

Queens mom finds her abducted 7-year-old son in South Korea

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Tiffany Rubin and husband, son Kobe at JFK Airport nonprofit group, the mom tracked Korea.

A Queens mom whose 7-year-old son was abducted by her ex-husband last summer returned Wednesday night after snatching him from a derring-do that would make

"I'm so happy," said Tiffany Kobe as they arrived at Kennedy thought I would never see him

On hand to greet them was a friends, waving, jumping up and cheering Kobe's name.

One youngster drew laughter so long, man?" only to have don't know, but I feel good."

The saga of Kobe and his mom spirited him off to South Korea home.

Jeffrey Sako, a native of South over child custody since their

At first, Rubin, who teaches at was at a loss for what to do.

"I didn't even know where in South Korea they were," she said.

Hiring a private investigator, who might charge up to \$100,000 for the job, wasn't possible on a teacher's salary. A federal fugitive warrant was issued for Sako, but authorities could do little else.

Rubin's sister-in-law Samantha Cason, 30, came to the rescue, hooking her up with the American Association for Lost Children, a nonprofit group that finds missing kids.

The association located Kobe in the town of Gamsil near Seoul, and sent Rubin and investigator Mark Miller there two months ago.

"We did a little surveillance," said the modest Miller, finding out where Kobe went to school and charting his schedule.

Tuesday morning they walked into the school and went to Kobe's classroom. Rubin told the teacher she wanted to talk with Kobe.

"She was a little reluctant to believe I was his mother, but Kobe recognized me and that changed her mind," Rubin sad.

She said she took Kobe into the hallway, "acting as cool as I could," put a wig on him to disguise his short hair and walked out of the building.

Miller stayed behind for a while to run interference if needed.

It wasn't, and mother and child made a clean getaway, stopping only to hug and kiss on the sidewalk.

"The whole time," said Rubin, "my heart was thumping like a drum."

Rubin, Kobe and Miller picked up their luggage at their hotel and then sought sanctuary at the U.S. Embassy until they could fly home.

What's in store now?



Christopher, celebrate return of her Wednesday night. With help of a down her abducted son in South

old son was abducted by her ex-home with the boy Wednesday South Korean school in an act of James Bond proud.

Rubin, 30, her arm around son Airport Wednesday night. "I again. So this is all so amazing."

welcoming party of family and down, clutching balloons and

when he shouted, "What took you Kobe shrug, grin and answer, "I

began last August when his father after a visit at the dad's Brooklyn

Korea, had been battling Rubin divorce more than two years ago.

Public School 166 in Queens,

"We're going to relax a little as a family and live a normal life - as normal as possible - and I'm going to keep a close eye on my son."

Miller smiled, nodded and said, "She worked with us every step of the way without ever faltering. She is one courageous woman."

American Association For Lost Children, Inc.

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