

## Chapter 291

The onlookers were intrigued, and some started to instigate Wynona to accept the bet. Wynona's face turned a little pale. She wondered why the sl\*t in front of her wasn't scared at all.

What if she lost the bet?

"Wynona, didn't you say you believe in Rowena? Then, why aren't you accepting the bet? Are you scared?" Maisie asked, grinning from ear to ear. "Who told you that I'm scared?" Wynona replied through gritted teeth, "Just you wait, Maisie. You're going to kneel down and apologize to me!"

She chose to believe in Rowena in the end, for she was confident that she wouldn't lie to her.

She pulled her phone out and made a call to Rowena. She also had switched on the loudspeaker.

When Rowena answered the call, Wynona hastily asked, "Rowena, you're Mr. Goldman's woman, right? Hurry up and tell me!"

Rowena seemed to have noticed something. Her eyebrows crumpled down as she asked, "What are you talking about, Wynona?" "Rowena, 1—"

Maisie grabbed her phone away before Wynona could finish her sentence. Chuckling lightly, she said, "Rowena, please answer the question. Are you Mr. Goldman's woman?"

Rowena's heart dropped, and her face turned grim when she heard Maisie's voice.

'Is Wynona an idiot? How could she bring me into this when she's provoking Maisie?'

"Hurry up and say something, Rowena!" Wynona pressed on, her voice thick with anxiety.

Rowena gripped her phone tightly and replied flatly, "Wynona, I never told you before that I'm Mr. Goldman's woman. You should stop saying something like that in the future."

She hung up the call afterward and slammed her fist on the table in a fury.

'Wynona, you idiot!' Rowena cursed inwardly.

Now that things had developed to this point, she had no other choice but to give up on Wynona.

Wynona stood frozen stiff as the people around looked at each other incredulously. After all, she was the one who had said that Rowena was Mr. Goldman's woman, but Rowena said otherwise.

Could it be that Wynona had made it all up? Had she really made it up, did that not mean that she had made up the rumors about this newbie as well?

Maisie grabbed Wynona's chin. As she watched the color recede from Wynona's face bit by bit,

her lips curled up coldly. "This is all thanks to you for being such an idiot, Wynona. You have changed my opinion on Rowena again, and I have to congratulate you on your success in losing your teammate," she said.

Maisie was certain that Rowena was probably very upset right now after being exposed by Wynona. Not only that, but Maisie also found out that she was the person who had been watching her from the back and that Wynona was her accomplice. "Do you still remember what I said earlier? Since she said she isn't, does that mean I've won?"

When Wynona sensed the glint of dark light that crossed Maisie's eyes, her face turned ugly. She did not know what she should do now since she couldn't rely on Rowena anymore.

"I... I'm sorry, Maisie. I shouldn't have spread rumors about you like that. Can you please forgive me?" Wynona knew that Maisie still had the recording in her hands, so she had no other choice but to yield to her. Maisie snorted and said, "Haven't I given you enough chances?" (Maisie: Did you bring me to the restricted area because of Francisco?) (Wynona: S-So what if I did? Francisco just couldn't stay away from you since you got here and even gave you the chocolate that I gave to him!) (Maisie: Did you arrange for the assessment to be between Logan and me?) (Wynona: I-I just wanted you to lose.)

They knew that a newcomer had entered the restricted area two days after she came, but they did not expect that Wynona was the one who had pulled the strings behind.

It was only now they saw the light as to why a newcomer would be paired up with Logan in the assessment. It was Wynona's plan all along!

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What a massive turn of events!

They had initially been under the impression Wynona was the victim, but it now appeared to them that it was not the case. A few girls felt pity for Wynona when she had told them that she was bullied and beaten by a newcomer the other day, but now they felt she had brought it on herself after learning the truth.

Since she had the nerves to do something like that, it went without saying that she could make up the whole thing about this newcomer.

All colors were washed from Wynona's face, and she stumbled a few steps back. The people around her were no longer looking at her sympathetically. Instead, they were pointing fingers at her, showering her with all sorts of criticisms. "Maisie, how... How could you!?" she shouted hysterically, her voice laced thick with sobs. "How could you do this to me!?"

"How about you?" Maisie asked in return, her face stern, "How could you do this to me? I've forgiven you again and again, but look at yourself. You're the one who brought this upon yourself.

"Didn't I tell you before? One must face the consequences for their own deeds. Since you have the guts to do it, then you need to have the guts to admit it. Besides, who gave you the right to defame me in front of so many people?" If she let her go again this time, how was she going to shake off that baseless "infamy" of hers?

This was something Wynona did not expect. She did not think that Maisie would expose her in front of everyone. None of the onlookers came forward to speak for her, and no one even showed sympathy for her. Unable to accept it, she squatted down and cried. Maisie did not look at her anymore and walked

past her. When she went near Raven, she stopped and said with a smile, "I thought we could become friends. I also told you I couldn't tell because I had my own reasons, yet you still chose to believe them."

After Maisie finished speaking, she left without turning her head.

Raven's shoulders quivered, and her eyes turned red around the rims. Francisco was standing not far away, so he had seen everything that had transpired just now. He had not even stepped forward when Maisie was under attack, so he did not have the guts to face her right now.

He loosened his knuckles slowly, turned around, and disappeared into the crowd.

At Blackgold Group...

Nolan finished his meeting and came out of the conference room. While he was putting his blazer on, he turned around and talked to Quincy, "Go get the car. We're going to the training camp."

Pouting his mouth, Quincy asked, "You still want to go there?" Nola squinted his eyes and said, "Do you have a problem with that?" "Nope, nope. I'll go get the car right now." It went without saying that Quincy did not have a problem with that. Nolan had been itching to go to the training camp these few days whenever he had nothing to do. It was as if he was worried that his wife would run away from him.

Just when Quincy came in front of the elevator, Titus emerged from the elevator.

"Where are you going?" he asked.

Quincy looked at Nolan, unsure of what he should say.

Nolan walked toward them in slow strides and asked apathetically, "What brought you here today?" "Hmph! I heard that you've been going to the training camp these few days whenever you're free. So I came here today to keep an eye on you. You're not allowed to go to the training camp." After that, Titus walked toward the administrative office with his hands on his back.

When he realized that Nolan was not coming, he turned around to look at him and said, "Brat, it's just an assessment. You should stay out of it, and you shouldn't go to the training camp so much. Do you want everyone in the camp to think that Maisie gets her grades because of you?" Nola gnashed his teeth tightly. Titus was right. If he kept going to the training camp, it would make Maisie look bad.

With that thought in mind, he turned around and went back to the office with a grim face.

In the meantime, a shooting test was being conducted in the training camp. All of them were split into a group of five, with one group of men and one group of women for the 100-yard shooting test. All candidates on the field put on earplugs and waited for instructions.

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Maisie checked through her rifle and magazine before going on the field. After she ascertained that there was nothing wrong with them, she stepped into the field.

"It seems like the world is really small. We're back in the same group again." The person standing next to her was none other than Logan. The instructor decided the grouping. He just randomly assorted them

into groups regardless of their seniority, so it was totally fate that brought them together. Maisie laughed bitterly and said, "It seems like heaven is really not going to let me get this done in an easy way."

Logan harrumphed and replied, "I'm not going to lose this time."

The sharp crack of gunfire tore through the air. The bullets flew across the air and landed on their target like raindrops. The instructor recorded each group member's performance, in which Logan had the best performance. She reloaded the bullets with smooth movements, practiced and calm.

Logan had been in the training camp for two years, and she was well acquainted with firearms. Her outstanding performance was expected, but there was someone out of his expectations. For an inexperienced newcomer who had never had any training before, he thought she would have a hard time dealing with the rest of the assessments after winning the ring fight by luck

However, little did he expect that both her posture and the way she held the gun were on point. She was focused throughout the entire process and did not panic at all. At the end of the assessment, the instructor ordered someone to check and record the results.

After that, the instructor announced the results. Out of the five people, two were eliminated for failing to reach 30 rounds, leaving Logan, Maisie, and another girl in the group.

"Rosalie Axelson, 35 rounds, pass."

"Logan Heinrich, 46 rounds, excellent." A round of applause erupted from the members at the back. "Maisie Vanderbilt..." The instructor paused and looked at Maisie while the rest of the people waited with bated breaths for him to release her result.

"46 rounds, excellent."

As soon as he finished speaking, an exclamation rang out from his back. "She scored the same result as Logan!"

"How is that possible? How did she do it?" "I'm sure that she didn't cheat. Everyone was watching her. She's really awesome!" Sitting at the side, Cherie smacked Hans's back excitedly and said, "Hans, you didn't even pass

when you first entered the training camp. Maisie is so much better than you!" 1

Hans opened his mouth but did not say anything. 'How can you compare me to her?' He had only been 10 years old when he entered the training camp, and he took the assessment when he was 15. It was normal that he had not passed it...

The next assessment was 100 yards of 10 rounds of continuous shooting. It was much harder as they were required to hit a target three times with three or more bullets per shot in less than two minutes.

Maisie laid in a prone position behind a rifle. After hitting six targets, she felt something crawling over her leg. She turned her head around to check it, and then her face turned pale. A pit viper was slithering over her leg, slowly approaching Logan. "Logan, stay still!" Maisie hissed as she grabbed Logan's shoulder. When Logan turned her head around to look at Maisie, she sensed something and made eye

contact with the pit viper. Even though Logan was tough, she couldn't resist her natural instinct and tried to run away. The pit viper was frightened and lunged itself toward Logan. "Ah!"

Just when the pit viper pounced at Logan, Maisie drew her knife and stabbed it into the snake's body. After that, she pushed Logan away, and the snake, which had broken free from its constraint, leaped and bit on the back of her hand.

The instructor and Hans dashed forward and kicked the snake away. When the girls that were closer saw the dead snake, they all backed up and screamed in fear.

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"Snake! There's a snake!"

Francisco rushed out of the crowd and ran toward Maisie. However, the instructor stopped him and barked out his order, "Everyone, clear the site. The assessment is suspended!"

"Sir, how is she?" Francisco asked anxiously.

"A snake bit her, and she needs medical attention now."

'Bit by a snake? Why is there a snake in the training camp?'

"Maisie!" Cherie ran up to Maisie while Hans tended to her wound. "The wound on the back of her hand is starting to swell up. We've got to remove the venom from her first. "I'm sorry, Ms. Vanderblit. Please bear with me,"

Hans cut open the wound bigger with Maisie's knife. Then, he squeezed the snake venom out of the wound slowly and repeated the same process.

Maisie put up with the intense pain throughout the entire process. Her face was ashen pale, and beads of sweat were running down her cheek "Quickly! Go get a stretcher!" Hans shouted at Cherie. "Okay! I'll be right back!" Cherie replied as she ran toward the infirmary with the instructor. Sitting on the ground, Logan couldn't utter a single word. She couldn't believe what had transpired, and she couldn't believe that the one who had saved her from the pit viper was none other than Maisie.

Maisie was carried to the infirmary on the stretcher. Although Hans had removed most of the snake venom, it would be too late to send her to the hospital, so they brought her to the infirmary instead. No one was allowed to enter the infirmary. Although this was not the first time the doctor treated a patient bitten by a snake, he was kind of bewildered as well as he did not know how to deal with a pit viper bite.

"Pit viper... How is there a pit viper in the training camp? We need to rush her to the hospital right away!"

They did not have the antivenom for pit vipers in the training camp.

Hans grabbed him by his collar and snarled, "But it will be too late if we send her to the hospital now."

"She needs to be treated by a specialized doctor. I'm not familiar with this kind of snake venom!"

Cherie and Francisco were frozen on the spot as if a bolt of lightning struck them. Seeing that Maisie had begun to fall unconscious, Francisco tightened his fists and said, "My brother knows a professional doctor who is well acquainted with snake venom. I will contact

him right now!"

Nolan was playing chess with Titus for the whole afternoon, but Nolan was obviously distraught.

He did not know why, but he couldn't shake off the trepidation in his heart. It was as if he had a feeling that something big was going to happen.

Titus noticed his anxiety and harrumphed, "Stop thinking about it, brat. It's afternoon, and I assume that the assessment is over. We just need to wait for the results to—".

Suddenly, Nolan's phone rang and cut Titus short. He frowned slightly when he saw Nolan drop the chess piece to answer the call.

"This brat... How could he treat a woman better than his own grandfather?"

Nolan's heart skipped a beat as he set his jaw tightly when he heard the news. He said through gritted teeth, "I'll go there right now!" "What happened? Why are you so nervous?" "Grandpa, you didn't let me go to the training camp, and now something has happened to Zee. Are you satisfied now?" Nolan hissed, anger thick in his voice. He then turned around and left the office without turning his head back

Titus was stunned.

'What has happened to her?' Nolan stormed toward Swallow County at the top of his speed, and he nearly rammed into other cars along the way. He put on his Bluetooth earpiece and said with gnashed teeth, "I don't care who it is. Find out who the hell is the one that put a pit viper in the training camp."

He gripped the steering wheel even tighter and stamped the accelerator to the end. Normally, it took 45 minutes to reach Swallow County, but he arrived in 25 minutes.

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By the time Nolan got to the infirmary, he saw Helios and an older man in there.

Nolan knew who the older man was and was well aware of why Helios was there. After all, only the Bouchers could make Professor Leonhardt come out of his seclusion.

Professor Leonhardt was a serum specialist in the medical world. He had an aloof and eccentric temperament. Money and fame meant nothing to him, and the reason he was here was because of the Bouchers.

Helios turned his head slowly to look at the incoming man and smiled. "You owe me one."

Nolan replied sternly, "I know. I will return the favor one day." The doctor in the training camp felt honored since he could become Professor Leonhardt's helper. He assisted him while Professor Leonhardt was examining and treating Maisie. Professor Leonhardt drew some blood from Maisie and gave it to the doctor beside him. "Go get it tested right away." The doctor was stunned for a moment. However, he did not dare to ask anything and took the vial of blood into the laboratory for testing.

It was only then Helios noticed that Professor Leonhardt was exceptionally excited right now. His curiosity was piqued, so he asked, "Professor Leonhardt, why do you want to test her blood?"

"There's something wrong with her blood," Professor Leonhardt said as he stroked his chin. He seemed to have come across something interesting as he said, "Throughout my entire life, this is the first time I've encountered something like this after someone got bitten by a pit viper. Not only did the venom not spread to her organs, but the effect of the venom is also being weakened effectively."

Getting bitten by a pit viper could be life-threatening. The symptoms were complicated, and they changed rapidly as the pit viper venom contained a complex mixture of toxins. However, in Maisie's case, not only did she not show a lot of signs of poisoning, but the snake venom couldn't spread in her bloodstream at all.

Both Nolan and Helios were surprised. "I haven't even used the serum that I brought here. Since her blood is so special, I figured that I'd run some tests on her blood first."

'Her blood is special?' Nolan pressed his lips thin.

'Could it be that she still has some secret on her?'

Soon, the doctor returned with the blood test results. "Professor Leonhardt. Here are the blood test results."

Professor Leonhardt took the blood test results from the doctor. He put on his spectacles and seemed rather surprised after reading through the document. Nolan frowned and asked, "Did you find out anything, Professor Leonhardt?" "This is strange... Her blood is better than ordinary people in all aspects of the index, but it doesn't affect her in any way."

Professor Leonhardt took a seat at the chair on the side and stared at the blood test results for a long time.

Nolan walked up to Maisie and asked, "If she's fine, why hasn't she woken up yet?" "Do you think she's a superwoman? You should be grateful that she's still alive. She will need some time before she can regain consciousness," Professor Leonhardt said as he stared intently at the blood test results.

Nolan placed his hand on Maisie's forehead. He heaved a sigh of relief inwardly when he noticed that her body temperature was normal and she didn't have a fever.

"Mr. Goldmann." Hans's voice erupted from the outside of the infirmary. Nolan straightened his body and walked to the entrance. It was only then Hans said, "According to our investigation, someone put the viper into the training camp. We've caught that person as well, and he told us that it's Wynona who instructed him to do that." Nolan's face turned grim, and Hans continued. "According to other people, Wynona has been a todds with Ms. Vanderbilt. She was the one who lured Ms. Vanderbilt to the restricted area and arranged the match between Ms. Vanderbilt and Logan."

"It wasn't me! It really wasn't me! I didn't put the viper into the training camp!" Wynona explained while the instructor brought her to the detention room. She stretched her arm forward and prevented the instructor from leaving.

Cherie walked outside the iron door and looked at Wynona, who was sitting behind the door in a panic. "The culprit has been apprehended, and he's confessed that you're the person who instigated him. Are you telling me that you're still not going to admit it?" Wynona was flustered and shook her head. "I don't know him, I really don't know him!" "How did it turn out like this? I didn't do such a thing at all! Why doesn't anyone believe me!" Cherie thought about something and felt sorry for Wynona. "You'd better pray that Maisie is fine because you've really messed with someone that's totally out of your league this time around. After all, Maisie is Mr. Goldmann's wife."

'Mr. Goldmann's wife!?'

Wynona froze in place. 'Maisie turns out to be Mr. Goldmann's wife? How is this even possible!? 'And the things that I did before this, did I just bring ruin upon myself without even knowing it? But I'm really not the person who released the venomous snake!'

Cherie sighed. "Alright, you should just stay here and wait for Mr. Goldmann's decision on the punishments."

"No, Cherie, it's really not me. Please, believe me..."

Unfortunately, no matter how desperately she begged, no one would stop for her.

Two silhouettes sat facing each other in a dimly lit room. "You didn't leave any trace throughout this incident, right?"

"Don't worry, I've gotten my subordinates to take care of the trails, and no one will ever suspect you."

"Good." The masked woman placed a small silver suitcase on the table. "There is \$500,000 in this suitcase. Don't appear in Bassburgh for some time after finishing your last task, understand?"

The man grabbed the small silver suitcase, moistened his lips with his tongue, and grinned. "Understood."

When the man got up with the small suitcase and left, the woman slowly took off the mask, and a hint of coldness appeared on her pretty face.

'Even God can't save her this time around, right?'

Nolan stayed by the bedside for the past two full days when Maisie was in a coma.

Mr. Goldmann Sr. had learned that Maisie was comatose after being bitten by a venomous snake in the training camp, so he hurried over to visit her.

"Zee hasn't regained consciousness?"

Nolan shook his head. In fact, he was a little anxious too. Although Professor Leonhardt had said that she was going to be fine, Nolan was still curious about why she had not woken up. He thought of something all of a sudden and turned his head. "Father, are the kids all doing okay?"

"Don't worry, Alfred has come back, and he's taking care of them." Mr. Goldmann Sr. said, "You can stay here and take care of your wife. Just leave your grandfather to me." Nolan lowered his eyes and did not



say a word. Cherie appeared outside the door, scratched her head, and smiled when she saw Nolan's father. "Mr. Goldman Sr., you're here."

"I've come to take a look at my daughter-in-law. But since she's all right, I'm heading back now."

Mr. Goldmann Sr. put on his hat and walked out the door with a golden cane. Cherie sent Mr. Goldmann Sr. to the door with a grin.

After seeing Mr. Goldmann Sr. off, Cherie returned to the ward. "Mr. Goldmann, Wynona has been locked up for two days. However, no matter what we've done to her, she still refuses to admit it."

They had locked Wynona away and had not given her anything to eat or drink for two days. No matter how they coerced and enticed her, she would not admit that she was the one who did it.

The corners of Nolan's mouth tightened, but just as he was about to say something, he noticed some movements coming from the bed and leaned forward slightly. "Zee?"

Maisie's eyelashes trembled before she opened her eyes slowly. Cherie chuckled. "Maisie, are you awake?"

All Maisie felt was dizziness as she moved her dry lips. "How... How long have I been asleep?"

Cherie replied, "You've been out for two days." Maisie was astonished. She recalled that a pit viper had bitten her on the day of the assessment.

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Maisie wanted to sit up, but Nolan hurriedly supported her with a worried expression. "Zee, how are you feeling now?"

Maisie looked at Nolan. The man had not slept for two nights, so his face looked a little exhausted while stubble was already starting to appear on his face. Although he looked a little disordered, it did not affect his appearance. "I'm feeling much better. I don't feel any discomfort." Maisie retracted her gaze. She sounded as if she had only fallen asleep.

She then remembered something and asked, "By the way, my assessment results....".

"You still care about your results?" Nolan frowned slightly and lowered his tone as if he was reprimanding a child. "Do your grades matter more than your life? "It seems that I have to punish those who organized the assessment. They've failed to implement good enough protective measures." Seeing Nolan get up from his seat, Maisie stretched out her hand and grabbed the hem of his sleeve. "Sit down. You're not allowed to leave."

Nolan's gaze landed on her slightly awkward face.

'It's obvious that she wants to act coquettishly, but how can the whole thing feel so arrogant?'

"Shouldn't there be a magic word?" For some reason, Nolan wanted to tease her. "Please." Maisie played along with him.

Nolan was caught off guard and was rendered speechless. Cherie cleared her throat. Although she really did not want to be the third wheel in the room and spoil the atmosphere, she still had to get down to

business with the couple. “Well, Maisie, since you’ve awakened, it just so happens we have yet to resolve the matter related to Wynona.”

“What happened to Wynona?” Maisie stared at Cherie. Cherie scratched her cheeks and explained, “We’ve apprehended the person who released the venomous snake. He claimed that Wynona was the person who instigated him to do so. Hence, we’ve locked Wynona away for two days and interrogated her, but she hasn’t admitted to anything.” ‘Wynona is the person who instigated the culprit into releasing the venomous snake?’ Maisie lowered her eyes and pursed her lips while she was thinking about something.

Nolan’s eyes were clear and cold. “Just turn to other methods if she doesn’t want to concede. Do so until she spills everything.”

‘Other methods...’

Cherie was well aware of the methods that Nolan was referring to, but using those methods against such a young lady was indeed a little inappropriate. After all, they were quite inhumane. Maisie opened her mouth suddenly and requested, “I want to meet Wynona.”

Cherie brought Maisie to the interrogation room to see Wynona, and Nolan followed along because he was worried about her.

Light shone into the interrogation room the moment they opened the door to the room, and the group of people saw Wynona lying in a pool of blood with a bloody knife in her hand. Maisie was stupefied, and Nolan immediately lifted his hand to cover her eyes. “Don’t look.” With that being said, he turned his head and said to Cherie, “Call the police and summon those who were interrogated this morning to come and see me.” Several police cars drove into the training camp, and Wynona’s corpse was put into a body bag and brought out. The onlookers’ expressions turned solemn when they heard that Wynona had committed suicide in the interrogation room. Hans and Cherie said something to the police officers, and the police left after taking some notes.

Standing in the crowd, Francisco did not expect that Wynona would commit suicide. Although he did not like Wynona, it was a pity that she had ended her life just like this.

Maisie sat on the hospital bed, her eyes looking gloomy and indifferent. She may have had a personal grudge with Wynona, but she had already used the recording of Wynona the day she exposed it to the public. She did not expect that Wynona would slit her neck to commit suicide.

‘Cherie mentioned that she had locked Wynona away for two days without giving her any food or drinks, but she still couldn’t make her admit that she was the one who had asked for the viper to be released.

‘Even though I don’t know Wynona very well, judging from her demeanor of a cowardly bully, she would have given up and confessed in the face of such a situation if she were truly the person who’s plotted the whole scheme.’

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Maisie could not come up with a reason that made sense, but she had a hunch that Wynona might have been framed. The person who had framed Wynona knew about her personal grievance with Wynona...

When she was entranced by her own thoughts, she did not notice the person who appeared outside the door. "Maisie."

Maisie returned to her senses gradually and found out that it was Raven.

Raven walked into the room uneasily, clasping the back of her right hand with her left palm. "Maisie, I'm glad to know that you've woken up. And I'm so sorry for what happened before this. I know that there's no way that you'll forgive me, and I don't expect you to do so either. But I only want to apologize to you... "I know, I chose to believe in Wynona's words instead of yours. That's how I misunderstood you. I actually thought that you truly had never regarded me as a friend. But it was all my fault, I'm sorry. You must've been extremely disappointed that day, right?"

'I didn't stand by Maisie's side, nor did I choose to believe her. I just stood by and watched her being ridiculed without saying a single word to support her. While on the other hand, Maisie actually beat and threatened Wynona and the others for my sake.'

Raven's eyes turned bloodshot upon thinking of this.

'Everything started with my inner conflict. I'm the one to blame.'

Maisie lowered her gaze and said with a soft and gentle tone, "Rye, I can't blame everything on you. After all, I didn't look at things from your point of view either. I came to the training camp with only one objective, and that's to obtain the assessment results, not to mention that I only have half a month to do so."

Seeing that Raven was still pursing her lips, Maisie smiled bitterly. "It's actually very difficult for me to open myself up and allow others to understand me better." 'I can't even make others know myself better, let alone understand me well. So what right do I have to blame Raven for this incident?'

Raven wiped away the tears from the corners of her eyes and forced a smile. "It's a relief to hear that you don't blame me. I can finally rest assured now. I shouldn't be disturbing you now. You should get some rest."

Staring at Raven's back as she was leaving melancholically, Maisie lay on the bed and started to feel extremely upset. Although the recent two weeks she had spent in this training camp were nowhere near peaceful to her, she was now deeply confused apart from being shocked by Wynona's sudden suicide.

When Nolan, who had just returned to the ward, saw Maisie lying motionless on the bed, his eyes narrowed, and he panicked deep down.

He rushed to the bed and leaned over, wanting to wake her up, but Maisie sat up abruptly and rammed her head against the bridge of his nose. "Nolan, are you alright?" Maisie, who was rubbing her forehead with a surprised expression, looked at Nolan, who was covering the bridge of his nose. 'Who would know that he'd come so close to me all of a sudden!?' Nolan pinched the bridge of his nose and gasped, thanking God that his nose was not a fake one. He then removed his hand, and a stream of warm and sticky fluid gushed out of his nostril.

He swiped his philtrum with his fingertip and found out that he was suffering from a nosebleed.

“Don’t move!” Maisie hurriedly took out some tissue, dragged him to the side of the bed, sat him down, and wiped it for him.

It was probably her first time seeing Nolan in such an embarrassment and loss, so she could not help but laugh out loud.

Nolan frowned. “How can you manage to laugh at such a moment?” “I’m sorry, I didn’t mean it. I couldn’t help it...” Maisie’s shoulder trembled as she was trying to hold back her laughter. Seeing that the woman in front of him had finally removed all pretense and showed him her most genuine side while he was around, Nolan held her wrist, wrapped his arm around her waist, and pulled her into his arms.

Maisie was stunned for a split second, only to see him lower his head and ask softly, “Zee, do you know what I was thinking about throughout the past two days when you were in a coma?”

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“What were you thinking about?” Maisie lowered her gaze.

The affection on Nolan’s face condensed at the bottom of his eyes, and the corners of his lips were lifted slightly. “I was thinking that when you’ve regained consciousness, I’ll chain you up to drag you to the town hall to marry you immediately, no matter whether your grades meet grandfather’s requirements or not.”

He did not want to wait any longer. He wanted her to be his rightful wife, and he wanted to be able to write her name down in any column that asked him for the name of his spouse from now onward.

Maisie did not expect that he would say this to her suddenly, but she knew that he was the person who had been taking care of her worrying about her for the past two days.

‘If I were to really marry him... ‘It’s not that it’s unacceptable.’ However, something came to Maisie’s mind, and she pushed him away gently. Seeing that she lowered her gaze and remained quiet, Nolan asked in a muffled voice, “You don’t want to?” “I didn’t say that I don’t want to...” “Then are you saying that you’re willing to do so?” Nolan hugged her again with a wide grin on his face.

Maisie grumbled and replied, “Nolan, no matter what, I’ve made your grandfather a promise. So if I marry you without passing the assessment beforehand, won’t I be crowned as a dishonest woman by your grandfather for the rest of my life?”

“Besides, your family background is so complicated. If I marry you without knowing anything about it, it can be foreseen that I won’t be able to stabilize my position as Mrs. Goldmann in the future, right?”

Nolan was taken aback. He did not seem to have thought that she would think about this. However, he then lowered his gaze and smiled after a short couple of seconds. “Zee, I can tell you everything now if you want to know about them.

“I’ll start by telling you about the sacrifice that Quincy, Cherie, and Hans’ parents made back then. Their parents were selected to join the top management from the training camp years ago, and they were my grandfather’s most faithful subordinates.

“My great-grandfather founded a group of elite forces with the eldest princess of the royal family back in Stoslo in the past. This organization is called the ‘Night Banquet’, also known as the ‘Goldmanns’ Banquet’ to the public.”

Maisie looked at Nolan in surprise.

As someone who had lived in Stoslo for a few years, it was impossible for her not to have heard of the organization ‘Night Banquet’. It was said that this organization had a very close

connection with the royal family of Stoslo. It was also equivalent to the military force that the princess of Stoslo owned.

‘In addition to the eldest daughter of the royal family, Nolan’s great-grandfather was also one of the founders of the “Night Banquet”!?’

“Did your great-grandfather have something to do with the royal family of Stoslo?” Maisie asked.

Nolan could not help but laugh. “Do you know why my grandfather has a face that resembles that of a mixed-race man?”

Maisie was dumbfounded. Indeed, she was actually quite curious about the reason Nolan’s grandfather looked like a mixed-race man.

“Because my grandfather is the child of my great-grandfather and the eldest princess of Stoslo. However, the royals wouldn’t recognize this bloodline. My grandfather’s existence and the Goldmanns as a whole have always been regarded as a disgrace to them.”

Nolan’s great-grandfather was a man of no background. It could even be said that he was a lowly thug who originated from the ghetto.

However, because of his ruthlessness and ambitions, he had become the bodyguard of the princess of Stoslo due to a strange combination of circumstances and coincidences. He served only the princess back then.

Nolan’s great-grandfather had slaughtered a lot of leftists and nobles in the royal family for the princess, so his name was greatly feared by others. To put it bluntly, his great-grandfather had been the hyena that served the eldest princess back then.

The intimate relationship between the princess and Nolan’s great-grandfather was only known to the outside world after the eldest daughter gave birth to Titus. However, because the ordinance of Stoslo’s royalty would not allow the princess to marry a commoner, even though Titus was considered royal blood, he was never accepted by the royal family.

In order to avoid implicating Titus in the royal family’s agendas, the princess had asked Nolan’s great-grandfather to bring Titus to Zlokova and settle down in this country. While he had been doing so, he established the Goldmanns, and entrusted the young Titus to Rowena’s grandfather and grandmother. 1 However, Nolan’s great-grandfather, who then returned to Stoslo after that, died in Stoslo with the princess in that exact year.

## **Chapter 300**

After listening to what Nolan said about the Goldmanns' history, Maisie was undoubtedly shocked and stupefied as if she had been told something extremely incredible.

Nolan picked her up by her waist and placed her on his lap. "Zee, I've confessed everything to you now, so you should also know why my grandfather always brings Rowena along by his side and values her so much. This is all because Rowena's grandparents were the ones who raised my grandfather."

Maisie pursed her lips and did not utter a single word.

Nolan held her hand and placed it on his beating chest. "You have my word, as long as I'm still alive and well, I won't let you suffer from any grievances, regardless if it comes from my grandfather, Rowena, or anyone else. Those people who make things difficult for you in the future can treat them as people who have offended me.

"Even if it kills me.

"I'm better off dead if I can't keep my words to you or lose you." Maisie stared in awe at Nolan, who was swearing to her with a solemn and firm expression and blurted, "Even Hades wouldn't want to keep you in hell." Nolan brushed the corner of her lips with his finger. "If that's the case, my life is yours to keep from now on, and no one can take it except you."

Two days later...

Maisie got her report card for the assessments, but what she did not expect was that she had scored a total of 130 points.

"Sir, is there a mistake in this assessment result? Didn't I fail to complete one of the assessments? So how did I score 130 points?"

The instructor explained to her, "The extra 10 points have been given to you because you came forward courageously and rescued your companion at the assessment site. Although what you did is very risky and isn't worthy of commendation, your courage should be recognized."

He then added, "Moreover, this is also Logan's recognition of you. She admitted that she was flustered at that time, and her actions startled the pit viper. You're the one who's saved her."

Maisie held the document in her hand and asked, "What about Logan? How are her grades?"

"Only one person with the best grades will be selected in the annual assessment. And because you've saved Logan, she's withdrawn herself from this assessment voluntarily."

The instructor's explanation kept echoing in Maisie's ears. To her, Logan's decision was still somewhat unexpected.

As soon as she walked to the field, she saw Rowena and Hans standing together and did not know what to say to them.

Rowena was astonished when she saw Maisie, but her expression did not change much. She then walked toward Maisie with a polite smile. "Ms. Vanderbilt, I heard the incident that you ran into. I didn't expect Wynona to do such a thing, but I'm relieved to see that you're doing fine."

Maisie chuckled. "Ms. Summers, are you saying that you're worried about me?" Rowena lowered her gaze. "After all, you're the person that Nolan cares about the most. I'm sorry about the jade ring. I deliberately made you misunderstand Nolan's intention in order to see if you really cared about Nolan."

Rowena's confession surprised Maisie.

"This action doesn't seem to suit her personality well. However, should I say something in return since she's said so?"

She smiled. "Nolan has explained everything to me, and thank you, Ms. Summers, for making me see what I want deep down clearly."

The smile hanging on the corners of Rowena's lips looked stiff. "Really?" Maisie twirled a strand of her hair as the corners of her scarlet lips twitched and lifted. She then said, "I've never dared to face Nolan's feelings for me before this, but after experiencing all the incidents that have happened recently, I seem to have realized that I might have fallen in love with him."