

## Chapter 900 The Secret In The Necklace

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As Loraine left, her mind remained preoccupied with thoughts of the branch company, her expression marked by seriousness.

She remained convinced that her instincts weren't leading her astray; there had to be something amiss with the Benton family. Despite Jaden's seemingly respectful demeanor, Loraine couldn't shake the feeling that all was not as it seemed.

However, she couldn't help but wonder if she was overthinking the situation.

After all, the Bentons had long been staunch supporters of the Torres family across generations, known for their loyalty and reliability. Jaden served as Aldo's trusted aide, and his son, Cayson, had proven himself to be Loraine's capable assistant.

Moreover, Cayson had successfully managed the Universe Group for many years, with Loraine entrusting him with the company's reins on numerous occasions. If there truly were issues within the Benton family, Cayson would have ample opportunities to assert his authority.

Yet Cayson had always remained steadfast and loyal. He hadn't shown any inclination to sideline Loraine, despite having the means to do so. In fact, Cayson had promptly disclosed Reynolds' attempts to manipulate and coerce him.

Despite her reluctance to cast suspicion on the Benton family, Loraine couldn't allow her personal biases to cloud her

judgment. To uncover the truth, she discreetly tasked her subordinate with investigating the Bentons to ascertain if they had betrayed her trust.

Over the following days, Loraine took charge of the branch company's operations, initiating a comprehensive reorganization effort. Although Jaden demonstrated apparent cooperation by promptly delivering documents to her office, Loraine couldn't help but notice their lack of relevance to the core details she sought.

Nonetheless, she remained composed and patient, drawing upon her extensive experience managing the Universe Group.

While engrossed in her business dealings, Loraine received an update from her investigator regarding the Benton family.

"Miss Torres, we've completed our investigation into the Benton family. Frankly, their employees seem genuinely innocent; they've adhered strictly to regulations, with no apparent wrongdoing except for the inclusion of Florrie in their ranks."

Loraine remained silent, pondering the implications. Sometimes, unwavering innocence hinted at underlying deception.

She recalled the receptionist's mention of Florrie leveraging her background to manipulate an employee, a detail her investigator had failed to uncover. This revelation suggested that the Benton family might not be as innocent as they appeared.

The investigator continued, "Miss Torres, the necklace has been repaired. It was sent to Zodiac due to the lack of suitable expertise for its restoration. Shall I arrange for its delivery to you? Additionally, the technician uncovered something peculiar about the necklace."

Upon hearing that, Loraine's emotions churned within her. The necklace she found in Woodhill, the final memento left by her parents.

"Bring it here," she instructed her subordinate, her voice tinged with urgency.

Shortly after, her subordinate came with the necklace. A complex array of emotions danced in her eyes as Loraine examined the now-repaired piece.

Despite the meticulous repair work, the necklace would never be the same as before.

With a heavy sigh, Loraine asked her subordinate, "What did you discover within the necklace?"

The man responded respectfully, "This necklace has been intricately crafted, concealing a hidden electronic device."

Its delicate design had cleverly masked the tiny electronic component, rendering it virtually undetectable unless the necklace was dismantled for repair.

"According to the technician, it appears to be an advanced piece of technology from the past—a baby monitor, to be precise. However, most of its functions have been damaged, leaving only the memory components intact. Some corrupted recording files are within, but efforts are underway to restore them. One file has already been successfully recovered, and others are undergoing slow repairs."

Loraine was overcome with shock. There were recording files within the necklace?

Could it mean she might hear her parents' voices?

Her parents had always remained elusive figures, mere images of their backs in her dreams, and strangers captured in photographs kept by the Torres family. Despite her longing for them, Loraine had never truly imagined their specific features, having been too young when tragedy struck.

But now, the prospect of hearing their voices through these recordings ignited a surge of emotions within her.

Tears welled up in her eyes as excitement coursed through her veins. In a hoarse voice betraying her emotion, Loraine queried, "Where is the recording?"

The man handed her a USB drive, sensing her eagerness, and discreetly excused himself.

With trembling hands, Loraine inserted the USB drive into her computer, her anticipation mounting with each passing second. Finally, she navigated to the recording folder and initiated playback, her heart pounding with a mixture of apprehension and longing.

As the repaired recording began playing, a faint electric current hum reverberated through the room. Following a brief sizzle, a soft chuckle filled the air, accompanied by the gentle cadence of a female voice. Loraine's heart skipped a beat as she realized that even the sound of the current was part of the recording, indicating a woman adjusting the equipment.

With a warm smile evident in her tone, the voice spoke. "Thanks to his assistance in reaching out to the shop in Zodiac, we finally acquired this new baby monitor."

"With this monitor, we'll be by our beloved daughter's side, protecting her always," the voice continued, sending waves of emotion crashing over Loraine.

Tears welled up in her eyes as she listened, recognizing the voice as her mother's.

It dawned on her that the necklace she had worn as a baby was not just an ordinary accessory but a monitor meticulously placed by her parents to watch over and safeguard her.

At that moment, the abstract concept of her parents' love transformed into a tangible reality, flooding Loraine's heart with a profound sense of warmth and comfort.

As the recording ended, Loraine couldn't contain her emotions any longer; tears streamed down her cheeks as she cried out.



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