

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

Read Chapter 481

Chapter 481

Chapter 481 Stars in Your Eyes

Tiny matters often carry unexpected weight, especially in the intricate dance of the Tuckson Family's affairs. Their impulse to aid James only tangled their web further, a knot Florence found herself unraveling.

"Miss Shelton, what should we do?" queried one of her subordinates.

Florence's eyes rolled heavenward before she replied, "Get someone to welcome them."

This simple directive meant deploying a representative to the police station, beseeching for James' release on behalf of the Shelton Family. But just as Florence prepared to retreat into contemplation, a nagging thought arrested her.

"Wait!" she called after her departing assistant. "Who gave James my number?"

A disquiet settled upon her as she pondered how James could have accessed her contact details without consent. "It must have been Fanny who disclosed it."

"Fanny, hmm?" Florence mused, her amusement fading into suspicion. "Go and contact her. Wait. Contact James first."

Intentions to prank Fanny morphed at the eleventh hour, redirected by thoughts of her complicity in tricking Christopher into coming to Northland. If sibling love bound them, their actions should mirror, or so Florence reasoned.

Meanwhile, Angela, having just finished her training, found Yoanna

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and Mobius waiting. Curiosity piqued, she inquired, "What brings you here?"

“We’ve come to see you and Yaxley off. Aren’t you both departing for the outskirts of WindMill City for the official test tomorrow?” Mobius explained.

Angela affirmed, “Yes, but I’ll leave early tomorrow morning.”

Departure deferred from tradition, Jonathan’s scheduling wisdom guiding her steps. She would instead to the outskirts of WindMill City the next morning for the exam.

“We wish you luck on your exam. How about we have a meal together and invite Phoebe?” Mobius proposed, eyes darting to Yaxley.

Yaxley, absent from the prior exam’s eve, promptly assented to the dinner invitation.

Angela hesitated, glancing toward Jonathan. “Jonathan should be waiting for me outside. Would you mind if I bring him along?”

Their unanimous consent prompted Angela’s swift arrangement. As she exited, Jonathan awaited, eliciting a rush of warmth as she nestled into his embrace,

“Why so bold today?” Jonathan teased gently.

Angela confessed, “I said yes to dinner on your behalf. So, I’m informing you in advance.”

Her decisions rarely sidestepped Jonathan’s perspective, yet a subtle restlessness stirred within. Beneath her smile, anticipation flickered, reflected in her radiant eyes.

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Jonathan, acknowledging her consideration, praised, “Mrs. Lawson, you’re truly thoughtful. Well done.”

Flushed, Angela invited him to join their dinner, relishing his nod of acceptance. “However, I want to meet the people who caused me not to have you alone as compensation,” Jonathan asserted, fixing his gaze on her.

Embracing his directive, Angela approached their waiting

companions. Together, they opted for Yoanna’s private club, seeking seclusion amid familiar faces.

As they journeyed, Angela recounted her day, her enthusiasm igniting Jonathan’s admiration. Lost in her storytelling, she failed to discern his focused gaze until prompted.

“What’s up with the stare?” she inquired, cheeks aflame.

“Admiring the stars,” Jonathan confessed, drawing closer.

Confused, Angela searched the sky for stars unseen. “Where are they?”

“In your eyes,” he murmured, his breath brushing her skin.

Giddy and nervous, Angela’s heart raced as Jonathan’s lips met hers, igniting a blaze of warmth. Released from his embrace, she savored the lingering connection.

“Is this my compensation?” Jonathan queried softly, his touch a balm to her racing heart.

“The word ‘like’ is an understatement,” Angela confessed, ensnared in their intimate bubble.

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guardian of their stolen moments.

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Chapter 481 Stars in Your Eyes

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A silent witness to their affection, Oliver navigated the car, a discreet

guardian of their stolen moments.

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Chapter 482

Chapter 482 Simultaneously Like a Warning and a Threat

A group of people walked into the club with a sense of unease following them around. Quickly led into a secluded room, luxury enveloped them, but their attention remained fixed on supper. They noticed a noticeable absence as they settled in.

“Is Fiona on her way?” Angela asked.

All of these people had left school together, and the club was only a twenty-minute drive away. However, Fiona’s tardiness implied a delay, given the considerable distance from the Collier Residence.

Yoanna appeased them by holding her phone. “Fiona said she would be arriving soon. Let’s place our order now. When the meal comes, she ought to join us.”

Yaxley used the chance to strike up a discussion with Jonathan while they were placing their orders. Because of Jonathan’s close relationship with Terence, Yaxley’s instructor, Yaxley always respected Jonathan and cherished their conversations.

Even though Jonathan was not a medical student, Yaxley found value in his observations. Yaxley was full of questions for him, and he soaked up all of his knowledge like a sponge. While all of this was going on, Yoanna and Mobius approached Angela and struck up a chat about her academics and her final test preparations.

“I’m confident and well-prepared,” Angela answered with a calm smile. “I’m prepared. I’ll put my best forward and let destiny take its

course.”

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Chapter 482 Simultaneously Like a Warning and a Threat

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Considering how well she had done on the last test, she was feeling positive about the next one. Angela felt sure of herself, but Yoanna and Mobius were worried about her safety.

The food was served, and the talk continued.

After the food was served, Ava, who arrived late, brought happiness to the group. She said, "Leaving Northland after the exam?" which made Angela stop and think.

"Yes," Angela said, her determination unwavering. She was not sure if she would continue the training overseas or go back to Riverdon, but she was certain she would not stay in Northland.

Ava became outraged after learning of Angela's choice. "I'll miss seeing you around."

While Jonathan gave Angela a small amount of food from his plate, which she returned, Angela comforted her with a smile and assurances of more get-togethers.

Ava stopped talking when she saw that Angela was staring at Jonathan.

When dinner was over, the group left and ran into Tyler's group.

Walking side by side, Jonathan and Angela were not aware of the gang coming until Tyler yelled, "Angela! Hello, Angela."

She turned around and acknowledged him casually, but her tone suggested that she was aloof.

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Chapter 489 Simultaneously Like a Warning and a Threat

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When Lara said, "What a surprise, Angela," Tyler became interested in Jonathan.

Her gaze rested on Jonathan for a moment before averting. She acknowledged Yaxley and the others with a courteous nod. She did not know the others, so she did not give them any attention.

Angela sneered, "Yes, we are just about to leave," noticing Lara's fondness for Jonathan.

Then she turned to look at Tyler and his friends, and realized that the fact that people were following Tyler coincidentally was just a

coincidence. But not everyone was here. Some had left for WindMill City earlier this afternoon.

“Angela, what a little world. Whoa, who is this?”

Tyler grabbed the chance to add something once Lara had done. His voice was beaming with excitement at the chance meeting with Angela. But as his eyes fell on Jonathan, his demeanor became confused.

Lara turned to look at Jonathan as well, as he asked about him. Jonathan’s striking look held the attention of the rest of the group, making him impossible to ignore.

Feeling awkward with everyone focusing on Jonathan, Angela raised her voice. “He’s my partner.”

Her tone, together with the term “partner,” effectively brought everyone’s focus back to her. There was a pause in conversation as the other attendees were shocked by Angela’s response.

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Chapter 482 Simultaneously Like a Warning and a Threat

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Though they all had different ideas, Tyler and the others remained silent.

Jonathan grinned. “Mrs. Lawson, shall we leave?”

Angela nodded. “All right, let’s head out.”

Lara broke the silence before they could continue. “Angela, hold on. Given your presence together with Yaxley, how about we have one last get-together?”

With reluctance, she turned her gaze from Jonathan to Angela and Yaxley, as though she were sincerely extending an invitation.

Confident, Tyler also held out a kind invitation to Angela. “Yes, Angela. As we have all encountered each other today, let’s have a little gathering!”

Jonathan scowled and firmly held onto Angela's hand.

Angela turned to face him, saw the emotion on his face, and observed that his eyes did not go to Lara and Tyler. She declined the offer as a result. "Not necessary. We were going to head out since we had stuff to tend to. Perhaps at a later date."

She then ushered Jonathan past Tyler and out the door.

Angela fled Tyler before he could respond since Tyler got turned down so swiftly. He wanted to shout out to Angela, but he was stopped in place as he met eyes with Jonathan, who had turned to face him. He shuddered in terror at that one gaze, which was enough to make him feel like a serpent had its eye on him.

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Chapter 482 Simultaneously Like a Warning and a Threat

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Jonathan and Angela walked out, leaving Tyler shocked, and Yaxley and the others followed.

Lara followed Jonathan out the door, but as soon as he turned to face Tyler, she quickly glanced aside. *Indeed. Jonathan has a chilling gaze that carries with it a warning and a threat.*

"What's the meaning of their behavior?" was not said by anybody in the group behind Tyler and Lara until after Angela and the others had left.

"They showed Yaxley no respect. This is the..."

The conversation was not too loud, but it was really simple to listen in

1. on.

"The note posted by Telvis before, it's true, right?"

Yes, we have spent a lot of time exercising together. They've never attended any events, particularly the one with Angela."

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Chapter 483

Chapter 483 Unable to Rest Easy

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Tyler, who was unable to unwind, listened intently as the chats between Angela and her friends grew softer.

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As Tyler watched Jonathan's figure go further away, Lara saw the distant expression in his eyes and inquired, "Tyler, are you alright?" giving him a gentle shoulder pat. Breaking out of his reverie, Tyler heard someone making assumptions about Angela.

"It's nothing," he said, quickly shifting the topic while furrowing his brow. Angela and the others must have other plans. Let's grab a quick bite."

There must be alternative plans for Angela and the others. Let's have a quick snack." Angela had already left, unaware of the tales that were being spread about them. Had she known, she most likely would not have cared. She did not care what Tyler's friends thought of her in the first place.

Angela had little faith in this group after Joseph had posted the notice for Telvis.

"What's on your mind?" Jonathan grasped Angela's hand and inquired.

Angela shook her head and said, "Nothing major. Come on, let's get home soon."

Angela would be gone from Jonathan for two days since she had an exam in the suburbs the following day. A twinge of concern at leaving him behind came over her. Jonathan, who had agreed last time when she proposed that they head to the outskirts together, strongly refused this time.

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Chapter 483 Unable to Rest Easy

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Jonathan did not press for more discussion as he could tell Angela was hesitant. He led Angela to the car after saying goodbye to the others. Once inside the vehicle, she closed her eyes to sleep as Jonathan sat next to her, hand around her, lost in meditation. They were surrounded by silence.

“Jonathan, are you not joining me on the trip to the outskirts of Windmill City tomorrow?” Angela abruptly inquired as she opened her eyes after a while.

Even though Angela would occasionally call Jonathan by his name in public, she felt more at ease referring to him as “Jonathan” when they were alone. Together, Jonathan strongly rejected this time, having consented voluntarily the previous time.

Jonathan rejected the idea. “I can’t skip the next day since I have important appointments tomorrow. Before I depart from Northland, I have to pay attention to them.”

“So, I wish you luck, Jonathan,” Angela said with a smile as she nodded.

Since she had previously inquired and been given the same response, she was aware when he brought up the important meetings once

more.

“Is everything alright with your health, Jonathan?” Angela simply questioned, feeling a little uncomfortable.

She was uncomfortable because Jonathan hurt himself the previous time she went, even though he attempted to hide it from her. She had just learned from Spencer, so this time she was compelled to worry.

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Chapter 483 Unable to Rest Easy

Jonathan reassured her, “It’s been okay for a while now.”

Jonathan saw the anxiety in Angela’s eyes and furrowed his brows, as if recalling something.

“I’ve entirely healed my leg. Nothing is wrong,” he stated.

Angela leaned out to stroke his worried brow and said, “Don’t worry.”

With sympathy in her eyes, she traced Jonathan’s face with her fingertips.

“The leg is fully healed, but what about the self-harm issue?” Angela’s anxiety increased.

Recalling Daniel’s advice, she tried to provide Jonathan with the affection and companionship he required. It has significantly decreased his occurrences of self-harm, with the exception of times when he experienced extreme emotional agony,

Just when she believed Jonathan would not relapse and was headed toward recovery. Jonathan’s habit reappeared. She had left Riverdon for Northland a day early. Because Jonathan was hiding what was going on, she did not really know what was going on.

She then remembered the talk she would have had with Spencer about what had happened during the previous test with Jonathan, the day before they’d arrived in Northland.

So she asked Daniel to vouch for the information. He did not keep the facts from her, and she found out that Jonathan was in critical condition at the time. Since the day Jonathan came in Northland, she had known that he had a tendency to self-harm. But because

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Chapter 483 Unable to Rest Easy

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Jonathan had recovered later, or had managed to hide himself well, she had thought that her tenderness and concern had actually cured him.

When Angela inquired, Jonathan remained unusually silent.

Observing his silence, Angela sighed, “Jonathan, I’ll give you acupuncture again tonight when I return, alright?”

At the very least, she wanted to put in more effort.

Jonathan raised his hand to pat Angela’s head, “Alright, thank you.”

He understood his illness better than anyone else, and he knew the feeling of losing control. Encountering Angela had been a stroke of luck for him, and naturally, he did not want her to leave, but some things always required a bit of adjustment. He did not want to hinder her focus because of him. The car fell into silence once more. While one side remained quiet, others gossiped about them, creating quite a commotion.

“Hey, Yaxley and Angela don’t treat us with any dignity. We’ll have to travel overseas for training together if they pass the exam, and their behavior may cause them to become isolated.”

One of the trainees who was having dinner with Tyler and Lara was the speaker. After a few beers, his face was starting to become a little

red.

Indeed, who knows? Perhaps, though, she won’t even pass the exam.” A chuckle was heard.

Tyler abruptly jumped in, saying, “Based on Angela’s prior test scores,

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as long as she performs consistently, there’s no way she won’t pass,” after hearing them discussing Angela.

He was sure of what he was saying, but it was also true. Reluctantly, the individuals in attendance agreed with Tyler when he said so since they had always preferred to treat Tyler with some respect.

“Yeah, Angela did indeed score well last time.”

Yes, Tyler, you’re exactly right. It should be easy for her to pass.”

They all knew, deep down, that Angela had performed extraordinarily well on her prior test.

Abruptly, Lara said, "Not necessarily."

"What do you mean?" Nobody else mentioned anything. The only one to inquire was Tyler.

Recalling the reports she had heard, Lara considered Jonathan's look and got up to tell Tyler, "Let's continue this conversation outside."

Tyler scowled, but he still trailed Lara outside to the balcony.

"What's with all the secrecy?" Tyler inquired, a little agitated.

"Do you know the person with Angela in the group we encountered earlier?" Lara said, ignoring his annoyance.

Tyler's face darkened a little, his eyes scowling at Lara as if he did not comprehend her intentional probing.

His tone and manner were thus not particularly nice. "You mean that

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Chapter 488 Unable to Rest Easy

person, Angela's partner?"

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Chapter 484

Chapter 484 In an Unconventional Manner

Tyler knew nothing at all about Jonathan.

Why would

I have needed Angela to introduce him if I had known Jonathan? Moreover, when Angel a did introduce him, she did it so confidently as a potential partner. Partner, in the sense of a romantic partn

er? Or a business partner? If it was a business partner, was he single or married? he thought.

He was intrigued by these inquiries, but there was no time to find out more at that point.

Tyler seemed uncomfortable, so Lara tried to comfort him by saying, "I suddenly remembered seeing a photo of that person."

"Hmm?" Her cryptic comments were starting to baffle Tyler more and more.

What did seeing a photo of Jonathan have to do with Angela passing the test? he thought.

Lara made the decision to share what she knew after observing his agitation. She related how, while out at a party with a friend, she saw Miss Florence Shelton giving orders to her staff to ruin someone's test. She had seen Jonathan's picture on Florence's phone, even if she was bewildered at the time. It found out that Angela's test was Florence's intended target for sabotage.

That turned out to be quite a coincidence. She might not have recognized Miss Florence Shelton's intended target if she had not met Jonathan and Angela that day.

"Huh? Is it possible that Miss Florence Shelton harbors romantic

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feelings for that man? Tyler made a query.

Lara gave a nod. "That seems to be the case. Do we need to advise Angela to exercise caution tomorrow?"

"I'll go tell Angela," Tyler said without thinking.

Its efficacy was still unclear despite the warning. Angela would have little chance of winning, especially in the test, if she went up against Florence. The Shelton Family had a great deal of power, and they might have taken more active and clandestine measures to make sure Angela did not succeed. Therefore, rather than providing a guarantee of safety, the warning was intended as a gesture of goodwill. In the end, Angela's prospects of dying appeared dire.

After giving it some thought, he concluded there was no need to warn her. It was preferable to let things happen organically. Angela would be much more distraught if she found out about the scheme,

retaliated violently, and learned it was all for nothing. Lara told Tyler and then she did not bring it up again.

After the two hurried back to their seat, Tyler skillfully sidestepped questions regarding their whispered talk.

Meanwhile, in a secret chamber close by.

James was “escorted” by many black-clad bodyguards to Florence’s presence. The bodyguards did their jobs well, even if they were not very courteous. James looked confused as he was put on the carpet in the private room. His unkempt appearance suggested that he had resisted the trip.

He asked many times throughout the drive why they were there, but

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he was simply given evasive answers about being invited. Other than that, not much was spoken. Their prepared quiet suggested a

deliberate avoidance of conversation. But their way of “inviting” him was hardly courteous at all.

James was never physically restrained, but the guards were always there to keep an eye on him and direct his every move. The drive, from the luxury sedan to the lavish hotel seemed oppressive, like he was in a prison with invisible forces controlling his every move. During this disoriented moment, he thought of scary things that may happen, like being abducted. When they arrived to meet Florence, James was completely taken by surprise since he had no idea where they were going.

This was an unusual way to extend an invitation, after all, and it seemed appropriate for her.

Florence asked jokingly, “Well, what ideas do you have?” while casting a contemptuous glance at James who was lying on the floor.

James did not know just how to respond to Florence’s statements since he was still perplexed. Florence arched an eyebrow impatiently and gestured to the bodyguard.

These were people Florence had worked with for a while, and now, all it took was a quick look from her to know what she wanted. One of them lunged forward and punched James **in** the stomach without thinking twice.

James groaned softly and then let out a hurting cry.

“Miss Shelton?” James was stunned by the hit.

James had been waiting for her answer ever since he spoke with Florence, but he had never imagined her pulling him right up to her.

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“Hi, yes, it’s me.”

Florence enjoyed the misery on his face, a feeling she would pick up from Christopher Sanders. Since then, she tried it out on others, and it’s been fun.

Florence laughed, and James felt a wave of horror go through him, making him tremble violently. Though dread stopped any questioning, he could not understand why she had suddenly commanded someone to attack him. James became more uneasy as an odd quiet descended upon the space and persisted for a considerable amount of time.

As all of this was going on, Jonathan’s **car** arrived back at the villa with Angela in it. Jonathan changed into his new clothes, walked to the balcony, and called while Angela got ready for acupuncture. A few rings later, someone picked up the phone.

“Hello?” Spencer sounded a little tired in his voice.

With a note of despair in his voice, Jonathan said, “It’s me, Spencer.”

Spencer said, “Why are you calling me now?”, seeming surprised when he realized the caller was Jonathan. Is there something critical that needs me to put in more time at work?”

Spencer could not have helped but note at the time that it was all about Jonathan’s infrequent time off from work as the interim CEO. He took the chance and made fun of Jonathan. When Jonathan was getting close to finishing the transfer of the company’s operations to Spencer, which gave him several weekends off, Spencer noticed that Jonathan was often running late and leaving early, now that he had Angela with him.

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Usually, Jonathan would not get in touch with him again after he picked her up. He was confident that his close buddy would be understanding of their friendship and that they could spend the entire day cuddling at home.

So, *why* would *Jonathan call him now? Could an issue have arisen in the company without his knowledge, necessitating an immediate solution?*

Jonathan gave a tongue-click. "There's no need for you to work overtime."

Spencer would have had to wait for people outside his office if he had worked overtime, and their company's heavy burden would not have been insurmountable.

"That's what you say." After work, Spencer grabbed his suit jacket and left right away, cracking jokes while speaking with Jonathan on the phone.

Jonathan made the comment without reply.

Spencer asked swiftly after putting on his jacket, "So why did you contact me? Would you not like to be with your wife more often? Does she not have a test tomorrow?"

"She's getting ready to give me acupuncture," Jonathan retorted.

"Hmm?" Astute as he was, Spencer saw right away the hidden significance in his remarks.

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Chapter 485

Chapter 485 I'll Be There with You

Spencer quickly confessed before he could even ask after learning this. "I told Angela about your previous self-harm incident."

Jonathan said, "Did she ask about it?" in response to this open admission.

Jonathan had given Spencer specific instructions not to tell Angela certain things. And Spencer had said he would not bring it up until specifically asked.

Besides, Jonathan thought he had hidden it well, figuring no one would ever find out. However, Angela did finally find out. Jonathan noticed the regret in Angela's eyes as she looked at him tenderly.

"Yes," Spencer cautiously said, "Angela asked me. You were in the meeting when she made her secret approach to me."

Spencer made the decision to be honest because Jonathan had brought up the matter.

Jonathan was listening intently to Spencer's response while standing on the balcony, staring at the stairway of the villa.

"Angela only inquired about that particular topic, so I responded to her. After that, I became distracted and forgot to tell you. That's all," said Spencer.

After tending to Jonathan's damaged legs, Angela played the dual role of his doctor and wife. In light of this relationship, Jonathan had nothing to conceal from Angela should she ask questions about him. Although Spencer had not purposefully kept the facts from Angela a

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secret, he had not told Jonathan afterward. Spencer was starting to feel a little uneasy, realizing that he had neglected to notify Jonathan.

Worried that people like Jonathan often found themselves in difficulty because they kept things to themselves, Spencer hurriedly said, "Maybe this has produced a divide between you two? You should know that Angela loves you so much."

Spencer was truly afraid that Jonathan would not try to talk things through with Angela.

The conversation stopped there when Jonathan's eyes spotted the individual coming down the stairs before Spencer could say anything

more.

"You may go home now. Everything is Fine," Jonathan told Spencer. "I'm going to the outskirts of Windmill City, so you'll take care of the company for the next two days."

"What?" Before Spencer could complete his words, the call was hung

1. up.

Jonathan walked inside the room and turned to face Angela, who was coming toward him. She seemed calm, but her feelings were clearly disturbed.

“I’m ready, Jonathan. Let’s go upstairs.” Angela advised.

Jonathan, however, shook his head and rejected politely. “Getting acupuncture is tiring. Get some rest today as you have an exam

tomorrow.

When she heard this, Angela wrinkled her forehead.

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Jonathan said, “I’m heading to the outskirts of Windmill City tomorrow,” just as she was ready to press her case further.

Angela’s eyes lit up quickly, full of renewed enthusiasm.

“Why?” she asked.

Why had Jonathan suddenly changed his plans?

Despite her concerns, Angela was unable to confirm them. She felt apprehensive that things might get out of hand. She knew she could be more aggressive, but she was afraid of upsetting Jonathan and having to deal with the fallout, so she held back.

Jonathan grabbed her hand more tightly and said, “I’m to blame. I was wrong in keeping this from you.”

He bowed his head, his countenance dejected, even solemn. Angela tightly closed her palm around Jonathan’s, not sure how to respond, even though it was exactly what she expected. She had a feeling Jonathan knew what was going on. Recognizing the significant impact of Jonathan’s prior traumas and tribulations, Angela battled with their complexity and wanted to convince him that he was not at fault and had done nothing wrong. Her biggest worry was that Jonathan would be upset and suffer.

Angela’s mouth quivered with nervousness, but she could not find the right words to say. The words were stuck, unable to move, despite the chaos inside her.

Jonathan reassured her, “It’s okay.” His other hand lightly brushed her face as he noticed the worry in her countenance.

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After taking a few deep breaths, Angela was able to somewhat control her emotions.

“It’s okay, it’s okay...” Jonathan kept reassuring her.

Angela grabbed Jonathan’s big hand securely, her emotions racing as she turned to glance at his attractive face. She met Jonathan’s look and saw the love in them. She felt bad, even though she knew Jonathan would not hold her responsible for anything. Whether it was self-blame for the pain he had endured or mistrust about what she had concealed from Jonathan. She was afraid that Jonathan chose to take all those things to himself.

Angela so much wanted him to know that she would support him no matter what. However, there was a tinge of trepidation in her, fearing he would not even require her company.

At last, she found the bravery to say, “I—I’ll be there with you.”

Her stiff nerves eased at that, and her once-steady gait wavered as if she were about to trip and collapse.

“I know,” Jonathan gave her a kind hug.

“I went to ask Mr. Lorenzo because I was afraid something happened to you,” Angela replied softly as she leaned on Jonathan’s arm.

Jonathan comforted Angela, kissed her forehead, and cut her off from her self-blame. “I’m fine,” Jonathan said. “It was my fault before. I was wrong in keeping it from you.”

With a sad expression in her eyes, Angela gave him a firm hug. “It’s not your fault,” the woman affirmed.

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Jonathan only answered, “Yeah, I know,” without adding anything more. Then he went to pick her up. “Tomorrow we have an early wake-up. We may rest once I take you to wash up.”

Angela gave a nod. “Okay.” Her eyes were really unpleasant, almost as if they were crying.

Jonathan looked down at Angela as he carried her upstairs. Her

expression was somewhat irritated. Her mouth constricted a little bit. Seeing the crystal tears in her eyes, Jonathan hurriedly picked up his pace and returned her to the chamber.

“Don’t cry,” he said.

Angela turned to face Jonathan and absently reached up to rub the corner of her eye, only to realize that there were tears in her eyes.

She responded, “I’m fine,” but her voice sounded raspy. She mustered a quick grin, worried that Jonathan would notice.

Meanwhile, James was being led out of the private room by someone.

James appeared to have taken quite a blow, yet there was a little, enigmatic smirk on the corner of his mouth.

Two security emerged from the private area and paid farewell to him. “Goodbye, Mr. Kins.”

James nodded and bowed a little, though he was feeling weak. “Bye.”

James walked slowly in the direction of the exit, resting against the club’s corridor wall as the two guys made their way back to the private area. His pocket-sized cell phone began to ring halfway there.

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Chapter 486

Chapter 486 They All Deserve to Die

“They all ought to perish,” Hugh sent him a message.

James leaned against the wall and dialed Hugh as he felt the sharp echoes in his stomach.

“Why couldn’t I reach you earlier? The instant the phone connected, Hugh’s perplexed voice could be heard.

“What’s going on?” James questioned inanely.

“Your sister Fanny, she went to see Kaydron.”

This news took James by surprise. He’d never expected Fanny to come back to him. He would always imagined she had broken up her relationship with Kaydron. But his perspective changed when he saw Fanny’s nuanced response when he brought up Kaydron in front of her. He had been certain at that very moment that Fanny would not go back to Kaydron.

It was hard to believe that Fanny could harbor sentiments for Kaydron given his hideous and disgusting appearance, especially considering how much she loved and cared about Christopher and how soon they were being married. The Kins Family benefited much. from their connection with the Sanders Family, thus James was hesitant to let Fanny and Christopher take a chance on it. Besides, he did not think Fanny would be motivated to endanger the partnership, not knowing her.

So, why did Fanny go to see Kaydron?

He took a moment to reflect and considered going back, but the ache

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Chapter 486 They All Deserve to Die

in his chest and abdomen stopped him, making him take a deep.

breath.

“What’s the matter with you?” Hugh enquired.

Hugh repeated his question, “Where are you, James?” before James could answer.

This time James did have the address of the club, but he was still wondering what Fanny had planned.

Hugh did not say anything more than, “Wait for me,” and went straight to get James, to which James did not disagree.

It would be difficult for him to return on his own, given his current physical condition. But before Hugh gets there, he has to talk to his sister about something.

While Kaydron was taking a shower in the bathroom, Fanny surreptitiously checked his phone. With a skilled touch, she was able to hack Kaydron's phone password and locate her images fast, removing each one separately. She felt a wave of comfort as she deleted each picture, and at last she let out a sigh of relaxation.

The restroom door opened as she took the phone back. Then Kaydron appeared, naked and lustful.

"I'm here." He smiled and stepped forward, reaching out to give Fanny a hug.

Fanny swallowed her disgust and let him hug her before saying, "Mr. Reed, I—I'm not feeling well today."

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Despite her strong aversion to Kaydron and his assistance with Angela the following day, Fanny knew she had to endure his presence. Anticipating Angela's challenges, Fanny gritted her teeth, suppressed her disgust, and forced a smile to maintain appearances. With reluctant obedience, she nestled into Kaydron's arms, inwardly recoiling at the thought.

"What's wrong, not feeling well?" Kaydron said as she held her waist with one hand and stroked her face with the other.

He was feeling quite pleased about the way Fanny had behaved lately.

Pallid-looking Fanny bit her lip and said, apologizing, "It's inconvenient because I'm menstruating."

With a scornful glance at Fanny, Kaydron scowled and said, "When?"

"Just now." Fanny chewed her lip a little longer, looking self-conscious and sorry.

"Then why are you here?" Kaydron said, letting her go, disappointed.

"I- I'm just concerned about tomorrow."

Kaydron snorted with displeasure. "I've already scheduled everything for tomorrow. What worries you? Are you not trusting me?"

This time, he felt more assured since he had enlisted more help and sought out competent people. Everything will go nicely tomorrow!

Fanny shook her head sharply, saying, "No, no."

"You can go now; I'll be leaving early tomorrow morning." Kaydron

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instantly realized that tonight was not the right night to stir up problems because he had essential things to take care of tomorrow.

Since he intended to teach Angela a lesson, she would be departing early, therefore he needed to be one step ahead of her and prepare an ambush. At this, Fanny obeyed and stood up, making her way out gently. She appeared hesitant as she paused many times.

When Fanny left the room, her attitude changed dramatically. Any hint of resistance was vanished, replaced by a hard-faced look of abhorrence and hatred. She took no hesitation in erasing the pictures, acting with unwavering conviction. All that was left to do was wait and see what would happen tomorrow. She secretly hoped for revenge, that if Kaydron or Angela got into problems, she would be vindicated. She had the dark hope that, should fate permit, Kaydron would murder Angela, bringing about his demise and imprisonment.

They both deserved to die! she thought.

Fanny's phone rang as she was envisioning a lovely ending. James was phoning. When Fanny realized it was him, she became a bit uneasy.

She hesitated for a second before taking the phone.

"James." Fanny muttered as soon as the connection connected and waited for him to say something.

"Where are you?" questioned James sharply.

Fanny became even more agitated when she heard him question directly where she was.

"I- I..."

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After making the decision to speak the truth, she struggled to control the terror in her heart and said, “James, I came to see Kaydron, and there is still some unfinished business between us.”

After making the decision to speak the truth, she struggled to control the terror in her heart and said, “James, I came to see Kaydron, and there is still some unfinished business between us.”

Every time Fanny talked, she made sure to use her usual vulnerable tone, understanding that it would make others sympathetic to her. She understood that displaying vulnerability at critical junctures frequently had positive results. She could make members of the Kins Family feel soft and compassionate by portraying herself as frail and helpless. Her strategy was validated by James’s response, as **she** detected a little hint of comfort and kindness in his tone.

“Do you need my help, Fanny?”

When Fanny heard James ask her inquiry, her nose started to tingle.

She choked. “I’m doing OK. I’ve resolved all issues and will no longer be involved with him. I’m about to head home.”

James exhaled, sensing the constriction in Fanny’s words.

“Fanny, don’t be depressed. We have your brothers covered.”

Fanny went on, “James, when can Joseph come home with us?” with even more resentment.

She assumed that because James had obtained Florence’s number, he would most likely seek Florence for assistance in the afternoon.

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However, she did not see James during the day and was not sure whether he was successful. She asked directly now, channeling her anguish and frustrations.

“Joseph is about to come out.” James felt a bit relieved when he finally mentioned Joseph.

Joseph should be leaving shortly, Florence had already made arrangements for someone to take **care** of it.

He had come to some sort of understanding with Florence, even if he had suffered a little from seeing her. Florence shouldn't thus renege on her promise.

Fanny was ecstatic to hear James say this. “When Joseph returns, shall we all return to Riverdon together as a family?”

Finally, I can escape from Northland! she thought.

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Chapter 487

Chapter 487 Freedom

James replied, “You and Joseph go back first.”

He needed assistance to do as he pleased, having vowed to aid Florence. But the rest of the Kins Family should not stay in the unstable town of Northland.

Florence would not have made problems for the other Kins Family members if he had stayed to help her deal with Angela.

“James, aren't you coming back with us?” his sister worriedly inquired. after learning that James planned to stay.

Assuring Fanny, James said, “I still have some matters to attend to.”

After a moment of silence, she said, “Alright.”

Fanny sensed why James would want to stay, but she did not ask any more 'questions. She was unable to control the little aching that shot through her body at the mere idea

of Florence. She could not get rid of the want to cut all connections with Florence because of her true

dread of her.

“James.” A feeble Fanny inquired, “Are you feeling a little off?”

She worried that he had been harmed by Florence’s accomplices after hearing a hint of vulnerability in his voice. Florence frequently ordered her goons to torture and inflict agony on victims while they were conversing. She shuddered to think about this.

James said, “No,” noticing that his voice sounded tired.

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Her concerns were further heightened by the weak tone and rough voice. James saw that Fanny was reluctant to carry on the talk, so he politely suggested that she end the call early and go home. Hugh was still nowhere to be seen, so James leaned against the wall of the club’s hallway and waited, squinting through his pain.

Hugh hurried forward, startled at James’s sight, as soon as he arrived.

James weakened and said, “Take me home. We’ll discuss there.

“Is this how you have to go home? Do you require hospitalization?” Hugh enquired.

“This is not how I can go home. James answered, “Take me to your apartment.

He was assisted into the car by Hugh, who then placed him in the back seat.

Hugh,helped him into the car and had him lie in the back seat.

James’s phone rang while he was lying down. Reaching for it, Hugh inquired whether he should respond on his behalf. James said that he would.

Over the phone, Scarlet’s voice sounded joyful.

“James, James! Joseph has left. At last, Joseph is free!”

“Didn’t expect it to be so soon,” mumbled James.

Florence had previously freed Joseph when he struck a bargain with her. It was really efficient. But he later changed his mind.

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If Miss Florence Shelton is not efficient, then nothing would be efficient at all

James sighed softly into the phone, but Scarlet did not hear him. She did not stop talking.

James, are you able to return home right now? Together, I would like us to take up Joseph.”

The idea of Joseph being stuck indoors for a few days hurt Scarlet’s heart. She was worried, but she clung to the notion that Joseph would soon be freed—possibly because of James’ involvement. Scarlet wanted to see Joseph sooner, even though she understood that James may have gotten the news before her and might already be on his way to get him. She hurriedly begged James to come back and join her by Joseph’s side.

Scarlet’s thoughts was so consumed by her numerous issues that she forgot about her usual sense of style and wore ratty clothes instead of what was appropriate. She did not know how important it was to present herself nicely for Joseph until she saw her reflection in the mirror, fearing that he would feel bad about her messy look.

The back seat of the automobile felt strangely small with just James filling it when Hugh gave him the cell phone. James was lying there with his knees crossed in the back seat. James took a quick look at the phone that Hugh had handed over, but he only shook his head slowly, not answering.

James knew exactly what ailed him. Scarlet could tell something was amiss the moment he spoke because his voice sounded strange. Scarlet, being his mother, would undoubtedly notice it more than Fanny had, after all.

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He did not return home to avoid worrying Scarlet. What was the

purpose of traveling to Hugh’s residence if he talked now? Hugh knew what he meant when he shook his head.

After giving the phone back to Scarlet, he said, "Mrs. Collier, this is Hugh, James' friend," in a cool, collected manner. We've already met once."

Scarlet was someone Hugh had met once. He would only met Scarlet once, but he knew a lot about the Kins Family, so he was still polite to her even in this awkward position. Scarlet might need to remember Hugh, even if she had only met him once. Scarlet was immediately taken aback and realized that she had forgotten.

"Hugh?" After pausing for a while, Scarlet stated, "I seem to be remembering that you are James' buddy. Is James now with you?"

In response, Hugh said, "Yeah, James is here with me. He is occupied with various current issues."

Scarlet informed Hugh she would pick up Joseph after realizing that James was busy and did not want to disturb him. She then hung off. After giving James his phone back, Hugh got in his car and drove off.

However, Scarlet meets Fanny just as she is ready to depart after hanging up the phone.

"You're back, Fanny! Joseph is now free. Come with me as we go get him and take him home!" It seemed as though Scarlet had found the companion she had been missing when she saw Fanny.

After all, she had anticipated that James would give her a ride when she first heard that Joseph had been freed and had assumed that

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James would pick him up.

But James was not acting right..

She even had a nagging suspicion that Joseph was connected to James' recent problem.

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Chapter 488

Chapter 488 I Want Her to Regret

When Fanny heard that Joseph was free, she was ecstatic. She did not lose any time in getting in touch with James to find out when he would be coming back to Riverdon. James had told her before that he would come back once Joseph was free.

Fanny's eyes were beaming with anticipation. After removing the evidence that had ended up in Kaydron's possession, she was able to leave for Riverdon.

"It's true, of course," said Scarlet. She was compelled to stress, "There was never a mistake with Joseph! It was time for him to be freed

sooner."

She was convinced that Joseph had not harmed Angela at all during the whole affair. Joseph's arrest had left her heartbroken. She wished she could forget about his false arrest now that he was free. She was desperate to get Joseph back home since she felt bad for him.

Scarlet was walking quickly, her feet going fast. She walked a few steps and saw that Fanny was still. She pushed her to move, saying, "Come on, Fanny, let's pick up Joseph with Mom."

Fanny abruptly snapped out of her reverie and followed Scarlet's example, saying, "Okay!"

After Joseph got home, they could arrange to go back to Riverdon. In a hurry to go to the police station, they left the residence. In the meantime, Joseph was perplexed by the police officers' blank expressions and actions.

"These are the things you own. Grab them. The officer shoved

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Chapter 488 I Want Her to Regret

Joseph's bag and its contents when he did not respond.

Joseph stood at the door of the detention chamber, still as a statue.

After observing his dazed and disoriented condition, the officer led him to a chair in the waiting room. He sat him down and said, "Just wait here."

He turned to go after that.

Joseph murmured, "Can I leave now?" in a fog.

His expectations and dreams had been lowered by his days in incarceration, from which he was still recovering. When he was freed, he felt numb and could not respond.

His question caused the officer to pause, then say, "Yes, you can leave. now if you wish."

Actually, Joseph would not have needed to notify his family when he was released if his condition had been better. Once he was free, he might have easily called out to them. But when they learned of his release, Joseph's incredulity and unwillingness to comply forced them. to step in and arrange for his departure. Joseph stood at the door, staring straight ahead despite their best attempts to talk him into it.

They called his family since, despite being out, it was clear he was not in his right mind.

Fortunately, after being given clothing and having some things taken, he was persuaded to leave. Even now, Joseph continued to attempt to explain his release.

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Chapter 488 I Want Her to Regret

Joseph raised the unexpected question, "Was I wrongly arrested before?," which startled the police after they had told him he was free. and advised him to go right away. Does Angela have any accountability?"

He made eye contact with the officer, emotional, as though the question was really important.

"What do you mean?" the officer said, seeming perplexed. Joseph mentioned Angela, and the police needed to be made aware of her, not completely comprehending.

Joseph seized the officer's hand and said, "Doesn't she have to face the consequences?", unfazed by the uncertainty. She was the reason I was wrongfully arrested!"

His eyes glowed with malice as he said.

Over the past few days, Joseph's thoughts had been racing through his cell. Although there was no physical mistreatment throughout his incarceration, the emotional suffering he went through was

unbearable. At first, all he could hope for was the quick rescue of his family. Nevertheless, when the days stretched into weeks and he saw James' repeated displays of powerlessness, hopelessness engulfed him.

It dawned on him that James, whom he had always thought to be unbeatable, was not going to be of assistance this time. It was the first time he had ever seen James so helpless, and the Kins Family in

Riverdon might not be supremely powerful, but they certainly would not be so docile.

He felt terrible and helpless, and he could not help but hate Angela

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Chapter 488 I Want Her to Regret

when he saw James's face of frustration. He was certain that Angela had to be the one holding him back. So he swore in his silence that he would make her regret it if he could escape.

It was increasingly difficult for Joseph to control his wrath the more of it he felt. "I am going to make her regret all she did to me.

The officer retreated immediately as he saw Joseph become more and more upset, even reaching out violently. Luckily, he moved back in time, preventing Joseph from being able to touch him. But after failing to make his grab, Joseph got increasingly angrier and tried to grasp anything to calm himself down. Recognizing the threat, the officer had to put him in restraint.

Joseph fought a few times even while he was pinned down, but he was unable to extricate himself despite his best efforts.

“Joseph!” There was a nervous, frantic voice coming from outside, and there were fast approaching, rushed footsteps.

It was none other than Fanny and Scarlet, accompanied by another policeman.

“What are you up to? How are the police able to use force?”

Scarlet’s already thin and harsh voice seemed even more irritating in her nervous state. She let out a yell and hurried to remove the policeman holding Joseph. Fanny, who was beside her, moved quickly to help. Scarlet’s remarks appeared to surprise Joseph, as he stopped. struggling.

When the policeman noticed Scarlet and Fanny getting closer, he was unsure of how to step in. Observing Joseph more composed, he

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merely let go of him.

“Joseph.” With a smile and tears in her eyes, Scarlet took Joseph by the arm and said, “Joseph, let’s head home.” Our goal is to get you back home.”

She tried to take Joseph by the arm, but no matter how hard she tried, she was unable to move him. Joseph sat there on the ground,

motionless and dejected.

With haste, Fanny knelt before Joseph and spoke, “Joseph, we’ve come to take you home.”

Seated on the ground, Joseph stared at them in a stupor before asking in a raspy voice, “Fanny?”

“Joseph, it’s me.” Fanny approached Joseph and softly called out to him.

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Chapter 489

Chapter 489 Why Should I?

Chapter 489 Why Should I?

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With a small shudder, Joseph lifted **his** arm to take Fanny's hand and then gripped Scarlet's.

Observing his feeble response, Scarlet became very sympathetic and said, "Joseph..."

Joseph turned slowly to look at Scarlet as if registering her voice and asked, "Mom?"

"Mum is present. "Let's head home," Scarlet muttered.

"Joseph, let's head home," Fanny said.

He spoke with Joseph for a while before making a small movement. Joseph got up slowly with their help and went to the door.

Joseph seemed a little down even after he was in the car. He questioned abruptly, "Did Angela take accountability?" after a little interval.

He continued to think that Angela's release was the result of shifting the blame and holding her accountable.

"They are all shielding that girl," Scarlet. She has not experienced any repercussions."

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Following Joseph's exit, Scarlet considered going up against Angela to sort things out. But even though she made many attempts to get close to Angela, everything appeared to be working against her every step of the way. Scarlet tries her hardest, but she never even gets a sight of Angela. Scarlet, who harboured deep animosity for Angela, grimaced at the mere idea of her.

Unable to control herself, Scarlet poured out her annoyances on Joseph and Fanny, accusing and swearing at Angela. Joseph clinched his hands as he heard Scarlet taunt Angela and **saw** what she was doing.

“Why did this happen to me?”

He stiffened like a volcano about to erupt, his teeth clenched and a glimmer of madness in his eyes. He had remained calm prior to his detention, believing that he could get bond and be released even if he was charged with defamation. But Angela’s surprising actions dispelled his presumptions. She had made sure he was not eligible for bail.

Joseph had never experienced anything like this. All of it was due to Angela. She had him in her sights. Even when Scarlet or James paid him a visit, he seemed calm, but every day his feelings and thoughts were changing. He felt like there was a thin line in his head that may break at any time, saving what little logic and calmness he still had. When the family came to visit, he could pretend everything was normal as long as that thread remained.

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Chapter 489 Why Should I?

+5 Free Coins

Joseph thought that with a little more perseverance, he might get his freedom. Jonathan, his attorney, worked hard to find a solution and assured him he would soon be free.

When he was finally freed, he found that Angela was not subject to any consequences. His mind’s thin thread suddenly broke, sending him into an unexpected emotional collapse.

When Scarlet saw Joseph lose control, she instantly felt sympathy for him, saying, “Yes, Joseph! Why did Angela treat you in this way? We will make sure she pays for getting you jailed, Kins Family!”

But Joseph suddenly questioned, “Where is James?”

His abrupt release suggested James’s involvement, although James was not there.

“James is occupied with other matters, which is why Fanny and I came to pick you up first,” Scarlet did not know where James was, so her response was ambiguous.

Seated next to her, Fanny suspected that Jonathan had run afoul of Florence’s colleagues, making his way back home more difficult. However, she was hesitant to tell Scarlet this right

away.

Scarlet has always loved her sons dearly. If Scarlet revealed her ideas, Florence may be confronted on an impulse.

Fanny looked a little uncomfortable as she struggled with her ideas. Sensing she could be bothered by something, Joseph could not help but take notice of her attitude. Scarlet, however, does not stop berating Angela and pointing out how Angela has shunned her. The tension in the room increased as a result of this intense debate, which left Scarlet so furious that her face became pale.

As soon as she saw this, Fanny consoled Scarlet, saying, "Mom, don't be sad. The most essential thing is your health."

After reprimanding, Scarlet eventually became quiet. Her heart warmed as she glanced at Fanny. Fanny never lost her compassion, even after the kidney donation tragedy separated them. She was appreciative of Fanny's thoughtfulness and kindness, and that Fanny had always been regarded by her as her daughter rather as Angela.

"It's always our dear Fanny," Scarlet replied, encircling her daughter in her arms.

Looking like a reassuring presence, Fanny smiled and reciprocated the gesture.

Then Scarlet put Fanny's hand on Joseph's and said, "Joseph, we're going back to Riverdon once you're better. It is imperative that you and Jonathan locate an appropriate kidney donor for Fanny."

At this, Joseph, who was now more composed, nodded in agreement. But remembering

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Chapter 489 Why Should I?

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Fanny's previous reaction, he felt a wave of anxiety wash over him. Soon afterward, the gang made their way back home, and Joseph, who was standing at the entrance, ran to meet them.

When Scarlet and Joseph noticed that he was trying to stand, they intervened swiftly and said, "Zac, please just sit down."

Joseph resumed using the wheelchair following his most recent admission to the emergency department. He could stand from time to time, but he was frail and easily knocked down after a short distance.

Joseph replied, “Joseph, welcome home,” as he was seated.

Seeing Joseph seem so tired, a sign of all the pain he had been through, made him feel a great deal of shame. Joseph struggled to get over his sense of shame about his incarceration, even in spite of Angela’s attempts to make sure he got the right care. His bitterness against Angela was rekindled by this contradictory feeling, which made the already difficult situation much more complicated.

After arresting them, why had not Angela made arrangements for Joseph’s release? Joseph did not comprehend wherefore Angela had turned so callous, and it appeared that she was out to cause him pain.

Joseph realized that he would not have held Angela responsible if she had declined to see him once more, given her past susceptibility to manipulation. That was, after all, what he had desired at the moment. But suddenly, Angela had turned so heartless out of the blue.

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Chapter 490

Chapter 490 Absolutely Psycho

+5 Free **Coins**

Angela’s approaches were just different, and Zacharias was quite disappointed in her. **Zacharias** displeasure was unknown to her, and even if it had been known, she would not **have cared**. She had come to the conclusion that the Kins Family could not be saved, and had **given** up on them.

She went to bed early because she had an exam the next day and it was becoming late in the evening. Scarlet and Fanny were assisting Joseph to the sofa even before Zacharias became lost in meditation. At last, the three of them got comfortable.

Joseph questioned Zacharias, “Zac, how have you been feeling these past few days?” as soon as he **sat** down.

Zacharias did not realize it, but he was actually not doing well, especially with his very pale skin. He was just waiting for the right opportunity to give Fanny his kidney as he had lost all will to life.

Joseph, I’ve been alright these past several days. I apologize. Joseph would not have threatened Angela or found himself in this predicament if it weren’t for him.

Both Joseph and Angela shared some of the blame for Joseph’s present miserable look. Zacharias is planning to donate his kidney to Fanny in secret, despite Joseph’s best attempts to rescue him.

Zacharias’ guilt was increased when he caught the glimpse of Fanny’s troubled and hurt visage as she looked at him.

He requested Fanny to keep it a secret from the other family members and accompanied her to the exam in the morning. This puts the good-natured Fanny in a painful and challenging predicament. Zacharias felt gloomy and his face went pale.

“What are you apologizing for?” With unexpected burst of strength, Joseph said, “You are my brother.” You apologize to me, but why All you have to do is look for yourself. I’ll figure out a method to heal you!”

Quite unlike earlier, his tone was forceful yet composed

He changed so abruptly that Scarlet and Fanny were shocked. Scarlet was the first to console him, saying, “Joseph, I admire you thinking this positively. But you have to start off slowly. Take care of your health first since you have been suffering.”

During their vehicle chat, Angela had actively pushed Joseph to look for a kidney donor, but only because she knew that he would not be physically strained by the endeavor. But Zacharias’s health had gotten so bad that not even the best private hospitals could properly care for him. Angela had stopped treating Zacharias, even though she was the only one who

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Chapter 490 Absolutely Psycho

+5 Free Coins

could have kept him stable. Joseph was now left with the heavy responsibility of worrying for Zacharias's health and trying to find Angela or find another reliable physician. Whatever route he took, it would surely be physically and psychologically taxing.

Scarlet was therefore forced to briefly hold Joseph back despite her worry for her brother's well-being. She could not stand to see her boys fall apart in front of her eyes. She already carried a heavy burden for Samuel, who was incarcerated, and the years of suffering had worn her down to the point where she could not stand to face another day. She really could not take any more hits at this point.

Sensing the intense worry and suffering in Scarlet's gaze, Joseph gently nodded and reassured her, saying, "Mom, I know my limits."

Wiping the dew from the corner of her eyes, Scarlet hoped that the kids would not notice her frail side and would be too affected by her awful attitude. She stated plainly, "It's getting late. Now is the time to relax."

"Where's James," inquired Zacharias. Why didn't he return today?"

Joseph should be with James now that he's back, as James had been pushing for Joseph's release.

Scarlet answered, "I asked James, but he's busy with something else." She continued, observing that Zacharias was keen to ask more, saying, "He need to return tomorrow. Then, we can talk about it."

In the end, Zacharias stopped asking questions. It was becoming late in the evening, so everyone went back to their rooms. Fanny saw Joseph's shadow just beyond the door as she brought Scarlet back to her room.

"Joseph?" Though Fanny couldn't be certain, she had the impression that Joseph wasn't just stopping by but was actively waiting for her.

Joseph turned to face her when she called out to him, saying, "Let's talk inside."

With a nod, Fanny trailed behind him. They soon came inside a room.

Joseph burst in the door and said, "Fanny, do you know what James went to do?"

A flutter of anticipation filled Fanny's heart as she sensed Joseph had made a discovery.

"I-I..." she started, finding it difficult to express to Joseph what she really wanted to say because it was all speculation.

If Jonathan had truly challenged Florence's associates, she was interested to know. And even if he had, it did not seem like he would go after justice. Florence had reached out to James, and they had to follow her instructions. She was taken before Florence without her will, but

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Chapter 490 Absolutely Psycho

Florence showed little sympathy.

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Fanny came to the realization that Florence enjoyed their misery after meeting her **several** times. She was just cruel.

Joseph saw Fanny's hesitancy and inquired, "Why are you hesitant to speak? Is it too much to tell you what our brother is up to?"

Actually, he had charged his phone and tried to call James before he asked Fanny.

But the call went unanswered, for whatever reason. Perhaps because it was late and James had already turned in for the evening. He could not get through to James, so he remembered Fanny's attitude in the vehicle and went straight to her for clarification.

"It's not that..." After hearing Joseph's comments, Fanny quickly shook her head.

She was careful with her remarks, not urging him outright to stay ignorant. She recognized that Zacharias had almost confirmed their suitability for a kidney donation, so she could see why the rest of the Kins Family did not accept his choice.

And Fanny realized that, for all the Kins Family's seeming fondness, they had never really thought of her as highly as Zacharias. How could she not feel bitter? Fanny pretended to be scared and upset as her mind raced, keeping her deep feelings hidden from Joseph.

With a sigh, Joseph reached out to stroke her hair consolingly. He said, "I didn't mean to blame you."

eyes and said, "I Quickly suppressing her feelings, Fanny looked up into his tear-streaked know you are always nice to me. I simply hesitate to say anything since I'm not sure whether my concerns about James are true."

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