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Despite Pierre's casual tone, Selena was aware that he was glossing over a lot of details out of guilt; he just didn't want to worry her. She could hardly picture him clinging to life in a foreign land. God knew how he managed to cheat death and what it was that pushed him to come back to life.

"Selena, our life will be smooth-sailing from now on. There will be no more turbulence in the future." I sure hope so, Selena thought.

Meanwhile, in CloudTop Studio. Although Douglas got shot, he already recovered from the nonlethal wound. After that, he returned to where he belonged to continue working on his music. He was relieved that Pierre had returned, but he was too embarrassed to go find him.

Sounds of footsteps could be heard when he was writing a new song. Assuming that it was Phoebe, he lifted his head, only to find out it was Pierre who dropped by. "Pierre?" Douglas blurted out, only to avert his gaze right away. After all, he didn't think they were that close anymore now that they no longer had ties to each other.

Pierre walked up to him right away. "Did you look away after calling my name because you felt guilty for doing something that might've disappointed me?"

"I'm sorry." Douglas dared not even lift his head. Upon being discharged from the hospital, he merely dropped by Selena's ward to check on her. When he knew she managed to survive the ordeal without suffering a miscarriage, he left without greeting her. He didn't feel worthy of even seeing her.

"I didn't come here today to thank you, nor am I here to hold you accountable. While I do owe you my gratitude for taking a bullet for Selena, all of that happened in the first place because of your foolishness."

Looking at his feet, Douglas dared not even lift his head.

"Ever since young, you've been a pushover that can be led on easily, which hasn't changed one bit!" Pierre was annoyed by Douglas' weakness. He assumed that Douglas' departure could trigger him to mature and grow. With Douglas' talents, he thought he would undoubtedly succeed in life, but it turned out that he remained as a puppet that could be easily controlled.

"I know you were trying to protect Selena when you agreed to Yoel's terms, since he threatened you with Selena's life. However, it's not that hard to solve the crisis if you were braver, but you chose to side with the villains even though you knew it was wrong!"

Douglas had nothing to say in his own defense in the face of Pierre's accusations. Pierre is right. I am a coward.

"You could have alerted Selena of the lurking dangers. Heck, both of you could have even come up with a countermeasure. Yet, you chose the most foolish possible solution!"

"I'm sorry..."

Upon hearing that, Pierre grabbed Douglas by the collar, lifting him up. "What use is there in apologizing? You're lucky that nothing went wrong! If Selena had died, not even taking your life would be sufficient as atonement!"

Douglas started weeping as soon as Pierre said that.

"Stop crying! You're a man, so stop shedding tears!"

"I'm sorry, Pierre. I'm a total disappointment to you and Selena."

"I don't want to see your tears!" Pierre roared as he slowly let go of Douglas, while the latter stopped crying after a few sobs. "Chris, it's time that you grow up."

When Pierre called Douglas by his name, he couldn't help but stare at Pierre in astonishment. Does he still consider me as his brother?

Meanwhile, Pierre stood to head toward the door.

"Pierre..."

Pierre stopped in his tracks. "It's about time that you release a new album. Selena wants to listen to some new songs, Douglas."

Finally, Douglas was able to smile. He still loves me. I'll forever be his brother. That won't change even if I made a mistake.

When Selena was still lounging at home, Pierre brought her a piece of good news.