

Runaway 96

Chapter 96 Zachary's breaths turned ragged at the sound of the familiar voice. He tried to speak, but his throat was suddenly too dry to do so. On the other end, Lulu thought Irene did not hear her, and called out again. "Irene...?" Allowing himself a moment to steady his breathing, Zachary eventually said, "I'm not Irene."

Lulu was stunned, but hung up at the next instant, holding her phone and panicking.

Sheryl was watching and could feel her tension, so she asked worriedly, "What's wrong? Is Irene in danger?" She still was not aware that Isaac had taken Irene back to Cloud City, and simply presumed that she was still under Harvey's custody.

Lulu could only shake her head.

"Well, what's wrong,"

Before she could finish, Lulu's phone was ringing again.

This time, she simply stared at the flashing screen without answering. "Why aren't you answering?" Sheryl asked, puzzled. "It's not Irene," Lulu replied, and left the room. Her phone was still ringing even when she arrived at the balcony, and the sound seemed to mess with her mind. Zachary was relentless—he would keep calling if she did not answer. After thinking about it for a while, Lulu answered, and Zachary promptly said, "Don't hang up."

Lulu was silent for a while, before finally asking, "Is Irene alright?"

"I don't want to talk about her— just answer me honestly, where are you right now?" Zachary asked urgently.

When Lulu did not respond, Zachary lost his composure. "You left without a word! It's like you disappeared without a trace! I had to look for you everywhere... Can't you at least say something for the sake of our relationship?" Lulu hung her head. "We're not meant for each other." "Don't give me that! I want to see you—tell me where you are!" Zachary's voice became louder in aggravation.

"It was over the moment I decided to leave you," Lulu said quietly. "Can't we just live our separate lives?"

"No!" Zachary was almost bellowing. "A relationship goes two ways! It's not a dictatorship!"

Lulu was not about to keep arguing, so she quickly changed the topic. "Irene is still very weak. You're with her, so take good care of her -"

"She has people tending to her—she doesn't need me at all." Seeing her reluctance to say anything, Zachary snapped, "I'll find you with a GPS tracker. Run away again, and you'll have my eternal spite!"

Lulu took a deep breath, but realized that she should at least say something because they used to be together. "I'm in Sunny City." Zachary was delighted to see her relent. "I'll apply for leave and head over immediately." "Fine," Lulu replied. With that, Zachary saved her number in his phone and returned the phone to Isaac before rushing out of the hospital.

Meanwhile, Lulu returned inside the house to find Sheryl changing cloth diapers for Tommy. She was not using disposable diapers because she believed them to be damp and stuffy. Even if cloth diapers needed washing and were troublesome, Irene paid her expressly to take good care of Tommy

He was Sheryl's grandchild, and she would therefore do her best! Lulu approached her then. "Sheryl..."

Sheryl smiled. "What's wrong? Do you need something?" "Yes." Lulu admitted to it right away. "I broke up with my boyfriend years ago, but he keeps bugging me, which is very annoying. I'm going to tell him that I'm married and that Tommy is my son, so that he'd stay away... Is that alright?" "Of course," Sheryl replied without hesitation. Although the child belonged to Irene alone in her mind, Sheryl also

could see how close Irene was with Lulu. Given the latter's care for Tommy and herself, she certainly could help that much.

"Thank you." Lulu smiled. "Hey, we should be thanking you instead," Sheryl replied politely. "I would've no idea what to do with myself in this unfamiliar city." "Alright, then let's not get too formal since we're no strangers," Lulu said. "I need to leave for work later. What would you like for dinner? I can get it on the way back..." "It's fine. Just focus on your work—I'll just cook something for myself." Sheryl was all too aware of how kind Lulu could be, but she did not want to impose.