

Divorce Anxiety (Kathleen and Samuel) Chapter 466

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Chapter 466

Chapter 466 You Are Not Welcome Here

Ashley immediately placed a call to get in touch with Samuel. The moment the call connected, she quietly asked, "Why aren't you here yet, Samuel?"

He simply replied, "Traffic congestion."

Traffic congestion? How's that possible? That's all excuses!

"Samuel, at the end of the day, I did save your life. No matter what happens today, you're not allowed to put me in a difficult position before everyone else. Just take it that I'm begging you for your cooperation on this," stated Ashley pleadingly.

There was no warmth in his voice when he replied, "It's up to you whether to believe me or not."

With that, he ended the call.

Ashley was taken aback and left speechless. Despite the surge of rage that overwhelmed her, she fought back the urge to fling her phone in her anger.

He's too much!

As she clenched her teeth firmly together and fumed about the matter, she gave it some thought and guessed that Samuel was likely behaving this way because of Kathleen.

As such, she rose to her feet and lifted the hem of her dress up before she made her way out.

To her complete surprise, she saw that Kathleen had already arrived. The latter was dressed in a fully black gown and had a trench coat wrapped around her. It was almost as if she had come to attend a funeral.

Ashley instantly felt that this was a bad omen of things to come and sorely wanted to chase Kathleen away.

She strode over and exclaimed, "Kathleen! You're not welcome here!"

However, Kathleen only raised her eyebrows questioningly in response.

“That aside, I didn’t even invite you! Please leave the premises at once!” yelled Ashley angrily.

“You’re right in saying that you didn’t invite me. However, the Macari family wanted to give me an invitation card,” replied Kathleen nonchalantly.

As she spoke, she pulled out the pastel-colored purple invitation card.

Ashley was caught utterly by surprise, especially since this was the exact same card that she had arranged to have sent over to the Macari family previously.

She had done so as she wanted to antagonize Calvin and Wynn timer by letting them know that her engagement with Samuel was set in stone and completely unavoidable.

Furthermore, this was also her way of signaling that it was now impossible for things to progress further between Kathleen and Samuel.

Despite her intricate plans, Wynn timer and Calvin hadn’t turned up at all. Instead, they had handed the invitation card over to Kathleen and had the latter attend on their behalf.

That’s despicable of them! Isn’t that the same as purposefully trying to gatecrash and ruin the event?

However, just as this thought ran through Ashley’s mind, Kathleen coldly stated, “I’ve no interest in crashing this event or ruining it for you. Furthermore, I didn’t come over to look for you.”

At this, Ashley furrowed her brows and countered, “That may be true, but you’re here for Samuel! Isn’t that the same?”

Kathleen scoffed lightly before she declared, “Ashley Zeller, if I truly intended to stop your engagement with Samuel, I didn’t have to go through the trouble of turning up here physically at all. I could simply have gone over to find him at Florinia Manor.”

This stumped Ashley as she realized that Kathleen did have a point.

Kathleen momentarily swept her gaze across the place and it involuntarily fell upon Luna. The latter returned the favor with a cold glare.

As they locked eyes, an indescribably cold glint flickered across Kathleen’s eyes.

She marched forward and strode over to take a seat right next to Luna.

Kathleen's eyes narrowed as she asked, "Is it all right if I sit here? We're fairly well acquainted after all."

However, Luna only snorted coldly in reply.

Well acquainted? In your dreams!

Kathleen glanced over at Trevor, who had acted as if the entire situation was none of his business, and her red lips curled slightly.

Back where she had been left standing alone, Ashley clenched her fists tightly as she fumed over this new development. She was sure that Kathleen's presence here would surely affect Samuel later on. As such, she knew it was imperative that she get rid of Kathleen as soon as possible.

Ashley swiveled about on the spot and looked about anxiously. Finally, she called a bodyguard over and muttered a series of instructions in a low voice into his ear.

Following that, the bodyguard nodded and strode off, presumably to perform as instructed.

Ashley directed her gaze back toward Kathleen and glared venomously at Kathleen's back.

At this moment, Samuel suddenly strode in. Ashley let loose a sigh of relief as she daintily threaded her way over to him and greeted, "Samuel."

However, he didn't even bother to look at her. His eyes, sharp as they were, had immediately noticed Kathleen's presence and locked onto her.

She's here!

His handsome and elegant face suddenly took on a darker and more solemn look.

At this, Ashley quietly murmured, "You're finally here. You're almost late."

However, Samuel didn't pay her any heed and instead made his way over to Kathleen.

He had only arrived this late because he had been waiting for Kathleen to head over to find him. Despite the entire situation, he held a glimmer of hope that Kathleen would seek him out to stop him from proceeding with the engagement.

However, she didn't turn up at all, and he was left with nothing but an overwhelming sense of disappointment.

As such, he hadn't expected that Kathleen would make her way here directly, let alone sit calmly at her seat without so much as a hint of any intent to stop the engagement from proceeding.

Samuel grabbed a chair and sat down.

This left everyone present dumbfounded as they struggled to understand what was unfolding before their eyes.

After all, despite being the male lead and the star of the show, Samuel had elected to take a seat among them. If that was the case, that invited the question of exactly who Ashley was engaged with.

Ashley started to feel uncomfortable about the entire situation. She approached Samuel and began, "Samuel, don't you think we should..."

"What are you doing here?" asked Samuel coldly all of a sudden as he interrupted Ashley and directed his question toward Kathleen.

Kathleen knew that Samuel was speaking to her.

"Here to watch the show," explained Kathleen tersely.

"There are so many other forms of entertainment available in Jadeborough. Did you really have to come here for that?" demanded Samuel as his eyes filled with rage.

However, this didn't seem to faze Kathleen. She casually replied, "Whatever's going on here seems pretty entertaining. Just look at all the attendees' faces and their hungry gazes. I simply can't wait for them to devour you completely until there's nothing left of you."

A hint of fury flashed across Samuel's eyes and a vein on his forehead started to bulge and throb fiercely.

Trevor was the first to speak up. He exclaimed, "What do you mean by this, Kathleen? This is not somewhere that you can do as you please! That's especially so for today, of all days!"

"Just look at what you're saying now, Trevor," remarked Kathleen as she laughed mirthlessly. She continued, "How can you speak to me this way when I helped you get your hands on Ronald? Given our close ties, don't you think you're being too much of a stranger here?"

Trevor was caught off guard by her comment. He hadn't expected that Kathleen would actually say something like that and was worried that Samuel would start to become suspicious of him.

After all, Trevor had already dumped the mess on Kathleen, and it seemed like Samuel had bought the story.

“I don’t know what you’re talking about,” mumbled Trevor as he feigned ignorance.

Kathleen chuckled coldly before she explained, “You don’t understand? What a joke! Weren’t you the one that went around telling everyone that I was the one that paved the way for Ronald to take his entire team with him over to Hoover Group?”

Trevor frowned deeply in response to her words.

“This is making me really curious. With how you’re behaving right now and pretending like you don’t know me, it seems like I have nothing to gain from our relationship. If that’s the case, then why should I continue to help you?” asked Kathleen as she continued to gaze at Trevor. She continued, “Should I do so just because we’re related by blood? But you never intended to acknowledge our biological relations, right?”

At this point, Trevor’s face had darkened and become sullen with rage.

Kathleen smirked coldly once more and added, “Why are you keeping quiet, Luna? Didn’t you send a couple of men to get rid of me just a few days back?”

“Are you really that desperate for us to chase you off the premises?” retorted Luna as she glared at Kathleen.

Kathleen sneered upon taking in Luna’s words and countered, “Chase me away? I’m here at the behest of the Macari family. If you kick me out, you’ll only be hurting the Macari family’s reputation and offending them. I dare you to give it a try!”

At this, Luna’s face turned even uglier and she glanced sideways at Ashley in a bid to prompt her to take action quickly.

Ashley understood what Luna was hinting at and immediately called some bodyguards over in preparation to force Kathleen to leave.

Following this development, Yadiel and Rory brought their men over and stood staunchly behind Kathleen.

Once they had gotten themselves into position, Yadiel sternly declared, “Let’s see who dares to lay a finger on Dr. Johnson!”

Kathleen narrowed her eyes as she looked at Ashley and said, “Ashley, do you know who Marjory Garner is?”

Taken by surprise, Ashley paused for a moment as she gave the question some thought. Her expression was frantic when she finally replied, “I don’t know her.”

“Ah! You’re truly merciless to the core. To think that you’ve forgotten all about her now that you’re done making use of her,” remarked Kathleen as she rose to her feet. She continued, “Since that’s the case, let me explain everything.”

She strode over to Ashley’s side and slowly circled her once as she maintained the icy cold smile on her face. Finally, Kathleen began, “Approximately three months ago, Marjory went to Smealand along with a group of people. These comprised the students under her charge. After commencing with a full week of preparation, the day finally came for this group to execute their plan. They hid along the side of the road before they seized the opportunity to ambush and assault a passing businessman.”

Ashley’s face turned ashen pale as she took in Kathleen’s words.

Kathleen’s cold gaze next fell upon Samuel as she continued her story. “This businessman had only gone over to help deal with his good friend’s aftermath. Not only did he have a stake in several mining business ventures in Smealand, but he also managed to maintain a fairly amicable relationship with some of the local organizations as well.

With all that in mind, it wouldn’t be a stretch to claim that a trip to Smealand for him was analogous to him visiting his very own backyard. He was fully comfortable and familiar with the working environment.

It was for this reason that he elected not to have a full security detail with him for that particular trip. In the end, this only contributed to his downfall. After he got assaulted by the group lying in wait, he suffered grievous injuries and was taken away as a result.”

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Chapter 467 Exposed

Samuel straightened his back.

He knew what Kathleen was talking about.

Kathleen continued, “These people have received professional training. They attacked the businessman, abducted him, and cleared the scene, leaving no evidence behind. However, they caused quite a fuss, and some people found out about it. So, they bribed the witnesses, forcing them to not say a word about it.”

The uneasiness in Ashley's heart grew.

Kathleen's red lips curled into a smile. "Thus, the businessman's wife brought a few people with her and searched for three whole months. Yet, they couldn't locate the businessman. That was when the wife used her own connections and finally found the clues. In the end, she returned to her country. Coincidentally, the businessman returned after a few days."

The crowd said nothing. They held their breaths and stared at her.

"Alas, as soon as the businessman got off the plane, he announced he was engaged to another woman, all because that woman was his savior. It seemed as if it never crossed his mind that he had a wife, a lover. How do you think the wife of the businessman felt?" Kathleen shot Samuel an icy glare.

Biting her lip, Ashley shouted, "Kathleen! How dare you keep calling yourself the wife? You and Samuel had already divorced long ago! Even if you two are engaged, you're still not his wife!"

Kathleen smirked. "So, you're admitting you're the savior of the businessman, aren't you?"

Ashley questioned furiously, "What are you trying to do by hurling accusations here? Besides, you almost ended up marrying Caleb!"

"Caleb?" Kathleen could not help but laugh. "That's like news from six years ago. I'm sure everyone here knows how dramatic the wedding was."

With that reminder, everyone recalled the incident.

"That wedding was really tragic. I'll remember it even if it happened ten years ago."

"Exactly. The thought of it still gives me goosebumps. I can't believe Samuel stabbed himself just to make Kathleen stay. He must love her so much that he's lost his mind."

"I say, what do you think will happen when he recovers his memory and realizes he married someone he doesn't love? Will he go mad?"

"I don't know if he'll go mad, but I think he'll start a slaughter."

"Do you guys even hear yourself? No matter what happens, Ashley's the daughter of the Zeller family. Besides, she's also Samuel's savior. Samuel will never harm her. You guys are overthinking it."

"We're not. You're the one who doesn't understand Samuel well enough. If he really wanted to marry another woman, why would he pester Kathleen so much?"

“Well, Kathleen didn’t marry him in the end, did she? Even after all those years?”

“Sure, she didn’t marry him, but he’s already proposed before he got into an accident. Besides, they have two kids together. It’s only a matter of time before they get married.”

“Maybe Samuel regretted his actions after proposing.”

“How do you know he’s regretting it? Oh, you’re the Zeller family’s relative. No wonder you keep speaking up for Ashley.”

“What’s wrong with that?”

“Displeased, are you? Let’s fight it out, then!”

The crowd started to get into a fight.

“Shut up, all of you!” Luna raged. “Kathleen, no matter what you say, Samuel was the one who approved of this engagement ceremony. We didn’t force him into it. You can ask him yourself if you don’t believe us.”

Everyone’s gazes fell on Samuel.

However, Kathleen said aloofly, “Hah. I’ve already told you this. I’m not here for him.”

Samuel swallowed hard but kept his silence.

Kathleen said coldly, “Ashley, Marjory was hired by you three months ago. You and Marjory took the same flight to Smealand and stayed in the same hotel. Besides, you left with Marjory and the others on the day of Samuel’s accident. Are you still going to say you have nothing to do with it?”

Ashley panicked. “Kathleen, do you think everything you say is right?”

“Do you think I’m saying all this without evidence?” retorted Kathleen as she scoffed.

Ashley clenched her fist upon hearing that.

Right then, Marjory came to her mind.

Marjory’s missing! Could she be abducted by Kathleen and spilled everything? Marjory, you traitor!

With a calm demeanor, Kathleen called out, “Yadiel.”

He stepped forward and placed a stack of pictures on the table. “Ms. Zeller, you didn’t know there were surveillance cameras at the hotel’s entrance, didn’t you?”

Ashley froze.

“In fact, the hotel is not the only place with surveillance cameras. A family who lived near the road where Mr. Macari’s accident happened installed one at their house. However, their camera was in a rather discreet location. Hence, no one knew until one of us found it a few days ago. These are the evidence of you being around Marjory and the others,” Yadiel said icily.

Ashley panicked at the sight of the pictures. Clearly, Marjory did not betray her.

However, those pictures were like a death sentence for her.

“Since you knew about Samuel’s identity, why didn’t you send him to the hospital after the accident? Why did you send him somewhere far away and not inform us about it? What are your motives?”

“That’s because someone’s trying to harm Samuel! I was worried for him!” explained Ashley.

“Stop making excuses! You’re the person who wants to harm him! You’re clearly a pot calling the kettle black!” Kathleen’s gaze sharpened.

“No!” Ashley was trembling, and her mind was a mess.

Kathleen had disrupted her plan.

Knowing Ashley was beyond saving, Luna stood up and prepared to leave.

Suddenly, Kathleen uttered coldly, “Luna, I heard Ashley got kidnapped about twenty years ago. By the time she was sent to the hospital, she had lost a lot of blood, and her body was cold. I wonder how did the hospital staff save her?”

Luna’s eyes glinted with a sharp gaze. “That’s none of your business. Do you think you’re the only doctor in this world?”

Kathleen smiled calmly. “Then, this doctor must be a miracle doctor. If he’s so skilled, how did he fail to save your grandson?”

Luna shot her an icy glare and marched off.

“Aunt Luna, wait!” Ashley grabbed Luna’s hand.

She can’t leave! Who’s going to back me up if she’s gone?

“This is your problem. You’re the one who started it. It has nothing to do with me.” Luna pushed her hand away and walked off.

Ashley froze, shocked by the fact that Luna was actually abandoning her.

She then turned to look at Trevor, who, surprisingly, left as well.

Aren't they worried I'll expose the truth to Samuel? Well, they're right. I wouldn't dare to. I'd be dead meat if I told Samuel the truth. Screw this. I must leave now.

Ashley turned around to leave.

"Ashley, your fiancé is still here," Kathleen said indifferently.

Ashley stopped in her tracks and turned around to look at her. "What do you mean?"

"I told you. I'm not here to crash the engagement ceremony." Kathleen smiled casually.

"Kathleen!" Samuel clenched his teeth with his eyes fixed on her.

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Chapter 468 Please Stay

Kathleen cast him a frosty gaze. "While Ashley has plotted many schemes, I'd still like to congratulate you, Samuel. You're going to become a dad."

Samuel frowned. "What did you say?"

What does she mean, I'm becoming a dad?

"Ashley's pregnant. Congratulations, once again." Kathleen smiled. Then, her gaze darkened, and she turned around to leave.

Pregnant?

Samuel wanted to stop her and make her explain herself.

Alas, Kathleen left without looking back.

Samuel side-eyed Ashley. "I never touched you. How did you get pregnant?"

Ashley's eyes darted around the room, looking extremely uneasy. "... Samuel, I really love you. I didn't want Kathleen to keep pestering you, so I lied to her."

Bang!

Samuel slammed his hand on the table, his eyes bloodshot. "Do you have a death wish?"

After saying that, he turned on his heel and walked away.

"Samuel!" Ashley cried. "Did you even lose your memory?"

Samuel glared at her coldly. "Yes."

Ashley questioned furiously, "Then, why do you still like her? I took care of you for three months. Were you not moved by my actions during that period? Not even the slightest bit?"

Samuel's expression remained frosty. "Are you worthy?"

Ashley was stumped.

"I was not attracted to you the moment you stopped me from seeing my family. Only a guilty person would stop someone from doing so," the man stated aloofly.

Ashley stared at him, stunned.

She only wanted to wait till their relationship stabilized before letting Samuel meet other people. Never did she expect to have shot herself in the foot.

"I'll take this scheme you've plotted as a repayment for the time you saved me from being kidnapped. We're even now. I don't owe you anything." Samuel's voice was cold.

He left after he spoke.

Tears fell from Ashley's eyes as she watched him leave. Her plan failed.

D*mn it! My plan would've been perfect if Kathleen didn't cause a disruption.

Samuel exited the building where the engagement ceremony was held and got into the car. "Where did Kathleen go?" he asked.

"No idea." The driver shook his head.

"Drive!" Samuel took out his phone to call Tyson. "Find out where Kathleen has gone!"

“Mr. Macari, Mrs. Macari is on the way to the airport now. Mr. Eil and Ms. Desi are already there waiting for her,” Tyson said awkwardly.

Samuel’s gaze darkened. What? She’s leaving? How could she abandon me like that?

“Drive faster!” he ordered.

“Got it!” The driver immediately hit the gas pedal.

Meanwhile, at the airport, Kathleen held Desiree’s hand and slowly walked toward the boarding gate.

“Mommy, where are we going?” the little girl asked curiously.

She had never left the country before.

“Pollerton. I want to let you and Eil see the place. I have a huge winery there. It’s just like a castle,” Kathleen answered gently.

“You have a castle, so that means you’re a queen. Does that mean I’m a princess?” Desiree asked excitedly.

Kathleen beamed. “You’re still a princess, even if I’m not a queen.”

Desiree chuckled at her words. Suddenly, she asked solemnly, “Mommy, will we come back?”

Kathleen merely held her hand without giving an answer.

By that time, Levi and Eilam had passed through the gate.

Kathleen and Desiree were next.

The moment Kathleen handed the two flight tickets to the flight attendant, Samuel’s husky voice could be heard from their backs. “Kate!”

Desiree turned around and exclaimed, “Mommy, it’s Daddy!”

Kathleen pursed her lips but did not turn back.

“Kate, I…” Samuel cleared his throat. “I’m sorry. I’ve never done anything with Ashley. Even if she’s pregnant, that child isn’t mine. I never wanted to be engaged to her. I just hoped you still cared for me, even if it’s just a little.”

Kathleen took a deep breath. Still, she did not turn around.

“Kate, I expect nothing else. Don’t go, please?” Samuel choked.

Everyone in the airport was watching them.

They knew who Kathleen and Samuel were.

Samuel fixed his eyes on her slender figure. “Don’t go,” he urged once more.

To his dismay, Kathleen looked at the flight attendant. “Are you done examining the documents?”

The flight attendant answered awkwardly, “Yes.”

Hearing that, Kathleen took the tickets from the flight attendant and entered the gate while pulling Desiree’s hand.

Samuel’s heart tensed up as he watched Kathleen leaving mercilessly.

His forehead was drenched in sweat.

Suddenly, his vision darkened, and he slumped to the ground.

Tyson rushed over and carried Samuel to the hospital.

The next day, Kathleen, who was already in Pollerton, tucked the children into bed before giving Rory a call.

“Tyson took Marjory away. Apparently, the Macari family wants to investigate this matter. Ashley will be done for once Marjory mentions her name,” Rory answered grimly.

“I see. Let them take her away, then,” Kathleen responded flatly.

“And that man, Ronald, I heard Trevor abandoned him. Ronald says Trevor’s the mastermind, and the latter made him frame you. However, he has no proof. Everyone here doesn’t really believe him,” Rory added.

“He’s just a pawn. This outcome is already his punishment. We can forget about him already,” Kathleen remarked coldly.

“One more thing...” Rory sounded hesitant. “Dr. Johnson, Samuel fainted the day you left. Tyson has sent him to the hospital. He finally regained consciousness this morning.”

Kathleen’s heart clenched at the news. “Is he okay?”

"I think so." Rory paused and asked, "Do you want to know the details? I can find them out for you."

Kathleen shook her head. "It's fine. Rory, I don't know when I'll be going back. I'm afraid I'll need you to manage the company's matters on my behalf."

"Of course." Rory nodded.

With that, Kathleen hung up.

"Mommy, look! Ms. Gem made this wreath for me!" Desiree came running over while holding Gemma's hand.

The castle was surrounded by countless flowerbeds, which had flowers planted in them. As it was summer, many flowers bloomed, decorating the place with pretty colors.

When Gemma was rescued, Kathleen instructed Yadiel to secretly bring her here to recuperate. After all, it was quiet and had a great view. It was the perfect place for recuperation.

Yadiel, Rory, and Benjamin were the only ones who knew Gemma was still alive.

Kathleen did not tell many people about the news. Naturally, Desiree and Eilam knew about it now.

However, Kathleen constantly reminded them to not tell anyone about it.

"It's so pretty." Kathleen patted Desiree's head.

Satisfied with her mother's reaction, Desiree said, "I'm going to show it to Eil!"

With that, she ran to Eilam's room.

Gemma eyed Kathleen wordlessly. Finally, the former asked, "What's wrong? Why do you look so pale?"

Shaking her head, Kathleen answered, "I'm fine. What about you? How do you feel? Do you feel any changes in your mood?"

"Yes." Gemma nodded. "I feel much calmer. Kate, I never knew I could be so at peace in a quiet place like this."

"Are you ready to face Richard now?" Kathleen asked curiously.

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Chapter 469 Punish Him

Gemma smiled faintly. "Not really. After all, it was a seven-year relationship. But I will try my best. Trust me, Kate."

Kathleen nodded. "Okay. I trust you."

Gemma smiled. "Now that you guys are finally here, what do you say we make some ravioli?"

"Sure. Let's go to the kitchen." Kathleen agreed.

"Okay."

As the two of them prepared the ingredients in the kitchen, Gemma asked Kathleen, "Kate, the reason you came to Pollerton this time isn't to avoid Samuel, right?"

"Of course not. I promised Levi to treat Old Mrs. Lester's illness," explained Kathleen.

"I see. Looks like you're going to stay in Pollerton for some time, huh?" Gemma nodded.

"No. Old Mrs. Lester is in Nardor. I could just drive to Nardor from Pollerton, so I'm just stopping halfway here," answered Kathleen.

"Ah, I see. You're just bringing the kids with you because it's safer, right?" Gemma understood her intention.

"Yeah." Kathleen bobbed her head.

"I've seen the news. Samuel chased you all the way to the airport, but you didn't even turn to spare a glance at him. Are you punishing him?"

"Yeah, kind of," said Kathleen coldly.

"Will you forgive him if he comes all the way here?" Gemma was curious.

Kathleen pondered for a while before replying, "I don't think he will. He has such a proud nature. I think I hurt his pride when I blatantly ignored him."

"Yeah, I guess you're right. He's no longer his past self, after all." Gemma sighed.

“Are there any differences?” asked Kathleen.

“Of course. He lost his memory, so maybe he has a different mindset now. When he hurt you in the past, he would try to control himself or even harm himself. But now that he doesn’t remember anything, he might think it’s better to just let you go so that the two of you can live peacefully apart.”

Kathleen lowered her eyes and replied, “Yeah. Maybe.”

Gemma gazed at the look in Kathleen’s eyes before smiling.

After lunch, Kathleen said to Gemma, “Levi and I will be driving to Nardor now. I’ll be leaving the kids to you, Gem. Don’t worry. There are bodyguards everywhere.”

“All right. I’ll take good care of them for you.” Gemma smiled.

“Thanks. See you.” Kathleen got up.

It took one and a half hours for the two of them to reach the Lester residence in Nardor.

“It’s indeed not far away at all. Looks like you won’t have to stay here,” said Levi.

“I wasn’t planning on it either.” Kathleen lifted her head to look at the Lester residence, which exuded an air of mystery.

The huge mansion seemed to be hiding a lot of peculiar secrets.

Nonetheless, she didn’t even know she was popular enough for the Lester family to know about her existence and how outstanding she was as a doctor.

Just as they were talking, the door opened.

A maid stood by the door and greeted respectfully, “Mr. Levi.”

“This is Kathleen Johnson. I’ve invited her over to treat Old Mrs. Lester,” Levi briefly introduced Kathleen to the maid.

The maid replied, “This way please, Ms. Johnson.”

Kathleen nodded, and the two of them stepped into the residence after the maid.

The structure of the Lester residence was spacious with good lighting, and the refurbishing looked like a combination of different countries’ cultures.

Levi whispered next to Kathleen’s ear, “The Lester family is quite complicated. Old Mrs. Lester had four children, but one of them passed away almost as soon as they were

born. The remaining three were all married to foreigners. This villa was built by them as a gift for Old Mrs. Lester's eightieth birthday. That's why the villa's style is a combination of different countries."

Kathleen nodded. "No wonder."

Moments later, they reached a room that had double doors.

The maid opened the doors, and the sweet fragrance of scented candles wafted out from the room.

The maid lifted a hand and gestured for the two to enter.

Following that, they stepped in and looked around.

The room was wide, and it was divided into three partitioned spaces. They were currently standing in the living room; there were two other rooms on their left and right.

The maid led them to a room on the right.

Three women who had delicate facial features were standing in the room. They looked multiracial and were all extremely gorgeous.

"Mom, they're here," said one of the women.

An elderly woman with gray hair was sitting on the bed. She looked unhealthily scrawny, and her skin was pale as well.

"I'll be waiting for you out here," said Levi as he stood by the door.

Kathleen nodded and approached the old woman's bedside. "Hello, I'm—"

Before Kathleen could finish her sentence, the woman who informed her mother that the visitors were here walked over with a smile and interrupted her, "You're Kathleen, right? My name is Yvonne, and I'm Old Mrs. Lester's third child. These are my sisters-in-law."

The other two women bobbed their heads at Kathleen as a greeting, wearing amiable smiles.

"Hello. Nice to meet you." Kathleen didn't think too much about it and thought they were only giving such a detailed introduction out of courtesy.

"You're pretty, Ms. Johnson," praised Camille Sanders, the wife of Yvonne Lester's eldest brother.

"Yeah, of course, she's pretty. Otherwise, how could she become a celebrity? Her acting's good, too." Xenia Lacey, the wife of Yvonne's second brother, smiled.

Kathleen felt quite awkward as the compliments kept raining down on her.

"I should take a look at Old Mrs. Lester's condition first." She looked over at the elderly woman on the bed, Betty Graham.

Betty looked like a friendly and kind old woman as she gazed at Kathleen quietly, smiling from ear to ear.

Kathleen began examining Betty's condition when the elderly lady suddenly reached out her hand, which frightened the former.

For some unknown reason, the old woman tucked a few strands of her hair behind her ear and said with a smile, "How pretty."

Kathleen felt so confused and awkward, wondering what was going on.

Yvonne cleared her throat and reminded, "Mom, she's checking your condition."

Betty slowly put her hand down, and Kathleen breathed a sigh when she was finally relieved from the perplexing situation.

"Old Mrs. Lester's heart seems to have some issues. I'm afraid she would have to undergo surgery soon, or it's going to be dangerous if left unattended." Kathleen put Betty's hand down after checking her pulse.

"Dr. Johnson, are you able to handle the surgery?" asked Yvonne, concerned.

"If you guys trust me, I'm willing to give it a try," uttered Kathleen softly.

"Oh, of course, we trust you. Why would we even invite you here if we don't? You've handled similar surgeries before this, right?" Yvonne smiled.

Kathleen nodded in response.

"Mom, what do you think?" Yvonne looked over at her mother, who nodded as well.

"Yvonne, I think we should discuss it with Anthony and the others when they return," said Camille cautiously.

Kathleen thought so, too. "Yeah, you guys should discuss first. I'll be taking my leave."

Just as she was about to leave, Yvonne grabbed her wrist. "Wait! Ms. Johnson, it's quite a hassle for you to travel back and forth from Pollerton. Moreover, my brothers are on

their way back, and they would like to discuss things with you. Why don't you stay here for the night?"

"But I don't want to cause you all trouble," said Kathleen.

"Oh, not at all. We have a lot of rooms here. Also, we knew you'd be coming, so I've asked someone to clean one of the rooms for you. Come with me. I'll show you." Yvonne beamed as she took Kathleen's hand and dragged her out.

Camille sighed and looked at Betty. "Yvonne is too excited."

Betty spoke in a faint voice. "I am, too. I'm satisfied enough to be able to meet Kate while I'm still alive."

In consideration of some objective factors, she didn't show her excitement when meeting Kathleen.

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Chapter 470 A Weird Family

"You're not just excited, Mom. You're literally so eager you couldn't even control yourself. Did you even notice how you frightened her just now?" Camille sat down.

Betty remained silent.

She didn't mean to frighten Kathleen, but she just couldn't keep her emotions in check.

"But Mom, Kate sure does look like a Lester." Xenia smiled.

"Yeah. Her father is a handsome man." There was tenderness in Betty's eyes as she spoke, and she soon began tearing up at the thought of Kathleen's father.

Immediately, Camille and Xenia walked over to comfort her.

"Mom, don't cry. We're lucky enough to be able to find Kate," soothed Camille.

"Yeah. When Anthony and Yusef are back, we can have a discussion on how to tell Kate the truth. By then, the both of you can finally reunite," Xenia chimed in.

"I know. I'm just too happy, that's all." Betty wiped her tears.

In the meantime, Yvonne led Kathleen to one of the rooms.

Kathleen didn't expect the Lesters to prepare such a large bedroom for her.

Thus, she said to Yvonne, "Ms. Lester, I can't stay in this room. This should be the master bedroom, right? I'll just stay in one of the guestrooms."

"No, I can't let you. You're our... savior, after all. See, I've even asked the maids to prepare you some clothes," said Yvonne, pausing in between.

The way they treated her was precisely why she didn't dare to stay.

The Lesters are weird. If they want to thank me, they could just give me money.

"Ms. Lester..." Kathleen began.

"You're around my daughter's age, so you could just call me... Aunt Yvonne. You don't have to be so polite," said Yvonne with an inscrutable tone.

Kathleen was speechless.

I'm not the one who's being too polite. They are all too friendly, and it's weird!

Yvonne said enthusiastically, "Take a look around and tell me if you need anything else."

"Oh, it's okay." Kathleen found it hard to turn her down.

"All right then. You should get some rest." Yvonne turned and left the room.

Kathleen sighed and went to look for Levi, who was supposedly in the room next to hers.

Nevertheless, he wasn't there when she opened the door.

She descended the stairs and went to the garden, which had a pretty scenic view.

As she couldn't see Levi anywhere, she decided to take a walk around.

At that moment, she saw two kids huddled together in the garden, each holding a tiny shovel and trying to scoop a flower out from the soil.

"Why are we doing this?" the little girl asked with a melodious voice.

"A new aunt has come to our house. We shall give this to her as a gift," replied the little boy.

The girl asked in excitement, "Is she pretty?"

“Yeah, probably. My mom says she’s a celebrity.”

“I love celebrities!” the girl exclaimed.

Kathleen glanced at the poor Juliet rose that was almost mutilated to death by the two children and said slowly, “The flower’s going to die.”

The two chubby children paused in their tracks and turned to look at Kathleen.

“She’s so pretty,” whispered the girl before she put on a wide grin and asked, “Who are you?”

“Are you the new aunt?” the boy questioned in surprise.

Aunt?

Kathleen answered, “I’m the doctor who’s here to treat Old Mrs. Lester.”

“You’re our new aunt!” The boy threw his shovel away and dragged the girl over, greeting Kathleen, “Nice to meet you!”

The girl imitated the boy. “Nice to meet you.”

Kathleen replied wryly, “Nice to meet you, too. Stop shoveling the flower. It’s going to die.”

Juliet roses were precious flowers.

The Lester family was apparently quite wealthy to be able to plant such valuable flowers in the garden like it was nothing.

“Mark! You naughty boy! Are you up to no good again?” A woman who looked to be around Kathleen’s age approached.

The boy, Mark Lester, took the girl’s hand and hid behind Kathleen, yelling, “Help!”

Kathleen stared down at the kids speechlessly.

As the woman got closer, she looked at Kathleen in surprise. “You... You are...”

“I’m Kathleen Johnson,” said Kathleen, thinking the Lesters were a bunch of weirdos.

Why are they so shocked to see me? Don’t they know I’m here to treat Old Mrs. Lester’s illness?

The woman introduced herself, “Hello! I’m Suzie, the little brat’s mother.”

Kathleen shook the woman's hand. "Hi. Nice to meet you."

Suzie looked happy to see her. "You're finally here. Give me a minute. I'm going to teach this brat a lesson."

Kathleen nodded as Suzie pulled her son over to her side, scolding, "Look at what you did to your grandpa's precious flower! Your grandpa gave this to your grandma as a gift when they were dating, and you just destroyed it!"

"Mom, flowers don't have feelings, so it's totally fine! Grandpa and Grandma are already married, so the flower doesn't really matter now," Mark argued irrationally.

Suzie was so mad that she squatted down and smacked the boy's buttocks as punishment.

Instead of crying, Mark said casually, "Take it easy, Mom. My dad's going to be heartbroken if you end up hurting your own hand."

Suzie was at a loss for words.

Another young woman came over. "What's going on here, Suzie?"

"Mommy!" The little girl jumped into the woman's arms.

The woman was shocked to see all the dirt on her daughter's shirt. "Bella! What happened to your clothes?"

"Look what they've done, Ninette. These naughty kids destroyed the rose that Dad gifted to Mom," complained Suzie.

The woman, Ninette Kirby, stared at the ruined rose and sighed. "You kids are so mischievous."

"Mommy, we just want to gift the rose to our new aunt." The girl, Bella, pointed at Kathleen.

Ninette looked at Kathleen. "You're Kathleen, right?"

Before Kathleen could respond, the woman smiled and continued, "Nice to meet you. I'm Ninette."

"Nice to meet you too." Kathleen nodded as a greeting.

Right then, the maid walked over and informed them, "Mr. Anthony and the others are back."

“Really? Let’s go. I’m sure they’re eager to meet you.” Suzie let go of her son and grabbed Kathleen’s hand, pulling her along.

Ninette carried Bella and took Mark’s hand, following behind them.

When they returned to the mansion, the atmosphere was quite lively in the living room.

Levi was chatting with the patriarchs of the family when Kathleen and the others entered.

The four men in the living room stood up one by one as Camille and Xenia also approached.

Levi curled his lips. “Allow me to introduce them to you. This is the head of the Lester family, Anthony Lester, and this is his son Dylan Lester. This is Anthony’s brother, Yusef Lester, and his son Nathan Lester. As for the others, I’m sure you already know them.”

Kathleen nodded. “Hello. I’m Kathleen.”

Anthony replied placidly, “Welcome to the Lester residence.”

“Thanks.” Kathleen felt a little nervous to see all the members of the Lester family standing before her.

It was quite a weirdly grand scene.

“Um…” She opened her mouth, wondering what to say.

“Let’s talk while we eat, Anthony. Or Kate’s going to feel awkward,” said Yusef with a smile.

No, I already feel awkward enough. I’m confused, too.

“Okay.” Anthony nodded.

When Suzie and Ninette brought the kids to wash their hands, Kathleen approached Levi and whispered, “I’ve got something to ask you, Levi.”

“What’s wrong?”

“I think these people are acting weird. There shouldn’t be a problem, right?” Kathleen looked around her.