

100 Days 581

Chapter 581 [Bonus] A Formidable Opponent?

Nathan chose to give Joker another chance. But he let Axel deal with him, beating him a little bit as a form of punishment for hurting Chantha. Aside from that, this was also part of their plan so that Joker would have a reason to contact Vincent and ask for his help.

Axel brought Joker back to the east seaport, battered and wounded. "Don't you dare betray and hurt our comrades again! The next time you do that, I will kill you." Axel warned Joker once again.

Joker nodded his head as he looked at him apologetically. "Again, I apologize for what happened to Chantha. I'll ask for her forgiveness later. But for now, I have a mission to do. I won't be able to show up in front of everyone. Please send my regards to Spider. I know he will scold me once he comes back."

Axel's anger toward Joker lessened a little bit since he could see that he regretted his past actions. But he didn't want to lower his guard down. He won't trust Joker completely.

"Shoot me!" Joker requested Axel. "To make it look convincing and real."

Axel frowned. He already beat him up. 'Do I need to shoot him as well?' Axel hesitated for a moment. However, Axel looked straight into his eyes and urged him. "Do it. I'll be fine. This is one way to convince King Stallion Mafia that I became your enemy."

Axel picked up his gun, aiming at him. Joker just closed his eyes, waiting for Axel to fire his gun.

Bang!

"Argh!"

Axel pulled the trigger. The bullet hit Joker's right shoulder. "Now, RUN!" Axel told him.

Joker grabbed his wound and he ran as fast as he could. Axel fired another gunshot but he intentionally missed him. They were just making evidence of the scene so that it would be believable that Syphiruz Mafia was chasing after Joker.

With his wounded right arm, Joker tried to flee. He immediately contacted Vincent. The phone rang several times before it was answered.

"Well. Well. Well. I thought you would never contact me again." Vincent mocked him.

Joker could imagine the mocking smirk of this guy. "Help me. I've been shot. The Syphiruz is chasing after me. I changed my mind. I'm going to join you. I don't want to die in their hands." Joker sounded so desperate.

Vincent arched his eyebrow. He was suspicious of Joker's sudden change of heart. When he last talked to him, this man was so stubborn, refusing to join his organization.

'Hmm. Am I overthinking? Maybe he just wants to live.' Vincent tried to erase the slightest suspicion he had for Joker.

Besides, he needed him. Joker was a branch leader. He knew a lot of things about the Syphiruz Operation. He could use him to attack and destroy the Syphiruz. Furthermore, he would like to ask him if he knew Phantomflake's whereabouts. Was she inside Syphiruz's Medical Facility?

"I'm going to send my men. Give me your exact location." Vincent glanced at Phoenix who was standing next to him. He motioned for him to get ready.

"I'm in the east seaport. They blocked my escape routes. I need your help!" Joker emphasized that he had no way out. He was in a desperate position right now.

Fortunately, Vincent bought Joker's lie. He ordered Phoenix to rescue Joker. His men responded quickly. As he waited, Joker tried to stop his bleeding. He was doing a dangerous mission. He would invade the enemy's territory, and once his cover was blown up, he would die.

Joker heaved a deep sigh just thinking about those possibilities. But he didn't regret his decision this time. He wanted to redeem himself and become worthy of Nathan's trust again. By accomplishing this mission, he could face Spider, Chantha, Violet, and Axel again with no more guilt.

'I'll do my best.' He thought to himself.

Joker immediately informed Axel and Nathan that King Stallion Mafia were on their way to fetch him. This only meant that the King Stallion members were here in Country M.

'Does it mean the King is also here in Country M?' Nathan thought to himself after receiving Joker's message. 'The guy Phantomflake is looking for.' Nathan didn't know what to feel about this.

A few minutes later, two black sedan cars arrived at the east seaport. They encountered Axel and his men. The two factions exchanged fires. When Axel witnessed Joker being transferred to the black sedan car, he ordered his men to retreat, returning to the Syphiruz Mafia headquarters.

Stage one of the mission was accomplished. They just hoped that Joker would be able to fulfill his duty.

After securing Joker's safety, Phoenix's men brought him to the hospital. His gunshot wound needed to be treated. Aside from a gunshot wound, Joker was also beaten up badly.

[Back at Syphiruz Mafia Headquarters...]

Aiden was sulking in the corner. Nathan smacked his head a while ago when he said something that provoked Nathan and changed his mood. When Axel came back, that was the time Aiden got the courage to approach Nathan, hoping that his mood finally improved. He just stood at the back, listening to their conversation.

"Sir, are you sure about this? What if Joker will flee with the help of King Stallion Mafia?" Axel was still uneasy about this plan.

"Yes. I agree with Axel. Before letting him go, you should have invented the Anti-Traitor Bomb Chip first," Aiden butted in.

"Anti-Traitor Bomb Chip?" Axel looked puzzled when he heard that.

Nathan just rubbed the space in between his eyebrows and said, "Just don't mind him."

Aiden pouted his lips as he put on a pitiful face. Nathan kept ignoring him.

"I need to get information about the leader of King Stallion. This is the closer we can get to them. I want to gamble on Joker. My guts tell me that he won't betray me this time." Nathan reassured Axel. He was so determined to find out the identity of the King. He might be related to Jane. What if he was the father of Jane's child?

'The leader of King Stallion Mafia... is he a formidable opponent I should be cautious about? Phantomflake failed to kill him. And she suffered because of him.' Nathan mused to himself.

Chapter 582 Another Dog And Cat Duo

[Towerville District Hospital...]

When Tatsumi woke up, a fierce-looking woman greeted his sight. He gasped in surprise and almost fell from his sick bed when he realized he was holding her hand tightly. He immediately released her hand.

"What the hell are you doing here?" Tatsumi asked her exasperatedly.

Hanabi squinted her eyes at him and mumbled, "Are you fantasizing about Jane? You keep calling her name in your sleep. You even call her 'wifey'. You're so disgusting!"

"Pervert!" Hanabi added, ridiculing Tatsumi's action.

Tatsumi held his head up high and lifted his eyebrow. He wouldn't back down.

"What's wrong with fantasizing about my future wife?! Lady Jane and I will be betrothed to each other and we will lead the Sawada Clan together!" Tatsumi stuck his tongue out at her.

Hanabi could only roll her eyes skyward. "In your dreams."

"Hmmp! Don't spoil my dreams. I'll work hard and prove to you that I'm worthy to be our Lady's husband," Tatsumi said with confidence.

"Whatever," Hanabi responded nonchalantly while shrugging her shoulders.

"Anyway. Why are you here? Where is my father? We should search for my Lady! She went missing." Tatsumi sat up as he bombarded her with so many questions. He wanted to stand up and leave the hospital. But his leg was injured.

"Whoa! Just one question at a time." Hanabi flicked his forehead using her fingers. "Just stay in bed!"

"Ouch!" Tatsumi glared at Hanabi as he rubbed his forehead. "As always! You are a Sadist! Can't you see? I'm a patient here!" He complained.

Hanabi just arched her eyebrow. "It's not my fault that you can easily feel the pain."

Tatsumi made a face. "Yeah. I get it. You have CIPA! That's why you can't feel any physical pain! But I'm not like you, okay?"

Note [CIPA means Congenital Insensitivity to Pain and Anhidrosis— a rare genetic disorder that makes someone unable to feel pain.]

Hanabi didn't want to talk about her rare condition so she decided to change the topic by answering Tatsumi's previous queries.

"Your father went on a mission to rescue our fellow members who were held captive by an unknown faction. As for our Lady Jane, she already contacted our leader. She went abroad for a business trip."

"What? I thought she went missing. I abandoned my special mission just to find her." Tatsumi was a little bit disappointed. However, his mood changed at the thought that Jane was not in danger. "But I'm glad to know that she's safe."

"Speaking of your Special Mission, what are you doing in Country R? Who shot you? You are supposed to be here in Country M to keep our godfather safe. Why did you go there?" This time Hanabi was the one interrogating him.

"I'm looking for the leader of the King Stallion Mafia. I fought them. They were chasing after me after I disrupted their operations in their three branches."

Hanabi felt the urge to smack his forehead again. "You are a troublemaker. Can't you do your mission quietly? Why did you have to alarm them? You infiltrated their branches and attacked them, creating a scene as you declared that you were looking for their branch leader. What a reckless move, Tatsumi!" Hanabi couldn't help but rant at him. This guy always chose the most dangerous moves.

Hanabi facepalmed at the thought of Tatsumi barging into the enemy's territory and announcing to them that he was looking for their leader.

"Do you expect them to just give away information about their Leader just because a crazy guy showed up alone!"

"I'm not a crazy guy." Tatsumi defended himself. "Using force is the only way. The leader of King Stallion is very mysterious. No organization has a record of him and his real identity." He explained why he chose his method.

The two were like cats and dogs fighting.

"Fine. Now, tell me. Why are you looking for him?" Hanabi asked him expectantly. Who gave him this special mission?

That question made Tatsumi realize that he shouldn't have said this to Hanabi. This mission was a secret mission given by Jane. And only he was aware of her identity as Phantomflake. He promised to keep it a secret from Mr. Hiroshi and other members of the Sawada Clan.

Tatsumi remained tight-lipped. But aside from Hanabi, another person was anticipating his response. Speed was standing outside his ward, eavesdropping on their conversation. She had been there, following Tatsumi from the airport to the hospital.

This time Speed disguised herself as a nurse. But little did she know, Hanabi already felt her presence. She noticed that someone had been standing outside the door.

Hanabi simply stood up and slowly approached the door. Tatsumi frowned when he saw her walking toward the door. He was about to ask her but Hanabi motioned for him to stay quiet.

Tatsumi shifted his gaze from Hanabi to the door. Without further ado, Hanabi opened the door and Speed almost fell forward. In a flash, Hanabi yanked the woman's hand as she dragged her inside the ward.

Bam!

She closed the door again.

Thud!

Hanabi pinned her to the closed door, her elbow was placed against her neck and her other hand was holding her arm in place.

"Who are you? Why are you eavesdropping on our conversation?" Hanabi interrogated Speed.

"Uhm, Hana, please calm down. I think she's my nurse," Tatsumi butted in as he noticed Speed's nurse uniform.

"Y-Yes, I'm a nurse. I'm here to check his vitals." Speed tried to convince Hanabi.

Hanabi didn't let go of her. She was sizing her up, looking from her head to toe. She was still suspicious of this woman.

"What if she is just using this as her disguise? She has been standing there outside. I need to make sure." Hanabi said, still assessing Speed.

'Damn! This woman can't easily be fooled. Should I blow my cover and fight back?' Speed contemplated inwardly.

'Shit. I'm almost there. I should have heard the reason why he is looking for our leader. But this woman suddenly interfered!' Speed was getting ready to fight back and flee.

Just when she was about to make a move, they heard a knock outside. The doctor announced his presence because the door was locked.

"Doc, Help!" Speed quickly used this opportunity to ask for help. "Someone is hurt—" she was unable to finish her words because Hanabi covered her mouth instantly.

"Hanabi! Leave her alone okay?! Don't create a scene here. You and I should behave. We are not in our country." Tatsumi advised Hanabi to release Speed, oblivious to the fact Speed was spying on them.

"The doctor is here," Tatsumi added.

Hanabi sighed deeply before letting go of Speed.

"You should apologize to her," Tatsumi urged her.

But Hanabi just shot him a cold sharp glare. She won't apologize as long as this woman hasn't cleared her suspicion yet.

"Fine. Let's ask the doctor if she is one of their staff then," Hanabi said.

Hanabi opened the door, letting the doctor in. As soon as she found the opportunity to flee, Speed made her move. While Hanabi's attention was focused on the doctor, Speed pushed her and ran away as fast as she could.

"Shit! I knew it! She's a spy!" Hanabi cursed inwardly and chased after Speed.

Chapter 583 Why King Stallion Looking For Phantomflake?

Hanabi chased after Speed. But Speed lived up to her name. She ran so fast. Hanabi couldn't catch up with her. Another disadvantage she had was her injury. Stephen hit her with his car.

Though she didn't feel the pain, Hanabi's legs got affected by the impact.

'Damn. Is she a runner?' Hanabi lamented to herself. She already lost her in the crowd. There were lots of people entering and leaving Towerville District Hospital.

Hanabi was now in a bad mood. She shouldn't have released her. She gnashed her teeth and clenched her fists. "Tatsumi, you fool! I shouldn't have listened to him. My gut feeling told me that woman was very suspicious."

Since she could no longer catch Speed, Hanabi just proceeded to the CCTV control room of the hospital. She wondered if they captured Speed's face. She would get her picture and do a background check on her to find out what organization she was affiliated with.

After getting what she needed, Hanabi returned to Tatsumi's ward.

"How is it? Did you catch her?" Tatsumi asked her.

Instead of answering him, Hanabi traced her steps toward his sick bed. Upon reaching his spot, Hanabi smacked Tatsumi's head.

"Aww!" Tatsumi grunted again.

"I told you! She looks suspicious! She was spying on us. You Dimwit!" Hanabi vented out her frustration on Tatsumi.

"Hey, stop hitting my head! Do you really want me to become dumb?" Tatsumi complained, putting on a pitiful face. This was the reason he didn't want Hanabi to be around. She was quite sadistic!

"Can you become gentle and kind even once? This is the reason why you are still single. You are scaring men with your sadistic attitude!" Tatsumi started ranting at her.

"Who said I want men in my life?" Hanabi spat back at him. "I don't need them."

Tatsumi scoffed at her and replied, "Ahuh! Men can make your life happier and sweeter! Hmmm. You will see it once you fall in love. Sigh, I'm glad my lady Jane is not like you. Stay away from her. Don't you dare influence her with your sadistic behavior!"

"No thanks. I already love myself." Hanabi made a hair flip, responding to Tatsumi's provocation. "Hmm. I'll tell Jane that she should think wise if ever she would consider you as her future husband. I guess she will listen to me," Hanabi said, grinning from ear to ear. She was threatening Tatsumi.

"You Evil Woman! If you want to stay single forever then fine. But don't be a hindrance to my love life!" Tatsumi snarled at her. He didn't like her threats at all.

Hanabi just burst out laughing. She already felt better after pissing Tatsumi off. She was in a bad mood a while ago since Speed escaped.

"Anyway. What if the woman who spied on us a while ago is a member of the King Stallion Mafia? I want to commend her if she followed you from Country R to Country M. Now, you are already on their wanted list for creating a big mess in their branches."

"She's a good runner too!" Hanabi added.

"Hmm. That's your task to find out." Tatsumi said, only to be hit again by Hanabi. "Ouch!"

"I'm above you. You can't order me around. I'll only listen to Mr. Kazuki, Our godfather, and Lady Jane," Hanabi sternly said.

"Hey. Don't forget about Miss Abi. She is the youngest daughter of our godfather," Tatsumi reminded her about Abigail's existence.

"Oh right. I want to meet Jane's little sister! I think you can take care of yourself now. I must leave." Hanabi was given another task. Her task was to keep Abigail safe. She would become her personal bodyguard.

Tatsumi felt relieved when Hanabi left. He was glad Hanabi didn't continue pursuing the topic of why he was searching for the Leader of the King Stallion Mafia.

Meanwhile, Speed managed to hide and escape from Hanabi. She was still panting when she dropped by a convenience store. She immediately bought bottled water and drank it in one go.

"Damn! That woman is very sharp. She noticed my presence even though I was just standing outside the door." Speed was amazed by Hanabi's sharpness and her very observant eyes. She thought she wouldn't be able to escape without fighting her.

"Members of the Sawada Clan are one of a kind! I like them. Their extraordinary skills." Speed kept admiring the members of the Sawada Clan.

"Hmm. But at least, I got intel. So the guy is the future leader of the Sawada Clan. His fiancé is the daughter of their leader whose name is Jane." Speed picked up her phone and put the information in her notes. She had this habit of writing down things when getting information from their enemies.

"Sigh. Where should I go now? I didn't bring any money with me." Speed just stole some cash inside the private plane before landing at the airport. She didn't want to inform Phoenix and their King that she was currently in Country M.

Meanwhile, the two men in Speed's mind, Vincent and Phoenix, were currently talking over the phone. Joker's surgery was done. He was already transferred to a private ward. Vincent gave Phoenix some instructions. He wanted Phoenix to ask Vincent about Phantomflake's whereabouts.

When the call ended, Phoenix proceeded to Joker's ward. He made sure to wear a hyper-realistic mask so that Joker wouldn't see his real face. Vincent warned him not to trust Joker completely. They were still cautious because they didn't know where was Joker's loyalty.

Joker was already awake when Phoenix entered the ward.

"Thank you for saving me," Joker expressed his gratitude toward Phoenix.

"No need to thank me. I'm just following my master's order," Phoenix coldly responded. "But if you are truly grateful, then you should tell us everything you know about the Syphiruz Mafia."

"Yes. I will tell you everything that I know. Your Master knows me well. I will always return the favor," Joker reassured him.

"Okay. There is something I want to ask you. Is Phantomflake inside your Medical Facility? Is she sick?"

Joker was taken aback when he heard that. He thought the King Stallion Mafia would be interested first in Syphiruz's operations. He didn't expect them to ask him about Phantomflake's whereabouts.

'Why? Why are they asking me about Phantomflake? What is her relationship with the King Stallion Mafia? I must inform our Supreme Leader about this.'

"I'm not sure if she's back in the facility," Joker responded truthfully. He wasn't aware that Phantomflake was back at the medical facility.

"All I know is that our Supreme Leader bought a villa for her. I can give you the address."

Phoenix shook his head. He didn't need that information. They already knew the address of the villa which was bought by Nathan for Phantomflake.

"If you don't mind, I would like to know why you are looking for her. Did she offend you? Are you going to kill her too?" Joker asked them with intrigue.

But Phoenix refused to answer. "Don't ask me. You should only answer my questions. Now, I want you to give me information about the security system in and out of the Medical Facility of Syphiruz."

Joker got annoyed by Phoenix's rudeness. His attitude pissed him off. But he tried to maintain his cool.

Chapter 584 Protect Phantomflake

To gain King Stallion Mafia's trust, Joker divulged information about the security system of Syphiruz's Medical Facility. It looked like they planned on infiltrating the facility. Was it because of Phantomflake or the truth serum they invented?

'I need to contact Supreme Leader asap,' Joker thought to himself.

He could feel that members of the King Stallion Mafia didn't trust him yet. He could see a hint of distrust in Phoenix's eyes when he gazed at him. He was probably under observation.

"The King recruited me not because he trusts me, but because he wants to use me against the Syphiruz," Joker murmured to himself.

He looked at his surroundings. He wondered if there was a hidden camera inside his ward. Joker took a deep sigh. Fortunately, Nathan gave him a device wherein he could send a message to him without getting caught by the members of King Stallion.

It was a small communication device installed on his watch. 'It's hard to talk if there are guards watching me. Ahuh! I'm glad I recorded our conversation. I will just send this to Supreme Leader.' Joker smiled inwardly.

He grabbed his watch that was placed on the table. Fortunately, Phoenix didn't confiscate his watch. It was an old watch so they didn't suspect anything. Joker just pressed something and the recorded conversation was sent to Nathan's phone.

Meanwhile, Nathan was still in the Syphiruz Headquarters together with Aiden and Axel. Axel and Nathan were discussing their strategy while Aiden listened to them. He was amazed whenever he heard about some operations related to Syphiruz. How wondered how powerful this mafia group was as compared to others.

"Supreme Leader, Are we going to give away some of our operations just to convince the King Stallion Mafia that Joker already changed sides? How about our members? Their safety will be compromised." Axel expressed his concern.

"Don't worry. I will not let them die. We will use our prisoners to work for us. Furthermore, we don't know what the King Stallion Mafia wants from us. Let's wait. If they will start a war, we will retaliate and fight them." Nathan reassured Axel.

"They are already here in Country M. For what reason?" Aiden butted in.

"I'll look into it," Axel volunteered.

"No. Don't do anything reckless. Just let Joker do his job. Just focus on other things, Axel," Nathan assumed that King Stallion Mafia was powerful just like Syphiruz Mafia.

"What are you going to do with Doc Veronica and Marco? We already know their hideouts." Axel consulted Nathan again.

"Just send someone to monitor their every move. We can't touch them now, or else, Joker's mission will be compromised. They might suspect him if we barge into their territory." Nathan was very cautious with his moves. He wanted to ensure that King Stallion Mafia would never know that he was after them.

They were still talking when Nathan's phone beeped. It was the message coming from Joker. Nathan glanced at Axel and Aiden before checking Joker's message. It was a voice recording.

"What is it?" Aiden asked him, his eyes beaming with curiosity.

Axel also stared at him expectantly.

Nathan pressed the play button as they listened to the conversation. A few minutes later, Aiden gasped in surprise.

"OMG! King Stallion Mafia is after Phantomflake as well! How many organizations has she offended?" Aiden reacted exasperatedly.

Axel just stayed silent when he noticed Nathan's grim expression. For some unknown reason, Nathan was emanating a chilly aura. 'Is our Supreme Leader mad? But why?'

Nathan knew that King Stallion was somehow connected to Jane. He even suspected that the leader might be the father of Jane's child.

'The King is looking for Jane. Why?' Nathan was put in deep thought.

There was a moment of silence. Aiden shut his mouth because Nathan was very quiet. Aiden tapped Axel's shoulder, urging him to say something.

"Sir. What are we going to do? They asked Joker about the security system of our Medical Facility. They are planning to infiltrate our facility." Axel spoke up again, breaking the silence.

"We have to move our important equipment and serums. Let them infiltrate our medical facility. I want to catch the mouse." Nathan wanted to know why King Stallion was looking for Jane. Were they going to hurt her?

'I think letting her stay in Zhou's hospital is a good choice. In the meantime, I can't move her back to the facility.'

With those thoughts in mind, Nathan decided to transform one of their secret hideouts and become their new medical facility.

"Axel, please facilitate this. We will transfer some of our items but we will do it discreetly. Our facility might be under their surveillance already. And one more thing..." Nathan paused for a moment. He typed a message for Stephen, telling him to admit Jane to their hospital.

"Send our elite men to Zhou's Hospital. Tell them to protect Phabtomflake. Don't let outsiders enter her private ward." Nathan emphasized his last words.

Aiden and Axel were surprised. They didn't expect Nathan to be so protective of Jane aka Phantomflake.

"Yey! You finally listen to me!" Axel blurted out cheerfully. At least, Nathan started to care about Jane's safety. He even asked Axel to dispatch their elite men who would protect her.

Nathan chose to ignore Aiden's words. "You should go back to your office now, Aiden Wu. You don't have business here anymore."

Aiden pouted his lips. "Ahuh! Since you are done with my company, you are ditching me."

Nathan just rubbed his temples. "I have so many things to do. I don't need a spectator now. Go back to your world, Aiden. This is not a playground for you. Okay?"

"Fine. I'm leaving." Aiden stomped his feet as he stepped out of Nathan's office. But seconds later, he went back.

"Ahem, Nate. I don't have a car. Remember?" Aiden smiled sheepishly.

Nathan just sighed helplessly before turning to Axel. "Axel, can you please drop him to his office?"

"Okay, Sir!" Axel motioned for Aiden to follow him as they said goodbye to Nathan.

When Nathan was finally alone in his office, he leaned his back on his chair and closed his eyes. He felt uneasy because another mafia group was after Jane. He couldn't figure out their motives.

"Why? Why do you want to know Jane's whereabouts? Are you going to rekindle your relationship with her... and reunite with her?" Nathan mumbled, thinking about the leader of the King Stallion.

[At Marco's Hideout...]

An unexpected visitor arrived. Veronica was displeased to see her.

"What are you doing here?" Veronica frowned as she was welcomed by Helena's charming smile. She was standing on the doorstep. Helena's presence alone was enough to piss her off.

"Hello, Sis!" Helena provoked her further as she called her 'Sis'.

"I'm not your sister. Don't call me that."

Helena was greeted by Veronica's unwelcoming aura. But Helena maintained her cheerful mood. She even giggled at her last remarks.

"I'm close to Monica, your sister. I heard a lot of things about you."

Veronica's eyes widened when Monica's name was mentioned.

"Do you know my sister?" Veronica asked her with disbelief.

Helena let out another soft giggle. "Invite me in first. Let's talk about her inside."

Eager to hear her story, Veronica stepped to the side, letting Helena in. Marco was sleeping in his bedroom so they could talk without worrying about Marco overhearing their conversation.

When the two ladies settled down, Veronica assessed Helena. No wonder she could see Monica in her. So this woman knew her sister and they were even close.

'Is she related to King Stallion Mafia? How did she know that I was here? And what is the reason she dropped by?' Veronica mused to herself.

"Will you not offer me some coffee or drinks?" Helena asked her with a teasing smile on her face.

"I'm new here. We don't have any supplies," Veronica coldly responded. "Now talk! How did you know my sister?"

"Have you forgotten? Your sister studied in Country R. My family is from there. We went to the same school. We are friends... best friends!"

Veronica eyed her suspiciously. "Then why didn't you mention it the first time we met?"

"Because you are angry and jealous of me. I know you liked Nathan Sparks a lot. But don't worry, there will be no more engagement between us. Now, can we become friends now?" Helena enjoyed messing and playing with Veronica. This woman was truly clueless about Monica.

'Friends my ass! I don't want to. I hate your arrogance,' Veronica thought to herself.

"Are you related to the person who brought us into this house?" Veronica simply asked her, wondering if Helena would admit that she was connected to King Stallion Mafia.

"Yes, I am. So you have to thank me as well for saving you and getting you out of the Syphiruz Mafia's headquarters."

Veronica was stunned when she heard that. 'Does she also know that Nathan is the leader of the Syphiruz Mafia? Damn! Who is she?!'

Chapter 585 Random Memories Each Day

Day Sixty-Five...

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[At Zhou's Hospital...]

Stephen received Nathan's message, asking him to get a VIP ward for Jane. Jane was done with her check-up. The nurse took her blood sample for further examination. Another Brain CT scan was conducted. Aside from that, they also did an MRI scan.

They needed to figure out the cause of why she hadn't regained consciousness yet. Ethan and Cherry stayed in the ward. Meanwhile, Stephen was talking to his father inside his office.

"How long are we going to read the result, Dad?" Stephen couldn't wait to find out Jane's condition. She recovered her strength and she appeared to be healthy. How could she collapse? Was it because of fatigue? Did the hypnosis session strain her further?

"Calm down, son. We will find out soon." Dr. Zhou was surprised to see his son worrying too much about a woman. This was not a simple doctor-patient relationship.

"Son, what is she to you?" Dr. Zhou decided to confront his son.

Stephen was not able to respond right away. He didn't expect his father to confront him like that. Was he going to remind him that a romantic relationship between a doctor and his patient was forbidden? It was part of the Ethical Guidelines.

"Dad, don't worry. I know my boundaries." Stephen responded with a serious expression on his face.

Dr. Zhou just held his shoulder, tapping it gently. "Relax son. I'm not here to judge or stop you. I'm just curious if this woman holds a special place in your heart. I have never seen you like this. You are very worried about her."

Stephen looked at his father with grateful eyes. "Dad... I—" He couldn't say it out loud. But deep inside, he knew the answer to that question.

"It's okay, son. No need to answer me. Your expression alone is enough. Your eyes already give away the answer." Dr. Zhou patted his back again.

"Anyway, son, I'll call you once I get the result. I'll inform you right away."

"Thanks, Dad. I'll go and check on her. Ethan and Cherry are also there waiting for me."

After saying goodbye to his father, Stephen proceeded to Jane's ward.

On the other hand, Ethan went to the rooftop so that he could talk to Bam-Bam. This fluffy magical creature had been sticking by Jane's side for the past few days as if he were guarding her. He was the one who put her in a deep slumber so he needed to be there just in case something would happen to her.

"Bam-Bam, is my mom okay? I can't wait for her to wake up. Can you lessen the days? Can you wake her up after five days instead of seven days?" Ethan pleaded.

"Patience, Little Kiddo. I thought you also wanted to see how your Dad reacted in her absence." Bam-Bam flew around Ethan. He was just amazed that this kid could see him. He wouldn't be bored alone. He could talk to this charming little boy anytime. And Ethan was the only one who could hear him.

Ethan facepalmed at the mention of his father. "I'm losing faith in my father. I don't think we will get the result that we want from him. He is dumb and foolish!" He lamented.

"See! He transferred the obligation to Uncle Stephen. He allowed Mom to stay here, instead of our Medical Facility." Ethan sounded annoyed. He was oblivious of the fact, that Nathan just wanted to protect Jane from the threat of King Stallion Mafia.

Bam-Bam heaved a deep sigh. Ethan had a point. "Let's see. Today is just the second day of her sleep. We still have five days ahead."

But Ethan shook his head and wagged his forefinger in front of Bam-Bam. "You counted it wrong, Bam-Bam! Today is her third day. Only four days left."

Bam-Bam glanced at Ethan, puzzled and confused. "Eh, why the third day?"

"Mom collapsed in the hospital two days ago. The count should start that day." Ethan corrected Bam-Bam. He was trying to save one day of Jane without Bam-Bam's knowledge.

"Eh? Is that so?" Bam-Bam scratched the back of his head. He seemed convinced by Ethan's words. "Alright then. I'm not good with Mathematics and Arithmetic... so fine... I will consider today as her third day. I'll set the date of her awakening."

Ethan smiled inwardly. He just tricked Bam-Bam and the magical creature was clueless.

"Bam-Bam, I have another question. Is Mom really in a coma state? If I talk to her in her sleep, can she hear me?"

Bam-Bam shook his head. "No. Probably not."

"But why? Is her subconscious not active? Is her mind asleep too?" Ethan asked him, pursing his lips in a cute manner.

'This little kid is behaving like an angel today. He is not intimidating and frightening as compared to before.' Bam-Bam thought to himself. He had the urge to pet Ethan's head.

"Hmm, her mind and subconscious are busy. I think my Master is slowly recovering her lost memory in the past." Bam-Bam informed him.

"Lost memory?" Ethan frowned.

Bam-Bam bobbed his head. "Yes. The memories that were erased from her mind by your Uncle Stephen. I mean... the memories he sealed in her subconscious."

Ethan blinked several times and gazed at Bam-Bam suspiciously. "Bam-Bam? Is this your work too? Did you put her to sleep so that she can recover some of her lost memories? Are you helping my mom to remember those things?"

Ethan started to see Bam-Bam in another light. It looked like he misjudged him. He could feel that Bam-Bam was trying to help Jane in his own mysterious way.

"Thank you, Bam-Bam!"

Bam-Bam just feigned innocence. He didn't want to admit that he was helping Jane. "I think this is just fate," he simply replied. "Everything will be revealed at the right time."

Ethan agreed to Bam-Bam. "I trust you, Bam-Bam. I know you won't let my mom die."

"Eh?! Don't say that! Don't trust me on that. Don't pressure me, little kid. Even though you are charming, I won't be easily swayed by you." Bam-Bam covered his ears.

Ethan just giggled and grabbed Bam-Bam. He pulled him into a hug as if he was hugging a teddy bear. He even planted a soft kiss on his cheek. "I'm counting on you, Bam-Bam."

Bam-Bam closed his eyes. Ethan was trying to charm him. 'No way! I can't give in to this cute child.'

As Bam-Bam and Ethan conversed, Jane was also recalling her memories just like what Bam-Bam had said. But she could only recall some random memories per day.

[In Jane's Subconscious...]

Jane felt like she was watching a movie in her head. But this time the main character was her. It was like she was unfolding her life in front of her.

She just learned the reason why she failed her mission. The leader of King Stallion used Sizzling August's identity. This was the reason she hesitated to complete her mission.

At that moment, she was swayed by Vincent's words. Not only by his words but also by his actions. She wanted to confirm his identity and Vincent had proven to her that he was indeed the Sizzling August that she knew.

[***Flashback***]

When Jane recovered from her stupor, she decided to dig for more information.

"Sizzling August? What a unique name. Is your first name Sizzling and your surname is August?" Jane tried to recover her composure.

Vincent let out a husky laugh because of her joke. But he wanted to commend her. She recovered quickly as if she was not shaken by his revelation. She was able to conceal her emotions.

"I really like you," Vincent mumbled in her ear, tightening his grip on her waist. They were still dancing. "I didn't expect that you have a great sense of humor."

Jane didn't want to trust him completely. But mentioning Sizzling August made her stop her plan of using the poison needle.

"I heard that name. Are you the great hacker, Sizzling August?" Jane started to verify his identity. What if it was just a coincidence? He might be using the same alias.

Vincent smirked mischievously. He could tell that he already caught her attention. 'She started asking me about Sizzling August. She is interested in him.'

"Okay. I'll tell you this. But keep this a secret. I'm the great hacker, Sizzling August. Why do you know me? Are you one of my mentees or my fans?"

Jane frowned when she heard that. "Liar. You are an impostor." She pushed him away.

But Vincent was quick enough to figure out what he had said wrong. "I'm sorry. I'm just trying to impress you. To tell you the truth... I only have one mentee. Her name is Shining Star. But we've lost contact as I deactivated my account."

Jane was at a loss for words. Mentioning Shining Star made her believe him more. 'He knows me. He can remember me.'

Jane lost her composure again. Vincent grabbed this chance to strike again. He loved playing mind games with her. Her expression alone gave him a sense of fulfillment.

He closed their gaps again and lifted her chin. "Why are you giving such a look? Don't tell me... you are Shining Star?"

"Yes... I'm her." After saying that Jane threw a punch, hitting him hard on his stomach.

"Argh!" Vincent groaned in pain. He was caught off guard by that sudden punch.

'Damn! She punched me hard.' Vincent lamented inwardly.

"You deserve this," Jane coldly said, looking daggers at him.

Vincent was stupefied by her sharp gaze. He could feel her anger. She was mad.

'Damn! She looks prettier and hot when mad. I like her fierce-looking eyes.'

Chapter 586 The Face Of King Stallion Leader?

[In Jane's Subconscious...]

Vincent was caught off guard by Jane's violent reaction. He didn't expect her to punch him hard. He thought she would excitedly accept him with open arms after knowing he was Sizzling August, her virtual friend, and her mentor.

This was the price he got for pretending to be someone else whom he was not. Jane was about to walk away when Vincent hastily grabbed her elbow thus stopping her.

"Where are you going? We've just reunited. You can't leave." Vincent said, a cheeky smile plastered on the corners of his lips.

Jane shot him a cold sharp glare. She was upset with him and mad because this guy just disappeared like a bubble without saying goodbye to her.

And who would have thought that her virtual friend was a leader of the King Stallion Mafia? She felt the need to abort this mission and leave. She couldn't kill him.

She knew that her identity might be compromised if she continued staying there. However, Vincent was not yet done messing around with her. He was enjoying this interaction with her.

'You can't escape from me,' Vincent thought to himself.

"Let go," Jane said sternly.

"I want to apologize for ghosting you. You can punch me again. But please stay longer." Vincent faced her as he released her hand. He urged her to punch him again if this was the only way to pacify her.

Jane gazed at him from top to bottom. She raised her hand, throwing another punch at his face. Vincent just closed his eyes, waiting for her fist to hit him. But seconds had passed, he didn't feel any pain.

He opened his eyes again and met Jane's intense gaze. She just stood there silently observing him. Vincent's heart skipped a beat for some unknown reason.

'Why is she looking at me like that?' Vincent didn't know why he suddenly felt conscious with her penetrating gaze.

"Explain," Jane coldly said.

"But promise me that you will stay longer. We have a lot of things to catch up on." Vincent smiled at her.

Jane arched her eyebrow and said, "I'll stay depending on your explanation. I will listen first."

Vincent held her hand and pulled her to the bench. The two sat down together. Vincent was silent for a moment as he was thinking of the best explanation he could give her. He didn't know why Nathan stopped communicating with her.

"I know no excuses will make you forgive me for what I've done. It's just that... I have to deactivate my account. I focused on leading my people. Again, I apologize for my actions. But I have never forgotten you, Shining Star. I didn't expect that fate would bring us here together."

Jane didn't say a word. She just reminisced about the past. She could understand if he became busy because he was leading a big organization such as King Stallion Mafia.

Since Jane didn't say a word, an idea popped up in his mind. "Do you want to play with me... for old times' sake."

Vincent believed that playing with her would convince her more about his identity.

Jane frowned at his suggestion. "We don't have computers here."

"I can make it happen with just one call," Vincent replied, smiling cheekily at her.

"Flexing your power and influence," Jane murmured.

"Huh? What did you say?" Vincent heard that she said something. However, her voice was so low that he couldn't hear clearly.

"Nothing," Jane shrugged her shoulders.

Vincent let out a husky laugh before calling someone. After a few seconds, three men in black suits arrived. One was holding two laptops while the others were holding a table.

They set them up in front of Jane and Vincent. The two started switching on their respective laptops. The two began playing their usual online game.

Jane was amazed because this guy hadn't changed a bit when it came to his gameplay. Vincent defeated her twice but she won against him once. They lost track of time.

After playing five rounds, the two finally stopped. "Are you hungry?" Vincent closed her laptop.

Jane still couldn't believe that the Sizzling August she had been looking for was now with her. Vincent made another call, asking his men to bring some food from the banquet.

"Shall I call you Star? While you can call me August." Vincent suggested. They refused to divulge their first name. Vincent was still cautious of her. He knew how capable Jane was. She could be as deadly as him— a dangerous assassin.

"Fine. Let's do that."

It did not take long before their food was served. Vincent even ordered his men to secure the garden, not allowing anyone to enter. He wanted to be alone with Jane.

He started a new conversation with her. "Do you have any plans tomorrow?"

"I'm going back to Country M," Jane informed him. She had no reason to stay there.

Vincent's expression changed when he heard that. He was reluctant to let her leave.

"Why? Can't you spend more time here... with me? I'm going to tour you around the city. Or do you prefer beaches and mountains?" Vincent consulted her. He was begging her to stay.

Jane was contemplating whether to accept his invitation or not. But after a while, Jane stood up. It's time for her to go. "I'm glad to finally meet you, August. But I'm sorry. I can't stay here for long."

A faint smile could be seen on her face. She was sincere when she said those words. She felt relieved now knowing that he was safe and sound. Sizzling August was alive. Nothing bad happened to him.

Vincent was stunned once again when he saw her smile. He felt like he was being mesmerized by her emerald eyes. He couldn't take his eyes off her.

Vincent also stood up. He could sense that Jane was planning to leave. He just found himself pulling Jane into a hug.

Jane's body stiffened the moment she was engulfed by Vincent's arms. She didn't know if she wanted to push him away or just stay still. In the end, Jane just let him embrace her.

A few minutes later, Vincent broke the hug and he looked at her intently. "We will meet each other again. Let's keep in touch."

Jane just bobbed her head. "Okay."

She was about to leave but Vincent blocked her way once again.

"What now?" Jane asked him with disbelief. It seemed that Vincent had no plan of letting her leave.

"I want to see your face. Can we remove our masks?" Vincent suggested.

Jane was at a loss for words for a moment. She was also curious to find out what he looked like.

"May I?" Vincent moved closer to her, asking her permission to remove her mask. Their faces were just a few inches away from each other, almost kissing each other.

Jane raised her hands, placing them on his chest. She stopped him from getting closer to her. He was already invading her personal space.

Instead of staying away, Vincent grabbed her hands, guiding them to his face.

"You can remove my mask first," he said, trying to make her feel comfortable. He would respect her decision if she didn't want to show her face. Besides, he had already seen her picture. He did all sorts of background checks on her. But he had to pretend that this was the first time he would see her face.

Technically, this would be his first time seeing her face up close. He just wished Jane would allow him to see her face. He already made all the necessary preparations for this meet-up.

On the other hand, Jane just looked at him with an indescribable expression on her face. Her eyes were fixed on his face which was covered with his masquerade mask.

Jane who was witnessing and recalling this memory couldn't wait to unmask Vincent. "Take off his mask. This is your opportunity to find out his identity." Jane was talking to herself.

She thought that recalling this memory would help her uncover more truths about her past. Did she fall in love with the leader of the King Stallion just because he introduced himself as Sizzling August?

'Why do I feel like Nathan and I experienced the same thing? Monica stole my identity as Shining Star. And now, this King stole Nathan's identity as Sizzling August.'

There were lots of questions in Jane's mind right now.

'How did he know that I was Shining Star? Did he intentionally use Sizzling August to lure me? Is this a trap? How did he know my relationship with Sizzling August? Who is this man?'

As Jane asked those questions, she kept watching herself in her subconscious as she began to remove Vincent's mask. Her heart was filled with anticipation. This was the moment of truth. Who is the King? Jane slowly removed Vincent's mask, revealing his face to her.

Her mind went blank the moment she saw that face in her subconscious.

'What the hell is this?! Nathan? Why am I seeing Nathan's face?'

Jane couldn't understand why she was seeing Nathan's face in her memory. 'No way... what is the meaning of this?'

Something was not right. Was her memory distorted? Why was she seeing Nathan's face? How could he become the leader of the King Stallion Mafia?

Little did she know, Vincent was a master of tricks. His schemes were not simple. He could deceive her as long as he knew her weaknesses. He would grab every opportunity to take advantage of his target.

Chapter 587 Amusing Woman

[In Jane's Subconscious...]

Jane tried to calm herself down and gather her emotions. She couldn't think clearly if she would let her emotions affect her. She needed to clear her mind and figure out why her memory was showing Nathan's face.

'Wait. If he is not Nathan's long-lost twin brother, then I suspect that the leader of King Stallion used a hyper-realistic mask.' This idea came to her mind as she recalled the scheme Helena and Karina did to Dave and Abigail just to deceive them.

'Damn it! The King didn't let me see his true face! He is a master of disguise.' Jane cursed inwardly. Her heart was filled with rage. Now she couldn't blame Nathan for believing Monica when she stole her identity. Just like him, she believed Vincent's lies.

She felt ashamed of herself when she allowed herself to be deceived by the leader of King Stallion Mafia. 'He is very cunning. A dangerous man. What was his motive for approaching me? Why do I feel like my mission to assassinate the leader of King Stallion was just a trap?'

Jane's subconscious continued to replay some of her memories related to King.

Vincent smiled at her faintly. Then he asked her again. "May I see your face, Star?"

Unable to resist Vincent's charm, Jane finally gave in. She committed another mistake. Removing her mask was a sign that she started to trust him. The smile on Vincent's face never left as he watched Jane slowly take off her mask.

'She's indeed stunning,' Vincent thought to himself, his gaze fixed on her beautiful face. He reflexively raised his hand, reaching out to caress her cheek.

"You're so beautiful. Do you know that?" Vincent complimented her. He couldn't stop himself from touching her.

Unknown to them, one guard was secretly watching them as per the order of their Lady, Vincent's woman. He received an order from their young mistress to watch Vincent since she was not around. This banquet would be filled with so many women who would try to approach her man.

Without Vincent's knowledge, she commanded her loyal guard to spy on Vincent and report everything to her. She was one obsessed woman.

'Oh no! Our young mistress won't like this. I have to inform her. Her man is flirting with another woman.' The guard secretly took photos of Jane and Vincent, sending them to his Lady Boss.

Meanwhile, Jane tried to fight Vincent's temptation. She distanced herself from him. This was just their first time meeting each other, but Sizzling August was getting intimate with her. He kept invading her personal space.

"I have to go now." Jane was fighting her desire to be with Sizzling August. Part of her wanted to spend more time with him but she couldn't ignore the danger sign of staying there for long. She gatecrashed the party.

"Please... Let me send you back home," Vincent refused to let her go. He even grabbed her hand as he begged her.

"You are a very persistent guy. You disappeared and stopped contacting me. But now, you are sticking with me like glue." Jane scoffed at him.

Her last remarks made him chuckle once more. He loved talking with her. She was hot and cold. "How can I not stick with you? You are like a goddess. The most beautiful woman I have ever seen in my entire life."

Jane's eyebrows twitched together in a deep frown. "I didn't know that you have a sweet tongue. This is not your personality. This is so unlike you. Are you really Sizzling August?" Jane started to doubt him again because of his playful and flirty attitude. Sizzling August had never done this before. He was always serious, except for teasing her whenever she would lose against him.

Vincent bit his lower lip instantly when he realized his mistake. He should be pretending to be Nathan. But he couldn't help showing his playful attitude with her.

Vincent tried to redeem himself as he put on a serious face. His cheeky smile was long gone. "I'm sorry. I'm just nervous because this is our first time meeting each other. I am trying to impress you. I'm not good at dealing with women."

Jane recalled that Nathan also told her this in their chats. Nathan told her that she was his first-ever friend who was a woman. He never interacted with women before.

As Jane remembered that, she couldn't stop herself from giggling. Her soft giggles bubbled up in the garden, making Vincent's heart skip again. Her laughter was like a piece of music in his ears. It was a pure laughter.

"Okay. Let's leave." Jane finally agreed to let Vincent send her home tonight.

Vincent's eyes lit up when he heard that. "Sure."

He grabbed her hand once more and pulled her toward the parking area. He would drive the car himself. He glanced at his men meaningfully, telling them to stay behind.

Upon reaching his sports car, he opened the car door for Jane.

"Wow, I like your car," Jane said with amusement.

Vincent chuckled before saying, "I can give you this one."

Jane blinked her eyes several times, looking at her in disbelief. "Are you flexing your wealth to me?"

"No! I just want to impress you, my Lady!" Vincent cheerfully responded as he pinched her nose.

"Hey! Don't pinch my nose!" Jane punched him as she complained.

"Ouch! You punch so hard, do you know that?" Vincent put on a pitiful face, pretending to be hurt.

Jane could only sigh helplessly. "Don't be so dramatic. Let's go." She entered the car without waiting for him. But she chose the driver's side, not the passenger seat.

"Oops! That's my spot, my Lady!" Vincent scratched his face as he looked at her with disbelief. "I'm your driver tonight," he added.

But Jane shook her head. "No. Let me drive."

"For goodness's sake, you are wearing heels." Vincent was trying to recover his original spot from her. But Jane was so stubborn. She wouldn't let him drive.

Vincent had no choice but to gently pull her out of the driver's seat. But Jane tugged his hands forcefully, making Vincent fall forward. They ended up bumping their heads at each other.

"Ouch!"

"Oh. I'm sorry!" Vincent immediately checked on her forehead, ignoring his own head. He gently rubbed her and blew some air at her reddened forehead. Jane's body stiffened because of their closeness.

It did not take long before Vincent also realized how close their bodies and faces were. He looked down and his eyes fell on her lips. Her lips were red and kissable, tempting him to taste them. He was supposed to flirt with her and take the lead. But for some unknown reason, he was the one getting affected by her presence. He should control himself.

'Vincent. Stop. Take it easy. You are going to scare her away.' He reminded himself.

But his warning didn't take effect as he could no longer stop his desire. Jane looked so alluring that he couldn't resist her beauty. She was like a magnet drawing him closer to her.

"Why are you so gorgeous?" Vincent whispered sensually, his eyes not leaving her lips. His hand started to lift her chin, his thumb caressing her lower lip. Desire could be seen in Vincent's eyes as he looked at her intently.

Jane was about to say something when suddenly Vincent sealed her mouth, capturing her lips with his lips. She was flabbergasted when she felt his warm lips brushing hers. She felt like he was taking advantage of her innocence. This was her first time to be kissed by a guy.

As her protective instinct kicked in, Jane threw a punch, hitting Vincent in his stomach. He groaned and drew back, breaking the kiss. Unknown to them, that kiss was captured again by the guard who kept on spying on them.

"How dare you kiss me?!" Jane kicked him out of the car. Then she covered her lips, eyeing Vincent with her blazing eyes.

Vincent was still trying to recover from that impact when he met Jane's angry eyes.

"Hey, calm down. Don't tell me that's your first kiss?" Vincent asked her skeptically.

Jane didn't answer him but her expression alone already gave away the answer. Vincent felt amused as he stared at her. He didn't know if he should say sorry or not. But part of him was rejoicing thinking that he was the first guy who kissed her.

Jane, on the other hand, slammed the door closed and started the car, leaving Vincent behind. She was annoyed because she failed to avoid Vincent's bold move. In the end, she went home alone.

Vincent could only watch the speeding car until it vanished from his sight. He traced his lips as he reminisced the softness of her lips, his eyes sparkling with joy. 'What an amusing woman she is? This is so fun. I love playing with her.' Vincent let out a husky laugh.

Chapter 588 Giving Them His Blessings

Day Sixty-Six...

~*****~

[At Greenbelt District Hospital...]

Mr. Hiroshi and Hanabi visited Dave in the hospital. Mr. Hiroshi would like to introduce Hanabi as Jane's childhood friend. Aside from that, Hanabi would serve as her bodyguard who would keep her safe at all times.

Abigail was feeding Dave with porridge when the two entered the room. Dave was surprised to see Abigail's father. Deep inside, he was nervous when facing Mr. Hiroshi. He didn't look like an ordinary person.

Abigail's status had changed. She was a heiress of the Yan Family. The Hiroshi Family appeared to be powerful and influential too as he heard that they came from Country J. This was one of Dave's insecurities. Unlike her, Dave only had an ordinary background. He was an orphan. No family at all.

'Will Abigail's father accept me?' Dave questioned himself. He wanted to propose to Abigail already but he must talk to Mr. Hiroshi first.

Meanwhile, Abigail put down the porridge and stood up, greeting her father. She hugged him.

"Dad, you're here. Why didn't you inform me that you would drop by?" Abigail shifted her gaze from her father to the lady beside him. She gave her a faint smile. "Who is she, Dad?"

"This is Hanabi, your sister's childhood friend from Country J. Hanabi, this is my second daughter, Abigail. I hope you will get along well." Mr. Hiroshi introduced the two together.

"Hello, Abi. I'm glad to finally meet you. I can also be your big sister," Hanabi greeted her with a smile. She looked so friendly today compared to her usual cold and indifferent aura. She seldom mingles with others. She didn't have a lot of friends. She was the opposite of Tatsumi's personality, who was cheerful and lively.

"Thanks, Hanabi. I am so happy to have another big sister, aside from my sister. Welcome to Country M." Abigail also approached her and gave her a quick hug.

"By the way, this is Dave. My daughter's good friend," Mr. Hiroshi spoke again.

Dave was about to say hello when Abigail butted in. "Dad, he is my boyfriend." She corrected her father.

Mr. Hiroshi and Hanabi exchanged glances with one another.

Dave said hello to them, feeling a little bit embarrassed. Mr. Hiroshi and Hanabi were surprised by that sudden revelation. It seemed that it was the right time to officially introduce himself as Abigail's boyfriend.

"Mr. Hiroshi, if you will allow me, may I have a few minutes of your time? There is something I wanna talk to you." Dave politely requested Mr. Hiroshi.

Mr. Hiroshi nodded his head in response. "Sure." Mr. Hiroshi turned to his daughter and Hanabi. "Abi, can you tour Hanabi around while I'm talking to Dave?"

Abigail hesitated for a moment. She wanted to be there. What if her father disapproves of her relationship with Dave? She was anxious. But Dave gave her a reassuring smile.

Abigail could only sigh in defeat as she bobbed her head. "Okay." She felt like she was being an outcast. She was curious about what the two men would be talking about.

Hanabi just tapped Abigail's shoulder as they stepped out of the room. "Don't worry. Your father will not eat your boyfriend alive. He will not do something that will upset his daughter. He dotes on you so much."

Abigail let out a soft giggle because of her remarks. "Thanks, Hanabi for making me feel at ease."

"You are always welcome. Anyway. Where are we going to go?" Hanabi asked her.

Abigail had only one place in mind. She hadn't settled a score yet with Helena. "Actually, I want to meet someone. Can you accompany me?"

"I'm at your service," Hanabi promptly responded. "Lead the way!"

The two ladies left the hospital to search for Helena. Abigail thought she was still staying in the hotel so they proceeded there.

Meanwhile, inside Dave's ward, Mr. Hiroshi was now sitting beside his sick bed. He could feel Dave's anxiousness.

"C'mon son, relax. I'm not a villain here." Mr. Hiroshi spoke up first to break the tension.

Dave was taken aback when Mr. Hiroshi called him 'son'. He felt like his face blushed and he swooned because of that statement. I think you should take a look at

"Sir... as you all know, I'm not from a rich family. I can't match Nathan Sparks. Mr. Sparks will be your ideal son-in-law. I only have this job... as a policeman. I know I don't have much to offer. But I want you to know that I love your daughter so much... more than my life. I will do my best to make her happy. Please... give us your blessings." Dave bowed his head.

There was a moment of silence. Mr. Hiroshi didn't speak right away as he continued to assess Dave's expression. Dave spoke with sincerity and Mr. Hiroshi could feel that. After a while, Mr. Hiroshi held Dave's shoulder.

"I don't need a rich man for my daughters. As long as this guy can protect them and will cherish them like how I cherish them, then I will never stop them from loving each other. I heard from Jane how you protected Abi even during her childhood years. Dave... as long as my daughter loves you back, then you will have my blessings. I am not against your relationship. You have my support."

Dave was at a loss for words when he heard that. He felt like a heavy burden had been lifted from his chest. He got worried for nothing. Mr. Hiroshi was very kind and understanding. He suddenly got emotional because he didn't expect to get Mr. Hiroshi's approval and blessings right away.

"Thank you, Sir! Thank you so much." Dave couldn't contain his happiness. He could only thank him for accepting him as Abigail's boyfriend. "I promise I will treasure her and will protect her always. I will do anything for her."

Mr. Hiroshi chuckled and patted his shoulder. "You know what? You have a great backer. Jane likes you. I guess she is already eyeing you to be her brother-in-law."

Dave was flattered. 'I owed her a lot. I wonder when she is coming back. I want to thank her personally.' Dave thought to himself. He heard that Jane had gone abroad for a business trip.

"Son, I also want to grab this opportunity to thank you. When I couldn't be by her side, you were there for her. You served as her family. You never let her feel alone. I owe you a lot." Mr. Hiroshi also expressed his heartfelt gratitude toward Dave.

"I just did what my heart told me to do. I love her and I care for her. She also completed me. My life wouldn't be meaningful without her. I'm glad I met her." Dave felt surreal as he recalled how he met Abigail in the orphanage. Since young, she already caught his attention. He always had a crush on her.

Dave told Mr. Hiroshi how their friendship started and how it bloomed into love. Mr. Hiroshi was glad to hear more childhood experiences of Abigail. He wasn't there to watch over her. He would make sure to thank Abigail's adoptive parents, the Scarlett Family.

"Don't call me sir anymore. Just call me, Dad, okay?" Mr. Hiroshi was removing the formality between them. He wanted Dave to feel comfortable while talking to him.

Dave didn't know what to say. He just felt grateful for this. "Sir... I mean Dad... Honestly, I'm planning to propose to Abigail. Please give me your consent."

"Oh, No. You can't marry her yet!" Mr. Hiroshi blurted out with a straight face.

Dave was tongue-tied because of that. He thought Mr. Hiroshi would give him consent already to propose to Abigail. Why was he objecting now?

"May I know the reason why, Dad?" Dave braced himself, his heart pounding rapidly inside his chest.

"Hmm. I have just reunited with my daughters. I want to pamper them and treat them as my princesses. I don't think I'm ready to marry them off. But if I have to do it, then I want my eldest daughter to marry first. Sigh. She is not getting younger anymore." Mr. Hiroshi responded matter-of-factly.

Dave: "..."

He didn't know what to say. From a father's point of view, he could understand Mr. Hiroshi's sentiment.

'Does it mean I will not be able to marry Abigail yet unless Jane gets married first?' Dave had conflicting thoughts about it. Could he really wait that long? He didn't even know if Jane had a boyfriend or not.

"Uhm... Dad, I just want to ask... Does Miss Jane have someone she likes?" Dave asked him. Then he scratched his face. "I wonder when she will get married too," he added, smiling sheepishly.

'So that you will allow me to marry Abigail.' Dave didn't say it out loud.

Mr. Hiroshi rubbed his chin. "Yes. She likes someone. It's Nathan Sparks."

Dave: "..."

Dave was rendered speechless again.

"But the problem is... Nathan is in love with her sister, Abigail. So I don't think she will get married this year."

There was another moment of silence when Mr. Hiroshi made his last remarks.

"But I know someone who wants to marry my daughter. Kazuki's son, Tatsumi." Mr. Hiroshi was observing Dave's expression as he smiled inwardly. He was just teasing him. He won't stop him from

proposing to Abigail. He even noticed the hopeful look in Dave's eyes when he heard about Tatsumi as if he was hoping that Jane would get married soon.

It did not take long before Mr. Hiroshi's laughter bubbled up inside the ward. "Dave, don't feel dejected and disheartened. I was just kidding. You can propose to Abigail anytime."

Chapter 589 Chaos In Vincent's Villa

After leaving Greenbelt District Hospital, Abigail and Hanabi headed to the hotel where Helena was previously staying. They found out that Helena already checked out and was no longer staying there.

"I'm sorry, Ma'am, but Miss Helena Carlsen is no longer here." The front desk staff informed Abigail and Hanabi.

"She's not here. Where do you think we can find her?" Hanabi asked Abigail curiously. She didn't have any idea as to why Abigail was looking for this woman.

"Maybe she is with her fiancé," Abigail said. "I know his place. Let's go there."

Abigail and Hanabi didn't waste any more time as they proceeded to Vincent's villa. Abigail was the one driving the car. Hanabi decided to ask her about Helena.

"Who is this Helena?"

Abigail's expression turned grim at the mention of her name. "She is my friend. Well, not anymore. She did something despicable. Dave and I almost broke up because of her. My sister told me not to trust her. She is a schemer."

"I regretted trusting her. I failed to see through her lies. She is good at manipulating people."

When Hanabi heard how Abigail described Helena, she started hating that woman. "I hate people like that. Manipulative people should be punished."

Abigail agreed as she bobbed her head. "Yes. That's why I'm meeting her. I need to settle some score. I almost lost Dave."

"Don't worry, Abi. I have your back! If you need me to beat her, I'm willing to give you a helping hand." Hanabi promptly responded.

Abigail let out a soft giggle. "Thanks, Hanabi. From now on, you are one of my friends. I'm going to introduce you to Santra and Ana. They are my manager and assistant. You will like them for sure."

"It will be my pleasure to be your friend. I can also be your big sis."

Hanabi and Abigail were getting along very well. Half an hour later, the two reached Vincent's villa. One thing Hanabi noticed upon their arrival was the tight security in the vicinity. There are lots of guards and CCTV cameras around.

'Hmm, my gut feeling is telling me that the owner of this villa has so many things to hide.' Hanabi kept observing the place with her sharp eyes.

The guard asked them their identities before letting them in. They just parked their car near the entrance gate. One maid welcomed them, guiding them to the pool area. Helena was sitting there leisurely, wearing her two-piece swimsuit. She was also enjoying some cocktail drinks.

The housemaid let her know of their presence. "Madam, Miss Abigail is here to see you."

Helena removed her sunglasses and put her glass down as she turned in Abigail's direction. She frowned when she saw another woman standing next to Abigail. But she immediately concealed her other emotions by flashing her fake smile.

"Hi, Abi!" She waved her hand as she motioned for them to come over.

Abigail clenched her fists because Helena could still smile at her despite what she had done.

'She is a hypocrite! Such a faker,' Abigail mumbled inwardly.

Without further ado, Abigail traced her steps toward her. Helena opened her arms, thinking Abigail was going to hug her. But to her dismay, instead of a hug, Abigail slapped her.

Pak!

Helena's eyes set ablaze when Abigail's hand landed on her right cheek. She didn't see this coming. She cursed her and yelled.

"Damn you! How dare you slap me?" Helena was not able to control her rage. This woman was bold enough to hurt her.

Helena was going to slap her back but Hanabi intervened. She grabbed Helena's wrist, protecting Abigail from her slap. "You don't have the right to slap my little sis," Hanabi said, tightening the grip on Helena's wrist.

Helena winced in pain. "Let me go! Guards!!!" Helena yelled, asking for the guards. Then she faced Abigail with her bloodshot eyes. "Why did you slap me?"

"Because you deserve it! I will no longer believe your lies. You were the one who helped Karina, trying to destroy my relationship with Dave. I will never forgive you, Helena! Who would have thought that you were a bitch?!"

Hanabi giggled. She wanted to commend Abigail for her last remarks. She didn't filter her words. 'Haha! I like her fighting spirit and boldness. Go Abi. Don't let her bully you. Show her what you've got.'

Hanabi was enjoying this show. She even gave Helena a mocking smile.

Meanwhile, Helena was stunned for a moment. She never had imagined that this day would come. Abigail finally found her true colors.

'How did she find out about my involvement in that incident?' Helena mused to herself. But since Abigail discovered the truth, she didn't need to act friendly in front of her. But of course, she would not admit that she had something to do with it. I think you should take a look at

"I don't know what you are talking about. Did you just come here to assault me? I'll sue you!" Helena threatened her.

Abigail shook her head as she watched her with ridiculing eyes. "You won't even admit to your wrongdoings. You don't even have any plans to apologize to me or explain why you did it. You disgusted me, Helena."

"Do you think you can just leave here without me getting my revenge?" Helena yanked her arm away from Hanabi. Soon, three guards approached them.

"Madam, what is happening here?" One guard asked Helena.

"Capture them!" Helena ordered the guards, pointing her forefinger at Abigail and Hanabi.

Hearing Helena's command, the three guards moved. They were about to hold Abigail in place when Hanabi blocked them. Before they could even get near Abigail, Hanabi already threw an uppercut, hitting one guard.

Then she swung her right leg, kicking the other guy. The man fell back from the impact. Seeing how his two comrades were hit by Hanabi, the third guard charged in Hanabi's direction, grabbing her by her collar. He was about to punch her when Abigail pulled his hair, dragging him away from Hanabi.

"Nice move, little sis. But you have to stay back," Hanabi said, flashing her evil smile. She immediately threw another punch, hitting the man at his jaw. Abigail heard a cracking sound. It was a hard punch coming from Hanabi.

'OMG. She's good at fist-to-fist combat!' Abigail couldn't help but be amazed and admire Hanabi's fighting skills.

Meanwhile, Helena became more annoyed because Hanabi was beating the three guards alone.

'Damn! This woman came prepared. Did she bring a lady bodyguard from the Yan Family or Sawada Clan?'

As Abigail was distracted, Helena grabbed that opportunity to grab her. She also pulled her hair. She could no longer tolerate this woman. She had been slapped twice- First was Phantomflake. And now, it's Abigail. She would no longer pretend to be a kindhearted woman. She was a war freak too!

Abigail elbowed Helena and tried to remove her hand from grasping her hair. As they fought, the two ladies fell into the pool.

Splash!

"Abi!"

"Madam!"

One guard was going to respond and help Helena but Hanabi wouldn't let the three men get near them. She gave him a flying kick, hitting his stomach. Then she hit the other guy in the neck, knocking him down.

She needed to knock them unconscious so that she could help Abigail. She wouldn't let Helena hurt Jane's little sister.

The pool area became a battleground for the five of them. After a few minutes, Hanabi managed to knock the three guards down and she jumped into the pool to help Abigail. She didn't expect this visit to turn into chaos.

Helena and Abigail kept pulling each other hair when Hanabi came to her rescue. She separated the two ladies and twisted Helena's hand so that she would let go of Abigail's hair.

"I'm sorry, Abi. I'm late!" Hanabi apologized to Abigail.

"This is so unfair! Let go of my hair now!" Helena screamed at them.

"You should have thought twice before you schemed against her," Hanabi said, lecturing her. "This is just a minor punishment."

"Help! Help—" Abigail covered Helena's mouth. She would feel sorry for Hanabi if she had to fight another set of bodyguards.

Both of them were holding Helena in place. They were in that situation when Vincent and Mia arrived. The two were surprised to see the chaotic scene in the pool area.

"Uncle, why are they sleeping on the ground?" Mia asked Vincent innocently as she watched the three guards lying unconscious on the floor. Then she shifted her gaze to the three ladies in the pool. "Aunt, are you playing with your friends? Can I join you?"

Hanabi and Abigail hastily let go of Helena's hair the moment they saw Mia and Vincent. On the other hand, Vincent looked at them with a questioning gaze. He knew that something unpleasant was going on there. Three bodyguards were knocked down.

Not wanting to let Mia see this violence, Vincent turned her around to face him. "Mia, go and tell our maid to prepare some snacks. I think your Aunt's friends haven't eaten snacks yet."

Helena wanted to complain and tell Vincent the truth but she stopped when she saw the warning look in Vincent's eyes.

Hanabi, on the other hand, moved closer to Abigail and whispered, "Is he the master of the house? Are we doomed?"

Abigail just bobbed her head to confirm it. "Hanabi, get ready. We are going to flee. We can't stay here for long," she whispered back.

Then Helena pushed the two away from her and climbed. "Both of you are going to pay for this."

Chapter 590 Why Her?

When Mia left the pool area, Helena approached Vincent, anchoring her arm around his elbow. She put on a pitiful face. She was playing the victim role at this moment. But Vincent's attention was focused on the two women who were still inside the pool area.

Vincent summoned one of the housemaids. "Go and get some clothes for our visitors and tell the guards to clean the mess. Get them out of here."

Abigail and Hanabi exchanged glances with one another. Vincent sounded so serious. Was he going to punish them for what they'd done to Helena? They saw Helena whispering something to Vincent.

"They assaulted me. Abigail slapped me and grabbed my hair. The two almost drowned me in the pool," Helena told on them, reporting to Vincent how she was bullied by both Abigail and Hanabi.

Vincent's expression turned grim, not because he got mad at both Abigail and Hanabi but because Helena couldn't even fight for herself. Would she only rely on him to protect herself? He couldn't help but compare her to Jane aka Phantomflake.

"Stop complaining. Don't show them your weakness. Be brave and act like a strong independent woman." Vincent said, encouraging her as he hid his disappointment.

Helena could only pout her lips. She didn't like how Vincent responded to her. She thought he would take her side instantly and punish Abigail.

'Is she sparing her because of Dave? No way. The Vincent I know won't care about Dave. He would always choose me over someone. But why? Why is he acting like this? Did something wrong happen?' Helena noticed something about Vincent's attitude lately. She wondered if there was something troubling him in the organization.

'Is he hiding something from me?' Helena mused to herself. She began to be suspicious of Vincent's odd behavior lately. He had been meeting his men as if he was mobilizing them for a mission. She tried

asking him but he only gave her one answer. He was preparing for the upcoming war against the Syphiruz Mafia.

But little did she know, Vincent was meeting Phoenix secretly. His command had something to do with Phantomflake so he decided to move behind her back.

"What brought you here?" Vincent softly asked Abigail. "Where's Dave?"

Hanabi and Abigail already climbed from the pool, leaving the water.

"Don't you know? Dave was hospitalized because someone shot him. He almost died." Abigail informed him.

Vincent and Helena were surprised to hear that. They were clueless about what Marco did to Dave.

"I didn't know that," Vincent mumbled.

"Vincent, are you truly Dave's friend? Or are you just pretending to be one?" Abigail didn't back down as she confronted Vincent. She knew how Dave cherished his friendship with Vincent. She just wanted to protect him from getting hurt.

"Why are you asking me this?" Vincent asked her in confusion.

"Why don't you ask Helena yourself? I just hope you were not involved with her scheme." After saying that, Abigail grabbed Hanabi's hand. She pulled her hand, leaving the pool area. She walked briskly as she was in a hurry to leave Vincent's villa.

They couldn't afford to stay inside since many guards were present. What if Vincent suddenly decided to avenge Helena? Even though Hanabi could fight, they would be outnumbered. Furthermore, they felt like they were inside the enemy's territory. Leaving the place was a great choice at that moment.

"They are escaping! Are you letting them leave without punishing them?" Helena lamented to Vincent, tugging his arm.

"You know that we can't touch Abigail here. She's the daughter of the Sawada Clan Leader. Furthermore, I have a deal with the Dragon Lord. He is going to marry her to combine the Sawada Clan and the Red Dragon Mafia." Vincent explained why he couldn't do something against Abigail for the moment.

Helena stomped her feet as she threw a tantrum. "Why? Can't you just kill her? I want to eliminate every woman who dares to fight with me."

"Patience, Helena. Patience." Vincent tried to pacify her.

"I can no longer tolerate them! If you won't deal with them, then I will just do it myself. Besides, I don't need to pretend anymore. Abigail already learned that I helped Karina. How did it happen? How did she find out? Are you not curious? I thought my plan was foolproof." Helena began to rant at him.

"Even Dave almost believed that he did it with Karina," Helena added.

Vincent was also puzzled about how Abigail found out the truth. I think you should take a look at

"Why don't you ask Karina yourself? She might have an answer to your question. She is your accomplice. Who knows if she revealed the truth herself?" Vincent was not in the mood to deal with Helena's problem right now. He was used to Helena making her moves alone. He could still remember how she cornered Phantomflake. Her scheme worked against her.

[At Zhou's Hospital...]

Nathan dropped by the hospital. Stephen informed him that his father was going to read the analysis of Jane's examination result today. The two men met at the entrance of Dr. Zhou's office. After greeting each other, the two stepped inside the room to meet Stephen's father.

The doctor had been sitting in his chair, reading some documents. He lifted his head only to see two curious men looking at him.

Nathan: "Dr. Zhou, How is she?"

Stephen: "Dad, How's the result of Jane's examination?"

Both Nathan and Stephen spoke in unison, asking Dr. Zhou about Jane's condition. Dr. Zhou sighed deeply as he motioned for the two men to sit on the vacant chairs in front of him. The two grabbed their respective chairs and waited for Dr. Zhou to speak up.

"To tell you honestly..." Dr. Zhou took a pause as he shifted his gaze back and forth between Nathan and Stephen. "Majority of her laboratory results are normal, however..." Dr. Zhou didn't know how his son would react once he heard this. He looked at him worriedly.

"After checking her CT Scan and MRI result, we found a tumor in her brain. I am sorry to say this but... she is dying. Even a major operation can't guarantee that she will survive." Dr. Zhou's heart felt heavy to deliver this piece of bad news to his son.

Stephen felt like his world shattered to pieces when he heard this. Meanwhile, Nathan's hope disappeared. He thought Dr. Zhou would give him a different diagnosis. But to his dismay, both his doctor in the facility and Dr. Zhou gave the same diagnosis.

"You should inform her family about this. I think she fell into a coma because of her illness. That is my only conclusion for this." Dr. Zhou traced his steps toward his son. He could see how shocked Stephen was.

"Dad... Tell me this is not true." Stephen refused to accept this. "Can you please do another examination?" Then Stephen turned to Nathan, grabbing his shoulders. "Nate, tell me. What did the doctor from your medical facility say about Jane's health condition? Her results are all normal, am I right?"

Nathan gazed down, feeling conflicted. He wasn't prepared for this as well.

"Nate, please say something!" Stephen shook Nathan's body. His silence was making him suffer further.

"Steph, the doctor in my facility also said the same thing. She has a brain tumor and her days are numbered." Nathan said in a solemn voice.

Stephen shook his head in denial. 'She can't die.'

Without saying a word, Stephen walked out of the room.

"Stephen!" Dr. Zhou called his son but Stephen didn't look back anymore.

"Don't worry, Uncle. I'll talk to him and make him understand the situation." Nathan reassured Dr. Zhou. He decided to follow Stephen.

Dr. Zhou could only bob his head. "Thanks, Nate. Sigh. This is the first time I saw him getting affected by a woman. Jane is so important to him. I really wish for her to survive. But at this moment, only a miracle can help us save her."

Nathan's heart constricted when he heard that. After saying goodbye to Dr. Zhou, Nathan followed Stephen. A few minutes later, he saw him entering Jane's ward. Cherry and Ethan were not around since the two went out to buy some breakfast.

Stephen was now standing next to Jane's sick bed. He was holding her hand as his body began to tremble. Nathan was stunned to see Stephen crying in front of Jane. Something pinched his heart upon watching this scene.

"Jane, please wake up. You can't die like this."

Nathan could no longer stand watching this. His best friend was shedding tears because of this woman... the woman whom he hated once... but this same woman was close to his heart before. She was Shining Star, his virtual friend... the first ever woman he fell in love with.

'Why? Why her, Steph? With all the women in this world, why do you have to fall in love with her?'
Nathan felt so conflicted with those thoughts in mind.