

Chapter 2068 The Little Girl From Years Ago

Driven by Brandon and Janet's curiosity, Johanna shared the unfolding of that fateful year.

"Back then, both my sister and I had our share of good fortune. She married first, welcomed a daughter, and shortly after, I became pregnant, giving birth to Janet. But..."

Johanna paused, her hands balling into tight fists.

Seeing her mother's distress, Janet urged her, "But what?"

Johanna exhaled slowly, her voice heavy. "But just as you were about to come into the world, my sister's child was kidnapped."

"Kidnapped?"

Shock registered on the faces of both Janet and Brandon.

"Yes, the kidnapping threw our family into turmoil. We scrambled to find her, and in that chaos, I neglected my duties to my newborn, allowing someone the chance to swap the babies."

The memories seemed to overwhelm Johanna, cascading out uncontrollably.

Looking up at Janet, Johanna's eyes were bloodshot, tears carving paths down her cheeks.

After a moment, she spoke in a tone laden with guilt. "I'm sorry, Janet. My carelessness led to your suffering."

Before Janet had reunited with her biological parents, she had endured numerous difficulties, always pondering the reason behind her apparent abandonment.

Yet, she had forgiven them long ago, knowing there was no intention to forsake her.

"Mom, don't carry this burden. We've moved past it."

Janet stepped closer, her touch comforting as she gently wiped away Johanna's tears.

As Johanna recounted these painful memories, Brandon stood to the side, his expression contemplative.

Janet had once remarked on how familiar Sonia seemed. Now, hearing of Johanna's sister's lost child and knowing Sonia had grown up parentless in an orphanage, Brandon connected the dots.

The timelines matched; they could be the same age...

A realization dawned on Brandon, altering his expression as he considered the possibility—could Sonia be the child lost all those years ago?

As Janet absorbed her mother's words, a pang of regret surfaced. "Mom, since I've been back for so long, why haven't I ever met your sister?"

"She..." Johanna sighed deeply before speaking. "She's not here right now. She's in a nursing home."

"Can I go visit her?" Janet asked, her interest piqued.

Johanna didn't object. She retrieved her phone from her pocket and scrolled through her photo albums.

Soon, Johanna opened an album containing only two aged photographs.

"This is your aunt when she was younger."

As Johanna selected one of the photos, Janet leaned in to look.

It was a group photo featuring a younger Johanna cradling her pregnant belly. Beside her stood her sister, who exuded a gentle yet remarkable presence, holding her young daughter.

Just as Janet finished examining the photo, Johanna swiped to the next.

With another sigh, Johanna introduced the second photo. "And this is what your aunt looks like now."

The photo revealed an elderly woman with a weathered face sitting desolately at the nursing home's gate.

Janet studied the stark contrast between the two photos, her shock evident as she covered her mouth.

The change of her aunt over the years was startling.

Meanwhile, Brandon's thoughts were elsewhere. He wasn't as concerned about the appearance of Janet's aunt as he was about another pressing issue.

"Johanna, you mentioned your sister's daughter was kidnapped. What became of her?" he inquired, suspecting that if she were alive, she might well be Sonia.

Johanna's response was grave. "The kidnappers killed her."

