

100 Days 311

Chapter 311 Seduce Me Properly!

Day Thirty-Six...

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Aiden didn't know whether to cry or laugh. Just yesterday, he was teasing Nathan, asking him if he would get jealous if ever he kissed Abigail in front of him.

But Nathan just scoffed at him, telling him to try and get killed by Abigail. Who would have thought that he would be put in the same situation tonight?

But this time... it was Abigail who initiated the move. Was she drunk? Was this the effect of alcohol in Abigail's system?

Aiden's body stiffened further when Abigail grabbed the back of his head as her face was inching closer and closer to him.

A panic-stricken expression could be seen all over his face, especially when Aiden met Nathan's bloodshot eyes. He was standing just a few meters away from them.

'Oh no! Why do I feel like I got caught cheating on my husband?' Aiden thought to himself. Nathan's cold sharp glare was like a strong force that broke Abigail's spell on Aiden.

Just before Abigail's lips touched his, Aiden quickly covered Abigail's mouth by inserting his palm in between their lips. Then it was followed by Aiden's cry for help.

"Nate!!! Help me! Miss Abi is going to rape me. She is so drunk!"

Abigail glared at Aiden as she removed his hand that was covering her mouth. "I'm not drunk! I'm sober."

Hissing at him, Abigail gently pushed Aiden away from her body. She turned around only to meet Nathan's expressionless face. Nathan managed to conceal his raging fury, thanks to Aiden's quick thinking.

Aiden could now breathe evenly. Not wanting to die in either Nathan's hand or Abigail's hand, Aiden hurriedly entered his car to flee.

"I'm leaving! Good night everyone!" Aiden said goodbye to Nathan and Abigail before starting the car. He didn't wait for their reply. He just sped off, leaving the Sparks Mansion. His heart was still beating so fast.

"What the hell Abigail was thinking? Nathan almost cursed me to death. He is frightening!" Aiden uttered. He could still feel the chill running down his spine as he recalled Nathan's deathly glare.

"Damn! Abi is a troublemaker! I almost got a heart attack a while ago."

Meanwhile, Abigail scowled at Nathan. She hated to see his blank expression. She thought he would get jealous after seeing that scene. But Nathan was just staring at her indifferently as if he didn't care at all.

"Where have you been?" Nathan asked her, restraining himself from grabbing Abigail.

Abigail sneered at him and nonchalantly responded, "Clubbing with your best friend. Why?"

"Nothing. I'm just asking." Nathan turned around and walked ahead, not waiting for Abigail.

Nathan's reaction pissed her off further! Abigail sprinted inside the mansion, following Nathan. She had a few drinks but she wasn't drunk. She was sober when she almost kissed Aiden.

Aiden kept on insisting that Nathan cares about her but she didn't believe him. When she saw Nathan approaching, Abigail wanted to test him. She would like to know if Aiden was telling the truth.

But to her disappointment, Nathan didn't feel anything. That's what she thought. She hated him. Her heart clenched in pain. She felt suffocated. She needed to let it out otherwise, she would explode.

Abigail followed Nathan to his room.

Knock! Knock!

She kept knocking on his door. After five seconds, the door was opened. Nathan let her in.

"Why are you here?" Nathan asked her coldly. He had been suppressing his rage. He headed to his room to calm himself down but Abigail followed him.

Abigail met his gaze and confronted Nathan.

"I did everything! Why don't you like me?"

Nathan was stunned for a moment, hearing her words. After he recovered, he just shrugged his shoulders and looked at her expressionlessly, making Abigail more annoyed.

Abigail started to enumerate what she had done for him so far. But Nathan always had a response to her.

"I cooked for you!" Abigail hit his shoulder.

Nathan arched his eyebrow and responded, "You almost poisoned me."

Abigail rolled her eyes. "For goodness's sake. It wasn't my fault. It was the scheme of your former Chef!"

"I know," Nathan nonchalantly said.

"I clean your big mansion!" Abigail waved her hands, emphasizing her words.

"You broke our century-aged vase family heirloom." Nathan told her about her mistake.

"It was an accident!" Abigail explained, rubbing her temples.

Nathan didn't comment further.

"I serenade you!" Abigail brought up what she did for him in Country F.

"You are out of tune," Nathan replied with a straight face.

Abigail just looked at him helplessly. 'Liar!'

Slamming her eyes, she took a deep breath. The devil was so annoying. He didn't appreciate the things she had done for him.

"I took the bullet for you!" Abigail emphasized, patting her chest.

But Nathan simply answered her, "I didn't ask you to do that."

Abigail squinted her eyes at this cold-hearted devil. She's losing her patience.

"I almost stripped in front of you but you didn't even react!" Abigail's cheeks reddened as she said those words. It was too embarrassing but she had to bring it up.

'Damn it! I regret saying it.' Abigail had the urge to cover her face. She wondered what Nathan would say.

"You didn't take all your clothes off."

Abi: "..."

This time... his lips twitched, smirking at her coyly.

Abigail rolled her eyes skyward as she realized that the devil was just teasing her. 'Pervert!'

"Fine. I give up! It's so hard to seduce a robot!" She murmured.

She was about to turn around and leave when suddenly a pair of strong arms caught her by her waist. Then she just felt her body being pushed on the wall.

Nathan's face was now a few centimeters away from hers. She could feel his fresh breath fanning her cheek. "If you want to seduce me then do it properly!"

'Shit! What is he trying to do here?' Abi's heart was thumping like a drum roll inside her chest. Her mind went blank.

Before she knew it, she just found herself being kissed by the devil hungrily and aggressively.

'Damn?! Is this for real? The Devil is kissing me?!'

Chapter 312 Did You Kiss Someone?

Day Thirty-Six...

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Abigail blinked several times, still trying to absorb what was happening between Nathan and her. She didn't know if she was dreaming or just imagining things.

'Is this the effect of beer? But I'm not drunk! I am definitely sober!' Abigail screamed in her mind.

She could see Nathan's face up close and his lips were pressed against her lips, kissing her passionately.

Nathan had been trying to suppress this desire to kiss her. But he lost control. He was jealous of Aiden. Abigail almost kissed him. If not for Aiden's quick reaction a while ago, he should have punched him already. Nathan wanted her!

His eyes dimmed as soon as he saw the two of them about to kiss. His first instinct was to separate the two. But his feet were frozen in his spot.

Then his heart felt at ease when Aiden covered Abigail's mouth before she could kiss him. Even Nathan himself was surprised that he got furious at his best friend. And he had to admit that he hated to see Abigail kissing Aiden... or any other guys.

And when Abigail confronted him, he finally let loose. His body just moved according to his instinct... and desire.

Nathan's right hand moved up, lifting her chin as he deepened the kiss. He bit her lower lip, causing Abigail to gasp. As she parted her lips, Nathan thrust his tongue inside her mouth.

Nathan pressed her further into the wall, trapping her with his body. He was holding her in place, not allowing her to evade his kiss.

His tongue continued to explore inside her mouth, seeking her tongue out. Abigail closed her eyes and moaned softly under the savage conquest of his expert tongue.

Soon, Abigail began to respond. She anchored her arms around his neck and pulled Nathan closer to her. Her tongue wrestled against his inside her mouth, tasting each other's sweetness.

Nathan could taste the beer in her mouth. But he didn't mind the slight bitterness as Abigail's lips were sweeter than anything else.

The sound of their wet kisses resounded in his room. Nathan sucked her tongue and licked the surface of her lips. The kiss was becoming more sensual.

Nathan nibbled on her lower lip and upper lip alternately, biting and sucking them. Abigail could only moan in pleasure. Nathan was a great kisser. His lips were making wonders on her. He was reigniting the passion inside her.

Before she knew it she just found herself wanting for more. She was so aroused and wet down there. She felt so hot and all she could think of was savoring this moment with Nathan.

'Damn! Nathan is driving me insane!' Abigail clung to him tightly.

They just broke the kiss to gasp some air.

Panting!

Breathing heavily!

Heart racing!

Temperature rising!

Nathan's forehead rested on hers as they tried to catch their breath. Nathan and Abigail met each other's gaze, not saying a word. Both of them could see the lust in each other's eyes. They yearned for this to happen.

And just like that, they were back to kissing again. At this moment, Nathan's lips slowed down. He kissed her tenderly, tasting every corner of her lips. His lips were brushing hers delicately like butterfly wings, just long enough that he could inhale her breath, and feel the warmth of her lips.

Then he ran his tongue on the surface of her lips before thrusting again inside her mouth. Abigail welcomed his tongue with hers, licking and sucking him at the same time.

Nathan let go of her chin as his hand trailed down her shoulder to her left breast. Nathan's playful palm fondled her breast, squeezing it through her shirt as he bit her lips so hard.

From being gentle, his kiss became rough and more intense as if he was punishing her. Abigail was drowning in this overwhelming pleasure. She didn't care if her lips would bleed from Nathan's bite.

Nathan's kiss got her completely lost, her knees going weak, her entire body going limp, and every frustration and annoyance she had for Nathan before their lips locked was gone.

She was completely smitten by him. Her attention was focused on her and the rest of the world blurred around her. It felt so good to be kissed by Nathan... in his sober state. He was the one who initiated this kiss. He was not dreaming! He was not drunk! He was imagining Monica!

As everything was going intense between them, they suddenly heard a knock outside the door.

Knock! Knock!

It was followed by Ethan's voice. "Dad! It's me, Ethan. May I come?"

"Aww!" Nathan grunted since Abigail bit his lip so hard causing him to draw back. She quickly pushed him away from her body while pressing her forefinger against her lips.

She shook her head and crossed her arms, signaling Nathan. Nathan understood her. He tried his best to hold his laughter. This was the first time he saw her panicking.

She didn't want Ethan to find out that she was there, kissing his father.

"Dad? Are you there?" Ethan continued knocking. He was going to ask his Dad about Abigail.

Nathan cleared his throat before answering his son. "Yes. I'm here, son."



Abigail pouted her lips and glared at Nathan. She told him to stay quiet and pretend to be asleep. But Nathan still responded to Ethan.

Abigail hit Nathan's chest before covering her face. She was too embarrassed to face Ethan.

"Dad, open the door," Ethan spoke up again.

Smiling cheekily at Abigail, Nathan grabbed her hand, guiding her to his bathroom. "Just hide there for the meantime if you don't want Ethan to see you."

Abigail was about to complain but Nathan silenced her by giving her a peck on her lips.

Smack Kiss! (Mwua)

It was effective to make Abigail quiet and obedient.

"Wait, son. I'm coming!" Nathan traced his steps back to his front door.

"Dad, have you seen Miss Abi? She's not in her room yet? Where did she go?" Ethan asked Nathan worriedly. He knew that Abigail would follow Nathan during his dinner date but she was not yet here though Nathan already arrived.

Nathan reflexively glanced at the closed door of his bathroom. Abigail was hiding there.

"I haven't seen her. She hangs out with her friends. Just message her if you want to know her location. Or you can just wait for her in her room." Nathan suggested. He was in a hurry to send off his son.

Ethan eyed his father suspiciously. "Dad! Did you kiss someone? Or did someone bite your lips? They are swollen!" Nothing escaped from Ethan's observant eyes.

He crossed his arms over his chest and shot his father a cold sharp glare. He thought his father kissed someone else— his date, not Abigail.

"N-No. Cough!" Nathan cleared his throat again. "I didn't kiss someone," Nathan lied without batting an eyelid.

"Then why are they swollen?" Ethan asked him again, interrogating his father.

Nathan bit his lower lip. Fortunately, Abigail didn't apply lipstick on her lips today, otherwise, they would get busted by Ethan.

"I don't know. I just ate some sweets a while ago. Maybe that's the reason why my lips got swollen," Nathan said meaningfully.

Ethan wasn't convinced but Nathan already grabbed his shoulders pushing him toward the door. "Ethan, your Dad is exhausted. I have to rest now. Go there and wait for your Miss Abi."

Ethan pouted his lips and reluctantly left his father's room. But before Nathan closed his door, Ethan spoke once more.

"Dad! Don't you dare kiss another woman! Understand?"

Nathan just watched his son in amusement. "What do you think of your Dad? I won't kiss just any woman."

"Good!" Ethan smiled before turning around.

Bam!

Nathan heaved a sigh of relief as Ethan went back to Abigail's room. After a while, a mischievous smirk flashed on his face.

He locked his door and headed to his bathroom. Abigail was standing on the corner while leaning on the wall. Then he caught her tracing her lips using her fingers with an absentminded look on her charming face. She still couldn't believe that Nathan kissed her willingly.

Abigail's cheeks were blushing as she was flustered. When she gazed up, Nathan was already staring at her. With two large strides, Nathan closed their gaps.

He suddenly grabbed her wrist and asked her, "Are you dumb? Why do you have to break the glass, harming yourself?" Nathan recalled that Abigail was hurt and her hand got wounded.

"I'm not dumb. I'm just jealous," Abigail replied meekly.

Chapter 313 Eat Him As Her Breakfast

Day Thirty-Seven...

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Abigail had been turning and tossing around her bed until dawn. She was not able to sleep because of last night's incident. She had been thinking about Nathan and the kiss.

Nathan didn't put a label on them and she never confronted him again. After admitting she was jealous, Abigail ran out of his room to flee.

She was so embarrassed that she didn't have the courage to face him at that time. Furthermore, she was still shaken and overwhelmed by the fact Nathan kissed her willingly.

"Damn! What had gotten into him? Was that his way of telling me how to properly seduce him? Am I doing it the wrong way?"

Abigail used her pillow to cover her face. She could still feel her cheeks burning as she remembered the intimate kiss she had shared with Nathan.

"How can I face him today? Should I ask him about the real score between us? Argh! Where is Bam-Bam? Can I return to my body now? But kissing me doesn't mean he already loves me, right?" Abigail continued talking to herself.

She threw her pillow and gently smacked her cheeks using both hands. She was confused.

"Arghhh!" She sat up and turned to her bedside table to check her alarm clock. It was already 6:00 o'clock in the morning. She hadn't slept yet. Her body was tired but her entire mind was awake and very active.

Abigail tugged her hair tightly. "Where is Bam-Bam? I must confirm something. Does Nathan like me now? Did he fall for me? I wonder if I can go back to my original body!"

But thinking about that, Abigail suddenly became silent. Deep inside her, she wasn't ready to go back to being Phantomflake. If Nathan already fell for her... she wished she could stay as Abigail longer so that she could spend more time with Nathan and Ethan.

Abigail grabbed her phone and checked her calendar. Today was the thirty-seventh day of her mission. She still had Sixty-Two days left before her deadline.

"If I go back and live as Phantomflake now... Nathan will change his attitude toward me and Ethan will not recognize me... And what will happen to the real Abigail?" Abigail was feeling conflicted.

She folded her legs in a sitting position and hugged herself. She didn't know what she truly wanted.

'Do I have to go back as Phantomflake? Can I stay as Abigail?' Abigail smiled bitterly. This body was not hers. She just borrowed it. It would be unfair for the real Abigail.

If she couldn't return to her original body in one hundred days Bam-Bam explained to her that Phantomflake's body would eventually die.

Abigail immediately shook her head. She couldn't let go of her real identity. She was Phantomflake. Abigail was just her borrowed identity in the meantime.

She knew the feeling of having her identity taken away by someone. Monica stole her identity as Shining Star. She wouldn't do that to the real Abigail.

Abigail took a deep sigh, staring at the wall blankly.

"I can't go back just yet. I still need to unfold the truth behind Monica and Shining Star. I have to find out who wants to kill the real Abigail and help her catch the culprit and the mastermind."

"Maybe Bam-Bam's absence is a blessing in disguise. I have to keep this from him in the meantime. There are things I should settle first as Abigail before going back as Phantomflake." Abigail became more determined as compared to before.

Abigail got off the bed and decided to wash and freshen up. She needed to look presentable before going downstairs. She subconsciously did this because of Nathan.

Upon entering the bathroom, Abigail screamed and cursed. "Damn! I look like shit!"

Her eye bags were swollen from not getting enough sleep. Dark circles could be seen under her eyes. And her lips? Nathan's bite and kiss marks stayed on her lips. They were a bit swollen. Nathan made her lip bleed last night from kissing her roughly.

"I hope Ethan will not notice anything strange," Abigail mumbled before taking her clothes off.

After taking a quick bath, Abigail dolled herself up. She did it unknowingly. She applied concealer to hide the dark circles under her eyes. Her lips were her problem. She would look more suspicious if she would apply lipstick just to hide Nathan's bite marks.

When she went downstairs, the father and son duo were already waiting for her in the dining area.

Her heart skipped a beat the moment her emerald eyes met Nathan's blue eyes. They stared at each other for a long moment, not breaking eye-to-eye contact.

Abigail just looked away when Ethan's voice caught her attention. "Good morning, Miss Abi! How's your sleep?"

Ethan didn't see her last night. The young boy ended up falling asleep in his room while waiting for Abigail.

"It's good," Abigail responded softly while smiling guiltily. She joined them and sat next to Ethan. The breakfast had been served on the table.

Meanwhile, Nathan remained quiet. He simply greeted her with a simple nod. Abigail bit her lip. As much as she wanted to hide her embarrassment, she couldn't help it. A blush subconsciously overtook her cheeks. Her imagination brought her back to the memory of their passionate kiss.

Nathan's lips twitched, fighting a smile. He could see Abigail blushing again. He could tell that she was thinking about him and their kiss. Surprisingly, Abigail became transparent today. He could see through her.

Nathan didn't expect that Abigail would admit that she was jealous. He just found himself smiling as he recalled that confession from her.

Then the two of them met each other's gaze once more. Nathan's eyes reflexively moved down, glancing at her lips. Her lips looked more delicious than the breakfast on the table.

Nathan couldn't help but lick his lips while staring at Abigail with his penetrating gaze. Abigail couldn't look away. She just found herself following every movement of his lips and tongue.

'Damn it! Is Nathan trying to tease me or seduce me? Don't tease me like that, Nate, otherwise, I will eat you as my breakfast today.' Abigail lamented in her mind. She reflexively bit her inner cheek and made a cute face.

On the other hand, sensing the strange atmosphere between Abigail and his Dad, Ethan shifted his gaze back and forth between Abigail and Nathan. He silently observed the two as they started to eat.

As Ethan assessed the two, he eventually realized something. Ethan darted his gaze from his left and right. This time his eyes were looking at his father's lips and Abigail's lips.

"Oh! The Kiss!" Ethan blurted out of the blue, making both Abigail and Nathan choke on their food.

"Cough! Cough!"

The two drank a glass of water at the same time while gazing at Ethan in puzzlement.

'Did he figure out something?'

Ethan put on a wide grin and teasingly said, "Dad, I'm sorry for accusing you last night. Just forget about it. Now, I believe you."

Nathan: "..."

Abigail: "???"

Ethan giggled giddily. "You won't kiss just any other woman... If you kiss someone, she must have been special to you." Ethan added.

Chapter 314 What Am I To You?

Day Thirty-Seven...

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When Ethan left the house to go to school, Abigail had the chance to have private time with Nathan. Nathan intentionally skipped going to work today because of Abigail. He wondered if she had something to tell him after what transpired last night.

To ensure that no one could overhear their conversation, Nathan invited Abigail to his study room. Even if Abigail would scream inside, no one could be able to hear her. Nathan ordered Butler Li not to let anyone go to the second floor at this hour.

Abigail looked around her while Nathan sat on the long sofa comfortably. "Aren't you going to sit? This is not your first time coming here." Nathan patted the space next to him, signaling Abigail to sit down.

Abigail lifted her eyebrow as she scoffed at Nathan. 'Is he going to kiss me again? To be left alone with him is like playing with fire.' She bit her lower lip while curling her fingers into a ball of fists, her eyes fixated on Nathan's lips.

She just realized that she had been bold and aggressive too last night when she matched the intensity of his hungry rough kiss. The proof of their passionate kiss was still evident on his lips.

Noticing the intent gaze coming from her, Nathan smirked at her coyly. "We are here to talk," he reminded her with his teasing blue eyes.

Abigail snapped out of her wild imagination and was brought back to the present. She had the urge to smack her forehead for embarrassing herself in front of Nathan over and over again. She could tell that Nathan noticed the lustful look in her eyes when she stared at him... specifically at his lips.

Instead of sitting next to Nathan, she tried to distance herself from him. She chose to settle down on the chair opposite Nathan.

"Yes. I know. We are here to talk." She mumbled in a low tone as if she was reminding her own self.

Nathan waved his hand, doing her the honor to speak first and bring her agenda.

"I don't want to waste your precious time so I'll cut to the chase. Why did you kiss me last night? Have you fallen for me already?" Abigail asked Nathan with an earnest look on her face.

Nathan surprisingly found himself chuckling at her last statement.

Glowering her eyes at him, Abigail bared her teeth. "Why are you laughing? There is nothing funny. I'm damn serious about my question!"

Nathan stopped laughing and cleared his throat. He sat up straight, fixing his posture. Then he looked at her straight into her eyes. "Because you have a strange logic, Miss Scarlett. I just kissed you and you already presumed that I've fallen for you?"

"Have you forgotten that you are an actress? You have kissed a lot of men on-screen... but it doesn't mean you have fallen for them. Am I right?" Nathan unexpectedly became talkative today just to defend his own logic.

"Fine. I'm an actress. But you are not. Besides, Ethan said you won't kiss just any other woman... If you kiss someone, she must have been special to you." Abigail used Ethan's words against his father.

Nathan shook his head, forcing a smile. "Are you just telling me this to force me to say something you want to hear?"

Abigail just rolled her eyes and shrugged her shoulders. She shouldn't be giddy and just took one step at a time. "Fine. I will take this as if you are still in the denial phase. Take your time. I am willing to wait. But answer my following questions truthfully."

Nathan could only watch her in amusement. She could be shameless at times. "Go on, just ask me."

"Who is the woman you met last night in the restaurant? What is she to you?" Abigail was direct and straightforward.

"Helena Carlsen, the daughter of the Chairman of AMB Diamond Corporation. She's the woman my father wants me to marry." Nathan lied at the last part since he wanted to see her jealous reaction once more. And he didn't fail. Abigail's expression turned sour almost instantly.

"Then who am I to you?" Abigail asked him again.

"The woman who wants to seduce me," Nathan promptly responded, smirking.

Narrowing her eyes in annoyance, Abigail tightened her hands as she clamped her fingers into angry cannonballs. She had the urge to rip the cheeky and annoying smirk off Nathan's face.

'Just you wait Nathan Sparks! I will make you head over heels in love with me!'

"Do you have any more questions to ask?" Nathan was somehow enjoying this conversation. Who would have thought that it was so fun to tease Abigail and see her nose-flaring reactions?

Abigail closed her eyes and inhaled deeply. She was trying to calm down. Nathan undeniably knew how to push her buttons. But she wouldn't let him win. The more she gets annoyed the more Nathan will win.

"Fine. I have one last question. I hope you will give me an honest answer... a real honest answer," Abigail emphasized her last three words.

Nathan just looked at her with so much interest in his eyes. He was anticipating her next question.

"Between Shining Star and Monica... to whom you fell in love first? I heard that she was Shining Star for you at first before she became Monica your lover. When did you start loving her? Before you met her in person or after meeting her in person? I am really curious."

Nathan fell silent for a moment. The playful gleam in his eyes had disappeared when Abigail mentioned Shining Star and Monica. Since Abigail wanted to hear the answer, Nathan took his time to assess his feelings. Yeah... when did he start loving her? He was curious as well.

Though he couldn't pinpoint the exact time but deep inside he knew the answer.

Abigail's eyes never left Nathan's face. She watched his every reaction as he took his time, figuring out the most honest answer to that given question. For some unknown reason, anticipation grew inside her heart as she waited for his answer. She gulped hard and braced herself. She was dying to hear his answer.

After his moment of silence, Nathan finally spoke up and gave her the answer she sought, "Shining Star."

Badum! Badum! Badum!

Abigail had a baffled look in her eyes the moment she heard Nathan's answer. She opened her mouth only to close it again as she couldn't utter a word. Her heart was racing rapidly against the wall of her chest. She didn't expect that.

She had conflicting thoughts at this moment, whirlwinds of emotions stirring her heart. Then her eyes suddenly stung with tears. She had a lump in her throat, rendering her speechless as she was fighting the urge to shed some tears.

'Why is she getting emotional? What's wrong with her?' Nathan mused to himself as he watched Abigail's strange reaction. That was not the kind of expression he was expecting to see from her.

Nathan's body reflexively moved, standing up. He was about to ask her if she was fine when Abigail closed their distance and threw herself at him. Without a second thought, she hugged Nathan!

Chapter 315 The Things He Did For Her

Day Thirty-Seven...

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[At Stephen's Place...]

Abigail dropped by Stephen's place to check on both Cherry and her body. After her confrontation with Nathan, he went to Syphiruz Mafia Headquarters to deal with the organization's operation.

Abigail requested Nathan to drop her at Stephen's place as she joined him in his car. Upon reaching Stephen's place, Abigail headed to Phantomflake's ward. Cherry was there, taking care of her.

She saw her wiping her body with a clean wet towel. She was also massaging Phantomflake's muscles so that once she woke up from her coma, her body wouldn't get too stiff for her to move.

'Black Rose, she cares for me above all. I'm so lucky to have her as my friend. I'm glad she survived. I want her to start over and live a simple life away from dangerous jobs, especially now that the Assassin Guild is gone.'

Abigail just stood at the door, silently observing Cherry. Later on, Cherry finally noticed her presence. She tossed a look in Abigail's direction and saw her.

"Abi! How long have you been standing there? Come here." Cherry invited her in. There was a vacant chair on the other side of Phantomflake's sickbed.

Abigail smiled back at Cherry, tracing her steps toward her.

"How are you?" Abigail asked her.

"I'm good. Here, wishing that Sis Phantom will wake up soon." Cherry heaved a deep sigh, shifting her gaze from Abigail to Phantomflake.

Abigail became silent and she glanced at her body. Her eyes fell on her lips. As expected, her original body experienced the same thing. A few marks could be seen on her lips. Fortunately, Cherry hadn't noticed it.

"Abi, are you okay now? Last time... you seemed like you got a panic attack." Cherry glanced at her worriedly.

"I'm sorry about that. I think I was triggered by something. A traumatic event happened to me in the past. But don't worry. I'm fine now." Abigail couldn't remember the memory. It was fragmented. But she was certain now. King Stallion Mafia triggered her.

"Actually, I'm here to find something. I feel like Stephen knew something more about Phantomflake. I wonder what kind of session they had as her psychologist."

'Even I myself couldn't remember anything about it.' Abigail added to her thoughts.

"Huh? What are you planning to do?" Cherry asked her with intrigue.

"I will try to sneak into his Study Room to check for her patient record. He might be keeping some records on his computer." Abigail shared her plan with Cherry.

"Do you want me to hack his computer and stole the data? But what name did sis Phantom use when she made appointments with Stephen? Too bad Dr. Stephen couldn't disclose more information because of doctor-patient privacy and confidentiality." Cherry offered her some help, forgetting that Abigail was also an expert hacker.

"I think... she used Jane Frost. Let me do it, myself. I don't want you to get in trouble because of me. You have to stay close to Phantomflake. " Abigail wasn't certain if she revealed her name to Stephen. She was adopted by her Master Miss Frost so she became Jane Frost. She also lost her memory when she was young and was rescued by their master.

"But I need your help. Stephen is here. Can you entertain him and don't let him enter his study while I am still looking for Phantomflake's patient records of their session?" Abigail requested Cherry's help. They needed to divert Stephen's attention and kept him occupied while Abigail was conducting a thorough search inside his study room.

"Okay, Abi. Leave it to me. I will deal with Dr. Zhou." Cherry would be glad to assist Abigail. She was also curious about Phantomflake's session with Stephen. What did they talk about? Was her trauma severe? She wanted answers!

Abigail and Cherry strategized what they would do so that Abigail could sneak into Stephen's study without getting caught. Fortunately, the robots stayed on guard outside Phantomflake's ward only. They were not roaming around the house.

It would be easy for Abigail to enter Stephen's study. She had been there together with Veronica. So far, she didn't see any security camera installed inside his Study Room.

When they already set their strategy, Abigail and Cherry began to move and implement their plan. Cherry went to see Stephen while Abigail headed to Stephen's room.

Cherry would invite Stephen into the garden to ask him more about Phantomflake. Cherry could tell that Stephen was paying more attention when their topic was related to Phantomflake. After a minute, Cherry succeeded in bringing Stephen outside the house. They proceeded to the garden.

"Stephen, can you tell me more about the moment you shared with my sis in Country Z?" Cherry was hoping to hear more of their story together. "What do you think of my sister... I mean, what is your first impression when you first met her?"

Stephen had a dreamy look in his eyes as he reminisced his moments with Phantomflake, including their first meeting.

"The first word that popped into my mind when I first saw her was the word Cool. She fought ten men and defeated them. A group of gangsters chased me and cornered me in a dark alley. They planned to rob me and take all my money and gadgets. I tried to fight them but I was outnumbered. Furthermore, they were holding weapons. Knives and baseball bats."

Cherry's eyes went round when she heard that. "Eh? She fought ten armed men?! I thought she was physically injured when she went to Country Z for her therapy. Now I understand everything. I think... it's not physical therapy. She went there for trauma treatment..."

Stephen bobbed his head. But his eyes dimmed for a moment. Phantomflake was not in her usual self when she fought those men. Her emotion was unstable. She fought them with killing intent in her eyes. He just got lucky that Phantomflake ended up passing through that dark alley that night.

'She was like a killing machine. She didn't grunt or wince in pain when she was being punched and hit by those gangsters. She looked like she didn't feel any pain. I saw hatred, resentment, and anger in her eyes.' Stephen thought to himself, not sharing this with Cherry.

"After saving you, what happened? Did she know that you were a psychologist?" Cherry asked him curiously.

Stephen let out a soft chuckle and shook his head. "Honestly, I'm not her doctor at first. She was receiving treatment from another psychologist. But that psychologist couldn't handle her. She almost beat him up to death if not for the interference of her mother." Stephen mistook Miss Frost for

Phantomflake's mother. "Since then, no one wants to accept her as their patient. She was very aggressive."

Cherry giggled. She could imagine how those psychologists suffered under Phantomflake.

"How about you? Did you get beaten up by her? How were you able to control her?"

Stephen smiled meaningfully and said, "A hug. I just gave her a hug. A hug is like a therapeutic pill that can help you calm down. I always told her that a hug is the best way to comfort someone when they are feeling down and broken." Stephen said the same statement Abigail used to speak to Nathan when she hugged him in Country F.

Cherry blinked her eyes several times as she watched Stephen in awe. She didn't know why but she could see love in Stephen's eyes right now. 'Wait. Don't tell me... he has feelings for my sis Phantom... Stephen likes Phantomflake...'

"But of course, I received two to three punches from her. But I can endure it. Besides, I was indebted to her. She saved me from those gangsters." Stephen let out another husky laugh. Dealing with Phantomflake before was not easy. It took him several months before she started opening up to him.

Stephen didn't want to admit it but he was totally smitten by her. He knew he should set boundaries with her because he was her doctor and she was his patient. Romantic feelings between them were forbidden and not allowed.

Stephen restrained himself and tried his best not to fall in love with his patient. He had a mission to do and that was to treat her and help her move on. He convinced himself that he was doing this because he was indebted to her. But deep inside, his heart had another reason. However, he had to suppress it no matter what.

"When I saw her in pain... my heart felt suffocated as well... as if it was being squeezed inside my chest..." Stephen uttered, sharing his inner feelings with Cherry.

Cherry was rendered speechless. She could only listen to Stephen.

"She was slowly recovering... but I felt so happy I was able to help her cope up. But..." Stephen paused for a moment. A cold glint flashed through his eyes, rolling his fingers into balls of fury. Just when Phantomflake was about to recover another mishap happened to her, bringing her back to her misery. Stephen had no choice but to erase her memory for her to continue living.

"But what?" Cherry frowned as she noticed the changes in Stephen's expression. The rage of fury was evident on his face. He was angry about something.

But seconds later, Stephen's expression went back to normal. He was able to conceal his negative emotions. "Oh, it's nothing." Stephen was evading her question.

"Huh? You left me hanging. What happened next?" Cherry urged him to speak up.

"We went to separate ways and I hadn't seen her for long. She might have forgotten me already." Stephen simply said, keeping something from Cherry.

"Huh? But why? You helped her recover, there was no way she could forget you."

"Because I erased her memory to heal her completely..."

Cherry: "..."

Chapter 316 Leave Me Alone, Mr. Playboy

Day Thirty-Seven...

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Cherry was at a loss for words after hearing Stephen's revelation. 'He erased her memory. How could that be possible? How could he do that?'

Cherry stared at him with disbelief. "How? Why do you have to erase her memory? To what extent she was affected by the incident? What kind of mishap happened to her in Country Z?" She bombarded him with so many questions.



At this moment, Stephen kept his mouth shut. He couldn't say it without Phantomflake's consent. He buried her past along with her lost memory. He couldn't afford to tell another person about her dark past.

Stephen believed that it was Phantomflake's deep scar that she wanted to hide from everyone... even her friends.

"C'mon Stephen! Tell me. Please... I wanna know." Cherry grabbed his shirt tightly using both hands.

"What's going on here?" A newcomer arrived and interrupted the two.

Cherry didn't have to turn around since she already recognized that voice. It was Aiden! 'Argh! This punk. Why did he arrive at this crucial moment? I was planning to force an answer from Stephen.'

Cherry bared her teeth, scolding Aiden in her mind. Meanwhile, Stephen felt relieved because of Aiden's sudden arrival. He just came at the right time. Cherry wouldn't be able to ask him further.

Stephen met Aiden's jealous gaze. He smiled at his best friend, signaling him to entertain and talk to Cherry on his behalf. He almost spilled the beans as he got carried away.

This was the first time he could confide with someone regarding Phantomflake. Since Phantomflake was the woman who Nathan resented the most, he couldn't speak to either Nathan or Aiden when it came to Phantomflake.

He was grateful that Cherry was there. They could talk about Phantomflake all they wanted.

"Cherry, Thank you for your time. I have to go and check her condition."

"Wait! I will accompany you!" Cherry grabbed his elbow when Stephen stood up.

She wasn't sure if Abigail found what she was looking for. It wasn't that long since Abigail entered Stephen's study room. What if she needed to buy more time for her? She couldn't let Stephen leave her side.

But Aiden wouldn't allow her to do that. He walked with large strides. In just three seconds, he reached their spot. He quickly snatched Cherry's hand away from Stephen, making her release his elbow.

"Go on, Steph. Do your stuff. Cherry and I will stay here for a while." Aiden motioned for Stephen to leave immediately.

Stephen just smiled at them before turning around to leave.

"Let go of my hand!" Cherry scowled at Aiden.

"No way. Over my dead body! Hmmp!" Aiden held her arm tightly, refusing to let go. He couldn't understand why Cherry's blood always boiled when he was around.

"Why are you mad at me again? Do you wanna stab me?" Aiden asked her, putting on a pitiful face.

"What do you want from me? You are not supposed to be here. Don't you have work Engr. Wu?"

"I dropped by just to see you! Why are you getting so riled up? Do you hate me so much?!" Aiden raised his voice. His heart was racing from too much jealousy. This was the first time he felt jealous because of a woman!

Cherry was taken aback for a moment. She was caught off guard when Aiden raised his voice at her.

"I don't hate you. It's just that... I find you very annoying," Cherry said truthfully, tugging her hand away from Aiden.

"Why?! What did I do to annoy you? Can't you like me? I'm more gorgeous and hotter than Stephen. Women are crazy for me. They are lining up just to get my attention." Aiden just spoke what comes into his mind. He was trying his best to get Cherry's attention.

Cherry arched her eyebrow and folded her arms over her chest. "See. This is the reason why you are very annoying. You think so highly of yourself. Who cares if women are lining up for you? I'm not like them."

"Furthermore... if you might be more gorgeous than Stephen, but he is more mature than you! He is a real man. And for me... you are still like a boy." Cherry just mocked him because she was annoyed by his interference. His sudden arrival prevented him from getting more answers from Stephen.

'Me? Just a boy?!' Aiden glared at her, tightening his hands so much that his fingernails bit into his palms.

He felt insulted. The woman he had a crush on couldn't see him as a man. She just hit his ego.

Cherry smiled inwardly. Just when she thought Aiden would leave her alone, Aiden spoke up through his gritted teeth.

"I LIKE YOU!"

Cherry: "..."

'That three words again!' She squinted her eyes at him, thinking that he was playing another prank confession on her.

"Just leave me alone, Mr. Playboy. I don't have spare time to listen to your nonsense."

Cherry stood up from her seat and was about to leave when Aiden grabbed her shoulders, pressing her down. He just forced her to sit back.

"I said... I like you!" Aiden reiterated his last words.

"Tsssh." Cherry hissed at him. "Remove your hands if you don't want me to beat you." She warned him. She didn't believe him. She already knew his reputation. Aiden was a playboy, a Cassanova... a man who changed girlfriends every month.

'How dare he try to include me in the list of his women?!'

But Aiden didn't budge. He was hell serious at this moment. He could no longer maintain his cool. Cherry kept on hurting his pride and stomping his confidence.

"I don't like— uhm~" Cherry was not able to finish her words since Aiden sealed her mouth with his lips.

'I'll show you that I am a man!' Aiden thought to himself as he nibbled on her lips, deepening the kiss. This mouth hurt his feelings several times so it was time to punish her... with a hungry passionate kiss!

Aiden was a great kisser. He expertly made Cherry respond to his lips as he dominated her.

'Wait?! What is happening?' Cherry asked to herself.

Chapter 317 Give Me A Chance!

Day Thirty-Seven...

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Aiden smothered her lips with demanding mastery. He took this chance to deepen the kiss as Cherry was still in a trance, trying to absorb what was happening. His mouth parted hers in a soft massage, nibbling on her lower and upper lips alternately.

Cherry just found herself following his lead. She instinctively moved her lips, brushing and licking Aiden's mouth.

A few seconds later, the realization had dawned on her. She was not supposed to kiss this annoying guy. She ended up biting his lower lip between her teeth.

"Ouch!" Aiden groaned and drew back as he felt the pain. Cherry bit his lips so hard that they bled.

The next thing that followed was the loud smacking sound of a palm hitting a face.

Pak!

Cherry slapped him. "How dare you steal a kiss from me once again?! Are you courting death?"

Cherry raised her fist in front of Aiden. Aiden, who was rubbing his cheek, reflexively stepped back to avoid her punch.

Cherry's bloodshot eyes were directed at him, her lips forming a thin line but her cheeks were blushing. This was the second time Aiden stole a kiss from her. But the difference was that... she responded and kissed him back!

'Shit! This is so embarrassing You are insane for doing that.' Cherry scolded herself inwardly.

She expected Aiden to mock her by telling her 'I knew it. You can't resist my charm.' But to her surprise, Aiden acted differently.

With an earnest look in his eyes, Aiden told her, "You hurt my feelings. You stomped on my pride. But I don't hit women because I'm a man and not a boy. So all I can do is kiss you. Now, we are even. I won't hold a grudge against you."

Cherry clenched her teeth, eyeing Aiden with disbelief. Aside from being annoying, this man was truly shameless.

"Come here. I'm gonna kill you!" Cherry stood up, moving her fingers back and forth as she motioned for him to move closer, her sharp gaze telling him not to run away from her.

"Sure. Kill me. I'm not going to run away anymore. But I will make sure that I will become a ghost that will haunt you forever. I will stick with you, day and night. Twenty-Four Seven!" Aiden spat back at her with a corny threat.

Cherry couldn't believe this guy and his reasoning. What did he think of her? A woman who could easily be threatened by a ghost?

"I'm not afraid of ghosts!" Cherry said with a deep crease on her forehead.

"Good. If I become a ghost, I don't want you to fear me." Aiden chuckled giddily.

"Nonsense!" Cherry was super annoyed at this moment. She wanted to rip that smile off his charming face. 'Wait what? Did I just say... Charming?! No way!'

"Don't follow me!" Cherry raised her fist once more. She wanted to leave this annoying guy alone.

But before she could leave, Aiden spoke his mind once more. "Cherry! Why don't you date me?! I'll prove to you that I'm not a boy... but a man!" He began to challenge her. "I'll show you the real me. Not the guy whom you read in the magazine or the internet. The different side of me."

Aiden stepped forward, closing their gaps. He didn't want to be scared of her anymore. He would try to be brave enough and face Cherry without fear. If he was scared of her, he couldn't get close to her.

Cherry just glanced at him with an indescribable expression. She didn't know if he was joking or not.

"Give me 30 Days..." he suggested.

Cherry arched her eyebrow and pursed her lips.

"Alright. Just give me two weeks! Bond with me for two weeks!" Aiden was so determined to convince her. "Get to know me better."

"Please..." His brown eyes were begging her.

Cherry was silent. She contemplated for a moment. "Let me think about it..." she uttered in a low voice. Without waiting for Aiden to say another word, Cherry walked away, leaving him behind.

Aiden could only sigh helplessly as he watched her departing back until she vanished from his sight. "How can I tame her? She is very cold towards me. Can't she give me a chance?"

Aiden slumped his body on the bench as he sat down. He took another deep sigh. "Should I be happy or not? I got insulted. I got rejected. I got slapped... But..." Aiden's lips curled up into a satisfied grin and he touched his lips. "We kissed..."

"I kissed her and she kissed me back!" Aiden's dejected expression he had a while ago was gone. It was replaced by a bright smile, his eyes gleaming with joy. He could feel his heart beating so fast inside his chest.

"Her lips are soft... I love to kiss her... over and over again." Aiden felt like he was over the moon as he caressed his lips, still imagining the scene that transpired there a few minutes ago.

Pak!

"Ouch!" Aiden grunted when someone hit him in the back. He turned to his left side and gazed up only to see Abigail. She just came out of Stephen's study room and passed by the garden to find Cherry.

"Abi! What are you doing here?" Aiden subconsciously covered his mouth using his hand as he recalled what Abigail tried to do last night. She almost kissed him.

Abigail didn't answer him. She just watched him with her scrutinizing gaze. "What did you do to Cherry? Did you bully her?"

Aiden's eyes widened and he removed the hand that was covering his mouth. He pointed his finger at his reddened cheek, showing Abigail the slap mark left by Cherry's hand.

"Do you think I can bully her? I will get beaten up..." Aiden put on a pitiful face. He wanted to get Abigail's sympathy.

Abigail let out a soft chuckle before sitting down next to him. Abigail patted his shoulder and asked, "Why do you keep on coming here and pestering Cherry?"

"Because I like her... I am interested in her. I want to get to know her better." Aiden shifted to his side, facing Abigail. Then he grabbed her hands and asked her, "You are close to her, right? Can you help me?"

"Hmm. Are you serious? I'm afraid that you will just treat her like your other girlfriends. I don't want her to get hurt." Abigail gave Aiden a warning gaze.

"Sigh. Why don't you believe me? My intention is good. No malice. I'm a good person, Abi. I'm serious... I won't hurt her," Aiden responded with conviction.

Abigail assessed Aiden's facial expression. She could find out if Aiden was lying or not. He was easy to figure out and very transparent as compared to his other two best friends... Nathan and Stephen.

After a few seconds, Abigail bobbed her head in response to his request. "Fine. I will put in a good word for you. I will encourage her to give you a chance for two weeks."

Aiden went round and gasped, "Huh? You overheard our conversation! Are you spying on me?! Do you have a crush on me? You even tried to kiss~ uhm"

Abigail covered his mouth to stop him from completing his sentence. "I'm drunk. That was a mistake. You are not my type."

'Ouch! My pride is hurt again by another woman. Strike Two now, Aiden!'

Chapter 318 Number One On Her Assassination List

Day Thirty-Seven...



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Aiden left Stephen's place when he received a summon from his father. So Abigail returned inside the house to look for Cherry. She wondered if she was back in Phantomflake's ward.

She was right! She spotted Cherry inside the ward, together with Dr. Zhou and the nurse. Stephen's father dropped by his place to monitor Phantomflake's condition. Stephen was in his study room, taking Phantomflake's patient chart.

Abigail exhaled deeply. Stephen almost caught her a while ago. Fortunately, she was able to escape through the window. Abigail jumped from the second-floor balcony which was attached to Stephen's study room. She took the detour going to the garden.

Cherry saw her standing at the door. Abigail moved her head, motioning for Cherry to come with her. She quickly followed Abigail, leaving Phantomflake's ward.

"Abi, how is it? Did you find Jane's records?" Cherry asked her as they passed through the hallway.

Abigail shook her head, sighing deeply. She was a little bit disappointed since she failed to see the records. It was not stored on Stephen's desktop. And she didn't have enough time to find some voice recordings or video recordings of her therapy sessions with Stephen.

It was so hard to find without the file name. She had to assume and guess the folder's name. Aside from that, she wasn't sure about the exact dates, only the year of her consultation with him.

"I guess, I will need your help, Cherry to go through his files. You will become his temporary assistant or secretary, am I right?" Abigail asked her in a low voice. She turned from left to right, making sure that Stephen was not there.

"Yes. Temporarily. I will be his secretary." Cherry responded.

"Let's go out! We should talk in the Cafe." Abigail held Cherry's arm. She noticed that there was a nearby Cafe located just outside this private village.

"Are we going to walk? Do you want to borrow Stephen's car?" Cherry asked her.

Abigail nodded. "We can even talk while walking."

Cherry smiled and bobbed her head. It wasn't that long since she met Abigail, but she felt like she had known her for so long. She was friendly and approachable to her. She felt comfortable talking to her.

"Don't worry. Little by little, we can discover the truth. But... I'm not sure if Sis Phantom wants us to hear about her past... She and Miss Frost hid this from us. But here we are digging into what happened to her five years ago." Cherry was worried. She had no idea that the real Phantomflake was the one who wanted to dig into the past.

"Hmm. I think Phantomflake will understand us once she wakes up," Abigail said meaningfully, tapping Cherry's shoulder.

"Abi... honestly, today... I heard some revelation from Stephen..." Cherry stopped on her track and gazed at Abigail with conflicting thoughts.

"Revelation? What is it?" Abigail asked her curiously.

"Stephen told me that... in order to completely heal Sis Phantom... he erased some of her memories. He also said that she might not recognize and remember him once Phantomflake wakes up."

There was a baffled look in Abigail's eyes when she heard that. Her jaw dropped as she realized something. 'No wonder, I can't remember Stephen nor the sessions he was talking about. He erased my memory... But how did he do that? What kind of technology he used?'

"Abi... Are you okay?" Cherry tapped her back when Abigail suddenly spaced out in front of her.

"Oh," Abigail snapped back to the present. "Yes, I'm fine." She forced a smile.

"If that is the case, then the more we have to dig for information. If I were Phantomflake, I will also try to know what happen in the past. The things I forget."

Cherry took another deep sigh. "I'm not sure. I believe Stephen has an important reason for erasing Sis Phantom's memory. What if she truly wanted to forget it? She didn't want to be put in the same misery. But what I am wondering about is that... what happened to my sis that she had to break down and her psychologist had no choice left but to erase her memory."

Abigail fell silent. She tried to analyze the situation. For some unknown reason, she had the feeling that King Stallion Mafia had something to do with her past. She couldn't remember what happened in her mission involving the King Stallion Mafia. Then she was triggered when Black Rose mentioned the name of that organization.

"Just trust me... I think... she can deal with it as long as you are there by her side. You can support her no matter what. She has to face her past and be brave to completely heal. Forgetting things is not the best solution." Abigail was speaking on behalf of her true self... Phantomflake.

She thought forgetting was a cowardly thing to do. She should have faced it bravely.

"Yes. I trust you, Abi... as much as I trust Sis Phantom. You are right. As long as we are here by her side, we can support her and help her conquer her ugly past. That's what friends are for!"

Abigail nodded her head and wrapped her arm around Cherry's shoulders. "By the way, since we are friends... can we talk about something else?"

Cherry just bobbed her head as they walked side to side. "Sure. I will be glad to talk to you about other things too!"

"Sure. Let's double-time. It's best to discuss something over a drink. It's my treat today!"

Abigail and Cherry reached their destination after five minutes. They chose the table on the corner side of the Cafe so that no one could overhear them. The Cafe was not crowded today. They were the only customers at this hour.

The two settled down and ordered their drinks. Abigail chose the iced pure double-chocolate drink topped with whipped cream while Cherry ordered a hot Mocha Chip.

"Alright. Now that we are here. What topic do you want to talk about, Abi?" Cherry asked her as she took a sip of her hot mocha chip.

Abigail scratched her face. She wondered if Cherry won't be annoyed if she would ask her about Aiden. 'Hmm. Let's take it one at a time. I should slow down and take it easy.'

"Do you have a boyfriend?" Abigail asked her, smiling awkwardly. This was the first time Abigail asked her friend about this kind of stuff. When they were in the assassin guild, Phantomflake never asked Black Rose about a guy or a relationship.

Cherry was also caught off guard when Abigail opened up about this topic. "I was busy with my treatment... and searching for Sis Phantom. I don't have time to entertain some guys."

Then after a while, Aiden's face just flashed in her mind. 'Eh? Why am I thinking about him?' Cherry shook her head, trying to erase Aiden from her mind. She was not supposed to think about him.

"How about a crush?" Abigail continued asking Cherry. 'Damn! This is the effect of Aiden. I'm asking Black Rose about these silly questions just because of Aiden's request.'

"No one..." Black Rose plainly said. "I only admire one person. It's my sis, Phantom!"

Abigail tried her best to hold her laughter. She was flattered to hear that. She suddenly felt that she became Aiden's rival. 'Oh no. If I'm Cherry's standard, I don't think Aiden will pass her taste. Hahaha, poor guy!'

"Hey, why are you smiling while looking at me like that? Don't get me wrong. I only see Phantom as my sister, my mentor, and my friend... I don't have romantic feelings for her. But she will always be my priority." Cherry explained her side to Abigail. She thought Abigail might misinterpret her answer.

Abigail just let out a soft giggle. "Alright. No need to be defensive. I understand."

"Now, it's my turn to ask you. What is the real score between you and Nathan?" Cherry asked her with so much interest in her eyes. She was dying to know if Abigail and Nathan were now officially a couple. She saw them almost kissing each other a few days ago. It also happened in Stephen's place.

Abigail blushed almost immediately at the mention of Nathan's name. Her heart began to race as she recalled her conversation with Nathan. He admitted that he fell in love with Shining Star first... not Monica. It only meant... he liked Phantomflake first.

"Hahahaha! You are blushing. So I think you are already a couple!" Cherry was happy for them.

"No. You are mistaken. Nathan and I are not yet a couple. But I am planning to pursue him until he gives in to me. That guy is so hard to please. It's not easy to get his affection." Abigail was so determined. If he fell for her before, she could do it again, not as Shining Star but as Abigail.

"Hmm. I wish you luck. I know you can make anyone fall in love with you. You are such a wonderful woman. You are the second best. Sis Phantomflake is still my number one woman!" Cherry declared to Abigail.

Abigail let out another giggle. She was still number one and number two in Cherry's heart. This only meant Aiden must compete with her... both Phantomflake and Abigail. 'Poor guy.'

"How about Engr. Aiden Wu? What number he is in the rank?" Abigail suddenly asked Cherry, finally mentioning Aiden's name.

Cherry crumpled her face because of Aiden. "Engr. Aiden Wu? He is my number one guy... Number one guy on my assassination list!"

"Pffft!" Abigail could no longer hold it. She burst out laughing as she pitied Aiden. It seemed like the poor guy had to exert more effort to gain Cherry's affection.

Chapter 319 Being Followed

Day Thirty-Eight...

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The Dragon Lord arrived at Country M. He also brought Jack with him. Spade was still undergoing recovery because of the gunshot wounds he had received.

Though Spade's condition was already stable, he was still admitted to the hospital for complete rest. Jack was also secretly investigating who the traitor was.

But his investigation was interrupted when he received an order from the Dragon Lord that he should accompany him to Country M.

The Dragon Lord had set his eyes on his target— Abigail Scarlet.

"All the preparation is set. Do you want to meet her before the Star Gala Night?" Jack asked his Boss.

"I sent a man to monitor her. He is tailing her right now. She has a bodyguard with her. She went to the CEO's villa to visit her manager and personal assistant." Jack informed the Dragon Lord.

"Why is it that her assistant and manager are staying in one of the villas of Star Corp Entertainment?" The Dragon Lord frowned in puzzlement. "Does she have an illicit relationship with an engaged man?"

The Dragon Lord met Richard Chang twice. He was aware that this man was engaged to Nadia Patel, the heiress of the Patel Conglomerates.

"That was just a rumor. But no one confirmed their relationship. Richard Chang claims that Abigail Scarlett is born to be a superstar so he is backing her based on her talents and skills as an actress."

Jack picked up a folder, presenting a file related to people close to Abigail Scarlett. One of the files contained information about Richard and Nadia.

"The two are going strong despite the rumors about Abigail and Richard. So the issue might be false. Some are just using it to defame the actress and ruin her booming career."

Jack already informed the Dragon Lord about Abigail's scandal— her suicide attempt. After that, he managed to collect more information related to Abigail Scarlett.

"Something is fishy about her..."The Dragon Lord mumbled, his eyes fixed on the files. He was assessing Abigail's photo.

"She doesn't look like the woman who fell from the 13th floor. I can't believe that she didn't even receive any major injuries or fractures." The Dragon Lord was puzzled by this phenomenon. "I wonder what kind of trick she pulled off. And she even managed to Nathan's attention."

Jack nodded his head in agreement. "My lord, do you wanna meet her... today?"

A light gleam flashed through the Dragon Lord's eyes and his lips curled up into a mischievous smirk.

"Fine. Let's go. Let me see her in person." The Dragon Lord grabbed his coat and put the folder down on his table. Jack immediately followed him. The Dragon Lord planned on watching her from afar.

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Meanwhile, Abigail had been visiting Ana and Santra. They were helping her to familiarize their colleagues, rivals, producers, directors, possible investors, and the management team of Star Corp Entertainment. They have a compilation of VIPs who would attend the Star Gala Night.

Santra and Ana were assisting Abigail with the preparation. Star Gala Night would be Abigail's comeback. She would finally show up to the public after disappearing for a month.

"Miss Abi, do you want to go shopping? Let's visit Celeste's Boutique. She prepared more dresses for you." Santra suggested cheerfully. "We are already looking forward to your comeback. You might attend shows and reporters will keep bugging you about your suicide scandal. You will be the talk of the entertainment world."

Abigail bit her lower lip. That was something she wasn't looking forward to. Being the talk of the Entertainment World would give her some headache.

"Yes, Abi. I think we have to prepare your dresses for your future shows and guesting!" Ana, her manager, supported Santra's suggestion.

Abigail could no longer refuse the two who seemed more excited than her. With Abigail's approval, the three women headed out to the mall where Celeste's Boutique was located. The three left Richard's Villa not knowing that someone was tailing them.

Twenty minutes later, Abigail, Santra, and Ana reached their destination. Abigail was about to enter the mall when she asked her bodyguard to stay behind. She felt uncomfortable since the bodyguard had been following her around.

Abigail was talking to her bodyguard when she saw a glimpse of someone, looking in her direction. She met the man's gaze but he immediately looked away. He turned around to avoid suspicion from Abigail.

'Who is that guy? Is he following us?' Abigail's hunch has been activated. She watched the guy's back who was walking in a different direction.

"Follow that man. And find out his identity," Abigail ordered her bodyguard. She found a valid reason to send her bodyguard away. "I feel that he is following us. He looks suspicious!"

The bodyguard immediately bobbed his head and followed her line of sight. He also saw the man walking away from the distance. Abigail made sure to describe the man's clothing since she failed to recognize his face. He was wearing a mask and a cap.

"Got it, Miss Abi. Just call me right away if you need me." The bodyguard left instantly to follow the guy.



Abigail heaved a sigh of relief. She had nothing to worry about. She was aware that Nathan was using the bodyguard to monitor her every movement. Nathan was spying on her through her bodyguard.

"Abi!!! Why are you still standing there? Let's go!" Ana called her attention. Santra and Ana were already inside, waiting for her.

"Yes. I'm coming!"

Ana grabbed Abigail's hand, pulling her toward Celeste's boutique. Celeste's assistant welcomed them warmly when they entered the boutique. She was familiar with Santra and Ana, but she failed to recognize Abigail since she was wearing a disguise. She was still careful not to be spotted in public places by her fans.

"Welcome Ma'am, Miss Celeste is in her office. She has a meeting with someone. But they are about to finish so you can stay in our lounge area or look around while waiting for Miss Celeste," the assistant guided them inside.

"By the way, did your customer from AMB Diamond Corporation come here to visit?" Ana asked the assistant. They could still remember the handsome man whom they bumped into before. Santra and Ana both had a crush on him. Unfortunately, they didn't get his name.

"Actually, the person inside is also from AMB Diamond Corporation. They are offering a project to our Miss Celeste. It's a collaboration project!" The assistant informed them.

Abigail's eyebrows twitched as soon as she heard AMB Diamond Corporation. She was reminded of Helena Carlsen, the daughter of the Chairman of AMB Diamond Corporation. She was the woman who was about to steal Nathan from her.

'Don't tell me... the person who has a meeting with Celeste is none other than Helena Carlsen?' Abigail crumpled her face and tightened her fingers into fists.

Without a second thought, Abigail moved forward, tracing her steps toward Celeste's office.

Ana and Santra exchanged glances with one another. "What is she planning to do? The meeting is still ongoing. It will be rude to barge in!" Santra blurted out in puzzlement.

"Eh... I don't think she will barge in to interrupt the-," Ana stopped midway as soon as she saw Abigail turning the doorknob and pushing the door open without knocking.

Santra: "Uh-oh!"

Ana: "..."

Chapter 320 Marking Her Own Territory

Day Thirty-Eight...

~\*~\*~\*~\*~

Celeste and Helena turned in Abigail's direction, not expecting that someone would suddenly barge in without asking Celeste's permission.

Aside from meeting Nathan Sparks, Helena went there to offer a project to Celeste. AMB Diamond Corporation wanted to expand their business by building a branch store here in Country M. They wanted to collaborate with Celeste, the new rising designer.

Helena's eyes scanned Abigail from top to bottom. 'Can't she see that we are in a meeting here?' Helena thought to herself. She restrained herself from reprimanding Abigail for her rude behavior.

On the other hand, Celeste just gave Abigail a questioning look. "What do you need... Miss?" She didn't recognize her because of Abigail's disguise. She was wearing a wig. She applied makeup that would hide her real face.

But the moment Celeste saw Ana and Santra standing behind Abigail's back, she realized that the woman before her was none other than Abigail Scarlett, her muse.

She was a fan of Abigail. She would like Abigail to wear her creations and become her muse, her model... the ambassador of her designs!

Celeste's expression softened and she greeted Abigail warmly. "Oh, you are here. I already prepared the dresses for you. You can try them on in the changing room!"

"Who is she? Care to introduce her to me?" Helena butted in, politely asking Celeste. She was curious about who the newcomer was.

Helena flashed her charming smile, greeting Abigail. She seemed to be a kindhearted and sweet woman who was friendly and approachable.

But Abigail just lifted her eyebrow, giving Helena a cold shoulder. Abigail didn't have any plan of acting friendly in front of Helena. She saw her as her rival. She was still annoyed whenever she would remember the scene wherein Nathan hugged Helena during their first meeting.

'This woman has a strong backup. Nathan's father is rooting for her to be his son's wife.' A hint of jealousy flashed through Abigail's eyes as she looked at Helena.

"Helena, this is Abi... my muse! Abi, this is Helena, a director of AMB Diamond Corporation." Celeste introduced the two women to each other. She didn't know why but she felt the heavy tension between the two ladies.

'Why do I feel like Abigail doesn't like Helena? Does she know her?'

"Have you met before?" Celeste added, asking the two ladies. She smiled awkwardly at them. Then she tossed a look at Ana and Santra, asking them to say something.

But Ana and Santra refused to interrupt and join the conversation when they noticed the grumpy mood on Abigail's face. They could feel the chilly aura emanating from her.

Abigail smiled faintly at Celeste and responded, "Yes. I saw her before." She managed to conceal her negative emotions.

Helena was taken aback for a moment. "Really? I think this is the first time I met you. This is only the third day of my stay here. You must have mistaken me for someone else."

"Anyway. It's my pleasure to meet you, Miss Abi." Helena extended her right hand to offer a handshake.

Abigail looked at Helena's hand as she contemplated for a moment. After a while, Abigail finally accepted Helena's hand, shaking it but at the same time, squeezing it tightly. "Nice meeting you too, Helena." Abigail put on a fake smile.

Helena flinched when Abigail tightened her grip on her hand, a deep crease appearing on her forehead. 'Ouch! Her tight grip is hurting my hand.'

When she looked at Abigail, she saw her taunting smile. 'She is intentionally doing this to me... to provoke me.'

Helena was about to complain when Abigail finally released her hand. Abigail felt satisfied seeing the annoyed expression in Helena's eyes.

She could tell that Helena was trying to keep her cool, not showing any unwanted behaviors in front of Celeste and other people.

"I'm sorry to interrupt the two of you. I just got so excited to see those pretty creations of yours," Abigail apologized to Celeste.

She had to admit that it was impolite of her to barge in, interrupting the two. Now, she confirmed that Helena was there. What a small word?!

"It's okay. We are done discussing the project proposal. I'm glad that you are here. As my muse, you will also hold a major role in this collaboration." Celeste tapped Abigail's shoulder, hooking her arm around her elbow.

Abigail sized Helena up, assessing her physical appearance and figure. She couldn't help but compare her to Abigail's appearance.

'She is pretty with smooth fair skin... but mine... I mean the real Abigail... has a much more delicate skin. She might be stunning but I am fiercer than her. I am taller than her. She is slender... but I am more huggable than her.'

"I understand, Celeste. It will be my pleasure working with both of you," Abigail said meaningfully.

"But may I request something?" she asked, darting her gaze back and forth between Helena and Celeste.

"Sure. You can tell me anything, dear," Celeste responded cheerfully.

"Can I talk to Miss Helena... alone?"

Everyone fell silent when they heard that. Ana, Santra, and Celeste watched Abigail, puzzled. Even Helena was wondering why Abigail wanted to talk to her.

"Ahem... why do you wanna talk to her?" Celeste asked Abigail with intrigue.

"It's something personal."

Ana and Santra met each other's gazes, shrugging their shoulders. They didn't know why Abigail was acting strangely today.

"Okay. Let's talk." Helena gave her consent. She glanced at the three women and advised them, "Ladies, can you leave us for a moment?"

Helena, Santra, and Ana could only bob their heads before turning to leave. They closed the door, wondering what Abigail and Helena would talk about.

As they were left alone, Abigail finally confronted Helena. "I will not beat around the bush. I am here to talk to you about Nathan Sparks."

The subtle smile on Helena's face disappeared at the mention of Nathan's name. Now, she became more curious about this woman Abi. For some unknown reason, this woman reminded her of someone she knew.

"How do you know Nate?" Helena asked Abigail with a deep frown on her face.

Abigail crumpled her face the moment Helena called Nathan's nickname endearingly. She seemed like it was just natural for her to call Nathan by that name.

'What?! Are they close enough for her to call him Nate?!' Abigail balled her fingers into fists.

"He is my boyfriend," Abigail lied without batting an eyelid. "He is my Man," she reiterated.

'Damn it! Why do I sound like Veronica?!' Abigail scolded herself inwardly. She sounded like a legal wife confronting her husband's mistress.

Meanwhile, Helena glanced at her with disbelief. She had the urge to burst into a peal of laughter. She gave Abigail an 'are-you-kidding-me' look. Of course, she didn't believe her.

"I don't think so. Nate never mentioned anything about his girlfriend when we went on a date. He is definitely single and available. You are lying." Helena flashed a faint smile on her face.

"Don't worry. I am not asking you to stay away from Nathan. I'm just giving you a heads-up. I don't want you to have false hope and end up crying in the end." Abigail let out a soft giggle, winking at her with her overbearing confidence.

Helena fell silent, a cold glint flashing through her eyes. She hated Abigail's guts! She just declared to her that Nathan belonged to her. Abigail was marking her territory!