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Never Late, Never Away Chapter 2420

Tears started streaming down Joan's cheeks upon hearing the words.

Ms. Young is right. I had caused a lot of trouble for her and Lucius... But I didn't do it on purpose! I also want to live like an ordinary person and spend more time with my family, but the reality is often cruel and it always stops me from doing so.

"Sorry, Ms. Young. It's all my fault," said Joan weakly.

She knew that there was no use in asking for forgiveness. After all, Lucius had gone missing, and no amount of apologies could change that fact. Delilah turned around, walked toward the windows, and closed her eyes in an attempt to calm herself down.

"Ms. Young, I know you are very agitated and angry now, but this is an unexpected incident. It is not something we can control. Besides, it may not be related to Joan. Calm down. We will have an answer soon," said Jessica.

"Easy for you to say. Do tell me then, what's the answer? What if something happened to Lucius? What if Lucius died?" snapped Delilah.

"[..."

Before Jessica could continue, Joan grabbed onto the former's arm, signaling her not to say anything.

Joan knew that Delilah didn't mean it. That the latter only said those harsh words because she was worried about Lucius.

"Hello, Caspian. How did it go? Have you found Lucius yet?" Jessica asked softly via her phone.

"Not yet. The village doesn't have any surveillance cameras, so it's hard for us to find Lucius," said Caspian.

Joan felt increasingly guilty when she heard that the situation was getting more and more complicated.

"Joan, don't worry. Caspian is still looking for Lucius. For now, no news is good news, right?" Jessica patted Joan on the shoulder softly, hoping it could give her some comfort.

Nonetheless, she knew that there was no way she could ease Joan's anxiety. After all, Lucius was the latter's child.

Meanwhile, in a room, Lucius was struggling to break free as he shouted, "Who are you!"

"Stop your screaming and just stay here!" a man yelled. What a bunch of devils! After a long while, Lucius finally calmed down.

He suddenly remembered what Larry told him back then. "No matter what happened, you have to stay calm. Otherwise, things will only get worse. You can only rely on yourself because no one will care for how you feel nor sympathize with your situation."

Having thought that, he asked politely, "Uncle, can you tell me why you kidnapped me?"

The man was shocked upon seeing the change in the boy's attitude.

Wasn't he screaming hysterically and struggling just now? What's with the sudden politeness?

"You don't need to know. Just play your role obediently," The man answered.

"What do you mean by that?"

"All you need to know is that your role is to stay here!"

After a thoughtful ponder, Lucius came to the conclusion that this wasn't a normal kidnapping case.

"Uncle, do you want to meet my dad or my mom?"

Hearing that, the man thought, What a meaningless question. He's saying that as if anyone could meet Larry as they wanted. The person we want to meet is his troublemaker of a mom!

"Shut up! If you want to know, your mother is the one to blame for you being in our hands now!" At last, the man told him the truth.

Their end goal was to lure Joan by kidnapping Lucius.

"But, uncle, do you know that I'm not my mom's biological son? I'm actually her adopted son. So, I doubt that she'll worry about me. In fact, she's probably glad to see me gone," said Lucius.

His words drew the man's attention. But, our chairman said that this kid is Joan's beloved child.

"My mom hates me. She always says that I'm too much trouble and that she's planning to send me to the orphanage. I mean, I've been gone for a while now, and she still hasn't come looking for me."

After pondering for a while, the man realized that what Lucius said might be true. This child has been with me for a long time, and yet, that woman still hasn't taken any action.

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"You don't think that woman did it on purpose, do you? She wouldn't actually try to get rid of the kid, right?" blurted the man at the side.

I doubt it. She's a maternal woman, after all. She won't actually be so cruel that she would abandon her child, right?

"Let's wait a little longer and see how things progress."

"Joan, do you really not know where Lucius is? I've searched every inch of the village, but Lucius is nowhere to be found," shared Caspian nervously.

"I honestly have no idea," answered Joan while sobbing.

"What could she know? She knows nothing. All she does is cause endless troubles all day long. She's always either flirting with Dustin or messing with Caiden. Who knows how many enemies she has out there?" insulted Delilah cruelly from the side.

Joan was stunned. She never thought that Delilah would see her like that, and she definitely never expected the elderly lady to utter such harsh words.

"Calm down, Ms. Young. We haven't gotten to the bottom of it yet. So let's not jump to any conclusions," said Caspian hurriedly.

"Oh, shut it. I've had enough of your promises. I doubt you'll be able to find the boy. I'm going to look for him myself!" said Delilah as she moved to leave the place.

"You can't go out there, Ms. Young. It's too dangerous," said Jessica, who immediately rushed over to block Delilah's path.

"Lucius' gone, so why would I care about my own safety? I am not like a certain someone who is so spoiled that she would stay home all day and be scared. Hah! She actually needs others to clean up her mess and be responsible in her place," dissed Delilah.

"That's not fair, Ms. Young. It's true that Joan can be too kind and indecisive at times, but she never hurt either of you. The incident today is nothing more than an accident," said Caspian.

Bang! Delilah left after slamming the door, completely disregarding everybody else's stares.

"Hey, follow Ms. Young and keep her safe," instructed Caspian via his phone before he hung up.

"Don't listen to her, Joan. We don't know what really happened just yet," said Caspian.

The truth was that he had his suspicions, but he wasn't sure. Larry had warned that Caiden's dad would not let Joan off the hook that easily.

"Does Larry know about this?" asked Jessica as she walked over.

"No, and don't tell him just yet. He's busy, so let's take a closer look at the situation before doing anything," replied Caspian.

Even though she didn't say anything, Jessica was feeling more and more unsettled.

If this is just a simple kidnapping case, the culprit would've already called and asked for ransom. Yet, no one called even though so much time has passed.

What game are they playing? What are they aiming for? She paced around the house as a sense of dread and despair gnawed at her.

Suddenly, the phone in the living room rang.

"Quick, pick up the phone, Joan. Remember to stay calm," instructed Jessica right away.

Joan wiped her tears away and ran to the phone. She took a deep breath before she finally picked up the phone.

"Ms. Watts, I'd advise you against calling the cops. Your son is with me, so don't try to solve this matter using any of your parlor tricks, either. It won't work. I will text you an address later. Come find me tomorrow morning."

"Hello? How is my son-" said Joan. She never got to finish her sentence because the other party hung up immediately.

I was right. They weren't after Lucius. They were targeting me this whole time!

"How did it go? What did he say? Is the kid alright? How much are they demanding?" asked Jessica from the side.

"He never mentioned money. He simply asked to meet up with me," replied Joan.

Caspian instantly became more alert at that. Looks like I guessed right! he clenched his fist as his gaze turned fierce.

"Don't act rashly, Joan. Let me get things in place before you head over," advised Caspian.

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Joan turned to Caspian. She looked a little helpless and hopeless at that moment.

She didn't know if Lucius was safe, nor did she know what troubles awaits her tomorrow. All she knew was that she must meet with the kidnapper.

"It's fine. If I can exchange my life to save Lucius, I'll gladly offer it," muttered Joan.

"What are you talking about, Joan? Both you and Lucius will be fine. So stop being so negative," said Jessica as she hugged Joan to comfort her.

What kind of f*cker would do something so vile and despicable? Jessica's nails had dug into her flesh, but she couldn't feel the pain.

"Come now, stop crying..."

"Don't worry, Joan. You can go and face them head-on. We will support you from the dark," promised Caspian.

"Okay," replied Joan.

She wasn't worried about herself at all. In fact, she would willingly sacrifice her life to protect Lucius.

"Joan, are you alright?" asked Jessica in a worried tone.

She noticed that Joan had been pale since that morning and looked extremely weak.

"I'm fine," answered Joan softly while massaging her temple.

Still, Jessica could sense that something was off, so she deliberately asked, "Joan, did that guy call you last night?"

Joan was momentarily stunned. She later shook her head as a hint of anxiety flashed past her eyes.

"N-no," replied Joan.

Like hell he didn't! Her look gave it all away. The kidnapper must've changed tactics all of a sudden. Jessica walked to Caspian and whispered into his ears. Her words got his expression to take a sharp turn.

"Joan, you must tell us every single thing that happened. We will not be able to work well otherwise, and I won't be able to explain myself to Larry," said Caspian as he looked at Joan grimly.

Joan, who was sitting on the sofa, slowly shifted her gaze upward. She looked at the two people in front of her and broke down.

"He called me again last night and asked to meet me in person," confessed Joan.

I knew it! They must've learned about our involvement. Still, that is expected, thought Caspian. He narrowed his eyes a little and gazed at the ceiling as if he was considering something.

"Alright, I got it. Here's what we're going to do. Joan, you will go meet him as requested, and I will send our men home. After that, I will tail and protect you on my own," said Caspian, his gaze determined.

Standing at the side, Jessica's eyes bulged in surprise.

"What are you talking about? You're going to do everything on your own? Have you gone nuts? What if something unexpected happens?" she said in a worried tone after she dragged him to the side.

However, as far as Caspian was concerned, that was their only option. He promised Larry that he would do everything he could to protect Joan, Lucius, and Delilah.

"It's fine. I can handle it. I'm the renowned Caspian!" announced Caspian confidently while puffing out his chest.

"No, that won't do. I'm warning you, Caspian. You can forget about going on your own. If you insist on doing that, I'll go with you," threatened Jessica.

Has this woman gone nuts? Why would she want to tag along to something so dangerous?

"Pfft, please. I'll be thanking all the angels in heaven if you don't faint from the fear of it all first," dissed Caspian, trying to dissuade her.

"I said no! Either you get a few men to go with you or I will go in their place," insisted Jessica as she gripped his collar.

When did she become so unreasonable? Caspian stared at the woman in astonishment. Curiosity flashed past his eyes.

"Can I read this reaction as you being worried about me?" he teased with a smile.

Jessica let go of his collar right away.

I guess I was acting a little too aggressive just now... She adjusted her clothes to try to calm herself down.

"The weather is pretty good today," said Jessica as she approached Joan.

Caspian grinned in satisfaction as he watched her moving away.

Finally! I see that she really does care about me.

"Huh?" blurted Joan as she turned her head and stared at Jessica in confusion. The former then turned to look out the window and check the weather.