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Never Late, Never Away Chapter 1691 - 1695

Since young, everyone had treated him like a royalty. He was always well-protected and taken care of. No one had dared to comment on his behavior until then. He could hardly believe that such an eligible bachelor like him would be rejected! Besides, the other party was even willing to suffer a loss in reputation as well as huge financial losses just to escape from the marriage, causing Jory to feel utterly humiliated.

Even though everyone had accepted the fact that the marriage proposal failed, Jory refused to go along with it. In his opinion, it was impossible for any woman to refuse him. Very quickly, he guessed that there was probably someone else that the lady was interested in, otherwise, it didn't make sense for her to reject him so resolutely.

Just like what he thought, after Jory insisted that he wouldn't take no for an answer, the other party had no choice but to tell him that the lady had already fallen for another man.

After his suspicions were confirmed, Jory felt victorious and behaved smugly in front of his dad. Even though he felt appeased after knowing the real reason, his dad was obviously unhappy. Jabbing a finger at Jory's face, his dad scolded, "Are you feeling very proud of yourself now? If you continue being a good-for-nothing who bums around, even if she didn't have someone else in mind, there was still no way she would settle for you!"

Jory was rendered speechless and could not find any words to defend himself. However, his dad was unstoppable as fury overcame him. "You're nothing without me! All you know is how to fool around. I just don't understand how you can even be so full of yourself!"

Back then when he was eighteen, Jory never took responsibility for any of his poor behavior. After much thought, he still attributed the failure of his marriage proposal entirely to the lady.

Whenever Jory recalled how his dad reprimanded him, his hatred towards that lady would deepen even further. As such, for a few days after he was rejected, he took no action. However, the lady was unable to wait any further as she needed Jory's cooperation in order to get together with her lover officially.

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Being an intelligent woman, she sent Jory an anonymous email, which managed to pique Jory's interest. He had interacted with all sorts of women but had yet come across such a petty one who even refused to reveal her identity to him.

She continued writing him numerous emails, all to which he replied. Even though it wasn't a lot, but Jory felt that he had gained some valuable information through their brief interactions.

His most important takeaway was learning that he was actually just a joke to many. If he were not born into a rich family, he would literally be a nobody.

However, it was difficult for him to understand what she meant by reciprocal true love because he had never experienced it before. Even though he had been in many relationships, he had not truly loved any of those women. However, he accepted the fact that the woman would not be able to see any value in him in his current state. He was aware that perhaps, the reason that she rejected his marriage proposal wasn't because of another man, but rather, it was because she saw nothing in him that was worthy of her affections.

In the end, Jory still conceded to her wishes and accepted the situation. At the same time, he started working on himself and had a complete change in attitude. He had changed a lot since then, but one thing remained unchanged and that was his hatred towards that woman.

He wanted her to know that rejecting him would be the worst decision as well as the greatest regret in her life. Apart from helping Dustin, he had another objective, which was to destroy the Barrymore Group.

Although he was focused on dealing with Larry at the moment, he was fully confident that he would be able to take down the Barrymores as well. Even though Nancy had remained anonymous and did not divulge any of her personal information to him at that time, Jory had still managed to find out her identity.

"Nancy Barrymore... Just wait and see. I'll make you regret your decision," Jory muttered as he leaned back in his seat and closed his eyes while tapping his fingers on the armrest rhythmically.

"Mr. Norton, another one of our branches got acquired by the Alpire Group this morning," a male employee reported as he entered Larry's office in a fluster.

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Larry was resting on the sofa and looked pale. He replied weakly, "Got it. I heard you... You may leave now."

Just then, Joan walked into the office. When the male employee was about to greet her, she quickly stopped him by waving her hands and gestured for him to keep quiet.

Even so, Larry, who had folded his arms behind his head, knew that Joan had arrived as he heard her footsteps.

"Joan, this is already the fourth branch that we lost. I'm too ashamed to face my dad."

Joan knew how tortured Larry felt about the acquisition of the company's branches and had been worrying about him. Upon hearing his words, her heart ached for him even more.

She immediately stepped forward and held his hand, hoping to give him some warmth. "Don't say that. We're already trying our best to salvage the situation. Even though the end result matters, we should also give ourselves credit for the efforts we put in. Larry, don't be too upset. Although we still haven't found out who's the one behind all these and we haven't found an appropriate measure to tackle the situation yet, I firmly believe that justice will prevail and good always triumphs over evil. As long as we press on, we will be able to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Don't you agree?"

Larry pulled Joan into his arms when she finished speaking. He had changed a lot after his previous disappearance. He used to be too perfect. In fact, he was so perfect that he didn't even seem real to his peers. However, he had become more patient and was willing to listen to others. He would also feel helpless when he encountered problems. "Joan, thanks for staying by my side," he said.

Putting her arms tightly around the man, Joan replied softly, "Larry, we will face any hardships together. This time around is no different. We will come up with a solution together, alright? Even if we don't manage to salvage the company in the end, don't be too upset. Just remember that I'll always be by your side."

No doubt, money was important, but love gave life meaning. Without love, there would always be a void in one's life. However, one would not be able to survive purely on love

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alone. One would lead a most fulfilling life with both financial success and meaningful relationships. A life without both would be a wasted life.

Sometimes one would be caught unaware by problems that suddenly occurred. But wasn't that how life worked? It would not be a problem if one could prepare for it beforehand. Consequently, the success or failure of one's life depended mainly on the way problems were handled.

A couple was supposed to be a team, going through thick and thin together. The strength of a relationship was usually tested during times of hardship. Larry would never forget the encouragement and support Joan gave him during one of the most difficult periods of his life.

Meanwhile, Dustin walked into Jory's office and threw a newspaper on his desk. "Did you do this?" he asked nonchalantly.

Jory took a glance at the newspaper and replied, "Alpire Group... Yup, that's my family business. Is there an issue?"

"What's your purpose for doing this?" Dustin did not bother to beat around the bush.

"That's none of your business," Jory answered curtly. After a second of thought, he corrected himself and said, "Nope, actually, it's related to you, but only to a small extent."

Dustin leaned forward and put both hands on Jory's desk. Looking down at him, he asked, "What are you trying to do?"

Jory gave a bright smile. Putting one hand behind his head, he replied with an innocent expression, "Don't worry, I'm not interested in Joan's design company. That's just a small company and doesn't have much value to me. Besides, money isn't even my objective."

Maintaining the same posture, Dustin said, "You must have some guts to attack Larry's company. I really need to salute you... "

"Thank you, I'm so flattered," Jory clasped his hands together and replied, together with a bow.

Softening his tone, Dustin asked, "Can you tell me why?"

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Putting on an innocent face, Jory replied, "Do I need to have a reason for everything I do?" Knowing that Dustin was not going to accept that as an answer, Jory had no choice but to continue speaking, "Fine, I will tell you. I'm dealing with Larry for you. I don't think there's anything more devastating for him than his company being destroyed."

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"That's not entirely it."

Dustin's reply was like a hit to Jory's head. Apart from Nancy, who rejected his marriage proposal back then, the only other person who could always see through his thoughts was Dustin.

"If it's just to deal with Larry, you're really making a mountain out of a molehill. There's really no need for you to go to such extent. Besides, according to the direction Norton Corporation is developing, it is definitely no simple task to put them in such peril. In fact, more than your reason for doing this, I'm actually more interested in how you managed to do it."

Jory shrugged and with one hand on the back of his neck, he replied, "Can you sit down first? I have to strain my neck to look at you."

Dustin took his hands off the table and pulled out a chair. With a serious look on his face, he sat down opposite Jory.

Jory gave an uncanny smile and said, "I got it all planned out."

Dustin's facial muscles relaxed as he let out a sigh. "Forget it. If you don't feel like sharing, I wouldn't force you to do it. You must have your own reasons for doing things. Just do as you deem fit. I'm not going to stop you... "

"Well, it's not like you can..." Jory interrupted him and continued, "We always want what we can't have. I want to let someone know that she will end up losing everything she has because of a foolish decision she made..." Jory straightened his collar with an air of pomposity.

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“Oh, I have something to ask you.”

Dustin turned around and replied, “What is it?”

“Give me the address of Barrymore Group. I want to pay them a visit.”

When Joan left the previous time she visited, the advice she gave Nancy caused her to feel troubled for the next few days. Norton Corporation had already lost their fourth branch to S. According to her calculations, the Norton Corporation must have already lost close to 80 million.

The more she thought about it, the more she suspected that S was the man whom she rejected years ago. Fear crept up in her as she grew increasingly worried that Barrymore Group would be Alpire Group’s next target. Nancy grew more restless as her mind ran wild. She wanted to station herself at the company so that she could keep track of any unusual movements.

When she woke up, it was already 9 a.m.. As she saw sunshine permeating the room through the windows, she suddenly realized that she was late.

People tended to be more paranoid when in a state of fear. Sometimes, one might even feel that danger was just seconds away. Usually, Nancy would pose in front of her full-length mirror and make sure that she looked impeccable before heading out. However, that day, she simply grabbed a random blouse and went out without even checking herself out in the mirror.

As she was in such a rush, the woman had almost sped past the red light. As if she was experiencing a series of unfortunate events, her car suddenly broke down.

What made it worse was that it broke down on a narrow side road, resulting in a traffic jam behind her. Fortunately, there were not many cars which took that route. Nancy quickly got out of the car to check on the cause of the breakdown.

Jory had already spotted the red Bentley stopping in front of him from a distance away. As such, he intentionally slowed down, thinking that the car would be driven off by the time he got closer. However, that red car remained stationary.

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A good dog does not block the road. What on Earth is the driver doing? Besides, Jory was on a mission to look for someone. Has the driver simply parked the car here and left? Jory poked his head out of the car window. With one arm outside the window, he looked at the car in front and noticed that the driver didn't seem to be inside the car.

"Did the driver really treat this road as his parking lot? Where did he go to after leaving the car here?"

Jory got out of his car to check out the situation in front and realized that there was indeed no one in that car!

Just when he was worrying about how to get through, a petite figure popped out from underneath the car and was looking up at him.

"What are you doing?" The both of them asked at the same time.

"I asked you first," Nancy insisted.

Not to be outdone, Jory replied, "Well, I think I was the one who asked you first."

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Nancy snorted disdainfully, "Huh! How dare you confront me being a car thief!"

"Car thief?" Jory stared at her in incredulity, pointing at himself with his eyes widened. "Are you kidding me? I drove here!" He then pouted his lip, gesturing her toward his car behind.

After glancing at his car, Nancy shot him a disdainful look. "Well, my car is far more expensive than yours!"

Unfortunately, Jory could not refute her statement. Huh! Though I drive an ordinary car, it doesn't mean I'm poor. I'm just trying to keep a low profile! Being the heir to Alpire Group, I can afford any car that I want. I don't lack money or cars!

"Then, why did you park your extremely expensive car here? Huh! Don't block the path like a dog!" When it came to insulting, Jory was invincible.

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Indeed, Nancy burned with anger, and her voice raised an octave. "Are you calling me a dog? How dare you insult me!"

However, Jory appeared calm and nonchalant, looking at her with his eyebrows raised. "This is not an insult! Isn't it a fact?"

Staring at his annoying face, Nancy gave a roar of rage. "You bas*ard!"

In fact, Jory was immune to her scolding and enjoyed seeing her aggrieved face flushing in rage.

"Yeah, I'm a bas*ard! So what? Let me tell you, today I'm going to pass through here anyway!" He patted his car hood and leaned against it.

No way! I won't let him pass through here even if there is nothing wrong with my car, not to mention that my car has broken down!

Nancy held her head up slightly with her nose angled upward. Though she was petite, she was not afraid at all. Since she was young, her father told her to uphold justice. Therefore, she would definitely not give in to a car thief. He's a man—so what? If they really got into a fight, she could easily defeat him as she had a black-belt in Taekwondo.

"Since you're so capable, why don't you reverse your car all the way from here?"

Jory turned to look at the road behind. It was at least three or four hundred meters away. If I reverse my car for that distance and a car suddenly comes from behind, I'll definitely get scolded!

"Why should I reverse my car? Don't you drive a prestigious Bentley? Then, get into your car and drive off!"

Immediately, her anger spiked. "Who do you think you are? Why should I follow your instruction?"

After Nancy finished her words, she opened the car door and got into her car. She then slammed the door. Meanwhile, all the car windows were shut, and there was no way that Jory could talk to her anymore.

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“Hey...” He heard a car door slam before he could respond. Damn it! I’ve never seen such a willful woman! She is so domineering that she has blocked the entire road without giving others a chance to pass through just because she loathes me!

Oh Gosh! She even locked the doors and windows, trying to ignore me! Do you really think you’re a princess that you expect me to kneel and beg you to drive off so that I can pass through?

Dream on! I’ve never been afraid of anyone! You’ve got to be kidding if you think I’ll give in to you!

In the end, both of them sat in the driver’s seat of their respective car and remained silent, challenging each other to see who could sit still for a longer period.

Nancy was not afraid at all as she had learned to be patient through practicing Taekwondo. On the contrary, Jory would soon get bored by sitting in the car after a while since he had gotten rid of the habit of hanging around and doing sweet nothing.

Initially, he wanted to visit Barrymore Group to meet their heiress, who refused to marry him. However, he was blocked by a willful, arrogant, and domineering woman on his way unexpectedly.

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At first, Jory was sitting calmly in the car. Soon, he realized the signal was poor and the connection was very slow. With that, he could barely sit in the car any longer since he could not browse the internet, and there was no broadcasting on the radio.

With a serious look, Jory then googled “what should I do if a domineering woman blocked the road.” Unfortunately, the browser failed to display any search results due to the slow data connection.

He felt a flash of irritation and tossed his phone onto the passenger seat. After pondering for a moment, Jory got out of his car and approached Nancy.

In the beginning, he knocked on her car window patiently, but after seeing her grumpy face, he stopped behaving like a gentleman. Instead, he slapped the car window forcefully.

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It seemed like Jory knew Nancy held her car dearly. When she saw his reddened palm hitting the car window, she was afraid that he would break the window.

At last, Nancy had no choice but to lower the window slightly. They were separated by the glass. He thought it was going to be easy, huh? In the end, he couldn't sit still! Staring at Jory's anxious look, she said faintly, "What's wrong? Can't you sit still?"

In fact, he had run out of patience with her. "What exactly do you want? Can't you just drive off?"

Nancy replied without hesitation, "I can drive off, but you have to beg me!"

Jory was direct and frank, so he immediately responded, "I beg you to drive off, please!"

Much to her surprise, he begged her frankly. Oh Gosh! I simply said it and didn't expect him to do so! Now that he has begged me, how am I going to handle this? After all, her car broke down, and she could not fix it by herself.

Nancy remained silent and purposely turned away. She then stared blankly at the steering.

"Hey, are you going back on your word? Why don't you drive off? How dare you break your promise!" Jory questioned her.

He stretched Nancy's patience to the limit, and she struggled to choke back her anger. "I want to drive off, but my car has broken down! Why don't you try to drive it off?"

Right away, Jory's face broke into a wry smile. "What? Your car has broken down?"

How dare you scoff at me! I curse that your car breaks down whenever you drive!

"Haven't you seen a car breakdown before? What's with the surprise?"

Jory could barely conceal his amusement. "Of course, I've seen it before, but I've never seen a car breakdown on such a narrow road. Huhu! Didn't you foresee this coming?"

Nancy tamped down her anger. "If I've foreseen it, why would I be stuck in this place and run into you?"

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“Yeah, right! Running into me is very unlucky, and it’s even worse than a car breakdown! I thought I ran into an arrogant and savage woman. Yet, I’ve run into someone who is unfamiliar with her car! Oh well, I’d better get into my car and take a nap! Maybe your car would have been towed away by the time I wake up!”

“Tow...” Nancy’s lips twitched. Towing may be more troublesome than calling the mechanic to come over. Besides, if they accidentally damage my car, I’ll be extremely depressed!

Thinking of asking Jory for help, she had no choice but to smile at him shamelessly. “Do you know how to fix the car? After all, it won’t block your way if you can fix it!”

Surprisingly, he insulted her instead of lending her a hand. “You must have bought your driver’s license! Don’t you know the emergency breakdown procedure?”

Her face peered out with an innocent smile. “Oh well, my memory is poor!” Screw him! How I wish I could kick his ass!

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