203 I Think It's A Good Sign [Main Story Finale]

Liam paced nervously back and forth in the waiting room, anxious for the surgery to end.

He had put up a fight with numerous doctors to be let into the operating room to the point that four security guards had to restrain him until he finally gave up and promised to behave.

But there was no way he could calm down.

He looked down at his shaking hands, tears welling up in his dark gray eyes. The blood had already dried up.

When Elizabeth noticed that both Samantha and Amelie were gone, Liam abandoned everything and set off to search for them. The two of them missing at the same time, right before Samantha's arrest, did not sit right with him, thus, ignoring his friends' urges to just wait, he started looking.

Until there was simply no one to look for.

Why didn't he think of that himself? Surely, someone like that woman would think about running.

1

He had no idea how she had found out, but Liam still couldn't help but torment himself for letting that possibility slip up his mind.

And now, his wife's life was in danger. Now, his wife was on the operating table, with the best doctors in town fighting to stop the internal bleeding caused by the accident.

"Mr. Bennett," Liam's eyes, still empty and unfocused, moved to see the source of the quiet words. Austin took a seat next to the broken man, patting him reassuringly on the back as he continued. "I just came back from the police office. Mr. Clark will stay at the station until further notice; the driver of the car will be questioned and released shortly. The CCTV footage shows that Samantha was the one who pushed Mrs. Bennett, and the man did not really exceed the speeding limit on that road..."

Austin's words did not really mean anything to Liam. Sure, he wanted to place immediate guilt on someone, but all he could care about right now was Amelie. He only wanted her to be fine. Everything else could wait.

"That woman..." Austin spoke again, referring to Samantha, "is undergoing surgery too. The doctor said she had several broken bones, a pierced lung from a broken rib, and... most likely, she would lose her baby."

"I see. Thanks." Those were the only words Liam could force out of his mouth and Austin remained silent, respecting his boss's feelings.

"She should be fine, right?" After a long silence, Liam suddenly whispered, clenching his fists on top of his knees. "Internal bleeding... How severe can it be? She is so strong... Surely, she will get through this, right?"

Austin smiled bitterly and patted Liam on the back again. "Of course. Mrs. Bennett is the strongest woman I've ever seen! She can get through anything!"

The rest of the time they spent together in the waiting room, passed by in silence.

From time to time, Austin would receive a text from Julia, Anna, Elizabeth, and several police officers, but he handled the matters brought up by them himself, leaving Liam out of them.

At last, the distant sound of the steps approaching the door jolted both men up to their feet, their faces beaming with anticipation and hope.

The doors slid open and a tall, tired-looking surgeon stepped outside, lowering his white face mask.

"Mr. Bennett," he stood before Liam and spoke in a calm voice. "The surgery was successful. We have managed to stop the bleeding and now your wife simply needs to go through the recovery routine."

A long sigh of relief escaped Liam's lips. Amelie was fine. She was. He could not think of anything else.

"Thank you, Dr. Heller," he shook the man's hands enthusiastically, continuously repeating the same words. "Thank you so much!"

"There is no need, Mr. Bennett, I was simply doing my job. And by the way... it is rather early to say that, but I think that the fetus will be fine too. As long as not much additional stress is inflicted upon the future mother."

"I beg your pardon?" Liam exchanged confused looks with his assistant. "What did you say? I think I might be too tired to understand you properly."

The doctor sighed and smiled slightly. "So I guess you did not know. Your wife is pregnant,

1

Mr. Bennett. It's a very early stage, but it's definitely true. Congratulations."

Liam took a seat on an empty chair next to Amelie's bed, frowning as he noticed how many tubes and IV drips were attached to her frail body. The sight of her in such a state made him tear up, but he quickly wiped his tears and wrapped his trembling fingers around his wife's warm hand.

"I am so glad you made it, Lily," he whispered, pressing his cold lips against her thin fingers. "I can't believe she managed to torment you till the very end, but I am so incredibly happy that you made it through. The strongest woman I know; my wife."

He stretched his right hand toward Amelie's bruised face, tracing the gentle outline of her jaw with his thumb, smiling through bitter tears.

How could he fight those feelings back? He was overwhelmed with emotions and allowed himself to be weak tonight.

Then, his blurry eyes moved to his wife's stomach, hidden under the light hospital blanket, and a brief, yet loud exhale escaped his mouth.

Ö

"She tried to take so many things from you, but she will never be able to take this," he punched himself in the chest, where his heart was, and continued. "She will never take away my love, and she will never take away our family. From now on, no matter what, I will break my back but I will keep you both safe. You are my everything, Lily. Thank you for everything that you are."

Samantha's surgery was successful too. She survived, but just like the doctor had predicted, she had lost her child.

Once she woke up, she was charged with multiple severe crimes, including contract and premeditated murder attempts along with other, less severe crimes.

Her case file was rather astonishing, but the court still failed to put her in jail. Having lost her child and faced the charges, she was claimed to become insane, and in the end, was locked up in an asylum, having no legal right to contact anyone outside the establishment.

It was a bitter pill to swallow, but there was no helping it. Perhaps that place truly suited her best.

~

Richard Clark was charged with fraud, inside trading, and, most importantly, inheritance fraud, which in the end cost him his shares of JFC Group and any claim on Amelie's inheritance.

He was sentenced to six years in federal prison with subsequent reevaluation of his own assets and financial claims. Thanks to Liam's lawyers' hard work and determination, Richard was to come out of prison to be faced with an empty Clar mansion and his own inheritance as his only source of money.

It was a rather small victory in comparison to what Liam and Amelie were about to achieve together, as a family.

Today, on a warm, sunny September day, they were about to become parents for the first time in their lives.

"Mr. Bennett, you ought to stop this crazy pacing around! She will be fine!" Elizabeth tugged Liam on the sleeve of his shirt, pulling him down on an empty chair. "I have been through a C-section myself, and with this doctor next to Lily, the operation will be safe and pain-free!"

Liam looked at Elizabeth's smiling face but even



that did not help him relax.

And how could he? Pain-free or not, it was a surgery, and he did not want his wife to go through any more stress.

"He is so cute," Elizabeth nudged Johnathan on the side, pointing at her own round stomach. "Will you be just like this when I will be in Lily's place?"

She giggled but her husband grew almost green. "Don't remind me, I want to faint just by thinking about it."

"Tsk! Men are such weaklings!" She giggled again, hugging John's arm as she rested her cheek on his shoulder.

Time seemed to stretch intolerably slow and no matter how hard Liam tried to distract himself, his thoughts continued to go back to Amelie again and again.

At last, the doors to the waiting room slid open in a familiar way, inviting a short female doctor with a bright smile on her face.

"Mr. Bennett? Congratulations on becoming a father! Your wife and your son are waiting for you now."



"Son?"

Liam's eyebrows arched while Elizabeth and John clapped with excitement.

"Congratulations! Oh my God, what are you waiting for? Go! Go meet your son!"

Liam almost ran after the doctor, nearly pushing her out of his way as he entered the room.

Amelie looked tired and slightly dazed but she was still smiling, holding a tiny newborn baby against her chest.

"Hey, it's the father!" She looked at her husband with the eyes filled with love, shifting them down to the baby. "Come here, say hello to our son."

Liam walked up to the bed, carefully positioning himself next to his wife. The baby in her arms looked absolutely tiny—almost unrealistically so—but he already looked like Amelie which Liam absolutely adored.

"Hi there," he gently slid his fingers over the baby's head, flinching as his son let out a somewhat irritated sound. Amelie chuckled. "He looks like me but he is already showing the signs of having your personality. So jealous of me!"

<

Liam laughed too, planting a tender kiss on his wife's forehead.

"He will be the only man I will allow to be jealous of you. I will still not like it, but I will grit my teeth and move on."

He then looked back at his son for quite a while, remaining completely silent and taking in the magical moment he was sharing in the presence of his family.

"What name do you think will suit him?" Amelie asked suddenly, breaking the silence with a whisper.

"I'm not sure," Liam offered her a curious look.

"Do you have a name you'd like to use?"

"How about Oscar? Like your grandfather." (2)

"Oh..." Liam hesitated, "are you sure? It's not a bad name, but we can use another one too."

"No," Amelie shook her head, looking back at her son. "I think this name will suit him well. I want our son to grow up like your grandfather... Strong, decisive, active, kind... And erase the bad history that had been haunting the Bennetts for so long. Our Oscar Bennett will live a full life devoid of tragedy and sadness."

"I like that," Liam smiled and kissed his wife again. "Although I do hope he will not have that strange obsession with chonky dogs." 1

The baby let out another displeased sound which only made his parents laugh.

"It's not bad at all," Amelie said as she nestled her head against Liam's chest. "Our new family life starts with smiles and laughter. I think it's a good sign."

Liam nodded and hugged his wife closer. "It is. With you by my side, my life can only be good."