

Chapter 256 Forgive Him Or Not

As if someone had pressed the pause button on her, Loraine stared at the crowd blankly, like a deer caught in headlights.

Just then, someone coughed and Loraine was jolted out of her trance. She jumped out of Marco's arms immediately.

Lowering her head, she focused on straightening her clothes and coughed slightly, acting as though nothing had happened. She put on a calm expression and said, "We were locked in the room; that's all. It seems there's something wrong with the system."

If her ears weren't so glaringly red, they might have believed her act.

However, the research team suspiciously eyed the two of them, then their expressions turned somewhat understanding.

They believed Marco and his ex-wife purposely hid in the room for a romantic rendezvous.

Even Allen's lips curled mischievously as well.

Embarrassed and irritated, Loraine turned to Allen and bellowed, "Why are you arriving so late?"

Allen found her anger unfair. With an innocent look, he explained, "I was discussing something with them just now. I was wondering where you two were."

Marcel began to defend the company as soon as he heard of the system problem.

"There is no problem with Bryant Group's system. If there was, we would have been notified by Qbot. There must be some other reason."

Marco suddenly spoke before Loraine could even respond. "Qbot!"

A flash came from the entrance guard's light, and Qbot came online. Its tone was elusive as it said, "I'm here, Daddy."

Marco's face went dark. "This is how you use the authority I gave you? You're growing more disobedient by the minute! Cancel Qbot's authority and cut off its connection to the internet for a week!"

Everyone's eyes widened in shock as they heard this.

Marcel treated Qbot well as though it was his grandson. He said anxiously, "How can I do that? It's way too cruel!"

Loraine felt worried as well as she saw their reactions. She as well felt the punishment was too harsh for Qbot.

"Don't worry about it, Marco. It's not like anything happened."

Qbot, however, was stubborn. "I'm fine, Mommy. Let Daddy punish me as much as he wants! I will always be on Mommy's side! If Daddy fails to apologize, I'll be leaving with Mommy!"

Bryant Group's employees were shocked once more.

One major difference between Qbot and other artificial intelligence was that Qbot possessed free will and had its

own complex thoughts.

It was a program and didn't have a physical body. So the moment Qbot was connected to the internet, it would be able to freely move on its own through the internet. Bryant Group would be at a great loss if it truly ran away with Loraine in a fit of anger.

With this in mind, Marcel stepped out of the lab and made a phone call.

Marco felt helpless at Qbot's rebellion. He truly did not understand what was making it so stubborn.

Loraine felt helpless too.

She couldn't take Qbot away, of course. However, it was throwing a tantrum. The only thing she could do was try to calm it down. "Qbot, listen to your daddy, okay?"

Qbot, however, responded with a question. "Have you forgiven Daddy? If you haven't, then I won't either!"

Marco turned to Loraine as he heard this, eager to know the answer as well.

Loraine choked at the question. She opened her mouth, but no words came out.

She had expected the answer to be simple for her, however, having to answer made her realize it was not.

How could she so easily let go of the pain their marriage had brought her in the past three years?

They were divorced now, yes, but they were involved with each other still. She couldn't just say she wouldn't forgive him.

As far as she knew, Marco had left her repeatedly, all for Keely. She, however, also remembered that he had risked his life for her sake. She fell quiet.

Marco's eyes went dark, filled with pain and disappointment.

Lorraine turned away, and her voice was low as she said, "That's all for today. Let's go, Allen."

She collected her phone and dragged Allen along to walk past Marco.

Marco stood still. No one could decipher his emotions by the expression on his face.

Allen felt reluctance to leave and turned to look back. A while passed with him thinking, then he asked, "Do you hate Marco, Lorraine? To me, it seems like he cares a lot about you, though. He even put your name in his most important research result!"

Lorraine glanced at him and did not respond. She sighed inwardly. Allen was too simple and easily conned.

Marco inputting her identity information was no big deal. She was unsure why he hadn't inputted Keely into Qbot's system, but still, she was sure his family must have also been included in the system. Thus, it was nothing special.

Universe Group's employees hurried to the lab exit, but were suddenly stopped by Laura.

Having a large group blocking the exit, she eyed Lorraine up and down with a hostile expression. Then she snorted and said, "You're not going anywhere! I'll have to frisk you first!"

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Lorraine frowned. "What do you mean by that?"

"What do you ask? Don't you know what you've done?" Laura retorted angrily. "If Marcel hadn't called me, I wouldn't have known that you had come and something had gone wrong with the lab. Tell me, did you secretly sabotage something there?"

Lorraine found it so funny that she burst into laughter. "There was something wrong with your company's lab and I was trapped in it. But I won't complain about it for the sake of our partnership. Why don't you focus on solving your company's problems instead of blaming me?"

Hearing this, Laura became furious and retorted aggressively, "You say it's a problem with our company, eh? But I'm saying that it was you that caused the problem in the lab!"

"In that case, then let's call the police. Let's see if I was the one who sabotaged Bryant Group or if it was your company that threatened my life," Lorraine said with a sneer.

Laura became even angrier. "Lorraine Torres! I'm sure you deliberately shut the door to keep yourself and Marco in the lab. I know just how shameless you are!"

Lorraine's face darkened at such an outrageous accusation, but before she could say anything in response, Allen retorted, "You're wrong. It was Marco holding Lorraine."

Laura glared at him furiously. "This is Bryant Group! And you have no say here."

Laura would never forget the embarrassment she received from him in Loraine's office some time ago. "I think Loraine brought you to our laboratory with ulterior motives. You want to steal our technology!"

Allen shrugged. "Why should I steal it? I know everything that's in your lab. Qbot fascinates me, though."

His lack of concern only served to anger Laura even more. "Stop bragging! You are no genius! You are as hypocritical as Loraine is. Both of you just want our Qbot, but you keep boasting and talking down our marvelous achievement."

Loraine responded with a chuckle.

Sometimes, it was really difficult for her to understand what was going on in Laura's mind. Within the Bryant family, Laura and her daughter were both idiots.

"Save it, I've already caught your evil plot," Laura suddenly said with a smile, mistaking Loraine's silence for regret.

"Oh, really? And what's that evil plot?" Loraine asked.

"You just want to take away our Qbot under the guise of partnership! Let me tell you, you won't succeed. I won't let you!"

Loraine couldn't help but shake her head. What on Earth was Laura even talking about?

Loraine didn't want to waste any more time talking to Laura. "Show me the evidence. Otherwise, you have no right to stop me from leaving here."

With that, Loraine grabbed Allen's arm and marched out with him right past Laura.

Frightened by her imposing manner, Laura quickly took a few steps back to get out of her way. Then she shouted at the top of her lungs, "Qbot, close the door right now. Don't let the thieves go out!"

Immediately, the lights in the corridor began flickering. Qbot was online, but it didn't execute the order. Instead, it asked Loraine, "Mommy, who is this old lady? She doesn't have the permission to order me around!"

Loraine covered her mouth and coughed to hide her laughter.

"Qbot, how can you call this thief your mommy?" Laura gasped, her eyes wide in disbelief. "And don't you know I'm Marco's mother? How dare you call me an old lady?"

In response, Qbot presented an angry emoji and replied angrily, "I don't know you, nor can I find any information about you. Only Daddy and Mommy can order me! You're a bad woman. Stop speaking ill of Mommy!"

The door remained open for Loraine to pass through.

"Mommy, you can leave now. I won't listen to this bad old woman," Qbot told Loraine.

Laura's face turned red with anger and she shouted at the machine, "Loraine and Marco are divorced! She's not your mommy! Qbot, why can't you distinguish good from bad, huh?"

But Qbot snorted. "I won't listen to strangers. You speak ill of Mommy, so you are the bad one!"

"What did you just say?" Laura screamed in fury and rushed at the door.

But the door suddenly closed shut, nearly cutting off her nose in the process.

Laura staggered back in shock.

Qbot locked her outside.

Meanwhile, Loraine was quite surprised. Qbot didn't know Marco's mother?

Did Marco enter only her information into Qbot's database?

