

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort chapter 1976

Anthony was about to book the plane ticket when the phone rang.

It was Lincoln calling to inform Anthony that there was an explosion at the orphanage.

Shocked to the core, Anthony quickly relayed the news to Layla, and she instantly drove over with him.

Fortunately, none of the children were injured.

Only two of the staff members were wounded, and they had been sent to the hospital for treatment.

The local police had come and were investigating the incident.

Later, Layla received more and more calls, informing her that there were also incidents happening at other orphanages such as food poisoning and the intrusion of a psychiatric patient to harm the children.

What was more outrageous was that there was a truck plowing into one of the orphanages.

Upon hearing the news, she was anxious like a cat on hot bricks.

Immediately, Layla, Lincoln, and Anthony parted ways to check on the orphanages and deal with the subsequent matters.

Several hours later, the three of them exchanged information through a video call.

So far, there were no child casualties.

Although the staff members were wounded, their injuries were not life-threatening.

Hence, they felt relieved despite the awful incidents.

Without a trace of uncertainty, Lincoln concluded, "This is an organized and premeditated disruption, aiming to threaten us. I think this is related to that lunatic."

"But how did he know that these orphanages belong to Francesca as well as their addresses?"

Layla queried hurriedly.

"Francesca has been doing a good job keeping them under wraps. He only met us once back then. I don't think he would know all of these"

“Riz Corporation has infiltrated all corners of the world. They have a professional intelligence agency with the ability to surpass the FBI. Therefore, it’s not difficult for them to investigate a person.”

Lincoln started to analyze the situation logically.

“Luckily, Francesca heeds our advice and has not disclosed her identity and the information regarding the orphanages. It’s somewhat difficult for them to check, so there are only four orphanages in S Nation affected, and the others are fine for the time being.”

“So they’ve only gotten their hands on a part of Francesca’s information and there are still some they haven’t obtained?” Layla asked.

“Probably”

Lincoln nodded.

“Besides, it’s possible that the other party issued a warning to distract us so that we won’t focus on intervening in Francesca’s matters.”

“This also serves as a warning to us.”

Layla’s words were laced with solemnity.

“There are no child casualties in the explosion this time, but if he is provoked, we might not be as lucky”

“That’s right, so we can’t leave. The orphanages need our protection.”

Lincoln had similar thoughts as well.

“Besides, if we go to H City, we might not be of help.”

“What about Francesca then? Are we going to not care about her?” Anthony panicked.

“She has the Lindberg family protecting her now, so she is safe”

Lincoln was clear-headed.

“Even if we go, we can’t do anything for her. Moreover, the orphanages are what she cares about the most. If she knows that we insist on meeting up with her while the orphanages are facing trouble, she will blame us.”

“But.”

“I’ll give her a call and ask for her opinion.”

Layla was ready to quit the video call to give Francesca a call when Lincoln stopped her.

“Wait, he said.

“Let’s not tell her about this first. Judging from her personality, I’m sure that she will give up on the surgery to rush back here if she knows about the incidents”

“You’re right...”

Layla was a bit uneasy.

“What should we do then? She’s all alone, and I’m worried for her”

“Call her tomorrow. You need to tell her not to leave the protection of the Lindberg family. As long as she stays put, she’ll be fine; Lincoln reminded.

“I’ve told her about it today, but I’m still feeling unsettled”

Worry was written all over Layla’s face.

“With the protection of the Lindberg family, that lunatic can’t get near to her. But what if the people of Riz Corporation help him?”

Riz Corporation was a top-notch assassin organization.

The people from the Lindberg family might not be able to fend them off.

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“You’re overthinking.”

Lincoln replied firmly, “Riz Corporation is very powerful, but they won’t offend the Lindberg family”

“Why did Riz Corporation help that lunatic to check Francesca’s identity then?”

Layla questioned.

“Do they know the Lindberg family is watching over Francesca? Her relationship with Danrique has not been disclosed, and the Lindberg family has always been keeping a low profile. They rarely make any public appearance...”

“One encounter is enough for them to know about it” a logical Lincoln replied.

“Once Riz Corporation know Francesca has the backing of Danrique, they won’t intervene in this matter, making it a personal grudge of that lunatic. That lunatic is all alone, so he can’t hurt Francesca. What I’m worried about is that she’d escaped again impulsively and showed him mercy due to her guilt for Candice.”

“I need to remind her again.”

Layla was a tad fretful.

“Wait until tomorrow. She’s probably asleep now”

Lincoln responded.

“I’m done with the things here. I will head back as soon as possible. Tell us about Francesca and Danrique. If he is serious about their relationship, then I think it’s good for them to be a couple.”

“Nah, how could a person like him know how to love? I think he’s just playing around, craving a sense of novelty...”

Anthony quickly replied.

“Besides, he is also dangerous. He crashed into Francesca with his car in M Nation, and she was shot because of him...”

“Oh, really?” Lincoln asked.

“I think so, but I don’t know about the details...”

“I know he’s really dangerous. He’s not someone suitable for Francesca, and she doesn’t like him. She’s always been thinking about escaping. Danrique’s keeping her under house arrest...”

“All right. Let’s talk more about this when we meet.”

With that, Lincoln and Layla ended the video call.

Unsettled, Anthony handled the pressing matters on hand and hurriedly rushed back home to see Lincoln.

The former felt there was a need for him to tell Lincoln and Layla about every mistreatment Danrique had inflicted on Francesca.

Besides, he wanted to rush to H City to keep Francesca safe.

Currently, Francesca was fast asleep, not noticing that a figure had sneaked into the villa.

As agile as a monkey, that person jumped over the wall of the yard before he leaped and reached the balcony on the second floor.

Just as he was about to barge into Francesca's room, a cold voice came from downstairs.

"Who's there?"

With that, several beams of bright light shone onto the person as two bodyguards went after him swiftly.

Realizing that he had been discovered before he could take action, he had no choice but to leave.

The two bodyguards chased after him instantly, and the female bodyguard, Samantha, quickly rushed into the room to check on Francesca.

Upon seeing that she was sleeping peacefully, the two bodyguards heaved a sigh of relief.

Nevertheless, the vigilant bodyguards did not leave the room anymore.

One of them kept careful watch for possible danger on the balcony while the other one stood guard behind the door of the room.

Half an hour later, the subordinates who chased after the suspicious person came back to report to Sloan.

"Sloan, that person escaped."

"Check the surveillance footage, and see who it was,"

Sloan ordered.

"Understood."

"As for the others, be on full alert and keep your guard up. Protect Ms. Felch"

"Noted."

After making those arrangements, Sloan reported that night's condition to Sean and Gordon.

The three of them exchanged information through a voice call.

Gordon was puzzled when he got to know of the incident.

“This is weird. Who on earth wanted to attack Ms. Felch? Could it be someone sent by Frank or the three great families?”

“If it was them, they wouldn’t just send one person.”

Sean was calm and collected.

“Was it Ms. Felch’s enemy?”

“How could Ms. Felch have any enemies?”

Gordon found it odd.

“She’s just a doctor, and her identity has always been well-concealed.”

“Right...”

“Sloan, keep Ms. Felch safe. I’ll send a few people there,” Sean said.

“Okay.”

After hanging up the phone, Sloan arranged for more people to scan the surroundings of the villa, ensuring their defense was foolproof.

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Francesca slept soundly, utterly oblivious to what had happened the previous night. She fell into a daze when she saw Heidi and Samantha in the room by the time she woke up the next morning.

Heidi immediately explained, “Ms. Felch, someone attempted to intrude into your room last night but was discovered by Sloan in time. We are afraid something bad might happen to you, so we decided to stand guard in your room. We hope we did not interrupt your rest time”

“That’s all right...”

Francesca had yet to wrap her mind around the whole incident.

“Are you telling me that someone barged into my room? Who is that?”

“Judging from his silhouette, the culprit appears to be a man. We are still investigating for further details. Sloan ordered his men to chase after the culprit at once but to no avail.”

Francesca frowned upon hearing those words.

Could it be that person? Knock! Knock!

At that moment, someone knocked on the door.

Kerrie, leading the maid, entered to help Francesca get washed up and dressed.

As Heidi and Samantha exited the room, Francesca expressed her gratitude and reminded them to rest well.

After Francesca finished washing up, she had her breakfast on the balcony.

By accident, she found a piece of candy underneath the recliner. She picked up the candy and saw the familiar wrapping. Her face darkened instantaneously as memories from two years ago flooded her mind.

Francesca and Layla had just gotten off the plane at the airport in Tayhaven and were heading toward the exit.

Suddenly, they saw a little girl crying outside the restroom.

The little girl had a cute appearance.

As a result of the hysterical cry, her face flushed, and she experienced difficulty breathing, seemingly unable to catch her breath.

Francesca immediately gave the child the appropriate medication.

After the little girl's condition stabilized, Francesca asked, “Hello, why are you here alone? Where are your daddy and mommy?”

“I don't have a mommy. Daddy is bringing me home, but I went to the restroom earlier and can't find him now. Boohoo...”

The little girl seemed to be slightly afraid as her petite body trembled.

“Don't be scared. I'll bring you to search for your daddy.”

Francesca was planning to bring the little girl to the airport staff.

They've only taken a few steps when a man's voice suddenly rang from behind them.

“Candice!”

“Daddy! The little girl ran in that man’s direction in excitement. He lifted the little girl and carried her with one hand while staring at Francesca cautiously. Francesca’s first impression when she saw that man was that his eyes were filled with intense malice.

“Daddy, I had an asthma attack earlier, and this lady saved me. She was even going to help me look for you”

Candice hurriedly explained.

“Is that so?”

The murderous intent in that man’s eyes gradually faded. He left the scene with his daughter after he thanked Francesca.

“He’s so weird.”

Francesca gazed at his leaving figure from behind, thinking that he was a peculiar man.

On the other hand, the little girl, Candice, was very cute and obedient. She waved her hand at Francesca while regarding Francesca with a pair of large, innocent eyes and a sincere look.

Layla said in an undertone, “This man is very dangerous. We must stay away from him.”

“Dangerous?”

Francesca was curious.

“That’s right.”

Layla wore a solemn expression.

“If I am not mistaken, judging by his malevolent aura and heightened senses, he should be a professional assassin”

“Why would a professional assassin have such an adorable child?”

Francesca knitted her brows.

“Is that little girl really his child? What if he kidnapped her?”

“The child is reliant on him and shows affection toward him. Moreover, he appears to care for the girl genuinely, and he is protective of the girl. I suppose they are biologically related..”

Layla sighed.

“An outlaw like him should not have children. Sooner or later, something unfortunate will befall the little girl if she continues to follow him around.”

“Perhaps he will quit his unlawful occupation for the child”

Francesca could not bear to imagine Candice’s fate.

“That occupation is like a bottomless abyss. Once he meddles in the business, there’s no turning back. Did you notice how vigilant he behaved just now? I think someone may be following him; Layla elaborated.

“I hope the little girl will stay unharmed.”

Francesca prayed for Candice’s safety.

“We can only hope so.”

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Francesca and Layla exited the airport and were about to get into a cab.

At that moment, a childish voice sounded.

“Hello!”

Francesca turned around and saw Candice sitting obediently on a stone block with a rag doll in her arms.

“Hello, we meet again!”

Francesca greeted the little girl.

“My name is Candice. What about yours?”

Candice beamed at her.

“I’m Francesca Felch.”

Francesca returned the smile.

“Where’s your daddy?”

“Daddy went to drive the car here. He told me to wait for him here?” Candice replied obediently. Francesca exchanged glances with Layla as they sensed something was

wrong.If Candice’s father had really gone to drive the car over, he should have brought Candice along.

Moreover, Candice was waiting beside the taxi passageway, which prohibited the entry of private vehicles.

They wondered why he left Candice there to wait for him and if he was in trouble.

“The car is here.Let’s go””

Layla did not wish to invite trouble to themselves, so she dragged Francesca along to get in the cab.

“Are you leaving, Francesca?”

Candice gazed at Francesca longingly.

“Yes.”

Francesca pitied Candice as she gazed at the latter sitting alone on the stone block.

“Candice, will you feel scared waiting for your daddy here by yourself?”

Candice nodded.Her eyes reddened the next second.

Francesca’s heart ached slightly when she saw Candice’s pitiable look, so she decided to stay.

“Don’t be afraid.I’ll be here to accompany you.”

“Really? Thank you, Francesca”

Candice was overjoyed.She hurriedly jogged forward and held Francesca’s hand.

“Francesca!”

Layla tried to persuade Francesca otherwise.

“It’s all right, Ms.Layla.I’m just going to keep this little girl company for a little while.We’ll get into the cab and leave as soon as her father returns”

Francesca whispered.

Layla felt helpless.She had no other choice but to wait together.

Candice introduced her rag doll to Francesca and told Francesca she had some delicious candy, but the candy was kept in her father's pocket. She expressed her desire to share the candy with Francesca when her father returned to pick her up.

Francesca thanked her cheerily.

At the sight of Candice's cascading hair which was drenched in sweat, Francesca crouched down to braid the little girl's hair and yanked off the ribbon on her own clothes to tie the little girl's hair.

Candice took out a small mirror to examine the braids.

Then, a bright and charming smile spread across her face. She had not braided her hair ever since she left her home.

Francesca and Candice continued to chat happily.

Meanwhile, Layla scanned her surroundings but failed to spot Candice's father anywhere.

Nothing extraordinary happened near the crowded entrance of the airport, yet she felt a sense of foreboding.

Just then, a voice rang out.

"Candice!"

"Daddy!"

Candice turned around and saw her father advancing hastily in her direction. She said to Francesca happily, "Francesca, my daddy is back!"

"That's great."

Francesca stood up and said to that man solemnly, "Mister, she's still very young. Please do not leave her alone because it is very dangerous."

He merely glanced at her in silence before grabbing Candice's hand and leaving with her.

"You..."

Francesca was about to mention something else, but she noticed something was odd about that man's right arm.

Although he tucked his hand in the pocket in an attempt to conceal his condition, the fresh blood slowly oozing through the fabric had exposed his injuries.

“Don’t be nosy.Let’s go!”

Layla noticed the wound as well and quickly dragged Francesca away.

At that moment, Francesca realized the presence of a few men in black outfits wearing black face masks among the crowd.

They were hurrying in Candice’s father’s direction with one hand hidden in their sleeves.She turned around, wanting to warn him.

Right then, Candice suddenly broke free from holding her father’s hand.She turned on her heels and ran toward Francesca while holding some candy.

“Francesca, this is for you!”

“Candice...”

He hastily stepped forward to pull Candice back, but he was too late.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Gunshots rang all of a sudden.

All the shots were aimed at Candice’s father.

Candice, the pitiful little girl, accidentally took a shot in her father’s stead.Her petite figure fell to the floor as she lay in a pool of blood.

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“Candice!”

The man went on a killing spree while in a crazed state, fending off the men in black alone.

Francesca immediately rushed over to hold Candice.

When she realized there was still hope for the child, she stopped the bleeding and gave Candice first- aid right away.

When the man finished off all of the men in black who were after him, he held Francesca at gunpoint, intending for her to keep Candice company on the way to the afterworld.

Just when Layla was about to retaliate, Francesca interrupted, "There's still hope to save Candice. I'm a doctor, so I'm confident about saving her. We need to go to the hospital now."

"Is that true?"

The man had assumed that Candice was beyond saving, but Francesca's words reignited a spark of hope within him.

Immediately hailing a taxi, he and Francesca rushed Candice to the hospital.

After that, Francesca operated on Candice.

Candice had lost a lot of blood, and she had a rare blood type that the hospital had not stocked up on, so Layla had to usher the hospital staff to arrange for some to be delivered.

All the while, the man waited around inside the operating room and even pointed a gun at the medical superintendent, threatening to kill everybody, including Francesca, if something happened to Candice.

The operation should have gone smoothly until Francesca discovered that not only did Candice have asthma but she had also had her heart operated on.

The gunshot had triggered a heart attack, so Candice was in critical condition.

Moreover, the blood wasn't delivered on time.

Coupled with various other reasons, the operation was a failure.

In the end, Francesca couldn't save Candice.

Before Candice drew her last breath, she held onto the candy that she had intended to give to Francesca.

It wasn't until her heart stopped that she released her grip, and the candy dropped onto the floor.

At that moment, Francesca broke down.

The child's father held Francesca while interrogating her in a frenzy, "Didn't you say you can save Candice? Didn't you promise she would be all right? Why didn't the operation work? Why? She wouldn't have been shot in the first place if she wasn't trying to deliver you the candy. The operation wouldn't have failed if you truly were an exceptional doctor. This is all because of you! It's your fault!"

Francesca was unable to refute him, so she could only endure his rage in passive silence.

After that, the man went on a rampage and began slaughtering the doctors and nurses in the operating room. He even attempted to kill Francesca so that she could keep Candice company on the way to the afterworld.

However, Layla injured his arm and fled the scene alongside Francesca.

The hospital staff had called the police, but the man had managed to take thirteen lives before the police could arrive.

After that, he was subdued by the police, arrested, and sent to jail.

Thus, it was Francesca who had organized Candice's funeral.

After she finished handling everything, she even visited the man in the jail.

She came to know that his name was Chrono and that he was the world's top assassin who hailed from Rodunst.

Chrono had led the life of a wanderer but had, by then, wished to go into hiding and live in seclusion alongside Candice.

However, his enemies weren't willing to let him off the hook.

Therefore, they tracked him down wherever he went, and he had been trying to escape from them while protecting Candice.

When they were at the airport, he killed two people who were tracking him down when Candice went to the restroom.

Then, he brought her away in haste, only to bump into the same bunch of people at the exit.

Not wanting to drag Candice into the ensuing mess, he told her to wait on a stone block.

He returned in search of her after killing off the men discreetly, only to bump into Francesca again.

All he wanted was to leave with Candice as soon as possible, but Candice got the idea of sharing her candy with Francesca, so she wrenched herself from his arms to run back to Francesca.

At that moment, Chrono's enemies caught up and fired their guns at him, leading to the tragedy.

Feeling guilty, Francesca apologized while sitting opposite him behind the glass panel in the prison.

Candice might not have suffered such a fate if she hadn't tried to give me some candy.

Moreover, she couldn't figure out the reason the operation failed when she was certain she could save Candice.

Although she wished to know what kind of operation Candice had undergone for her heart, she had missed out on the opportunity to do so.

She had gone to the police station to retrieve Candice's body after the incident, but the police had already cremated her body.

Thus, she could only hold the funeral with Candice's ashes before handing the address and information of her grave to Chrono at the jail.