

Chapter 5

"Hello sister am peter,welcome in" The guard said as he grabbed her belongings. Esther was very thankful and appreciative from the warm welcome. It was not a bad place after all. Everything was so cool and calm. She was escorted on the way in to where she will be staying. She suddenly noticed something fishy when she passed almost every window people were peeping out to look at her. It seems that she was highly expected at the place since almost everybody was struggling to see her.

The compound was filled with beautiful flowers around every building and it was well maintained both in cleanliness and structurewise. They finally approach her room and she is left to get in.

"here we are esther ,here is where you will be staying,feel free and in case of anything don' t hesitate to ask" peter said to her warmly.

"thank you so much peter,I am so delighted by your welcome,inbfact I am more than happy to be at this beautiful place

" its okay Esther, the father will be here any minute and you will have to know him, meanwhile you can have a rest, have a good time" Peter said as he closed the door behind him. Esther remained standing on the spot looking around the room. It had a bed located in the middle of the room and two chairs on the side. A pot of flower was also next to the window facing the perimeter wall. She opened the window to grab some fresh air and feel her new environment. She leaned by the window her head outside. She could hear some noise on the ground floor since her room was on the first floor of this stone building standing in the middle of the compound. It seems to be the children down who might be excited about something. She gets away from the window walking again in the room. On the other side of the room is an old desk that seems to have stayed there for long. A dusty photo was standing on the table. Esther wipes the photo to have a look and she sees its a picture of a nun and she could not notice her. It seems that she might had stayed at that room too sometimes back. She opened the desk and notices some necklace an old toothbrush and a hairbrush. The hairbrush looked unusual since she never thought any nun could be

so in love with her hair that she had to keep a hairbrush with her.

On the lower draw is what shocked her since she gets a picture of the same sister but this time she was not in her nun clothes but ordinary clothes. She gets an old note too written in scabbly manner and before she could read it she is stopped by a sudden knock on her door.

She reached for the door and opened it ,a young middle aged woman was waiting almost a meter away feom the door. She smiles on seeing Esther and gives her a hand shake.

"Hello sister am am Magdalena"

"Nice to meet you am Esther" she replied to her happily.

"The father and everybody is around and they are waiting for you down so they can get to know you,oh my God i can't believe how excited they are" Magdalena said to her and she seemed exited too.

"Am so excited too Magdalena just give me a minute"

Esther went back to the room and quickly arranged the things back to how they were and kept all her belongings in place.

She then followed Magdalena down the stairs to meet the father who was in charge and all the orphans in the compound.

She was so nervous at the moment and did not know how to feel. She had not gotten used to meeting a lot of people but at least she was a friendly and social person throughout her life she knew how to make new friends. She is lead slowly by Magdalena as she passes several rooms that she was more than excited to enter and know each and every part of the orphanage but this was not the right time.

She spots a woman in the kitchen area and in a weird coincidence they make an eye contact. They stare at each other as she walks by. Esther decides to wave at her to break this unusual look but she is hesitant but waves back at her. She suddenly remembers the old couple at the van warning her about a woman in the orphanage but she wasn't sure who it was and for what reason so she threw the doubts away and focused on meeting the orphans waiting for her.

They reach a big double door and as Magdalena reaches for the door knob to open it, Esther holds her breath for a

second and they get in the wide room, filled with a lot of children both small kids and teenagers. On the far end was a huge chair and sitting on it was father Edward. The famous Catholic father whose name has spread all around the area and abroad for his kind heart and actions. He is believed to be the founder of the orphanage and the facility after he started gathering the needy orphans from the streets and giving them a shelter and a place to call home.

All eyes were on her as she steps forward next to the father who was smiling all along.

"Hello Esther, welcome home" he says to her as he shakes her hand.

"I am more than excited father, I am humbled by your humble reception and everything since I got here, I am very thankful." She replied with a humble tone.

"It is our duty and responsibility to take care of others sister, I would like to introduce you to our family, this is the entire family with exception of some few who are not here the cooks and some cleaners who I think are a bit held up. The father said as he showed his hands to the crowd before him. Esther waves at them smiling.