

Chapter 657 Star's Persuasion

Star was unaware of the full truth; all she knew was that Everett seemed to be a decent man.

Having lost her own family in a devastating earthquake, she knew the heartbreak that came with such a loss. It was a grief she didn't want Lindsey to bear.

"Lindsey," she said gently. "The bond of a family is a precious thing. Holding onto resentment from the past won't change anything. It's a blessing that you still have a father. My own family was taken by an earthquake. No matter how much I yearn for them, they'll never return..."

In the many days Star had spent with them, this was the first time she had spoken of her own tragic past.

Lindsey's wide-eyed gaze landed on Star. Even though she wasn't Star, Lindsey could perceive her profound sorrow, evident in her downcast eyes and sorrow-laden voice.

With a small hand, Lindsey reached up to gently caress Star's tear-streaked face.

"Star, don't shed tears. From now on, we're your family. As for Mr. Mayfield, don't bother defending him."

With that said, Lindsey pulled the quilt over her head, clearly done discussing Everett.

Resigned, Star held her tongue. She let out a heavy sigh and curled up beneath her own quilt, but sleep proved elusive.

Her thoughts wandered to the times she had spent with her foster family – Lindsey, Merrick, Johnny, and Vivienne.

It had been a warm and comforting period, but it vanished as quickly as it had appeared.

As she glanced at Lindsey's cocooned form under the quilt, she wondered whether the girl had managed to fall asleep.

The following day, Melissa dropped off the trio at the kindergarten.

As they stepped out of the car, Vivienne approached, a bag of fruits in hand.

"Little ones, have some vitamin-rich fruits to recharge your minds."

Ignoring her offer, Lindsey and Merrick walked hand in hand into the kindergarten.

With a disappointed glance at their retreating forms, Vivienne sighed. "They still haven't forgiven us."

"Hand me the fruits. I'll ensure they eat them tonight."

Upon hearing this, Vivienne immediately passed the fruits to Melissa.

"Melissa, it's our fault the kids had to leave the house. Please help soothe their feelings in the coming days."

"I'll do my best. They are young, after all, and forgiveness won't come easily. It will take time for them to come around."

A deep sigh escaped Vivienne. "Honestly, I've grown accustomed to the kids' presence. Their absence has left a void."

Worried for Vivienne's wellbeing, Melissa assured, "Try not to be too upset. I'll talk to the kids."

"Thank you."

"Lindsey, Merrick. Vivienne is your grandmother, after all. By ignoring her, you're causing her pain," Star admonished, clearly dissatisfied with their behavior.

Merrick's response was grave. "Star, you fail to understand. When my

mother was cast out of the Mayfield family, every member was complicit. Despite my love for my grandmother, I can't bring myself to accept the Mayfield family so soon."

Star turned to Lindsey. "But you've always had a strong bond with Grandma, haven't you? Why were you so silent earlier?"

Lindsey hung her head.

"I didn't know what to say to her. Regardless, Mr. Mayfield won't be forgiven anytime soon."

Star recognized that their animosity had clouded their judgment, and no amount of persuasion would sway them.

Reluctantly, she had to let the matter rest.



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