

## Chapter 627 Pinkie Promise

Frowning Melissa expressed her concern. "She's too young to be with you. What if something happens to her?"

"Yes, she's only six years old. We've been vigilant, yet accidents still happen."

Now was not the time for blame. The child lay unconscious and had complained of a stomachache earlier.

Setting aside the possibility of food poisoning, Melissa hypothesized she might have consumed contaminated water.

The heavy rain this morning could have easily polluted the water sources.

However, to confirm the actual cause, further tests were necessary.

After conducting several tests, the culprit was eventually identified.

With the correct medication and hydration administered, the little girl finally began to recover.

"Ma'am, where am I? Where is that gentleman?"

The girl opened her eyes to unfamiliar faces, which stirred panic in her.

Melissa, understanding her query, gently stroked her hair and replied, "Those gentlemen are the rescue workers, tirelessly working to save everyone."

"I want to see them."

The girl's disappointment was evident as she lowered her head.

As she witnessed a child almost the same age as her own daughter in such a state, Melissa's heart ached.

In a soft, comforting tone, she reassured, "Honey, you'll see them once you're better."

However, the girl shook her head stubbornly, her eyes welling up with tears.

"But they also told me that I could see my parents and grandparents when I grew up. They said they're stars in the sky, but I haven't seen them recently. Are you all lying to me?"

The innocent query from the little girl hit Melissa like a punch to the gut.

She was at a loss on how to respond. Adults understood these phrases as just consoling words, but children like her took them to heart, fervently hoping to witness their loved ones again one day.

Taken aback, Melissa remained silent for a while before speaking slowly.

"I promise, these gentlemen will return as soon as you recover."

The little girl stared at Melissa with her large, beady eyes.

She extended a tiny finger, her eyes filled with expectation.

"Pinkie Promise."

Melissa reciprocated, intertwining her finger with the girl's. "You have my word. Your eyes are as beautiful as stars. Can I call you Star?"

The brightness in the girl's eyes seemed to mirror the stars in the sky.

"Yes, ma'am. That sounds nice."

"What toys do you like? I'll get you one."

"I like..."

Their conversation continued until Star fell asleep.

All this while, Maggie had been silently observing from the side. She walked over, sighing deeply. "Such a tragic story. She lost her family at such a young age, turning into an orphan. What will her future hold?"

Maggie's words sparked a thought in Melissa. Star was being looked after and treated for now, but eventually, she would end up in an orphanage.

The image of her sweet face made Melissa's heart wrench.

An idea gradually started taking root in her mind.