

All Too Late Chapter 461

All Too Late

Chapter 461

Chapter 461 She Is Ignoring Me Levi gazed at her quietly. “No, but I’m acquainted with the owner.” The owner? “Kate?” Just then, a middle-aged woman with a mature charm came out of the restaurant, immediately recognizing Kathleen. Kathleen froze, an inexplicable sense of familiarity rising within her the moment her gaze fell on the middle-aged woman before her eyes. Mila gave her a faint smile. “My name is Mila Hunt. I’m a close friend of Wynnie. You used to love my cooking.” Kathleen blinked a few times before responding, “Hello, Mdm. Hunt.” “I had no idea you two knew each other, Mdm. Hunt.” Levi remained composed as he flashed a smile at Mila. Glancing at him, Mila asked indifferently, “Mr. Levi, what are you doing here again?” “Mdm. Hunt, I’m here to—” “You’ve just had lunch here earlier, Mr. Levi. You shouldn’t come here again for dinner,” said Mila tonelessly.

Levi immediately turned to look at Kathleen. Despite not fully understanding the conflict between Levi and Mila, Kathleen knew that this was her cue to step in. Clearing her throat, she explained, “Mdm. Hunt, Levi is my friend. He came to Jadeborough on a business trip and dropped by to visit me. I was hoping to treat him to a meal, so…” “Oh, I see. Come in, then!” Mila invited them in graciously the moment she heard Kathleen’s words. Levi was overjoyed. He had no idea Kathleen’s words and presence had such an effect. Kathleen merely gazed at him speechlessly before following Mila into the restaurant. “What would you and your children like to eat, Kate?” asked Mila with a smile after showing them to their seats. “I have no idea.” Indeed, Kathleen had no plans, nor did she know what the signature dishes of the restaurant were. “Allow me to decide for you guys, then.” Mila smiled kindly. “I’d like to have Sizzle Steak.” Unlike Kathleen, Levi seemed to be very clear on what he would like to order. Everyone turned their gaze toward him.

“That’s a limited-edition dish that you’ve already had earlier, so it’s only available for Kate and the kids now,” stated Mila bluntly. “That’s fine, too. I just want them to try it,” Levi replied nonchalantly. Kathleen knitted her brows. Somehow, she felt that that was not Levi’s true intention, but she had no clue what he had up his sleeve. “Please wait for a moment.” Mila flashed Kathleen a smile before she spun around and left. Kathleen immediately turned to Levi and demanded in a stern tone, “What’s going on with you? Explain everything clearly, or I’m leaving with the children!” “Calm down. You’ll know in a second,” answered Levi with a sheepish expression on his face. A moment later, a young woman clad in a chef’s uniform approached them with a serving cart. The woman was probably about Kathleen’s age. Not only did she have fair skin and delicate features, but faint dimples would appear on her cheeks when she smiled, too. “Here it comes!” Levi became excited. Kathleen turned to look at the woman. Just then, Mila came toward them as well, walking alongside the woman. Only then did Kathleen

realize how strikingly the two women resembled each other. "Kate, let me introduce you. This is our head chef." Mila beamed. Kathleen smiled faintly in response. "Hi, my name is Kathleen." She reached out her hand. "I'm Queena Hunt." The woman held out her hand as well. Queena Hunt? Kathleen shook hands with her. "Are you..." "She's my daughter," Mila explained smilingly. Realization dawned on Kathleen. Oh, I see.

No wonder they look so alike! She shot Levi a sideways glance only to see that he was staring at Queena with a dazed look in his eyes. Queena blushed slightly. "I'm about to make Sizzle Steak. First, I'm going to heat up this piece of lava stone here, and then I'm going to place this marinated steak on it. In just two minutes, the steak would be ready to be served." As she spoke, she began heating up the lava stone. Then she picked up the steak with a pair of tongs and placed it on the lava stone. Sizzle! A loud, crisp sizzling rang out the moment the beef was laid on the lava stone. Desiree watched in fascination. "The steak is really cooked." "That's right," Queena affirmed with a smile. Meanwhile, Levi was staring at Queena like an idiot while the latter did not even bother sparing him a glance. Kathleen felt rather helpless. It was not hard for her to work out that both Mila and Queena were equally irritated with him. After Queena finished grilling the steaks, she served them to the guests. "Please enjoy your meal." "Thank you," Kathleen responded with gratitude. "You're welcome." Queena smiled warmly. "Just let me know if you guys feel like having anything else." Kathleen nodded. "We will." With that, Queena left with her serving cart. Mila glared at Levi wordlessly before turning to Kathleen. "Kate, I'll leave you and your children to your meal while I serve the other customers." "Okay, sure." Kathleen nodded. The moment Mila left their table, Kathleen looked sideways at Levi and snapped, "What was that all about?" Seeing that Levi did not respond, she went on furiously, "Why do I feel as if you were using me? Explain yourself now!" "Many things happened since we last met. Three months ago, I met Queena in Pollerton and fell in love at first sight," explained Levi quietly. "And what about her?"

Kathleen asked in a cold voice. "She liked me as well, so we got together. Perhaps it was because I was too busy and didn't spend much time with her, but by the time I went back to see her again, she had returned to her country." Kathleen massaged her temples. "Then did you call her?" "I did." Levi nodded. "But she didn't pick up. So, tell me. Why would she treat me like this?" "It's hard to know the answer to that just by listening to your side of the story. Perhaps you'd done something that offended her," stated Kathleen indifferently. "But I didn't." Levi was genuinely baffled. "All the same, why didn't you just tell me about this earlier?" Kathleen was still mad at him. "I'm sorry," Levi apologized at once. "There better not be a next time. You just made things extremely awkward for me," Kathleen warned. "All right." Levi smiled sheepishly before a look of despair washed over his face. "But she's totally ignoring me now." "Then you should try to talk to her nicely." "Talk to her?" Levi continued in a helpless tone, "How am I supposed to do that when she won't even give me a chance to do so?" Kathleen furrowed her brows slightly. Looks like the problem is indeed quite serious! "It's Daddy!" Desiree exclaimed suddenly. Kathleen turned around, immediately noticing Samuel and

Ashley entering the restaurant and Mila going over to welcome them. "And that evil woman is with him too. If Daddy marries that woman, then I'm really never going to bother about him again. I'm being serious!" added Desiree in disappointment. Kathleen retracted her gaze. "Are you okay?" Levi asked in concern. Kathleen nodded. "Yeah, I'm fine."

Mila was Wynnies close friend. Since Mila just opened a new restaurant, it was expected that Samuel would be visiting the place. However, what Kathleen had not expected was that he would bring Ashley with him. Similarly, it did not occur to Ashley that she would bump into Kathleen here either. What surprised her even more was that Kathleen was accompanied by a man, who also happened to be very handsome and charismatic. "Looks like Kathleen's been busy, Samuel. She found a new boyfriend soon enough," Ashley remarked with a meaningful smile. "They look like a loving couple, don't they? Do you see how affectionately that man is looking at her?" Of course, Samuel saw it all. He did not know who the man was, but he had to admit that Ashley was certainly right. That man indeed had a look of deep affection as he gazed at Kathleen. Besides, Kathleen seemed to get along well with that man. They seemed to be quite close. Who is that man?

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Chapter 462 The Point Of No Return Mila fixed her gaze on Samuel. "This way, please." She intentionally led them to a table as far as possible from Kathleen, fearing that things would turn ugly. Samuel trailed behind Mila to the table and sat down. "I didn't expect you to bring your friend over, too," were Mila's words. Samuel merely gave a flat response. "Mm." Then came Ashley's declaration, "I'm not just Samuel's friend, Mdm. Hunt. More accurately, I'm her girlfriend." She wore a smug look at that. The corner of Mila's lips curled upward. "Oh, my. I hope I didn't offend you with my choice of words, Ms. Zeller. I was just trying to stay neutral and as future-proof as I possibly can be. It's just so I don't have to owe anyone any explanation if something were to crop up in the future.

Don't get worked up, okay?" "Oh, no. I also didn't mean anything else, Mdm. Hunt." Ashley's words clearly implied otherwise. "That's good to know." Flashing a half-smile, Mila quickly changed the topic. "What would you like to eat, Samuel? Do you have any cravings?" "My mom asked me to support your business. I'll leave it to you," uttered Samuel placidly. To be honest, he was reluctant to show up at first. It was Wynnies who had forced him to do so. No matter his amnesia, he would never go against her wishes. She was his mother, after all, so he had to do her bidding. A faint smile appeared on Mila's face. "Okay, I'll serve you something nice, then." Samuel gave a nod. His gaze unwittingly landed on Kathleen and her group. At that time, Kathleen was chatting with

Levi. "Why don't you try and talk to her nicely?" "But she's been giving me the cold shoulder." Levi sounded aggrieved. "Why don't you help me, Kate?" "Uh... Okay," said Kathleen as she massaged her temples. "If I happen to ruin it somehow, don't come after me." Levi winced on that note. "Could it get any worse than what I'm facing right now?" he commented. "No, indeed." Kathleen just had to admit it. Levi fell speechless at that. Looking at that intimate duo happily chit-chatting, the look in Samuel's eyes darkened slightly. I never should've stepped into this restaurant in the first place

. To make matters worse, Kathleen was all smiles when Samuel laid his gaze on her from afar. Look at the way she smiles! Why can't she treat me the same way? Ever since his return, she had never once flashed him a smile, not even a faint one for that matter. Desolation rose in his heart. Why couldn't she understand how insecure and lonely I must've been after losing my memories? Right then, Queena pushed the food cart to the table where Samuel was at and placed a steak on the grill to begin cooking. Halfway through the process, she must've gone into a daze, for she accidentally brushed her thumb against a grill stone. Immediately, her thumb was seared and reddened like a tomato. Concurrently, a yelp came through her lips. "Ouch!" At that juncture, Levi suddenly leaped up from his seat and bolted toward Queena. Grabbing her injured hand with both hands, Levi was distressed as he urged, "Did you hurt yourself? Come! I'll send you to the hospital!" "Let go of me!" Queena appeared to be agitated, hollering, "Don't you dare touch me!" Huh? Levi froze as he witnessed her reaction. "I-I'm only worried about you..." He loosened his grip sheepishly. Queena, in turn, ignored him and directed her gaze at Samuel instead. "I'm sorry, Mr. Macari. Please excuse my clumsiness. I'll go get my colleague to continue serving you." Samuel gave a curt nod.

Deep down, Samuel was puzzled by what he had just seen. From his perspective, something must've been going on between this pair. Anyone can tell that he cares a whole lot for her. With that said, Queena headed toward the kitchen right away. To Samuel's surprise, Kathleen, too, rose to her feet and followed Queena's footsteps. A deep frown was etched on Samuel's face. Why on earth did she have to follow? When Kathleen entered the kitchen, Queena was already rummaging through the first aid kit, seemingly looking for some medicine. Kathleen walked up and clasped Queena's hand before dragging the latter toward the sink. She turned the pipe on and placed Queena's seared thumb under the running cold water. "Always give it a good rinse before applying any medication." "Thank you." Queena expressed her appreciation, her eyes teary. A faint smile appeared on Kathleen's face as she fished out her phone to dial Yadiel's number. The call quickly got through. "Fetch me some burn ointment," was Kathleen's command. She hung up the phone right after that. Queena bit her lip, gawking at her injured finger. Out of the blue, Kathleen crossed her arms and asked, "Why did you break up with Levi?" Her words stupefied Queena on the spot. "Don't get me wrong. I'm not prying. Levi asked me to help him out, but that doesn't mean I take his side.

He simply wanted to get to the bottom of this.” Kathleen portrayed a fair-minded demeanor as she spoke. “Forgive my bluntness, though. If you’ve decided to let him go, surely you wouldn’t mind telling me, right?” Queena froze at that. Initially, she had really thought of keeping it to herself. However, considering Kathleen had already put it that way, Queena was left with no choice. “He’s been seeing someone else. During his absence, a woman came to me and showed me some photos of them acting all lovey-dovey with each other. I couldn’t accept it, so I left him,” Queena gruffly blurted out the truth. Kathleen blinked in disbelief. “Seriously?” The look on Queena’s face was stern as she said, “There’s no reason for me to lie.” “No, no, no. I mean, Levi wouldn’t do such a thing.” Kathleen’s visage was impassive, but her tone was all the more indifferent. Queena knitted her brows. “What makes you say that?” “His mom is one of those devoted bunch. Naturally, Levi is, too. They’re the kind of people who would forbid getting physical before marriage. I bet when you guys were dating each other, he had never crossed the line except giving you some pecks, correct?” remarked Kathleen. Her deadpan countenance didn’t waver at all. Queena nodded in agreement. Kathleen went on, “Trust me. I met Levi’s mom before. She’s super strict when it comes to educating her son. Well, even if he’s nothing of the sort, he wouldn’t just get himself another partner like that. I’ve known him long enough to know him inside and out.” Listening to her claim, Queena pursed her lips. “But... what I said is also true.” “How about that woman, though? Is she believable?” Kathleen shrugged. “You know, it’s relatively easy to composite photographs nowadays.” Those words made Queena freeze for a moment. “Actually, you should’ve confronted Levi about this. You’re his girlfriend. You have all the right in the world to do that,” added Kathleen in a heartbeat. “It’s a little too late for that now...” Queena hung her head low, concealing the emotions behind her hazel eyes. “I beg to differ. He still has a thing for you.

No matter what, you two should really talk it out before jumping to conclusions. Everyone hates being set up, don’t we all?” Kathleen tried her best to talk some sense into Queena. The latter inclined her head in approval. “I guess so...” “That’s settled, then. I’ll ask Levi to wait for you to get off work. I’ve got to go now.” “Okay,” Queena responded with a nod. With that, Kathleen wheeled around to exit the kitchen. Right after she stepped out of the kitchen, she bumped into Samuel. Samuel clenched her hands and dragged her all the way into the restroom. “What are you doing? Let me go!” Kathleen glared daggers at him. Samuel released his clutch at once before piping up, “That guy’s not into you. He only cares for Queena.” Kathleen’s brows furrowed. “Oh, really? What does that have anything to do with you?” “That man doesn’t love you.” Samuel’s voice was as deep as the ocean. “Wake up!” “So what if he’s not in love with me? Why should I care?” came Kathleen’s ice-cold retort. Samuel’s dark gaze pierced deep into Kathleen’s eye. “You don’t care?” A frown marred Kathleen’s mien. “Yes, I don’t.” Of course, Kathleen couldn’t be bothered about Levi’s feelings toward her, for she herself wasn’t attracted to Levi. Besides, Levi only had eyes for Queena. Although Kathleen knew that Samuel had gotten the wrong idea, she hadn’t the slightest intention to explain anything. Some nerve he has to intrude on my private affairs after getting Ashley pregnant! Kathleen fumed furiously, “We’re no longer related, Samuel, so don’t pester me anymore!” She left in a huff as soon as she finished her words. Alas, Samuel wrapped his arms around her waist from behind, yanking her back into his embrace.

“Let go of me!” Kathleen struggled as she turned around. As they grappled with each other, Samuel’s collar was unbuttoned by accident. A necklace then fell out, coming into sight. Attached to the necklace was the diamond ring that Kathleen had returned to him. Huh? He even wears that diamond ring on his neck now?

Kathleen was stunned upon witnessing that. Embarrassed, Samuel stuffed the necklace back under his shirt. He acted as though he had been stripped of his very last bit of dignity. “Fine. I’m staying out of your business from now on!” After dropping those words, Samuel let go of Kathleen and strode off in no time at all. A trace of helplessness and bitterness flashed across Kathleen’s face. What’s going on? Are things never going to be the same again? Have we really reached the point of no return?

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Chapter 463 You Cannot Slander Me Kathleen came out of the restroom and went back to her seat. Meanwhile, Levi was sitting there with a pained expression. “I just saw you come out of the male restroom,” he whispered. Kathleen felt speechless. He continued, “I even saw Samuel walking out of there.” She gave him the side-eye. “Do you wish to reconcile with Queena or not?” “What did she say?” Levi asked, feeling agitated. Kathleen knitted her brow as she questioned, “Did you lie to me? Do you have another woman?” “How is that possible?” Levi huffed. “I don’t have other women.” “But Queena told me a woman went to find her and showed Queena an intimate picture of you with that woman. That was why Queena left.” “What?” Levi was shocked to the core. “That’s impossible!” Kathleen glanced at him dispassionately. “Why would Queena accuse you for nothing? If she wanted to break up with you, she didn’t need to find such a lame excuse.” Levi pursed his lips.

Just then, Yadiel arrived with a bag of medication in his hand. It was medicated cream for burns that Kathleen asked him to buy. “What are you waiting for?” Aloofly, Kathleen glanced at Levi. “Bring that cream to her.” Upon hearing that, Levi shot to his feet and took the bag from Yadiel before dashing toward the kitchen at the back. Sighing, Kathleen massaged her temples. “What is Mr. Levi doing?” Yadiel asked curiously. “Winning his girlfriend back.” She turned toward her children. “Are you guys full?” Desiree and Eilam nodded in unison. Desiree then glanced at a spot a stone’s throw away. “Huh? Where’s Daddy?” Eilam replied blandly, “He left.” Samuel was long gone. He had gone out right after he walked out of the restroom. “Let’s go.” Kathleen rose to her feet. Ashley stormed toward them. “Kathleen, why are you always around wherever Samuel and I go?” Kathleen gazed at the furious Ashley nonchalantly. “Are you the owner of this restaurant? Why can’t I be here?”

Ashley was stumped. "Are you the only one who can visit a new restaurant?" Kathleen's sarcasm was almost tangible. "As a mistress, you're the one who should learn to be a decent person. Don't you find yourself ridiculous when you come here to question me?" Ashley stared daggers at Kathleen. "If Samuel didn't lose his memory, would you even have the chance to talk to him?" Kathleen's eyes were ice-cold. "Ashley, you should pray that Samuel will never get to recall the things in the past. The day he recovers his lost memory will be the day of your downfall. Just you wait!" Ashley could only tremble with rage, not saying a word. Kathleen looked at Yadiel and said, "Carry the kids. We're leaving." With that, she picked Desiree up, and Yadiel went over to Eilam. The boy shook his head and held Yadiel's hand. "I can walk on my own." I don't need people to carry me. I'm a big boy now. Holding Eilam's hand, Yadiel led him out of the restaurant. As Ashley stared at the two children, she put her hand on her abdomen subconsciously. If only I'm really pregnant. If I have his child, I'll be held in high regard and I don't have to be wary of Kathleen anymore. Nor do I need to worry about Samuel regaining his lost memory. I need to think of a way.

The next day, Kathleen went to the hospital to pay Diana a visit. The latter had become conscious, but she still didn't look well. As Kathleen checked Diana's pulse, the former frowned. "Old Mrs. Macari, the toxins in your body haven't been cleared out yet. That's why you feel so weak." Diana sighed. "I'm old, after all." "Old Mrs. Macari, I'm sorry," Kathleen apologized sincerely. "It's my fault for not disciplining my subordinates well. Otherwise, they wouldn't have dared to do that." "No, don't beat yourself up," Diana replied in a hoarse voice. "You have so many subordinates. There's no way you could guess what each and every one of them is thinking about. Mistakes are bound to happen." Kathleen held Diana's dry, cool hand. "Old Mrs. Macari, I'll help you to clear the remaining toxins in your body. Don't worry." "I trust you, Katie." Diana beamed. "They won't get what they want. I trust you more than anyone else." Kathleen was touched.

"Old Mrs. Macari, I've already found some information for the moment. I'll keep you posted." "Okay." Diana nodded and asked, "Are you really going to let Samuel and Ashley have their engagement?" Kathleen pursed her lips. It was the first time Diana asked her this question. "I hope you can stop them," Diana continued. "Kate, think about it. No matter how Samuel is, he's just like a newborn baby ever since he lost his memory. He lacks a sense of security, so he would rely on the people around him. Do you get me?" "Yes." Kathleen nodded. "In my opinion, Samuel is not that foolish. He treats you like the person he loves the most, but he's throwing a tantrum. He just wants you to blandish him. Can you do that for my sake? You can teach him a lesson once he gets back home." She can do whatever she wants as long as she can stop Samuel and Ashley from getting engaged. Kathleen hesitated for a moment before agreeing to Diana's request. "Okay." Actually, she didn't know how to break the news to Diana that Ashley was pregnant. Forget it. Things will work themselves out sooner or later. If Samuel still insists on having an engagement with Ashley after I try to persuade him, so be it. "Kate, thank you." Diana gave her a benevolent smile. Kathleen nodded in reply.

After that, she left the hospital, not expecting that she would bump into Richard and Miley at the entrance of the hospital. Miley was in a wheelchair. It had been quite some time since they last met. While Richard seemed to be slimmer and more stand-offish, Miley looked happy with a very sweet smile on her face. Kathleen couldn't help but feel disgusted. When Richard saw Kathleen, he was slightly taken aback and stepped forward. "Long time no see." "It's not that long actually," Kathleen said flatly. "You came to me and asked about Gemma's burial site a few days ago, remember?" She said that on purpose, causing Miley's expression to turn sour instantly. Although she had gotten Richard to herself, she still hadn't won his heart. He still had not forgotten Gemma even after she had passed away. "Actually, I—" Richard began.

"I won't tell you where she is," Kathleen cut him off coldly, then landed her frosty gaze on Miley's face. "Gemma's death is not accidental. The one who caused Gemma's death will get her comeuppance." Miley stared back at Kathleen. "Kathleen, why are you looking at me?" Kathleen smirked. "I heard that you knew Marjory Garner." Miley was startled, uneasiness appearing in her eyes. "I don't know her." "Is that so? Why did she visit you when you were at the hospital then?" Kathleen smiled sardonically. "Besides, I also know that you asked her not to find you anymore because you were afraid that Richard would know about her." Richard's brows furrowed deeply as he glanced at Kathleen in puzzlement. Meanwhile, Miley became emotional. "Kathleen, I know you don't like me because of Gemma, but you can't slander me."

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Chapter 464 Scared of You

Kathleen scoffed. "Slander? What did I slander you for? I only said that you knew Marjory. How is that slander? Oh, is there something wrong with Marjory?"

Miley bit her lip in silence, as she had no way to retort what Kathleen had said.

Kathleen shot a cold look at Richard. "You can either find out the truth or stay as an idiot. It's your choice."

With that, she strode off.

Richard frowned deeply, having a feeling that Kathleen was hinting at something.

"Richard, don't be tricked by her. She's just bitter about Gemma's death," Miley uttered tentatively.

“Who is Marjory?” he asked, knitting his brows.

“S-She...” Miley stammered. “She’s a friend of mine.”

Is she admitting that she knows Marjory?

“What does she do for a living?” Richard was still frowning.

Miley paused for a while before answering, “She was hired by my parents to teach me self-defense tactics in the past. I was her student, but I was too pampered so I quit halfway. Then, she left my house.”

Richard stared at her quietly.

“Richard, let’s get inside. The doctor is waiting for us,” Miley reminded, trying to change the topic.

Richard then pushed her into the hospital, expressionless.

Miley clenched her fists secretly. Kathleen’s presence is a threat to me!

Meanwhile, Kathleen returned to the mansion and saw Rory taking out an ointment from the first aid kit.

“Rory, what happened?” Kathleen walked over.

“I...” Rory was at a loss for words.

Kathleen snatched the ointment from her. “Where did you get hurt? I’ll help you to apply it on you.”

Rory then took off her top, revealing a severely bruised spot on her shoulder.

“How did you get this?” Kathleen was shocked.

“I had a brawl with Marjory,” Rory replied in a low voice. “She was my teacher, so...”

“You didn’t win?” Kathleen cocked her brow.

“We tied.”

“There’s nothing to be ashamed of, then. Luckily, she didn’t pin you down on the floor and beat you to a pulp,” Kathleen comforted.

Rory was rendered speechless.

Kathleen's curiosity was piqued. "Why did you start fighting with her?" she continued.

"When we were secretly tracking Ashley, she noticed us. Dr. Johnson, Marjory is now Ashley's personal bodyguard. It's quite strange for her to provide protection to Ashley," Rory explained.

"Oh?" Kathleen raised her brow. "How so?"

Rory answered, "Marjory is very capable. Hiring her to be a bodyguard is costly. If Ashley didn't do anything, why would the Zeller family hire such a good bodyguard for her? Is it because they know someone would seek revenge on Ashley as she had done something wrong?"

Kathleen understood what Rory was implying.

If Ashley was just trying to steal Samuel while he was still suffering from amnesia, no one would want her dead.

Unless... she also did something else. In fact, I've always had a troubling question on my mind. I am not sure if my assumption is right, but I could have my surmise confirmed during the engagement ceremony. That's decided then.

Kathleen continued to apply the ointment on Rory. "Do you know Marjory well?"

"Not really. She was just my teacher after all. We didn't really communicate with each other in private," Rory elucidated.

Kathleen narrowed her eyes. "I have an idea. She poses a great threat to us. We should eliminate her as soon as possible."

"How should we do that?" Rory knitted her brow.

After pondering for a moment, Kathleen replied, "I do have an idea, but I'll need your cooperation."

"Okay." Rory nodded. "When should we make our move?"

"Tonight!" A hint of solemnness emerged on Kathleen's beautiful face. "We can't delay this."

"Understood."

After the fight with Rory, Marjory went back home.

She didn't expect that Rory, her ex-student, had the same level of capability as herself.

If it were in the past, she could definitely overpower Rory and defeat her student easily, but now, they tied.

Rory is not to be underestimated, so I have to be careful.

“You’re back.” Lauren yawned as she came out of her room. “What happened to your face?”

“Nothing.” Marjory’s pride didn’t allow her to tell other people about her draw with her ex-student.

“I’m not being nosey.” Lauren spoke in a low voice. “It’s fine if you don’t want to talk about it, but I just want to tell you that Kathleen will definitely do something during Ashley’s engagement ceremony. You’ll need to keep her under control. Nothing can happen to you at this critical juncture.”

“I know.” Marjory was unperturbed.

Upon seeing her reaction, Lauren did not bother to speak more with Marjory.

After that, Marjory went back to her room.

If it wasn’t for money, I wouldn’t have cared about this matter.

Just then, her phone rang.

She took her phone and found that it was a message from Rory.

Rory texted: See you at the warehouse at twelve o’clock tonight.

Marjory replied: I’m not going.

Rory: Then, I’ll expose you.

Marjory: What?

Rory: Do you think I’m unaware of what you did for Miley? What do you think Kathleen would do to you if she knows what you had done?

Marjory: What do you want?

Rory: Meet me, and we shall fight again!

Marjory: Fine!

Left with no choice, Marjory could only agree to Rory’s request.

Her greatest worry was Rory giving the evidence she had to Kathleen or Richard. If that happened, Marjory knew she would be in deep trouble.

When midnight came, Marjory went to the abandoned warehouse.

The moment she stepped foot in that warehouse, a beam of light shone on her.

Standing on a stack of wooden boxes, Rory gazed down at Marjory from above.

“I knew you’d come,” Rory said. “Seems like you’re scared that I’d leak your secret. As a teacher of a bodyguard training institution, you didn’t fulfill your duties to protect other people. Instead, you helped someone else to harm a person. You violated the rules of the institution. Your reputation will be tainted, and you will no longer be a teacher, let alone take on missions.”

Marjory gritted her teeth. “Rory, there are many people like me in the institution. The higher-ups of the institution will just turn a blind eye to it.”

“Why did you come then?”

Marjory froze on the spot.

Rory smiled inwardly. Kathleen is so smart! She’s guessed it right.

“Come down, and let’s have a duel!” Marjory was ready.

Rory gave her a frosty smile. “We’ll just have a draw in the end. It’s going to be boring, so there’s someone else who wants to fight you.”

“Who is it?” Marjory furrowed her brows in confusion.

“Me.” Kathleen strode over from the side. She was wearing a black trench coat, looking cool and pretty.

Marjory scoffed, “Are you kidding me? You?”

Kathleen narrowed her eyes. “Are you scared?”

“How ridiculous. Why would I be scared?” Marjory sneered, “I’ll finish you off right here and save myself a lot of trouble.”

“Come on then.” Kathleen flashed a provoking half-smile.

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Chapter 465 Fend For Yourself

“Be careful,” said Rory in a hushed tone.

Upon hearing that, Kathleen nodded in response.

Just then, Marjory dashed forward, intending to land an uppercut on Kathleen with her left fist.

Kathleen dodged the attack easily. She grabbed her opponent’s wrist and gave it a hard squeeze.

A pang of pain shot up Marjory’s arm in an instant, and it felt as if her wrist was burning.

She tried her best to wriggle her wrist out of Kathleen’s grasp but found out her wrist had turned black.

What... is this?

While Marjory was distracted, Kathleen dashed forward, bellowing her opponent’s name, “Marjory!”

A fistful of powder hit her face when Marjory looked up, and upon inhaling the powder, she instantly slumped to the ground.

Every inch of her body was twitching uncontrollably, and her limbs felt limp.

D*mn it! How could I forget that Kathleen had that trick up her sleeve!

Casting a cold glance at Marjory, Kathleen taunted, “Do you reckon anyone would find out if I were to get rid of you right here and now?”

“Don’t you dare!”

“Do you think Ashley and the others would dare to look for you out in the open?”

Marjory remained silent while wearing a grimace, for she knew Ashley wouldn’t do that for her.

“Miley’s suicide was your idea, wasn’t it? You were the one who taught her how to jump without hurting herself, isn’t that right?” queried Kathleen impassively.

“No, I have nothing to do with it.”

Marjory stubbornly refused to come clean. Hence, Kathleen whipped out her phone and played a recording on it.

The recording was none other than the conversation between Marjory and Miley that had taken place three months ago.

Marjory’s face instantly turned as pale as a sheet. “You—”

“I’ve always known. It’s just that Gemma got hurt before I could do a thorough investigation.” Wearing an icy expression, Kathleen continued, “Was it Miley who instructed you to hurt Gemma?”

“Gemma’s death has nothing to do with me!” yelled Marjory.

“Then what about Samuel? Do you dare say it had nothing to do with you?”

Kathleen’s words rendered Marjory stumped.

“Did you think I was sitting around doing nothing in the three months I spent at Smealand?” A mocking smile hung on Kathleen’s lips as she continued, “I sent people to investigate if any organizations had been to the area or if any local organizations were working with anybody. I didn’t expect something so interesting to fall right into my lap.”

A hint of guilt flitted across Marjory’s face when she heard that.

“It seems like I hit the nail on the head. You brought a bunch of people to ambush Samuel, isn’t that right?”

Biting her lips, Marjory continued to deny her involvement in the scheme. “No! I don’t know anything!”

“It’s fine if you don’t admit it because I’ll still expose your schemes on the day of Samuel’s and Ashley’s engagement. I’m sure you and Ashley both know Samuel’s temperament very well,” said Kathleen while glaring daggers at the other woman.

In spite of all that, Marjory still refused to believe her. “Impossible! There’s no way you’d have any evidence!”

“As long as you did it, there will be a trail leading back to you. Did you truly believe you two executed a flawless plan? Where did you get that sort of confidence, hm?”

“Let go of me!” Marjory struggled but she couldn’t muster an ounce of strength at all.

“Don’t waste your energy.” Kathleen laughed. “This medicine is specifically made for you. You’ll continue to be like this for a week, unable to muster any strength. As for the engagement ceremony, you can stop thinking about attending it because you won’t be able to.”

Marjory bit down on her lips, glaring at Kathleen fiercely. “If I disappear, Ashley will definitely look for me.”

“Tomorrow’s her engagement ceremony with Samuel. Do you think she’d have the time to look for you?” The corner of Kathleen’s lips curved upward, but the smile didn’t reach her eyes as her gaze remained frosty.

It was then that Marjory knew she couldn’t escape.

She had been careless.

I should’ve listened to Lauren and not come out at all.

“Rory, tie her up and take her away. However, do not leave a trail. I don’t want anyone discovering this,” instructed Kathleen.

“Understood.” Rory nodded.

Right before turning around and leaving, Kathleen shot one last glance at Marjory, who clenched her teeth in rage.

The following day, Lauren took a peek into Marjory’s room.

She noticed the latter hadn’t been home all night.

Where did she go?

At that thought, she whipped out her phone and gave Marjory a call, only to find out Marjory had switched her phone off.

What’s going on?

Lauren also called Marjory’s subordinates, but none of them knew where she had gone off to.

Upon hearing that, Lauren instantly had an ominous feeling.

She quickly gave Ashley a call. “Bad news. Marjory might have gotten in trouble.”

“What?” Ashley was enraged. “Where did she run off to?”

"I don't know. I even called her subordinates, but none of them knew her whereabouts. I suspect something has happened to her," explained Lauren worriedly.

A sense of anxiousness arose within Ashley when she heard that. "How could it be? Today is such an important day. Marjory is too disobedient!"

"What's most important right now is the engagement ceremony between you and Samuel. Besides, you only employed her to deal with Kathleen. You can always employ someone else to take her place in the future." Lauren then lowered her voice, adding, "After all, this is the most important thing."

"All right." Ashley nodded. "Just let her subordinates look for her then."

"Marjory's disappearance must have something to do with Kathleen. You should be cautious. I can't step up to deal with it, so you should be more careful."

"Got it." After that, Ashley hung up the phone.

Lauren placed the phone down and clenched her fists. For some reason, she had a bad feeling that something was about to happen.

Kathleen's approach was aggressive.

Meanwhile, Ashley was in the lounge.

She had already gotten her makeup done and changed into her outfit.

At the same time, the banquet hall was quickly filling up with guests.

However, Samuel hadn't arrived.

This made Ashley slightly uneasy, for she was deathly afraid he might not show.

If Samuel doesn't show up, won't I become the butt of the joke? How can I maintain status in Jadeborough?

Just then, the door to the lounge was pushed open, and an older lady walked in.

"Aunt Luna." Ashley stood up, looking dissatisfied.

The older woman was none other than Luna Zeller, Ashley's paternal aunt.

Luna merely hummed in acknowledgement of Ashley's greeting. In an indifferent tone, she stated, "Samuel hasn't arrived, but the guests are all here. Aren't you going to call him and ask him to hurry up?"

"I called him, but he didn't pick up. I suppose he's still on the road," said Ashley quietly.

Displeased by her niece's answer, Luna thundered, "It's been so long. Why don't you have him in the palm of your hand yet? You knew him so well in the past, yet you still haven't succeeded."

"Back then, Samuel wasn't truly in love with me. The one he loved was Kathleen, and in fact, I don't know him that well either. He never gave me the chance to."

"It's already too late to back out now. You have to hold onto Samuel or you'd be in dire straits yourself. Don't say I didn't warn you! Think about how much the Yoeger family has hurt you in the past. If you don't work hard now, you won't have another chance to!"

After she was hauled over the coals by her aunt, Ashley meekly responded, "I understand."

"If you fail today, I won't bother with you anymore. You'll have to fend for yourself in the future."

As soon as her words fell, Luna stood up and strode out of the lounge.

Ashley bit her lips hard, determined to not let all of the hard work, effort, and sacrifices she had made go to waste.

All Too Late Chapter 466

Chapter 466

Chapter 466 You Are Not Welcome Here

Ashley immediately placed a call to get in touch with Samuel. The moment the call connected, she quietly asked, "Why aren't you here yet, Samuel?"

He simply replied, "Traffic congestion."

Traffic congestion? How's that possible? That's all excuses!

"Samuel, at the end of the day, I did save your life. No matter what happens today, you're not allowed to put me in a difficult position before everyone else. Just take it that I'm begging you for your cooperation on this," stated Ashley pleadingly.

There was no warmth in his voice when he replied, "It's up to you whether to believe me or not."

With that, he ended the call.

Ashley was taken aback and left speechless. Despite the surge of rage that overwhelmed her, she fought back the urge to fling her phone in her anger.

He's too much!

As she clenched her teeth firmly together and fumed about the matter, she gave it some thought and guessed that Samuel was likely behaving this way because of Kathleen.

As such, she rose to her feet and lifted the hem of her dress up before she made her way out.

To her complete surprise, she saw that Kathleen had already arrived. The latter was dressed in a fully black gown and had a trench coat wrapped around her. It was almost as if she had come to attend a funeral.

Ashley instantly felt that this was a bad omen of things to come and sorely wanted to chase Kathleen away.

She strode over and exclaimed, "Kathleen! You're not welcome here!"

However, Kathleen only raised her eyebrows questioningly in response.

"That aside, I didn't even invite you! Please leave the premises at once!" yelled Ashley angrily.

"You're right in saying that you didn't invite me. However, the Macari family wanted to give me an invitation card," replied Kathleen nonchalantly.

As she spoke, she pulled out the pastel-colored purple invitation card.

Ashley was caught utterly by surprise, especially since this was the exact same card that she had arranged to have sent over to the Macari family previously.

She had done so as she wanted to antagonize Calvin and Wynn timer by letting them know that her engagement with Samuel was set in stone and completely unavoidable.

Furthermore, this was also her way of signaling that it was now impossible for things to progress further between Kathleen and Samuel.

Despite her intricate plans, Wynn timer and Calvin hadn't turned up at all. Instead, they had handed the invitation card over to Kathleen and had the latter attend on their behalf.

That's despicable of them! Isn't that the same as purposefully trying to gatecrash and ruin the event?

However, just as this thought ran through Ashley's mind, Kathleen coldly stated, "I've no interest in crashing this event or ruining it for you. Furthermore, I didn't come over to look for you."

At this, Ashley furrowed her brows and countered, "That may be true, but you're here for Samuel! Isn't that the same?"

Kathleen scoffed lightly before she declared, "Ashley Zeller, if I truly intended to stop your engagement with Samuel, I didn't have to go through the trouble of turning up here physically at all. I could simply have gone over to find him at Florinia Manor."

This stumped Ashley as she realized that Kathleen did have a point.

Kathleen momentarily swept her gaze across the place and it involuntarily fell upon Luna. The latter returned the favor with a cold glare.

As they locked eyes, an indescribably cold glint flickered across Kathleen's eyes.

She marched forward and strode over to take a seat right next to Luna.

Kathleen's eyes narrowed as she asked, "Is it all right if I sit here? We're fairly well acquainted after all."

However, Luna only snorted coldly in reply.

Well acquainted? In your dreams!

Kathleen glanced over at Trevor, who had acted as if the entire situation was none of his business, and her red lips curled slightly.

Back where she had been left standing alone, Ashley clenched her fists tightly as she fumed over this new development. She was sure that Kathleen's presence here would surely affect Samuel later on. As such, she knew it was imperative that she get rid of Kathleen as soon as possible.

Ashley swiveled about on the spot and looked about anxiously. Finally, she called a bodyguard over and muttered a series of instructions in a low voice into his ear.

Following that, the bodyguard nodded and strode off, presumably to perform as instructed.

Ashley directed her gaze back toward Kathleen and glared venomously at Kathleen's back.

At this moment, Samuel suddenly strode in. Ashley let loose a sigh of relief as she daintily threaded her way over to him and greeted, "Samuel."

However, he didn't even bother to look at her. His eyes, sharp as they were, had immediately noticed Kathleen's presence and locked onto her.

She's here!

His handsome and elegant face suddenly took on a darker and more solemn look.

At this, Ashley quietly murmured, "You're finally here. You're almost late."

However, Samuel didn't pay her any heed and instead made his way over to Kathleen.

He had only arrived this late because he had been waiting for Kathleen to head over to find him. Despite the entire situation, he held a glimmer of hope that Kathleen would seek him out to stop him from proceeding with the engagement.

However, she didn't turn up at all, and he was left with nothing but an overwhelming sense of disappointment.

As such, he hadn't expected that Kathleen would make her way here directly, let alone sit calmly at her seat without so much as a hint of any intent to stop the engagement from proceeding.

Samuel grabbed a chair and sat down.

This left everyone present dumbfounded as they struggled to understand what was unfolding before their eyes.

After all, despite being the male lead and the star of the show, Samuel had elected to take a seat among them. If that was the case, that invited the question of exactly who Ashley was engaged with.

Ashley started to feel uncomfortable about the entire situation. She approached Samuel and began, "Samuel, don't you think we should..."

"What are you doing here?" asked Samuel coldly all of a sudden as he interrupted Ashley and directed his question toward Kathleen.

Kathleen knew that Samuel was speaking to her.

"Here to watch the show," explained Kathleen tersely.

"There are so many other forms of entertainment available in Jadeborough. Did you really have to come here for that?" demanded Samuel as his eyes filled with rage.

However, this didn't seem to faze Kathleen. She casually replied, "Whatever's going on here seems pretty entertaining. Just look at all the attendees' faces and their hungry

gazes. I simply can't wait for them to devour you completely until there's nothing left of you."

A hint of fury flashed across Samuel's eyes and a vein on his forehead started to bulge and throb fiercely.

Trevor was the first to speak up. He exclaimed, "What do you mean by this, Kathleen? This is not somewhere that you can do as you please! That's especially so for today, of all days!"

"Just look at what you're saying now, Trevor," remarked Kathleen as she laughed mirthlessly. She continued, "How can you speak to me this way when I helped you get your hands on Ronald? Given our close ties, don't you think you're being too much of a stranger here?"

Trevor was caught off guard by her comment. He hadn't expected that Kathleen would actually say something like that and was worried that Samuel would start to become suspicious of him.

After all, Trevor had already dumped the mess on Kathleen, and it seemed like Samuel had bought the story.

"I don't know what you're talking about," mumbled Trevor as he feigned ignorance.

Kathleen chuckled coldly before she explained, "You don't understand? What a joke! Weren't you the one that went around telling everyone that I was the one that paved the way for Ronald to take his entire team with him over to Hoover Group?"

Trevor frowned deeply in response to her words.

"This is making me really curious. With how you're behaving right now and pretending like you don't know me, it seems like I have nothing to gain from our relationship. If that's the case, then why should I continue to help you?" asked Kathleen as she continued to gaze at Trevor. She continued, "Should I do so just because we're related by blood? But you never intended to acknowledge our biological relations, right?"

At this point, Trevor's face had darkened and become sullen with rage.

Kathleen smirked coldly once more and added, "Why are you keeping quiet, Luna? Didn't you send a couple of men to get rid of me just a few days back?"

"Are you really that desperate for us to chase you off the premises?" retorted Luna as she glared at Kathleen.

Kathleen sneered upon taking in Luna's words and countered, "Chase me away? I'm here at the behest of the Macari family. If you kick me out, you'll only be hurting the Macari family's reputation and offending them. I dare you to give it a try!"

At this, Luna's face turned even uglier and she glanced sideways at Ashley in a bid to prompt her to take action quickly.

Ashley understood what Luna was hinting at and immediately called some bodyguards over in preparation to force Kathleen to leave.

Following this development, Yadiel and Rory brought their men over and stood staunchly behind Kathleen.

Once they had gotten themselves into position, Yadiel sternly declared, "Let's see who dares to lay a finger on Dr. Johnson!"

Kathleen narrowed her eyes as she looked at Ashley and said, "Ashley, do you know who Marjory Garner is?"

Taken by surprise, Ashley paused for a moment as she gave the question some thought. Her expression was frantic when she finally replied, "I don't know her."

"Ah! You're truly merciless to the core. To think that you've forgotten all about her now that you're done making use of her," remarked Kathleen as she rose to her feet. She continued, "Since that's the case, let me explain everything."

She strode over to Ashley's side and slowly circled her once as she maintained the icy cold smile on her face. Finally, Kathleen began, "Approximately three months ago, Marjory went to Smealand along with a group of people. These comprised the students under her charge. After commencing with a full week of preparation, the day finally came for this group to execute their plan. They hid along the side of the road before they seized the opportunity to ambush and assault a passing businessman."

Ashley's face turned ashen pale as she took in Kathleen's words.

Kathleen's cold gaze next fell upon Samuel as she continued her story. "This businessman had only gone over to help deal with his good friend's aftermath. Not only did he have a stake in several mining business ventures in Smealand, but he also managed to maintain a fairly amicable relationship with some of the local organizations as well. With all that in mind, it wouldn't be a stretch to claim that a trip to Smealand for him was analogous to him visiting his very own backyard. He was fully comfortable and familiar with the working environment. It was for this reason that he elected not to have a full security detail with him for that particular trip. In the end, this only contributed to his downfall. After he got assaulted by the group lying in wait, he suffered grievous injuries and was taken away as a result."

All Too Late Chapter 467

Chapter 467

Chapter 467 Exposed

Samuel straightened his back.

He knew what Kathleen was talking about.

Kathleen continued, "These people have received professional training. They attacked the businessman, abducted him, and cleared the scene, leaving no evidence behind. However, they caused quite a fuss, and some people found out about it. So, they bribed the witnesses, forcing them to not say a word about it."

The uneasiness in Ashley's heart grew.

Kathleen's red lips curled into a smile. "Thus, the businessman's wife brought a few people with her and searched for three whole months. Yet, they couldn't locate the businessman. That was when the wife used her own connections and finally found the clues. In the end, she returned to her country. Coincidentally, the businessman returned after a few days."

The crowd said nothing. They held their breaths and stared at her.

"Alas, as soon as the businessman got off the plane, he announced he was engaged to another woman, all because that woman was his savior. It seemed as if it never crossed his mind that he had a wife, a lover. How do you think the wife of the businessman felt?" Kathleen shot Samuel an icy glare.

Biting her lip, Ashley shouted, "Kathleen! How dare you keep calling yourself the wife? You and Samuel had already divorced long ago! Even if you two are engaged, you're still not his wife!"

Kathleen smirked. "So, you're admitting you're the savior of the businessman, aren't you?"

Ashley questioned furiously, "What are you trying to do by hurling accusations here? Besides, you almost ended up marrying Caleb!"

"Caleb?" Kathleen could not help but laugh. "That's like news from six years ago. I'm sure everyone here knows how dramatic the wedding was."

With that reminder, everyone recalled the incident.

“That wedding was really tragic. I’ll remember it even if it happened ten years ago.”

“Exactly. The thought of it still gives me goosebumps. I can’t believe Samuel stabbed himself just to make Kathleen stay. He must love her so much that he’s lost his mind.”

“I say, what do you think will happen when he recovers his memory and realizes he married someone he doesn’t love? Will he go mad?”

“I don’t know if he’ll go mad, but I think he’ll start a slaughter.”

“Do you guys even hear yourself? No matter what happens, Ashley’s the daughter of the Zeller family. Besides, she’s also Samuel’s savior. Samuel will never harm her. You guys are overthinking it.”

“We’re not. You’re the one who doesn’t understand Samuel well enough. If he really wanted to marry another woman, why would he pester Kathleen so much?”

“Well, Kathleen didn’t marry him in the end, did she? Even after all those years?”

“Sure, she didn’t marry him, but he’s already proposed before he got into an accident. Besides, they have two kids together. It’s only a matter of time before they get married.”

“Maybe Samuel regretted his actions after proposing.”

“How do you know he’s regretting it? Oh, you’re the Zeller family’s relative. No wonder you keep speaking up for Ashley.”

“What’s wrong with that?”

“Displeased, are you? Let’s fight it out, then!”

The crowd started to get into a fight.

“Shut up, all of you!” Luna raged. “Kathleen, no matter what you say, Samuel was the one who approved of this engagement ceremony. We didn’t force him into it. You can ask him yourself if you don’t believe us.”

Everyone’s gazes fell on Samuel.

However, Kathleen said aloofly, “Hah. I’ve already told you this. I’m not here for him.”

Samuel swallowed hard but kept his silence.

Kathleen said coldly, "Ashley, Marjory was hired by you three months ago. You and Marjory took the same flight to Smealand and stayed in the same hotel. Besides, you left with Marjory and the others on the day of Samuel's accident. Are you still going to say you have nothing to do with it?"

Ashley panicked. "Kathleen, do you think everything you say is right?"

"Do you think I'm saying all this without evidence?" retorted Kathleen as she scoffed.

Ashley clenched her fist upon hearing that.

Right then, Marjory came to her mind.

Marjory's missing! Could she be abducted by Kathleen and spilled everything? Marjory, you traitor!

With a calm demeanor, Kathleen called out, "Yadiel."

He stepped forward and placed a stack of pictures on the table. "Ms. Zeller, you didn't know there were surveillance cameras at the hotel's entrance, didn't you?"

Ashley froze.

"In fact, the hotel is not the only place with surveillance cameras. A family who lived near the road where Mr. Macari's accident happened installed one at their house. However, their camera was in a rather discreet location. Hence, no one knew until one of us found it a few days ago. These are the evidence of you being around Marjory and the others," Yadiel said icily.

Ashley panicked at the sight of the pictures. Clearly, Marjory did not betray her.

However, those pictures were like a death sentence for her.

"Since you knew about Samuel's identity, why didn't you send him to the hospital after the accident? Why did you send him somewhere far away and not inform us about it? What are your motives?"

"That's because someone's trying to harm Samuel! I was worried for him!" explained Ashley.

"Stop making excuses! You're the person who wants to harm him! You're clearly a pot calling the kettle black!" Kathleen's gaze sharpened.

"No!" Ashley was trembling, and her mind was a mess.

Kathleen had disrupted her plan.

Knowing Ashley was beyond saving, Luna stood up and prepared to leave.

Suddenly, Kathleen uttered coldly, "Luna, I heard Ashley got kidnapped about twenty years ago. By the time she was sent to the hospital, she had lost a lot of blood, and her body was cold. I wonder how did the hospital staff save her?"

Luna's eyes glinted with a sharp gaze. "That's none of your business. Do you think you're the only doctor in this world?"

Kathleen smiled calmly. "Then, this doctor must be a miracle doctor. If he's so skilled, how did he fail to save your grandson?"

Luna shot her an icy glare and marched off.

"Aunt Luna, wait!" Ashley grabbed Luna's hand.

She can't leave! Who's going to back me up if she's gone?

"This is your problem. You're the one who started it. It has nothing to do with me." Luna pushed her hand away and walked off.

Ashley froze, shocked by the fact that Luna was actually abandoning her.

She then turned to look at Trevor, who, surprisingly, left as well.

Aren't they worried I'll expose the truth to Samuel? Well, they're right. I wouldn't dare to. I'd be dead meat if I told Samuel the truth. Screw this. I must leave now.

Ashley turned around to leave.

"Ashley, your fiancé is still here," Kathleen said indifferently.

Ashley stopped in her tracks and turned around to look at her. "What do you mean?"

"I told you. I'm not here to crash the engagement ceremony." Kathleen smiled casually.

"Kathleen!" Samuel clenched his teeth with his eyes fixed on her.

All Too Late Chapter 468

Chapter 468

Chapter 468 Please Stay

Kathleen cast him a frosty gaze. "While Ashley has plotted many schemes, I'd still like to congratulate you, Samuel. You're going to become a dad."

Samuel frowned. "What did you say?"

What does she mean, I'm becoming a dad?

"Ashley's pregnant. Congratulations, once again." Kathleen smiled. Then, her gaze darkened, and she turned around to leave.

Pregnant?

Samuel wanted to stop her and make her explain herself.

Alas, Kathleen left without looking back.

Samuel side-eyed Ashley. "I never touched you. How did you get pregnant?"

Ashley's eyes darted around the room, looking extremely uneasy. "... Samuel, I really love you. I didn't want Kathleen to keep pestering you, so I lied to her."

Bang!

Samuel slammed his hand on the table, his eyes bloodshot. "Do you have a death wish?"

After saying that, he turned on his heel and walked away.

"Samuel!" Ashley cried. "Did you even lose your memory?"

Samuel glared at her coldly. "Yes."

Ashley questioned furiously, "Then, why do you still like her? I took care of you for three months. Were you not moved by my actions during that period? Not even the slightest bit?"

Samuel's expression remained frosty. "Are you worthy?"

Ashley was stumped.

"I was not attracted to you the moment you stopped me from seeing my family. Only a guilty person would stop someone from doing so," the man stated aloofly.

Ashley stared at him, stunned.

She only wanted to wait till their relationship stabilized before letting Samuel meet other people. Never did she expect to have shot herself in the foot.

"I'll take this scheme you've plotted as a repayment for the time you saved me from being kidnapped. We're even now. I don't owe you anything." Samuel's voice was cold.

He left after he spoke.

Tears fell from Ashley's eyes as she watched him leave. Her plan failed.

D*mn it! My plan would've been perfect if Kathleen didn't cause a disruption.

Samuel exited the building where the engagement ceremony was held and got into the car. "Where did Kathleen go?" he asked.

"No idea." The driver shook his head.

"Drive!" Samuel took out his phone to call Tyson. "Find out where Kathleen has gone!"

"Mr. Macari, Mrs. Macari is on the way to the airport now. Mr. Eil and Ms. Desi are already there waiting for her," Tyson said awkwardly.

Samuel's gaze darkened. What? She's leaving? How could she abandon me like that?

"Drive faster!" he ordered.

"Got it!" The driver immediately hit the gas pedal.

Meanwhile, at the airport, Kathleen held Desiree's hand and slowly walked toward the boarding gate.

"Mommy, where are we going?" the little girl asked curiously.

She had never left the country before.

"Pollerton. I want to let you and Eil see the place. I have a huge winery there. It's just like a castle," Kathleen answered gently.

"You have a castle, so that means you're a queen. Does that mean I'm a princess?" Desiree asked excitedly.

Kathleen beamed. "You're still a princess, even if I'm not a queen."

Desiree chuckled at her words. Suddenly, she asked solemnly, "Mommy, will we come back?"

Kathleen merely held her hand without giving an answer.

By that time, Levi and Eilam had passed through the gate.

Kathleen and Desiree were next.

The moment Kathleen handed the two flight tickets to the flight attendant, Samuel's husky voice could be heard from their backs. "Kate!"

Desiree turned around and exclaimed, "Mommy, it's Daddy!"

Kathleen pursed her lips but did not turn back.

"Kate, I..." Samuel cleared his throat. "I'm sorry. I've never done anything with Ashley. Even if she's pregnant, that child isn't mine. I never wanted to be engaged to her. I just hoped you still cared for me, even if it's just a little."

Kathleen took a deep breath. Still, she did not turn around.

"Kate, I expect nothing else. Don't go, please?" Samuel choked.

Everyone in the airport was watching them.

They knew who Kathleen and Samuel were.

Samuel fixed his eyes on her slender figure. "Don't go," he urged once more.

To his dismay, Kathleen looked at the flight attendant. "Are you done examining the documents?"

The flight attendant answered awkwardly, "Yes."

Hearing that, Kathleen took the tickets from the flight attendant and entered the gate while pulling Desiree's hand.

Samuel's heart tensed up as he watched Kathleen leaving mercilessly.

His forehead was drenched in sweat.

Suddenly, his vision darkened, and he slumped to the ground.

Tyson rushed over and carried Samuel to the hospital.

The next day, Kathleen, who was already in Pollerton, tucked the children into bed before giving Rory a call.

“Tyson took Marjory away. Apparently, the Macari family wants to investigate this matter. Ashley will be done for once Marjory mentions her name,” Rory answered grimly.

“I see. Let them take her away, then,” Kathleen responded flatly.

“And that man, Ronald, I heard Trevor abandoned him. Ronald says Trevor’s the mastermind, and the latter made him frame you. However, he has no proof. Everyone here doesn’t really believe him,” Rory added.

“He’s just a pawn. This outcome is already his punishment. We can forget about him already,” Kathleen remarked coldly.

“One more thing…” Rory sounded hesitant. “Dr. Johnson, Samuel fainted the day you left. Tyson has sent him to the hospital. He finally regained consciousness this morning.”

Kathleen’s heart clenched at the news. “Is he okay?”

“I think so.” Rory paused and asked, “Do you want to know the details? I can find them out for you.”

Kathleen shook her head. “It’s fine. Rory, I don’t know when I’ll be going back. I’m afraid I’ll need you to manage the company’s matters on my behalf.”

“Of course.” Rory nodded.

With that, Kathleen hung up.

“Mommy, look! Ms. Gem made this wreath for me!” Desiree came running over while holding Gemma’s hand.

The castle was surrounded by countless flowerbeds, which had flowers planted in them. As it was summer, many flowers bloomed, decorating the place with pretty colors.

When Gemma was rescued, Kathleen instructed Yadiel to secretly bring her here to recuperate. After all, it was quiet and had a great view. It was the perfect place for recuperation.

Yadiel, Rory, and Benjamin were the only ones who knew Gemma was still alive.

Kathleen did not tell many people about the news. Naturally, Desiree and Eilam knew about it now.

However, Kathleen constantly reminded them to not tell anyone about it.

"It's so pretty." Kathleen patted Desiree's head.

Satisfied with her mother's reaction, Desiree said, "I'm going to show it to Eil!"

With that, she ran to Eilam's room.

Gemma eyed Kathleen wordlessly. Finally, the former asked, "What's wrong? Why do you look so pale?"

Shaking her head, Kathleen answered, "I'm fine. What about you? How do you feel? Do you feel any changes in your mood?"

"Yes." Gemma nodded. "I feel much calmer. Kate, I never knew I could be so at peace in a quiet place like this."

"Are you ready to face Richard now?" Kathleen asked curiously.

All Too Late Chapter 469

Chapter 469

Chapter 469 Punish Him

Gemma smiled faintly. "Not really. After all, it was a seven-year relationship. But I will try my best. Trust me, Kate."

Kathleen nodded. "Okay. I trust you."

Gemma smiled. "Now that you guys are finally here, what do you say we make some ravioli?"

"Sure. Let's go to the kitchen." Kathleen agreed.

"Okay."

As the two of them prepared the ingredients in the kitchen, Gemma asked Kathleen, "Kate, the reason you came to Pollerton this time isn't to avoid Samuel, right?"

"Of course not. I promised Levi to treat Old Mrs. Lester's illness," explained Kathleen.

"I see. Looks like you're going to stay in Pollerton for some time, huh?" Gemma nodded.

"No. Old Mrs. Lester is in Nardor. I could just drive to Nardor from Pollerton, so I'm just stopping halfway here," answered Kathleen.

"Ah, I see. You're just bringing the kids with you because it's safer, right?" Gemma understood her intention.

"Yeah." Kathleen bobbed her head.

"I've seen the news. Samuel chased you all the way to the airport, but you didn't even turn to spare a glance at him. Are you punishing him?"

"Yeah, kind of," said Kathleen coldly.

"Will you forgive him if he comes all the way here?" Gemma was curious.

Kathleen pondered for a while before replying, "I don't think he will. He has such a proud nature. I think I hurt his pride when I blatantly ignored him."

"Yeah, I guess you're right. He's no longer his past self, after all." Gemma sighed.

"Are there any differences?" asked Kathleen.

"Of course. He lost his memory, so maybe he has a different mindset now. When he hurt you in the past, he would try to control himself or even harm himself. But now that he doesn't remember anything, he might think it's better to just let you go so that the two of you can live peacefully apart."

Kathleen lowered her eyes and replied, "Yeah. Maybe."

Gemma gazed at the look in Kathleen's eyes before smiling.

After lunch, Kathleen said to Gemma, "Levi and I will be driving to Nardor now. I'll be leaving the kids to you, Gem. Don't worry. There are bodyguards everywhere."

"All right. I'll take good care of them for you." Gemma smiled.

"Thanks. See you." Kathleen got up.

It took one and a half hours for the two of them to reach the Lester residence in Nardor.

"It's indeed not far away at all. Looks like you won't have to stay here," said Levi.

"I wasn't planning on it either." Kathleen lifted her head to look at the Lester residence, which exuded an air of mystery.

The huge mansion seemed to be hiding a lot of peculiar secrets.

Nonetheless, she didn't even know she was popular enough for the Lester family to know about her existence and how outstanding she was as a doctor.

Just as they were talking, the door opened.

A maid stood by the door and greeted respectfully, "Mr. Levi."

"This is Kathleen Johnson. I've invited her over to treat Old Mrs. Lester," Levi briefly introduced Kathleen to the maid.

The maid replied, "This way please, Ms. Johnson."

Kathleen nodded, and the two of them stepped into the residence after the maid.

The structure of the Lester residence was spacious with good lighting, and the furnishing looked like a combination of different countries' cultures.

Levi whispered next to Kathleen's ear, "The Lester family is quite complicated. Old Mrs. Lester had four children, but one of them passed away almost as soon as they were born. The remaining three were all married to foreigners. This villa was built by them as a gift for Old Mrs. Lester's eightieth birthday. That's why the villa's style is a combination of different countries."

Kathleen nodded. "No wonder."

Moments later, they reached a room that had double doors.

The maid opened the doors, and the sweet fragrance of scented candles wafted out from the room.

The maid lifted a hand and gestured for the two to enter.

Following that, they stepped in and looked around.

The room was wide, and it was divided into three partitioned spaces. They were currently standing in the living room; there were two other rooms on their left and right.

The maid led them to a room on the right.

Three women who had delicate facial features were standing in the room. They looked multiracial and were all extremely gorgeous.

"Mom, they're here," said one of the women.

An elderly woman with gray hair was sitting on the bed. She looked unhealthily scrawny, and her skin was pale as well.

“I’ll be waiting for you out here,” said Levi as he stood by the door.

Kathleen nodded and approached the old woman’s bedside. “Hello, I’m—”

Before Kathleen could finish her sentence, the woman who informed her mother that the visitors were here walked over with a smile and interrupted her, “You’re Kathleen, right? My name is Yvonne, and I’m Old Mrs. Lester’s third child. These are my sisters-in-law.”

The other two women bobbed their heads at Kathleen as a greeting, wearing amiable smiles.

“Hello. Nice to meet you.” Kathleen didn’t think too much about it and thought they were only giving such a detailed introduction out of courtesy.

“You’re pretty, Ms. Johnson,” praised Camille Sanders, the wife of Yvonne Lester’s eldest brother.

“Yeah, of course, she’s pretty. Otherwise, how could she become a celebrity? Her acting’s good, too.” Xenia Lacey, the wife of Yvonne’s second brother, smiled.

Kathleen felt quite awkward as the compliments kept raining down on her.

“I should take a look at Old Mrs. Lester’s condition first.” She looked over at the elderly woman on the bed, Betty Graham.

Betty looked like a friendly and kind old woman as she gazed at Kathleen quietly, smiling from ear to ear.

Kathleen began examining Betty’s condition when the elderly lady suddenly reached out her hand, which frightened the former.

For some unknown reason, the old woman tucked a few strands of her hair behind her ear and said with a smile, “How pretty.”

Kathleen felt so confused and awkward, wondering what was going on.

Yvonne cleared her throat and reminded, “Mom, she’s checking your condition.”

Betty slowly put her hand down, and Kathleen breathed a sigh when she was finally relieved from the perplexing situation.

“Old Mrs. Lester’s heart seems to have some issues. I’m afraid she would have to undergo surgery soon, or it’s going to be dangerous if left unattended.” Kathleen put Betty’s hand down after checking her pulse.

“Dr. Johnson, are you able to handle the surgery?” asked Yvonne, concerned.

"If you guys trust me, I'm willing to give it a try," uttered Kathleen softly.

"Oh, of course, we trust you. Why would we even invite you here if we don't? You've handled similar surgeries before this, right?" Yvonne smiled.

Kathleen nodded in response.

"Mom, what do you think?" Yvonne looked over at her mother, who nodded as well.

"Yvonne, I think we should discuss it with Anthony and the others when they return," said Camille cautiously.

Kathleen thought so, too. "Yeah, you guys should discuss first. I'll be taking my leave."

Just as she was about to leave, Yvonne grabbed her wrist. "Wait! Ms. Johnson, it's quite a hassle for you to travel back and forth from Pollerton. Moreover, my brothers are on their way back, and they would like to discuss things with you. Why don't you stay here for the night?"

"But I don't want to cause you all trouble," said Kathleen.

"Oh, not at all. We have a lot of rooms here. Also, we knew you'd be coming, so I've asked someone to clean one of the rooms for you. Come with me. I'll show you." Yvonne beamed as she took Kathleen's hand and dragged her out.

Camille sighed and looked at Betty. "Yvonne is too excited."

Betty spoke in a faint voice. "I am, too. I'm satisfied enough to be able to meet Kate while I'm still alive."

In consideration of some objective factors, she didn't show her excitement when meeting Kathleen.

All Too Late Chapter 470

Chapter 470

Chapter 470 A Weird Family

"You're not just excited, Mom. You're literally so eager you couldn't even control yourself. Did you even notice how you frightened her just now?" Camille sat down.

Betty remained silent.

She didn't mean to frighten Kathleen, but she just couldn't keep her emotions in check.

"But Mom, Kate sure does look like a Lester." Xenia smiled.

"Yeah. Her father is a handsome man." There was tenderness in Betty's eyes as she spoke, and she soon began tearing up at the thought of Kathleen's father.

Immediately, Camille and Xenia walked over to comfort her.

"Mom, don't cry. We're lucky enough to be able to find Kate," soothed Camille.

"Yeah. When Anthony and Yusef are back, we can have a discussion on how to tell Kate the truth. By then, the both of you can finally reunite," Xenia chimed in.

"I know. I'm just too happy, that's all." Betty wiped her tears.

In the meantime, Yvonne led Kathleen to one of the rooms.

Kathleen didn't expect the Lesters to prepare such a large bedroom for her.

Thus, she said to Yvonne, "Ms. Lester, I can't stay in this room. This should be the master bedroom, right? I'll just stay in one of the guestrooms."

"No, I can't let you. You're our... savior, after all. See, I've even asked the maids to prepare you some clothes," said Yvonne, pausing in between.

The way they treated her was precisely why she didn't dare to stay.

The Lesters are weird. If they want to thank me, they could just give me money.

"Ms. Lester..." Kathleen began.

"You're around my daughter's age, so you could just call me... Aunt Yvonne. You don't have to be so polite," said Yvonne with an inscrutable tone.

Kathleen was speechless.

I'm not the one who's being too polite. They are all too friendly, and it's weird!

Yvonne said enthusiastically, "Take a look around and tell me if you need anything else."

"Oh, it's okay." Kathleen found it hard to turn her down.

"All right then. You should get some rest." Yvonne turned and left the room.

Kathleen sighed and went to look for Levi, who was supposedly in the room next to hers.

Nevertheless, he wasn't there when she opened the door.

She descended the stairs and went to the garden, which had a pretty scenic view.

As she couldn't see Levi anywhere, she decided to take a walk around.

At that moment, she saw two kids huddled together in the garden, each holding a tiny shovel and trying to scoop a flower out from the soil.

"Why are we doing this?" the little girl asked with a melodious voice.

"A new aunt has come to our house. We shall give this to her as a gift," replied the little boy.

The girl asked in excitement, "Is she pretty?"

"Yeah, probably. My mom says she's a celebrity."

"I love celebrities!" the girl exclaimed.

Kathleen glanced at the poor Juliet rose that was almost mutilated to death by the two children and said slowly, "The flower's going to die."

The two chubby children paused in their tracks and turned to look at Kathleen.

"She's so pretty," whispered the girl before she put on a wide grin and asked, "Who are you?"

"Are you the new aunt?" the boy questioned in surprise.

Aunt?

Kathleen answered, "I'm the doctor who's here to treat Old Mrs. Lester."

"You're our new aunt!" The boy threw his shovel away and dragged the girl over, greeting Kathleen, "Nice to meet you!"

The girl imitated the boy. "Nice to meet you."

Kathleen replied wryly, "Nice to meet you, too. Stop shoveling the flower. It's going to die."

Juliet roses were precious flowers.

The Lester family was apparently quite wealthy to be able to plant such valuable flowers in the garden like it was nothing.

“Mark! You naughty boy! Are you up to no good again?” A woman who looked to be around Kathleen’s age approached.

The boy, Mark Lester, took the girl’s hand and hid behind Kathleen, yelling, “Help!”

Kathleen stared down at the kids speechlessly.

As the woman got closer, she looked at Kathleen in surprise. “You... You are...”

“I’m Kathleen Johnson,” said Kathleen, thinking the Lesters were a bunch of weirdos.

Why are they so shocked to see me? Don’t they know I’m here to treat Old Mrs. Lester’s illness?

The woman introduced herself, “Hello! I’m Suzie, the little brat’s mother.”

Kathleen shook the woman’s hand. “Hi. Nice to meet you.”

Suzie looked happy to see her. “You’re finally here. Give me a minute. I’m going to teach this brat a lesson.”

Kathleen nodded as Suzie pulled her son over to her side, scolding, “Look at what you did to your grandpa’s precious flower! Your grandpa gave this to your grandma as a gift when they were dating, and you just destroyed it!”

“Mom, flowers don’t have feelings, so it’s totally fine! Grandpa and Grandma are already married, so the flower doesn’t really matter now,” Mark argued irrationally.

Suzie was so mad that she squatted down and smacked the boy’s buttocks as punishment.

Instead of crying, Mark said casually, “Take it easy, Mom. My dad’s going to be heartbroken if you end up hurting your own hand.”

Suzie was at a loss for words.

Another young woman came over. “What’s going on here, Suzie?”

“Mommy!” The little girl jumped into the woman’s arms.

The woman was shocked to see all the dirt on her daughter’s shirt. “Bella! What happened to your clothes?”

“Look what they’ve done, Ninette. These naughty kids destroyed the rose that Dad gifted to Mom,” complained Suzie.

The woman, Ninette Kirby, stared at the ruined rose and sighed. “You kids are so mischievous.”

“Mommy, we just want to gift the rose to our new aunt.” The girl, Bella, pointed at Kathleen.

Ninette looked at Kathleen. “You’re Kathleen, right?”

Before Kathleen could respond, the woman smiled and continued, “Nice to meet you. I’m Ninette.”

“Nice to meet you too.” Kathleen nodded as a greeting.

Right then, the maid walked over and informed them, “Mr. Anthony and the others are back.”

“Really? Let’s go. I’m sure they’re eager to meet you.” Suzie let go of her son and grabbed Kathleen’s hand, pulling her along.

Ninette carried Bella and took Mark’s hand, following behind them.

When they returned to the mansion, the atmosphere was quite lively in the living room.

Levi was chatting with the patriarchs of the family when Kathleen and the others entered.

The four men in the living room stood up one by one as Camille and Xenia also approached.

Levi curled his lips. “Allow me to introduce them to you. This is the head of the Lester family, Anthony Lester, and this is his son Dylan Lester. This is Anthony’s brother, Yusef Lester, and his son Nathan Lester. As for the others, I’m sure you already know them.”

Kathleen nodded. “Hello. I’m Kathleen.”

Anthony replied placidly, “Welcome to the Lester residence.”

“Thanks.” Kathleen felt a little nervous to see all the members of the Lester family standing before her.

It was quite a weirdly grand scene.

“Um…” She opened her mouth, wondering what to say.

“Let’s talk while we eat, Anthony. Or Kate’s going to feel awkward,” said Yusef with a smile.

No, I already feel awkward enough. I’m confused, too.

“Okay.” Anthony nodded.

When Suzie and Ninette brought the kids to wash their hands, Kathleen approached Levi and whispered, “I’ve got something to ask you, Levi.”

“What’s wrong?”

“I think these people are acting weird. There shouldn’t be a problem, right?” Kathleen looked around her.