

Still Loving You Nonetheless By Snow de Eira Chapter 1251

Chapter 1251

Seeing how Ivy was calm as if the man that she loved the most was not sitting next to her, being intimate with another woman.

Meredith thought that if she was in Ivy's shoes, she would have flown off the handle the moment she saw Josiah being intimate with another woman.

Meredith guessed that Ivy might have lied about how she had loved Josiah since she was young or that she dreamt about wanting to get married to Josiah.

Even though she might be feeling low as she was paying respects to her parents on this day, Meredith did not think that Ivy would not be affected by Josiah's behavior at all.

Studying Ivy, Meredith could not hold back anymore.

She then asked, "Miss Ivy, would you like a sip of water? "

Ivy came back to her senses, looked at the water bottle, and shook her head. "I'm good, thanks."

"There's warm water in here."

"I'm not thirsty. You can give it to Joe instead."

"Alright then." Meredith put away the water. She hesitated before asking, "Miss Ivy, you are good friends with Liam and Joe, aren't you? Shouldn't Liam go back with you to visit your parents?"

Ivy froze slightly. She then said, "Is Liam back in Delmas Town? I didn't know about it."

"I'm guessing so. He used to go back every year."

"Ah, I see," Ivy sounded calm, "but I haven't been in touch with him for years. There's no need to hassle him with this."

"Why would it be a hassle? Liam should have offered, don't you think so, Joe?"

Looking at Meredith, Josiah was rather confused. "There's no such rule. I used to visit Ivy's parents as they were really nice to me, plus, we've Cooper now."

“Hmm, that’s true.” Meredith nodded.

Meredith took a quick glance at Ivy and did not say anything further.

After paying respects to Ivy’s parents, Joe took a glance at Ivy who stood in front of her parent’s gravesite, and said to Meredith, “Let’s give her some space.”

Meredith guessed that Ivy might want some alone time, hence she left with Josiah.

In the car, Josiah looked at Meredith and asked, “So, tell me, you found something out, haven’t you?”

“No.” Meredith shook her head.

“Then why did you bring up Liam into our conversation all of a sudden?”

Meredith had also been on his tail demanding to know if Liam went back to Delmas Town for the New Year.

“I was just simply curious. The three of you are best friends but she chose you instead.”

“What do you mean by that?” Josiah was slightly irked, “Are you implying that Liam is better than I am?”

“Please forgive me for being straightforward, but I do think that Liam is better than you,” Meredith went on bluntly, “Liam is well-tempered and more approachable than you are. He is also rich, if it were me...”

Meredith broke off.

Josiah leaned in close to her and said, “What’s wrong? You too feel like you’re eating your own words now, don’t you?”

“Aren’t you the one who started liking me when you were in your teenage years?”

“I...” Meredith went on, “It’s because I don’t know you well. Later when I started getting to know you, I realized that you weren’t all that great and you were much harder to get along with compared to Liam.”

“You only think that way because Liam lent you a million dollars, no?”

“It’s not like that...”

“What did you say?”

Sensing that Josiah was annoyed, she immediately corrected herself, "I mean, you're right. He offered me a hand when I was at my lowest and that is why I think that Liam is a nice guy."

It was then Josiah moved away from her and warned, " Stop complimenting other guys in front of me. I don't like it."

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Chapter 1252

"Okay, I hear you," Meredith responded.

After a pause, she then asked, "So do you think that there's a possibility that Ivy actually likes Liam?"

Josiah tried to recall but shook his head. "From what I remember, I don't think that's the case."

"Why? Because she'd always think of you first? Didn't I tell you before that this is just a tactic that girls would use? When we like a guy, we want to win over their friends first."

"Ivy is not like other girls," Josiah went on, "what I mean is that I have never seen Ivy being interested in other guys, and that includes me."

That was why Josiah was surprised to see Ivy in his room.

The next thing he knew was that Ivy had gone abroad right after the incident. That was when she left the group of three, leaving only Josiah and Liam.

Before Meredith could say anything further, Ivy was already walking out of the room.

Meredith made room for Ivy and asked concernedly, " Are you feeling okay, Miss Ivy?"

Ivy did not look good.

But it was understandable as Ivy had lost both of her parents and she was left all alone to celebrate the New Year.

"I'm good, thanks for asking," Ivy tucked away the sadness in her eyes and said to Josiah, "Joe, I want to take a walk around here, would you care to join me?"

Meredith looked at Josiah and knew that he would reject Ivy, so she quickly said, "I'll head back on my own then."

Josiah was silent.

Meredith was doing it again.

She was pushing Josiah to another woman...again.

Noticing that Josiah was irked, she quickly added, "I trust you!"

Seeing how Meredith was determined, Josiah tried to temper down on his annoyance.

It was true that Ivy was feeling low because it was her parents' death anniversary today and she might need someone by her side. But Josiah did not want to interact too much with Ivy because he did not want to give her hope.

It did not matter even if Meredith said that she trusted him. Josiah did not think that it was appropriate.

"Miss Ivy, let Meredith accompany you instead. There's something that I need to do." he replied.

Meredith did not expect that Josiah would push the responsibility to her instead. She then said to Ivy, "If you're okay, Ivy, I don't mind taking a walk with you."

"It's alright. I can go on my own," Ivy replied.

"It's really fine with me, I..."

"I'll be meeting a friend for a meal after my walk." Ivy then reached into her bag and took out two tickets to a musical show. Handing the tickets to Meredith, she then said, "I wanted to invite Joe to this musical show, but since he doesn't want to go with me, you can have the tickets and go with Joe instead."

Staring at the tickets in her hand, Meredith hesitated.

Meredith was puzzled that Ivy, who planned to watch a musical show with Josiah, was suddenly offering her tickets to her instead.

"Miss Ivy, would you like me to go with you instead?"

"It's fine. The both of you can go ahead." Ivy stuffed the tickets into Meredith's hands, and got off the car. Before closing the door, she then said to Meredith, "Oh, and I don't have a car, please pick me up after the musical show ends."

“Okay, I’ll get going now. See you later!”

Before Meredith could even say anything, Ivy had already left.

Watching as Ivy left, Meredith turned around, looked at Josiah, and asked, “See that? Don’t you think that there’s something weird about Miss Ivy?”

Josiah too had his gaze fixed on Ivy who was leaving. He looked like he was lost in his thoughts.

“Say, if she really wanted to take you away from me, then why didn’t she try to persuade you to go with her, but instead left on her own?”

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Chapter 1253

It was indeed rather strange.

Josiah stayed silent for a moment before saying to the driver, “Follow her.”

The driver nodded, started the engine, and started driving.

As soon as the car drove into the main road, they noticed Ivy getting into a cab.

Following Ivy for around fifteen minutes, they finally came to a stop in front of a hospital.

“What is Miss Ivy doing at the hospital?” Meredith was puzzled.

Josiah shook his head, indicating that he too did not know.

”I’ll go have a look.” Meredith opened the door and was about to get out of the car when Josiah stopped her. ” Hold on, you’re planning to go down like this?”

“But I…”

Josiah grabbed a cap and put it on her head. “Be careful. I

“I will.”

Meredith adjusted the cap and walked hurriedly into the building.

She noticed Ivy in the paediatric ward and Ivy was interacting with a nurse at the counter.

Because she was standing far from them, Meredith could not clearly hear what they were talking about.

But judging from Ivy's gradually darkened expression, she looked somewhat disappointed.

Ivy did not give up and continued asking the nurse more questions. It was until the nurse looked irritated that Ivy left the counter unwillingly.

After a moment of hesitation, Meredith walked toward the counter.

"Hello there, how may I help you?" The nurse greeted her politely.

Meredith pointed toward the direction that Ivy had left and asked, "May I know what the lady was talking to you about?"

The nurse's expression darkened immediately. "Why are people getting more nosy these days? sticking their noses into other people's business."

"It's not that, I just..."

"Ma'am, if there's nothing else, please leave and stop bothering US."

"Okay fine. I am an influencer and I might have recorded you being rude and impolite to the customer earlier. Do you think that my video will garner a lot of attention if I upload this online?"

The nurse glared furiously at Meredith. "What... what did you say?"

"What I'm trying to say is that people have been paying a lot of attention to medical disputes and I think that this video would be good material, don't you think?"

The nurse's expression darkened even more.

Meredith then added, "But of course, if it was the lady's fault, to begin with, I would never upload this online. I wouldn't want to accuse people wrongly."

The nurse immediately defended herself. "It was of course her fault. She was demanding to know if we have a little girl admitted here with septicemia. I told her that we aren't allowed to give away our patient's details, but she claimed that she was the kid's aunt and she wanted to visit her."

"Septicemia?" Meredith was rather startled. It was the illness that Nia had back then.

“Yeah, and she insisted on seeing the kid. I told her that we don’t have someone like that with US and she

refused to believe me. She demanded to see our patient’s data. And do you think that I am allowed to show her?”

“Ah, I see. Sounds like she’s in the wrong.”

“Exactly. So can you please delete the video? I didn’t mean to be impolite to her.”

“Of course.” Meredith deleted the clip that she recorded earlier and asked, “But were you lying when you told her that there’s no such patient here?”

“I wasn’t. We really don’t have a patient like that here.”

“Ah, alright.” Meredith then showed her phone to the nurse. “It’s all a misunderstanding. I’ve deleted the video.”

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Chapter 1254

“Okay, thank you.”

The nurse finally sighed in relief.

Right when Meredith was about to enter the lift, she received a call from Josiah.

“Edith, I just saw Ivy walking out of the building. Where are you?”

“I’m making my way out now. You should go on and follow her,” Meredith urged.

“What about you?” Josiah was slightly startled, “Aren’t you coming with me?”

“It might be too late if you wait for me.”

“Did something happen?”

“It’s nothing. I just want to know where she’s heading next,” Meredith went on, “so hurry up and follow her, make sure that you don’t lose her. I’ll meet up with you after that.”

“Alright, wait for me then. I’ll come over and pick you up after this.”

“That works too. I’ll just take a stroll around.”

There was a mall right opposite the hospital. Meredith shopped for toys for both Nia and Cooper.

By the time she was done, Josiah had already arrived.

She got into the car urgently and asked, “So? Did you manage to follow her?”

“Yeah. She went to the pediatric hospital in town,” Josiah went on, “but Walter lost her in the hospital. He didn’t manage to see where she went exactly.”

Walter, who was in the driver’s seat, looked apologetic. “I’m sorry Miss Meredith. I should have done a better job.”

“It’s alright. I could already guess what she’s doing there.”

“You know about it?” Looking at her, Josiah asked, “What is she up to?”

“She…” Meredith took a glance at Walter and pulled down the partition before whispering into Josiah’s ear, “She is looking for a little girl diagnosed with septicemia. I

“Why?”

“I’m not sure either.” Meredith was curious too and went on, “She told the nurse that she was the little girl’s aunt and that she wanted to visit her.”

“Ivy has no siblings.”

“So it was clearly a lie,” Meredith asked, “do you perhaps know who the little girl is? Who is Ivy?”

Josiah stayed silent for a moment. He too was puzzled.

“It can’t be her daughter, right?” Meredith gasped as she pointed at Josiah, “Do you perhaps have another daughter hidden away somewhere?”

Josiah gave a light knock on Meredith’s head and said, “What are you talking about? If she was really my daughter, why would Ivy need to hide her? She could have confronted me about it and used that to force me to marry her, don’t you think?”

Meredith thought that what Josiah said did make sense.

“But, Mister Josiah, you do agree that Ivy is acting a little strange, yes?”

“I do, Meredith,” Josiah nodded.

“I am being serious here.”

“Then what’s with ‘Mister Josiah’?” Josiah clearly did not like how Meredith was addressing him.

Meredith had no choice but to correct herself, “Dear Joe, may I know what you think about this situation?”

“Nothing much for now. But don’t worry, I’ll make sure to look into it.”

“And what are you planning to do?”

“Ivy is looking for a little girl with septicemia, isn’t she? I’ll just search all the hospitals here in Delmas Town and I think we’ll be able to find the girl.”

“Mm, if that’s the case, we’ll be able to find out why Ivy was looking for the girl and who the girl is to Ivy,” Meredith nodded and went on, “what are you waiting for then? Hurry up and get it down.”

Josiah smiled. “I can do it with just a phone call. What’s the rush?”

He then reached for his phone and called Wesley.

After getting off the phone with Wesley, Josiah put away his phone and put his arm around Meredith’s shoulders. “I’ve asked Wesley to look into it. Can we go watch the musical show now?”

It was then that Meredith remembered the tickets that Ivy had given her.

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Chapter 1255

“Are you really thinking of going?”

“I thought you wanted to know what’s going on with Ivy? Shouldn’t we make sure to follow it through?”

“What do you mean?”

“Ivy asked US to pick her up once we’re done with the musical show.” Josiah paused and then added, “But it’s more convenient for her to take the cab or call one of my

drivers to pick her up, isn't it? Why would she insist on coming home with US? And see the both of US being intimate?"

"You've got a point there!" Meredith started getting curious again. "Why would she insist on coming home with us instead of going home alone?"

"If you're right, Meredith, Ivy doesn't really want to get married to me. She was just being forced by my mother," Josiah went on, "and it was my mother's idea that we visit Ivy's parents together. Ivy is worried that she would be scolded by my mother if she went home alone. IF

"I get it now. She was worried that Mrs. Shelby would be upset at her for not using the opportunity to spend time with you, and instead, she went out on her own."

"Yeah."

Meredith inhaled sharply. "If that is true. I was right that Ivy had no intention of getting married to you."

"And? You're happy, aren't you?" Josiah raised one of his brows.

Looking at him, Meredith teased him on purpose, "No. I just feel bad for you all of a sudden."

"Why is that?"

"I didn't expect that there would be someone who doesn't want you."

Josiah was dumbfounded at her response.

After a round of teasing, Josiah got quiet all of a sudden.

He was reminded of his time with Ivy. If she really did not love him, why would she come back to the country just to have his child?

And who was the little girl that she was searching for?

In the end, he too was drowned in the sea of doubts, just like Meredith.

"Let's go. We'll talk about this after the show." Meredith tugged at his sleeve.

"Let's have lunch first. There's still some time left before the show starts."

"Ah, okay."

Josiah had Walter drive them to a restaurant that was nearby.

After lunch, the both of them went to watch the musical show.

Three hours passed after the musical show ended.

Meredith made a call to Ivy and after a while, Ivy's voice was heard from the other end of the phone, "Meredith, are you guys done with the show?"

"Yes, it just ended. Where are you, Miss Ivy? We'll come to pick you up now."

"I'll be waiting at the Riverside Garden."

"Alright. We'll head over now." Meredith then ended the call.

When the car pulled over at the Riverside Garden, they noticed Ivy who was sitting on a bench. She was sitting there quietly and seemed as if she was lost in her thoughts.

She did not even notice the few youngsters that were fooling around her.

Seeing how Ivy was not responding, they thought that she was mentally ill. And one of the guys pushed

further and reached out his hand, wanting to touch Ivy's chest.

But before the guy's hand could even reach Ivy, his arm was broken by Josiah.

The guy let out a painful shriek as he quivered in fear, holding his broken arm.

"Get the hell out of here!" Josiah then threw him back to his group of friends.

The other guys in the group wanted to attack Josiah but they were all intimidated by Josiah and ran away in the end.

It was then Ivy finally came back to her senses. She looked at Josiah, smiled, and said, "Joe, you're here."

It was as if she really did not realize what was about to happen earlier.

Looking back at Ivy, Josiah asked, "Shouldn't you at least defend yourself?"

She did not care to fight back or neither was she scared. Ivy was not like those weak and helpless girls.

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Chapter 1256 "I didn't notice them." Ivy took a glance at the group of youngsters who had just left.

"Miss Ivy, it's dangerous like that." Meredith walked over to Ivy and helped her get up from the bench. "You should fight back and defend yourself when this sort of thing happens again."

"But what if I can't win? What should I do?" Ivy asked.

What if she could not win them?

All of a sudden, Meredith did not know how to answer Ivy's question.

"It's not always that Joe would show up in time and help me get rid of those bad people," With a smile on her face, Ivy added.

But there was bitterness behind her smile.

Looking at Ivy, Josiah said, "Miss Ivy, even though I am still upset about what you did back then, we are friends, after all. I'll do what I can if you ever need help or if you're In trouble."

Ever since Ivy returned to the country, Josiah had rarely been nice to her.

But after today's incident, it seemed as if Ivy was really in trouble.

Josiah thought that helping Ivy would be doing himself a favor too.

Ivy too did not expect to hear such words from Josiah. A look of surprise flickered across her eyes. "I've told you, haven't I? My only difficulty right now is that I can't have your heart and I can't get married to you. And apart from that, nothing else is difficult for me.

"Let's head back now." Ivy got into the car first.

Josiah and Meredith exchanged a glance before getting into the car.

By the time the three of them arrived home, Mrs.

Shelby was drinking tea in the living room. She took a glance at the three of them and asked, "Where have you been? You guys have been missing for so long."

"We went shopping after that," Ivy replied.

She then added, "Aunt, I'm going to check on the kids."

She then turned around and was about to go upstairs.

Mrs. Shelby said, "Cooper and Nia are out fishing and they're not back yet."

Ivy's steps froze slightly. "Oh, is it?"

"I'll head up to get some rest then." Ivy insisted on going upstairs.

Meredith and Josiah also came up with an excuse and went upstairs. Mrs. Shelby was watching them as they leave and her expression slowly darkened.

As soon as they were back in their room, Meredith put her ears on the door and started listening.

A confused Josiah asked, "What are you doing?"

"I'm trying to listen to find out what's going on out there," Meredith put a finger to her mouth and whispered, "I think Suzy is here."

Meredith opened the door slightly and she could hear Suzy's voice saying, "Miss Ivy, Ma'am says that she wants you to make her clam chowder."

Ivy responded, "Okay Suzy. I'll get to it right away."

Soon, Ivy was heard going down the stairs.

Meredith walked over to Josiah and said, "Joe, do you notice that Ivy seems to be scared of Mrs. Shelby?"

"I mean, who wouldn't be scared of my mother? With that temper of hers." Josiah was going through something on his tablet.

"But Ivy was raised by Mrs. Shelby, wasn't she? And Mrs. Shelby adores her the most, right? They should be close then, why would Ivy be scared of her?"

Not getting a response from Josiah, Meredith put her

head close to Josiah and asked, "What are you looking at?"

Scrolling through the contents on the tablet, Josiah explained, "There are a total of seven kids with septicemia but I'm not sure if the girl that Ivy is looking for is in here."

Startled, Meredith took the tablet from Josiah's hands.

There was a compiled list of Information about the seven kids. But they could not be sure which child Ivy was looking for.

“I’ve asked Wesley to look into these girls’ families and all of them have both of their parents. So I think your guess is wrong.”

Josiah was referring to how Meredith guessed that Ivy was looking for her birth daughter.

Chapter 1257 “Or perhaps the child is not getting treated at the hospitals in Delmas Town.”

Meredith paused before saying, “Do you want to show these to Ivy?”

“I don’t think it’s a good idea to let her know that we followed her, right? I’m worried that it may ruin our plan.”

“But we can’t let Ivy keep searching blindly like that, right?”

Pausing, Meredith added, “Why not do this? I’ll tell her about it. Since it is normal for me to be following her.”

“How so?”

“Um...” Meredith adjusted Josiah’s head so that he was looking at her and said, “because she’s trying to steal my man from me and I have to keep my eyes on her.”

“Don’t worry, I know what I’m doing.”

Giving a light pat on his face, she said, “Wait here. I’ll go meet her.”

“She’s making clam chowder for my mother, isn’t she?” “Oh, you’re right. I’ll go see her in a bit then.”

Ivy had always been a good cook. While they were living abroad, she was in charge of making meals for Mrs.

Shelby.

She cooked up the clam chowder swiftly and served the soup in a bowl for Mrs. Shelby. The entire house was filled with a delicious smell.

Placing the bowl onto a tray, Ivy served the tray to Mrs. Shelby. "Mrs. Shelby, the soup is ready."

Mrs. Shelby tried the soup.

"How do you like it?"

"Not bad," Mrs. Shelby took another spoonful of the soup then looked at Ivy and asked, "You spent a day out with Joe, so tell me, how did it go?"

"It was alright."

"But why was he holding hands with Meredith when they got back?"

Ivy remained silent for a few seconds before replying, " Joe finds it hard to accept me for now. But don't worry, Mrs. Shelby, I will do my best."

With a loud thud, Mrs. Shelby slammed the spoon against the table.

Ivy felt her heart drop.

"Is that all you could do? Telling me that you'll do your best? But where are the results? Is doing your best going around visiting the hospital?"

Ivy slightly clenched her hands into a fist.

Feeling guilty, she lowered her head and said, "I'm sorry, Mrs. Shelby..."

Mrs. Shelby slapped Ivy across her face.

Ivy closed her eyes and gritted her teeth tightly to hold back the pain.

"Ivy Landers, do you really think that I'd be stupid enough to let that little b*stard get treated in any of Delmas Town's hospitals? That child doesn't have long to live anyway, do you really think that I'd let the child get treated?"

Ivy felt her legs go weak and she finally collapsed onto the floor.

Looking at how Ivy was devastated, Mrs. Shelby scoffed, "I've already made myself clear that the child will die if you don't follow my orders."

Tears rushed out of her eyes but she did not plead with Mrs. Shelby, and instead, she uttered softly, "Mrs.

Shelby, aren't you even terrified that Josiah would hate you for being so ruthless and cruel?"

"Do you really think that I'd care?" Mrs. Shelby scoffed and went on, "But feel free to go ahead and tell him.

We'll see who ends up much worse."

Ivy lifted her head and asked, "Mrs. Shelby, why won't you let the child be treated? She's terribly ill."

"Shouldn't you have the answers?"

"I've really tried my best," Ivy started sobbing, "I also don't know why I'm this useless to the point that I can't even seduce a guy, I..."

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Chapter 1258

“Because you didn’t try hard enough,” Mrs. Shelby grabbed Ivy by her chin, stared into her eyes furiously, and seethed, “all you do is apologize and claim that you’ve given your best, but have you really? I’ve gone through hoops and secured an opportunity for you to have Joe’s child, I forced him to go visit your parent’s graveyard with you, and even got the musical show tickets for you. And what did you do? You handed over those opportunities on a silver plate and gave it to Meredith Leighton.”

Shaking her head, Ivy explained, “No! I didn’t do it on purpose, Mrs. Shelby. Joe...he...”

“Don’t you dare to put all the blame on Joe!” Mrs. Shelby put her off again and went on, “If I were you, I’d have found a chance and gotten rid of Meredith. By then, Joe would have no choice but to marry you, wouldn’t it?”

Ivy was stunned.

She did not expect to hear those words from Mrs. Shelby.

“Mrs. Shelby, you...what do you mean by that?” Ivy stammered in fear.

Mrs. Shelby pulled at the corners of her lips and scoffed, “Ivy Landers, you grew up in a wealthy and influential family, after all, didn’t you? You should have experienced those power struggles, haven’t you? Don’t tell me you don’t know what I’m talking about, hmm?” If It

“Do you really think that your parents were killed in that accident? Do you really think that it was that simple? Have you seen those people who are taking charge of the Landers Group? Isn’t it obvious to you what exactly had happened to your parents?”

“No...” Ivy shook her head as tears ran down her cheeks. * It’s not like that! My parent’s death was an accident, it was an accident!”

“It’s up to you if you want to keep telling yourself that. After all, it’s none of my business.” Mrs. Shelby drank the soup and sighed softly, “I just feel sad for my best friend for having a useless husband who failed to protect the family, and for having a useless daughter who can’t do anything right.”

“Mrs. Shelby, please stop. I don’t want to hear them anymore,” Ivy covered her ears with her hands tightly, shook her head, and went on, “I don’t want to hear them, I don’t want to hear them...”

“If running away makes you feel better, then keep running away,” Mrs. Shelby scoffed, “I have plans of making you one of the Shelbys and with your status as Josiah’s wife, it would be a piece of cake to get rid of your stepmother and to take back your company. But since you don’t have this ambition, let’s forget it then.”

Mrs. Shelby finished the soup and passed her the empty bowl. “Leave now. I want to get some rest.”

Ivy took the bowl in her hands but she did not leave. Instead, she stood there looking at Mr. Shelby with tears in her eyes.

Mrs. Shelby took a napkin, cleaned her mouth, and took a glance at Ivy. “Why are you looking at me like that? Haven’t I helped my best friend, your mother, enough? If it wasn’t because I’ve such a lousy teammate. I’d have gotten the Landers Group back.”

Ivy slowly composed herself.

Wiping away the tears on her face, she looked at Mrs. Shelby and said, “Mrs. Shelby, the dead are already dead. Even if I get back the Landers Group, it won’t bring my parents back alive. SO...I just want to live in the present and take good care of my child. If you really care about my mother as her friend, please, would you just let me free...”

Fuming, Mrs. Shelby slapped Ivy on her face again. “You useless piece of rag! If I were your mother, I’d have killed you myself!”

This time, Ivy did not feel any pain at all. Because the pain that she was feeling in her heart was too strong.

Grabbing onto Mrs. Shelby’s blouse, she pleaded again, “Mrs. Shelby, tell me where my child is, please tell me where she is.”

“I will. Only when you get married to Josiah.” Mrs. Shelby pushed her away, got up onto her feet, and said, “Get out. I want to rest.”

“Mrs. Shelby...”

“Stop calling me that,” Mrs. Shelby cut her off coldly.

Biting down on her lips, Ivy bit the bullet and pleaded again, “Mrs. Shelby, please just tell me how she is doing, my child...is she really not being treated?”

“Do you really think that I’d leave the little b*stard of yours in a hospital so that you could find her?”

Mrs. Shelby then walked out of the door.

Feeling devastated, Ivy fell onto the floor and closed her eyes.

Night came and Meredith went to check on the kids in their room to find that Ivy was also in the room.

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The kids were already soundly asleep and Ivy was adjusting the room temperature.

“Are Cooper and Nia already asleep?” Meredith took a glance at both of the kids who were sleeping next to each other.

Ivy had her eyes fixed on Meredith.

She was reminded of Mrs. Shelby’s words earlier – about how Josiah would have no choice but to marry her if she had gotten rid of Meredith.

Mrs. Shelby was right. Perhaps if Meredith was gone, Josiah would have found it easier to accept her. After all, she was Cooper’s mother.

But how would Meredith be gone just like that?

Unless she were to do what Mrs. Shelby had suggested...

“Miss Ivy, aren’t you going to get some rest?” Meredith raised her voice a little as Ivy seemed to have not heard her earlier.

Ivy finally came back to her senses. She asked, “Sorry, what were you saying, Meredith?”

Meredith replied, "I was saying ...I would like to have a word with you. Can we talk in your room?"

Ivy hesitated a while before nodding. "Sure."

She then turned around and headed to her bedroom.

Meredith followed Ivy into her bedroom. Ivy turned around to face Meredith and asked, "Meredith, what would you like to talk about?"

Meredith handed the tablet in her hands to Ivy and said, "Miss Ivy, this is a list of all the little girls diagnosed with septicemia. Have a look and see if the person that you're looking for is in there."

Ivy's face went pale immediately. She was staring at Meredith with a startled look on her face.

Meredith added, "If you don't think she's in Delmas town, I can help you to search for her all over the country."

After a moment of silence, Ivy finally seethed frustratedly, "Were you following me?"

Without trying to hide anything, Meredith nodded.

"How could you follow me?" Ivy fumed, "Meredith Leighton, I didn't know that you would stoop so low!"

"Didn't they say that one should know their enemies if one wants to win the battle? Well, you're technically my enemy, aren't you?" Meredith pulled into a smile and added, "Do you really not want this? I've asked my

people to look into this."

With her hands slowly clenched into a fist, Ivy hesitated before finally reaching out to take the tablet and started scrolling across the list.

Meredith said, "Miss Ivy if the person that you're looking for is not on the list, don't worry. As long as you promise me that you'll leave Joe alone, I'll promise you that I'll look for the child across the country for you."

Ivy tightened her grip on the tablet and stayed silent.

Meredith studied her and went on, "But I am curious who is the person that you're searching for. Could she be your family?"

Ivy lifted her head abruptly and looked at Meredith.

Meredith added, "What I mean to say is that if she is your family, it's easier to find the child if we get a sample of your blood."

Meredith wanted to know why Ivy was looking for a little girl with septicemia.

And she was confident that finding the girl would be the easiest way to get into Ivy's world of secrets.

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But Ivy simply handed the tablet back to Meredith and replied flatly, "It's fine. I was just doing someone a favor anyway. I've tried my best."

Mrs. Shelby had already made herself clear that as long as Ivy was not married to Josiah, the little girl would not be admitted into any hospital.

Hence, there would be no chance of finding the child in any hospital.

At Ivy's response, Meredith immediately furrowed her brows.

Meredith was surprised that Ivy actually said that it was fine.

Had she not been searching for the child for the entire day? And she was absentminded the whole day.

How was it that Ivy was suddenly indifferent and nonchalant about the matter?

Could it be that Meredith had really over thought matters and as Ivy claimed, she was simply doing someone a favor?

Meredith glanced at the tablet and asked, unsurely, " Miss Ivy, are you sure you don't want this?"

"The price is too much for me to pay. Hence, it's fine," Ivy replied calmly then said to Meredith, "Miss

Meredith, what if I offer you a negotiation instead? As long as you leave Joe, I will do anything that you ask of me."

"What if I'm unwilling?"

"If so..." Ivy looked at her and pulled into a bitter smile. " You're leaving me with no other choice then."

"What do you mean?" Meredith arched her brows and asked, "What are you planning to do?"

"I'm also not sure what I'd do," Ivy shook her head as if she was talking to herself, she murmured, "I really hope that I won't have to do anything, anything at all..."

"I will never let you have Joe."

She would not give up on Josiah, she could not.

"But Joe is with me. How are you not going to let me have him?" Meredith was puzzled.

"He will marry me."

"You're quite confident, aren't you?"

"Meredith Leighton, since neither of us is going to take a step back, there's nothing else for us to talk about, is there? Please, if you could just leave." Ivy's gaze turned cold.

Meredith suddenly realized the redness on Ivy's cheek. Hence, she asked, "Miss Ivy, what happened to your face?"

Ivy frowned slightly and replied flatly, "I don't think we're close enough for you to worry about me."

"I said earlier that you can talk to me if you need any help, I'm willing to help you. But on the condition that you'd stay away from Joe."

"Thanks, but you won't be able to help me."

Looking at Ivy's darkened expression, Meredith insisted, "What about if you talk to me about it first?"

Ivy slowly came back to her senses and replied, "Meredith Leighton, I've made myself very clear, haven't I? The only problem I have right now is that I have to get married to Joe. Could you help me with that? If not, then please leave."

Ivy was protecting her secret stubbornly.

Meredith sighed helplessly. She had no choice but to give in. "Alright then. I hope you'll come to your senses soon and give up on Joe."

Meredith then walked out of Ivy's room.

When she returned to her room, Josiah was still in there.

Meredith asked, "What are you still doing here?"

"What do you mean? I'm waiting for you, of course." Josiah was flipping through a magazine.

"And why are you waiting for me?" Meredith walked over and said, "Josiah, this is your Grandma's place.

Both of your grandparents are here, you better behave."

"Can you please tell me how I am not behaving?" Josiah closed the magazine and looked at Meredith.

"For instance, you shouldn't be seen in my room. After all, we're not married."

"But, we've promised to go through things together, haven't we?"