

## 100 Days 141

Chapter 141 Just One Bite

Day Fourteen...

Nathan's VIP ward was now heavily guarded by his men. Axel and Aiden arrived at Country F. His right-hand man, Axel, brought ten of Nathan's elite bodyguards.

Five of them visited the crime scene together with Axel and Stephen. Aiden was the one who was left in the hospital to watch over his best friend.

"Hey man, what happened to you? You almost died last night!" Aiden asked Nathan worriedly. "How could someone easily defeat you?"

Nathan was already awake and Aiden was the first person he saw. He was hoping to see Abigail but she was nowhere to be found.

'Maybe she is still in shock because of that kiss?' Nathan thought to himself, completely ignoring Aiden's query.

"Nate! I'm talking to you," Aiden complained.

"Pardon, what did you say?" Nathan asked.

"I said how could a single person defeat you in one-on-one combat?! Was he that strong? Even Stephen and I were having a hard time defeating you together!"

Nathan fell silent and blinked. 'Because I was distracted... I was thinking about Abigail.'

Nathan had an answer but he wouldn't tell Aiden about it. It was too embarrassing.

"Yes, probably he is stronger than both of you combined," Nathan said with a straight face. He just made this as an alibi.

"If that is so, you have to bring your bodyguards wherever you go. Why did you come to this country without them?!" Aiden started nagging Nathan. Aiden could also become an overprotective friend sometimes. He didn't like to see his friends getting hurt.

"Damn! I wanna beat the guy who did this to you!" Aiden mumbled through his gritted teeth. He was cracking his knuckles.

Nathan looked down and pressed the side of his stomach wherein he was stabbed by the poisoned dagger. He lost consciousness inside the comfort room so he didn't know what happened after that.

He thought the guy would approach his unconscious body to end his life. But he was surprised that the attacker let him live. For what purpose? What did he attack him for in the first place if he wouldn't finish the job?

"Did you find any clue? I wonder if this is some kind of warning... He had no intention of killing me on the spot." Nathan shared his deduction with him.

Aiden nodded his head as he rubbed his chin. "Stephen and Axel are still investigating. To think about this... no major artery has been damaged. No internal organ got affected. The poison he used isn't that fatal according to the result of your medical examination."

"But still, I wanna beat that guy for messing with you! How dare he attack you?!"

The two were still thinking so hard when the door slid open. Veronica came running in Nathan's direction.

"Nathan! You are finally awake. How do you feel?" Veronica approached Nathan and held him as if she was a worried girlfriend.

Nathan wanted to shove her off but he recalled that Dr. Doreen told him that Stephen and Veronica were the people who immediately brought him to the nearest hospital to save him.

"I'm fine," he plainly said.

"Thank God! You scared me to death! I thought we were going to lose you. I-I..." Veronica was not able to finish her words as she burst into tears. She cried in front of him.

Nathan frowned as he watched her. He turned to Aiden, his sharp gaze motioning Aiden to take over and comfort Veronica himself.

Nathan seemed like telling Aiden this— 'Get her away from me.'

Aiden could only smile helplessly. He knew that Nathan didn't know how to comfort a woman. The only woman in his eyes was Monica.

Without further ado, Aiden moved closer to Veronica and held her shoulders. "Nathan is okay now. Stop crying now, Vivi." Aiden led her to the couch, successfully separating her from Nathan. Vivi was his endearment to Veronica.

Abigail also showed up inside the ward. Nathan looked at the door and met Abigail's eyes steadily for a moment. His penetrating gaze made Abigail halt on her steps.

She stood there while holding a lunch box she prepared for Nathan.

'Can he remember anything or not?' Abigail mused to herself as she assessed Nathan. She couldn't figure out what he was thinking as Nathan was good at concealing his emotions.

With her drumming heart, she found the courage to move forward and get close to Nathan. She was soon welcomed by a deathly glare from Veronica.

"Abi!!!" Aiden, on the other hand, excitedly called her name and greeted her with so much enthusiasm. "Is that for us?" He pointed at the lunch box in Abigail's hand.

"No! It's for the patient!" Abigail blatantly said that brought a faint smile to Nathan's face. However, he was able to erase the smile right away, hiding it from everyone.

Aiden just crumpled his face, acting jealous. He wanted to taste Abigail's cooking so he glanced at Nathan and begged. "Can you share it with us? I want to taste Abigail's cooking."

Nathan gazed at Aiden with his glowering eyes. He thought his best friend was too shameless to ask him that. Of course, he wouldn't like to share.

"I'm hungry." Nathan only said. But these words also meant 'I won't gonna share!'

Aiden could only sigh in defeat.

Meanwhile, Veronica started to show some attitude again. "Why are you here?" She didn't bother to hide the displeasure in her voice.

"Do you need to ask? Isn't it obvious? I'm here to see Nathan," Abigail responded in a sarcastic tone.

Veronica's face darkened further because of that arrogant remark from Abigail. She couldn't believe that this mere actress was talking back to her.

'Just you wait, Abigail. I'm gonna make you suffer!' Veronica was cursing Abigail in her mind.

Nathan wasn't bothered by the two Ladies arguing. His attention was now focused on the lunch box.

Aiden sat in front of Nathan and opened his mouth. He was begging Nathan to feed him a spoonful of Abigail's homemade food.

"Just one bite..." Aiden asked Nathan with his puppy-eyed look.

But Nathan only picked up his phone and dialed a number. After a while, he handed it over to Aiden. "Here, just order anything you wanna eat."

Aiden: "..."

'Eh? Don't tell me Nate doesn't wanna share even just one bite of Abigail's food?!'

Chapter 142 Do You Like Handsome Men?

Day Fourteen...

[ At Country M: Sparks Mansion ]

Cherry, also known as Black Rose, started her new job in Sparks Mansion as the Head Chef. Abigail recommended her to Butler Li so she got accepted right away. Cherry was convinced to work there because of the big salary offer.

Before Abigail went to Country F, she made sure to remind Butler Li to take care of Cherry. Cherry was a precious junior sister for her. She could tell that people in the mansion would target her once they learned that she was connected to Abigail.

To protect Cherry from the bullies in the mansion, Abigail requested Cherry to pretend that she didn't know her at all. She also told Butler Li to keep it a secret except from Nathan and Ethan.

The mansion was filled with people who wanted to kick Abigail out. She already informed Cherry about it so she understood the situation. She would be cautious and careful inside that mansion.

Since Abigail helped her to find this job, Cherry had decided to be useful to Abigail as well to return this favor. She would try to gain the trust of the people in the mansion as she pretended to hate Abigail.

Through this, she would also serve as Abigail's spy. If other people in the mansion would try to scheme against Abigail, Cherry would be able to know. She would report it right away to Abigail.

'Hmm! I feel like I am on an undercover mission. A spy. Sigh. I missed doing missions with my sisters. I missed them already. Big Sis... where are you? I hope you are still alive,' Cherry thought to herself as she continued stirring the soup. She was preparing dinner for everyone, most especially for their young master, Ethan.

"Miss Cherry," Butler Li suddenly called her from the back.

"Butler Li, is the young master hungry already?" Cherry asked, worried that she might disappoint Ethan for making him wait.

Butler Li let out a soft chuckle. Cherry was a little bit anxious. Probably, she wanted to make a good impression for Abigail's sake.

"Relax, Miss Cherry. I'm just here checking on you. Are your assistants cooperating well with you?" Butler Li was aware that there was resistance to this sudden change. Some of them were very loyal to Chef Min. They still hadn't moved on after Chef Min's removal.

"They are somehow cooperative. I guess they have no choice. Otherwise, they will lose their jobs." Cherry also let out a soft giggle.

"By the way, I am curious. How long have you known Miss Abi? You two look very close," Butler Li said those words in a whisper so that other people in the mansion couldn't hear him.

"Not so long. We just met in a shop a few days ago. We talked and we got along really well. Then she offered me some jobs. She is so kind and thoughtful... Just like a sister."

Butler Li nodded his head. There was no way these two had already known each other for a long time. His Master Nathan already conducted a background check on Abigail Scarlett. Miss Cherry Pei had nothing to do with her. They had no connection at all.

But Butler Li was wondering why Abigail seemed to worry too much about Cherry. When Abigail talked to Butler Li regarding Cherry, she sounded like a big sister who wanted to protect her younger sister. However, after checking Cherry's profile, it appeared that Cherry was older than Abigail.

"Miss Cherry... I mean Chef Pei, before I forgot, Young Master Ethan told me that he wanted to talk to you alone after dinner. Can you proceed to the balcony near the garden later?" Butler Li also came there to deliver Little Ethan's message.

"Oh! Sure. If this is the request of our adorable young master, I will have to comply. I can't refuse that invitation. It will be my honor." Even Cherry, aka Black Rose, had been charmed by this cute and sweet young boy.

"Thank you, Chef Pei. Please cheer him up. Our little young master was a little bit down lately because he felt bored and lonely without Miss Abi." Butler Li informed her.

"Okay, Butler Li. I will make extra desserts for Little Young Master... some sweets to lift his mood!" Cherry reassured Butler Li.

[ \*An Hour Later... \* ]

Cherry was already on the balcony waiting for Ethan. She brought some freshly baked chocolate cookies for the young master.

"I heard you were Miss Abi's friend," a small voice of a young boy broke the silence. Ethan had finally arrived, catching Cherry's attention.

"Young Master, good evening!" Cherry stood up and greeted him politely before answering his question. "Yes. Abi and I had become friends. But young master, we have to keep it a secret from other people here in the mansion. So never mention this when others are around."

Ethan smiled and bobbed his head. "Yes. I promise to keep this a secret," he replied in a low voice.

Cherry let out a soft giggle. Ethan's reaction was so cute and he was so obedient. She wanted to pinch his fluffy cheeks.

Ethan moved closer and climbed the bench, sitting next to her.

"Miss Cherry, are you single?" Ethan didn't hold himself from asking a very personal question. If the person who asked Cherry this kind of question was an adult, she would think that this man was trying to hit on her. Fortunately, the question came from an adorable child.

"Yes, young master... I'm single. Why do you ask?" Cherry couldn't help but smile awkwardly.

The boy gazed at her with an innocent smile on his face. "Do you like handsome men?"

"Y-Yes..." Cherry answered reluctantly but she maintained her smile.

"Great! I know someone! My Uncle is handsome. I will introduce him to you once he visits us." Little Ethan declared without even consulting Cherry.

Cherry: "..."

Cherry could only smile and nod her head as she didn't know what to say. She was at a loss for words.

'Hmm. I should match her with Uncle Stephen so that he will stop getting in my way and ruin my plan.' Naughty Ethan planned on matchmaking Cherry and Stephen.

But little did he know, there might be two people who would oppose his naughty idea— Aiden and Kathleen!

Chapter 143 The Legendary Hacker

Day Fourteen...



[ Country M: At Red Dragon's Headquarters ]

The Dragon Lord had just arrived at the headquarters after closing the deal with another faction. This time they were involved in narcotics trafficking.

The Red Dragon Mafia was trying to invade the territory of the Syphiruz Mafia. They conducted several secret operations in Syphiruz's turf.

It seemed that the Supreme Leader of the Syphiruz Mafia had been silent for a long time. He didn't make any offensive against other factions. The last time they showed their ruthlessness was when they annihilated the Phantom Assassin Guild.

The new Dragon Lord was conducting business as much as he liked without the interference of the other mafia syndicates. He was grabbing this chance as the Supreme Leader of Syphiruz was being inactive.

Little did they know, the Supreme Leader of the Syphiruz had been focusing on medical research, manufacturing drugs that could revive Phantomflake.

After showing everyone his wrath, Nathan decided not to attack other factions as long as they wouldn't try to sabotage Syphiruz's operation.

But it seemed that someone was searching for trouble. The new Dragon Lord wanted to challenge the Syphiruz Mafia. He had been making moves that would provoke the Syphiruz Mafia.

He was determined to bring Syphiruz down. He was recruiting people who had deep enmity and resentment against the Syphiruz. That's why he became interested in Black Rose after finding out she was alive.

The Dragon Lord proceeded to his office to take a rest. Seconds later, Spade entered the room as he was summoned by him.

"Any news from Black Rose?" Dragon Lord asked Spade. He leaned his back on his chair and glanced at him. He looked exhausted.

"I already set a trap. I'm waiting for her to take the bait. Don't worry, My Lord. I feel like I will be able to communicate with her soon," Spade said, reassuring his Boss.

"Alright. I will leave that to you. We know that the Syphiruz Mafia has a strong defense and anti-hacker system. If you can recruit Black Rose, I think both of you can work together to break their System." Dragon Lord wanted to defeat the Syphiruz Mafia no matter what. As of now, Syphiruz was at the top of the ladder among the biggest organizations in the underground world.

"I will do my best, my Lord. I don't want to disappoint you. I will be able to break their defense sooner or later!" Spade was confident in himself.

But Dragon Lord suddenly burst into laughter. "Don't underestimate the Syphiruz, Spade."

Spade furrowed his eyebrow, feeling curious about something. "My Lord, can I ask you something?"

The Dragon Lord just waved his hand, allowing him to ask questions. "Do you know who their programmer is? The person who created their anti-hacker defense system. I think I can try to connect with him, make friends and deceive him."

The Dragon Lord fell silent for a moment and a cold glint flashed through his eyes.

"Have you heard of the name SizzlingAugust08?" The Dragon Lord mumbled. There was a hint of bitterness as he mentioned that name.

Spade's eyes widened as soon as he heard that. Who wouldn't know that name? In the world of hackers and computer programmers, there was once a King and his username was SizzlingAugust08. He was known to everyone. He was like a legendary person who suddenly disappeared without a trace.

SizzlingAugust08 shook the internet world numerous times, flaunting his heavenly skills that no one could match at that time.

Spade gazed at Dragon Lord, gasping. "No way! My Lord, Don't tell me... SizzlingAugust08 is the one who programmed the defense system of the Syphiruz Mafia?! Is he still alive?"

The Dragon Lord nodded his head in response to his query

Spade was enthralled by this discovery. He had been dreaming of meeting the legendary SizzlingAugust08. In fact, he was his idol.

'Damn! If he is the programmer of the Syphiruz Mafia, then... I will have a long way to go to break this system. I really need Black Rose's help!' Spade thought to himself. A while ago he was very confident but now, after mentioning SizzlingAugust08, he humbled himself down. Spade was aware of his capability.

Trying to recruit Black Rose on their side was a good move. They were on the right track. Because Black Rose learned her skill from Phantomflake who was a mentee of SizzlingAugust08 before. Although, the Red Dragon Mafia and the Dragon Lord didn't know about this connection at all.

Seeing the mixed emotions in Spade's eyes, the Dragon Lord let out another chuckle. "Don't be discouraged, Spade. I believe in your skill. You can surpass SizzlingAugust08. He is no longer that active... because of a very traumatic incident," The Dragon Lord said meaningfully, his lips curling up in a sinister smirk.

"A traumatic incident?" Spade had become more intrigued about SizzlingAugust08 and his story.

"My Lord, do you know him personally?" Spade asked Dragon Lord expectantly. "Do you know the real identity of SizzlingAugust08?"

The Dragon Lord just gave him a mysterious smile. He didn't confirm nor deny it.

Spade wanted to ask more questions about the Legendary Hacker when the Dragon Lord's phone suddenly rang. It was an overseas call coming from Jack 'the Hitman'.

"Hello, Jack? What's the situation there?" The Dragon Lord motioned Spade to stay quiet.

Spade could only scratch his head. 'Damn Jack! You interrupt me from asking more questions. What bad timing do you have here?!' He pouted his lips, lamenting. He just stayed silent from the side.

"My Lord, I just arrived here at Country F. And I have a piece of news from you."

"Go on," Dragon Lord promptly responded.

"It seems that something happened to Nathan Sparks even before I reached the country. I just found out that he was admitted to the hospital. His security tightened as of this moment. According to my intel, an unknown person attacked him last night in the Royal Night Club."

The Dragon Lord erupted into a peal of laughter after hearing that. "Haha! It looks like I am not the only one who is after his life."

Chapter 144 Because I Want You

Day Fourteen...

[ Country F: Night time...]

Since there was an eight hours time difference between Country F and Country M, it was already dawn in Country M so Ethan was probably asleep by now. 7:00 pm in Country F was equivalent to 3:00 am in Country M.

"Will you not inform Ethan about this?" Abigail asked Nathan. She was peeling fruits for him. She stayed by his side, not leaving him.

At moments like this, she had to show her concern to this man. Besides, she was waiting for Bam-Bam to appear. She hadn't seen him for a while. He disappeared after escaping from her early this morning.

'I wonder if the soul-binding spell had been broken,' Abigail thought to herself as she waited for Nathan's reply.

"I don't want my son to worry so it's best for him not to know what happened," Nathan replied, watching Abigail as she skillfully used her knife to peel the apples. 'She's an expert in handling knives.' Nathan mumbled inwardly.

"You should go back to the hotel and rest," Nathan blurted out as he noticed the dark circles under her eyes. Abigail stayed awake all night just watching over him. "Aiden and Stephen will be coming here."

Abigail raised her head to look at him. She didn't want to leave because Veronica might come. She wouldn't allow her rival to stay in Nathan's ward without her presence.

"I'm gonna wait for them. Who knows someone will attack you again?" Abigail said as an alibi. But deep inside, she also wanted to make sure that nothing would happen to Nathan. She wasn't certain whether the soul-binding spell had been broken or not. She needed to confirm it first for her to relax.

On the other hand, Nathan blinked numerous times. He didn't know whether to laugh or not. "Why? Are you going to be my guard?"

Abigail grinned mischievously and asked, "How much will you pay me?" There seemed to be a dollar sign plastered in her eyes as she glanced at Nathan expectantly.

Nathan: "..."

'Does she only care about the money?' Nathan crumpled his face at that thought.

"No need. I have lots of elite bodyguards standing outside my room." Nathan responded with a hint of annoyance in his voice.

Abigail just shrugged her shoulders and murmured, "I am ten times stronger than them."

"Huh? What did you just say?" Nathan asked with a deep frown on his face. He didn't hear her words clearly.

"Hmm. Nothing. I mean... your bodyguards might be reliable and dependable," Abigail nonchalantly said, flashing a forced smile.

"Do you want me to assign one for you?" Nathan suddenly made an offer. He remembered that Abigail's life was also in danger. Someone wanted her to be dead.

Abigail met his eyes for a long moment before she responded. "You have to recover first."

Nathan frowned when he heard that. "Huh? Why?"

Abigail's lips tugged upward in a bright charming smile and said, "Because I WANT YOU to be my bodyguard, not anyone else!"

Nathan: "..."

The devil was at a loss for words once again because of Abigail's frankness. She was too bold to say that in front of him.

'Damn. This woman is also shameless.'

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Meanwhile, Kathleen was now on the way to meet Abigail. She was walking in the hospital corridor going to Nathan's ward when someone blocked her. It was Veronica.

"Oh, Dr. Veronica, why are you blocking my way? Do you need something?" Kathleen said in her sarcastic tone.

Veronica tried her best to keep her cool. She wasn't there to argue with Kathleen. She had another goal.

"Can we talk? There is something I want to ask you."

Kathleen raised her eyebrow, eyeing Veronica suspiciously. 'Oh girl, what is she up to?'

"Sure let's talk," Kathleen agreed. She would like to find out if Veronica was scheming something.

"Let's go to the rooftop." Veronica motioned Kathleen to follow her. The two ladies took the lift going to the rooftop of the hospital.

Upon reaching the rooftop, Kathleen asked her right away as she didn't want to waste her precious time with Veronica. "What do you want from me, Veronica?"

"I just want to ask you why you are allowing that woman to get closer with Nathan and Stephen. Can't you see? She is trying to seduce both men!" Veronica started her attack. She wanted Kathleen to hate Abigail.

Kathleen let out a sarcastic laugh. She couldn't believe that Veronica was so desperate, accusing Abigail of seducing Stephen and Nathan.

"I think you are wrong with one thing. Abigail only wants Nathan, not Stephen." Kathleen defended Abigail.

However, Veronica sneered at Kathleen. "Are you sure about that?"

Veronica knew that Kathleen had feelings for Stephen. She was a woman and she could relate to Kathleen. Just like her, Kathleen was hiding her feelings from Stephen. So she could tell that she liked him.

Veronica would use this to create a rift between Abigail and Kathleen, destroying their friendship.

"Are you blind, Kathleen? Abigail already won. She already caught Stephen's attention. Can't you see it? Stephen was usually quiet and timid towards women. But he is becoming playful whenever he is with Abigail. He is fond of her. And the way he looks at her... I can see deep admiration in his eyes."

Kathleen was rendered speechless when she heard those words from Veronica. Her words seemed to waver Kathleen a little bit. Because of that, Veronica smiled triumphantly, thinking that her plan was working well.

She only had to add more fuel to the fire. "I will tell you this Kathleen, for your own sake. Abigail is a two-faced woman. Don't trust her completely."

"If you still don't believe me, then I have to tell you that Stephen even asked Abigail out when we were at Sparks Mansion. You can ask Aiden about it! You might not believe my words, but how about Aiden?"

Kathleen stayed silent, her expression turning sour. She didn't want to admit it but Veronica was right. She also noticed the change in Stephen's usual behavior when he was in front of Abigail.

'No way... Don't tell me... Stephen already had fallen for Abigail?'

Chapter 145 An Instant Driver!

Day Fourteen...

Veronica left the rooftop with a triumphant smile. She could see that her provocation worked. Kathleen had a gloomy look in her eyes when she walked out a while ago.

She didn't wait for Veronica to say another word. She just left her without looking back.

"Hmm. I'm waiting for a good show. What will you do now, Kathleen? Will you still treat that bitch well? She might steal the man you like..." Veronica thought as she watched Kathleen's back from the distance.



Veronica wouldn't allow Abigail to get close to people around Nathan. She would try to sabotage her relationship with them. And she started with Kathleen.

Meanwhile, Kathleen headed to the ground floor of the hospital instead of going to Nathan's ward. She didn't want to see Abigail yet as her emotions were not yet stable.

Kathleen knew that Veronica was trying to stir a conflict between Abigail and her. However, she couldn't help herself from getting jealous of Abigail.

Stephen was so fond of her. What if he already had feelings for her? What should she do?

Kathleen just continued walking until she reached the elevator. She took the lift, going down. Just when she reached the ground floor, Kathleen bumped into Stephen and Aiden. They were standing in front of the elevator.

"Hey Kath!" Stephen greeted her with a smile. But Kathleen just looked at him with a blank expression.

Aiden frowned as he noticed her cousin's mood. This was the first time she gave Stephen a cold shoulder. His cousin was always cheerful and enthusiastic when in front of Stephen.

'Eh, what's wrong with her? She is quiet and looks very serious.' Aiden mused to himself, his eyes assessing Kathleen.

"Are you going back to the hotel? How about Abigail?" Stephen asked Kathleen again.

Her face contorted at the mention of Abigail. Stephen was searching for Abigail as soon as he arrived. Because of this, Kathleen gave another meaning to his action.

Despite her unpleasant mood, Kathleen tried her best to respond as she didn't want to look rude before Stephen's eyes.

"I think Abigail is still with Nathan. I'm going back to the hotel as I feel tired. I want to take a rest."  
Kathleen just gave him a faint smile, hiding the pain in her eyes.

Stephen turned to Aiden and said, "You should send her back to the hotel,"

Kathleen clenched her fists. She became more annoyed hearing those words from Stephen. 'Can't he just do it? Why didn't he volunteer himself? I would appreciate it more. But then again... I am just nothing to him... For him... I am just a cousin of his best friend.'

"Let's go. I'll drive you to the hotel." Aiden was about to grab her elbow but Kathleen took a step back, avoiding him.

"No! I can go back myself. I'm not a kid!" Kathleen spat back in annoyance. She failed to control her emotions.

Aiden and Stephen glanced at her with puzzlement. Something was off with her.

"I'm sorry. I didn't mean to yell at you. I guess I'm just really tired. Go and see Nathan now. I will just grab a taxi!"

Afraid that the two men would still insist, Kathleen just walked past them, not waiting for them to stop her from leaving. She just wanted to be alone right now and gather herself.

The moment she turned her back on them, Kathleen's eyes had become misty, tears threatening to fall. She walked with large strides, wanting to leave the place as quickly as possible.

Then from her peripheral vision, she caught Aiden's figure running in her direction. He was trying to catch up.

'Fuck this annoying cousin of mine?! I already told him that I would go back alone. Why is he still following me?!' Kathleen cursed inwardly. She increased her pace, leaving the building in a hurry.

And just when she reached the entrance of the hospital, a car stopped in front of her. Without a second thought, Kathleen opened the car door and hopped in the back passenger seat.

The guy in the driver's seat was surprised by the sudden intrusion of a woman.

"Drive!" Kathleen commanded him with urgency as she could see Aiden inching closer and closer to them.

"Miss, this is not a Taxi!" The guy in the driver seat commented, refusing to follow her order.

"Please leave. Drive this car now!" Kathleen said desperately. Her voice cracked. The negative feelings she had been holding a while ago finally burst out.

"Miss, Can't you hear me? I said this is not—" the guy was not able to finish his words. He stopped mid-sentence as he saw Kathleen shedding tears.

'Fuck! Why is she crying?!'

Then the guy tossed a look at the window and noticed a guy running in their direction. At that moment, he thought the man running towards them was the reason why the strange woman was crying.

'Is she avoiding that man?' He thought to himself.

Before he knew it, he started the car and began moving away from the hospital.

'Damn! What am I thinking?' The guy scolded himself inwardly as he realized that he was not supposed to get involved. But in the end, he obeyed the woman's request and drove the car. Maybe it was because of the woman's tears.

"Where should I send you?" the guy softly asked Kathleen, staring at her through the rearview mirror.

"Anywhere... just far away from them," Kathleen mumbled absentmindedly, still shedding tears.

The guy heaved a deep sigh and said, "Miss, there is no such place as Just-Far-Away-From-Them place here. How can I send you to your destination?"

Kathleen raised her head to look at him. Their eyes met through the rearview mirror.

"Just drive me to the nearest club! I badly need a drink... to help me ease the pain," Kathleen said with her heartbroken voice.

He just nodded his head and didn't comment further. He couldn't believe that he had just become a driver. He was supposed to monitor Nathan Sparks tonight. But he ended up changing his plan.

Chapter 146 A Hidden Past And Connection?

Day Fourteen...

Aiden was panting so hard after returning to Stephen's spot. "She left... I was not able to catch up with her."

"Just let her be. I think she wants to be alone for now," Stephen plainly said as he pressed the button of the elevator. Nathan's ward was on the seventh floor along with Phantomflake's ward.

"You can go ahead to Nathan's ward. I will just drop by somewhere." Stephen stopped on his track, turning in the opposite direction.

"Eh? Don't tell me you are going to visit Phantomflake?!" Aiden's eyes widened in realization.

Stephen just smiled at him meaningfully, not confirming nor denying it.

Aiden just shook his head while eyeing him helplessly. "Are you bewitched by her? Why are you so interested in her? I am warning you, bro. She is an enemy... Nathan's mortal enemy. Nathan will not listen to you. Once she wakes up, he will not spare her life. So stop convincing him not to kill Phantomflake." Aiden spoke spontaneously with his blabbering mouth.

"Why do I feel like you are trying to protect her from Nate?" Aiden added, confronting Stephen.

Stephen had an unreadable expression on his face. Aiden couldn't fathom what was on Stephen's mind. Among the three of them, Stephen was the one who was good at hiding his real emotions and feelings.

"No deeper meaning behind my action. I just want our best friend to move on. I don't think killing and torturing Phantomflake will give him peace of mind." Stephen paused for a moment, shifting his gaze to Aiden's face to meet his eyes.

"I'm Not Protecting Phantomflake," he said with emphasis.

Aiden just heaved a sigh of defeat. "Fine! Go. Do as you like. I'm heading to Nathan's ward." Aiden waved his hand and turned around to leave.

Stephen went in the opposite direction where Phantomflake's ward was located. Just like Nathan, there were guards standing outside the door. The area was heavily guarded.

The guards recognized Stephen so they let him pass instantly without asking for a special access card. Aside from Nathan and his best friends, only Dr. Veronica and Dr. Doreen were allowed to enter Phantomflakes' ward.

Axel and some members of the Syphiruz were still investigating whether this attack was somehow related to Phantomflake or not. So as per Nathan's order, they heightened the security around that floor.

Stephen finally entered Phantomflake's room, tracing his steps towards her sickbed. His expression softened as soon as he saw her face.

He stood there unmoving, his eyes fixated on her. He had the urge to touch her face but he restrained himself from doing so. Stephen was aware that there were several cameras installed in that room.

'Even in that state... you are still being monitored twenty-four seven... Nathan has become your cage.' Stephen thought to himself.

As he looked at her, something stirred his heart from the inside. 'You should wake up... no matter what. There are things I wanna know... things I wanna ask from you...'

Stephen shut his eyes while clenching his fists. He had a reason why he wanted to stop Nathan from getting his revenge against Phantomflake.

He had this story he hadn't told anyone else... even to his best friends, Nathan and Aiden. A past that connects him to Phantomflake.

'Will you still remember me?' Stephen had a sullen look on his face the moment he opened his eyes. Then a bittersweet smile tugged upward from the corners of his lips.

Stephen only stayed there for ten minutes before he came out. As soon as he stepped out of the ward, his expression returned to normal as if he didn't get sentimental at all. He put on a smile and proceeded to Nathan's ward to join the others.

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Meanwhile, Kathleen who ran away from Stephen and her cousin, Aiden, already arrived at a nightclub. The generous driver stopped the car at the entrance.

"How much is my fare?" Kathleen asked him, opening her wallet.

The guy frowned deeply as he felt insulted. He had told her many times that his car was not a Taxi cab! But the woman was so heartbroken and distracted to absorb his words.

"Just buy me a drink," the guy blurted out.

Kathleen was emotionally exhausted so she didn't argue further. If the guy wanted a treat from her then she was fine with it.

"Okay. Just follow me inside once you park the car," Kathleen nonchalantly said before stepping out of the car. Her tears were already dry. She just needed some alcohol to wash away her sadness.

She proceeded to the bar counter right away and ordered hard drinks. She was so determined to let it all out tonight. She had to admit that she was defeated by Veronica this time. She was truly affected by her words.

Kathleen started to drink, finishing her glass with just several gulps. She didn't care if she would get drunk tonight. She was done drinking her third glass when the guy joined her.

"Hey, slow down, Lady!" He snatched the glass away from her. He noticed that she was drinking hard liquor, finishing her glasses in one go as if she was only drinking water.

"Hey, give it back! It's mine!" Kathleen was a little bit tipsy, her cheeks so red.

"Who are you? Just mind your own business?!" Kathleen tried to take her glass back but the man raised it up so that she couldn't reach it.

"I'm Jack. Remember that name!" The man responded with a cheeky grin on his face. Now that he was looking at her up close, he realized that his strange passenger was such a cutie... A pretty one!

Kathleen just shot him a cold sharp glare. She gave up and just turned to the bartender, ordering another drink.

Jack could only watch her helplessly. 'Hmm. This woman disrupted me from doing my task. I will make her pay for it,' Jack thought to himself, observing Kathleen who was trying to drown herself in the alcohol.

Chapter 147 Another Assailant

Day Fourteen...

Jack couldn't believe that he let himself be stuck with this strange woman. He was supposed to leave her alone. But after seeing her tears a while ago, he became reluctant to leave her.

Her emotions were unstable so he thought she would be vulnerable alone. What if some bad guys would take advantage of her? With his conscience, he couldn't leave this pretty lady behind.

Kathleen continued chugging down her beer until she became drunk. She talked a lot, expressing her feelings with Jack, the man whom she just met tonight.

Jack just twirled the glass of his whiskey as he listened to her sentiments. She was giggling but at the same time, crying.

"I... like him... for a long time. But I didn't have the courage to tell him. I hid it from him for ten years."

"I tried to look good and impress him all the time! But he never took notice of me."

Kathleen just continued speaking while drinking her beers. Jack tried to stop her but she was so stubborn. She wouldn't listen to him.

"I was so confident because he never talked about a woman. He stayed single and focused on his work. I thought someday he would look at me and treat me as a woman..."

Jack could only shake his head. He thought that man was a fool for not liking her back. This woman was quite charming in her own way.

"What should I do now? It seems that he started to like someone... he began to show interest in a woman... and do you know what the worst thing is?"



"What?" Jack asked her, his eyes not leaving her face. He continued watching her as she ranted.

"She is my new friend... and I like her. She is an amazing person. So I couldn't bring myself to hate her. I just hate myself for being a loser. For not being brave enough to confess my feelings... because I am afraid of rejection from this guy." Kathleen pressed her hand to her chest while Jack just patted her head as if he was petting a kitten.

Kathleen caught his arm and used the sleeve of his jacket to wipe her tears. Jack could only watch her in disbelief.

"I have a handkerchief here!" Jack offered her the handkerchief he got from his pocket. But Kathleen just ignored him.

"Sigh. If you like someone, why don't you take a risk and tell him face-to-face?" Jack advised her.

But since Kathleen was already drunk, she couldn't absorb his words. She might even forget about this once she sobered up tomorrow.

"Aah!" Kathleen held his wrist tightly as she covered her mouth using her free hand. She gazed at him pleadingly as if telling him 'I'm going to throw up!'

Jack felt alarmed when he understood the meaning of her expression. "Wait, hold it for a moment." He stood up, lifting Kathleen from her seat as he ran towards the comfort room.

Jack was in a hurry since Kathleen seemed to be ready to throw up. She covered her mouth using both hands, trying her best to hold it in but failed.

They were still halfway to the comfort room when Kathleen vomited on Jack's left shoulder and chest.

'Holy Crap!' Jack cursed inwardly as he froze in his spot. He could smell the unpleasant scent of her vomit. 'Damn! What had I gotten myself into? Why did I allow myself to be treated like this by the stranger? What did I do to deserve this?'

Jack slammed his eyes shut, trying to calm himself down. It was understandable because this woman had drunk too much. 'Damn, she couldn't hold her liquor! I should have left her.'

"I think... I'm gonna throw up again," Kathleen murmured to him.

When he heard that, Jack immediately moved with large strides until they reached the comfort room. He sent her to the sink and allow her to vomit. He waited for her as he tried to wipe his shoulder and chest using his handkerchief.

"I'm done with her!" Jack mumbled, throwing his handkerchief to the trash bin. He turned around and walked away. However, a few minutes later, Jack returned to his original spot, waiting for her at the entrance door of the Lady's comfort room.

"Is she not done yet? What took her so long?" He wondered, taking a peek inside.

When he didn't hear any sound from her, Jack decided to check on her inside. Then he saw Kathleen leaning on the wall near the sink with her eyes closed!

"Eh? She is too drunk to fall asleep!"

Since no one was around, Jack immediately carried Kathleen in his arms, leaving the comfort room. He dropped by the bar counter and left money to pay for their bills. He also grabbed her shoulder bag before he came out of the nightclub. He was carrying her until they reached the car park.

"Damn! I can't leave her alone. But I don't know where she is staying here. I have no choice but to bring her to my place. Sigh. What a troublesome woman?!"

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Meanwhile, in Ramenx Crowne Hotel, Abigail had been looking for Kathleen. They were roommates. Aiden told her that Kathleen went back ahead but when she arrived, there was no sign of Kathleen.

Abigail waited for an hour. But Kathleen didn't show up. It was already late at night. She somehow got worried about her friend so she asked the receptionists if they had seen her. But they hadn't.

"Where are you, Kathleen?"

Abigail decided to call Aiden, informing him that Kathleen was missing.

"Don't worry about her. Maybe she went out to have fun! She is familiar here in Country F so she will not get lost." Aiden reassured her.

"Okay. But inform me if you see her. I tried contacting her but she was not answering her phone." Abigail didn't hide her concern for Kathleen.

"Don't worry... I will look for her." Aiden said.

After he said that, Abigail heard the doorbell ringing.

\*Ding Dong!\*

\*Ding Dong!\*

She thought the person outside was Kathleen so Abigail didn't think twice when she opened the door.

However, the moment the door was opened, someone attacked Abigail using a knife. The assailant thrust his knife aiming at Abigail's face.

"Argh!"

Thud!

"Abi? Miss Abi? What is that sound? Are you okay?" Aiden's voice could be heard from the phone.

Chapter 148 Targeted The Wrong Person

Day Fourteen...

"Abi? Miss Abi? What is that sound? Are you okay?" Aiden's voice could be heard from the phone.

Aiden heard Abigail's grunt from the other line followed by a loud thud. It seemed that something was happening in her hotel room.

Nathan and Stephen who were talking about the investigation turned in Aiden's direction as soon as they heard him mentioning Abigail's name.

Nathan: "What's wrong?"

Stephen: "Is that Abigail on the phone?"

Both men had a curious look on their faces. Aiden shrugged his shoulders as he put his phone on loudspeaker mode.

**\*CRASH!\***

Another loud crash was heard. It was the sound of glass breaking. The three men exchanged glances with one another.

"Abi?! Miss Abi? What is happening there?" Aiden asked her again.

But Abigail didn't respond. They could only hear another loud crash followed by a groan. That was a man's voice!

"Where is Abigail?!" Nathan's expression became chilly as he asked Aiden.

"Ramenx Crowne Hotel..." Aiden responded, still flustered.

"Is she alone?" Nathan asked him again.

"Y-Yes... Kathleen hadn't returned yet." Aiden stuttered as Nathan's gaze was so cold and frightening.

"Don't tell me... Abigail is being attacked right now!" Aiden blurted out in realization.

"We should go to her before it becomes too late!" Stephen also spoke up, grabbing his car key inside his coat.

Aiden nodded his head, still holding the phone and listening to the sound from the other line.

The two were about to leave the room but stopped the moment they saw Nathan getting off his bed and removing his IV drip.

"Hey, where do you think you are going?!" Both Aiden and Stephen asked him in unison. There was a look of disbelief in their eyes.

"I'm coming with you," Nathan replied matter-of-factly, snatching Stephen's coat and wearing his slippers. Nathan had no time to change.

"You must stay here. You had just undergone surgery last night. Your wound might open up." Stephen blocked him.

Aiden just stared at Nathan with bafflement and disbelief. Why was he acting so recklessly?

Nathan just ignored Stephen's advice. He stepped to the other side, avoiding Stephen.

"Nate!" Stephen called him out.

"Hey, Nate. Just stay here. Stephen and I can check on her." Aiden also spoke out to convince Nathan to stay. However, their words just fell on deaf ears.

"Abigail is my responsibility. I must go!" Nathan sternly said, his face grew hard with a cold and dark expression.

"Ethan will never forgive me if something bad happens to her," he added.

Aiden and Stephen failed to stop him. They could only sigh in defeat as they followed Nathan.

'This guy... he pretended that he didn't care about her... but look at him now. He is rushing to see her, despite his injury.' Stephen thought to himself as he watched Nathan's back.

\*\*\*\*\*

Meanwhile, in Ramenx Crowne Hotel Suite Number 505, two people were fighting each other. Some blood splattered on the floor. Abigail's arm was still bleeding.

With her good reflex, she raised her hand that was holding the phone used to block the attacker's knife. He was aiming at her face a while ago. If she didn't react quickly, he would have stabbed her right eye.

Because of that attack, Abigail accidentally dropped her phone on the floor. With her left hand, she slammed the door, crushing his arm between the door and the door frame.

"Argh!" The man groaned as his hand got stuck and crushed by the door thus dropping his weapon.

He was caught off guard by Abigail's agility. He didn't expect her to fight back. He thought she was a fragile woman who would easily get scared by this kind of attack.

She should be panicking by now or shouting for help. But the look in her eyes was cold and threatening. There was no hint of fear at all. Her sharp gaze even sent shivers down his spine.

"Who sent you?" Abigail asked him with her stern cold voice.

The attacker didn't say a word. He charged forward, throwing punches as he aimed for her stomach and face. But Abigail surprisingly moved quickly with smooth footwork. She stepped back, dodging his attack.

When the man finally entered her room, Abigail turned to the side and kicked the door, closing it. She reached out and locked the door, not allowing her attacker to escape.

Her action gained a puzzled look from her attacker. She was acting so weird. A normal person would go to the door to run away. But she did the opposite. Instead of running away, she even closed the door and locked it.

'Hahaha, this woman is crazy... or a pretty dumb!' The man murmured, laughing inwardly. He didn't notice the deadly look coming from Abigail.

He was still rejoicing thinking that he encountered a dumb and an easy target when he received a hard kick from Abigail. He didn't see it coming. His body was thrown away to the nearest coffee table with a vase on top of it.

Crash!

The vase got broken instantly after falling to the ground.

"Aargh!" Another groan escaped his mouth as his back and waist hit the hard coffee table.

Abigail gave him a smug smile. She felt excited as she was able to use her combat skills once more. Her soul was adapting easily to this new body. Between them, she appeared to be the predator and her attacker was her perfect prey.

The man stood up and spat some blood. He was still flabbergasted by the strength of this woman. 'Who is she? She can fight! It was my mistake for underestimating her. Now, I have to be serious now while fighting her!'

The man made another attempt to attack Abigail. Closing his fists tightly, the man threw more punches, matching them with a few kicks.

Abigail just shook her head, looking down at her opponent. He was no match for her. She could easily knock him down by striking his vital point.

She continued dodging and blocking his attacks using her hands and legs as well. When she found an opening, Abigail struck back by hitting the back of his neck using the side of her right palm.

Thud!

The man instantly lost consciousness as he fell to the floor.

"Tsk Tsk Tsk... you targeted the wrong person." Abigail clicked her tongue as she gave him one last kick at his stomach.

Chapter 149 The Devil Couldn't Wait!

Day Fourteen...

Abigail took the first aid kit and picked up the bandage. She used it to wrap her arm that was cut by the attacker's knife. Then she came back to the living room where the attacker was lying unconscious.



She was contemplating what she would do to him. Either she would hand him over to the police or keep him for a while until he wakes up. She would try her best to get some answer from him. Who sent him? Who was the person behind this attacker?

"Sigh. Fortunately, Kathleen is not around, otherwise, she might get shocked from witnessing our intense fight." Abigail mumbled, tying the bondage tightly.

She looked around and realized that their room was in a great mess. Broken pieces of the vase scattered on the floor, along with her blood. The coffee table and chairs were in disarray.

The hotel housekeeping staff might be surprised when they saw this. Abigail could only shake her head.

"Strange, how did this attacker manage to pass through the security of this prestigious hotel without any hassle? He doesn't appear to me to be a professional killer." Abigail even critiqued the capability of her attacker.

She removed his mask and the guy wasn't familiar with her. It only meant he didn't belong to the high-ranking assassins.

"Haha, who dares hire such a small fry killer just to harm me?" Abigail just laughed sarcastically.

She scanned his body, searching for clues. She only found his cellphone. He didn't even have a mark or tattoo that would connect him to an organization.

"Damn. I feel insulted. I got a scratch from his knife." Abigail sighed, looking at her wounded arm.

After a while, Abigail decided to keep him and interrogate him once he woke up. She grabbed his feet, pulling his unconscious body to the comfort room.

Abigail tied him down using some nylon string that she found in their suite's mini kitchen. She took off his upper shirt and pants, leaving him only with his boxer shorts on.

After tying his feet and arms, Abigail threw his unconscious body into the bathtub.

Thud!

She was ruthless enough to deal with him. The guy looked like he was in his mid-30s. He was tall but not muscular. That's why she managed to easily send him flying away with just one kick.

"Cold or Hot water? Which is better to wake him up?" Abigail contemplated, biting her fingernail, her eyes gleaming with excitement. She wanted to act as the real Phantomflake right now and unleash her evil side by torturing this man until he confessed.

'Gosh. I missed doing this kind of thing. Should I resign as an actress and apply for a job under the Syphiruz Mafia? Through this, I can easily infiltrate the enemy's organization!' Abigail let out a soft giggle at her own crazy idea.

"I wonder if Nathan will hire me. I bet he will never even reveal that he is the Supreme Leader of the Syphiruz Mafia. Hmm. So who should I approach?" Abigail seemed to enjoy her monologue as she took her time filling the tub with cold water.

Meanwhile, as Abigail was preoccupied with her prey, several men entered the Ramenx Crowne Hotel lobby. Three men stood out among the crowd— Nathan, Stephen, and Aiden. Fifteen elite bodyguards were following them from behind.

The receptionists and hotel staff were surprised and puzzled to see them. Nathan just showed his Platinum Membership Card of the Ramenx Crowne Hotel and the guards let them all in.

One employee approached the group, asking them what assistance he could offer them.

"Secure the copy of the CCTV recordings and make sure no one will enter and leave the hotel as of this moment," Nathan ordered his men. Then he turned to the hotel staff and said, "Call your manager." Nathan just gave him a simple instruction but the way he said it and looked at him intimidated the staff.

Nathan, Aiden, and Stephen along with the two guards immediately took the lift going to the floor where Abigail's suite was located. The atmosphere inside the elevator was filled with tension. No one uttered a word among them. The three men had only one thought in mind– 'Is Abigail safe?'

Nathan subconsciously clenched his fists as his eyes were fixed on the red numbers on the floor indicators screen. He felt like they were moving slowly. Couldn't the elevator move faster than this? He could no longer wait to reach the desired floor.

Ding!

Finally! The elevator reached the fifth floor. Nathan immediately extended his hand, asking something from the two guards.

"Give me a gun," he sternly said.

Both Aiden and Stephen were taken aback when they heard that. It seemed that Nathan was ready to fight. And he didn't hesitate to use a gun! One guard handed his gun over to their Boss, placing it on his palm.

'Damn! Nate looks so serious!' Aiden gulped hard as he watched his best friend. He glanced at Stephen, motioning him to stop Nathan from whatever plan he was thinking.

'Steph... please do something.'

Stephen could only sigh before nodding his head.

The five of them stepped out of the elevator in a hurry, rushing to Abigail's room. It did not take long when they reached VIP suite 505.

The three men were both anxious for Abigail's safety. They had no idea what happened. When they were on the way, Aiden's call got disconnected. When he dialed Abigail's number again, it was already unattended.

Nathan used the extra access keycard he got from the receptionist to open Abigail's room. When he pushed it, they found out that the door was also locked from the inside.

'Damn!' Nathan cursed inwardly, his frown deepening further.

"Destroy The Door..." Nathan ordered his men.

Getting his command, the two bodyguards used their whole bodies to push and hit the door.

Thud!

Thud!

The lock stiles loosened little by little because of the force applied by the two bodyguards in hitting the door. When Nathan could no longer wait, he raised and swung his leg, kicking the door open.

Stephen: "..."

Aiden: "..."

Bodyguards: "..."

'The Big Boss is truly in a hurry!!!'

Nathan didn't wait for them and sprinted inside the room. The scene he saw shook Nathan to the core. The room was in a chaotic state and blood was scattered on the floor.

'Abi!'

Chapter 150 Abigail's Alibi

Day Fourteen...

'Abi!' Nathan mumbled her name in his mind.

Thump! Thump!

His heart began to beat strangely. Was he afraid that something bad happened to Abigail? Nathan couldn't understand why his heart was acting like this.

Aiden also gasped when he saw the mess. "Holy Crap! What happened—"

Aiden didn't finish his words as Stephen covered his mouth, motioning him to stay quiet. They needed to find Abigail and they were not sure if the culprit was still there.

The bloodstain on the floor gave them an idea that someone was injured. They believed that the attacker had a weapon so they needed to be more cautious.

'Abigail, please be safe,' Aiden thought to himself.

After a while, Aiden's eyes widened because he saw Nathan moving hastily inside. "Steph! Nate is moving recklessly!" Aiden pulled Stephen's hand that was covering his mouth and pointed his finger at Nathan's back.

Nathan didn't wait for them. Stephen could only smack his forehead as he tried to catch up with Nathan. That man was injured. How could he run like that?

Aiden and the two bodyguards followed them. They also stopped when Nathan came to a sudden halt. He was standing at the bathroom door.

Nathan was holding his gun, pointing to someone, but confusion resurfaced in his eyes. Stephen also saw the figure whom Nathan was pointing his gun at.

Stephen's jaw dropped witnessing this scene. Abigail was pointing a knife at Nathan's neck. As soon as she recognized Nathan, her fierce expression was replaced by a baffled look.

She didn't expect that Nathan would appear in front of her. She heard the sound of a door being pushed and kicked by someone. She thought they were accomplices of her attacker. She waited inside the bathroom. She almost stabbed Nathan as he suddenly appeared at the front door while holding a gun.

"What The Hell Are You Doing Here?" Abigail yelled at him in annoyance. She almost stabbed him!!!

Nathan didn't say a word, his eyes just scanning her from top to bottom. A cold glint flashed through his sharp eyes when he noticed something.

Nathan handed over his gun to his left side where Stephen was standing next to him. Stephen subconsciously accepted it. When Nathan's hand was free from the gun, he suddenly grabbed Abigail's right hand and mumbled, "You got hurt!"

Abigail blinked her eyes. Nathan's voice sounded very cold but his facial expression seemed off. Did she just see a hint of concern in his eyes? Was he worried about her? Or did she just imagine it?

Abigail dropped her knife and rubbed her eyes using her free hand. When she looked at him, Nathan was already wearing his usual cold and indifferent expression.

'I knew it. It's just my imagination,' Abigail thought to herself, pouting her lips. She didn't know why but she felt a little bit disappointed.

Meanwhile, Nathan heaved a sigh of relief after seeing Abigail. The heavy feeling in his heart was suddenly lifted. She was safe. He almost hugged her a while ago. Fortunately, he was able to control himself from doing so, otherwise, he wouldn't be able to justify his actions in front of his nosy friends—Aiden and Stephen.

Nathan remained holding Abigail's hand. He saw the bandage and a bloodstain so he could tell that she got hurt a while ago. He frowned and gazed at her for a moment. Abigail met his blue eyes, not breaking their eye contact.

'Why is he here?' Abigail kept asking herself. Nathan was still wearing his patient's gown matched with Stephen's coat.

"Abi, are you okay?" Stephen's voice snapped the two back to the present.

,m "Yes. I'm fine. What are you doing here?" Abigail tossed a look at Stephen, giving him a questioning gaze.

"The phone call. We thought something bad happened to you," Aiden butted in.

'Oops,' Abigail bit her lower lip as she realized that she was in deep trouble now. Her plan to interrogate her attacker looked like it would be ruined because of their presence.

Abigail immediately pressed her other hand on Nathan's chest and she moved closer to block his view and divert his focus. She gently pushed him using her body and hand to move him out of the bathroom. The culprit was still in the tub.

Stephen and Aiden who were standing at Nathan's sides also stepped back.

'They must not see what's on the tub!' Abigail thought to herself, feeling a little bit anxious. How could she explain to them that she defeated that guy? They might suspect her identity!

On the other hand, Nathan sensed something. Abigail's expression suddenly changed and she looked like she was hiding something.

"Mr. Nathan Sparks should be in the hospital. Go and bring him back!" Abigail mumbled, sending them away.

But Nathan's suspicion intensified. What was she doing in the bathroom? Was she hiding something?

In just a blink of an eye, Nathan grabbed Abigail by the waist, lifting her as he marched forward, checking the bathroom.

"Hey, Nathan! Put me down!" Abigail complained, hitting his chest. Before she could make another move, Nathan was already back inside the bathroom and saw the man lying unconscious in the bathtub.

Abigail facepalmed and slammed her eyes shut. 'Fuck! I'm doomed. He saw him!'

Nathan slowly put her down and his gaze was now focused on the stranger inside her bathtub.

"Holy Shit! Who is that man?!" Aiden's loud voice echoed in the bathroom. Aiden followed them and was now standing at their back.

Stephen was also surprised when he saw the man soaked in the water. His arms and feet were tied and he was only wearing his boxer shorts.

Abigail took a deep breath and began to explain. "He is the culprit. He suddenly attacked me using a knife. Here! I got this wound from him. He almost stabbed my face a while ago and I used my arm to block his attack." Abigail pretended to be scared. Now she was putting her acting skills to good use, trying to get their sympathy.

"I thought I was gonna die so I used all my remaining strength to fight back. You know! Adrenaline rush! When he fell unconscious I dragged him here and tied his feet and arms. I was going to call the police but I heard someone breaking the door. I thought it was his accomplice so I stayed here. I didn't know that you were the people outside who broke the door!"

Abigail spoke spontaneously, hoping that she wouldn't look suspicious in their eyes. She glanced at Nathan, waiting for his response.

"Why did you strip him naked though?" Aiden suddenly asked her out of curiosity.

Abigail forced a smile. Deep inside, she wanted to cut Aiden's tongue! Why did he have to point it out that he stripped him naked?!



Stephen and Nathan were both looking at her, anticipating her reply.

'Damn! Think Abigail! Think about a better reply.'

"Cough!" Abigail cleared her throat first. "I... I did it... because... I want him to suffer from the cold water as part of my revenge! I am scared to death and I almost died."

"I want him to freeze for a moment until the police arrive," Abigail added, smiling awkwardly while scratching her face.

She didn't know if her words made sense or not. So she glanced at Nathan once more, checking his facial expression.

"You should have put him in the fridge instead," Nathan blurted out, looking at the culprit with his cold sharp gaze.

Stephen: "..."

Aiden: "..."

Abigail: "..."