

## CHAPTER 1: STOLEN IDENTITY

In Washburn Orphanage, a little girl of about eight to nine years was seen surrounded by other children her age, with a pitiful look on her beautiful face, she seemed to be crying, "I didn't steal it, it's mine, you stole it from me." She pointed at the girl in front of her, almost the same age like her but the latter was chubby with the crying girl was so skinny but beautiful, "It's a lie, our Jasmine isn't a thief and she won't steal your jade." A young girl from the crowd yelled, "I'm not lying, the jade is mine, my mama had given it to me before she..." "You're a liar and a thief, our princess Jasmine is no thief like you." Another child yelled, The girl who was accused didn't utter any word, she just stood by and watch the other kids defend her against the crying one, with a wicked look on her face, she seemed satisfied watching the skinny child cry. "Thief!" "Thief!" "Thief" The kids sang mockingly at the skinny child, she tried defending herself but none was paying attention to her, "Gianna!" An older voice called, the other children kept quiet at the appearance of the young lady who was one of their teachers. "I didn't steal it, its mine." Gianna stammered but no one was ready to give her a listening ear, "Gianna and Jasmine, come with me." She ordered, the two girls followed her while the rest kids kept murmuring as some went in suite, then others went back to play. When they got to the director's office, the two girl were asked to wait for the director of the

orphanage to come out,

“Jasmine,are you sure its your?” Miss Lena asked again to be sure,the girl

nodded while Gianna

couldn't say anything,

No one ever listens to her.

Thanks director finally came out,an older man in his early forties,he was kinda average height

and has a potbelly,with salt and pepper hair and strands of it falling over his rough face,

“What's the matter here?” He asked Miss Lena immediately he sat down,

“Jasmine reported to me this morning that Gianna here was fighting with her for this piece of

jade,she claims it to be hers but Jas here said it belongs to her.” The young woman explained to

the man,he took out his glasses, cleaned it and wore it again adjusting it to the bridge of his

nose.

“Jas,can you explain to me what happened?” He asked her lovingly casting an angry look at

Gianna,

“I saw my jade on Gianna bed and I took it,she came this morning and stated accusing me of

stealing her jade.” The girl said,

“It's a I...” One look from the director, the crying girl couldn't finish her word,tears were just

streaming down her eyes,

The director turned to Gianna with an angry face,not giving her the chance to explain,

“You little thief,how can you steal from your fellow kids,” He scolded her,her tears knew no

bound,

How can she be accused and not given the chance to explain herself.

This is so unfair

“It's mine,she stole it...” Infuriated at her lies,the director gave her a sounding slap,the other

child smiled while she wailed,  
“Take her to the lock up room,no food for her today and tomorrow.” He  
ordered, Miss Lena  
forcefully dragged her from the office,  
“I didn’t do it,I didn’t steal the jade,its mine.” Her cross fell on deaf ear,  
No one can save her now.

A WEEK LATER

“Kids,remember to behave yourselves when he comes,one of you would be lucky  
to get adopted  
by the De Marco’s today.” The director told the kids as they sat on their seat,  
“Remember what I told you last night,anyone that doesn’t stay good would stay in  
the lock up  
room for the night,who wants that?” He asked the kids, “Not me!”  
“Not me!”  
“Not me!” They all chorused,except one child,Gianna.She sat alone, no friends  
and no one to  
talk to,secretly hoping that a nice and loving family would just take her away from  
here forever.

Every Novel Lover, [3/28/2021 5:36 AM]

“Now you all stay here and be good,they’ll be arriving here any time soon.” The  
kids nodded  
and the director left with the few teachers working with them at the orphanage.  
Immediately they left,the kids turned to themselves, talking or doing one thing or  
the other in  
their various group.  
Awhile later,the long awaited Mr De Marco came,actually he’s the great master of  
the De  
Marco’s and he’s come to look for something precious.  
His lost daughter’s child,recently he got a report the child was at this orphanage,  
so he’d come  
to get her and take her to their mansion to lived as the young mistress of his  
grandson  
Alexandre.  
“Master,welcome sir.” The director greeted the old man,

“Hmmm,where are the kids?” He asked not having time to reply his greeting,what he really wanted was the girl.

“They’re at the playground, Sir what child do you want to adopt?” The director asked the man,

“I got wind that the young mistress from my family’s here,,so I’ve come to get her.” He brought

out a jade from his pocket,

“The child has something of this sort.” Showing the jade to the man,something struck his memory,

Jasmine has a pair of this jade.Is she the De Marcos young mistress?” He asked himself,

“Sir if it’s so,then I’ll have to go get the girl,she’s here.” With great assurance, he ran to the

playground,

“Jasmine!” He called out to the young girl who was busy chatting with her friends,

“Jasmine, come here.” With the realization she has been called,the girl stood up and went to the

man,

“You called me?” She asked the man smiling, he nodded,

“Follow me.” She followed the man not asking any questions. When they got to his office,the

old man was still sitting down looking at the piece of jade in his hands.

“Sir,here’s the girl.” The director pushed Jasmine to the man,whose gaze fell on her

neck,revealing the piece of jade.

“Young girl,who gave those to you?” Mr De Marco asked the girl,who seemed confused but had

a perfect answer,

“My mom....” Before she could finish,the man pulled her into his embrace.

“My long lost daughter is back.” When he left her,he made her remove the jade,putting it and

the one he was holding,the two pair matched,he turned to his assistant.

“Send message home, I’ve found Katerina’s daughter.” Pulling the girl close, he couldn’t let her off his embrace, like she would disappear if he does that and he’s gonna have a lot of problem finding her like what happened to her mom. The did every necessary formalities and transferred a huge sum of money to the director’s account, “This is for taking care of my young Katerina for me, I’ll take my leave now.” He took the girls hands and they went into the car, driving away quickly like when they came.