Returning from the Dead: His Secret Lover Chapter 1461

Chapter 1461 Brandon Is Here

In the end, Ellie had to drag Brandon out of the store.

She did not want the crowd, which had gathered to steal a glimpse of the adorable baby, to notice Brandon's presence as that would only cause an uproar and congestion in there.

And she knew that alone was enough to tarnish Brandon's image.

In the end, Brandon could only watch that baby slowly vanish within his vision.

Is there something wrong with my eyes? Why does that kid have such an uncanny resemblance to that woman?

After getting pulled out of the store, he was taken to the building's penthouse suite to get changed for an upcoming event at the mall downstairs shortly after.

However, upon arrival at the suite, he headed into the makeup room alone and locked himself in there for a very long time. He refused to open the door regardless of how hard the staff tried knocking on his door to ask him out.

Sensing that something was amiss, Ellie tried to get in contact with him from the outside.

Beep, beep, beep...

After several consecutive calls, the man inside the room finally answered the call.

"Brandon, what exactly are you doing? The event is starting soon. Why are you hiding in there without getting changed or putting on makeup? What is this all about?"

At the thought of how time was running out, Ellie immediately urged him when the call got through.

Yet, Brandon did not open the door. After several seconds of silence, he grimly muttered, "Where is Willow? I've asked you to help me look for her. Why don't you have any updates?"

His manager was stung by his words that her expression changed at once.

Why did he suddenly bring up this woman? I thought he hasn't mentioned her for some time now?

Countless thoughts ran through Ellie's mind before she finally answered, "Haven't I told you? I couldn't find her whereabouts. Can we talk about this another time, Brandon? Let's get over with this event first, alright? We'll leave everything for later."

At this point, she had already given up and was begging for his cooperation.

Eventually, Brandon did come out of the room and attended the event. Despite so, he left right after the event ended.

That evening, at Hillside Villa, Ichika, who was at home taking care of the child, heard the doorbell ring.

"Did Mr. Solomon forget to bring his keys?"

Wendy walked over to open the door as she said that.

After Sasha and Sebastian left for Jadeborough, they had left Wendy behind to help Solomon and Ichika out since both of them had no experience taking care of such small baby.

Wendy opened the door.

"Mr. Emmanuel?"

Seeing the man before her, she froze in shock.

On the other hand, Brandon did not answer. Instead, he removed his sunglasses and cast his gaze toward the inside of the house.

"Where's the child?"

"What are you talking about?"

Wendy felt her heart skip a beat upon hearing that.

Having served Sasha for so many years, it was no surprise that she knew this matter. As such, a sense of foreboding grew within her as soon as she saw who was at the door.

On the contrary, Brandon was not bothered about her and looked up toward the balcony on the second floor instead.

Upon spotting some baby clothes left outside to dry, his immediate reaction was to push Wendy aside and barge into the house.

"Mr. Emmanuel, what are you doing?" Wendy blanched in horror and hurriedly tried to stop Brandon at his pace.

Of course, there was no way a woman like her could stop a young man like him. It took him no time before he got into the living room in the villa.

"Nat, look what Mommy has prepared for you."

"Ah... Mmm... Woo..."

Accompanying a young lady's gentle voice was a baby's coos. Following the trail where the voices sounded, Brandon saw a lady in casual clothing leaning against the edge of the couch, coaxing a tiny baby lying on it.

Brandon's mind went blank.

Earlier at the jewelry store, he could not see the child clearly as he was a distance away, and besides, she was too tiny for him to spot her intricate features.

But now, at such close distance, he could finally look at her clearly.

Oh, she looks like an exact replicate of that woman. That small yet pretty-looking face, small pinkish lips... Even the way she smiles resembles that woman...

Stumped, Brandon stood by the door as he stared at the little one.

"W-Why are you here?"

Right then, Ichika finally noticed the man's presence and hurriedly carried the baby up from the couch, looking flustered.

Why is this man doing here all of a sudden? Don't tell me he has...

Only then, Ichika recalled how the crowd in the mall earlier that day had taken countless snaps of Nat and her. By then, those photos had already spread like wildfire on the internet.

Instinctively, she felt a pang of nervousness within her.

Before she could head upstairs with the child, the man came before her.

"This is her child, right?"

"Huh?"

With her eyes fixed on the man, who pulled down his hoodie and revealed his blonde hair, Ichika only appeared even more anxious.

"Who? S-She is my child. Wendy, come over here and bring the baby upstairs for some milk. She's hungry."

At least Ichika was still quite quick-witted. Having noticed that the man had been staring intently at Natalie, she immediately sought help from Wendy to take the child away.

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Chapter 1462 How To Return To The Past

But before Wendy could come over, Brandon repeated, "Where is she? Where did she go? Why is the kid here? Does she not want her child anymore?"

Silence enveloped the entire living room for a moment.

One of Willow's last wishes was not for Brandon to learn about the existence of that child so that he could return to his peaceful life.

Yet, at that moment, the man standing before Ichika and asking her those questions was full of rage and resentment. How was it possible for him to pretend that nothing had ever happened?

Indeed, life was not never all about joy, but a complex blend of both anger and sadness.

Ultimately, Ichika still answered his question.

"I don't know. The child got sent back, and we decided to treat her as our own since we don't have any children. Mr. Emmanuel, Willow has said that you have nothing to do with this matter, and that also includes the child."

Ichika was indeed a smart lady.

Even though Brandon knew that Nat was Willow's child, Ichika sensed that he was still oblivious of the truth; thus, she decided to play along and deny the parental relationship between him and the child.

As soon as Ichika finished her words, Brandon's face grimaced.

Staring at the baby, the anger residing within him started growing. He turned and was about to leave when something caught his attention.

As Ichika carried the baby up, the small, red-colored birthmark on the back of her neck came into Brandon's vision.

Brandon's mind went blank at once.

"Nat, let's go upstairs for some milk, shall we? You must be hungry, right?"

Ichika, who felt relieved upon seeing Brandon leaving after her reply, did not notice the change in the man's expression at all. She picked herself up and carried the child upstairs to feed her some milk.

The entire living room fell silent once again.

All that was left were traces of the baby's milky scent floating in the air, as well as sounds of cute animals from the toys on the floor that were left switched on.

It was a strange feeling that even Brandon could not explain.

As the youngest child of the Emmanuels, he had always led a spoiled life. Not only was he the precious sweetheart of Matilda, but he was also well-loved by his siblings, Philip and Lyla. They would always give in to him. Besides, his uncle, Frederick, would also pamper him and materialize all his wants.

Hence, he had never met any major setbacks; neither did he need to shoulder any responsibilities.

Bringing the pregnant Willow home was probably the most wilful thing he had ever done.

Despite that, his efforts were futile.

After leaving the villa looking almost soulless, Brandon rushed back to the Emmanuel residence and headed toward his bedroom, frantically rummaging through his stuff, seemingly looking for something.

"What's wrong with Brandon? Why is he rummaging through the cupboards like crazy immediately after coming home?"

"I'll go take a look."

Feeling shocked yet worried, the entire Emmanuel family hurriedly went upstairs to check on him.

Matilda was no exception.

They were only on their way up when they heard Brandon bellowing like a mad beast. "Where's her stuff? Who threw her things away? Where have they all gone?"

Brandon's roars reverberated throughout the place, leaving the entire villa shaking in fear.

The Emmanuels were taken aback.

"What? B-Brandon, are you referring to that woman? Mom asked me to clear everything in here," Philip's wife stammered an answer ultimately. Right as she finished explaining, something flew out of the room.

Slam!

An explosive sound followed.

Had Philip not reacted fast enough and pulled his wife aside, her head might have already been bleeding from getting hit by the flower vase.

"Who asked you to clear the things here? Did I permit you to do so? Put everything back in place now!" Brandon broke down and burst into another round of shouting yet again.

Seeing how Brandon had lost control, Matilda came over in her wheelchair.

"What are you looking for? That woman is pregnant with another guy's child! I've been nice enough since she knew her place and left quietly. What more do you want? Do you think I'll keep her belongings here?"

Slam!

The spoilt brat speedily came before her and smashed the family portrait in his hand on the floor as soon as she finished speaking.

"Listen, I'll never return to this family again if you can't find her stuff back by today! You can be as authoritative as you want if you like it so much!" he yelled while staring at her intently with his bloodshot eyes.

Brandon, who had always been obedient toward her, seemed to have turned into an entirely different person for the very first time.

Matilda was so furious her whole body was shaking.

As for Brandon, he turned and left immediately after he finished his words.

That night, all the Emmanuels were busy contacting the waste stations in the city. However, it was almost impossible for them to retrieve what they had thrown away half a year ago.

In the end, it was Ellie who found Brandon in his old small apartment. He was rummaging through the shelves and cupboards inside the 60 square meters apartment.

It was to the extent that he almost dug through the tiles and bricks.

"What are you doing, Brandon? Where have you been the whole day? Do you know your disappearance has resulted in great losses?"

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Chapter 1463 Prick

Seeing the state Brandon was in, Ellie felt slightly irked and thus could not stop herself from saying those words.

Just as she stopped speaking, the man scouring through the trash below the bed turned to glare at her. That murderous gazes and horrifying aura were equivalent to that of a devil from hell.

"You didn't go and look for Willow, right?"

"W-What?"

"You better pray that nothing happens to her; otherwise, I'm not going to let you off!"

He gritted every word through his teeth in disdain.

That gaze of his was as if he wanted to devour her alive.

Panic-stricken, Ellie stood there frozen, with her face drained of all colors. Just as she was about to say something, the man's phone suddenly rang.

"Hello?"

"Greetings, Mr. Emmanuel. We've run a check with the information you've provided and found that there was a pregnant lady who resembled the photo you provided. Apparently, she left Avenport by Frankel Express about five months ago. Unfortunately, we regret to inform you that after she dropped off at Baykeep, we could not gather any more new information."

A polite voice sounded from the other side of the call. Ellie shivered uncontrollably after hearing that.

Frankel Express was the choice of transport that celebrities in the entertainment industry would use since they were well-known for avoiding paparazzi.

Back then, Ellie had also managed to trace Willow's footsteps through the same service, but she kept it a secret from everyone else.

Since they had progressed to that point, it was not too difficult for them to track down Willow's whereabouts. Things would become crystal clear as long as they direct their investigations following that lead.

Beads of cold sweat rolled down Ellie's face. Finally, she brought herself to put forth the words in her mind. "B-Brandon, I'm sorry I didn't tell you the truth back then. I-I was afraid that you'll be affected..."

"And then?"

The man hung up the call and cast a death glare at her, leaving the latter at a loss for words.

It took her yet another moment before she mustered the courage to enunciate her words. With an ashen face, she stuttered, "I-I did it all because I wanted the best for you two. A-And so after she arrived at Smallpoint, I-I... arranged for her to admit into a hospital..."

"Hospital?"

"Y-Yeah... I thought it's better to let her have a good rest since she's eight months into her pregnancy. I wanted to tell you only after you finished filming, but when I went back there to look for her, I found out she was not at the hospital. I-I have no idea where she went after that."

Ellie finally revealed what had happened.

By the time she concluded her statement, she was already trembling so much that she could barely stand up straight.

Brandon stood up.

He had a notebook in his hand that he had spent the whole day searching for. It was a diary that Willow had left behind.

Inside, she recounted how she was sick and would frequently have hallucinations.

Brandon threw a tight slap toward Ellie's face.

"Just wait! I'll make you pay for what you've done!"

Finishing that, he left the apartment.

News spread very quickly. Two days later, almost everyone learned that Brandon had found out about the matter. Besides the George family, even those living far away at Jadeborough like Sasha and Sebastian had been informed.

Ichika: What should we do? He has found her grave and has even stayed there the whole night. What now?

Both Sasha and Sabrina did not know how to react to that message.

Devin: This spells trouble.

Everyone else stayed silent, too.

After all, like what Willow had mentioned, it was because of her that everything had happened between them. Brandon was thus in no wrong.

He had never loved her; it had always been a one-sided love where she barged into his world and pestered him shamelessly.

To put it plainly, Brandon's mean attitude toward her was what she deserved. Hence, she had no one to blame.

Even so, Brandon still brought Willow home after learning that she was pregnant back then. That was on the account that he had no love for her. That alone was enough to prove that Brandon was, at the very least, not bad to the bone.

No one, including Sasha, could say anything. All she did was stay silent as she watched how things developed.

A week later, at Hillside Villa, Solomon and Ichika finally saw the superstar, allegedly reported missing by multiple articles online, appearing before their house.

"I-I... want to see the child."

The man, in simple clothes, had become a lot skinnier. He had even dyed his blonde hair back to black. His appearance looked just like someone who had just recovered from a serious illness. Standing at the door, he had his eyes glued toward the inside of the house.

Solomon pursed his lips.

Nonetheless, he still opened the door to let him in.

In the living room, Ichika stood there nervously. As she watched Brandon walk toward her, she carefully passed the baby over to him.

"B-Be gentle. She has just fallen asleep," she gently reminded.

As Brandon reached his arms out, he trembled a little.

The baby was so tiny in his arms that he was afraid any bit of strength would cause her pain.

He trembled even more after carrying the baby over as he realized how she looked so much like him.

The child slept quietly in his embrace, and all of a sudden, she smiled—perhaps of a sweet dream,

It was that moment when Brandon realized that she was a spitting image of Willow!

Tears trickled down his face uncontrollably.

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Chapter 1464 Tough Choice

Brandon requested to take the child with him.

At that, Ichika panicked.

"No way. You can't take her with you. She's still so small, and besides, I'm her mother now. You can't take her with you. She's my child."

After spending two months with the little one, Ichika had long gone past the phase of struggling and was now very used to having her companionship. The two looked like a real pair of mother and daughter duo.

Nevertheless, Brandon was unwilling to listen to Ichika and was adamant about leaving with the baby.

Ichika was on the brink of bursting into tears when Solomon came in and stood before Brandon.

"Brandon, what do you want?"

"I want to take her with me!" Brandon cast his bloodshot eyes at the child in his arms as he uttered with a hoarse voice.

Solomon, on the other hand, remained solemn. "And then? Do you want to bring her back and let the Emmanuels bully her like how they did to Willow? Brandon, it's exactly because Willow couldn't bring herself to stay any longer that she chose to leave."

Those words were like a sharp blade stabbing right through Brandon's chest. At that instance, the scene of him meeting Willow for the last time popped up in his mind.

That was the day when she finally returned to the Emmanuel residence. But it was also the day she infuriated Matilda till the latter landed herself in the hospital.

Despite what happened, Brandon came home to find an unusually calm Willow—she did not even throw tantrums like she always would.

All that she had said was "Brandon, I'm sorry."

After a pause, she continued, "Brandon, that child isn't yours. It's a test tube baby that I made."

Those words made him flew into a fit of rage.

He had made up his mind and brought her back home just so that both her and the baby could get a proper title and status. Yet, she decided to tell him that the baby was only a test tube baby she had made and not his child.

At this point, her actions back then were probably an indication of how she had a premonition of how things would take a turn.

After all, a woman would never joke about such things unless she was cornered into hopelessness.

She had probably made up her mind then. But Brandon did not notice at all. It was even to the extent that he remained clueless when she became sick.

"Brandon, Willow has mentioned in her last words that she doesn't blame you. She takes full responsibility for everything that had happened between you two. She wanted you to lead your own life, and that was why she didn't want us to tell you about the existence of this child. What are you going to do if you bring this child home now? Do you want to give up on your dream and career?"

Solomon was rather calm.

In truth, he had to stay that way, not only because he kept Willow's last words close to his heart but also for the sake of the child.

But just as he finished speaking, Brandon immediately raised his head.

"Get back on track and lead a normal life? How? Tell me, how am I supposed to do that with how things have turn out to be? Is the child a mere animal that doesn't matter even if she dies?"

Solomon did not say anything.

"This child has my blood. Do you want me to dump her aside and pretend that nothing happened? Sure I can. Ask Sasha to come and remove all of my memories; that way, I'll be able to move on and pretend that nothing has happened."

He pointed at his head as he bitterly spat out those words. The tears falling off his eyes were indicative of how much pain he was suffering.

Solomon was instantly shocked at that.

Just then, the baby was jolted awake by the intense movements Brandon was making and began crying loudly.

"Waa…"

"Nat, don't cry. Mommy is here."

Seeing the baby crying, Ichika could not hide her heartache and immediately wanted to carry her back.

Brandon was slightly flustered.

Seeing how badly the child was wailing while holding her tightly against his chest, he panicked and attempted to comfort her.

Needless to say, it did not end up in a good way since the man had never taken care of a baby before, let alone pacifying one. Nat only cried even louder as he patted his clumsy hand on her.

"Waa..."

Brandon sank into despair.

"That's enough, Brandon. Let Ichika carry the child. Think about it. Taking the child with you means you have to shoulder the responsibility of taking good care of her. But please think of how your family has treated Willow back then? Are you sure you're okay with leaving Nat in their hands?"

Solomon grabbed hold of the chance and tried to persuade Brandon again.

As Brandon was already in a mentally unstable state due to the baby's continuous wails, those words seemed to work wonders. He was in a visibly terrible state where the rims of his eyes were flushing red as he passed the child over to Ichika.

Several minutes later, the baby finally stopped crying as she lay in Ichika's arms, gulping down mouthfuls of milk from the bottle.

Standing at a side, Brandon tightened his fists as he watched the scene.

Similarly, Solomon was watching him silently from behind.

Somehow, he was in contemplation. He knew there was nothing he could do if the man before him popped the request of bringing Nat with him. He was, after all, the biological father of the child.

What made him surprised was how the man ended up leaving quietly after taking a few more glances.

At that sight, Ichika walked over with the child in her arms.

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Chapter 1465 Retribution

"Darling, he won't come back asking for Nat again, right? I don't want him to take her away."

Ichika's eyes welled up with tears as she spoke.

Given Ichika's soft-hearted character, it was more than understandable that she would not bear to part way with Nat after spending so much time together.

Staring at Brandon's back, Solomon comforted, "Don't worry. He won't."

In fact, that was what he really thought since he had made it clear to Brandon about the situation. There was no reason for him to take the child, especially since he was currently in the prime of his career.

The pair of couple thus believed that that was the end to this issue.

And things had indeed stayed that way until about a month later, a piece of mind-blowing news broke out on the internet—TV Superstar Brandon Emmanuel Announces That He Quits Showbiz.

At the same time, Ellie was arrested by the police that night for allegedly engaging in various illegal acts, including bribery and illegal contractual dealings.

That news immediately caused a frenzy in the entire entertainment industry.

Various media also suffered severe crashes.

It was simply appalling!

Meanwhile, at Jadeborough, Sasha had just learned about it and immediately tried to find out more in the group chat.

Sasha: @Solomon What's up with Brandon? Why did he suddenly quit showbiz? Anyway, please be wary as I think he'll go and look for you guys.

Solomon said nothing.

Ichika: Sha, what do you mean by that?

Accompanying that text were a few fearful and sobbing emojis.

Sabrina: Can't believe that dude would go to such an extent. He's going all out to achieve what he wants, huh?

Devin: I guess his career in the showbiz is ruined.

Ichika replied with a couple of crying emojis.

Even Sebastian, who had not been active in the chat, commented something this time.

Sebastian: It's time he grows up.

Rufus: Yeah, I agree with Sebastian. Brandon has always been a child. It's a good thing if he grows up overnight because of that matter.

Jonathan: Then, what about the kid? Will you guys allow him to take her back?

Ichika only replied with even more crying emojis.

The group chat suddenly fell into silence.

With how the situation turned out to be, it was almost impossible for them to keep the child with them even if they wanted to.

There were no excuses for them to reject someone who would even be daring and willing to give up on his promising future.

Three days later, what they feared most happened. Dressed rather casually in a gray windbreaker and a cap, Brandon arrived at Hillside Villa in an MPV. He had added all kinds of safety equipment for children in his car.

"Solomon, I'm here to fetch her home." Looking refreshed, he stood before the villa and said calmly while looking into Solomon's eyes.

Without saying anything, Solomon turned behind and stole a glance at the teary-eyed Ichika. He then turned back to Brandon and asked, "Are you alone?"

"Yeah, rest assured. I won't let the Emmanuels lay their hands on Nat. I've already bought a house in Netheria. I plan to settle down with her over there. Also, you guys don't have to worry about me taking care of the child either. I'll learn the ropes of becoming a father and also hire the best nanny for her."

That dazzling celebrity aura that Brandon used to exude had vanished completely. Standing right under the bright sun, he was nothing but an average man.

That said, he was still as outstanding as before as his facial features were simply too eye-catching.

Sensing that the man before him had become much more steady and matured than before, Solomon pursed his lips and turned behind. "Ichika, pass him the child."

Ichika instantly felt a little disheartened.

Nevertheless, she had no choice but to walk forward with the child in her arms. On her other arm, she was also lugging onto several bags of baby products that they had packed.

He grabbed the bags over and carried the child into his arms. Lowering his head, he took quite some time before he managed to push his thoughts out of his mouth. "Thank you so much. Fret not; I'll get in touch with you guys regularly. Even if we leave for Netheria, you two will still be her parents. I won't change her name either, so she'll still be called Nat instead of Wylie. I like that name for it sounds like Willow."

"A-Alright..." Solomon nodded in response.

Brandon took the child with him and left Avenport the following day.

As for the Emmanuels, they had not seen Brandon for almost a month ever since the day he created chaos in the house. It was only after watching the news that they had learned about his departure.

Seeing the news online, they were of course in hysteria.

"Where's Brandon? Where is he? That bast*rd! He didn't even inform us before making such a huge decision! I want him back here now!"

Matilda was blazing with anger.

The Emmanuels had depended on Brandon financially for the past few years after Sebastian stopped supporting them.

Hence, Brandon's announcement was like a bomb dropped on the Emmanuels.

Without further delay, Philip rushed out to look for Brandon. In the meantime, Lyla also hastened back home upon hearing that news.

Yet, the news they heard was that Brandon had already left with the child.

"Mr. Philip, Mrs. Emmanuel, Brandon has asked me to let you know that you don't have to look for him. He has left five million for you guys, and he'll return to visit when he has the time."