

Read Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 1626 [Eleven Jewell]

Keegan closed his mouth and remained silent. Both he and Stella were conserving what little strength they had left in the freezing night. Stella was drained of energy. Her lips were turning into a bluish hue from the cold. Her mind was starting to blur, but she clung to the branch with sheer determination.

All of a sudden, a noise echoed from the shore. Stella snapped back to reality and said, "Keegan, they're here! They're here!"

She turned her head, but the person behind her had vanished without her noticing.

The bitter cold seemed to intensify. Stella's face grew even paler, as she shouted Keegan's name into the empty stretch of water. Yet, all that met her cries was the relentless sound of the flowing river.

Stella released her grip on the branch, intending to swim away. However, she discovered that she was tethered to the branch. Before letting go, Keegan had mustered the last ounces of his strength to secure her in place with a belt.

Even if she was weak, the belt would provide some support, allowing her to hold on a while longer.

The river water was numbingly cold, causing Stella to be limp long ago. Hence,

she was completely unaware of Keegan's efforts. Her face turned ashen, and she frantically struggled to remove the belt.

Not long after, the searchlights shone upon Stella. Someone shouted, and several people rushed over. They worked tirelessly to bring her onto the shore.

Stella was crying, as she struggled to get out of the water. The bone-piercing cold, compounded by a day of anxiety and fear, along with the shock of learning

that Keegan was missing, overwhelmed her. In the end, she lost all consciousness.

Stella was unconscious for three days.

Wenham and Trevor were in distress while they watched over her in the hospital. Both of them were in a bad state. They did not dare to inform Edith and Wilfred of the situation. They fear that it would cause them to worry.

When Felicity and Vermont came to visit, they noticed that both men had dark circles under their eyes. Felicity was on the verge of tears at the sight of her best friend on the hospital bed.

Meanwhile, Vermont exchanged a few words with the Sauns and said, "Mr.

Saun, Felicity and I will stay here to take care of things. You and Trevor should go home and freshen up. Get some rest and come back later."

"I'm not tired," Wenham said in a low voice.

"It doesn't matter. You need to rest. Stella hasn't woken up yet. You wouldn't want her to worry about your health, would you?" Vermont insisted.

Wenham remained silent for a moment before he said, "Are there any updates?"

Vermont's face darkened, and Wenham instantly knew the answer. Wenham clenched his fists and did not speak for a long time. After a while, he said, "If

Stella wakes up, don't tell her the truth. Just say that Keegan has been taken to Salcator for treatment."

Wenham knew that Stella was smart, and the excuse would not hold for long.

But he could not bear the thought of his daughter going through another ordeal.

She would be devastated to know that they had not found Keegan yet,

especially since she was willing to jump off a bridge just to save him.

Vermont nodded, and his eyes were red.

Felicity turned away to wipe her tears. She could not believe that Keegan was really gone.

The search and rescue team had combed through nearly every inch of that river for three full days, but there was still no sign of Keegan. It was very likely that he had been swept into another river by the current. In that case, the chances of finding him were extremely slim.

Even though the Kane family had kept this incident under wraps, the search and rescue efforts had not ceased. However, they were now looking for a dead body.

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'Is there any chance he's still alive?' Felicity's voice trembled, as she asked.

Vermont didn't know what to say. Although he was adept at comforting others, he did not feel as optimistic as usual at that moment. The odds of Keegan surviving that night were slim. First, he did not know how to swim. And, secondly, the conditions of the water were nearly impossible to swim in, especially while injured.

The body of the man who had plunged off the bridge with Keegan was recovered the next afternoon. Yet, there was still no news about Keegan. Vermont let out a sigh. "No news might just be good news. Stella didn't suffer any severe injuries when she jumped into the water. But she's been unconscious for a long time.

Meanwhile, Marshall told us that Keegan was heavily injured. It's possible that someone saved him, but he's still out due to his injuries."

Felicity's face turned pale. "What will Stella do when she wakes up?" she asked.

For the past few days, Stella had been in and out of fever. Her family had been constantly taking care of her. Felicity could not bear to stay in the hospital room

for too long, but she visited at least twice a day. She would witness Stella having nightmares and mumbling Keegan's name every time she came over. Felicity found it hard to accept the fact that Keegan was gone. She understood that it must be an even more painful experience for Stella, who had lost a lover. "The perpetrator is dead, but what about the other two kidnappers? This happened right before the election for chairman at Vinci Rivera. There must be a mastermind behind this. Maybe Keegan's uncle is the one orchestrating all this!"

Felicity said in frustration.

Vermont's eyes grew colder. "When the two men were found, they were both severely injured. With the main culprit dead, they naturally place all the blame on him. We currently have no evidence. There's nothing we can do, even if Chandler was the one behind the incident. Plus—" Vermont did not finish his sentence.

Felicity despised it when people left sentences hanging. So, she asked, "Plus...?"

What? Why did you stop? Go on!"

"Plus, even if it really was him, it would be considered an internal family conflict. There's a chance that Mrs. Kane Sr. might not pursue the matter any further." Felicity could not believe her ears. "What do you mean she might not pursue the matter any further? He's her grandson!" No matter how close their bond is, once a person is gone, the focus shifts to the living," Vermont explained. "We haven't found Keegan's body yet. No one knows if he's alive or dead. If Mrs. Kane Sr. sends her son to prison, who would take charge of Vinci Rivera? The only people left to inherit the position are Jackson and Aurora, who, in my opinion, are useless pieces of shit. With no one to take over, Vinci Rivera will inevitably be handed to someone else. I'm sure Mrs. Kane Sr. won't allow a situation like this to occur."

Moreover, it was very likely that Cordelia was feeling cornered right now. As soon as Keegan was in trouble, she shut herself in and refused to see anyone. This was most likely because of Quentin's death. Cordelia had seen all sorts of storms in her lifetime. She had lost her husband and her eldest son. Even though she was grieving, there was no reason she would close herself off at such a crucial time.

Vermont could not help but feel sad, as he thought about the death of his best friend. 'With that sharp tongue of his, why would God want to take him away this early?'

Felicity was deeply distressed. "So, are they going to pretend that nothing happened? The cops have to investigate and close this case at some point, right? Are they going to stop all operations just because the Kane family doesn't want to pursue the matter?"

Vermont fell silent for a moment before he said, "Actually, the police have found something in their investigation."

Felicity perked up. "What is it?"

The perpetrator who died, also known as the man you and Stella fought off when rescuing Marshall, suffered from prosopagnosia."

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"What's that?" Felicity asked.

"It's commonly known as facial blindness. It's a neurological disorder characterized by the inability to recognize faces. This means that the perpetrator can't distinguish people, especially strangers. So, he would rely on people's clothing, body shape, and voice to identify them. His previous doctor said he developed this condition because of a tumor in his brain. This all started after he got surgery to remove the tumor," explained Vermont. He continued, "The police have checked with his family, friends, and colleagues.

He indeed had this condition. And, because he couldn't recognize faces, he became paranoid and developed a peculiar personality. He even developed bipolar disorder. Due to this, he wasn't prosecuted after the assault but was sent to a mental hospital instead.

"His ex-wife and friends mentioned that his temperament was unpredictable. He was intensely possessive, especially after falling ill. He would suspect that he was being cheated on whenever his wife spoke to another man. Since Marshall helped his ex-wife get a divorce from him, he held a grudge against Marshall. So, he looked for an opportunity to strike. The police speculate that he mistook Keegan for Marshall."

Felicity found the situation to be absurd. “How could he make a mistake like this? If he couldn’t tell Keegan apart from Mr. Moore, how did he recognize Stella? This doesn’t make sense!”

“Stella has a mole on her left ear. The kidnapper had seen her numerous times due to her role in The Palace. He remembered some of Stella’s distinctive features and recognized her voice. The police found many videos of Stella on his phone. It’s possible he targeted both of them for the sake of revenge.” Felicity could not wrap her head around it. “If it was for revenge, wouldn’t it have been more fitting for him to strike when Stella and Keegan were at Solstice Shore? Why choose to do it right at the entrance of Vinci Rivera right before the election?”

As Felicity spoke, a sudden realization struck her. She furrowed her brows and said, “I think the reason behind this attack may not entirely be as straightforward as we think.”

Vermont had already noticed that something was amiss from the start. If the man wanted revenge, there was no need to specifically choose that day to do so. There was also no need to kidnap Stella and Keegan in front of Vinci Rivera since it would raise everybody’s suspicion toward Chandler. Chandler was a clever and cunning man. It was not likely that he would make that mistake.

The whole situation was full of peculiarities. However, with Keegan absent and Cordelia not accepting visitors, Chandler was the only person in the Kane family who could call the shots. He was presumably pleased that Keegan had met such an unfortunate end. Hence,

there was no way that the Kanes would want to pursue the case.

After a moment of contemplation, Vermont took Felicity’s hand and said, “Don’t tell anyone about this, Miss Bandit, at least not for now.”

Felicity’s eyes brightened. “You think something’s off too, right?!”

Vermont covered her mouth and gestured for her to be silent.

Felicity blinked, looking around nervously. Seeing that no one was in the room with them, she thought that Vermont was overreacting.

Just as she was about to say something, there was a light knock on the door. Felicity pushed Vermont aside and went to answer it.

It was Marshall and Kayla.

Felicity immediately put on a stern expression and was about to close the door when Vermont quickly stopped her and said, "You came."

Felicity often greeted Marshall warmly but not this time. She did not even acknowledge him and simply walked away. She knew she was being too emotional, but she could not resist holding Marshall accountable for what happened to her friends.

'If he had not taken on the divorce lawsuit and angered that lunatic, Keegan and Stella wouldn't have to go through this horrible experience!' she thought.

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Marshall picked up on Felicity's change in demeanor. He lowered his gaze and asked, "How's Stella doing?"

"Her fever has subsided, but she hasn't regained consciousness yet," Vermont replied, as he assessed Kayla's presence.

Marshall noticed his gaze and clarified, "Ms. Wilson got wind of Stella's situation and wanted to visit her. She got in touch with me, and I gave her a lift since I

was on my way here."

Vermont nodded. "Please come in, Ms. Wilson."

Kayla stepped in while carrying a gift.

Meanwhile, Felicity was meticulously tending to Stella's hands with a towel.

When she saw Kayla approaching, she nodded at her in acknowledgment before resuming her task.

Stella was on the hospital bed, looking pale. Her cheeks seemed slightly sunken, and her features looked sharp. Her current appearance was quite different from the perpetually cheerful and eloquent young woman they knew.

After hearing the entire story from her father, Kayla could not fathom just how deeply Stella loved Keegan, as Stella was able to leap off a bridge without a moment of hesitation. To her, Keegan was just another man, while Stella was the heiress of the Saun family. 'What could he possibly offer that she couldn't find anywhere else?'

Kayla had regarded Stella as a clever and independent woman. She never anticipated that Stella would be infatuated by a man. She wondered if Keegan was worth it.

"What did the doctor say?" Kayla asked Felicity in a hushed tone.

"Her fever is mostly gone. She should be waking up soon. But her hands and feet are still suffering from frostbite, so she might need some time to

recuperate," Felicity explained. Kayla sighed. "Thank goodness the police found her in time. I can't bear to think what would happen if otherwise."

"The area they were in isn't easy to navigate. The police spent quite some time before they located her. When they did, her hands were frozen stiff, and she couldn't even hold onto anything. If Keegan hadn't used a belt to secure Stella on that branch, she wouldn't have made it. But Keegan..." As Felicity spoke, her eyes were welled up with tears.

Kayla was momentarily taken aback. In that instant, she suddenly understood why Stella had jumped in without a second thought. A person who was willing to sacrifice himself for his beloved was certainly worth it.

"Has Mr. Saun and Trevor gone back?" Marshall asked in a low voice. Vermont nodded. "Mr. Saun went back to rest, and Trevor said he'll come back after taking a shower and changing into some new clothes."

"Stella hasn't had any more nightmares, has she?"

Vermont paused and gave Marshall a strange look. He felt that he was being overly concerned about Stella when Keegan was still missing. "We're not sure. We just arrived," he replied.

"Have you and Ms. Thompson eaten yet? If you haven't, I can stay here and look after things while the two of you get something to eat."

Felicity could not stop herself from making a sarcastic remark. "There's no need for that, Mr. Moore. You and Stella aren't that close. Why would we entrust her to you? You can uphold justice by helping the good and punishing the wicked all you want, but don't lead your enemies into Stella's life."

Afraid that Felicity might go overboard, Vermont cleared his throat and said, "Hurry up and wipe Stella's hands."

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Marshall was taken aback by Felicity's remark. He felt guilty and murmured, "There's no doubt that my actions have led to what happened here, but I really didn't foresee that taking on this case would lead to such consequences..."

Felicity felt even more frustrated upon hearing that. "What do you mean you didn't foresee this? You literally took on a divorce case. Are you telling me you didn't know about the condition that your client's husband was suffering from?"

Did you not know what kind of person he was? How many years have you been in this profession? Do you just charge into cases with only passion? It's fine if you don't fear for your life, but don't let your actions drag others into it! How dare you claim you never saw this coming when someone is unconscious while the other is nowhere to be found? You will have blood on your hands if Keegan is found dead!"

Marshall's face darkened, as he listened to Felicity's harsh words.

Vermont thought that Felicity had gone a bit too far and decided to interject. "We haven't found him yet, so why are you talking about life or death? And it's been two or three months since the court case. No one could have guessed that the maniac was lurking around for so long."

He turned to his friend and continued, "Marshall, don't let her words get to you."

Stella hasn't woken up yet. She's just worried and saying things without thinking through. If you hadn't been there in time, maybe none of them would have made it. That man was a lunatic."

Marshall looked defeated. It was unclear if he had taken in Vermont's comment. It took him a while to say, "Ms.

Thompson is right. I bear an inescapable responsibility for this incident. I didn't thoroughly look into the husband before taking on that case. My client concealed her husband's condition from me in order to gain more assets in the divorce case, leaving me unaware of the potential risks. I am deeply sorry that it led to all this." Vermont remained silent. Unlike Felicity, who was not close with Marshall, he could not bring himself to take his anger out on him.

Vermont and Keegan were childhood friends, and he had a solid relationship with Marshall. He also recognized that the bond between Marshall and Keegan was far stronger. On the night of the search, Vermont had witnessed Marshall devote over ten hours to the search and rescue team in hopes of finding Keegan. Despite the many grievances, he could not find the words to express them.

"Let's just stop talking about this. There's nothing else to be done here. You and Ms. Wilson should go back for now," said Vermont. He paused before he continued, "Mr. Saun is worried about Stella's well-being and asked us not to tell her about Keegan. So, don't let anything slip when she wakes up. IV

Marshall fell silent for a moment. "Stella is smart. I doubt we can keep her in the dark for long." "We'll keep this secret for as long as we can. We can't afford any more mishaps."

Marshall agreed with a nod and placed a bouquet of flowers by Stella's bedside.

He gazed at her intensely and signaled Kayla to leave.

The two did not speak on their way out of the room.

Kayla thought that Keegan's disappearance was a perfect opportunity for Marshall to pursue Stella. However, he did not seem too pleased about the situation. After all, his love rival was also his best friend. It was only natural that he was still coming to terms with it.

At the hospital entrance, Marshall turned to Kayla and said, "Ms. Wilson, I've called you a cab. It'll be here shortly. The license plate is XXXX. I have something to attend to at the law firm, so I won't be able to send you home."

“Oh, that’s fine. You can go.” Kayla shrugged and was unfazed. Marshall gave her a nod before turning around and walking away.

Kayla watched him leave and thought, ‘He doesn’t even look like Keegan from the back. How could the kidnappers mistake Keegan for him?’

Meanwhile, Stella was still having nightmares about the night she was kidnapped. The image of Keegan being beaten and pushed into the water was replaying in her brain. She watched helplessly, as he drowned in the icy river. In her dreams, she was like a bystander. No matter how much she cried or tried to hold on to Keegan, he would slip through her fingers everytime and become a lifeless corpse.

She cried and cried until she opened her eyes.

Suddenly, her surroundings were no longer pitch black.

Above her was a white ceiling, and everything around her was bathed in light.

For a moment, she felt as though she had just woken up from a very long dream and that she was still at Solstice Shore in the morning when Keegan proposed to her.