answered it as quickly as she could.

When Fanny picked up, Scarlet's voice rang with a mix of worry and surprise.

"Fanny, where have you been? Your phone was off for ages."

Fanny sensed Scarlet had been searching for her anxiously for a while. "Mom, I'm at a friend's house. She invited me over, and I forgot to give you a heads-up. My phone died, but it's charged now."

Scarlet found Fanny's explanation a bit stretched, but she was relieved they were finally talking, and the latter's explanation eased her initially tense heart.

Thank God, Fanny isn't restrained by Angela.

"Okay, that's a relief. So, when are you coming home, Fanny?"

Fanny wasn't sure herself when she could return.

After hesitating for a while, she finally asked, "Can I stay at my friend's for a few days, Mom? Please?"

Scarlet didn't sound thrilled, but she agreed and reminded Fanny to take care of herself.

Just before hanging up, Scarlet dropped James' name.

The call was then passed to him.

After a brief exchange, he curiously inquired if Fanny knew anything about Joseph spreading rumors about Angela.

Naturally, Fanny denied any knowledge, and the call ended shortly afterward.

Once the line went dead, she felt a rush of confusion sweep over her.

Why did James suddenly *bring up* Joseph's gossip about *Angela*? Does he suspect my involvement?

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With a quick shake of her head, she dismissed the thought.

Her **only** link to the **matter** was Telvis, whom she had introduced to Joseph.

It all started on her first day back at Northland Medical University after Christopher departed from Northland.

And **it** was Joseph's concern for her that led him to drive her to school that day.

When they casually crossed paths with Telvis, they were discussing how heartless Angela was for completely disregarding Zacharias' illness.

That person seems to be in training with Angela," she mentioned, gesturing toward Telvis.

Joseph, already upset with Angela's cold treatment, scrutinized Telvis after hearing her words, and this made Fanny secretly hope he would do something about it.

However, she didn't expect him to just hand Telvis a flimsy note. Though everything written on the note was true, it still gave Angela an opportunity.

She outright denied Zacharias, her own brother.

Thinking about how Joseph didn't cause any trouble for Angela but ended up embarrassed instead, Fanny felt he was more trouble than he was worth.

But even though she had a lot of opinions about him in her heart, she didn't dare to reveal them in front of him.

The next morning.

Angela learned from Jonathan that James had stopped by. Still half-asleep, she mumbled, "When?"

Jonathan smirked, and a trace of amusement danced in his eyes.

"After

you

dozed off.

Angela's checks flushed immediately. She recalled how worn out she was last night after Jonathan's relentless teasing.

Upon contemplating his unchecked desires, she felt a mix of embarrassment and wistfulness. Back in Riverdon, Sebastian and May would probably have been hoping for her to have a chubby little boy by now.

As she reminisced, her blush deepened.

Yet, despite everything, memories of Riverdon made her feel a pang of longing. Even though

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there **wasn't all** sunshine and roses in her past life, it was still home, where she felt more at ease.

And with friends who cared for her and people like Sebastian and May, who felt like family, **Angela** felt a certain fondness for Riverdon.

When she came to Northland for training, May originally wanted to accompany her, but she declined the offer.

Even with Jonathan's arrival, Sebastian and May didn't join. Apart from themselves and Oliver, the bodyguard, their accommodation only had a housekeeper who handled cleaning and cooking.

And thanks to Jonathan's specific instructions, the housekeeper rarely crossed their path.

After being lost in her thoughts for too long, Angela was startled when he called out to her softly.

She snapped back to reality and slowly got up. It dawned on her, prompted by his mention of James earlier, that she should inquire further.

"Why is James looking for me?"

She always sensed trouble whenever the Kins Family reached out to her.

With Joseph's recent detainment, Angela couldn't shake the suspicion that James' appearance was somehow linked to it.

"I didn't ask, but it's probably not a good thing," Jonathan replied, his tone icy yet matter-of-fact. However, he still proceeded to summarize his conversation with James for her.

Angela couldn't help but frown at his words.

Jonathan's response mirrored her thoughts, almost like they were on the same wavelength.

And she couldn't believe he had just confronted James, saying she had no brother.

It really hit close to home for her.

Being tangled up with the Kins Family only brought her disgust. How could she consider them **as** kin?

It became clear to her that James was definitely not her brother. She had no brother.

Jonathan gently tousled her hair and checked the time before softly suggesting, "Let's ready for dinner, then I'll walk you to school."

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Angela looked **away** from *her* thoughts **and** flashed him a big smile. "Sure.

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Chapter 453

Chapter 453 James **Has** Got A Hunch On Zacharias

In the **past few** days, Jonathan had been sending Angela to Northland Medical University **every** time, fearing someone might target her. But now that Kaydron had been **arrested yesterday**, he didn't refuse to take her anymore. Instead, she felt oddly pleased.

After hastily finishing their morning routine and breakfast, as they were preparing to head out, Angela noticed a missed call from James on her phone.

She hadn't anticipated James ringing her up so early.

"James' calling," she announced and waved her phone in front of Jonathan.

"You don't have to pick up if you don't want to," he remarked.

After a brief moment of contemplation, she replied, "Alright."

She then muted her phone and decided to put James on hold for the time being.

She didn't want to pick up his call because it was too early, and she didn't want it to interfere with her time with Jonathan.

James wasn't worth it, so she made her decision straightforwardly.

Angela had been contemplating a conversation with James, but she planned to wait until she wasn't busy and had sorted out her emotions.

One of the bodyguards was driving, while she and Jonathan sat in the back, holding hands.

Jonathan, realizing that Angela's training was coming to an end, asked, "Is it time for the final assessment?"

She nodded. "Yes."

She had mentioned the date of the final assessment to him before, so his question didn't surprise her.

“Still heading to the outskirts of Northland?”

“**Yes**, we **leave** tomorrow, and the assessment will last two days.”

“I’ll

accompany you this time.”

Angela looked at him in surprise, but remembering that he had mentioned leaving the Northland branch to Spencer, she flashed a **smile** and agreed.

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Chapter **458** James Has Got A Hunch

She **didn’t want to be** separated **from** him either.

Jonathan’s illness, though it hadn’t flared up for a while, **still** left her feeling **uneasy about leaving** him.

Soon, the car came to a stop outside Northland Medical University.

Angela got out of the car and said goodbye to Jonathan before realizing that James’ **calls** kept coming in now and then.

In the short ride, he had already called three times.

She watched Jonathan’s car drive away before answering James’ call with a calm tone, “Who is this?”

Although Jonathan had told her that he had already denied James’ attempt to use their sibling relationship to gain sympathy last night, Angela still felt unsettled.

She wanted James to understand that once she left the Kins Family, they had no relationship

anymore.

If she had the energy to deal with them, she would have settled the score from their past lives as well.

But for now, things were fine. The once respectable Kins Family had fallen apart, and she didn’t mind watching it crumble further.

Besides, watching the Kins family suffer was a bit of stress relief.

No matter what she was pondering, she fell silent after posing the question, “Who’s calling?”

On the opposite end of the line, when James heard a voice that didn’t belong to Jonathan, he let out a sigh of relief.

“It’s me, Angela,” he murmured, trying to convey a tenderness he had never shown her before.

But she couldn’t stand it. It made her sick to her stomach.

“Huh? You must have dialed the wrong number, I don’t have a brother,” **she** said, cutting off James before he could respond, and hung up the phone without giving him a chance to react.

After hanging up, she continued on her way to the training classroom in high spirits.

James froze upon hearing the busy dial tone on the other end of the **line**.

His entire body **tensed** up, including his expression.

Chapter **453** James **Has** Got A Hunch **On** Zacharias

He **never imagined** she **would** hang **up** on him like that, and her parting words sounded **exactly like what** Jonathan said **last** night!

She’s *too **audacious!***

James gripped his phone tightly, and his expression darkened as his mood soured.

Scarlet approached cautiously and gently asked, “What’s up? Did Angela **say** something?”

Knowing him well, Scarlet sensed Angela must have said something hurtful to upset him.

James shook his head and muttered, “I’ll try calling her again.”

He understood he couldn’t approach Angela with his usual big brother attitude if he wanted to have a civil conversation.

Yesterday, Jonathan mentioned Angela didn’t have a brother. Although James didn’t argue then, Angela’s recent remark made him itch to scold her. But before he could speak, she abruptly ended the call.

James couldn't help but wonder if she had picked up some of Jonathan's traits from living with him for so long.

Pondering the situation, James felt it growing even more complex.

He dialed Angela's number once more, but she didn't pick up. Thus, fueling his impatience.

He didn't know it, but at this moment, Angela had already muted her phone and stowed it

away

in her bag to fully immerse herself in the training session.

Their training was nearing its end, with the final exam slated for the day after tomorrow. Angela wasn't about to slack off as she had before.

When James heard the call disconnect yet again, a surge of frustration overwhelmed him.

He battled to contain his anger and opted to join Scarlet on a visit to the hospital to check on Zacharias.

Scarlet noticed his troubled expression and couldn't help but comment on how Angela was not only disrespectful but also lacked sibling respect.

Although James remained outwardly composed and didn't agree with him, deep down, **he** harbored similar thoughts.

Upon arriving at the hospital, they **were** met with Zacharias' pallid, **frail** figure.

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Chapter 458 James Has **Got A** Hunch On Zacharias

Originally, James wanted to **ask** Zacharias how to get Angela to **help Joseph**, but **Zacharias didn't** want to **talk** more about Angela and directly changed the topic to Fanny.

He inquired, "Mom, will Fanny come to see me today?"

Scarlet had been cursing Angela in her mind and didn't expect him to suddenly ask about Fanny. Thus, upon hearing this, she was momentarily stunned.

James was quick to respond, “Fanny is over at her friend’s place and might crash there for a couple of days.”

On the flip side, Zacharias furrowed his brow. “She’s not exactly in top shape, so how can you be okay with her staying out?”

He’d been working on setting up the kidney donation surgery for him and Fanny, but now he was stuck in the hospital. If he wanted to keep it under wraps from Scarlet, he needed Fanny’s cooperation.

When Zacharias recalled the successful training report he sneakily glimpsed yesterday when the doctor stepped out, he felt more determined than ever.

He mulled it over all night and decided to privately let Fanny know their tissue match was a

success.

But he wasn’t keen on discussing it over the phone as he had to have a face-to-face chat with Charlotte to convince her to keep it hush-hush.

Even though he suspected she might not agree to let him donate his kidney, he had to give it his all. If persuasion failed, he would have to resort to more forceful measures.

!

*Fanny **has** always been compassionate and kind-hearted, so I should be able to sway her.*

Scarlet furrowed her brow. “We’re worried about Fanny too, but she finally has a friend she can hang out with at home. We can’t always hold her back.”

When Scarlet uttered those words, a sense of unease washed over her.

She couldn’t shake the feeling that something wasn’t right. Fanny wasn’t particularly close to any of her friends.

The thought crossed her mind that perhaps Angela had coerced Fanny into lying. Maybe the latter had been threatened last night to fabricate the story about hanging out at a friend’s house.

Zacharias remained silent/his expression giving nothing away.

But **James** sensed the tension in the air. “Mom, why don’t **you go** rest? I’ll have a word with

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Chapter **453** James Has Got A Hunch On Zacharias

Zacharias,” he suggested gently.

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Observing Zacharias closely, he couldn't help but notice a lack of determination in his eyes **this** time. It made him uneasy.

Then, Zacharias brought up Fanny out of the blue, triggering a memory of their successful match. Yet, Joseph and Scarlet had deliberately kept him in the dark about it.

A gut feeling told James that Zacharias might be onto something.

With a heavy sigh, Scarlet excused herself and left the room.

She knew that James was a decisive individual. Whatever he wanted to discuss with Zacharias must be significant. Concern for Fanny weighed heavily on her mind, but she trusted James **to** handle the situation.

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Chapter 454

Chapter **454** Monitoring Scarlet

James looked over at Zacharias, who lay weakly on the hospital bed, his face drained of color and tension etched into his features. “Come on, take a seat,” Zacharias said, managing a **weak**. smile.

He extended his frail arm from under the blanket and lightly tapped the edge of the bed twice.

Even though there were chairs scattered around the room, Zacharias had a gut feeling that whatever James was about to say might not be easy to hear. So, he decided to show a bit of vulnerability beforehand.

James let out a heavy sigh as he took in the latter's pallid complexion and the strained smile plastered across his face. Some of his frustration melted away, **and** he settled himself onto the edge of the bed.

"We're still on the hunt for a kidney for Fanny," James said slowly, his gaze locked onto Zacharias' face.

He had a hunch about what Zacharias might be thinking and saw **this** as a chance to probe a bit further.

Zacharias cast his eyes downward. "Thanks. Any updates on the kidney source?"

In truth, he was not optimistic about James' and Joseph's efforts to secure a kidney donor. It seemed akin to finding a needle in a haystack. Nevertheless, they were running out of options.

Which sane person would willingly give up such a vital organ like a kidney? That was why most kidney donors were those who had signed donation agreements before their only to be donated posthumously.

passing.

But even after excluding various circumstances, the number of usable kidneys was actually quite limited.

And to top it off, before Fanny, how many people were already in line, waiting for a chance to get a kidney? They didn't need to check; they knew it was not a small number.

As Zacharias sighed softly, James remained silent, allowing the room to hang in a heavy stillness. After **a** while, the former looked up and asked, "What should we do about Angela's **not** answering your calls?"

He instinctively changed the subject, not wanting James to dwell on the issue of where Fanny's kidney would come from. He was determined to do everything he could for her illness.

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Chapter 434 Monitoring Scarlet

Upon hearing Angela's name. James shook *his* head. "There's nothing we can do. She's probably in training now. I'll try again at noon."

Zacharias acknowledged and then said. "James, I think I can leave the hospital. Can you talk to Mom about it?"

He wanted to be discharged from the hospital as soon as possible and then avoid Scarlet and take Fanny to another hospital for kidney transplant surgery.

He had mentioned the idea of being discharged to Scarlet, but she flatly refused. Knowing her stance wouldn't change, especially with his recent health issues, he decided not to push the matter further. Despite his ongoing struggles with his health, he made a concerted effort over

past few days to appear more stable and hide any discomfort from Fang Honglan. While his condition hadn't seen much improvement, at least he managed to present a better façade.

Rather than addressing his inquiry directly, James threw him off guard with a sudden question. "Are you considering donating a kidney to Fanny

As he posed the question, he felt a sense of clarity. He couldn't prevent him from acting, so he needed to find a **way** to monitor his intentions.

Zacharias found himself at a loss for words and was unsure of how to respond to James unexpected query.

Should I deny it? He didn't really want to lie to James directly.

So, he opted for a strained smile and said. "James, **aren't** you aware of the results from the compatibility test? It didn't yield a match.

While Joseph likely informed James of the test results, he likely withheld this information from the latter.

"Mhm, it's good that you understand." James nodded and gently patted the always frail Zacharias.

He didn't mind the affectionate gesture as Zacharias continued to plead. James. I can't stand being cooped up in this hospital anymore. I want to get **discharged** and wander around Northland. Since I **arrived** in this town. I haven't had the chance to explore."

James took a moment to absorb words.

Zacharias persisted, "Please, James, help me convince Mom."

James studied him for a moment, and just when Zacharias thought he would reject the idea outright. James replied, "Hmm."

A brief flicker of surprise crossed Zacharias' sickly face, and it was swiftly replaced by

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Chapter 454 Monitoring Scarlet

gratitude and reassurance. "Thanks, James. I'll make sure to be cautious once I'm discharged."

James sighed with a tinge of resignation. "I'll talk to Mom about it, but I can't promise she'll agree."

With Zacharias' health in such a fragile state, Scarlet might stubbornly insist on keeping him. in the hospital for treatment.

However, considering that Zacharias might still be pondering the kidney donation, perhaps convincing Scarlet to agree and then addressing the matter head-on would be more beneficial.

He wasn't indifferent to his Fanny. He just made the same choice as other members of the Kins Family.

James' thoughts on the kidney donation surprisingly align with Zacharias! That is, compared to Fanny, Zacharias was more important.

"James, just lend me your support in persuading Mom. I'll handle discussing the hospital discharge with her," Zacharias urged eagerly.

Even though James expressed doubt about his ability to sway Scarlet, Zacharias remained confident in his own persuasion skills.

While Scarlet's love for her sons was uniform, her treatment of James, the eldest son and heir to the Kins Family, differed slightly from the others.

She would likely be more open to James' influence.

With these thoughts in mind, Zacharias expressed gratitude to James once more before stifling a yawn.

He feared that if James lingered in his ward, he might delve into other topics and forget about persuading Scarlet.

If James left now, he should still remember to bring up the hospital discharge with Scarlet, shouldn't he?

James Kins saw through Zacharias Kins' intentions but didn't expose them, simply getting up and saying, "You look tired. Take a rest. I'll step out for a bit."

When he exited the ward, he immediately noticed Scarlet waiting outside.

In that moment, she anxiously gripped her phone, as if in the midst of a call, though she remained silent.

Since stepping out, she had been grappling with the question of whether Fanny had truly

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gone to a friend's house to hang out.

The more she dwelled on it, the more her anxiety mounted, prompting her to dial Fanny's number.

Yet, as the call connected, she realized Fanny's line had been busy the entire time, indicating

no **answer**.

"Mom?"

James' voice interrupted her thoughts, prompting her to look up.

As the dial tone persisted, she reluctantly set her phone down and voiced her worry, "Fanny's phone has been busy this whole time. I can't seem to reach her."

"Busy the whole time?" James narrowed his eyes and dialed the number, confirming the ongoing dial tone.

"Maybe she's just chatting with someone," he reassured.

But Scarlet remained anxious. "Her line has been busy since I left."

Though James also found it peculiar, he persisted in comforting her. "Let's give it another try

at noon."

After all, he intended to reach out to Angela around that time. If Fanny still couldn't be reached by then, they could explore other options later.

Despite her lingering worries, Scarlet agreed.

Considering Zacharias' predicament, James turned to her and suggested, "Mom, Zacharias. wants to check out of the hospital. It's too suffocating here. If he's eager to leave, we should allow him."

They both understood that the hospital couldn't provide a cure for Zacharias.

Among those they knew, only Angela could heal Zacharias. However, she had also retired from her practice.

Scarlet let out a sigh and expressed her reluctance. "I don't want to confine him to the hospital. I'm afraid he might resort to other means to reunite with Fanny.

James mulled over the situation and thought that even if Zacharias and Fanny were not **to** reunite, they should have already confirmed their compatibility.

However, his immediate concern was reassuring Scarlet first. "Don't worry, I'll ensure someone keeps a close watch on him. Mom, you don't need to worry."

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Chapter 454 Monitoring Scarlet

Despite James' reassurance, Scarlet remained uncertain.

Noticing her hesitation, he persisted in convincing her. "Forcing him to stay in the hospital could potentially jeopardize Zac's health."

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Chapter 455

Chapter 455 To Marry You

"Let's go with Zac's plan and leave the hospital. I'll do my best to support *him*?"

In the end, Scarlet agreed.

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Despite her previous irritation, she managed to get in touch with Christopher and approached the conversation cautiously.

Meanwhile, Christopher was seated opposite Michael with the phone on speaker between them.

Avoiding eye contact with Michael, Christopher whispered. "I wasn't feeling well earlier and didn't have my phone. I just saw your calls."

Fanny seemed to accept his explanation and asked anxiously. "Are **you** okay, **Chris**? Are **you** feeling sick?"

Maintaining his composure, Christopher glanced at Michael, received a nod, cleared his throat, and replied, "Just a minor illness. I went to the hospital, but I'm back home now."

Fanny wasn't sure how to react to his words.

However, the person observing her grew impatient and nudged her with a stick.

Startled, Fanny, who had been attacked by Florence's subordinates the day before, felt her

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Chapter 455 To Marry You

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Chapter 455 To Marry You

heart **race at** any movement from them.

Upon seeing the menacing expression on the person's face, she clenched her teeth and stick uttered, "I'm worried about you, Chris. How about **you** come back to Northland, and I'll Mack **by your** side?"

Though it didn't make much sense, she voiced her concern nonetheless.

Christopher frowned upon hearing her words, and even Michael, who was sitting opposite him, glanced at the former's phone.

After a cough, Christopher recomposed himself and proposed, "Fanny, why don't you head back to Riverdon? I'll arrange for someone to fetch you."

Fanny **fell** silent, her mind racing.

The person holding the stick handed her a note coldly. After scanning it, she asked with hope, "Could you come personally to pick me up? I really want to return to Riverdon, but I'm afraid..."

Christopher hesitated before nodding in agreement.

Fearing rejection, she fought back tears as she admitted, "Our situation in Riverdon was tense before. I'm scared of the gossip from my family and others if I go back alone."

"Absolutely," affirmed Christopher.

Fanny quickly inquired, "And when might that be?"

She dreaded the constant surveillance by Florence. Even if she could take a stroll in the yard, she'd still be under watch. It was unbearable.

Without much delay, he responded, "I'm here this time to bring you back for our wedding. You wouldn't want me to leave everything unplanned, would you?"

Fanny nodded groggily in agreement.

As the call ended, she hadn't received a specific date from Christopher for his arrival, but instead, she was met with angry glares from the other two.

"Aren't you going to ask about the timing? Do you want us to keep tailing you forever?" they jeered.

Fanny felt distressed internally but kept a composed exterior. She shook her head and replied, "No, I don't. But since Christopher didn't mention it, I probably wouldn't have asked

Upon learning that he had agreed to come to Northland to pick her up personally, Fanny

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Immediately had the person guarding her pass this message on to requested to visit Kaydron.

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Florence didn't persist in making things difficult for her. Instead, she simply instructed her people to keep an eye on Fanny from a distance. It was a gesture of granting the latter some degree of freedom, and fortunately, they later collaborated to intercept Christopher when he arrived in Northland.

Upon receiving permission, Fanny wasted no time reaching out to Kaydron. A police officer picked up the phone, providing Fanny with the address before she made her way to the police station.

Despite Florence's subordinates tailing her and confiscating her cell phone temporarily to prevent communication with Christopher, Fanny remained unfazed.

Her immediate plan involved visiting Kaydron first, then making her way to the hospital to delve into Zacharias' sudden return to Riverdon.

Though Florence would likely detain Christopher in Northland upon his arrival to fetch her, Fanny anticipated her eventual freedom.

Once she was free, she intended to return to Riverdon on her terms, not only for herself but also to bring Zacharias along,

The kidney in Zacharias' body, seemingly compatible with hers, was now her lifeline in the absence of a donor.

She refused to let what rightfully belonged to her slip further out of reach.

When Fanny arrived at the police station, the noon hour had yet to arrive.

After some inquiries and paperwork, she finally came face to face with Kaydron.

Kaydron didn't seem to be in the best shape, but his eyes brightened when he saw Fanny standing before him.

"Fanny! You actually made it!"

Kaydron had spent the entire previous day attempting to reach Fanny but to no avail.

He had been convinced that if she dared to be unreachable during such a crucial time, he would certainly give her a piece of his mind once he was released in a few days.

Yet here she was, showing up on her own accord!

Fanny sighed and asked, "Do you want me to bail you out?"

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Chapter 455 To Marry You

Kaydron **was** only going to be detained for a few days, so even if he would be released soon enough.

He didn't mention bail, **he**

But Fanny was eager to expedite things because she wanted him to do something sooner **rather** than later.

Before her arrival, she had already set aside the money to bail him out.

Though he wasn't thrilled, he reluctantly agreed to her bail proposition.

He had tried reaching out to her the day before with the sole intention of securing his release from jail.

The whole situation was embarrassing for him and his associates. As a small-time businessman, he couldn't afford to tarnish his reputation among acquaintances.

But Fanny wasn't his average associate.

He had leverage over her, and besides, she had been obedient lately, and their time together in bed was enjoyable. Plus, it was she who had suggested handling Angela's matter, so naturally, she had to take responsibility for this mess.

In no time, she had him bailed out.

Upon release, she accompanied him back to his place.

This time, she wasn't just there for the photos. She was there to offer him some advice and guidance.

Kaydron, who was still gnawing on some/unfinished business with Fanny, felt reluctant when she asked him to deal with Angela.

"Angela herself isn't much trouble, but the people around her are tough nuts to crack. I can't

make a move."

Recalling how he was taken down and beaten by Angela's bodyguards before, Kaydron couldn't help but break into a cold sweat.

They were like machines, not humans.

Fanny pushed him away, looking somewhat displeased. "Do you still want to get in touch. with the Coolier Family?"

It suddenly dawned on him that the reason he agreed to deal with Angela **in** the first place was to get in good with the Coolier Family.

And Fanny knew Ava as the young miss of the Coolier Family.

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Kaydron hesitated.

Upon seeing a glimmer of hope, Fanny chimed in as if struck by

adden thought.

"Oh, by the way, Angela's training is about to end, and their assessment location is on the outskirts of Northland. Aren't you familiar with the outskirts, Kaydron?"

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Chapter 456

Chapter 456 Fanny Returns To Scarlet

She didn't allow him to ask for the specific location as soon as he heard that she was going to the suburbs of Northland for an exam.

Fanny had checked beforehand, so it naturally rolled off her tongue.

Upon hearing this, Kaydron couldn't contain himself any longer.

She continued to entice, "She won't be able to take many people with her for the exam, probably just three like last time. If you bring a few more people than last time or quietly take action against her, you can definitely grab her."

Fanny's words were airy, and Kaydron listened with ease, even imagining along with her.

Come to think of it, when he took people to intercept Angela before, perhaps it was just for profit. But now, just mentioning going after Angela, he still wanted to vent his frustration from the last failure.

The last time was really embarrassing, and if there was another time, he would certainly want to redeem himself.

And Fanny was right; he was quite familiar with the outskirts of Northland.

The area she mentioned, he was no stranger to.

Kaydron sat silently as Fanny tried to provoke him.

"You're not just going to swallow the humiliation from last time, are you? If it were me, I'd definitely make Angela regret it."

Her words struck a nerve with him, and he slammed his hand on the table. "No way! Not only am I going to teach her a lesson, but I'll also make sure to catch her before her exam and make her suffer!"

His words were firm, which greatly satisfied her.

Meanwhile, another person scheming to sabotage Angela's exam was Florence.

Florence was leisurely listening to her subordinates' reports at home when suddenly, one of them mentioned Angela's upcoming exam.

"Exam? What exam?" She wondered why Angela's exam would concern her.

Her question puzzled her/subordinates for a moment, but they quickly explained, "Miss, you ordered us to ensure Angela doesn't make it to the next round."

Chapter 456 Fanny Returns To Scarlet

Upon hearing this explanation, she realized why Angela's exam was brought up.

However, she genuinely couldn't remember giving such an order.

Florence, lounging lazily, absently toyed with her fingers. "Well, we might **as** well press on **with** the plan," she remarked.

Her thoughts were consumed by Jonathan, yet he seemed impervious to her advances. She had pinned her hopes on Fanny to coax Christopher to Northland. However, after Fanny's negotiations all morning, all she got was a vague confirmation that Christopher would come to Northland, but the timing was uncertain.

The temptation to venture to Riverdon herself and forcibly bring him back gnawed at her, but the vigilant elders of the Shelton Family kept a close watch. They weren't about to let her or any **of** her people leave Northland during this precarious period.

"So, how are the arrangements shaping up?" she inquired, masking her boredom with feigned

interest.

I've got everything under control. No room for error," the other person reassured her.

"Under control? You're not planning any harm to Angela, are you?" Florence interjected, her concern for Angela's safety overriding her competitive streak.

"Fret not, there won't be any harm done. I can assure you of that," came the solemn promise.

Observing his confident demeanor, Florence didn't bother to inquire further about the details, as all she desired was a successful outcome.

After spending time with Kaydron, Fanny took a shot at cracking his phone's password. But **alas**, her efforts were in vain.

Upon leaving, Fanny planned to visit the hospital to investigate and persuade Zacharias.

Heading back to Riverdon was her Plan B, but bringing Zacharias along was her best shot at a way forward.

Florence's subordinates were still hot on her trail, and without contacting Christopher or receiving a call from him, Fanny couldn't reclaim her phone..

At the police station, Fanny opted for her own wheels, with Florence's men following close behind.

Later, when she visited Kaydron's house, they continued to follow her.

Now, Fanny abandoned the idea of taking an Uber and straightforwardly approached the two

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Chapter 456 Fanny Returns To Scarlet

"Hey guys, I need **to** get to Mercy Hospital. Can you give me a ride?"

The two guys sized her up before one finally gestured toward the car, "Hop in."

Fanny compiled and flashed them a smile as she settled into the backseat.

"Now that I'm here, any chance I could grab my phone for a bit?" She thought since the two men had backed off a bit, she could test the waters.

Unfortunately, they ignored her and merely stated that they would hand it over when Christopher called.

Fanny decided not to press further and let the issue go.

It wasn't until they reached the hospital that she noticed Scarlet seemingly preoccupied with something.

"Mom," she called out.

Scarlet, initially startled and assumed she was hearing things, quickly made her way over upon seeing Fanny.

"Fanny? Shouldn't you be in class?" she asked incredulously.

Fanny realized she **was** not only under surveillance by Florence's men but also playing truant, so she scrambled to explain. "Mom, we have a holiday, Otherwise, I wouldn't have. been at a friend's place yesterday."

Scarlet didn't pry any further and instead focused on the stack of paperwork before her.

Fanny's eyes drifted downward, and she noticed Scarlet's concentration on processing Zacharias' discharge papers.

"Mom?" Her voice held a hint of confusion. "Shouldn't Zac stay a bit longer? He hasn't fully recovered yet."

At that moment, Scarlet paused abruptly, as if something had sparked her memory. She ignored Fanny's inquiry and posed her own question instead.

"Ah, right. Fanny, why didn't you pick up your phone earlier? Every time I called, it was occupied. Who were you chatting with?"

She fired off two questions in a row, leaving Fanny momentarily flustered. Yet, she quickly pieced together the situation.

Scarlet had attempted to reach her earlier today. However, Fanny had been desperately trying to get in touch with Christopher. After finally connecting with him, her phone had

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Chapter 456 Fanny Returns To Scarlet

been confiscated by someone from Florence's subordinates and b any other calls, her from answering

Fanny pondered for a moment before responding, "Um, I was talking to Chris..."

She understood that Scarlet harbored no fondness for Christopher at the moment, so she hoped that mentioning his name would divert her attention from further interrogation.

As **expected**, upon hearing the name Christopher, Scarlet's expression darkened involuntarily.

Christopher had previously suggested conducting tissue typing between Fanny and Zacharias, a proposal that had always unsettled Scarlet. The secretive process and its successful outcome only added to her discomfort.

But what truly ignited her fury was Christopher's audacious suggestion that Zacharias should donate his kidney to Fanny.

This was utterly unacceptable to her! No one had the right to make decisions concerning Zacharias' well-being.

"That man has devious intentions! Fanny, you must steer clear of him in the future," Scarlet warned her with a firm tone and furrowed brows.

Fanny nodded obediently and followed her to assist with the discharge procedures.

However, her fragile health and the busy hospital lobby proved to be too much. After a short while, she began to struggle for breath and could no longer walk.

Concern etched on her face, Scarlet quickly guided Fanny to a nearby seat.

"Fanny, are you alright? Where does it hurt?" she asked, her voice laced with worry.

Fanny shook her head with a faint smile playing on her lips. "I'll be alright, Mom. Just need a moment to catch my breath."

Scarlet couldn't shake off the worry gnawing at her, so she settled down beside her to offer silent support

While leaning against Scarlet, Fanny couldn't resist her curiosity. "Mom, what made you change your mind about letting Zac leave the hospital? His health hasn't improved, has it?"

Scarlet let out a weary sigh, her gaze distant as she recalled the conversation. "Zac was adamant about leaving, and he talked about longing to explore Northland's charms. And James, well, he had his persuasive ways."

A hint of frustration tinged her tone as she continued, "James' determination can be

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Chapter 456 Fanny Returns To Scarlet

maddening at times."

Scarlet admitted silently. If it hadn't been for James' insistence, *I* wouldn't have relented to allowing Zac to *leave the hospital's care*.

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Chapter 457

Chapter 457 Why Did Fanny Kins Tell A Lie?

I was only after hearing **James'** persuasion that Scarlet agreed to let Zacas leave the hospital. But Fanny couldn't shake off her suspicions.

Upon seeing the furrow of concern on Scarlet's brow, Fanny reached out to soothe her. "Ever since Zacharias came to Northland, he has hardly stepped outside. It's high time he did. Mom, trust me, if James thinks it's safe to leave the hospital, then Zac will be just fine."

Scarlet **cast a** weary glance at her and let out a heavy sigh. "I get it. James always has his own way of doing things."

In that moment, a twinge of guilt tugged at her heart. Deep down, her reluctance to let Zacharias leave the hospital stemmed from her fear that he might secretly undergo testing and then **donate** his kidney to Fanny.

This fear revealed a clear lack of trust in Fanny among the Kin Family members. Even Joseph hadn't been able to fully confide in her.

After all, whoever told Fanny about the results of the compatibility test all came back negative.

Fanny locked eyes with Scarlet and offered a genuine and warm smile.

"Mom, even without James' advice, you shouldn't worry too much. Zac has his own way of handling things."

Scarlet let out a weary sigh. "Hmm. Once Zac is out of the hospital, I'll make sure to spend quality time with him. You shouldn't fret either."

She couldn't quite grasp the idea that Zacharias had a method to his madness, especially when he had earnestly offered to donate his kidney to Fanny before.

He had reached a point where he simply didn't want to go on living.

How could someone who had lost the will to live possibly have a method to their actions?

She had given James her word that she would ensure Zacharias' release from the hospital because she had faith that James had a plan in place, whether it was to prevent Zacharias from receiving accurate matching results or to halt his thoughts and actions of donating his kidney.

Fanny nodded resolutely. "Alright, Mom. I'll be there for Zac, too."

But when she expressed her desire to support Zacharias, Scarlet remained silent as her thoughts swirled with concern.

1/4

Chapter 457 Why Did Fanny Kins Tell A Lief

She **was** practically hoping that Fanny and Zacharias would stay apart. How could awe kazi to hear Fanny talking about being with Zacharias?

Fanny's face tightened **as** she sensed something was off. She was about

when Scarlet chimed in, her tone firm, "Focus on your studies and be cautious around Chris Don't worry about anything else."

Scarlet's words came off a bit rigid and authoritative.

Fanny's expression froze, and an icy sensation gripped her heart inexplicably,

Scarlet was keeping her away from Zacharias.

But Fanny came to the hospital to convince Zacharias to come back to Riverdon with her There was no way she would let Scarlet get her way.

She decided to drop the subject of accompanying Zac after his discharge. Having settled into the chair, she said, "Mom, I'm feeling much better now. You go ahead and handle the paperwork."

Scarlet noticed her improved complexion and, feeling a pang of awkwardness over her earlier words, offered a casual reassurance before proceeding to deal with the paperwork.

As Scarlet walked away, Fanny couldn't shake the turmoil within her.

Ever since Christopher suggested that she and Zacharias should be a match, Scarlet had been harboring resentment toward Christopher, and it had started to affect her relationship with Fanny as well.

Despite Scarlet's recent coldness, Fanny's heart ached.

After a moment of contemplation, she made her way to Zacharias' ward.

She was determined to persuade him to leave Northland with her, but her resolve had never been stronger.

Northland had become a cesspool of problems, and she longed to escape its clutches. She didn't want to stay a moment longer!

When she finally reached his room, Zacharias wasn't lying in bed as **usual** but sitting **in a** wheelchair by the bedside, gazing out the window.

Although he couldn't see much from his vantage point on the fifth floor, the distant skyscrapers held his attention, and their imposing presence seemed to captivate him despite his physical limitations.

"Hey, Zac, Fanny's voice broke through his reverie.

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Chapter 457 Why Did **Fanny** Kins Tell A Lia

Zacharias **slowly turned** his wheelchair toward her and took a moment to refocus

Fanny, shouldn't you be in class?" he inquired.

Fanny hesitated for a moment before offering the excuse she had prepared for Scarlet, but his expression soured.

Sensing his doubt, she was about to explain when he interjected, "Fanny, do you have a lot of studying to do?"

Fanny **shook** her head, feeling a bit dazed.

She didn't care about her studies at all as she probably knew that she could easily get **a** diploma by just fooling around, and even if she couldn't, it didn't matter. With the Kins Family behind her, as long as she could marry a good man, she could still live a good life.

She had once entertained the idea of marrying Christopher, but after all that had happened, her feelings for him faded. Besides, before heading back to Riverdon this time, she had at least managed to lure Christopher into Florence's trap, so the notion of marrying him never crossed her mind, even if he dared to broach the subject with her.

Fanny always had doubts about Christopher's proposal; it just didn't feel genuine.

Upon seeing her shake her head, Zacharias persisted, "Could you accompany me to another hospital later? It won't take much of your time."

Fanny felt her heart race. She sensed something in Zacharias' request, yet he appeared sincere.

With a quivering voice, she inquired, "What is it that you want to do, Zac?"

Zacharias let out a sigh. He was about to respond when he noticed someone approaching the ward from outside, prompting him to shake his head subtly.

Fanny furrowed her brow. She had also sensed someone's arrival without even turning around.

"Why are you here in the ward, Fanny?" Scarlet's voice chimed in from behind, confirming Fanny's suspicions.

Fanny turned and flashed with a smile. "I came to have a chat with Zac."

Scarlet, still grappling with her frustration, was taken aback by Fanny's radiant smile. "The discharge papers are ready/Let's head home together," she suggested eagerly.

Fanny agreed and offered to push Zacharias' wheelchair herself. As they made their way out of the hospital, each was lost in their own thoughts.

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Chapter 457 Why Did Fanny Kim Tell A Lie

Fanny couldn't shake the feeling that she needed to convince Zacharias too

Riverdon with her. Little did she know, Zacharias was also harboring d

transplant results. She could have held off on trying to persuade him

could've waited until he was confident about the successful match result, he could have willingly offered to donate his kidney to *her*.

She hoped the **Kins** Family wouldn't hold it against her for taking a passive approach.

As **they** exited the hospital and made their way home, the trio's minds froze with anxious thoughts.

Meanwhile, James, having met with a friend earlier, received a message from another acquaintance who had uncovered Fanny's whereabouts,

He wasted no time in arranging a meeting.

When they finally met, his friend handed him a document.

James flipped through the papers and only just discovered that Fanny had been taken **from** the school gate by someone named Jane Coolidge yesterday.

“Who’s Jane Coolidge?” he asked, puzzled. “One of Fanny’s classmates?”

His friend hadn’t provided any information about Jane, but Fanny had claimed she was at a friend’s house. Could it be her?

Jane isn’t important. What matters is that she took Fanny to meet **Miss** Florence Shelton, James’ friend said, smirking and emphasizing “Miss Florence Shelton.”

When James heard ‘Miss Florence Shelton,’ he froze, and his eyebrows knitted together unconsciously.

“How did she end up involved with the Shelton family?” he asked anxiously.

Recalling yesterday when he spoke with Fanny and she mentioned being at a friend’s house, James’ frown deepened.

Why would Fanny lie?

“How would I know? But she seems okay, and nothing bad happened to her. His friend shrugged.

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Chapter 458

Chapter 458 Joseph Cannot Be Bailed Out

Chapter 458 Joseph Cannot Be Bailed Out

James didn’t bat an eye when he learned that Fanny had steered clear of trouble. **After** catching sight of Fanny, Scarlet made a point to ensure

everything **was** alright with him. Fanny had come back and mentioned that school **was** out for the day.

“Oh, and hey, your sister went to bail someone out this morning. The guy noticed James’ distraction and gestured to the papers in his hand. “I did a little digging for **you**. Take a look.”

期

James kept skimming through and stumbled upon the profile of a guy named Kaydron.

When **he** saw the unfamiliar name, James couldn’t help but knit his brows, but he chose not to probe further.

“Don’t you even wonder a bit?”

James scrunched his brow. “Fanny’s got her own stuff going on. Even though I’m her brother, I can’t stick my nose into everything.”

Upon hearing his response, the guy didn’t push further and just got up to leave.

James hurriedly stopped him. “Hey, Mr. Zuckerberg. I need your hand with something.”

“You can just call me by my first name, Hugh said, his face tense.

James sensed the gravity of the situation and opted for a direct approach. “Hugh.”

Reluctantly, Hugh nodded and showed no rush to leave. He inquired about James’ request.

“Keep an eye on my Zacharias. If he tries, anything shady with the hospital, give me a heads- up, James instructed him plainly.

James didn’t beat around the bush and laid out his request.

Having Hugh monitor Zacharias would save James a great deal of trouble.

Hugh agreed with a nod and replied promptly. “Sure, I’ll keep tabs on him.”

With that settled, he stood up and left.

This time, James didn’t try to stop him.

As the room fell silent with only one person left, James reviewed Fanny’s recent activities.

Afterward, he reached out to Scarlet. Upon discovering they were all heading home together, he swiftly agreed to join them later that evening.

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Chapter 158 Joseph Cannot Be Bailed Out

But before making his way home, he had to get in touch with Angela.

After all, his primary reason for being in Northland this time was for Joseph..

If only Joseph could safely emerge, their family could finally return to Riverdon together.

It would be a *relief if Angela could* commit to continuing treatment for Zac. *Perhaps* then, *Zac won't be* consumed with thoughts of *donating* a kidney to *Fanny all the time*.

James would spare no effort in finding **a source** for a kidney.

Around noon, he called Angela again.

This time, Angela didn't disregard the call as before.

"Who's calling?" Her voice came through, tinged with laziness and nonchalance.

James took a moment to collect himself before speaking up, "It's me."

"Hmm? Who?" Angela already knew the answer but decided to play dumb.

James felt frustrated and replied, "It's me, James."

Sensing his discomfort, she felt a pang of satisfaction and asked, "What's on your mind?"

"I need to talk to you about Joseph," James said flatly, struggling to find the right words.

He had never approached her with a tone of request before, so he found it difficult to express himself naturally.

With a chuckle, Angela replied, "I'm a bit busy right now."

James felt his anger rising at her laughter, and her cold rejection only fueled it further, causing his expression to darken.

"I won't take up much of your time. I just need you to listen and consider giving Joseph a chance to be bailed out," he hurriedly pleaded and feared that she might hang up on him again.

When he dropped that bombshell, it really threw Angela for a loop.

"Well, if Joseph can't be bailed out, that's not my problem," she quipped.

She couldn't help but wonder why he kept calling her incessantly.

Turns out, Joseph is stuck behind bars. But why does this whole situation seem so familiar? Had Joseph rubbed someone the wrong way?

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Chapter 438 Joseph Cannot Be Bailed Out

James' **tone** was already **dripping** with bitterness. "**Angela**, why are you playing dumb? If it's **not your** doing, then it must be Jonathan, right?"

Angela was utterly speechless. "**It** wasn't me, and Jonathan wouldn't stoop to that level. Use **your** head. Joseph probably crossed someone else!"

She couldn't shake the feeling that the Kins Family had lost their marbles. Why else would **they** keep pointing fingers at her?

After venting her frustration, she didn't feel like going back and forth with James anymore, so she simply ended the call.

As the dial tone hummed in his ear, James' face twisted with a mix of emotions.

Angela said she wasn't the one preventing Joseph from getting bail. James couldn't fathom who else could be pulling the strings behind the scenes.

Without a moment's hesitation, he made a beeline for the police station. His mind was racing with a question. *Did Joseph rub* someone else the wrong way?

Northland Medical University cafeteria.

Angela's friends couldn't help but notice the change in her demeanor after she hung up the phone.

"Angela, who was that?" Yoanna's curiosity piqued.

"Who would dare to mess with you? Do you need us to step in?" Mobius' eagerness to help was palpable.

“It’s nothing, really,” Angela assured them, but her friends’ excited expressions made her hesitate.

Yaxley, seated beside her, offered his support. “Angela can handle it on her own. You guys don’t need to worry.”

Angela nodded, appreciating his vote of confidence.

But before she could fully nod, she heard him say, “Kaydron has been released by someone, Angela. You should be careful.”

Angela was taken aback when Yaxley suddenly warned her to watch out for Kaydron. She asked, “How did you know he’s out?”

Given that Yaxley hadn’t shown up **at** school yesterday, **it** seemed unlikely he would be aware

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Chapter 458 Joseph Cannot Be Bailed Out

of Kaydron’s situation.

But then again, Mobius might have filled him in.

She glanced at Mobius’ surprised expression and heard him say, “Seriously, Yaxley? Kaydron’s out? I haven’t heard a thing about it.”

As he spoke, he checked his phone.

Yaxley nodded, “Yeah, he got released on bail at ten this morning, not too long ago.”

Mobius was surprised once more, “No way? And you knew about this?”

Knowing the exact time someone was released on bail, could Yaxley have someone in the police station?

But then again, Yaxley didn’t strike her as the type.

In response to Mobius’ surprise, Yaxley calmly stated, “I had someone keeping tabs on Fanny before.

“Huh?” Mobius struggled to grasp the connection, wondering why Yaxley suddenly brought up Fanny.

He looked at Yaxley, awaiting clarification, but the latter merely gave him a lazy glance, as if expecting him to figure out a straightforward truth on his own.

Mobius not only failed to comprehend but also scratched his head in confusion.

Just as he was about to ask for clarification, Yoanna smacked his head and said, “Did you forget seeing Kaydron with someone at the movies before?”

Mobius suddenly pieced it together.

Right, back then, Kaydron was seen with Fanny.

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Chapter 459

Chapter 459 The Best Way To **See** Jonathan

It was sheer luck that Kaydron had set his sights on Angela, all thanks to the goading and encouragement from Fanny.

Now **that** I think *about* it, keeping an eye on *Fanny* might *actually* help us nail down the exact time **for** the bail, thought Yaxley.

His preemptive move to monitor Fanny was quite impressive.

“No kidding, Yaxley. Did you really anticipate that Fanny would bail out Kaydron?” He couldn’t help but admire him, though he was also puzzled.

Yaxley remained composed. “Just a stroke of luck.”

Even though he had let go of the issue after being manipulated by Fanny before, he couldn’t shake off the resentment entirely. Of course, he would have someone tailing her.

After seeing what she had been up to behind the scenes, he felt less bitter than before.

Noticing Yaxley’s subdued demeanor, Yoanna diverted Mobius’ further questions and changed the subject. “Kaydron’s out. Angela, you need to watch your back.”

Observing the expressions and conversation of those present, Angela suspected that Mobius must have informed Yaxley about yesterday's encounter with Kaydron.

Upon learning that Yaxley had been discreetly watching over Fanny, despite his reluctance to reveal it, he showed genuine concern for her safety amidst Kaydron's threat.

This considerate act by Yaxley warmed her heart and made her realize the comforting power of genuine friends.

"Yeah, I always have bodyguards around me, so I'm not worried about Kaydron coming back," said Angela casually.

When Kaydron was mentioned, she didn't bat an eye.

After all, he didn't pose much of a threat. Even the people h

her were just ordinary.

brought last time to confront

However, if she could, she wouldn't mind using him to give Fanny a hard time.

As long as he spilled the beans about Fanny, she wouldn't have to worry about Fanny hiding behind him and acting all smug.

But after he was arrested yesterday, he played innocent and did not give up any info on who

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might be **pulling his** strings.

When Yoanna heard her mention the bodyguards around her, she remembered the formidable strength of those men and couldn't help but comment, "Mr. Lawson really cares. about you, and the people protecting you are really impressive."

Angela smiled.

The conversation quickly moved on to other topics, but suddenly, Yaxley received a phone call and had to leave immediately.

"What's wrong?" Angela asked.

Yaxley replied, "My grandmother is critically ill. Can you help me request leave for this afternoon's training session?"

Upon hearing this, Angela nodded in agreement.

After Yaxley left, Mobius let out a heavy sigh. “Yaxley’s grandmother has been really sick before. I hope she makes it through this time...”

Even though he didn’t finish his sentence, everyone felt the underlying worry.

Yoanna’s face showed clear tension upon hearing the news, and Angela couldn’t shake off the unease either.

The group wrapped up their lunch and went their separate ways.

Angela took care of Yaxley’s leave first before heading to the classroom for the day’s training.

As she walked in, she noticed Tyler and Lara waiting for her.

They seemed

eager, and Lara greeted her with a smile, “Angela, where’s Yaxley?”

Angela wasn’t too keen on her overly friendly tone, so she furrowed her brow slightly before replying, “Yaxley is out on leave.”

Lara’s expression tightened upon hearing that Yaxley was absent.

She hesitated before saying, “Oh,” and then suggested, “Angela, training is almost done. How about we meet up tonight? Everyone else is up

for it.”

Angela shook her head. “I’ll pass. I’ve got someone waiting for me at home.”

She wasn’t heading home to find someone waiting, but lately, Jonathan made it a habit to wait for her at the school/gate.

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And honestly, she couldn’t care **less about** the get-togethers organized by Lara and her people.

In this crowd of trainees, aside from knowing Yaxley somewhat, she only really recognized Lara, Tyler, **plus** Telvis, who had helped Joseph spread rumors and slander her. She hadn’t bothered to mingle with the rest and had no desire to.

When Angela turned down the invitation once more, Tyler chimed in, “Angela, we’re all going. Wouldn’t it seem **odd** if you didn’t **show**?”

Angela lifted her gaze and asked him, “What’s so odd about it?”

Tyler’s expression shifted before he said, “It’s like not fitting in with the group.”

With a nonchalant tone, she replied. “If I don’t fit in, then so be it. I’m not even bothered by it, so why should you be?”

And with that, she headed straight to her seat.

Tyler pondered for a moment before following her and suggesting. “If today is not convenient for you, how about tomorrow? Yaxley won’t be on leave then.”

His implication was clear, insinuating that she was only skipping today because Yaxley couldn’t make it.

Annie couldn’t bear how he twisted things around, and his relentless pursuit only grated on her more.

“Sorry, but I’m tied up tomorrow, too, she stated firmly. Knowing her time in Northland was limited, she saw no reason to entertain his advances.

Regardless of whether she aced the upcoming test or not or if she moved on to the next phase, she wouldn’t linger in Northland for much longer.

If she progressed, she’d likely jet off abroad for further training. If not, she would have to head back to Riverdon to wrap up her studies.

But she was ready for either scenario; she had made peace with whatever the future held.

The afternoon training wrapped up swiftly, with Angela purposefully sidestepping Tyler’s attempts to catch her. She dashed out of the classroom without a backward glance.

Tyler intended to follow, but Oliver intercepted him and effectively blocked his view of Angela.

Before long, she was out of sight and was already a good distance ahead.

er 459 The Best Way To See Jonathari

Upon exiting the school gates, she **spotted** the familiar **black** sedan waiting patiently. With purposeful strides, she made her **way** over, where Jonathan **emerged from** the car and closed the gap between them.

When he reached her, Angela, as usual, was enveloped in his embrace.

You've been putting in the hours, murmured Jonathan, his voice tinged with concern and longing

Angela felt her cheeks warm as if his breath had brushed against them.

"No, you're the one pulling all the weight," she whispered softly.

And she genuinely believed it, seeing how he juggled between home and the office lately, all while making time for her.

As they chatted, they settled into the back seat of the car, with Oliver naturally taking the front passenger seat.

Their bodyguards swiftly joined them in the car parked outside, trailing behind Jonathan's vehicle.

Just as they pulled away, not too far off, in another car. Florence's voice cut through the air, cold and sharp, "Is this your brilliant plan to see Jonathan?"

"Yeah, Miss Shelton, you did see him, didn't you?" The man wore a smug expression as if he'd cracked the code.

But he couldn't help but wonder why she hadn't just stepped out of the car and approached Jonathan directly.

"**You** always come up with rubbish ideas! Why didn't you just let me wait downstairs at his place!?" She scolded.

Strangely enough, even after the scolding, the man found himself nodding in agreement with her point and muttered, "Yeah, why didn't I think of that?"

"Get lost." She kicked him out of the car in disgust.

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Chapter 460

Chapter 460 She Could Only Follow Along

Miss Shelton, please don't be mad," came the plea.

Observing Florence's agitation, someone swiftly intervened to soothe her frayed nerves.

With an impatient snort, Florence retorted, "What utter foolishness."

The individual responded with a quick smile, saying, "The fool has already been dismissed by you. Now, do we need to-"

"Do you even need to ask? Just follow them!" Florence interjected.

After dismissing the fool from the car, Florence promptly directed her driver to tail Jonathan's vehicle.

Initially, she had entertained the idea of stepping out to greet Jonathan, but her companion's insistence proved tiresome, oblivious to Jonathan's intimate engagement with Angela at that

very moment.

Florence not only observed this but also harbored no desire to witness it firsthand.

The thought of confronting Angela loomed, fearing she might be driven to drastic measures.

For now, her only retaliation against Angela was ensuring her failure to progress to the next round—a calculated move to thwart Angela's aspirations without endangering her life.

Her primary goal had always been to secure Jonathan's affection, and jeopardizing that by harming Angela was out of the question.

In truth, Florence had never harbored genuine concern for Angela. Her confidence had rendered her indifferent to Angela's presence.

Meanwhile, Jonathan's attentive driver noticed Florence's car continued its pursuit of them.

"Mr. Lawson, we're being followed by two cars," said the driver to Jonathan.

"Let's head to the company," Jonathan replied casually.

Originally planning to go home directly, they now had to divert to the company.

Uncertain of the intentions of their pursuers, Jonathan had no desire to lead them home.

The driver promptly changed course toward the company upon Jonathan's instruction.

Observing the car in front change direction, the occupants of Florence's car immediately.

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alerted **her**.

Miss Shelton, it seems they've noticed us and changed direction suddenly," they informed her.

Curiously, Florence asked, "Where does this road lead to?"

"It leads to Mr. Lawson's company," her companion replied.

"Alright. Continue to follow," Florence decided, realizing it increased her chances of encountering Jonathan.

Not showing any signs of anger, Florence's companion breathed a sigh of relief, only to hear the driver say, "Miss Shelton, there's another car following us from behind."

"What?" Florence became intrigued. "Who dares to follow my car?"

After a moment's thought, the driver suggested, "It might also be following Jonathan."

Florence rolled down the window and glanced behind, remarking, "Interesting."

Indeed, there was a car tailing them, with James inside.

Like Florence, James had been trailing Jonathan's group since the entrance of Northland Medical University.

Having trailed behind the convoy all along, he remained constantly cognizant that they comprised a group of four cars.

However, he mistakenly regarded Florence's car, the third in the procession, as part of Jonathan's entourage.

Inwardly, he entertained the possibility that it might be Jonathan's discreetly arranged security detail.

His heightened caution arose from the mistaken belief that Florence's group was connected to Jonathan, prompting him to exercise extra caution when initially following them.

Consequently, it was only at this moment that he was discovered trailing behind.

Before heading to Northland Medical University, James first went to see Joseph.

Despite Angela's hint, he gleaned no helpful information from Joseph.

Despite his attempts to inquire with the police, they provided a straightforward explanation, **stating** that the case was deemed too serious for bail.

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It was apparent that someone had influenced the police department, preventing Joseph from being released on bail.

Despite his efforts, James failed to uncover the reason behind Joseph's inability to be bailed

out

Consequently, he had to turn to Angela once again.

However, Angela remained unresponsive to his calls and messages.

After careful deliberation, he decided to head directly to Northland Medical University to find Angela.

While waiting outside, his plan was to leave the car when he saw Angela. However, seeing Jonathan made him hesitate, and they drove away together.

Meanwhile, James was driving and trying to contact Angela.

In the car ahead, Angela noticed James' call on her silent phone once again, her face showing annoyance and her brows furrowing.

"What's troubling you?" Jonathan noticed her unusual demeanor, yet abstained from peeking at her cell phone.

"James called. It feels like harassment, Angela explained the situation to him.

Glancing at her cell phone, Jonathan noticed James' name and suggested with a smile, "If you'd rather not respond, just block him."

Though Angela contemplated blocking James, she ultimately decided against it.

“Not at the moment,” she replied. Then, she thought to herself, *It might prove useful for passing*

time when bored.

Yet, sitting beside Jonathan, she found herself anything but bored, and thus had no intention of answering the call.

Observing Angela put her cell phone in her bag, Jonathan smiled and embraced her.

“**That’s** settled then. If he wants to cause trouble for you, I’ll cause trouble for him,” Jonathan declared, his tone unlike his usual self, almost reminiscent of a young man in love.

“Alright, Angela responded sincerely.

A soft chuckle ensued, and Jonathan drew even nearer.

Feeling a tickle on her neck, Angela turned to face Jonathan, meeting his gentle gaze.

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Jonathan was handsome, **with a** distinctive **nose** and deep-set eyes. When he didn’t smile, he appeared stern and aloof. But when he did, there was a warmth **that** melted hearts.

And **this** warmth was reserved solely for Angela.

Perhaps it was Angela’s proximity, but she found herself captivated by the sight of Jonathan before her.

Jonathan tenderly kissed the corner of her lips.

In response, Angela drew nearer to him, her cheeks ablaze with desire, yearning to kiss Jonathan.

Yet, just as their romantic connection was poised to deepen, Oliver abruptly interjected, “It seems Florence’s associates are tailing us.”

Instantly, the romantic mood dissolved in the car, leaving Angela feeling flustered, her ears and cheeks burning with embarrassment.

Without Oliver’s interruption, she might have almost forgotten the others in the car.

Feeling mortified, she sought refuge in Jonathan's embrace.

Jonathan held her firmly, his touch gentle but his tone serious as he questioned Oliver, "How

do you know?"

The timing couldn't have been worse, and Jonathan couldn't shake the suspicion that Oliver had intentionally spoken up.

After Oliver spoke, he realized it wasn't the right moment to mention it. He felt somewhat embarrassed. However, when Jonathan asked, he promptly responded, "I spotted Florence's henchman inside when the car turned."

After giving his explanation, Oliver obediently settled back into his **seat**, avoiding further glances.

Jonathan nodded. "If she wants to follow, let her."

Nevertheless, she could do nothing but trail along.

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