## **Departure with a Belly Chapter 599**

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Chapter 599 As Long As You Like

Victoria didn't think anything was wrong with her question, so she asked, "Why is it difficult to answer?"

"Do you think I divide my attention between you and other men and women?"

When she heard this, she raised her head in his embrace and blinked her eyes at Alaric . "It's not just anyone. She's my best friend. Do you need to observe so closely, though? Just a little insight would do, wouldn't it? How about it? Is there anythin g worth considering?"

When he noticed her persistence, he said helplessly, "Yes."

"Really?" Victoria's eyes brightened. "So, does he like Summer?"

Alaric couldn't help but pinch her nose, speaking in a doting tone. "When did you become so nosy?"

"Wasn't I nosy before?"

"Yes. Let's not talk about this topic and focus on ourselves."

"That won't do. I'll just talk about this once." Afraid that he would change his mind, she c ontinued to ask, "You said you noticed something, so what is it?"

Alaric fell silent for a moment before speaking quietly. "There was a time when you were in danger abroad, and Summer wanted to go and find you, but her boss was worried ab out her safety, so he accompanied her."

Victoria widened her eyes upon hearing this. "Really?" She finally understood why he said that this matter was worth considering. How many superiors would be willin

g to accompany their employees across countries out of concern for their safety? From this point of view, it could indeed prove Erik's feelings for Summer.

"Well, someone in his position values time as money, so if he didn't care, he wouldn't w aste his time with something so trivial."

Based on what Summer had told her, she had no idea about this and didn't expect to le arn about it from others. Yet, she was surprised and happy for Summer. "That's great. Her boss genuinely cares about her; his

words aren't just lip service."

"Yes, it seems he has a decent character, and we've had some professional interactions before. He's a self–made

man."

Nonetheless, she was happy that her best friend had found a good man. "Hmmm, I hav en't met him yet. I'll

meet him when I return this time and keep an eye on him for Summer."

Initially, Alaric agreed with

Victoria, but upon hearing this, he furrowed his brow and said, "Why do you seem so ex cited?"

"Of course I'm excited. Why shouldn't I be excited?"

Then, he narrowed his eyes and tightened his grip on her waist. "When the time comes, you're not allowed to look at that man."

However, she asked, confused, "Huh? I have to look at him to keep an eye out for Sum mer, right? I must observe him closely and maybe even invite him for a meal." Without g iving him a chance to object, she added, "You should come along too, and we can keep an eye on him for Summer together."

Alaric thought Victoria wanted

to go alone, but he didn't expect her to invite him. After feeling awkward for a while, he s aid, "Fine." As long as I am going along, I can put my worries to rest.

"Great, it's settled then. We'll go together when the time comes."

Despite the chilly weather outside the airport, Summer found solace in the cozy warmth of the car. She tucked herself into the coat Erik had so graciously removed from himself and offered to her. Since her home was so far away, they had to leave early to avoid mi ssing Victoria's flight. In the meantime, they still had over an hour before the plane landed.

There were no shops near the airport, and even if there were, they would be closed by now. Thus, the two of them could only stay in the car.

At first, she felt a bit awkward and said to him, "We might have to wait for a long time. How about you go back.

first?"

As soon as Summer said that, Erik glanced at her indifferently and asked, "I'll leave you here and go back first?" Then, he spoke with some helplessness, "Summer, do you have any awareness that you are currently being

pursued by me?"

As soon as she heard this, she pursed her lips and said nothing.

"Shouldn't you be observing how the other person acts at this time?"

"I guess so? Still... It feels like I'm wasting your time by making you send me here in the middle of the night and

wait here with me."

"I don't feel like it's a waste of time." While saying this, he took off his coat and handed it to her.

Then, perplexed, she held his coat and inquired, "W-What's the matter?"

"Put it on," he said lightly. "There's still over an hour left. Rest in the car for a while."

"I'm not sleepy-"

"Then, just close your eyes and rest them."

Erik cared for Summer like an experienced adult, and she couldn't help but think he must have had a different

upbringing than children raised by attentive parents. Still, she could feel that how he cared for others was quite domineering.

On the other hand, she said nothing, blushing as she slowly draped the coat he gave he r on herself before leaning back in her seat and closing her eyes to rest. She briefly clos ed her eyes when she realized something wasn't quite right and asked, "You gave me y our coat, but what about you? Aren't you cold?"

"I have a good constitution," he said lightly.

"Oh." Then, Summer closed her eyes again and considered the possibility that Erik was making fun of her weak

constitution.

She fell asleep in a daze, and when she awoke, the night

had grown darker outside, and she was still curled up. She was still sleepy but felt a chill come over her, and she instinctively snuggled into the man's coat. Thankfully, he gave me his coat so I won't have to worry about getting a chill in my sleep. Oh, hold on! If this kept

me warm, what about him? Her eyes snapped open at this realization, and she saw him resting on the steering

wheel.

Never before did I notice that even with his eyes closed, his long eyelashes created distinctive shadows around each of his eyes. Even though he is leaning there, he does so gracefully, and it is impossible to tell that he grew up in the countryside. Even so, he has a striking good look about

him from this angle. Since the first time we met, I have known that he is attractive, but I have never given it much thought because I know he could never be mine. Hence, I can only occasionally appreciate his good looks while working. Things are different now... A fter all, I may one day marry this man. With this in mind, she experienced a new range of emotions when she looked

at him. She found him even more charming than she had anticipated. Then, she looked at him intently,

transfixed by his physical features.

"Am I handsome?" Suddenly, the man with his eyes closed abruptly opened them, and his thin lips parted.

Caught red-handed, Summer's face instantly turned red. "Y-Yes. Wait... I wasn't intentionally trying to sneak a

peek at you. I was just looking at you sleeping, so-"

"It's okay."

Erik curled his lips. "Anyway, if you're willing, I'm yours from now on. You can keep looking at me as long as you

like."

His words made Summer's

ears turn so red that she felt they might start bleeding. This man seems to become incre asingly flirtatious after expressing his true feelings!