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All Too Late Chapter 465

Chapter 465 Fend For Yourself

"Be careful," said Rory in a hushed tone.

Upon hearing that, Kathleen nodded in response.

Just then, Marjory dashed forward, intending to land an uppercut on Kathleen with her left fist.

Kathleen dodged the attack easily. She grabbed her opponent's wrist and gave it a hard squeeze.

A pang of pain shot up Marjory's arm in an instant, and it felt as if her wrist was burning.

She tried her best to wriggle her wrist out of Kathleen's grasp but found out her wrist had turned black.

What... is this?

While Marjory was distracted, Kathleen dashed forward, bellowing her opponent's name, "Marjory!"

A fistful of powder hit her face when Marjory looked up, and upon inhaling the powder, she instantly slumped to the ground.

Every inch of her body was twitching uncontrollably, and her limbs felt limp.

D*mn it! How could I forget that Kathleen had that trick up her sleeve!

Casting a cold glance at Marjory, Kathleen taunted, "Do you reckon anyone would find out if I were to get rid of you right here and now?"

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“Don’t you dare!”

“Do you think Ashley and the others would dare to look for you out in the open?”

Marjory remained silent while wearing a grimace, for she knew Ashley wouldn’t do that for her.

“Miley’s suicide was your idea, wasn’t it? You were the one who taught her how to jump without hurting herself, isn’t that right?” queried Kathleen impassively.

“No, I have nothing to do with it.”

Marjory stubbornly refused to come clean. Hence, Kathleen whipped out her phone and played a recording on it.

The recording was none other than the conversation between Marjory and Miley that had taken place three months ago.

Marjory’s face instantly turned as pale as a sheet. “You—”

“I’ve always known. It’s just that Gemma got hurt before I could do a thorough investigation.” Wearing an icy expression, Kathleen continued, “Was it Miley who instructed you to hurt Gemma?”

“Gemma’s death has nothing to do with me!” yelled Marjory.

“Then what about Samuel? Do you dare say it had nothing to do with you?”

Kathleen’s words rendered Marjory stumped.

“Did you think I was sitting around doing nothing in the three months I spent at Smealand?” A mocking smile hung on Kathleen’s lips as she continued, “I sent people to investigate if any organizations had been to the area or if any local organizations were working with anybody. I didn’t expect something so interesting to fall right into my lap.”

A hint of guilt flitted across Marjory’s face when she heard that.

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"It seems like I hit the nail on the head. You brought a bunch of people to ambush Samuel, isn't that right?"

Biting her lips, Marjory continued to deny her involvement in the scheme. "No! I don't know anything!"

"It's fine if you don't admit it because I'll still expose your schemes on the day of Samuel's and Ashley's engagement. I'm sure you and Ashley both know Samuel's temperament very well," said Kathleen while glaring daggers at the other woman.

In spite of all that, Marjory still refused to believe her. "Impossible! There's no way you'd have any evidence!"

"As long as you did it, there will be a trail leading back to you. Did you truly believe you two executed a flawless plan? Where did you get that sort of confidence, hm?"

"Let go of me!" Marjory struggled but she couldn't muster an ounce of strength at all.

"Don't waste your energy." Kathleen laughed. "This medicine is specifically made for you. You'll continue to be like this for a week, unable to muster any strength. As for the engagement ceremony, you can stop thinking about attending it because you won't be able to."

Marjory bit down on her lips, glaring at Kathleen fiercely. "If I disappear, Ashley will definitely look for me."

"Tomorrow's her engagement ceremony with Samuel. Do you think she'd have the time to look for you?" The corner of Kathleen's lips curved upward, but the smile didn't reach her eyes as her gaze remained frosty.

It was then that Marjory knew she couldn't escape.

She had been careless.

I should've listened to Lauren and not come out at all.

"Rory, tie her up and take her away. However, do not leave a trail. I don't want anyone discovering this," instructed Kathleen.

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“Understood.” Rory nodded.

Right before turning around and leaving, Kathleen shot one last glance at Marjory, who clenched her teeth in rage.

The following day, Lauren took a peek into Marjory’s room.

She noticed the latter hadn’t been home all night.

Where did she go?

At that thought, she whipped out her phone and gave Marjory a call, only to find out Marjory had switched her phone off.

What’s going on?

Lauren also called Marjory’s subordinates, but none of them knew where she had gone off to.

Upon hearing that, Lauren instantly had an ominous feeling.

She quickly gave Ashley a call. “Bad news. Marjory might have gotten in trouble.”

“What?” Ashley was enraged. “Where did she run off to?”

“I don’t know. I even called her subordinates, but none of them knew her whereabouts. I suspect something has happened to her,” explained Lauren worriedly.

A sense of anxiousness arose within Ashley when she heard that. “How could it be? Today is such an important day. Marjory is too disobedient!”

“What’s most important right now is the engagement ceremony between you and Samuel. Besides, you only employed her to deal with Kathleen. You can always employ someone else to take her place in the future.” Lauren then lowered her voice, adding, “After all, this is the most important thing.”

“All right.” Ashley nodded. “Just let her subordinates look for her then.”

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“Marjory’s disappearance must have something to do with Kathleen. You should be cautious. I can’t step up to deal with it, so you should be more careful.”

“Got it.” After that, Ashley hung up the phone.

Lauren placed the phone down and clenched her fists. For some reason, she had a bad feeling that something was about to happen.

Kathleen’s approach was aggressive.

Meanwhile, Ashley was in the lounge.

She had already gotten her makeup done and changed into her outfit.

At the same time, the banquet hall was quickly filling up with guests.

However, Samuel hadn’t arrived.

This made Ashley slightly uneasy, for she was deathly afraid he might not show.

If Samuel doesn’t show up, won’t I become the butt of the joke? How can I maintain status in Jadeborough?

Just then, the door to the lounge was pushed open, and an older lady walked in.

“Aunt Luna.” Ashley stood up, looking dissatisfied.

The older woman was none other than Luna Zeller, Ashley’s paternal aunt.

Luna merely hummed in acknowledgement of Ashley’s greeting. In an indifferent tone, she stated, “Samuel hasn’t arrived, but the guests are all here. Aren’t you going to call him and ask him to hurry up?”

“I called him, but he didn’t pick up. I suppose he’s still on the road,” said Ashley quietly.

Displeased by her niece’s answer, Luna thundered, “It’s been so long. Why don’t you have him in the palm of your hand yet? You knew him so well in the past, yet you still haven’t succeeded.”

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“Back then, Samuel wasn’t truly in love with me. The one he loved was Kathleen, and in fact, I don’t know him that well either. He never gave me the chance to.”

“It’s already too late to back out now. You have to hold onto Samuel or you’d be in dire straits yourself. Don’t say I didn’t warn you! Think about how much the Yoeger family has hurt you in the past. If you don’t work hard now, you won’t have another chance to!”

After she was hauled over the coals by her aunt, Ashley meekly responded, “I understand.”

“If you fail today, I won’t bother with you anymore. You’ll have to fend for yourself in the future.”

As soon as her words fell, Luna stood up and strode out of the lounge.

Ashley bit her lips hard, determined to not let all of the hard work, effort, and sacrifices she had made go to waste.

All Too Late 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.”

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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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