

Ex-Wife 1701

Chapter: 1701

unconcernedly.

He thought he could move on, but his mind was full of his memories with Renee...Francine heaved a long sigh after leaving the ward with Elijah.

"What an ill-fated destiny! They got into the same hospital even when they were hurt.

Aren't they just bringing bad luck to each other?"

"Madam, weren't you a materialistic person before? When did you start believing in superstitions? There's no such thing as bringing bad luck to others," Elijah protested.

"It's true! I asked a great fortune-teller about it and learned that they will always bring bad luck to each other. Chaos will happen as long as they're together, and they'll either get hurt or encounter some kind of trouble. Well, both of them are hurt now. Plus, I separated them for their sake..." Francine did not believe in such things, but too many coincidences had made her doubt her faith.

Clenching her fists, she said, "No, I must make Renee transfer to another hospital."

"That's too much, Madam. She's hurt and may be paralyzed forever. She needs to rest, so she won't agree to move to another hospital just like that," Elijah said bluntly.

"You're right. Then I'll make Stef move to another hospital instead. In short, I have to separate them!"

"Well... go ahead if you can. I assure you can't do it." Elijah shrugged helplessly.

"Huh... I can't persuade him, either." Of course, Francine was aware of her capabilities as well as how stubborn her son was.

This issue wasn't going to be resolved that easily.

"Don't worry, Madam Hunt. They're bound to meet if it's written in the stars for them. We don't have to meddle in it, we just have to let nature take its course," Elijah said, nodding like a wise sage.

Francine glared at him.

"Don't be ridiculous. Listen, I need you to monitor him and stop him from meeting Renee. I don't care if it's written in the stars or moon, I have to break them up as long as I'm alive!"

Meanwhile, most of Renee's relatives and friends had left, and she could finally have some peace. Leia stayed with Renee and held her hand, looking dejected.

"Ren, how are you feeling? Does it hurt? Don't hold it in if you're hurting. You can bite my hand if you need to... Don't worry, even if something happens to you, I'll take care of you forever." Justin was leaning against

the wall with his hands in his pockets, and he protested,

"Hey, stop trying to steal my role. That's my line."

"Hmph, the day men can be relied on, pigs will fly! I'll take care of her and stop all men

from getting close to her. If it weren't for you men, she wouldn't be so unlucky." Leia was so upset that Renee got hurt that she was furious at Quinton for failing to protect his sister.

"Alright, stop arguing. I just sprained my waist, I'm not paralyzed. Don't make it sound so serious," Renee grumbled.

Lying in bed, Renee could feel a dull ache around her waist but it didn't affect her much.

Both Leia and Justin exchanged hesitant glances when she said that, and Renee immediately picked up on it.

Chapter: 1702

"Don't tell me I'm really paralyzed?"

"Stop saying such unlucky things!" Quinton grumbled and clenched his fists.

"I'll get the best doctors in the world to cure you, there'll be no risks."

"Calm down, I'm not that weak. Even if I'm really paralyzed, you guys can just let me go," Renee laughed and said indifferently.

She felt that it was better to die instead of living like a useless person.

"I don't want that, Ren! I don't want to see you suffer... You have to get better, okay?" Leia started crying again as she spoke. Sighing, Renee said,

"Okay. Could you all please leave? I want to sleep." She hadn't been too bothered when she arrived at the hospital, but all the people who came to see her kept crying as if she was going to die tomorrow.

"Okay, let's leave and let her rest." Quinton took a deep breath and said to the others.

Justin put his hand on Renee's gently and whispered, "Rest well, and don't worry about anything. Leave the company to Quinton and me."

"Thank you. I'll buy you a grand feast after I recover and leave the hospital." Renee looked at Justin gratefully.

Justin had indeed put in a lot of effort for Renee recently, and she was well aware of that.

After everyone left, the ward was quiet.

Renee stared at the white ceiling, and a wave of melancholy hit her.

Although she sounded optimistic and carefree in front of others, all her worries flooded back to her once she was alone.

What if she really was paralyzed? What would happen to Adie and Abby? She slowly dozed off while dwelling on it. When she woke up later that night, she saw someone sitting by her bed in the dark ward.

She could tell by the man's posture and facial features that he was rather attractive.

"Quinton? Haze?" Renee asked tentatively.

"I had to come up with a million different ways to stop them from coming." The man finally spoke, sounding tired.

"Stefan?" Renee instantly recognized his voice and became tense.

"W-What do you want?" She could not move at all given her injury, so it would be easy for him if he wanted to do anything to her.

"What do you think I'll do?" Stefan crossed his legs and leaned back in his chair, smiling

wickedly.

"How would I know..." Renee tried to get her phone and warned him coldly, "Get out now or I'll call somebody."

"Give up. You can't reach anybody at this time because I've stopped them all." Stefan laughed at Renee's naivety.

Chapter: 1703

Of course, he would have ways to stop others from coming since he had come to Renee's ward at this hour.

"Yeah, you're right." Renee put her phone down and laid back on the bed with a sigh, then closed her eyes.

"Go ahead if you want to take revenge.

You can break my neck, and I won't even be able to stop you." Stefan frowned unhappily and scoffed,

"Do you really think I'm that wicked?"

"No, I didn't say you're wicked..." Realizing he meant her no harm, Renee opened her eyes and glanced at him.

"But we all know how vindictive you are, and you'll never allow yourself to suffer any losses.

It's only fair for you to want to break my neck."

"Oh, so being fair is important to you now?" His expression was unclear under the dim light, and he gracefully uncrossed his legs and moved closer to her.

As his fingers traced her neck, he murmured, "Your neck is so slim; it'll be very easy if I want to break it."

"You should think this through. I'm sure you're more than happy to break my neck but it'll be troublesome to get rid of the mess later..."

Renee could feel his cold fingers on her warm skin, but she didn't feel scared.

On the contrary, a long-lost familiarity gripped her heart. They were once a married couple, and he had touched every part of her body. Her body knew his touch, and wasn't afraid of it.

Stefan paused as he held her neck, overwhelmed by a confusing wave of nostalgia. Excitement surged through him the moment he touched her smooth skin, and for reasons he couldn't understand, his own body reacted with an instinctive desire.

He slowly slid his fingers down her collarbone until he reached her collar...

"Stefan, stop! Don't tell me you'd take liberties with a woman who can't even move!" Renee gasped and swallowed nervously, her heart pounding in her chest.

Stefan's hungry gaze dropped to her exposed skin, but he was not so lecherous to do anything to Renee for real. It was the first time he had seen her so flustered, and it intrigued him.

"Well, I'm not a gentleman. Being a gentleman in this world means being passive and someone else backup plan B. Do you think I'll settle for being someone's backup plan?"

"What the hell is all that? We're not even

close, so what's with all this talk about being someone's backup plan? You're Stefan, the mighty president of Hunt Enterprise, so you shouldn't do anything dishonorable while I'm vulnerable like this, right?"

Renee held the bedsheet tightly and purposely criticized him to make him regain his wits because she was afraid that he would take liberties with her. Unfortunately, Stefan's wits helped him see through her trick.

He murmured teasingly, "You've got me all wrong. I'm not a gentleman, and I am petty enough to use any means necessary to get what I want. I'd be a fool if I didn't enjoy the grand feast laid out before me."

After that, he purposely slid his fingers across her collarbone and unbuttoned the first button of her hospital gown. More of her skin was exposed, and Stefan's gaze darkened with desire.

"Stefan, I'll never forgive you if you don't stop this right now!" Renee exclaimed, her voice high-pitched with panic.

Chapter: 1704

"Weren't we a couple in the past? Although I seem to have forgotten everything about you, we must have been intimate given our relationship. Don't you think you're overreacting?" Stefan said casually, offering her a lazy smirk.

"So what if we were once a couple? Does that give you permission to do whatever you want?" Renee snapped at him, wanting to kick him.

Gritting her teeth, she said, "You're going to get married. Can't you be a gentleman, at least for your fiancée's sake?" Her words instantly killed his excitement, and he straightened his back, scowling at her unhappily.

"Why do you care so much about my relationship?"

"I'm just hoping someone can discipline you and make you stop harming others," Renee heaved a sigh and answered grumpily.

"But you're a mother with two kids. Didn't you do the same?" Displeasure filled Stefan's voice as he spoke.

Previously, he felt that he might date Renee after ending things with Seraphina, but after finding out that she was a mother with two children, he figured it was impossible.

It was not like he hated the children, but he felt she must have loved that man deeply since she was willing to give birth to his children. No man could tolerate being the second choice for a woman, including Stefan.

"When did I do what you did?" His words baffled Renee.

"You harmed me, didn't you? How can you behave like that with other men if you have kids? Justin is always by your side, isn't he? Don't tell me they're his kids," Stefan demanded, sounding peeved..

Renee was dumbfounded by his reasoning.

When did this man become so dumb? Clearly, his brain damage was pretty serious.

"Yeah, they're Justin's kids. If not, why would he always stay by my side? Can you stop pestering me now that you've learned

about my relationship?" Renee complained, wanting this crazy and foolish man to leave.

The atmosphere in the silent ward became tense, and after a while, Stefan finally bit out, "I've got to hand it to you-you had two kids secretly. I'm definitely a failure compared to you."

"Thank you for your praise. You should hurry up and marry Miss Murphy so you can have lots of kids and catch up with me."

Renee didn't care if he misunderstood her because she wanted to cut him out of her life.

"I don't want kids," Stefan said icily.

"Why? Haven't you had enough fun already? Are you worried that you'll be bound by the kids?" Renee glanced at him while sighing.

"Don't have kids if you don't want to-they're a big responsibility. You need to love them wholeheartedly and give up a lot for them, which might be tough for a self centered person like you who likes their freedom. Your kids will suffer if that happens."

As an experienced person, she was well aware of what a child meant to an adult. An adult had to sacrifice a lot to raise a child, and they had to shower the child with selfless love. She had gone through a lot of difficulties while raising Adie and Abby, and she would have stopped caring for them if not for her love for them.

"Hmph! So, you considered it thoroughly before you had your kids? And you love them deeply?" Stefan demanded, glaring at Renee.

"No, I didn't think about it that much," Renee answered honestly. "They were a surprise, and I actually wanted to have an abortion at first. However, the doctor said it was rare to have mixed-gender twins, and it would be hard for me to get pregnant again after the abortion. That was why I took a risk and gave birth to them. They didn't come to this world because of love, but I love them very much now. No one can replace them in my heart."

"Does it mean you had Justin's children out of wedlock and he didn't want to take care of them? And you raised the kids alone?" Stefan grew more curious about the origins of the children and started bombarding her with questions.

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"Umm..." She was helpless to his adorable curiosity, and replied, "At first, my love for the kids father was unrequited, and he betrayed me later on. I then stopped loving him but found out that I was pregnant. I decided to give birth to them alone, but their father claimed he still loved me and wished to live together with us as a happy family of four. However, he betrayed me again... In the end, I ended up like this." She tried to summarize her melodramatic and complicated love affair

with Stefan.

"I see." Stefan nodded dazedly, trying his best to understand the complex explanation.

Renee chuckled and asked, "What do you understand?"

Stefan's reply was blunt: "If I was Justin, I would try my best to take the children, but I wouldn't force their mother."

“Really?” Renee was filled with disappointment. Stefan was different from Justin—even if Justin didn’t have children with her, he would still prioritize her. However, Stefan wouldn’t think about her at all even

if he had two children with her. Maybe it was a good thing that he had lost his memory, or else it would be a fierce battle with the Hunts competing for the children’s custody.

“It’s late. Can you go now since you’ve enjoyed witnessing my misery, Mr. Hunt?” Suddenly, Renee’s mood turned foul, and she wanted to be left alone.

Stefan got up and said indifferently, “Yeah, I should go now...” He took two steps, but stopped and said softly, “I would definitely try to force her to be with me... if it was you.”

“What?” Confused, Renee wanted to ask him what he meant, but Stefan had already left.

Stefan clenched his fists in frustration as he walked away. His memory was still foggy, so he couldn’t make any big moves for now. Everything would be clear after Owen performed the surgery for him. He looked forward to that day.

When Seraphina returned home from the hospital, she started throwing a tantrum and breaking things, screaming in frustration.

“What’s the matter with you, Seraphina? Who upset you? Was it Stefan? I’ll give him a piece of my mind!” Ethan always spoiled his daughter and could not bear to see her suffer. Even if it was Stefan, Ethan would tell him off if he infuriated Seraphina.

“No one upset me, it’s just that I did something stupid and I don’t know how to resolve it.” Seraphina flopped onto her bed and sobbed. “Dad, I’m doomed! It’ll be over for me when Stefan gets back his memories.”

“Gets back his memories?” Frowning, Ethan asked, “Is there something wrong with him? You can’t marry him if something’s wrong with his brain. What if he suddenly loses his mind?”

"Shut up, Dad! Don't curse him!" Seraphina snapped. Despite everything, she would always defend Stefan if someone said something bad about him, even if it was her father.

"I'm not cursing him. Didn't you say there's something wrong with his brain? He's so much worse now after his injury, and his company isn't as prosperous as it used to be. Previously, some kind of small company managed to suppress it, you know." Ethan was referring to Quinton's Carmine Pawnshop and its battle with Hunt Group.

"Get out. I don't want to talk to you." Angry, Seraphina pushed Ethan out of her room and closed the door. She took out her phone and stared at it for a long time, then finally dialled that long-lost number.

"Try and come up with a way to stop it then."

Seraphina froze. "You're saying that..."

"The neurosurgeon you talked about is good at his job, but he's just an ordinary man, isn't he? Your family is powerful and influential. Do I really have to spell it out for you?" Jovan asked her sarcastically.

"Umm..." Seraphina frowned, fidgeting uncomfortably. "You're... You're saying that..."

"I said nothing. Think it through since you're so smart. In short, you should start with the source if you want to stop the surgery. Use any means necessary; it's the right way as long as you can stop it."

Seraphina clenched her phone tightly. "I think I know what I should do now."

Chapter: 1706

Seraphina took a deep breath and decided to take a risk for the sake of her happiness. Right before Jovan could hang up on her,

she quickly asked, "Out of curiosity, where have you been hiding recently? Didn't you promise to take Renee away from Beach

City? Why is she still strutting around here? I'm afraid she'll get involved with Stefan again if you don't step in; you would've given up your eyes and blood to Stefan for nothing then!"

Seraphina couldn't understand Jovan's willingness to give up his eyes and blood to save the man Renee loved, which had

ultimately turned him into a useless man. People would certainly call him a naive and lovestruck fool.

Even Seraphina felt that she had to hand it to him because she would never make such sacrifices for Stefan. Unfortunately, Jovan's sacrifices had only gotten him half a year with Renee. After that, she did whatever she wanted, and his sacrifices became futile. It was really pitiful!

"It's none of your business. Plus, I'm not you-I love her and wish her happiness. Even though you say you love Stefan, you put your happiness first instead of his." Jovan's blunt comment rendered her speechless.

Furious, she said, "Why are you telling me this? Yes, you're very noble... But weren't you the one who caused this mess? I was just your pawn, and I did everything under your orders. You even hired the man who did the surgery on Stefan!"

"If you're really my pawn, are you willing to stop if I ask you to?"

"Stop?" Clenching her fists, Seraphina demanded angrily, "What do you mean?"

"Stop meddling in it and let him have his surgery. If he remembers anything, tell him that it was my idea, and that you were a victim too. But if you want to stop the surgery, you have to bear the consequences alone. Can you do that?"

Jovan provided Seraphina with two options. She could choose to let the surgery go on and let Jovan take the blame, or stop the surgery and deal with the consequences on her own.

"Umm... I know what I should do. It's none of your business." Seraphina hurriedly hung up the call, possibly out of guilt.

There was an ancient, abandoned residence located away from the hustle and bustle of Beach City. The surrounding neighbors had all moved away, making the residence look very desolate and frightening at night.

"It's getting late, Master Jovan. Don't you want to go to bed?" A young woman called Eloise Pierce sighed and tried to persuade Jovan. She was responsible for taking care of Jovan. After Jovan moved back to Beach City, he moved to this old and remote residence alone and was solely under Eloise's care. At first, Eloise did it for the money, but gradually

she wavered.

"You miss Miss Everheart so much that you can't even eat or sleep properly, but what about her? It looks like she doesn't think of

you at all! I read tabloids recently and they're saying that she's been seen with both Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Hunt. Meanwhile, you're

here suffering. She's a heartless witch!" Crying, Eloise complained about the injustice Jovan had faced.

Jovan's gaze instantly turned cold, and he growled, "Be silent!"

"I won't stop even if you want to drive me away or hit me, Master Jovan. Miss Everheart is really unworthy of your love and care. You have to pull yourself together, okay?" She threw herself at him and stared at his handsome face.

"Let me take you to her and make her take care of you. It's all because of her that you ended up like this!"

"No, it's fine." Jovan sounded gloomy and pathetic. An existence like this made him wonder if he was still alive, and he had no courage to meet Renee again. He sighed and said lightly, "I decided to leave her to set her free, and I don't regret it."

Knowing Renee's character, she would not say no if he wanted to use her guilt to make her take care of him for the rest of his life. She would've readily abandoned her brother she had just been reunited with, her children, and her career half a year ago to lead a secluded life with him in Varangia, if Jovan had asked.

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During those six months, she took care of him as if he was a baby and never complained. Jovan felt it was enough; in his opinion, it had been more than worth it giving up his eyes and body in exchange for having her by his side for that time. Those memories were something he looked back on fondly, and he

couldn't ask for more.

However, Eloise couldn't figure out why the smart, sensitive, and competitive Jovan had become so passive.

"You haven't forgotten about Miss Everheart, Master Jovan. Why don't you just give it a try? What if she still thinks about you? What if she'll be surprised to see you, and decides she wants to spend the rest of her life with you?" Eloise refused to give up persuading him because she knew how miserable he was living like this.

"I wouldn't want that even if she does." Jovan chuckled bitterly and said,

"Any man with dignity wouldn't want to live like useless trash in front of their beloved." Even though he had been cunning and devious in the past to get what he wanted, as a man, he couldn't abandon his dignity.

"Ah, Master Jovan... Everyone says that you're wicked and cunning but you're actually a caring and loyal man. Yes, they say Stefan is honest and righteous, the superior heir of Hunt Group, but I find him to be very hypocritical. He isn't righteous at all!"

"Hmph, what would you know?" Jovan was amused.

"I know. Miss Everheart sacrificed a lot for him. She married him and had his children but he betrayed her and wanted to marry Miss Seraphina instead. Only a man without a conscience can do that!"

"There are a lot of things you don't know," Jovan said wearily.

"No, I do know things! Although I'm a maid, I'm no fool. You'd rather give up your eyes and body to be a disabled person to ease Miss Everheart's mind, but what about Stefan? He only values profit, so his love can't be compared to yours at all!"

"So what?" Jovan's deep-set eyes were blank and listless. "It's not like you can overcome everything with love."

"I'll stop if you don't want to win her over, but Miss Everheart has been seriously injured lately. She can't take care of you either..."

"What did you say?" Instantly, Jovan's body tensed and he asked urgently, "When and how did she get hurt? Is it serious? Why didn't you tell me?"

"I... I..." It had been a long time since Eloise had seen Jovan this agitated. Frightened, she swallowed and answered, "I thought that it might affect your mood, so I decided to inform you only after I got more information about it..."

"What happened? Tell me!" Jovan demanded coldly as he clenched his fists. Renee was the only light in his dark world, and he couldn't bear it if anything happened to her.

"I heard it was an activity organized by her kids kindergarten. She fell off a high platform and hurt her lower back... But I don't know the specifics because that's all I heard on the news."

Eloise's tone was filled with trepidation.

"She fell..." Jovan's heart pounded in his chest, and he didn't dare think about it. He took a deep breath and ordered, "Go to her

hospital now and ask around. I want accurate information on this."

"I can do that, but I'm the only one taking care of you now. Is it alright if I leave you alone?" Worried, Eloise watched his desolate

form. She regretted telling him about it, seeing how troubled he was.

"Don't bother. I won't be okay if she's not. Go now," Jovan urged her anxiously.

"Alright." Eloise was about to leave but Jovan quickly added, "Wait, the sunflowers seem to have bloomed in the backyard. Do pick a bouquet for her; I'm sure it'll smell nice."

Chapter: 1708

"Okay, I will." Seeing the tenderness in his eyes made tears roll down Eloise's cheeks. She felt that people shouldn't fall in love so easily. In the past, Jovan was a very rational person, but now, he was merely a lovestruck fool who had sacrificed everything for his unrequited love. He had given his heart

entirely to Renee.

Stefan always went to Renee's ward late at night after that day. Sometimes they argued, sometimes they talked, sometimes they just sat in companionable silence.

Renee eventually got used to his presence, and stopped trying to drive him away. She had even helped Stefan drive other visitors away for fear that he might bump into them. However, some part of her felt disappointed in herself because she had gotten closer to Stefan even though she promised to stay

away from him.

"My lower back still hurts. Once I get better, you're the first person I'll drive away." It was yet another quiet night, and Renee boldly declared her intentions as she munched on the black velvet cake that Stefan had secretly

brought for her.

Coldly, Stefan replied, "You're all talk and no action. Get well and drive me away quickly then."

"I won't let you go that easily..." Renee said fiercely, then sweetly asked, "Is there more cake? I want to have more."

The deliciously delicate black velvet cake was hard to get because only ten of them were sold daily. Besides, Quinton had been controlling her diet strictly, so it was hard for her to eat desserts.

Stefan had easily discovered this weakness of Renee's and had easily used it as bait to force her to cover for him.

"Yes, there's more. Open your mouth." Smiling, Stefan fished out another cake and spoke to her tenderly.

Renee couldn't move at all, so Stefan bringing food to her relieved her boredom. She obediently opened her mouth and waited for him to feed her. Although their actions were rather intimate, she felt that it was worth it when she bit into the cake.

"This cake is amazing!" The smooth taste of the cake lingered in her mouth, taking away all her exhaustion and sadness.

"Eat slowly. I'll buy it for you again tomorrow," Stefan spoke tenderly to her as if he was coaxing a child as she gobbled the cake up. However, Renee ignored him and eagerly munched on the cake he fed her. Suddenly, she accidentally bit his finger, and Stefan felt electricity surge through his body. Heat

prickled his skin, and he stared at her in shock.

"Ah, sorry. I didn't mean to bite you, I just..." Renee's face turned red and she immediately backed away, apologizing to him.

"Do you want more?" Stefan's eyes had darkened, and his intense gaze was glued to her mouth.

"No, thanks." Awkward and breathless, Renee couldn't look at him or the cake. She wanted the ground to open up and swallow her.

"Wipe your mouth if you're done eating," Stefan said huskily, staring at a bit of cream on the corner of Renee's lips. It made her look innocent and seductive, like a kitten who had eaten some stolen food.

"Oh, okay... Hand me a tissue." Renee licked her lips awkwardly, thinking she must look like a glutton who would do anything for food.

"That's unnecessary," Stefan murmured.

"What?" Renee looked at him in confusion.

"You don't need a tissue paper."

Chapter: 1709

"Huh? What do you mean?" Renee was getting angry now.

"Well, I can help you with that." Stefan closed his eyes and leaned down to kiss her.

"Umm, what are you doing..." Renee's eyes widened helplessly.

Cradling her face in his hands gently, Stefan kissed her deeply, licking the cream off her lips. The kiss was fervent and passionate, filled with his love and desire for her, and he only broke it off after a while.

"I think... I've got all of it." Stefan rubbed his swollen lips with his finger and said throatily.

"Stefan!" Renee snapped, her face burning. "You're completely out of line! You think you can do whatever you want just because I can't move? I'm going to get someone to catch you so you can't run away

Quinton had realized something was amiss, and had given Renee an emergency alarm. If Renee pressed that button, the whole hospital would be alerted. Renee had initially laughed about it, not wanting to wake everyone up because of her selfish desire to eat cake, but that seemed to have given Stefan the confidence to behave recklessly.

"I just wanted to help you wipe your lips... but I won't come tomorrow night if you think it's

inappropriate. I'll also fire the pastry chef I poached from a top pastry shop." Raising his brows, Stefan continued, "He was planning to bake a hazelnut cake tomorrow..."

"No, please don't!" Renee's eyes lit up because she loved hazelnut cake the most. She quickly explained, "Don't fire him. I'm sure it wasn't easy for him to get the job, so let him work tomorrow but... you don't have to wipe my lips for me. I can do it on my own."

"Sure, I'll think it over seeing how concerned and sincere you are," Stefan said lightly, smiling like a cunning fox.

"Ah!" Renee sighed heavily, ashamed of herself. As always, Stefan was good at analyzing people's thoughts. He knew that she was a soft-hearted person and a foodie, and he had used that to slowly break down her walls, making her crave his company... He really was a devious fox!

Stefan checked the time and realized it was quite late. He stood up to leave, smiling in satisfaction like the cat that got the cream. "Get some rest; I'll head back to my ward now. See you again tomorrow at the same time."

Silent, Renee closed her eyes and pretended to be asleep. Images of them kissing played on her mind constantly, making her blush. Somehow, she had gotten entangled with Stefan again, ignoring the fact that their being together would harm each other...

She didn't dare imagine what kind of crisis would happen next. Since everything had happened late at night, it felt like a dream that would disappear when she woke up.

After some time had passed, Renee heard rustling again. Although she had her eyes closed, she could feel someone's fierce gaze on her, making her skin prickle.

"Stefan?" She opened her eyes and stared at the dark figure in the ward, trying to turn on the light.

"There's no need to trouble yourself, Miss Everheart. I'm only here to see you because of my master; I'll leave in a while." It was a woman, and her tense voice was filled with suppressed anger.

"Your master?" Renee placed her hand on the emergency alarm that Quinton had given her, prepared to press it in case this person was an enemy.

"Do you ever think about my master when you hug and kiss that heartless man? He sacrificed so much for you and is now in such a sorry state. His bright future was ruined, and in the end..." She could speak no more when she reached that point, and sobbed silently.

"Can you tell me who your master is?" Renee whispered as she put the emergency alarm down. She could tell from the woman's voice that she didn't want to harm her but just felt sorry for her master. Curious, Renee wanted to know who the woman's master was.

"Don't you feel like there's someone you've wronged greatly and can't forget about?" After taking a deep breath, the woman spoke again.

"Yes, I do," Renee said with a heavy heart.

"I've wronged many people. If there's a chance, I want to make it up to them because I don't like to be indebted to others."

Chapter: 1710

"My master's sacrifices aren't wasted if you think so then..." The woman came forward and placed a bouquet of sunflowers on the bedside cabinet. "Rest well. I'll come to you when you've recovered, and you should repay him then. I hope you'll keep your word."

A week later, there was finally news from the hospital. Although Renee's injury was serious, it had healed fast because of the good treatment, and the risk of paralysis was gone. Everyone was happy and relieved to hear it,

"Great! It must be your good fortune because you helped so many people. I knew that you would be okay!" Leia said excitedly as she hugged Renee. She'd been so worried about Renee that she hadn't been sleeping well and had lost a lot of weight. One might have thought she was the one who had gotten injured instead.

"You're not allowed to take part in any climbing activities from now on, be it rock climbing, mountain climbing, or even going up the stairs. If you do, someone has to be around to watch you!" Quinton said sternly. He would never let Renee take any risks like that again.

"Don't worry, Quinton. Phoenix won't get in any trouble under my watch." Justin was unusually serious as he gazed at Renee.

"I heard from the doctor that you'll be discharged from the hospital in a month, so just hold on until then. If you're not comfortable staying in the hospital, I can apply for an early discharge for you and get a

professional caretaker for you at home..." Quinton felt very sorry for Renee as he saw her lying in bed, unable to move.

"It's okay," Renee immediately refused him and said, "It's comfortable staying in this VIP ward, and it's pretty convenient. You don't have to trouble yourself to get me an early discharge."

"I know you think it's troubling me, Renee, but you don't have to worry about it. It's just an application for an early discharge. It's no trouble at all..." Patting Renee's shoulders, Quinton continued solemnly,

"Don't worry, I'll handle it. We can go home soon."

"Umm..." Renee just smiled awkwardly, unsure of how to explain it. It wasn't because of troubling Quinton that she didn't want to leave early... it was because she was used to Stefan feeding her with good food every night. It was like a vow they'd secretly made, and she didn't want to ruin it.

"To be on the safe side, I think it's better to let her stay until the doctor says she can leave," Justin suggested, actually wanting Renee to stay in the hospital so he could visit her whenever he wanted. If she went home, Quinton would be guarding her.

"Yeah, I think we'd better listen to the doctor. After all, she's been staying here for two weeks already, and we shouldn't move her around so much," Leia agreed with Justin.

"It's three against one, Quinton... Don't worry about me. Just carry on with your work; this hospital takes very good care of me." Smiling, Renee reassured Quinton.

"Alright then, we'll just listen to the doctor," Quinton grumbled, reluctantly obeying their wishes.

Suddenly, Leia caught sight of the bright sunflowers on Renee's bedside table. She asked curiously,

"Ren, these flowers look like they were freshly picked from a garden. Who gave them to you?" She knew that the flowers weren't from Quinton or Justin because they weren't that romantic. They had never given Renee flowers before.

"Umm..."

Melancholy washed over Renee as she glanced at the flowers and sighed.

"I got them from an old friend."

"Who's the person who knows your favorite flower? Do I know them?" Leia picked out a sunflower and sniffed it.

"Yes, you know him." Downcast, Renee nodded.

Justin narrowed his eyes at the bouquet and growled, "Do I know him?"

"Maybe," Renee answered honestly.