

Yo Daddy 271

Chapter 271

“Is there only one surveillance camera here?” Natasha glanced at the surveillance camera above the door.

The director nodded. “This is a slightly secluded area, so there is only one surveillance camera at the door. Most of the surveillance cameras are installed inside.”

Natasha frowned and scanned the surroundings. She knew it was useless to check the surveillance cameras one by one.

A while later, she requested, “Can I get a floor plan of the site?”

“Uh, why would you need it?” the director asked.

Natasha stared at him stonily. Her face might be devoid of expression, but she had a powerful presence.

The director revealed, “We often film here, so we're familiar with the location. We don't have a floor plan...” He seemed stumped.

His reply elicited a frown on Natasha's brows.

“I'll handle it!” Kenneth declared all of a sudden.

He pulled his phone out to make a call.

After relaying his order, he cut the line.

A short while later, Kenneth's phone rang. He glanced at the content he received before sending the floor plan to Natasha.

Only two minutes had passed since he gave that order.

The director was rendered speechless.

Perhaps this is what capitalists can do. We had to negotiate for a long time before renting a site, but he got the floor plan that easily. Oh, capitalists are indeed powerful.

After getting the floor plan, Natasha glanced at the empty area beside her and went there.

She pulled her laptop out and switched it on.

The director was confused but dared not utter a word as no one else said anything.

As Natasha was standing there, he arranged for someone to get her a chair.

Sitting before her laptop, Natasha grew serious and focused on her work as though nothing else around her mattered to her.

Kenneth's gaze grew dark.

Natasha didn't care about the others or what they would think of her.

She was focused on finding Denise, for the latter had been missing the entire night. No one knew what would happen to her.

If it were a kidnapping, the kidnapper would've called them by now. However, there was no call, and Denise's phone was unreachable. There was no way Natasha could wait until forty-eight hours were over.

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Tha director noddad. "This is a slightly sacludad araa, so thara is only ona surveillanca camara at tha door. Most of tha surveillanca camaras ara installad insida."

Natasha frownad and scannad tha surroundings. Sha know it was usalass to chack tha surveillanca camaras ona by ona.

A whila latar, sha raquastad, "Can I gat a floor plan of tha sita?"

"Uh, why would you naad it?" tha director askad.

Natasha starad at him stonily. Har faca might ba davoid of aexprassion, but sha had a powarful prasanca.

Tha director ravaalad, "Wa oftan film hara, so wa'ra familiar with tha location. Wa don't hava a floor plan..." Ha saamad stumpad.

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"I'll handla it!" Kannath daclarad all of a suddan.

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If it were a kidnapping, the kidnappers would've called them by now. However, there was no call, and Danisa's phone was unreachable. There was no way Natasha could wait until forty-eight hours were over.

As Denise's life could be in danger, they needed to find her as soon as possible.

She refused to wait any longer.

Natasha was never a mother who would coddle her children. However, she couldn't help but feel like an iron shard had gone through her heart at the thought of Denise in danger.

She was a different person in front of her laptop. Her speed and focused attitude made others forget about her striking looks momentarily, as she looked as though she was about to become one with her laptop.

Numerous things appeared on the laptop screen in a blur.

Anthony and Benjamin shared a look before glancing at Kenneth discreetly. The man was staring at Natasha wordlessly.

He was neither shocked, surprised, or furious.

In fact, he was unfazed.

The calmer he was, the more uneasy they got.

Anthony knew that Natasha was freaking out.

If they were one step too late, he would react the same way, too.

Soon, a red dot showed up on the laptop screen.

Natasha took one glance at it and immediately switched to the floor plan. She located the spot and ran out instantly.

Everyone immediately went after her. Despite not knowing what was happening, the director followed them, too.

They took a right turn outside the studio and arrived at a huge space according to the GPS location.

Natasha glanced around to make sure that this was the correct location. However, there was nowhere to hide a person.

Right then, Kenneth dug his phone out and gave Denise's phone a call. They heard a vibrating sound nearby.

Everyone searched carefully and found Denise's phone in the bushes.

Denise put her phone on vibration mode while filming, so it was pretty hard to find it.

Natasha's gaze dimmed at the sight of Denise's phone, which proved that the latter was indeed in danger.

Otherwise, her phone wouldn't be found here.

The director got curious. "Eh? Why is Denise's phone here?"

"What do you mean?" Kenneth seemed to have caught onto something.

"Uh..." Stunned, the director explained, "Normally, we'll take a left turn and leave the studio after filming ends. That's the nearest way out. Normally, we won't come all the way here."

Natasha narrowed her eyes. "Does this lead to a dead end?"

"No. However, this is a longer route and is more secluded. Hence, we rarely take this route," the director explained.

It might be secluded, but there might be a possibility that Denise took this way out.

Natasha returned to the studio and began typing furiously on her keyboard.

Soon, Denise's figure appeared on the screen.

Natasha obtained the surveillance footage based on the time Denise called her yesterday after filming ended. She wanted to find out what had happened.

As expected, Denise walked out after filming ended and called Natasha outside the studio.

Everyone held their breaths while watching the scene displayed on the screen.

Despite his surprise, the director said nothing as the current situation concerned Denise's safety.

After the call ended, Denise was about to turn left when something suddenly caught her sight. She turned to the right a few seconds later and went in that direction.

Her figure then disappeared from sight.

"Uh, where is Denise going?" the director asked.

Without a word, Natasha continued searching for Denise in the system.

Chapter 272

Kenneth looked at her, and with a slightly hoarse voice, he said, "Nat, you did great by eliminating the many possibilities. What we need to do from now on is continue screening the possibilities, and I'm sure we will find other clues in no time!"

Natasha pursed her lips. There was nothing but fear and exhaustion in her eyes. Silence engulfed her for a moment before she mumbled, "Kenneth, Denise's disappearance is not just an accident..."

Kenneth narrowed his eyes upon hearing her words, for he, too, was crystal clear that this incident was far more complicated than it seemed. The more they learned about the situation, the more difficult and complex it became. It was clear that someone was pulling the strings behind the scene.

Up until now, they had no idea about the motives and identity of the culprit.

Even if this is an abduction, our phones should ring by now. I'm just afraid of...

Kenneth dared not let his thoughts run wilder, fearing that the worst outcome he imagined would come true.

"Accident or not, we must keep our cool no matter what! Denise is still waiting for us somewhere out there. We mustn't panic. Now is not the time for that!" Kenneth said.

"But—"

"There are no buts! Denise is our girl, and she's a smart one. She will keep herself out of harm's way. I know it. She's waiting for us!" Kenneth said in determination.

His voice seemed to release some kind of magical spell that dragged Natasha back from the edge of losing control.

That's right! Denise is a smart little girl! She will keep herself safe!

Natasha took a deep breath before she looked right back at Kenneth and nodded.

"Nat, listen to me carefully. I need to know the names of every person in the scene from this particular moment onward. If Denise is truly kidnapped, then that kidnapper must have a relatively huge target, which is something we could exploit!" Kenneth said.

Natasha looked at him and nodded in return.

She, too, knew that this was not the time to be consumed by sadness and depression.

After all, Kenneth had a point.

"Let me do it. I'll do the searching," Natasha said.

"We'll find her, I promise. She's waiting for us somewhere out there!" Kenneth stared right into her eyes.

Natasha nodded firmly after hearing his promise.

Hence, the woman sat back in her seat and focused all her attention on the laptop.

At the same time, Kenneth looked at the director. "I want all the details of everyone in the film crew who were present yesterday!"

Knowing how dire the situation was, the director nodded right away. "I'll send someone to get the details you need." After that, he turned on his heels and walked out of the studio.

After the director left, Kenneth looked at Anthony and Benjamin as he said, "Stay here with Mommy while I head out and see what I can find outside."

"I'll come with you!"

Kannath looked at her, and with a slightly hoarse voice, he said, "Nat, you did great by eliminating the many possibilities. What we need to do from now on is continue searching the possibilities, and I'm sure we will find other clues in no time!"

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"I'll come with you!"

"Me too."

Both Anthony and Benjamin hurriedly volunteered as soon as they heard this.

Kenneth managed to capture the worries flickering in their eyes, leading him to say, "I know you're both worried about Denise, but there's no news yet. Mommy needs someone with her too."

Natasha, who was sitting before her laptop, gave no response as her attention was completely occupied by the matters she had on hand.

Anthony and Benjamin then turned toward Natasha. They were worried after recalling the look on her face a few moments ago.

"Fine," Anthony replied.

"A-All right then. You be careful," Benjamin said as he looked at Kenneth.

The corners of Kenneth's lips curled to form a smile. Before he turned and left, he said, "Don't worry. I got it."

As these all happened, Natasha's focus remained on her laptop. She slowly checked the surveillance footage one by one while Anthony and Benjamin helped, making sure they would not miss any details.

In the meantime, it was already dark when Kenneth stepped out of the studio.

Darkness engulfed the surrounding, and Denise's disappearance happened at about the same time yesterday.

Kenneth trailed the path that Denise took before coming to a stop where her phone was found. He started looking around, finding a road forking to the left and right.

He then glanced at the map on his phone and quickly found out that the path to the left was an exit while the right led to a dead-end.

Without any hesitation, Kenneth headed to the left immediately.

Throughout his way, he tried his best to search for any clues. Yet, he failed to locate any valuable details when he eventually reached the end of the path.

Given that this place was the scene where the filming took place, there were still many people lingering around despite getting dark. With that many people present, the situation was a little bit of a mess, making it easy to take someone away from the scene but incredibly difficult to find any helpful information.

About an hour later, Kenneth found his way back to the studio.

The director had already gathered the information of every member of the film crew at this point while Natasha was staring at the surveillance footage, checking and comparing every frame.

"How's it going?" Kenneth asked as he approached her.

Hearing his father's voice, Anthony turned to Kenneth and shook his head. "There were too many people here last night, and they're all gathered around here, so it's going to take a lot of effort to find the culprit."

Kenneth bit his lower lip before shifting his gaze toward Natasha, who was so focused as if there was no one around her.

Just like that, second by second, time slowly passed.

It was only until late in the night that the director received a phone call. He walked out to answer the call and returned shortly after. Upon looking at Kenneth hesitantly for a few seconds, he approached Kenneth. "Mr. Hamilton, the police are here. They want to see the two of you."

The director's voice immediately caught Natasha's attention.

She then looked toward Kenneth, who also happened to look at her, both finding fear in each other's eyes.

Even Anthony and Benjamin's faces turned pale.

"D-Did they find Denise?" Anthony asked.

The director shook his head right away as if he could tell what they were thinking. "No, no, no. I've already asked them about it. They haven't found her yet. It's just that there are some things that they wanted to talk to the two of you about."

Only then did the family heave a sigh of relief.

They quickly returned to the place where they first came in.

After the police were done talking to Kenneth, they were more or less surprised by what happened.

After all, Kenneth was no ordinary man. With his achievements, positions, and power, the sudden disappearance of Denise, and how the phone was left behind at the scene all suggested that abduction was one of the many probabilities.

Hence, after receiving the information they needed, the police immediately poured a great deal of effort into solving the case.

Throughout the entire process, Natasha did not get involved with anyone. She spoke no words at all as she continued sitting in the car and focused all her attention on the surveillance footage to find the suspects.

Chapter 273

Natasha's eyes were wide open throughout the night. Like a robot, she stared intently at the screen as she monitored the surveillance cameras to look for anyone suspicious.

Right beside her, Anthony and Benjamin were also staring at the screen. Their eyes were reddened because of how focused they were, and they didn't want to miss anything crucial.

By the break of dawn, some film crew had just arrived to set up the filming site while some were getting off work. Hence, there were people walking in and out of the set.

Neither the police station nor the director had received a phone call.

It was as if Denise had just vanished into thin air without leaving any clues behind.

Kenneth knew that the longer they waited, the greater danger Denise would be in.

Despite his anxiousness, he knew he had to try his best to keep himself calm.

In fact, his intuition told him Denise was fine, and she was waiting for him to find her. I can't afford to panic now. We must've missed out on something!

With that in mind, Kenneth opened the car door and got out of the car. I have to check the surroundings and find out where the problem lies.

The moment Kenneth opened the car, a gust of cold wind blew past, and he felt much more awake after that. He merely glanced at the people inside the car quietly before walking off.

Those three in the car were all focused on the screen, and they didn't even notice Kenneth leaving.

After getting out of the car, Kenneth peered at his surroundings. Since there was limited sunlight, he found it hard to see clearly.

He then saw a convenience store that opened all day long, and he went in.

When he came out of the convenience store, he was holding a pack of cigarettes. He couldn't be bothered about the type or brand of cigarettes he bought. All he wanted was to smoke and calm his nerves.

By the time he finished a cigarette, he was still as anxious as before.

Right when Kenneth was about to head back, there were two people walking past him.

"I'm going to tell you a secret, and you must keep it to yourself!" one of them said to the other.

"What is it?" the other person asked.

"Yesterday, I saw the male lead and female lead..." In a low voice, the person continued, "They were getting it on behind the mountain!"

"What? Are you serious?"

"Of course, I am! I saw them doing it with my own eyes!"

"You saw them in action? Really?"

"Yes! Although I couldn't see them clearly because it was at night, I could hear them loud and clear. Who would've known? The female lead looks so innocent, no? I didn't expect her to do something so extreme!"

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“You saw them in action? Really?”

“Yes! Although I couldn't see them clearly because it was at night, I could hear them loud and clear. Who would've known? The mala laad looks so innocent, no? I didn't expect her to do something so extreme!”

“Wait. Why would they do it behind the mountain? Can't they just go to a hotel?”

“Well, people might see them if they were to go to a hotel together. The area behind the mountain doesn't have any surveillance cameras. It's dark there, so no one can see a thing. Besides, there's no one there, not even the paparazzi. Even if someone does show up, they can just hide somewhere nearby. Most importantly, they do it for the thrill!”

“You're right. Hey! Bring me along next time when something like that happens, will you? I would like to enjoy a live show as well!”

“Sure!”

They were talking and walking at the same time.

Right then, Kenneth suddenly showed up in front of them and stopped them in their tracks.

Those two were shocked to see Kenneth. He's wearing branded clothes, and he has the looks. Who is this guy? What does he want? Is he a new celebrity? A few seconds later, one of them asked, “W-What do you want?”

“You guys mentioned something about the back of a mountain, right? Where is that?” Kenneth asked.

Guilt washed over them instantly. One of them blinked anxiously and said, “I didn't say that! You must've misheard me!”

With that, they wanted to flee. However, Kenneth wasn't letting them go so easily. He stood in front of them once again to stop them from leaving.

The two of them looked utterly troubled. “We're just extras, and we're about to start shooting—”

"I'm not trying to cause you guys any trouble. I just want to know where the back of a mountain is!" Kenneth interrupted.

The two of them exchanged glances. Should we tell him?

Just then, Kenneth whipped out his wallet and took out a stack of cash. "Is this enough?"

The two of them stared at the money, and they didn't quite know what to say.

"I'll say this again. I'm not here to cause trouble. I just want to know how to get to the back of the mountain!" Kenneth emphasized.

Being the extras there, it would take them months to earn the money Kenneth was offering. Hence, their attitudes changed instantly when they saw the money in Kenneth's hand.

"It's there! Just go straight from here."

"Take me there!" Kenneth said.

"Oh... But I need to shoot soon!"

"Fine, then!" Kenneth pretended to keep his money back in his wallet.

One of them saw it and yelled, "I'll take you there!" He then turned toward the other guy and said, "You're not shooting today, are you? Take him there for me!"

"But..."

He then whispered something into the other's ear. The latter responded with a nod and said, "Okay! No problem!"

After they were done discussing with one another, one of them looked at the money in Kenneth's hand and uttered, "Shall we?"

Kenneth gave him the money. The guy accepted it happily and said, "This way, Boss!"

Just like that, he led Kenneth forward and arrived at the spot Denise lost her phone.

"We'll only need to keep walking forward from here!" the guy said to Kenneth.

"There's no more road ahead, no?" Kenneth asked.

"You're right. There's no road leading to the back of the mountain. We'll have to follow along the footpath."

Kenneth's expression changed. We didn't see anything from the surveillance footage. If this is where Denise had gotten lost, she must've been taken to the back of the mountain!

As they were walking, the guy said, "There are no surveillance cameras here, and the mountain path is rugged. A lot of celebrities would come here to date! No one will catch them here. Actually, I've seen quite a few of them here!"

Kenneth wasn't interested in gossiping, so he asked, "Is the area at the back of the mountain big?"

Chapter 274

After seeing the photo, the exte preised sincerely, "This little girl looks greet!"

Kenneth nerrowed his eyes, end the exte immedietely felt threethened. He then put his smile ewey end shook his heed solemnly. "N-No. I heven't seen her before."

"Look closer," Kenneth ordered.

"This little girl is so pretty. I think I would remember if—" The exte froze momenterily, end he frowned. He looked es if he hed just remembered something.

The exte then glenced et the photo once more end esked, "Boss, do you heve other photos of her?"

Kenneth suddenly felt hopeful when he heerd that. Without enother word, he went to Denise's Instegrem eccount end showed the exte some recent photos.

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"When? Where?" Kenneth esked anxiously.

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Kenneth's expression turned grim when he heerd that.

Although he knew Denise's disappearance wasn't just an accident, he was still rather shaken when he heard those words. That man must have something to do with Denise's disappearance.

"Do you remember what the man looks like?" Kenneth asked.

The extra shook his head. "I have no idea. His back was facing me, so I didn't get to look at his face. I guess he's in his forties."

"What time was it when you saw her?"

After thinking it through, the extra answered, "My filming started at eight-thirty, so it should be around eight-fifteen."

Kenneth analyzed the situation calmly. I've already watched the surveillance footage around that time. We didn't see anyone suspicious showing up at the spot Denise got lost. Besides, Netasha would remember if she saw anyone leaving with baggage. Hence, there is only one possibility. The perpetrator must've brought Denise to the back of the mountain and left empty-handed. That way, no one would suspect a thing!

After seeing the photo, the extra praised sincerely, "This little girl looks great!"

Kenneth narrowed his eyes, and the extra immediately felt threatened. He then put his smile away and shook his head solemnly. "N-No. I haven't seen her before."

"Look closer," Kenneth ordered.

"This little girl is so pretty. I think I would remember if—" The extra froze momentarily, and he frowned. He looked as if he had just remembered something.

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Kenneth widened his eyes and asked, "What happened after that? What was she doing when you saw her?"

“Um... She was talking to a man, but I don't know what they were talking about. At that time, I was in a rush to shoot, so I merely swept a glance at them. When I saw her, I thought she would definitely become a hot superstar in the future. That's why I can remember her,” the extra answered.

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Right then, the extra asked, “Boss, may I know why you asked those questions?” After a slight pause, he asked when he thought of something, “Did something bad happen?”

Instead of answering him, Kenneth queried, “Are you familiar with the area?”

The extra nodded instinctively. “Yes. I think I am...”

“My daughter got lost in this area. Help me find her, will you? If we can find her, I'll reward you handsomely!” Kenneth uttered.

“What? What do you mean? She got lost?” the extra asked cautiously. F*ck! The things I said were so inappropriate.

Kenneth kept mum and looked at him with his darkened gaze.

“Boss, do you think someone has kidnapped your daughter and brought her here?” the extra asked cautiously again.

Kenneth chose to remain silent because he knew that was a possibility.

The extra was horrified. “I have nothing to do with this! It wasn't me! I-I'm familiar with the area, but I would never do such a thing! I saw her, and that's all. I didn't even know if that was your daughter!” the extra was explaining himself anxiously because he didn't want to get in trouble.

Upon seeing how nervous he was, Kenneth uttered, “Calm down. I don't suspect you, and I know it wasn't you!”

“R-Really?” The extra looked utterly worried.

“If it was you, you wouldn't have acted so calmly when you saw the photos. Besides, you wouldn't have revealed so much to me!” Kenneth answered.

The extra nodded quickly. “Yes! You're right, Boss!”

“Hence, help me find her. Regardless of whether we can find her or not, I'll still reward you handsomely,” Kenneth said.

The extra glanced at Kenneth and sized him up. Judging by his speech and his clothes, I can tell he's rich. Besides, he was so generous with the reward just now. In short, he is not an ordinary man.

After pondering for a moment, the extra nodded. “Okay. However, Boss, looking for a person here is like looking for a needle in a haystack. We'll need a long time for the search because of how big the area is!”

Chapter 275

Neteshe then continued focusing on the laptop screen.

Although Anthony had consoled Neteshe, he wasn't sure if Denise would be safe, and he was getting overwhelmed by nervousness and fear. What if I'm wrong? What if Denise is in danger?

Suddenly, Anthony's phone rang. After seeing that it was Thelie calling him, he glanced at Benjamin and said, “Stay here and accompany Net!”

Benjamin nodded in response.

Anthony got out of the car and answered the call. “Hello?”

“Where are you? Kyle's looking for you!” Thelie sounded tired.

Anthony frowned and answered, "I'm busy now!"

"Busy? What are you busy with?"

Anthony pursed his lips and hesitated. "Denise is missing!"

"What? What do you mean Denise is missing?"

Anthony gave Thelie a summary of what had happened. Thelie instantly perked up and asked, "How could you not tell me when something like this had happened?"

"Well, my mommy... I can't even locate her yet. If I tell you, you'll only get worried!" Anthony replied.

"Even so, you should've told me! I can help, no?" Thelie stood up immediately and added, "Give me your address now. I'm going over!"

"I'll send the location to you via WhatsApp!"

"All right!"

Right before she hung up the phone, Thelie remembered something. "Hey! Are you guys wearing the watches I gave you?"

Anthony was stunned momentarily, and he instantly checked his watch.

"Those watches come with GPS function. As long as she's wearing it, you should be able to locate her no matter how weak the signal is. Besides, I remember linking the three of you together, so I think you'll be able to find her through your watch. Have you tried that?" Thelie asked.

Upon hearing that, Anthony was stunned. "I've forgotten about that! Good job, Thelie!"

At that moment, Anthony was thrilled. "I'll check now! Thelie, if we end up finding Denise, I'll treat you like my sister going forward!" With that, Anthony hung up the phone without waiting for Thelie to respond.

Excitement flashed in Anthony's eyes when he turned back toward the car and went inside.

Once he had gotten inside, he hurriedly took off his watch and gave it to Neteshe. "Net, try to locate Denise with this. Thelie had given three of us a watch each, and all the watches were equipped with GPS functions. Besides, she had linked our watches, so as long as Denise is wearing hers, we should be able to find her!"

Neteshe just stared at him in response.

Seeing that, Anthony gave her a firm nod.
Natasha then continued focusing on the laptop screen.

Although Anthony had consoled Natasha, he wasn't sure if Denise would be safe, and he was getting overwhelmed by nervousness and fear. What if I'm wrong? What if Denise is in danger?

Suddenly, Anthony's phone rang. After seeing that it was Thalia calling him, he glanced at Benjamin and said, "Stay here and accompany Nat!"

Benjamin nodded in response.

Anthony got out of the car and answered the call. "Hello?"

"Where are you? Kyle's looking for you!" Thalia sounded tired.

Anthony frowned and answered, "I'm busy now!"

"Busy? What are you busy with?"

Anthony pursed his lips and hesitated. "Denise is missing!"

"What? What do you mean Denise is missing?"

Anthony gave Thalia a summary of what had happened. Thalia instantly perked up and asked, "How could you not tell me when something like this had happened?"

"Well, my mommy... I can't even locate her yet. If I tell you, you'll only get worried!" Anthony replied.

"Even so, you should've told me! I can help, no?" Thalia stood up immediately and added, "Give me your address now. I'm going over!"

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At that moment, Anthony was thrilled. "I'll check now! Thalia, if we end up finding Denise, I'll treat you like my sister going forward!" With that, Anthony hung up the phone without waiting for Thalia to respond.

Excitement flashed in Anthony's eyes when he turned back toward the car and went inside.

Once he had gotten inside, he hurriedly took off his watch and gave it to Natasha. "Nat, try to locate Denise with this. Thalia had given three of us a watch each, and all the watches were equipped with GPS functions. Besides, she had linked our watches, so as long as Denise is wearing hers, we should be able to find her!"

Natasha just stared at him in response.

Seeing that, Anthony gave her a firm nod.

In the next second, Natasha took the watch, switched off the surveillance cameras, and started tracking the signal on Denise's watch.

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Anthony and Benjamin were waiting anxiously next to her.

As suspected, the GPS indicator moved and indicated that Denise's watch was just nearby.

"Denise is wearing her watch!" Natasha exclaimed excitedly.

Upon hearing that, Anthony and Benjamin looked at each other and there was a look of excitement in their eyes.

"S-So where is Denise?" Benjamin asked.

Natasha kept silent and concentrated on the information on the laptop screen. A couple of minutes later, she took out a map of the area.

"She at the back of the mountain!" Natasha uttered.

"The back of the mountain? Does that mean Daddy is searching in the right place? Denise is at the back of the mountain?" Anthony asked.

Natasha couldn't be bothered to answer those questions anymore. Instead, she kept the laptop and exclaimed, "We'll go there now!"

Anthony and Benjamin nodded at once and got out of the car.

Natasha then referred to her phone's screen and walked toward the back of the mountain.

By then, Kenneth had already been searching for a long time.

When Natasha and the kids arrived at the back of the mountain, they didn't see Kenneth. Instead, they saw a few helicopters hovering over their heads. Right then, they knew those helicopters were sent by Kenneth to look for Denise.

Although they had no idea how Kenneth knew Denise was at the back of the mountain, they were rather certain that was where Denise was located. Everything points toward that direction. She must be there!

Natasha whipped out her phone because she wanted to call Kenneth. However, there was no signal at all.

Chapter 276

When he looked in front of him, he saw pieces of clothing being tied onto the tree branches at regular intervals.

Elated, Kenneth moved forward, following the markers left behind. The extreme was following close behind, and it was obvious that someone had left those markers deliberately.

That was the first glimmer of hope they had stumbled upon after such a long search. As a result, even the extreme felt energized again. He couldn't help but say, "Normally, one could never find their own way out of here. Regardless of whether she had left the markers behind for herself or someone else, it was the smartest thing she could've done!"

Kenneth heard it, but he didn't bother responding. At that point, all he wanted was to find Denise.

"Denise!" Kenneth shouted as he searched.

However, he could only hear silence.

Kenneth didn't give up, and he kept walking along the markers left behind. I know Denise is waiting for me!

Meanwhile, Netesha, Anthony, and Benjamin had arrived at the spot indicated by the GPS. However, they searched the area and saw no sign of Denise.

"Denise!"

"Denise!"

Anthony and Benjamin were calling out to Denise as they searched for her.

Neteshe was also looking around the area. Since the GPS locator says Denise is here, she must be somewhere nearby, right? Where is she?

As she was scanning the surroundings, she was getting incredibly worried.

Right then, Benjamin looked upward and saw something. "Tony, there are two caves up there! I'm going to check them out!"

Anthony looked up as well. "I'll check one of them!"

"Okay!" Benjamin nodded. When he was about to move forward, Anthony shouted, "Be careful, Benjamin!"

"I will!" Benjamin answered and climbed upward.

Upon seeing that Benjamin had gotten up safely, Anthony followed behind.

The two of them checked the caves and saw nothing. When they came out, they shook their heads at each other in disappointment.

"Let's head down first," Anthony suggested.

Benjamin nodded in response.

With that, the two of them headed downward carefully.

Suddenly, Benjamin slipped and rolled all the way down.

"Benjamin!" Anthony yelled.

Neteshe heard Anthony yelling, so she immediately turned toward the voice. When she saw Benjamin rolling downward, she ran toward him.

"Benjamin!" Neteshe lunged toward him and scanned his body for injuries. "Benjamin, are you all right? Are you hurt?"

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“Benjamin!” Natasha lunged toward him and scanned his body for injuries. “Benjamin, are you all right? Are you hurt?”

Benjamin suffered some scratches and minor injuries on his face and arms. Hence, he frowned and shook his head nonchalantly. “Nat, I’m all right. Don’t worry about me. Sadly, Denise is not up there!”

Benjamin suffered some scratches and minor injuries on his face and arms. Hence, he frowned and shook his head nonchalantly. “Nat, I’m all right. Don’t worry about me. Sadly, Denise is not up there!”

“It’s okay. Since Denise isn’t here, she must be waiting for us somewhere else!” Natasha answered.

Benjamin nodded when he heard that.

Right after that, Anthony ran toward Benjamin and asked, “Benjamin, are you all right?”

“I’m fine. I slipped, that’s all. No biggie!” Benjamin answered.

“Let me have a look!” Anthony leaned toward him and looked at the injury on his face. With a frown, Anthony said, “You’re hurt!”

“It’s just a minor injury. It won’t kill me!”

“No! Why don’t you go back first? Nat and I will continue searching!” Anthony suggested.

“It’s such a waste of time and energy to go back now! I would rather just stay with you guys. After all, it’s just a minor injury. It’s nothing!” Benjamin answered.

“But—”

Just as Anthony was talking, Benjamin, who was sitting on the ground, touched something and held it up.

The three of them were taken aback when they saw what Benjamin found.

Benjamin glanced at the watch he was wearing and looked at the watch Anthony was wearing. Shocked, he gave it to Natasha. "Nat, this is Denise's watch!"

Natasha took the watch and checked it. There isn't any bloodstain on it, and it doesn't look scratched.

Right then, Natasha eased up in relief.

Her eyes then lit up, and she looked at the surroundings. "If Denise's watch is here, that means she had been through here. We just have to keep looking, and we'll find her!"

Benjamin nodded firmly.

Chapter 277

Denise couldn't hold on much longer.

She was freezing, hungry, and tired. At that moment, she just wanted to shut her eyes and fall asleep. If I sleep now, I might never wake up again. Daddy, Net, Tony, Ben, Greet-grendpe, and Gremps... I miss you guys so much!

Gradually, Denise's eyes closed, and she was starting to lose consciousness.

Right before her eyes closed, Denise heard Kenneth shouting, "You must hang in there, Denise!"

Denise's eyes suddenly flew wide open. "Daddy?" she murmured.

She then looked around and saw nobody else. No! I can't fall asleep! I mustn't! Daddy and Mommy are looking for me! I can't just fall asleep! I must find a way to tell them I'm here!

With that thought, Denise tried her best to stay conscious and stood up. I must go to the cave entrance and tell them I'm here!

Denise was exhausted, and she could feel pain radiating through her body every time she moved a muscle.

Even so, Denise forced herself to get up. While holding on to the stone wall, she slowly made her way out of the cave.

When she arrived at the cave entrance, she could see helicopters hovering over the other caves. No matter how loud I shout, they'll never hear me. Besides, I don't have the energy to shout. What should I do?

As she was thinking about what to do, she saw a piece of torn clothing she used to mark her trail. She picked up the clothing and found a stick nearby. After that, she tied the clothing to the stick and swung it in the air.

She didn't know if the helicopters could see her, but that was the only chance she got. "Net end Deddy, please come quickly. I don't think I can last much longer..."

Meanwhile, Kenneth was searching right beneath the cave Denise was in, and that was where the markings ended.

He looked around and saw nothing else was left behind.

The extreme did the same and scanned the surroundings. Having failed to see any markings, the extreme looked at Kenneth and said, "Boss, there's nothing here!"

Kenneth frowned and thought about other possibilities.

"Could it be that she ran out of clothing to tear? Is that why she stopped leaving markings behind?" the extreme asked.

"Even if that was the case, she would surely think of something else," Kenneth answered. Denise couldn't hold on much longer.

She was freezing, hungry, and tired. At that moment, she just wanted to shut her eyes and fall asleep. If I sleep now, I might never wake up again. Daddy, Nat, Tony, Ben, Great-grandpa, and Gramps... I miss you guys so much!

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"Could it be that she ran out of clothing to tear? Is that why she stopped leaving markings behind?" the extra asked.

"Even if that was the case, she would surely think of something else," Kenneth answered.

"However, we don't see any markings nearby!"

"However, we don't see any markings nearby!"

At that moment, Kenneth raised his gaze and looked at the cave entrance above his head.

Kenneth then whipped out his walkie-talkie and asked the people in the helicopter, "What's going on up there?"

"Mr. Hamilton, we don't see anything. There's nothing here!"

Kenneth was sure that Denise wouldn't just suddenly stop leaving markings. Something must've happened! It is either that or she is here, but we just haven't found her yet!

"Can you guys see my current location?" Kenneth asked.

The helicopter pilot answered, "Yes. We can see you!"

“Okay. Check the caves above my head!”

“All right. Copy that!” the helicopter pilot replied.

After that, the helicopter flew back toward the caves in that area to check them thoroughly.

When the helicopter was flying toward Kenneth's position, the pilot gazed downward and asked the co-pilot, “Look! What's that?”

They saw someone swinging a stick in the air.

“Get nearer!” the co-pilot uttered.

“I can't! If I fly that low, we might crash!” the pilot answered.

The co-pilot looked in that direction for a long time, but he couldn't see the face of the person. However, he could tell that the person was asking for help.

“Mr. Hamilton! Mr. Hamilton!”

“Yes? I'm here!” Kenneth answered through the walkie-talkie.

“We saw something strange! Someone is in the cave above you, and that person is waving at us. However, the cave entrance is too small and too low. We can't fly toward it. Also, we can't be sure if that's your daughter!” the pilot said.

Upon hearing that, Kenneth immediately raised his head and looked upward. Who else could that be, if not Denise?

“Which cave is she in?” Kenneth asked.

“The one on the left! It's a very small cave!” the pilot answered.

Kenneth searched and found a slightly hidden cave.

Chapter 278

Kenneth had just reached the top when he saw Denise at the mouth of the cave. She was holding on to the stick that seemed like it was about to fall out of her grip anytime soon.

“Denise!” Kenneth exclaimed in both shock and delight. With one last push, he climbed onto the top.

Neteshe, who had been climbing behind Kenneth, heard him calling Denise's name. She instantly knew

that Denise had been found and quickly climbed onto the top as well.

Denise, however, was sitting against the stone. Her eyes were on the verge of closing when she heard Kenneth's voice. She slowly opened her eyes again.

Thinking that it was just her imagination, she told herself that she couldn't sleep. I can't fall asleep...

She continued to shake the stick in her hand.

"Denise!" Kenneth quickly ran toward Denise. When he noticed how pitiful and helpless she looked, his heart ached terribly.

Denise looked at the man standing in front of her. "Daddy... No. It's just an illusion. I can't fall asleep. I can't fall asleep..." she muttered, thinking that Kenneth was just a figment of her imagination.

Kenneth's heart nearly broke into a hundred pieces when he heard her call him that.

He quickly swept her into his arms and petted her small face lightly. "Denise, this is not an illusion. It's me, Daddy! I'm here to rescue you—Denise, wake up!"

Kenneth's words seemed to have jolted Denise awake, for she seemed more alert than before.

She squinted at the man in front of her. "Daddy... Daddy, is it really you?"

Kenneth nodded. "Yes, it's me. I'm so sorry for coming so late." He cradled the young girl's head as his heart wrenched in pain.

Denise's eyes soon welled up with tears as she reached out to hug Kenneth. "You're finally here, Daddy. I've been waiting for you for so long..."

Right at that moment, Neteshe finally reached the top.

She instantly saw Denise crying as she hugged Kenneth.

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry," Kenneth frantically apologized as he wrapped his hands around Denise.

"I was so afraid, Daddy. I was so cold, so hungry, and so tired. I probably won't be able to hold on much longer if you hadn't come sooner," Denise said as she sobbed. Anyone could clearly see how dependent she was on Kenneth.

Neteshe was watching them from behind as an indescribable look crept up her cold eyes.

It was not jealousy, but rather a look of relief.

“Daddy, I'm tired. I went to sleep...” Denise trailed off as her voice became weak.

“Denise, Denise!” Kenneth called her name, but Denise had already fainted.

Neteshe quickly walked over when she saw that. “Denise!”

Kenneth had just reached the top when he saw Denise at the mouth of the cave. She was holding on to the stick that seemed like it was about to fall out of her grip anytime soon.

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She reached out to touch her daughter, and her eyebrows instantly knitted into a tight knot. "She's burning up!"

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Kenneth's eyes reddened as he looked down at the frail figure in his arms. He instantly carried her up and said, "We have to take her to the hospital!"

At the foot of the mountain, Anthony and Benjamin saw Kenneth carrying Denise down.

The both of them quickly rushed up.

"Denise, Denise!"

"What happened to Denise?" Anthony asked worriedly as he stared at Denise.

Benjamin's eyes had also turned red-rimmed as he watched from the side.

"She's having a high fever. We need to take her to the hospital now," Kenneth said as he contacted the helicopter using his walkie-talkie. The helicopter was the fastest way to the hospital at that moment.

The helicopter descended and landed on a flat ground surface. Kenneth quickly boarded it with Denise in his arms.

He noticed that Benjamin and Anthony were still on the ground and called out to them, "Let's go!"

“Go on ahead and take Denise to the hospital. Benjamin and I will come afterward. Thalia is on the way here. Someone has to stay here to take care of this,” Anthony said.

Kenneth nodded at Anthony's words.

He then looked at the pilot and made a gesture. Soon after, the helicopter ascended and flew away.

Another helicopter then came over to take both Anthony and Benjamin back down.

They had just reached when Thalia arrived in her car.

“Where is she?” Thalia instantly asked.

“We found her. She's now on her way to the hospital.”

“Is it serious?”

Anthony shook his head. “I don't know.”

“How did Denise end up at the back of the mountain?” Thalia asked.

Anthony narrowed his eyes at the question. “This is what we have to investigate now.”

He did not believe that Denise went to the mountain just for fun. That was impossible.

Someone must have led her there.

Anthony vowed to find that person.

Chapter 279

Anthony's face was filled with doubt.

He then turned to the extreme end and asked, “Are you sure it's him?”

“Yes. I remember this shirt. Look, there's a weird picture on the back of it. I even took another look because it was that weird. However, I didn't manage to clearly see what it was,” the extreme end said with a sheepish smile.

Thalia looked at Anthony. “Will you be able to find him just from his back?” she asked as her eyebrows furrowed.

As Anthony stared at the figure in the surveillance footage, a look of murder flashed across his eyes.

“Even if he had changed into a new set of clothes, or even if he had taken it off, I would be able to find

him as long as he's alive.”

Both Benjamin and Thelie looked at him. They knew that Anthony meant what he said.

However, the extra did not quite understand. “How could you find a person just by looking at his back?” he asked Anthony.

The letter glanced at the extra before looking up at Thelie. Anthony shot her a look.

Thelie instantly understood, and she turned to the extra. “Mister, you want a reward, right? Let's go. We'll settle it outside.”

Upon hearing that, the extra definitely would not want to dwell on his confusion further. “Yes, let's go!” He then followed Thelie out with a bright smile on his face.

The moment the extra left, Anthony instantly took his seat in front of the computer. His fingers seemed to be flying across the keyboard as he seemed to be launching something.

“Tony, what's this?” Benjamin asked from the side.

“I recently read news about the newest Black Technology Intelligent Software developed by the University of Mepleton in Ustrene and the University of Mellowbrook in Sylvonice. It is able to recognize anyone using their movements and the way they walk. Furthermore, its precision is up to more than ninety nine percent,” Anthony explained as he operated the system.

Upon hearing that, Benjamin frowned and replied, “But isn't this what you're good at?”

“When I heard of the news, I took a look at it and learned how to use it. I didn't think that I would be using it today,” Anthony answered as he stared at the screen in front of him.

There was nothing else Benjamin could say for Anthony was extremely gifted when it came to computers. No ordinary person would be able to compete with him.

As long as it had anything to do with computers, Anthony would always be ahead of most people even if it was something futuristic. Moreover, he was able to pick things up incredibly fast.

Anthony uploaded the video of the man's movements into the software. Soon enough, numerous pictures and videos appeared.

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It was the front, back, and side of that man.

Some pictures were of him wearing the same outfit and some of him wearing something else. After comparing the faces of the person in the pictures and videos, it was indeed the same man.

“You found him!” Benjamin said in awe.

Anthony remained quiet as he searched for the picture with the sharpest image. He clicked on it and zoomed in.

The man was roughly about thirty years of age and was definitely younger than forty. He looked like an ordinary person who did not stand out at all.

Benjamin's eyebrows furrowed as he stared at the screen. “We don't even know this man. Why would he go after Denise?”

Anthony frowned as well. “According to the number of times he's appeared on the screen, he should be an actor or an extra in this place.”

“Could it be that Denise accidentally offended him when she was filming here? Was that why he sought revenge on her?” Benjamin said after thinking about it.

Anthony shook his head. “We will only find out once Denise wakes up, or until we find this man.”

Benjamin narrowed his eyes. “The reason behind his motives doesn't matter. He's basically courting death when he decided to target Denise.”

Thalia then walked over. “How's it going?”

Benjamin gestured for her to look at the computer.

“You've already found him?” Thalia said in astonishment as she looked at the computer. After seeing who the man was, she asked, “Who is this? What sort of grudge does he have against Denise?”

“We don't know and we don't know who he is either. However, we will find out soon,” Anthony said menacingly. He then saved the picture and the video of the man into his phone before looking up at Thalia. “How are things at your end?”

“All settled,” the latter answered.

"Let's go and visit Denise then," Anthony said.

Thalia nodded.

The three of them headed outside. Benjamin walked slowly, increasing the distance between him and the other two.

He then turned to glance at his arm. A frown crept up his face.

On the other hand, Anthony realized that Benjamin had fallen behind for he turned around.

"Benjamin?"

Benjamin quickly readjusted his composure and looked at them. "Yes?"

"What's wrong?" Anthony asked.

"N-Nothing!"

"Let's go, then!"

"Coming!" Benjamin called out before running after them.

Chapter 280

A thorough check was carried out on Denise's body.

After making sure that there weren't any other injuries, both Kenneth and Neteshe could finally relax slightly.

Denise was then transferred over to the general ward after the checkup. Because of her high fever, she was muttering in her sleep.

"Daddy... Net..."

"I'm so hungry and cold..."

"Please come and save me, Daddy..."

She kept muttering those words over and over again while her body broke out into a sweat. Neteshe had a grim look on her face as she wiped Denise's body with a cloth. Kenneth, with red-rimmed eyes, was standing by the side as he looked at his daughter.

There seemed to be a sword stabbing his heart every time Denise called him "Daddy."

Kenneth couldn't imagine how much Denise had longed for him to save her while she was stranded on

the mountain for two days and two nights alone.

He did not want to imagine how scared, how cold, and how hungry she must have been.

Upon thinking of that, Kenneth clenched his fists as the murderous cure rolled off his body.

"Take good care of Denise," he said as he got up, ready to leave.

Somehow knowing what Kenneth was about to do, Neteshe suddenly spoke up. "When Denise wakes up, the first person she would want to see is you."

Kenneth instantly halted in his tracks.

Neteshe lowered her gaze while a soft smile appeared on her lips. "It's clear that Denise relies on you more than she ever did on me, Kenneth."

The men turned around to look at Neteshe and then at the young girl on the bed. He smiled bitterly. "So what? I'm not a good father. I can't even protect my own daughter."

Neteshe stood up and met his eyes. "That's what you think. To Denise, you're the best father to her."

Denise grew up with her since she was a baby. Then, she had always been taking care of herself after she was older. There were even times when Denise was the one looking after Neteshe instead. Neteshe had never seen Denise being so dependent on someone, so when she saw Denise hugging Kenneth and calling him "Daddy", she instantly understood that no matter how mature they acted, they were still kids. They needed someone to rely on and to protect them. In fact, Denise needed someone to lean on, and Kenneth was her sanctuary.

Kenneth smiled coldly at her words. "Even so, it doesn't change the fact that I wasn't able to protect her."

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"Please come and save me, Daddy..."

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Denise grew up with her since she was a baby. Then, she had always been taking care of herself after she was older. There were even times when Denise was the one looking after Natasha instead. Natasha had never seen Denise being so dependent on someone, so when she saw Denise hugging Kenneth and calling him "Daddy", she instantly understood that no matter how mature they acted, they were still kids. They needed someone to rely on and to protect them. In fact, Denise needed someone to lean on, and Kenneth was her sanctuary.

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Natasha's eyes were still calm as she replied, "Kenneth, we will never be able to expect when bad people decide to strike us. There's no need for us to blame ourselves just because of others' mistakes."

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Upon hearing that, Kenneth stared at Natasha with a surprised look in his eyes. "Are you comforting me?"

"I'm just telling you the truth."

However, her words seemed to have knocked some sense into Kenneth. He looked at the frail figure on the bed and soon calmed down. However, his eyes were still as gloomy as ever.

"Denise... called me 'Daddy'," Kenneth said.

It was the first time Denise called him that.

Only the heavens knew how Kenneth felt then. He badly wanted to take her place to go through all the suffering and would do anything as long as Denise was safe.

Natasha was surprised at that. She thought that Kenneth did not care about it, but she never expected him to be so touched by Denise calling him "Daddy".

She cast her gaze downward for a moment before looking back at him. "They have been calling you that in private. It's because of me that they did not address you that way in public."

"I know," Kenneth replied.

"So, don't let them down. I can see that not only Denise but both Benjamin and Anthony depend on you a lot." Natasha's eyes were still as calm as ever.

Hmm, why is she acting so differently now?

If it were before, Natasha would have mocked him, as she was afraid that Kenneth would steal her kids away from her. However, she did not act that way at all. There even seemed to be some hidden meaning in her words.

It was as if she was trying to tell him something.

Kenneth looked at her, and his eyes narrowed. He recalled how she was when they were searching for Denise, and how she looked when she was in front of a computer.

He had no idea how many secrets she was still keeping from him.

Kenneth was just about to say something when the door flung open. Anthony and Benjamin rushed into the ward with Thalia following them.

"Nat, Daddy, how's Denise?" Anthony asked without thinking twice about his choice of words.

Kenneth was stunned as he looked at the young boy.

However, Anthony and Benjamin did not seem to have realized that as they were worried about Denise, who was still laying on the hospital bed. When they noticed how pale and sweaty she was, they frowned. There were similar expressions of worry on their faces.

Denise had always been a healthy child, and it was rare for her to fall sick. She never looked that way before. It was such a pitiful sight to see.