

100 Days 121

Chapter 121 Nathan's Random Question

[At Aiden's Private Villa...]

Aiden invited his cousin, Kathleen, to come over. He wanted to talk about their trip going to Country F. He was worried that his cousin would create another trouble involving Nathan.

As much as possible, he wanted Kathleen to stay away from his best friend since Nathan still had animosity towards Kathleen. This happened because of Monica.

"Hey, why are you bringing Abigail with you? Nathan is in Country F for an official business trip. You can't disturb him!" The stress was visible on Aiden's face. He was uneasy about Kathleen's plan.

"C'mon cousin! Why are you being jittery and anxious about this? We are not doing something wrong. I'm going there for official business too. Abigail wants to tag along so I'm going to tour her to the beautiful beaches there." Kathleen justified her plan. "This is not just about Nathan," she added.

Aiden took a deep breath, not buying her explanation. He could tell that the two ladies were up to something.

"Aah! Whatever! I will not tell you where Nathan is staying in Country F. It is a big country so you can't find him!" Aiden said, crossing his arms over his chest.

Kathleen just smiled sillily. She didn't have to ask Aiden about Nathan's location. She also had another person in mind whom she could ask– Stephen Zhao!

"Cousin!" Kathleen moved closer to him and wrapped her arms around his shoulders.

"What?" Aiden lifted his eyebrow, giving her a side glance. He already made a mental note that he would never tell any information to Kathleen.

"Do you wanna come with us, my dear cousin? There are lots of beautiful women there." She was tempting him to come. But Aiden shook his head vigorously, rejecting her offer.

"No thanks. I'm not in the mood."

Kathleen was taken aback for a moment. This was the first time she saw her cousin not being enthusiastic about meeting beautiful women.

"Whoa, are you sick, cousin? What happened to you?" Kathleen turned him around to face her. She even placed the back of her palm on his forehead to check his body temperature.

Aiden just lightly hit her hand, brushing it away from his forehead. "Duh. I'm fine."

Aiden was not in the mood to flirt with other women because his mind was still preoccupied by the fierce woman he encountered a few days ago. Cherry just disappeared without saying goodbye to him. He was still frustrated about that.

"Alright. I'm not gonna force you. But cousin... don't tell Nathan that Abigail and I are coming to Country F! Otherwise, Abigail and I are going to beat you." Kathleen put on her evil smile while threatening Aiden to keep his mouth shut.

Aiden's eyes widened when he heard that. He knew that Abigail had the capability to do that. She could beat him into a pulp.

"Of course! I won't tell him." Aiden immediately responded. He didn't want to offend Abigail. She was quite more frightening than Nathan... sometimes.

Meanwhile, Kathleen just nodded her head, wearing a satisfied smile. She was thinking of surprising Nathan. She wondered how he would react once he saw Abigail in Country F.

The woman was the one who made an effort to follow him. For Kathleen, this was so romantic. Of course, she was rooting for the two. Besides, Abigail already admitted that she liked Nathan the last time they hung out.

"Cousin... what do you think? Should I invite Stephen to come with us?" Kathleen's eyes brightened up when she mentioned Stephen. Her cheeks also blushed a little.

"He is busy. I don't think he will come. Don't bother Stephen and Nathan. Just do your own business, Kath!" Aiden wanted to scold her. She was very persistent sometimes.

Kathleen just pouted her lips and crumpled her face, glaring at her cousin. He was always a killjoy when it came to her suggestions.

"Fine. I'm leaving. I have to pack my things. I also need to buy swimsuits for me and Abi! I'm gonna make sure that she will enjoy this trip!" Kathleen raised her fist, feeling determined. She would try to be a bridge to bring Abigail and Nathan closer to each other.

Kathleen had just stood up when Aiden's phone rang.

"Speaking of the Devil!" Aiden blurted out when he saw the caller ID. Nathan was calling him at this hour.

Kathleen, who was about to leave, went back to her seat when Aiden showed her his phone screen. He told her that Nathan was calling him so she had to keep quiet.

After a while, Aiden answered the phone, greeting his best friend.

"To whom do I—" Aiden was not able to finish his words as Nathan cut him off right away.

"Where are you going tomorrow?" Nathan asked Aiden out of the blue. His tone was firm and cold as if he was angry.

Aiden: "..."

Aiden fell silent for a moment, just blinking in puzzlement. He wondered why Nathan was asking him where he was going tomorrow. He didn't mention to him anything about going somewhere.

"W-Why are you asking Nate?" Aiden asked him, smiling sheepishly.

"Just answer my question, Aiden." Nathan sounded very serious.

'What's wrong with him? He is very grumpy today.' Aiden thought to himself.

"I'm staying here at home," Aiden quickly responded.

"Are you sure?" Nathan asked him once again, feeling doubtful. He wanted to know if Aiden would join Kathleen and Abigail on a trip but he was too embarrassed to ask him directly.

"Yes. I'm certain!"

"How about Stephen? Is he going somewhere?" Nathan continued asking Aiden about their plans for tomorrow.

"I don't know. We haven't talked yet." Aiden scratched his head because of Nathan's strange questions. "Why, Nate? Do you miss us already? Haha," Aiden decided to tease him.

Beep!

Nathan suddenly hung up without answering Aiden. He was not in the mood to joke around.

"Eh? He ended the call just like that?" Aiden watched his phone in puzzlement.

Unknown to Aiden, Nathan was off to ask Stephen about his itinerary for tomorrow. He wanted to confirm whether he would join Kathleen and Abigail as well.

"Is Nathan in a grumpy mood again?" Kathleen asked Aiden curiously.

Aiden just bobbed his head as a response.

"I knew it! He just needs a woman to lighten his mood every day!" Kathleen declared, letting out a soft giggle.

[At Stephen's Private Clinic...]

Meanwhile, Stephen just finished his session with one of his regular clients when he read Kathleen's message. She was asking him whether he knew where Nathan was staying at Country F right now. And she reminded him not to tell Nathan.

Then she received another message from her.

Kathleen's Message

[Are you free this week? Do you want to become our bodyguard in Country F? Abigail and I will go there tomorrow and enjoy the beach.]

Stephen smiled faintly after reading her message. He immediately checked his calendar. So far, no important appointment was scheduled this week.

"Hmm. I'm free. I would like to join the Ladies." Stephen mumbled. He decided to join them. Aside from Kathleen, Abigail was also there so he assumed that this was going to be an exciting trip.

Stephen was about to type his response when his phone suddenly rang. Nathan was calling him.

The corners of Stephen's lips tugged upward seeing Nathan's caller ID. He answered the call right away. Nathan asked Stephen the same question he asked Aiden.

"Where are you going tomorrow?"

Since Stephen was very excited about going on a trip together with Abigail and Kathleen, he immediately informed Nathan although he hadn't responded to Kathleen's message yet.

"I'm going to the beach with Kathleen and Abigail!" Stephen declared with his cheerful voice.

"....."

Instant silence

There was a long silence from the other line after Stephen said those words.

"Nate? Are you still there?" Stephen asked, checking his phone screen whether Nathan got disconnected or not.

"Hey, Nate? Do you hear me?" Stephen called his attention once more.

After going silent for several seconds, Nathan finally found his voice to say another word. "Why are you coming with them? Are you not busy?"

Stephen chuckled at Nathan's random questions.

"Why not? Besides, I'm free and the ladies need a handsome bodyguard like me. I bet Aiden refused to come so Kathleen invited me. Even if I'm busy, I will make sure to make time for them. It's my pleasure to accompany those two beautiful ladies," Stephen said enthusiastically. He sounded like a simp. This made Nathan feel a little bit annoyed.

"With the way you speak... I thought Aiden's spirit suddenly possessed you." Nathan said before ending the call.

Stephen blinked his eyes several times, looking at his phone. Nathan didn't say goodbye properly and just dropped the call.

"Did I piss him off? What's with his tone? Did I say something wrong to upset him?" Stephen asked himself quizzically. After a while, Stephen just shrugged his shoulders. Then he messaged Kathleen.

In Country F, someone had become moody for the whole day. Veronica couldn't approach Nathan. She invited him to eat dinner together but she got rejected this time. She could only look forward to tomorrow's trip on the beach.

Though Nathan refused to eat dinner with her, the grumpy man agreed to roam around the beach tomorrow.

But unknown to her, someone forced Nathan to go out as he was pissed off knowing that a few people would go to the beach also. Just a mere thought of Abigail and Stephen enjoying the beach together made him boil with rage.

Chapter 122 Can't Get Her Out Of His Mind

[At Country F...]

Veronica woke up so early as she would prepare lunch boxes for Nathan and her. Cooking for someone was one way of making him special. She hoped Nathan would appreciate her efforts.

Veronica was busy cooking in her VIP suite. She had been preparing four types of menu. She also baked cake for their dessert. After two hours, she finished all the food that she would bring to the beach together with Nathan.

She immediately took shower to freshen up herself. When she was done, she went to her wardrobe to wear her hot and sexy bikini. Veronica has voluptuous breasts with D-cup size. This was her best physical asset she could be proud of in order to seduce Nathan.

She prepared a hot red two-piece bikini. She matched it with a pink halter dress, sunglasses, and a woven tote bag. When her OOTD was done, she also applied some makeup.

She glanced at the full body mirror, assessing her reflection. Her lips curled up into a smile as she was satisfied with her overall appearance today. She showed more skin as compared to when she was only wearing her doctor's coat.

She was so determined to flaunt her beauty and sexy body today. She couldn't wait to see Nathan's reaction. She even made sure to look similar to Monica.

She asked help from the hotel staff to bring the packed lunches and the other materials they needed for a picnic on the beach. She allowed them to go first as she got into the next elevator.

Veronica called Nathan, telling him to meet her in the lobby. The two checked into the same hotel which was near to the hospital where Phantomflake was being examined by Dr. Doreen.

"Nathan, I'm going to the lobby now. I will meet you there. Are you ready?" Veronica asked him enthusiastically.

Nathan just answered her with a simple "Hmm."

Veronica couldn't hide her smile. She was very excited for today. This was the first time she would be alone with Nathan. Furthermore, they were hanging out together on a beach.

She hung up the phone and brought it near to her heart. She was looking at her reflection in the glass wall of the elevator with her dreamy eyes. She bit her lower lip and closed her eyes, imagining Nathan and her holding each other's hands while walking on the beach.

Ding!

She woke up from her daydream when she heard the sound of the elevator. She already reached the lobby. She excitedly stepped out of the elevator while wearing her charming smile.

Veronica caught the attention of the men and other guests of the hotel as soon as she walked towards the lounge to wait for Nathan.

Her sexy appearance was very attractive to their eyes. They couldn't help but feast on her.

Meanwhile, Veronica was enjoying the attention she was getting from those strangers. It only boosted her confidence. Nathan was also a man so he would take notice of her for sure.

She specifically tied her hair up to expose her neck and cleavage from Nathan's view. She wanted to look tempting in his eyes.

Veronica focused her gaze on the elevator, waiting for Nathan. She was anticipating Nathan. What would he look like in his beachwear?

A few minutes later, the door of the elevator stopped in the lobby. Veronica held her breath when she saw Nathan's face. He finally arrived!

Nathan was wearing his usual blank expression but his coldness gave off a cool vibe around him. And it didn't make him less attractive to anyone, especially Veronica.

But Veronica noticed that something was not right. Her eyes scanned Nathan from top to bottom. Veronica bit her lower lip while staring at him in disbelief. His outfit didn't match their trip today.

They were supposed to go to the beach but Nathan was wearing his usual long sleeves, dark pants, and black shoes. Was he going to the office? He only needed to wear a suit to complete his formal attire.

She waved at him with an awkward smile on her face. She didn't have the courage to tell him to change his clothes. What if Nathan would change his mind? Instead of coming with her, he might choose to stay in the hotel the whole day. She didn't want that to happen.

Meanwhile, Nathan didn't even consider wearing something appropriate for their beach trip. He was not in the mood. He was only forced to go out today.

No matter how hard he tried, he couldn't stop thinking about Abigail, Stephen, and Kathleen. According to Stephen, the three of them were also going to the beach today. He wondered what they were doing right now.

Did they reach the beach? Were they having fun?

He didn't have answers to those questions. He was dying to know but he didn't want to call Abigail and Stephen just to ask them. He had an ego and pride to protect.

"Nathan! Let's go?"

Veronica's voice snapped him out of his deep thoughts. Before he knew it, he was already standing in front of Veronica. His mind was preoccupied a while ago.

Veronica didn't get the reaction she wanted from Nathan. He didn't even look at her for five seconds. He just turned around and walked ahead, going to the entrance of the hotel. Their service was already waiting for them in front of the hotel.

Despite his cold attitude, Veronica didn't lose hope. 'Hmm. It's fine. I haven't removed

my halter dress so he didn't see my hot figure yet. I bet Nathan will take notice of me once I remove my extra clothes.'

Veronica followed Nathan behind until they reached the car. Nathan didn't even open the car door for Veronica. When she stepped inside the car, He already leaned his back on the backrest and closed his eyes. Nathan was still not in the mood.

Their journey to the beach was very silent. No one talked to them. The atmosphere was so awkward that Veronica couldn't bring herself to talk about something.

It seemed like there was a warning sign plastered on Nathan's face saying, "Do Not Disturb!"

But Veronica wouldn't let herself be discouraged by Nathan's cold behavior. As she said, she wouldn't waste this golden opportunity to seduce Nathan using her charm.

Twenty minutes later, the two finally reached their destination. It was called White Paradise Beach Resort. This beach was known for its refined white sand, beautiful scenic view of sunset, and mini islands in front. They could even do island hopping from there. However, with Nathan's current mood and his attire, it would be impossible to do island hopping today.

Dr. Doreen already reserved a cottage for Nathan and Veronica. The owner of the resort was her cousin. She chose the most isolated cottage to give Veronica and Nathan privacy.

Upon reaching the cottage, Veronica immediately arranged the food that she prepared for both of them. She was not a good cook but at least, she wanted Nathan to recognize her effort.

"I cook this... please have a taste." Veronica offered one lunchbox containing rolled Gimhap, ham rolled, roast beef, vegetable salad, and string cheese.

She was smiling charmingly as she looked at him with anticipation. Nathan just nodded his head before taking the chopsticks. He tried tasting the Gimhap, followed by the cube-sized roast beef.

Veronica bit her lower lip, putting her hands together as she watched him in anticipation. She wanted to hear feedback from him. Was it delicious or not? Did he like it or not?

Not noticing Veronica's eager expression, Nathan continued chewing the food in his mouth. After a while, someone popped up in his mind— Abigail. He also tasted Abigail's cooking and he couldn't help himself from comparing Veronica's cooking to Abigail.

'It's a little bland for my taste. Abigail's cooking is tastier than this...' Nathan thought to himself.

Then after a while, Nathan frowned deeply as he realized that he kept on thinking about Abigail. As much as possible he didn't want to think about her!

'Damn! She's probably enjoying Stephen's company now.' Nathan munched on the meat, chewing it hard imagining that it was Abigail and Stephen he was grinding in his teeth.

Veronica felt alarmed upon seeing Nathan's dark expression. She thought Nathan didn't like the taste of the food she prepared.

She even tasted one to check if something was wrong with the food. But the taste was fine with her so she couldn't understand why Nathan turned ugly when he was chewing the beef.

When Nathan didn't make any comment, Veronica just offered him a drink, trying her best to hide her disappointment.

To change the mood, Veronica resorted to another method. Pretending that she felt so hot, Veronica started to strip off her halter dress to reveal her bikinis.

"Gosh... the weather is so hot. It's the best time for swimming," Veronica said, catching Nathan's attention.

Nathan's gaze fell on her body. He could now see Veronica's sexy bikini, revealing more of her skin. Any man would definitely drool upon seeing her hot figure.

But Nathan was not a typical man. Instead of being tempted by her hot and sexy figure, Nathan's expression darkened further when he saw her super revealing swimwear.

'Abigail... don't tell me she is also wearing two-piece bikini, letting Stephen see her body?!' Nathan clenched his fist at that thought.

"Wear your Damn Clothes!" Nathan said through his gritted teeth. His words were intended to Abigail who was in his mind right now.

Veronica: "..."

Veronica was stupefied once again by Nathan's reaction.

Chapter 123 The Devil Was Flustered

Veronica was surprised at how Nathan reacted. This was not what she expected to see from him. Instead of impressing him, she pissed him off further.

'Why is he getting worked up?' Veronica thought to herself, biting her lower lip. She almost teared up from disappointment.

She didn't know what she did wrong. Nathan became so grumpy for no reason.

With her misty eyes, Veronica grabbed her halter dress and put it back on. She didn't want to anger Nathan.

Meanwhile, Nathan fell silent for a moment when he noticed the hurt expression on Veronica's face. He overreacted a while ago. He was thinking about Abigail when he suddenly burst out, yelling at Veronica to wear her clothes.

"I'm sorry. I didn't mean to shout at you," Nathan apologized with his neutral tone. He was still being considerate of Veronica because she was Monica's sister.

In fact, because of her connection with Monica, Veronica was confident that she would win Nathan over. She thought that she had a great advantage because she was Monica's sister and they had strong similarities and resemblances to each other.

But unknown to her, Nathan would never choose her because she was Monica's sister. He didn't want to betray Monica by getting romantically involved with Veronica. He would never do that to her. This only meant Veronica was expecting the opposite.

Veronica just smiled faintly when Nathan apologized to her. At least, she was consoled as Nathan toned down a little bit. She also felt touched since Nathan said that he didn't mean to yell at her.

"It's fine, Nate. Let's continue eating," Veronica said, trying to ease the awkwardness.

Nathan just simply nodded his head. But his brows were still drawn together as he scolded himself inwardly. He was not supposed to think about Abigail but she kept on popping up in his mind.

The two just continued eating silently. Nathan only tasted a few rolls of gimbap. He already lost his appetite. In the end, they didn't finish all the food.

"Nate, let's walk and tour around the beachfront," Veronica invited him.

Nathan hesitated for a moment. His clothes didn't fit for this 'walk on the beach'. But seeing her pleading eyes, Nathan agreed to follow her.

Veronica smiled inwardly when Nathan followed her. She felt happy sharing this little moment with him. Veronica had the urge to hold Nathan's hand but she didn't have the right to do that.

'Someday... I will walk here with our entangled hands.' Veronica thought to herself.

The two explored the beach front and reached the spot with crowded people. Veronica felt proud when some people glanced at them with admiration. She assumed that people were thinking that she and Nathan were a couple.

"Let's take a rest first." Veronica tugged Nathan's sleeve, motioning him to sit down on the sand. They were under the coconut tree. The tree served as their shade.

Since Nathan didn't feel like walking any further, he sat down next to Veronica, his eyes scanning the beachfront.

They had been there for just an hour but he was already bored. He wanted to go back to the hotel. He was not enjoying this.

When he was about to tell Veronica that he would like to leave, his eyes caught a glimpse of a familiar figure from a distance. Nathan strained his eyes into the distance where he spotted someone's familiar.

Nathan blinked, trying to concentrate on the person who was inching closer and closer to them.

Nathan sucked his teeth and cursed under his breath. 'Damn. Why am I seeing Abigail here?'

Nathan thought that the person was just the result of his imagination. There was no way Abigail would be there in Country F. She was currently enjoying the company of Stephen and Kathleen somewhere in Country M.

He couldn't understand why he kept seeing Abigail. Was this an illusion or a daydream? Nathan stood up and focused his eyes desperately on the person who looked exactly like Abigail.

The crease on his forehead deepened when a pair of emerald eyes met his blue eyes. Then his heart suddenly skipped a beat when the woman flashed her charming smile as she waved at him.

Nathan blinked, still trying to figure out that his eyes were not fooling him. He even closed his eyes and shook his head, erasing Abigail in his mind.

Veronica just looked up at him with puzzlement. "Nathan?" She called his attention. "Are you okay? Is there something wrong?"

Nathan didn't respond. When he opened his eyes, Abigail's figure was still visible in his view. Nathan clenched his fists, feeling annoyed. He felt like Abigail was driving him nuts.

Meanwhile, Veronica also stood up and followed Nathan's line of sight. Her eyes widened as soon as she recognized the person who was walking towards them.

She was wearing a white cropped button-down shirt, halter black bikini top, and denim mini skirt partnered with sandals. She used a scarf as her headband.

"Abigail? What is she doing here?!" Veronica blurted out in annoyance. She was not able to control her voice so Nathan heard her.

Nathan turned to Veronica with a baffled expression. Did he hear it right? Veronica mentioned Abigail's name! Did it mean... she was also seeing Abigail right now?

After looking at Veronica's face, Nathan shifted his gaze back to Abigail. He was stupefied as he realized that he was not imagining things. Abigail was there!

Badum! Badum! Badum!

Nathan felt like his heart began to run wild inside his chest. It raced even faster as Abigail was inching closer and closer to them.

'Why is she here? I thought she was with Kathleen and Stephen?' Nathan still couldn't believe it. He stood frozen in his spot and it seemed that the things in his surroundings were in slow motion.

The woman in his mind since yesterday suddenly appeared in front of him!

After a few seconds, Nathan's feet reflexively moved on their own accord to meet Abigail halfway. He just found himself walking toward her.

With just three large strides, Nathan closed the gaps between them. He was now standing in front of Abigail. He was not able to conceal his emotion. The surprised look was still written all over his face.

Thud!

Abigail hit Nathan's chest as soon as they got closer. That punch snapped Nathan out of his baffled state.

"How dare you leave me in that hotel without saying a word?" Abigail confronted him right away. The smile on her face already disappeared. She pouted her lips and crumpled her face as she looked straight into his eyes, asking for his explanation.

Nathan opened his mouth only to close it again. He didn't know what to say. He also felt guilty for leaving her alone. It was too late for him to realize his mistake.

"Hey, Nathan Sparks... tell me honestly. Did something happen between us that night? Did we have sex?" Abigail was very outspoken and straightforward, making Nathan speechless.

His jaw dropped and he gazed at her with complicated emotions on his face. He didn't know how to answer that. Of course, something did happen to them, however, the two of them didn't go all the way because Abigail fell asleep.

'Fuck! I'm the only one who can remember what happened between us.' Nathan didn't know whether he should feel glad or disappointed about this.

"Did you spike my drink?!" Abigail added, although she already knew that Nathan made her drink a truth serum. Thanks to Bam-Bam's information. But Abigail still wanted to scold that naughty fluffy winged creature. He should have warned her first to prevent Nathan from making her drink that serum! But he didn't do it!

Nathan remained silent. And for the first time, Abigail saw him getting flustered like this.

'Damn. Why does he look so cute and charming? Is he blushing or this is the effect of sunrays to his skin?' Abigail chewed on her lower lip. She had to urge to pinch Nathan's cheeks.

"I—" Nathan stuttered a little so he cleared his throat before continuing his words. "Cough! Cough!"

"Nothing happened between us," Nathan declared, but he looked down, avoiding her eyes.

"Are you sure?" Abigail was still not convinced as she eyed him suspiciously. She raised her eyebrow.

"Why are you here?" Nathan asked her a question instead of answering her. He tried to maintain his composure and hide his guilty look.

"To see you!" Abigail promptly responded with her nonchalant voice.

Nathan: "..."

Badum! Badum!

Nathan was at a loss for words. He could feel the drumming of his heart. For some unknown reason, his grumpy mood dissipated into thin air the moment he saw Abigail. And her words surprisingly had started to affect his emotions.

Then a certain memory flashed back in his mind.

["You are so handsome. I wanna kiss you."]

Now that Abigail was standing in front of him, Nathan couldn't stop himself from recalling the passionate kiss they shared together.

Chapter 124 Why Are You Here?

Veronica wanted to interrupt Abigail and Nathan. But even before she could reach their spot, someone cut her, thus stopping her from getting near Nathan and Abigail.

Kathleen stepped in front of Veronica, blocking her. Veronica glared sharply at her.

"Move away," Veronica pushed her away. She was in a hurry to separate Abigail and Nathan. She didn't know what they were talking about. She got curious as they looked very serious.

"You can't pass through. Why don't you wait for them to finish?" Kathleen was also firm, not letting Veronica walk past her.

"What is the meaning of this? Do you know Abigail?" Veronica was surprised.

"Of course! She's my new friend!" Kathleen proudly declared, making Veronica more annoyed.

"I'm not in the mood, Kathleen! Make a way!" Veronica shoved Kathleen to the side. Fortunately, Stephen was there to hold Kathleen to support her back and steady her footing.

"Why are you fighting?" Stephen asked the two women. He didn't know whether to laugh or not as the two ladies were having a catfight. They just arrived at this beach resort.

"Kathleen started it!" Veronica responded promptly, blaming Kathleen.

Kathleen just put on a puppy-eyed look, feigning innocence as she glanced at Stephen.

Stephen stared at Kathleen meaningful. Then he shifted his gaze to Nathan and Abigail who were talking just a few meters away from them.

Nathan didn't even notice Stephen's and Kathleen's presence because he was so focused on Abigail.

When Stephen saw Nathan and Abigail, he already figured out what Kathleen was trying to do. She was intentionally stopping Veronica from approaching the two. Stephen just helped Kathleen with her delaying tactics.

Meanwhile, Nathan and Abigail were still talking to each other. The devil was flustered by Abigail's words. He kept on thinking about the intimate moment they shared in EDSJ Five Star Hotel.

If only he could forget what happened, he wouldn't be flustered like this. Abigail had started to affect his mind and emotions.

"What's wrong with your face?" Abigail asked Nathan whose cheeks were already red. She even held his cheek using both hands and gently pinched them.

With her actions, Nathan snapped back to the present. He stopped daydreaming and imagining the passionate moment he had with Abigail.

Nathan just frowned before grabbing Abigail's hands, removing them from his face. But Nathan didn't let go of her hands, he continued holding them tightly.

"When did you arrive here? And how did you know that I was here?" Nathan asked her, hiding his excitement. Well, he didn't expect that Abigail would come just to see him.

"Just two hours ago. I have my connections..." Abigail responded, her eyes fixed on their entangled hands. She was contemplating whether to pull her hands away from his hands or not. Nathan was holding her tightly as if he didn't want to let go of her.

"Connections?"

Abigail just ignored his question. She just raised her head, her eyes scanning Nathan from top to bottom. She had the urge to laugh when she finally noticed that his clothes didn't fit the beach.

"Why are you wearing that kind of clothes? This is beach, Nathan, not your company nor your office." Abigail let out a soft giggle as she could no longer hold her laughter.

Since Nathan denied that nothing happened to them, Abigail had no choice but to believe him. Besides, it would not be surprising if Nathan didn't have sex with her. As far as she knew, Nathan was very loyal to Monica.

He wouldn't do anything that would make him feel guilty towards Monica. That was Abigail's assumption. She thought she was still far from winning his heart as this devil was so hard to please.

Little did she know, she had been making a big progress in knocking into Nathan's mind and heart. She had been occupying his mind for the last two days already. And his heart finally went wild as compared to before.

This was the negative effect of losing control and remembering what they did in the hotel. He was the only person who suffered sleepless nights from those memories.

"Nothing wrong with my clothes," Nathan answered Abigail with his neutral tone. He gazed at her intently and his eyes reflexively roamed around her body.

Abigail was not wearing too much revealing clothes as compared to Veronica. But her sexy figure already caught Nathan's attention. She looked hot and refreshing in her beachwear.

Nathan gulped hard and looked away. He didn't want to be tempted by this lovely but alluring woman in front of him. Realizing that he was still holding her hands, he loosened his grip, finally letting go of her hands.

Abigail just watched Nathan in amusement. The devil was acting a little bit weird and strange today. Was he sick? And what the hell was he doing in this Country F?

Abigail's eyebrows were drawn together as she saw Veronica who was being blocked by Kathleen and Stephen.

'Ahu? So this is the important and official business trip Aiden was talking about?! Nathan is having a vacation with Veronica. Whoa, the devil and the witch in one place...!' Abigail clenched her teeth and gave Nathan a deathly glare.

She thought Nathan just went to country F to enjoy his moment with Veronica. What made her angrier was the thought that Nathan went abroad together with Veronica right after he left Abigail in the EDSJ Five Star Hotel without even saying goodbye to her.

'I wanna punch this guy.' Abigail lamented to herself.

"How about you? Why are you here? Did you come here to have a vacation with Dr. Veronica? Is that the reason why you left without saying a word?" Abigail was not able to control herself from venting out. She was like a jealous girlfriend who was nagging her boyfriend.

"How dare you, Nathan!" Abigail punched his chest once again. She was upset since Nathan chose to be with Veronica. But unknown to her, Phantomflake (who was her) was the real reason why Nathan went to Country F.

As of now, Abigail had no idea that her real body was being treated here in the prestigious hospital of Country F where Veronica's doctor friend was working.

"No! I'm not on vacation with her!" Nathan promptly responded, denying Abigail's accusation. Nathan wanted to explain to Abigail so that she wouldn't misunderstand his relationship with Veronica.

"I'm not here because of Veronica... I'm here because of someone else!" Nathan added. He sounded like a boyfriend explaining just to pacify his jealous girlfriend.

Abigail was still in doubt but she would try to find out why Nathan came to this country. The two were still standing on their spots when Stephen came over to join them. He could no longer wait further as he already wanted to interact with Nathan and Abigail.

"Hi, Bro!" Stephen greeted Nathan, wrapping his arms around Nathan's shoulder.

Stephen's voice caught Nathan's attention right away. He looked at his side and Stephen's smiling face came into his view. Nathan's face darkened as soon as he saw Stephen.

'What the hell, is he doing here?'

Nathan didn't even smile at Stephen. He wasn't happy to see him.

"Why are you here?" Nathan asked Stephen with his stern cold voice.

"Of course! I told you yesterday that Abigail, Kathleen and I were going to the beach. Now, here we are! This is the beach I was talking about!" Stephen answered him enthusiastically, winking while teasing Nathan.

Nathan: "..."

Nathan felt a little bit disappointed. He thought Abigail came alone just to see him. Why did she have to bring Stephen with her? He suddenly felt betrayed as he gave Stephen a deathly glare. He looked like Nathan wanted to eat Stephen alive.

Stephen's smile pissed him off further. He had the urge to rip the taunting smile off his face.

'Why do I feel like Stephen suddenly becomes an annoying person in my eyes?' Nathan thought to himself.

~*****~

Author's Note:

My dears, I would like to grab this opportunity to thank everyone for your unending support. We finally reached one thousand cheers for the Win-Win event for this month of August 2022. We also had reached one thousand plus power stones for weekly which was so difficult to get.

Currently, the 100 Days to Seduce the Devil has 199 GT votes coming from you. Please keep on voting to get 300 GT votes at the end of the month. Our Top Golden Ticket voters as of now are Priyanshi_Patel (63 GT votes), Powy (49 GT votes) and Chantha_Soeung (9 GT votes)

I will try my best to compensate you for this love and support my dears. Do you have any requests that you want from this author? Please don't hesitate to comment below.

Chapter 125 HOT

Nathan, who was bored and wanted to return to the hotel a while ago, changed his mind and decided to stay on the beach together with Abigail, Stephen, and Kathleen.

Veronica was very unhappy about the arrival of those three people. She didn't want to roam around the beach together with them. They would just ruin her moment with Nathan.

However, it seemed that Nathan would like to stick with the group. He didn't send them away. Instead, he was the one following the three people. Veronica had no choice but to join them.

"Gosh! There are lots of people here in White Paradise Resort. We haven't reserved a cottage for us," Kathleen shared her concern.

"Why don't you try the other beach resort? I guess you can book another cottage there!" Veronica suggested with an intention to send them away.

Stephen immediately wrapped his arm around Abigail's shoulders and said, "Abi, shall we look for another resort which is less crowded?"

Nathan automatically glanced in their direction when he heard that. A cold glint flashed through his eyes upon seeing Stephen's arm on Abigail's shoulder.

Before Abigail could say a word, Nathan interjected, responding to Stephen's remarks.

"You can join us in our cottage. There is a lot of space there. It is also located on less crowded people."

Veronica: "..."

She didn't expect that Nathan would recommend their cottage. Besides, she was the one who booked that cottage, not Nathan. He didn't even ask her if she wanted Kathleen, Abigail, and Stephen to join them.

"Huh! It looks like Veronica doesn't want to. Are you sure about that Nathan?" Kathleen snorted.

Veronica squinted her eyes at Kathleen. She had the urge to pull her hair if only Nathan was not around. But then, she immediately changed her expression when Nathan gazed at her.

Veronica had no other choice left but to pretend that she was just fine with that set-up. Against her will, Veronica had to smile and guided them to their VIP cottage.

Kathleen laughed inwardly seeing how Veronica tried her best to behave in front of Nathan. She obediently followed Nathan even though she didn't want Kathleen and Abigail to join them.

'Let's see how long you will be able to maintain your fake smile,' Kathleen thought, smiling inwardly.

She hooked her hands around Abigail as she cheerfully walked towards the cottage. Kathleen and Abigail were both in a good mood because they could see how Veronica was annoyed and pissed off but she was only trying to conceal it because of Nathan's presence.

"Abi, let's swim!" Kathleen immediately dragged Abigail's hand. "Take off your shirt."

Nathan frowned when he heard that. Seriously? They were going to swim and flaunt their bodies to a lot of strangers out there!

Stephen also removed his beach shirt as he wanted to join the ladies. "Yeah! Let's swim and relax!"

Then he glanced at his best friend. "Sorry, Nate. You can't come with us..." his eyes scanned his clothes. "Next time... you should wear proper attire for a beach trip!" Stephen laughed, teasing Nathan.

Nathan just narrowed his eyes at his best friend's remarks. He wanted to rip the silly smile off Stephen's face.

"Ladies, wait for me! I'm your lifeguard. I will save you from drowning!" Stephen yelled as he followed the two women.

Veronica heaved a sigh of relief when the three left their cottage. At least, she could be alone with Nathan now. However, the moment she glanced at Nathan, she could feel his chilly and dark aura surrounding him.

'He is not in the mood again...' Veronica bit her lower lip. She didn't know how she would approach him or start a conversation with him.

What made her more upset was that she could see that Nathan's gaze was focused on someone. He was looking in the direction of Abigail who was walking towards the sea along with Kathleen.

Abigail felt so carefree today. She didn't have to hide her face because no one would recognize her. She was in a different country.

And she hadn't gone to the beach for so long. She never enjoyed the beach as she was busy with her missions as an assassin.

Because of Kathleen, she was being carried away by her jolly character. She appreciated her.

She removed her sandals so that she could feel the sand under her feet. It felt so good and relaxing. The two ladies started to dip their bodies into the water.

Kathleen started to splash water on Abigail's face. She was being playful like a child. Abigail also mimicked her action. The two ladies looked like they were enjoying the seawater.

Soon, Stephen joined them and he started to splash water on them using both hands. Now, it became Stephen vs Abigail and Kathleen.

As he watched the three of them, Nathan suddenly felt a tinge of jealousy in his heart. He had the urge to join them.

Nathan suddenly stepped out of the cottage. Veronica was alarmed when she thought Nathan was leaving. "Nate, where are you going?" she asked him.

"Don't follow me. I'm just going to buy something." Nathan responded without looking back at Veronica.

Veronica could only sigh deeply as she watched Nathan's back until he vanished from her sight.

"I hate Kathleen! I hate Abigail! They ruined our moment!" Veronica said through gritted teeth. She was clenching her fists while her bloodshot eyes were directed at the two ladies. "I will get even with the two of you. Just you wait."

— Fifteen Minutes Later —

Abigail, Kathleen, and Stephen got out of the water as they decided to play beach volleyball. Abigail turned in the direction of the cottage to see Nathan. But to her surprise, Veronica was the only person left in the cottage.

'Eh? Where did the devil go? Did he go home already?' Abigail roamed her eyes around her surroundings, searching for Nathan.

Her eyes stopped as soon as she saw Nathan who was now walking towards them. Abigail was at a loss for words and her eyes widened in bafflement.

The first word that registered in her mind was the word "HOT"

Chapter 126 I'll Kiss You!

Abigail couldn't take her eyes off Nathan. Her gaze was glued on him as he was inching closer and closer to them.

Nathan was no longer wearing his black pants and long sleeves. He totally transformed after fifteen minutes. Nathan was now wearing a white open shirt, revealing his excellent physique. He partnered it up with below-the-knee beach shorts.

His sturdy chest and eight-pack abs caught Abigail's attention right away. She couldn't help but gulped hard as her eyes wandered on his body.

Not only Abigail, but several pairs of eyes were looking at Nathan, admiring and fantasizing about his muscular physique. He was like a model in a men's magazine. In fact, his body was on par with them. He was like a Greek god.

'Damn! What did he suddenly change into that?' Abigail lamented to herself as she could see other women feasting their eyes on Nathan's body.

Veronica, Kathleen, and Stephen finally noticed Nathan and his new attire.

Veronica: "..."

Kathleen: "Holy Crap! Nathan Sparks... changed his clothes?! For real?!"

Stephen: "Eh? Is that my best friend?"

Stephen reflexively gazed down to look at his own body, comparing it to Nathan's. Stephen could only scratch his head as he had to admit that Nathan beat him this time in this beachwear category.

"I shouldn't have taunted him a while ago," Stephen mumbled, smiling sheepishly.

Nathan usually ignored his provocation and teasing. Who would have thought that he would take Stephen's words seriously and change his clothes?

"Can I join you?" Nathan asked Stephen as soon as he reached their spots.

"Sure, Nate. We are going to play beach volleyball. We are supposed to play two versus one. But since you are here, we can divide ourselves evenly!" Stephen responded, rolling the ball in his hand.

"I like that! Stephen and I will partner up!" Kathleen didn't waste time as she moved closer to Stephen, hooking her arms at his elbow.

For the first time, Nathan finally heard something he liked to hear from Kathleen. Of course, he would like to partner up with Abigail.

"Can't we just do it as boys versus girls?" Abigail suggested. She didn't know if she could concentrate on playing if a handsome Adonis was with her.

"No, Abi! Do you want us to lose? Stephen and Nathan will not give their best as they will underestimate us." Kathleen objected because she wanted to be paired up with Stephen.

She looked at Abigail meaningfully, pleading with her to just agree. Besides, she thought Abigail was also trying to bond with Nathan.

"Okay, fine. I will team up with Nathan." Abigail agreed. Then she glanced at Nathan. "Play well, or else, I will beat you if they beat us!" Abigail threatened Nathan.

Nathan raised his eyebrow and said, "I should be the one telling you that. Don't hold me back."

Stephen and Kathleen both burst out laughing.

"Both of you are going to lose. You don't have teamwork. We haven't started yet but you are already fighting each other." Kathleen teased Abigail and Nathan.

"To spice up our game, we should make a bet!" Stephen suggested.

The four of them hadn't decided yet when Veronica suddenly showed up, joining them.

"This is unfair! I want to play as well!" Veronica demanded.

Kathleen and Abigail just looked at her with their ridiculing gaze.

"But we already divided ourselves equally. Don't mess up our team match. You should wait and play a game after us," Kathleen said sarcastically.

Veronica was on the verge of losing her patience with Kathleen. Kathleen really knew how to annoy her.

"You can substitute me if I get injured," Kathleen added, smiling wickedly to provoke Veronica further.

"You can team up with Nathan once Kathleen and I are done playing," Abigail also commented, supporting Kathleen's suggestion. The two ladies were clearly ganging up against Veronica.

"Alright! Let's make our bet now!" Stephen had no intention of helping out Veronica. He was focused on Abigail and Kathleen.

"Okay. I'll go first!" Kathleen raised up her hand enthusiastically. "If our team will win, I want Nathan to carry Abigail on his back and run 20 laps here!"

Both Abigail's eyes and Veronica's eyes widened when they heard that punishment. But Nathan didn't comment on it. Only he was cool about the punishment. He didn't mind it.

Then Kathleen gave Abigail another meaningful glance. She already confessed to Abigail that she liked Stephen. So right now, she was signaling Abigail to make a punishment which she would enjoy together with Stephen.

Understanding Kathleen's intention, Abigail also thought of a punishment that was favorable to Kathleen.

"Ok. If Nathan and I will win... Stephen has to kiss Kathleen on the lips!" Abigail declared to them, making the group fall silent.

Kathleen: "..."

Stephen: "..."

Nathan: "..."

Veronica: "..."

Abigail's punishment was not the one in Kathleen's mind. She went overboard!

It was Stephen who broke the awkward silence first by laughing. "Hey, Abi... Do you think it's too much punishment?" Stephen was being cautious because Kathleen was Aiden's cousin. Aiden might beat him.

"Of course not. I'm an actress... so I think kissing someone is not a big deal." Abigail justified her words with her innocent look.

"Have you done it with your fellow actors?" Nathan asked Abigail with a serious look on his face.

"Of course! I'm an actress, remember? Kissing scenes are part of our work." Abigail said confidently, although she wasn't sure if the real Abigail already did it or not.

Meanwhile, Nathan's lips twitched fighting a smile as he recalled something. Abigail kissed him and the way she kissed him felt like it was her first time doing it with a guy.

'That is a lie,' Nathan thought to himself. He could tell that Abigail was inexperienced when it came to kissing.

"What? Why are you looking at me like that? You don't believe me, do you?" Abigail scowled at Nathan.

Nathan tried his best to hold her laughter. He turned around and cleared his throat.

"Cough. Nothing. I just forgot that you are an actress."

Abigail lifted an eyebrow and challenged Nathan. "Hmm. Do you want me to prove it to you here? I'll kiss you!"

Nathan: "..."

Stephen: "..."

Kathleen: *Smiling broadly*

Veronica: "S#@!!!" (Fuming with rage)

Chapter 127 You Care For Her

"I'll kiss you..."

Those last three words coming from Abigail gained different reactions from them. Stephen was amused by her boldness while Veronica was fuming with rage. Kathleen, on the other hand, was so proud of Abigail. As far as she knew, no one would dare challenge Nathan Sparks like that.

When they glanced at Nathan, the baffled expression on his face was now replaced by a cheeky smirk.

'If you kiss me... will you do it better than the first one?' Nathan thought to himself, eyeing Abigail mischievously.

Stephen's jaw dropped upon seeing the playful smirk on Nathan's face. He seldom shows this kind of expression. This was just once in a blue moon.

Realizing that Stephen was looking at him, Nathan wiped away the smirk on the corner of his lips, putting on a straight face.

"Do that if we are alone... not in front of others. I want it to be private," Nathan nonchalantly said as he whispered to her. He quickly turned around, getting the ball from Stephen.

Abigail:

She couldn't believe that Nathan said those words. Was he just trying to tease her and get even with her for her bold remarks?

"Let's play now!" Nathan said to catch the attention of other players.

"Step aside, Veronica. We are going to play now!" Kathleen said in her sarcastic tone.

Veronica just glared at her before stepping to the side.

Kathleen and Stephen went to the opposite side of the court while Abigail and Nathan positioned themselves inside their half court.

Stephen and Abigail were both determined to win but Kathleen and Nathan were thinking the opposite. Kathleen wanted Abigail and Nathan to win the game so that Stephen would kiss her.

Stephen let Nathan serve the ball first. When the game started, Stephen was very focused on receiving the ball, sending it to the other side of the volleyball net.

With her competitive attitude, Abigail tried her best to return the ball also in order to score. Stephen and Abigail were busy exchanging moves to send the ball to the other side. Kathleen and Nathan were just standing there, not wanting to interfere. Both of them had hidden agenda for doing so.

Meanwhile, Veronica was wishing that Nathan and Abigail would win this game so that Nathan wouldn't be punished. She would erupt like a volcano once she saw Nathan carrying Abigail on his back! Nathan didn't even do that to Monica. How could someone like Abigail get that kind of privilege? She wouldn't allow that to happen.

When the four were so focused on the game, Veronica thought of a dirty move. She scooped some sand in her right hand. When Abigail was about to receive the ball from the other side, Veronica splashed the sand in the air, causing the tiny objects to get into Abigail's eyes.

Abigail reflexively closed her eyes as some foreign objects entered her eyes thus hurting them.

"Abi, look out!" Kathleen yelled at her to warn Abigail as the ball was about to hit her face.

Stephen also got worried since the ball's direction was toward Abigail's face. She had to move aside but it seemed that Abigail hurt her eyes. She stood there on her spot while trying to rub her eyes.

Veronica rejoiced inwardly. She couldn't wait to see Abigail being hit by the ball right into her face. This was her revenge as Abigail ruined her moment with Nathan. Besides, she had nothing to worry about as Abigail and Nathan were still in the lead with three points.

She thought they would still win this. She just got annoyed by Abigail's closeness to Nathan, that's why she used an underhanded technique to hurt Abigail.

The ball was about to land when suddenly someone grabbed Abigail by her waist and turned her around.

Thud!

The ball hit Nathan's back, instead of Abigail's face. He was literally hugging her in his arms, shielding her and protecting her against the ball.

No one had anticipated that thoughtful action from him. Even Stephen and Kathleen were surprised that the cold and aloof Nathan Sparks tried to protect Abigail from getting hit by the ball.

"Are you okay?" Nathan asked Abigail. Though he asked her with a neutral tone, there was a hint of concern in his blue eyes. Unfortunately, Abigail couldn't see it as her eyes were still hurt.

But she could already feel his hands holding her waist tightly and her face was almost touching his sturdy chest. She could smell his masculine scent and it was so pleasant in her nose. It somehow distracted her from feeling the discomfort in her eyes.

"I'm fine. I got something into my eyes... and I feel some discomfort." Abigail honestly responded to Nathan.

Nathan immediately cupped her face with one hand, lifting her chin to check her eyes. Nathan had a serious look on his face as he assessed Abigail.

On the other hand, Veronica was rendered speechless as she watched Nathan and Abigail. At that moment, she reached her boiling point. She had the urge to pull Abigail's hair and drag her away from Nathan. However, Nathan's presence stopped her from doing that.

In the end, Veronica chose to leave to cool herself down. She could no longer stay there and watch Nathan and Abigail.

'I will make you pay for this!' Veronica marched out with a raging fury.

When she got far away from them, Veronica called someone.

"I want you to give me all the information I need about Abigail Scarlett! Find anything suspicious about her. Let me know her weaknesses... and everything about her!" When Veronica was done instructing her underling, she hung up the phone and walked away.

She would resort to another strategy. And this time she would make sure that Nathan would be hers... Only HERS!

Meanwhile, on the beach volleyball court, Nathan was now blowing Abigail's eyes, helping her out to ease the discomfort in her eyes.

Kathleen and Stephen just watched the two in awe. They looked like a sweet and loving couple.

"Are they feeding us dog food?" Stephen blurted out jokingly. He glanced at Kathleen and smiled sheepishly. She could only smile back before shaking her head helplessly.

"Are we going to continue the game?" Kathleen asked Abigail and Nathan.

"Of course... the game is not yet over," Abigail promptly responded.

But Nathan also spoke up, contradicting Abigail. "No. We can't continue anymore. We should go to the hospital and have your eyes checked before they get irritated further."

"I agree with Nathan," Stephen butted in. He was also concerned about Abigail's eye condition. Her right eye became red already. "You shouldn't have rubbed it with your fingers," Stephen added.

"Okay. Let's end this as a draw then. No one wins," Kathleen said. "Abi's health is the most important thing. Let's go to the hospital!"

"By the way, where is Veronica?" Stephen asked them when he didn't see her around.

"Just forget about her. I think she is the reason why Abigail's eyes were hurt." Kathleen snorted, suspecting Veronica. Although she didn't see what Veronica did, Kathleen had this feeling that she was responsible for this.

Nathan just narrowed his eyes, emitting a chilly aura around him. He was also suspecting Veronica for what happened. The four of them proceeded to Stephen's car as they left the White Paradise Resort.

Nathan chose to bring Abigail to the hospital where Phantomflake was being treated and examined.

Abigail felt that Nathan and others were overreacting. She was just fine and there was no need for her to have an eye check-up. But Nathan was firm with his decision and Stephen was supporting his best friend. Abigail had no choice but to follow them.

Kathleen accompanied Abigail to the Optometrist to have Abigail's eyes examined. Meanwhile, Stephen and Nathan went to see Phantomflake together.

In Phantomflake's Private Ward...

"So the reason you came here is her... Phantomflake." Stephen mumbled as his eyes were fixed on the unconscious woman in the sickbed.

Nathan just nodded his head. Then Stephen heaved a deep sigh.

"Can't you stop this already, Nate? You should move on and free yourself from anger and hatred. Through this... you can only be happy." Stephen said meaningfully, holding Nathan's shoulder.

"You know that I can't do that Steph. Besides, I don't care about being happy or not. I just want to do this... for Monica. How can I do nothing... if the person who killed her is in front of me? I want her to live so that she will also experience the same pain I had experienced when Monica died."

"Furthermore... I still need to know the person who gave her the mission to kill Monica." Nathan folded his hands into tight fists. He could feel the rage surging up in his heart as he recalled the moment Monica was assassinated in front of him.

"Nate... what do you think about Abigail?" Stephen immediately changed the topic, diverting Nathan's attention. He could sense that Nathan was getting furious as hell again whenever he would remember that tragic moment.

Stephen was Nathan's psychologist so he knew how hard it was for Nathan to recollect those bad memories. He didn't want him to feel that pain over and over again. As much as possible, he would think of a way Nathan's focus would be diverted. And this time... he used Abigail and it looked like he succeeded.

"What do you mean by that?" Nathan asked Stephen curiously.

"It seems that... you care about Abigail and you are starting to loosen up in her presence. I saw you smiling because of her. I saw you getting mad because of her. We thought only Monica could affect your emotions... but now, I can see that Abigail has started to affect yours as well."

Nathan was at a loss for words when he heard those words from Stephen.

Chapter 128 Shining Star

Nathan didn't know how he would respond to Stephen's remarks. Stephen's words had never crossed his mind. Did he really care about Abigail? He might be reacting unconsciously but he didn't want to admit it.

"You are just overthinking, Stephen. I am only doing this because of Ethan. It's Ethan who cares about her." Nathan blatantly denied Stephen's assumption by using Ethan for his argument.

Stephen let out a soft chuckle as he could tell that Nathan was just in denial.

"Are you sure, Nate? Is this all about Ethan? Or is it you? Your personal feelings are getting involved now," Stephen insisted, looking at Nathan with a teasing smile.

Nathan narrowed his eyes at Stephen, glaring at him. "You are talking nonsense, Steph. Just leave me alone."

"Fine! I won't tease you anymore. Besides, I'm just stating what I have observed for today and for the past few days." Stephen shrugged his shoulders.

Nathan just shifted his gaze back to Phantomflake. He realized that he had no time for these distractions. He had to focus on getting his revenge. He could no longer wait to see Phantomflake waking up.

It did not take long when Dr. Doreen entered the ward. She was surprised to see Nathan and Stephen. She thought Veronica and Nathan were enjoying their moments in White Paradise Resort.

"Mr. Sparks, you are here already. Where's Dr. Veronica?" Dr. Doreen asked Nathan in puzzlement. Stephen was still in his beachwear while Nathan changed into his usual clothes.

"She left without a word a while ago," Stephen replied.

Nathan's face grew hard at the mention of Veronica's name. She showed some attitude and she was not so welcoming when Abigail, Kathleen, and Stephen.

Dr. Doreen wondered what happened to their beach trip. She decided to call her doctor friend to inform her that Nathan was already in the hospital.

"I'm going back to the hotel first," Nathan said, saying goodbye to Stephen.

"Where is your hotel?" Stephen held his elbow. Stephen, Abigail, and Kathleen hadn't checked in yet into a hotel.

Nathan stopped when he heard that. He almost forgot to ask Stephen and Abigail where they were going to stay here in Country F.

"Ramenx Crowne Hotel," Nathan immediately responded. He wanted them to book a room in the same hotel. "How long will you be staying here?"

"It depends on the Ladies. I'm just here to accompany them as their bodyguard." Stephen chuckled as he recalled how Kathleen invited him.

"Where are your luggage? Bring them to Ramenx Crowne Hotel. Let's go back together." Nathan suggested to Stephen. He was thinking of going back to Country M together with Abigail and Stephen.

"Hmm, do you want us to join you again?" The way Stephen was looking at him seemed like he was telling Nathan 'See. I told you. You care for her. You want to be with her.'

Nathan just ignored Stephen's meaningful glances. "Yes. There are lots of vacant rooms in the Ramenx Hotel. Stay there." Nathan said in his commanding tone. He didn't even consult them. He just told Stephen to stay with them.

"Go and check Kathleen and Abigail. Just relay to them that you are going to Ramenx Crowne Hotel," Nathan added.

He didn't wait for Stephen to reply. He just walked out of the VIP ward. Nathan wanted to be alone and reflect on Stephen's words. What was Abigail to him? Why was he acting strangely when it came to Abigail?

Nathan proceeded to the hotel. When he entered the room, he slumped his body on the bed, looking at the ceiling blankly. He blinked several times and took a deep breath.

He felt like something was wrong with him. He wondered why Stephen could tell that his emotions were being affected by Abigail. Was it so obvious? He didn't even realize that he was acting that way.

"Abigail Scarlett... What did you do to me?"

He was still lost in his deep thoughts when he heard the sound of his doorbell.

Ding Dong Ding Dong!

The sound of the doorbell snapped him out of his deep thoughts. He lazily dragged his body up and traced his steps towards the door.

When he opened it, Veronica's upset face came into his view. She looked so frustrated about something.

"Why did you leave me behind?" Veronica complained to Nathan. She could no longer hold her emotions. She found out that Nathan brought Abigail to the hospital. It was Kathleen who informed Veronica about it, taunting her.

"You disappeared on your own. We needed to go to the hospital as Abigail's eyes got hurt," Nathan simply explained.

"Why didn't you inform me? Why did I have to hear it from other people?" Veronica vented out, nagging him as if she was his girlfriend. The driver of their rented vehicle was the one who told her that he saw Nathan leaving together with three people.

"Because it was you who caused Abigail to get hurt," Nathan sternly said. He was letting this slide because of Monica. Veronica was a very important person to his beloved woman.

As much as possible, he didn't want to get mad at her. But Veronica was testing his patience. He was not that blind. He could sense that Veronica was sometimes acting like she was Monica. But in fact, she had no power or influence over him. He could feel annoyed if Veronica was acting like she was his girlfriend.

Veronica was rendered speechless as she couldn't refute that. How did Nathan know?

After her long silence, Veronica spoke up once again and questioned Nathan's actions. "Why Nathan? Are you getting mad at me because of her? Do you like Abigail? Do you care for her? Is she that important to you? Do you have feelings for her?"

Veronica lost control as she bombarded him with so many questions.

Nathan's expression darkened as he didn't want the way Veronica was questioning him right now. She had no right to do that. It was his personal life. Why did she care? She was not Monica.

"Veronica... I'm tired. Just leave." Nathan was trying to control his temper.

"No. I will not leave unless you will give me a proper answer. Nathan, be honest with me! Are you betraying my sister? Are you replacing her in your heart with this actress?! How could you do that? I thought you would do anything to get your revenge for my sister. Why are you getting close with another wo—"

Slap

Veronica was not able to finish her words as Nathan's palm landed on her face. He failed to control himself and ended up slapping Veronica's face.

"You don't have the right to talk to me like that. Know your place, Veronica!" Nathan said to her through his gritted teeth.

Veronica was shocked beyond belief. She lifted her hand to hold her face. She didn't expect that Nathan would lay a hand against her. That was an unexpected slap coming from him. Then she realized her mistake.

'Never question Nathan about his love towards Monica!'

Veronica was a witness who could tell how much Nathan loved her late sister, Monica. He would do anything for her!

She didn't know if this slap was an awakening for her, reminding her how important Monica was to Nathan.

"I. Am. Not. Betraying. Monica!" Nathan emphasized each word to her. "Abigail has nothing to do with me. She is just a stranger who saved my son, Ethan. That's our relationship. Now, are you satisfied to hear this? Then get out! LEAVE!" He didn't want to hurt Veronica but she just went overboard with her sharp words.

For Nathan, nothing changed. Monica was still the woman in his heart, although he couldn't explain why he was being affected by Abigail. He also felt guilty for getting intimate with Abigail. He thought it was just a result of his longing for Monica. He didn't want to acknowledge that he enjoyed the moment because of Abigail.

Bam!

Veronica dashed out of his room and closed the door with a loud bang. She cried as she ran away from him. She was very hurt because Nathan slapped her. She had never imagined that Nathan would do that to her.

When Veronica left, Nathan felt like his energy was drained. Stephen confronted him a while ago about his feelings towards Abigail. And now, Veronica did the same thing. He was getting mad about this because even he himself was confused about his feelings.

To divert his attention, Nathan walked toward his study area and switched on his laptop. He clicked a certain app that requested his log-in details.

Username: SizzlingAugust08

Password: *Syphiruz*

Complicated emotions flashed through Nathan's eyes as he glanced at his computer screen. Sadness, longing, love, and anger could be seen on his face.

Nathan opened an old conversation he had with his chatmate, Shining_Star. This was his way of recalling his special moment with Monica ever since the two of them met. Then a series of flashbacks came into his mind.

Chapter 129 Flashback

Day Twelve...

Nathan recalls the moment when he first encountered Shining_Star in an online game. This was when their friendship started.

[Flashback: Thirteen years ago...]

Nathan was feeling bored in the mansion. He went to his study room and switched on his computer.

It was his pastime to play online games, create a program or hack some systems. Nathan decided to play Mission XXX, an online game which involved different characters such as soldiers, policemen, terrorists, hitmen, and assassins. The game setting was a warzone and a combat field.

Nathan logged into his account and proceeded to the game server. His character was a hitman. He entered the game zone as a solo player.

Nathan's character as SizzlingAugust08 was famous in that server because he belonged to top players. He chose to do a hunting mission, killing the big bosses of different terrorist groups.

Nathan's character had been roaming around the battlefield of Zone 1 when suddenly someone shot him in the back. He immediately lost thirty percent of his HP.

Nathan was caught off guard by that sneaky attack. No one tried to attack him like that. It seemed that someone wanted to challenge him.

Nathan tried to locate the culprit. He suspected that it was also a hitman, perhaps a sniper. From the angle he was hit, Nathan turned around, searching for the enemy.

Bang!

Another bullet was fired at him, hitting his right shoulder. But instead of getting annoyed, Nathan found it amusing that someone dared to challenge him. He was known as the King Hitman of this server so he usually played solo.

Nathan wanted to be challenged so he didn't want to team up with other players. It looked like someone put a great prize on his head.

"Who is this brave man?" Nathan mumbled, still searching for the person who was targeting him. Nathan's character already took cover. His HP was already down to fifty percent. One and two critical hits and he would be out of the game.

Nathan tried his best as he scanned the areas with his hawk eyes. He used his pistol and fired a bullet from a distance. He thought that spot was the hiding spot of his unknown enemy.

But to his surprise, that person was good at hiding. He or she is completely camouflaged in his surrounding.

"Interesting fellow," Nathan mumbled, smiling broadly. He continued clicking his mouse as his avatar roamed around the field.

Another shot!

Nathan was hit in his right leg. His HP went down to twenty percent. The bullet his enemy used was high-powered. He wondered where she was coming from.

Nathan didn't use his special ability to hide his current spot. He wanted to test how skillful his enemy was. It did not take long when another bullet was fired at him, aiming at his head.

Nathan's powerful vision was able to see the bullet coming at him. He clicked his mouse to make his character duck to avoid the bullet.

"I gotcha!" Nathan mumbled, smirking widely. He finally noticed the location of his enemy. A man in black was hiding in the building across from him.

This time Nathan moved his character, pointing his gun at the rooftop where he saw his hidden enemy.

Bang!

Nathan fired one bullet, hitting the enemy right into his or her head! But in that crucial time, the enemy already approached him as the person in black jumped from the rooftop, landing on his character.

He was surprised when the enemy raised her dagger aimed at his neck. He thought it was game over as it would only take one slash from his enemy to kill his character and he would go to the resurrection zone for fifteen minutes before he could play again.

The person who seemed to be an assassin didn't make a move. Instead, an icon flashed on Nathan's computer screen, inviting him to accept a voice call from another player.

,m Curious about the identity of his attacker, Nathan accepted it and decided to hear the enemy's message.

"Are you the King of Hitman? I want to challenge you to a duel! They said you were the top player here." A feminine voice was heard from his earpiece.

Nathan was taken aback for a moment. He didn't expect that the person who bravely challenged him in this game was a woman... or rather... a girl. She sounded so young.

"Who are you? Are you a new player here?" Nathan asked her with intrigue after he recovered from shock.

"I'm Shining Star. Yes. I am new here and I want to dominate this server by defeating the top players here." She sounded confident for a new player.

Nathan typed on his keyboard, trying to find out Shining_Star Stats. Nathan was surprised once again since her account was just made two days ago. Her level was already Level 5.

'Ahuh. So this is the dark horse who started to create her name on this server two days ago. She is good for a newbie.' Nathan complimented someone for the first time.

He had encountered different players on this server. No one was brave enough to challenge him as soon as they found out about his accomplishments and level.

"Why should I accept your challenge? I am a veteran here. You are just a newbie. Other players would think that I am bullying you. You should reach my level first before you compete with me. I don't want you to blame the difference in our level for your defeat. I will not go easy on you either."

Nathan was already a Level 80 player. And his account was just one month old on this server.

"Are you afraid of me? I defeated a level 60 player just a while ago. Why don't you try me," Shining Star challenged him confidently.

Nathan could only smile while shaking his head helplessly. This girl never failed to amaze him. He loved her guts and bravery. But he had to teach her a lesson that their gaps were very large. He was not an ordinary player. It seemed that this girl was underestimating him.

"Your arrogance will be the cause of your downfall. Don't cry. I already warned you." Nathan couldn't help but chuckle as he talked to her.

"Try me! Game on! Meet me at the duel arena in fifteen minutes. Heal yourself first!" Shining Star suggested.

"There's no need. I can fight you with my current condition. So that it would be fair. You are level 5 while I'm already level 80 player."

"It doesn't matter to me. I will still defeat you. Go and heal yourself first." Shining Star argued with him.

"You shouldn't have shot me if you planned to challenge me for a duel. Now, I have to wait for my regeneration." Nathan blamed her.

But Shining Star justified her action. "If I didn't do this, you wouldn't notice me. Provoking you is the only way to get your attention. You will not take me seriously, will you?"

Nathan was amused as Shining Star's words made sense to him. He would probably ignore her if she just approached him and asked him for a duel.

"Okay! I accept your challenge. Meet me in the Battle Arena in fifteen minutes!" Nathan finally accepted her challenge.

His character, SizzlingAugust08, went to hibernate first to heal himself. A brave challenger was very excited to fight him. Nathan already decided that he would not go easy on her to give her a lesson.

Fifteen minutes later, their character met at the Battle Arena. Here they could use any type of weapons. They would attack each other until one of them would lose HP or drain their HP.

There were lots of spectators watching them. The other players decided to watch their duel because for the first time someone challenged SizzlingAugust08 and he accepted it. And what was more exciting was that the player who challenged him was just a newbie.

When the duel started, Nathan didn't hold back. He attacked her with all his might. In just ten seconds, Shining Star was knocked down and defeated.

That was the start Shining Star continued to bother SizzlingAugust08, requesting him for a duel over and over again. She couldn't accept her defeat so she worked hard to win next time. She didn't stop challenging him until she won. Since then, the two had started communicating with each other through that game and outside the game and they became chatmates. They started getting to know each other more.

Chapter 130 Playing Cupid

The next morning, Nathan distanced himself from the group. He never talked to Stephen and he never showed up during dinner. He just stayed in his room last night.

Veronica also did the same. She was nowhere to be found last night. She was still emotionally hurt by Nathan. He unexpectedly slapped her.

Veronica had no courage to see him along with Abigail and others. She was also blaming Abigail for what happened.

Abigail and Stephen had their breakfast together while Kathleen went out for her official business here in Country F.

Abigail and Stephen decided to hang out in the pool area of the Ramenx Crowne Hotel. Since Nathan didn't want to join them, the two chose to have their moments together.

"How's your eyes?" Stephen asked Abigail worriedly.

"It's fine now. The doctor prescribed me an eyedrop. The irritation and the redness of my eyes disappeared this morning," Abigail responded before taking a sip of her juice.

Stephen heaved a deep sigh upon hearing that. He felt relieved knowing that Abigail was fine now.

"I'm so glad. What's your plan for today?" Stephen asked her out of the blue.

Abigail took her time before answering that question. She planned on sticking with Nathan today but there was no sign of him. In fact, she was wondering what Nathan was doing right now. She had been searching for him since last night. She didn't know if Nathan was intentionally avoiding them or not. Was he hiding from them... particularly from her?

"I'm going to stay here in the hotel and wait for Kathleen. She invited me to hang out tonight and go clubbing. Will you come with us?"

Stephen's face brightened up since he wanted to do that as well. As much as possible, he would like to have fun with the ladies. Maybe by doing this, he would understand Aiden more as to why he was fond of going out with lots of women.

Stephen decided to take a break from work and enjoy the moments, stress-free. He was grateful that Kathleen invited him to join them.

"Of course, I'm going with you. I'm your bodyguard, remember?" Stephen said jokingly, winking at Abigail. She just laughed at his remarks.

"How about Nathan? Will he join us too?" Abigail grabbed this opportunity to ask Stephen about Nathan's whereabouts. "Where is he?" She added.

"Hmm. I haven't seen him leaving his room. My room was next to his room. Don't worry, I will ask him later. Do you want him to come?" Stephen asked her directly.

Abigail just nodded her head. She came to Country F because of Nathan so what's the use of coming there if she couldn't spend time with him? She had an important mission to accomplish.

"Hmm. I'm getting jealous now. Your eyes are only set on Nathan. Don't you want to choose me, instead of him?" Stephen made another joke to test Abigail. He was also assessing how much Abigail liked Nathan.

"Sigh. How I wish it's you." Abigail mumbled without so much thought. She just found it hard to make the devil fall for her so she wished that it was Stephen whom she would need to win over.

Stephen was gentler than Nathan. And he didn't have a girlfriend. He wasn't in love, unlike Nathan who was head over heels for Monica.

But on the other side, she was also grateful that Stephen was not the subject of her special mission. Kathleen had feelings for him so she didn't want to get in between the two. She was rooting for them and she thought that Kathleen and Stephen would be a great couple. They looked so good together.

Meanwhile, Stephen just let out a husky laugh. He didn't expect that Abigail would play along with him, telling him that she wished she was the one she liked, not Nathan.

"Why do you like Nathan? It's so hard to deal with him sometimes... I mean most of the time." Stephen scratched his face while smiling at her.

Abigail paused for a moment as she rubbed her chin. She was searching for the right and acceptable answer to Stephen's question. She couldn't tell him that it was only because of her mission.

"Because he is handsome and rich," Abigail simply answered.

"Eh? How about me? I'm handsome and rich too." Stephen pouted his lips, putting on a pitiful face.

"But you don't have a cute son like Ethan," Abigail said, sticking her tongue out at him. She was so comfortable talking to Stephen like this as if he was her brother. She also mentioned Ethan as one of the reasons for Stephen to stop asking her about Nathan.

Stephen was a psychologist. He might find out that she was lying and not telling the truth once he threw more questions about her feelings towards Nathan.

Stephen just let out another soft chuckle. He liked Abigail's witty answer. "Well, you are right. I can't beat Nathan when it comes to that. How I wish I also had a cute and adorable son like Ethan. Who knows you might change your mind if I had one."

"You have nothing to worry about, Mr. Zhao. You are a good man... rich, smart, and handsome. Just look around and you will see a woman who truly likes you," Abigail said meaningfully. She was dying to mention Kathleen's name but she made a promise to her to keep her secret.

She was having a hard time taming the devil so she had no time to get nosy about someone else's romantic relationships.

"You are flattering me too much, Miss Scarlett," Stephen responded, giving her a broad smile.

"I'm just stating a fact, Mr. Zhao."

The two just burst out into a peal of laughter. They were still laughing when someone saw them from a distance. A pair of sharp eyes was looking in their direction.

Nathan finally went outside after getting bored inside his VIP suite. He decided to walk around and ended up going to the pool area. He didn't expect to see Abigail and Stephen there.

The two were happily conversing with each other. They were laughing together as if they were having fun in each other's company. Nathan tried his best to avoid and ignore them.

Because of last night's confrontation between Veronica and him, he felt like he did something wrong, making him feel guilty towards Monica.

As much as possible, he wanted to avoid and distance himself from Abigail for a while. He might be confused right now but once he cleared up his mind, he wouldn't be affected by Abigail anymore. That's what he thought.

However, he just found himself, tracing his steps towards them. He was bothered once more seeing the two together.... Just the two of them together... so Nathan decided to join them and became a third wheel.

"Oh, Nate! You're here. You finally decided to leave your cave," Stephen stood up to welcome him. He greeted Nathan enthusiastically with a teasing smile. His best friend looked so grumpy once again. His face couldn't be painted right now.

Meanwhile, Abigail stared at Nathan intently. She felt relieved to finally see him. She had been searching for him since last night.

'Great! The devil finally shows up!' Abigail thought to herself, smiling faintly.

But Nathan's observant eyes caught a glimpse of her smile. For some unknown reason, the annoyance he felt moments ago when watching Stephen and Abigail as they laughed suddenly disappeared when he saw Abigail's faint smile. She looked like she was happy to see him today.

"What are you two planning to do here?" Nathan asked them as he sat next to Abigail.

"Killing some times... and getting to know each other more," Stephen responded, taunting Nathan. He would like to see if his best friend would be affected by his teasing.

"We are planning to dip into the water and swim," Stephen said, winking at Abigail.

Abigail shook her head. They didn't have plans to swim. They were just hanging out in the pool area. But Stephen gave her a meaningful look, asking her to play along with him. Stephen wanted to know what Nathan would say or how he would react.

Nathan fell silent for a moment. He darted his gaze back and forth between the pool and Abigail. He wasn't able to join them on the beach as he was already too late when he changed his clothes.

After contemplating for a while, Nathan spoke up once again. "Actually, I came here to swim as well." Nathan lied with a straight face.

Stephen shut his mouth trying to suppress his laughter. He got him! Nathan was lying! He could see through him but he didn't comment further.

'Haha! Nate, Oh Nate! How long will you deny it? I guess... you are starting to get attached to the woman sitting next to you.' Stephen's sparkling eyes were fixed on Nathan.

"Since you are here... what are we waiting for? Let's dip into the water now!" Stephen stood up, grabbing Abigail's and Nathan's hands.

Abigail: "..."

'Eh? Is he serious?' Abigail had never imagined that Stephen would also drag her to the pool.

Without saying a word, Stephen pushed the two towards the swimming pool, letting them fall into the water!

Splash!

Nathan fell first. Then Stephen playfully pushed Abigail also, making her land right into Nathan's arms.

"Aah!" Abigail was caught off guard by Stephen's sudden action. She closed her eyes only to feel strong arms catching her in the water. It was Nathan!

Someone was playing a cupid here as well!