

Trapped 531

Chapter 531 I Don't Hate Daddy Anymore

Liora blinked and asked, "Where's Daddy?"

Caroline's body instantly tensed. Did Scott's guess come true?

With a worried look, Caroline asked, "Lia, are you looking for Papa Wilson?"

"No," Liora stated firmly.

Realizing her mistake, Liora corrected herself, saying, "I misspoke."

Caroline's heart ached as she saw Liora's expression.

'Is Lia saying this to spare my feelings? Have my selfish actions kept the children away from their father?' Caroline wondered.

"Lia, you didn't misspeak. Do you want to see your father?" Caroline managed a forced smile.

Liora looked cautiously at Caroline and softly replied, "Hmm."

Emotions overwhelmed Caroline. "If you need your father, I can take you to see him."

Liora shook her head vigorously, not wanting to be separated from her mother.

"Mommy, no... I don't want to leave you, but... Liora's eyes filled with tears.

"Hmm?"

“But Daddy saved me, and I...” Liora couldn’t find the courage to continue..

“You want Daddy and Mommy to be with you, right?” Caroline helped complete Liora’s sentence.

Liora nodded slowly. “Daddy is the hero who saved me. I don’t hate Daddy anymore, but you’re more important to me than he is.”

Liora licked her lips and asked, “Mommy, why don’t you like Daddy?”

“I don’t not like Daddy. On the contrary, I like him very much,” Caroline replied with a bitter smile.

Caroline’s eyes lit up. “So, can you be with Daddy, Mommy?”

“We can’t be together just because we like each other. Many complicated stories between us prevent us from being together.”

*Is it because of those stories that we haven’t told Daddy that I’m his child?” Liora asked.

Caroline nodded. “Will you blame me for keeping you from your father’s love, Lia?”

+15 BONUS

Liora shook her head and hugged Caroline tightly. “I won’t. If you can secretly like Daddy in your heart, I can too!”

Tears welled up in Caroline's eyes. "I don't want to keep you from your father's love, but if you need it, I can try to provide it for you."

Liora said, "Tyler and Axel also need Daddy and Mommy very much, but they don't want to pressure you. I don't want to make things difficult for you either."

Caroline sobbed and said, "Wait for me, Lia. I'll become stronger so I can tell your father the truth."

"Hmm!"

Caroline released her hug. "Lia, about last night..."

Liora crossed her arms. "I was scared, but Eira had talked to me about this before."

Caroline was surprised. "What?"

"Hehehe! Eira told me that beautiful girls sometimes encounter bad people. I'm a beautiful girl." Liora covered her face with the blanket.

"How is Lia still capable of brainwashing herself after encountering this incident? Caroline wondered.

"Then?" Caroline asked.

Liora gazed at Caroline, her eyes gleaming brightly. "Eira told me not to panic in situations like this and advised me to run if I couldn't fight.

“So, I followed Eira’s advice and just kept running. It’s a shame that the bad man eventually caught up to me. But then, Daddy appeared and kicked the bad man away! He was amazing!

“I might be scared for a little while, but I’m strong. A beautiful girl should always be careful and brave in the face of difficulties.”

Caroline couldn’t help but think, ‘Why does it seem like Lloria is subtly comforting me?’

As she pondered, the door swung open. Tyler entered the room and asked, “Mommy, is Lia awake?”

Chapter 532 Mediate for Me

Caroline stepped aside and said, “She’s awake and doing pretty well.”

Confused by Caroline’s remark, Tyler approached the bed..

As he looked at Lloria, the thought that she might be terrified to the point of mental paralysis crossed

Tyler’s mind.

Anxiously, Tyler extended his hand and waved it in front of Lloria’s face.

“Are you alright, Lia?” he asked.

Lloria replied, “I’m fine! Since a bad man ambushed me, it means I’m too beautiful!”

Tyler withdrew his hand, teasing, “Oh! You must be fine since you’re complimenting yourself so vainly.”

Lloria sat up. “Who’s being vain? Please explain yourself clearly, Tyler!”

Tyler tutted in contempt and said, "I've never met anyone who compliments their own beauty."

"You're just jealous of my unmatched beauty!" Liora punched the blanket in frustration.

Tyler turned away and said, "I need a moment. I'll be right back."

"Gahh! Wait right there, Tyler!" Liora sprang out of bed with agility to chase after Tyler.

Caroline wondered if she had given birth to a pair of oddballs and who the children took after.

The two children rushed back to their room.

Suddenly, Tyler stopped and gazed at Liora. "Tell me the truth, Lia. How do you feel?"

Liora's eyes dimmed upon hearing that. She pouted, and tears began to stream down her face. "I'm

scared, Tyler."

"I knew it. You don't have to act tough in front of Mommy." Tyler sighed and guided Liora to sit on the carpet, holding her hand.

Liora wiped her tears away and said, "I don't want to worry her. Mommy works very hard. Please, don't tell

her..."

Tyler frowned and wrapped his arms around Liora. "It's alright. You'll be safe because I'll protect you."

Liora clutched Tyler's shirt tightly and nodded.

+15 BONUS

In the afternoon, Alex burst into Villa Rosa and slammed the door loudly, drawing disapproving looks from Evan.

"I'll cut off your hands if you don't use them," Evan remarked.

Anxious, Alex approached. "You must come with me, Evan."

"For what?" Evan casually picked up a coffee mug.

Alex ruffled his hair. "I thought we agreed yesterday that you'd talk to my father about Paige."

Evan scoffed. "I thought you agreed to break up with Paige yesterday."

"That wasn't real! You talk to my father while I console Paige," Alex pleaded.

"I won't do it," Evan rejected coldly.

"Why not? You promised me yesterday!" Alex protested.

Evan gave him a sidelong glance. "What's the likelihood of you reconciling with Paige?"

"I don't know."

Evan asked, "Can you guarantee Azure won't pay Paige another visit?"

'I can't.'

Evan remained silent but continued reading the financial magazine in his hand.

Alex was taken aback. "So, you won't help unless I can handle these two issues, right?"

"I don't want to engage in futile efforts," Evan stated.

"So you'll mediate for me if I can resolve these two issues?" Alex asked.

Evan replied, "We'll discuss it when you've succeeded."

Alex said, "Alright. I'll call Paige right now."

Alex pulled out his phone to call Paige but heard a busy signal. "Sorry, the number you have dialed is currently in use..."

Alex frowned. "Why is she on a call?"

He tried calling her again but received the same busy signal.

Alex decided to send Paige a text instead.

Alex: [Paige, please pick up my call when you can]

Chapter 533 Watch Your Mouth

After sending the text, a red exclamation mark appeared on his screen.

Alex's eyes widened in shock. "Did Paige block me?"

Evan set down the magazine. "If you can't even figure out the first issue, don

+15 BONUS

even consider involving me.

"I'll just see her in MK if I can't call her." Alex sighed, placing his phone down in disappointment.

Evan warned him, "Don't bother my employee at work."

"I'm not bothering her. I'm pursuing my future! I'm not like you, stuck in the past with Caroline!" Alex

touched a nerve with Evan.

Evan's expression turned serious instantly. "Do you want to leave here on your own, or should I get

someone to escort you out?"

Alex reclined on the sofa. "I'm not leaving, especially since you won't even let me visit Paige!"

Evan was furious. He was about to speak when Alex suddenly asked, "Do you know that Caroline is going

to Mount Zenya next week?"

Evan frowned. "Why would I care about her?"

Alex sat up, sounding concerned. "Do you know how dangerous Mount Zenya is? The mountain road is

completely unmaintained!”

Evan appeared agitated. “I have no connection with her now. You don’t need to inform me about her!”

Evan stood up and headed upstairs. He returned to his study, turned on his laptop, and typed ‘Mount

Zenya’ into the search engine for no apparent reason.

He frowned upon seeing photos of the narrow, guardrail-less road. “Why is she going there?”

Three days later, Caroline received Kenny’s call after finishing the last changes to her design sketch. She

put down the pen and answered the call.

“Hello?” Caroline rubbed her eye.

Mount Zenya. When are we

Kenny said, “G, I’ve finished making clothes for the Impoverished children at Mount Zenya. When are we

leaving?”

+15 BONUS

Caroline checked the time. “The day after tomorrow. We need to find a suitable truck to transport the goods after inventory tomorrow. You can prepare some essential items for our stay there in the next two days.”

“We’re staying there? I thought we could leave right after delivering?” Kenny asked.

“What if the timing isn’t right? Don’t forget the mountain road is dangerous, especially at night with poor visibility,” Caroline replied.

Kenny relented. “Alright, got it. But we’re staying just for one night because I have work at the factory.”

Caroline agreed. “Sure.”

Caroline got ready to leave for home after hanging up. Liora had been experiencing frequent nightmares and daily fevers recently. In light of her upcoming business trip, Caroline decided to spend more time with her. She grabbed her keys and bag, heading downstairs.

Unexpectedly, a car pulled up in front of her as she left the building. Shortly after, Daniella stepped out of the car. Caroline frowned and attempted to walk past her.

“Are you so afraid of seeing me?” Daniella taunted.

Caroline halted upon hearing Daniella’s mockery and turned to face her. “I’m not afraid of you, but I just don’t want to lose my appetite for lunch by looking at you.”

Daniella appeared angry but quickly regained her composure. “I heard your daughter was in a dangerous situation a few days ago, huh?”

Caroline’s gaze turned icy. “What nonsense are you talking about, Daniella?”

Daniella smirked. “So, it did happen, huh? I thought my friend was mistaken.”

Caroline warned her, “Watch your words!”

Chapter 534 What’s So Engaging?

+15 BONUS

“No, I won’t let go of something that upsets you so easily,” Danielle said, her chin held high. “It’s concerning that one of your children isn’t doing well, but how can you neglect both of them? Are all three

of them headed for trouble in the future?”

Caroline couldn’t stay calm when someone spoke ill of her children. “How dare you say that about my

kids?!”

“I’m not cursing them, just stating the truth. I coincidentally ran into you at the company today and

thought I’d remind you out of concern so you wouldn’t be an irresponsible mother. Your daughter got lucky. Otherwise, she could have suffered terribly if she had actually been assaulted-”

Before Daniella could finish her sentence, Caroline approached and slapped her hard.

Daniella’s head snapped to the side from the force of the slap. She stared at Caroline in disbelief. “Did

you just hit me?!”

“I don’t hit people, but I’ll defend my children! I’m warning you not to involve my kids!” Caroline snarled.

“Was I wrong? Your child...” Daniella began angrily but stopped herself before she revealed Axel’s illness.

She managed to hold back in time to avoid getting in trouble with Evan.

Caroline stared at her coldly with a puzzled expression. She sensed that Daniella was talking about Axel, not Liora.

“What’s going on with my child? Explain yourself!” Caroline’s mind was in turmoil.

Daniella pouted and put on a sad expression. “Nothing! I don’t want to talk anymore.”

She wa

was about to walk away when Caroline blocked her path. “Explain yourself!”

Disgust flashed in Daniella’s eyes. “I don’t want to talk. Are you going to force me?”

Caroline realized she had been too emotional earlier and composed herself. “You better not have harmed

my son, or you’ll regret it!”

Daniella sneered. “Have you ever considered the possibility of an accident?”

As Daniella walked away, she bumped her shoulder into Caroline as if seeking revenge for the earlier slap.

Caroline stood in place, pondering Daniella’s remark. ‘Accident? What does she mean? Could something bad have happened to Axel? He hasn’t responded to my texts..

Caroline couldn’t help but call Evan. In her distraction, she forgot to check the traffic. Suddenly, a loud

+15 BONUS

Evan pulled her back just in time, preventing an accident.

“Caroline! Do you want to get yourself killed?” Evan’s voice was stern.

Caroline turned to him in astonishment. His deep frown and angry eyes met her gaze.

She regained her composure and gently pulled away from Evan’s grip, her face blushing. “I didn’t mean to

risk my life... Why are you here?”

“You would’ve been hit if I hadn’t been here! What’s so important on your phone? Evan was visibly upset.

Caroline held her phone tightly. “I was planning to call you.”

Chapter 535 Right to Know

“Can’t you call me from a safe place?” Evan asked.

He controlled his emotions and spoke coldly. “What do you want from me?”

His sudden change in demeanor took Caroline aback.

“Where’s Axel? Do you have his phone?” Caroline finally asked what was on her mind.

Evan’s eyes shifted. “Why do you need to talk to him?”

Caroline noticed Evan's change and frowned. "Are you hiding something from me?"

Evan snapped, "No! Just talk!"

Caroline pleaded, "Can you let me speak with Axel?"

"No!" Evan firmly refused.

Caroline couldn't lose her temper with Evan, knowing he had saved her and Liora from a dangerous situation.

She said, "If possible, please let me talk to him. I miss Axel so much."

Evan was moved by the sight of Caroline's teary eyes.

Axel was in protective isolation after his bone marrow transplant. Evan believed Caroline wouldn't be as stressed if she learned the truth now.

Evan was about to say something when Caroline's phone rang.

She answered the call and said, "What is it, Kenny?"

Kenny asked, "Where are you? Did you leave the company so early?"

Caroline replied, "I wanted to spend some time with Lia. How can I assist you?"

Kenny said, "Never mind then. I'll head home, too. The goods will be delivered to the company in the afternoon,"

“Understood. We’ll inventory the goods later this afternoon. See you at home,” Caroline said.

“Sure.”

After ending the call, Caroline turned her attention back to Evan. “What were you saying earlier?”

+15 BONUS

“Nothing.” Evan replied coldly.

He decided not to tell Caroline about Axel. She was about to leave for Mount Zenya, and he wanted to prevent her from getting distracted and putting herself in danger,

Caroline sighed. “Alright, I should get going now. Please take care of Axel.”

Caroline turned and left shortly after.

Evan walked to his car, and Reuben said, “Sir, it was wise of you to stop the car earlier. Otherwise, Ms.

Shenton might have been on her way to the hospital now.”

Evan gave Reuben a stern look. “Please refrain from speaking if you can’t do it properly!”

Reuben was stunned and quickly fell silent, realizing he had sounded disrespectful toward Caroline. He started the car and glanced at Evan’s expression in the rearview mirror.

“You don’t look well, sir, Reuben remarked.

Evan stared out the window, unable to shake the image of Caroline’s dejected expression when she spoke about Axel.

“Do you think I’m protecting her by not telling her about Axel? Evan asked in a low voice.

“In my opinion, yes. However, Ms. Shenton has a right to know as well,” Reuben replied.

“What if I were to tell her after Axel is discharged from the hospital?” Evan asked.

“I think Ms. Shenton might be upset, given her personality,” Reuben explained.

Evan closed his eyes slowly and contemplated how he would break the news to her when she returned from Mount Zenya. He didn’t want to see her become overwhelmed by Axel’s situation.

He couldn’t move on from her, and he had cared about her subtle emotions for a long time.

Caroline returned home at noon with snacks that Liora enjoyed.

Chapter 536 Give It a Try

Caroline spotted Liora in the yard immediately upon exiting the car. Liora did squats with a stern expression.

Beside her, Eira monitored the time on her phone.

Caroline didn't approach but quietly leaned against the front of her car, offering silent company to Liora.

After three minutes of squats, Liora couldn't bear it any longer and dropped to her knees.

"Get up! Three rounds of deep squats now!" Eira shouted sternly, putting down her phone.

Liora rose to her feet, biting her lower lip, and followed Eira's instructions to do more squats.

Caroline wanted to intervene. Eira noticed her as she took two steps forward and shook her head,

signaling Caroline not to disturb Liora.

Unable to watch any longer, Caroline retreated to the villa.

It didn't take long before Kenny returned and called out to Caroline from the foyer, "G!"

Caroline replied from the living room, "I'm here."

Kenny asked, "Why is Lia working so hard lately, G? She's been training with Eira daily."

Caroline replied casually, "She's probably trying to get in better shape."

"That makes sense. She's had a fever for the past two days. It's high time she focused on her fitness,"

Kenny remarked, sitting on the sofa.

Caroline didn't reply but sent a text to Greta.

Caroline: [Ms. Shawn, the production is finished. Can you come to inspect the goods later?]

Greta replied after a while.

Greta: [Can I come at 2:00 p.m.?)

Caroline: [Certainly. Give me a call when you arrive, and I'll meet you]

Caroline put her phone away and commented to Kenny, who was engrossed in texting on his phone,

You've been coming home late at night lately."

Kenny explained, "Not really, just after 10:00 p.m."

+15 BONUS

Caroline wondered, 'How is that any different?'

"Did you go see your girlfriend?" Caroline asked.

"No! I don't have a girlfriend!" Kenny hastily put his phone away and responded with a panicked

expression.

Caroline teased, "Really?"

Kenny quickly stood up. "I won't talk to you anymore. I'm going upstairs to pack my toiletries!"

Caroline smiled as she watched Kenny hurriedly leave. She was relieved that Kenny was dating, as it meant he wouldn't be stuck in a lingering past relationship.

Meanwhile, at Xander Residence.

Greta replied to the text and then headed downstairs to join Yuliana for lunch.

Yuliana was so absorbed in her phone that she didn't notice Greta's arrival.

"What are you doing, Yulia?" Greta asked.

Startled, Yuliana quickly stowed her phone away and nervously replied, "I'm not doing anything."

Greta glanced at Yuliana's phone. "Are you in a relationship, Yulia?"

"Nah, Mom. You know I have a crush on Evan," Yuliana replied promptly.

She wasn't in a relationship, nor had she fallen for anyone. Instead, she was scheming to befriend

someone who knew Caroline's secrets so she could later expose them to her mother.

Greta advised, "Yulia, Evan might not be the right match for you."

"Mom! I know what I'm doing! I don't want anything more from him than for him to be happy!" Yuliana said

firmly.

Greta looked at Yuliana and said, "Yulia, don't close yourself off. Give it a chance if you find a genuine

connection with someone."

“No! Don’t meddle in my love life, Mom! I’m going out! Yuliana declared.

Anxious, Greta asked, “Where are you going?”

Chapter 537 You Can’t Threaten Me

“I’m meeting a friend!” Yuliana quickly put on her jacket and left the room.

As she was leaving, she unexpectedly bumped into Daniella, who was coming out of her room. Yuliana

glared at her but continued down the stairs without a word.

“Thanks for your help earlier, Yulia,” Daniella expressed her gratitude from behind.

Coincidentally, Greta passed by and overheard Daniella’s remark. She frowned and stopped outside her

room, intending to eavesdrop.

Turning around, Yuliana confronted Daniella. “Are you offering me the carrot after using me? Your gratitude is disgraceful, Daniella!”

Daniella approached Yuliana. “Why would you say that? Without your help, I wouldn’t have been able to

get close to Evan.”

Yuliana warned, “I’m cautioning you against double-crossing me!”

Daniella crossed her arms. “Look at how worked up you are. Are you planning to spill the secret to Evan?”

Will he even believe you?"

Yuliana's face flushed with rage. "How dare you!

Daniella continued. "I know why Grandpa has been tailing me. I bet you've been whispering in his ear, haven't you?"

"So what if I have? It's one thing if you want to get close to Casey, but I won't tolerate you using me to get

to Evan! Daniella, let me be clear. I will make sure you regret it if you don't back off from Evan!"

"Aren't you concerned your father will lose his position again?"

"Grandpa is in the hospital now. The Xanders' 100th-anniversary celebration isn't far! Grandpa won't dismiss my father at this point! You can't intimidate me!"

Daniella's expression turned icy. "You're trying to oppose me?"

"Yes! Daniella, rein in your arrogance, or I won't hesitate to give you a taste of your own medicine when the tables turn!"

Daniella sneered. "Heh! I'd like to see you try, Yuliana."

Yuliana replied firmly, "We'll see!"

+15 BONUS

Greta was greatly alarmed by Yullana's declaration. 'Why is Yuliana so impulsive? Daniella is no good, and we all know it. She's putting herself at risk by confronting Daniella so aggressively. I need to find a way to remove Daniella from the family soon. It's for Yulia's protection and to bring Carol back to the Xanders!'

At 2:00 p.m., Greta met Caroline at the company, and the latter led Greta to the clothing factory.

On the way, Greta asked, "Ms. Shenton, I've heard rumors about your close relationship with Nell Xander,

the Xander Group's decision maker."

Caroline seemed surprised and puzzled by Greta's question. She offered a guarded smile and asked, "Did you come across that in the news, Ms. Shawn?"

Greta nodded. "Yes. There are rumors circulating that you two are dating."

Caroline smiled gently. "Comments from those who don't know the truth can indeed be troublesome."

"Are you not interested in dating Mr. Xander?" Greta asked.

Caroline replied, "Not really. You could say our relationship is like family."

Greta was taken aback. "In that case, you and Grayson Xander..."

"The Xanders and Neil Xander are separate matters," Caroline clarified nonchalantly.

After hearing Caroline's response, Greta didn't feel confident enough to ask further questions. She sensed that Caroline may still carry emotional scars from her past with Grayson.

Caroline then guided Greta through the clothing factory.

After inspecting the clothes, Greta exclaimed, "You've managed to produce such a large quantity of clothes with soft fabric in such a short time. Your dedication is truly impressive, Ms. Shenton."

Chapter 538 Don't Stop Her

Caroline stated, "The workers in my factory are dedicated to their work, but it's not directly related to me."

Greta replied, "You don't have to be so humble. I'll arrange for someone to transport the clothes."

"Ms. Shawn, I purchased several things for the children. I'll personally deliver those along with the clothes," Caroline said.

Greta was surprised. "Are you planning to visit Mount Zenya in person?"

Caroline nodded. "Yes. I've already arranged for a plane to transport them, and I'll announce it as a partnership."

"No! The road to the mountain is too dangerous! You can't go!" Greta exclaimed.

Caroline looked at Greta in amazement, considering their distant relationship.

After a moment, Greta composed herself and said calmly, "The road to the mountain is treacherous, Ms. Shenton. I'm just worried about your safety."

Caroline replied, "Since you've been there yourself, helping the children without fear, how can I be afraid?"

Concerned, Greta asked, "Are you sure about this?"

Caroline nodded firmly. "I've made up my mind."

Greta couldn't say more, but she regretted involving Caroline in this. Caroline was just too kind.

The night before her trip to Mount Kenya, Caroline made all the necessary arrangements and returned home early to spend time with her children.

At the dining table, Liora served Caroline a bowl of soup.

"Have some soup, Mommy. You'll be on a business trip tomorrow and might not get good food or sleep there."

Caroline felt touched. She took a sip of the soup and said, "Thank you, Lia. Be good and listen to Uncle Neil and Eira while I'm away."

"I know, Mommy," Liora replied with a sweet smile.

Tyler noticed Liora's change in behavior. She spoke more when their mother was present but stayed quiet

in the room.

+15 BONUS

Avoiding eye contact, Tyler told Caroline, "Mommy, remember to call us when you get there."

Caroline nodded, put down her spoon, and said, "Ty, please help me get something from upstairs."

Tyler agreed, and they went upstairs to Caroline's bedroom.

Caroline closed the door, lowered herself, and asked, "Ty, tell me the truth. How is Lia doing?"

Tyler knew he couldn't hide it any longer and said, "Eira is providing psychological counseling to Lia."

Caroline felt tears welling up. "So Lia doesn't want to worry me, right?"

"Mommy, I'll stay by Lia's side. Try not to dwell on it too much because you're going on a business trip. Safety first," Tyler reassured her, hugging Caroline.

Caroline hugged Tyler back and added, "Ty, if Lia ever expresses a desire to contact Evan, don't stop her."

"Why does Lia want to reach out to scumbag Daddy? Is it because he saved Lia, so she regards him as her emotional support?" he wondered.

Tyler was puzzled but nodded. "Okay, Mommy."

Caroline spent the night with her children, putting them to bed after telling bedtime stories and giving each of them a goodnight kiss. Then, she left a sticky note on Liora's study table and headed downstairs to meet Kenny and prepare for her trip.

Chapter 539 It's Too Late Now

Kenny assisted Caroline with her luggage, guiding her to the villa's entrance.

"Are the children asleep?" he asked.

Caroline nodded, "We should head straight to the airport. Is the preparation work there nearly completed?"

"Yes, once we arrive, we can depart," Kenny confirmed as he loaded Caroline's luggage into the trunk.

Concerned about their publicized partnership with Greta, Caroline asked, "Have you arranged for the media to cover our collaboration?"

Kenny nodded reassuringly. "You've asked this question countless times. Rest assured, it's taken care of."

Caroline was new to philanthropy partnerships, so she couldn't ease her mind, wanting to avoid any mistakes.

An hour later, they arrived at the airport, where workers had already loaded the goods into the cargo hold.

After verifying the inventory, they boarded the plane in preparation for takeoff.

Reuben informed Evan about TYC's charity work being featured in the media.

Evan frowned. "Are they departing now?"

Reuben said, "Yes, their plane is taking off as we speak."

Evan was feeling irritable for no apparent reason. He sipped his drink and instructed, "Check the weather

conditions on Mount Kenya."

Reuben replied, "I've already checked, but the weather on Mount Zenya is unpredictable and constantly-

changing."

Evan requested, "Can you provide a rough summary?"

Reuben said, "Currently, it's clear skies all the way. Don't worry, sir. Kenny is traveling with Ms. Shenton."

Evan's expression darkened as he ordered, "Keep a close eye on Mount Zenya's weather and inform me

Immediately of any changes."

"Understood, sir!"

+15 BONUS

At 2:00 a.m., Tyler was awakened by Liora's sleep-talking. He quickly got up, turned on the bedside lamp,

and moved to Liora's bed.

Seeing Liora tossing and turning, drenched in sweat, Tyler felt sympathy. He softly called out to her, "Lia?

I'm here. Don't be scared."

Just

as Tyler was about to hold Liora's hand, she suddenly woke up, sitting upright. She looked around in panic and burst into tears upon finding only Tyler.

"Ty..." Liora threw herself into Tyler's arms, calling out to him.

Tyler's expression softened, and he comforted Liora gently, "I'm here. Don't be scared."

"I want Daddy... I want to see Daddy," Liora cried loudly.

Tyler tensed. "You want to see scumbag Daddy, even after everything?"

"He's not a scumbag Daddy anymore. He's the good Daddy who saved me from the bad man," Liora

insisted

Tyler checked the time and noticed it was past midnight. "Lia, I'll help you reach out to him tomorrow,

okay? It's too late now."

Liora clung to Tyler tightly. "Will Mommy blame me..."

"No. Mommy told me not to stop you from seeing Daddy before she left, Tyler assured her.

Liora wiped her tears and looked at Tyler, "Will Daddy come and see me?"

"If he won't, I'll take you to see him," Tyler declared, determined to protect Liora from fear, even if

meant dealing with Evan.

“I won’t reveal our identity to Daddy,” Liora murmured softly.

Tyler nodded. “Alright. We must keep Mommy’s secret. Now, let’s get some sleep.”

Liora lay down, preparing to sleep, but she noticed a sticky note and pulled it off.

Curious, Tyler leaned over and asked, “What’s on the note?”

Liora replied, “It’s not from me. It’s Mommy’s handwriting.”

Chapter 540 Buried Under

Tyler took the sticky note and read, “Liora, I know that it’s very hard for you to get past this incident. You’re the bravest child, and you’ve experienced something that others won’t even experience in a lifetime. I hope that I get to see you being mischievous as you usually are when I’m back.”

Liora clutched the sticky note tightly once Tyler had finished reading it. Tears streamed down her face as she spoke. “Ty, I won’t let Mommy worry about me anymore.”

Tyler nodded and replied, “You’re the best, Lia

Caroline and Kenny arrived in Staten City early in the morning and left for Fawn County after the workers loaded the goods onto the truck.

Caroline immediately called the children when she got into the truck.

The call was quickly answered. Tyler and Liora’s voices and heavy breathing could be heard. “Have you landed, Mommy?”

Caroline smiled upon hearing Liora’s different voice. “What are both of you doing? Are you on a run?”

“Yes, Mommy! We’re out for a run with Eira!” Liora replied swiftly.

Caroline felt relieved. “You’re awesome, Lia. I’m already in Staten City, and I’ll be back after delivering the goods.”

“Sure! Ty and I will be waiting for your return.”

Caroline exchanged pleasantries and hung up.

The truck driver, Rhett Callan, glanced at Caroline and remarked, “You look so young, yet you already have

children.”

Caroline touched her face and replied, “Can’t you tell?”

“I can’t tell. Are you from the big cities?” Rhett asked.

Caroline nodded. “It’s quite a distance from here, indeed.”

Rhett asked, “Is this your first time on such a steep mountain?”

“Yes. Are you from here?” Caroline asked.

Rhett replied, “I’m from Mount Zenya, and that’s my hometown!”

Caroline was stunned. “Is that so? Can you tell me about the situation there?”

+15 BONUS

“It’s tough. I don’t know how else to describe it, but I’m not highly educated, so my speech isn’t very polished.” Rhett sighed.

“It’s fine. The weather looks pretty good,” Caroline said as she looked at the clear sky.

Rhett cautioned, “The weather may seem fine now, but it might change in an hour or two.”

Caroline asked, “Will we still be able to descend if it rains?”

“No! You better pray that it doesn’t rain during our return trip. Otherwise, the truck might slide down the

mountain if the road is too slippery,” Rhett warned.

Caroline shivered at the thought.

Seeing Caroline’s pale face, Rhett chuckled. “Don’t worry. It’s not that extreme.”

Caroline felt embarrassed and replied, “You’re quite the joker, sir.”

Caroline leaned against her seat and fell asleep not long after, perhaps due to her lack of sleep on her red-

eye flight.

Suddenly, Caroline felt a few drops of ice-cold liquid on her face. She opened her eyes slowly and saw

dark clouds gathering outside the truck, accompanied by constant rain.

Rhett sat next to her, gripping the steering wheel tightly with a serious expression.

Caroline sat upright and asked, "How long until we arrive at Mount Kenya, sir?"

"This is Mount Kenya, but we're heading uphill. It will take about half an hour," Rhett replied.

Caroline questioned, "Should we stop now that it's raining?"

"We can't stop. Given the current weather, stopping could lead to a landslide burying us! That would be"

troublesome!" Rhett emphasized.

Caroline looked at the heavy downpour and the treacherously high mountain road without a guardrail.

Chills ran down her spine.

Half an hour later, her phone rang. Caroline answered upon seeing Kenny's call.