Extraordinary 1001

Chapter 1001 Hades

Lucas forced himself to calm down. No. I can't fall into that whirlpool of negative emotions again. When I was exiled back then, not many of my brothers were left. Almost none of those who had the right to become an heir appeared remarkably similar to me.

Then, he took in a deep breath to adjust his state of mind. "Let's go, Honey."

There was a darkened look in his eyes.

Nodding, Ashlyn held his hand tightly, intertwining their fingers together and silently providing him warmth. "Since you're not the Nolan family's biological child, have you thought about searching for your biological parents?" That was what she cared about the most at the moment.

Lucas was silent for a few seconds before he answered, "I was abandoned and exiled by my family back then. Since... they don't want me, why should I go back?"

Abandoned and exiled? Ashlyn's pupils constricted. I didn't expect that to happen to him. I never imagined he was an orphan or a child tossed aside by his family. It's shocking for me to learn this truth about his background. I assumed his biological family is a prestigious one, though I imagine they have to be blind to exile a good kid like Lucas.

Oftentimes, those so-called prominent families are rotten inside while still putting on a glamorous facade. Sneering silently, she suddenly stood on her toes and planted a kiss on the man's alluring lips. Then, she pressed her forehead against his, uttering, "Lucas, here..."

She grabbed his hand and placed it on her chest. "This here is your home."

She grabbed his hand and placed it on her chest. "This here is your home."

Ashlyn's eyes were extraordinarily brilliant in the night.

Lucas' gaze remained fixed on her as he caressed her smooth, tender cheeks.

The exquisite sensation gave him pause.

He pursed his lips as the look in his eyes took on a darker hue. If not for the inappropriate time and place, I really want to embrace her and swallow her whole right now!

In the end, Lucas resisted his beastly desires and bit Ashlyn's lip affectionately. "There are a lot of people here. Let's leave!"

His cold and towering figure makes me feel inexplicably worried. My heart aches for him. Ashlyn

nodded, feeling somewhat sympathetic for the man before her. "Okay!"

The night wind grew increasingly chillier, and the sky darkened further.

A cold gust of wind brushing past one's ear was akin to a ghostly caress, sending shivers down one's spine.

In a secret spot within the forest, a group of men dressed in black stood neatly together.

Before them was their leader, a tall, intimidating man.

His cold, overpowering vibe compelled irresistible submission to him.

"Sebastian hasn't returned yet, Mr. Hades." A man stepped forward and whispered to the leader.

"Find him," replied Hades. His tone was low and deep, with a hint of iciness.

Clearly, he was displeased by the news.

"Roger."

Another man then approached Hades, staring at him with a complicated look. "Silvermoon is near, Mr. Hades. We're... part of the same organization, after all."

Hades chuckled. "Silvermoon is but a piece of trash. So what if we're in the same organization? Can't I complete the mission he fails to?"

His handsome, yet icy expression was exceptionally terrifying, and a crazed look swirled in his eyes. Silvermoon is constantly stealing my spotlight and credit within the organization. This time... I'll be the one to kill Ashlyn and Lucas!

Everyone was silent, as though they could feel Hades' powerful emotions.

Silvermoon and Hades were both right-hand men of the leader of ZZ Organization.

Aside from the leader, the two men possessed the largest amount of authority and power within the organization.

Meanwhile, Lucas and Ashlyn were weaving through the forest, their speed as quick as lighting.

Chapter 1002 Eavesdropping

Earlier, Cassandra and Spencer successfully brought the others away, so Ashlyn and Lucas stayed behind to provide cover for their escape.

The enemies behind Ashlyn and Lucas pursued them relentlessly as if they knew no exhaustion.

It was difficult to tell which side was more relentless in achieving its goal.

Despite multiple gunshots having been released, Ashlyn and Lucas remained unscathed as they nimbly dodged every single shot.

"Let's go!" The menacing aura Lucas exuded became increasingly intense.

He carried Ashlyn in his arms and hid above the branches of a large tree.

Time ticked by slowly before a series of footsteps were heard underneath the tree, followed by a man's low and hoarse voice. "Mr. Hades, the shorty's dead."

"How can it be?" Hades watched as his subordinate helped Sebastian walk toward him. The latter's face was completely drained of colors.

As he narrowed his eyes, murderous intent flashed across them.

"Mr. Hades." Pursing his lips, Sebastian lowered his eyes and kept mum as if he was waiting for Hades' punishment.

Hades' gaze darkened, and his already icy tone of voice became even more chilly. The pressure he was emanating was overwhelming for Sebastian.

"He was hurt by Lucas and Ashlyn," the subordinate holding Sebastian stated on the latter's behalf.

A hint of shock surfaced in Hades' eyes. Ashlyn and Lucas are that powerful? I can't believe it. Sebastian is considered one of the best assassins in ZZ Organization, yet he was still injured by them. This is rather worrying.

He then swept his gaze past Sebastian, causing the latter to instinctively lower his head even further.

"Where are they?" Hades questioned.

"They've escaped." As shocked as Sebastian was, he still disclosed the series of events that took place earlier. It was humiliating! I can't believe I was almost beaten to death by Lucas!

A gust of cold wind blew, causing the sand and dust to swirl in the cover of night.

The air was as cold as ice and felt slightly suffocating.

Sebastian continued lowering his head in silence and stood rooted in his spot, appearing like a statue.

After listening to Sebastian's account of the events, Hades was utterly taken aback. "You're saying that Lucas could've killed you, but he showed you mercy instead?" Why didn't Lucas just kill him? It's undoubtedly damaging for a skilled martial artist to hold back their killing move.

Hades wasn't the only one who was startled. Everyone there also furrowed their brows in response. It feels like things aren't as simple as it meets the eye. Lucas isn't a merciful or magnanimous man. He wouldn't have spared an assassin who was aiming to take his life. Something about this is strange, but I can't quite put my finger on it. Why did Lucas show Sebastian mercy? What can possibly be the reason behind his decision?

Sebastian stared at the silent Hades and couldn't help but call out, "Mr. Hades."

Hades' eyes glittered with menace and a hint of bewilderment as he looked at Sebastian.

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It wasn't until a long while later that he finally and coldly thundered, "Piece of trash!"

Sebastian had his head hung low, as low as his anatomy could permit. He dared not utter a single word at this juncture. Even though I'm the best assassin in ZZ Organization, I failed my mission and almost lost my life. No matter what, I deserve this.

Ashlyn and Lucas had been hiding in the tree, taking in every single word uttered in the men's conversation.

They exchanged a quiet glance.

A single look was all they needed to tell that the people beneath them were all assassins and skilled ones at that.

If the enemies came at them in waves, the couple were confident they could work together and take their enemies down.

Alas, there were too many of them for Ashlyn and Lucas to face at once.

Beep! Beep!

All of a sudden, Hades' communication device sounded, and an icy voice traveled from the other end of the line. "Hades, you came all the way here to interfere with my mission. What's the meaning of this?"

"The leader never specified that you must be the one to complete this mission, Silvermoon." Hades let out a cold chuckle. "You ruined everything, and that Dixon is brainless beyond words. Just anticipate your punishment when you head back!"

For a split second, Ashlyn's glare was sharp and stern. Hades and Silvermoon are associates! Moreover, Dixon has ties to the latter...

Chapter 1003 Police Officers Arrived

The gears in her mind began turning speedily as she analyzed the overwhelming amount of information she had just received. Has ZZ Organization's influence spread across the entire Lake City? Dixon is being manipulated by them too. Silvermoon seemed to be the only one responsible for the fire at Imperial Hotel back then, but could it be that it was actually a collaborative effort between him, Howard, and Dixon? Also... when did Lucas discover that Dixon was also involved in the fire at Imperial Hotel? I can't help but feel that Lucas is a man with many layers. He helped me exact revenge by burning Haddock Group to the ground, and he's also an exceptionally skilled shooting champion. Not a single one of his shots missed their targets.

Ashlyn's heart began to race. As she thought about how cool and handsome Lucas looked while he was shooting, her cheeks took on a scarlet hue.

What entered Ashlyn's mind was the image of a tall and slender man narrowing his eyes, which were filled with murderous intent, and raising his arm to take aim. He's so handsome! I've no doubt he can

win against all the men here in seconds!

Just as her thoughts were running wild, the group of people beneath the tree had already left and were slowly getting out of sight.

It wasn't until they were completely out of his field of vision that Lucas carried Ashlyn in his arms and leaped down from the tree.

"Silvermoon's the masked man that appeared on the day Imperial Hotel caught fire. He was the one who killed Howard," Ashlyn muttered, almost in a whisper.

"I know," was what Lucas said as he lowered his eyes.

Both of them then proceeded in the opposite direction of Hades' group.

The couple was aiming to escape the forest before sunrise.

Nevertheless, gunshots continued to reverberate throughout the vast and dense forest. The shrill screams sounded particularly harrowing in the dead of night.

The battlefield was extremely chaotic. Blood painted the entire ground scarlet, and there were corpses strewn everywhere.

The stench of blood lingering in the air was absolutely horrid.

Ashlyn and Lucas stared at the stomach-churning sight before their eyes. It wasn't any different from battlefields from ages past, and there were also many dismembered limbs scattered throughout the place.

Almost none of the corpses remained intact.

A person with a weak heart would've thrown up after witnessing such a scene.

"Seems like there was another massacre here." Lucas frowned as the edge of his eyes twitched.

Even he was slightly bothered by the ghastly sight. Almost none of the corpses are still intact. This is-

Just then, the sound of police sirens could be heard.

Countless armed police, equipped with their full uniforms, gas masks, and machine guns, made their way into the forest.

After the various factions saw the intimidatingly powerful policemen, they began escaping in all directions.

However, those armed police officers had not an ounce of mercy toward the evildoers. They attacked and hunted down the outlaws without a hint of hesitation.

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All of them were in the front lines.

Silvermoon didn't expect the police to arrive that quickly. A grimace settled on his countenance hiding

behind the mask. "Retreat!"

"Should we still save Mr. Haddock?" a subordinate asked swiftly.

"Let's leave! We can't save him!" As soon as Silvermoon ended his sentence, he turned around and bolted.

His surviving subordinates hurriedly followed behind him.

Similarly, when Hades and his group of people noticed the armed police, they swiftly made their escape as well.

They would be in huge trouble if they ended up getting caught.

As the sounds of machine guns firing echoed in the forest, the outlaws dropped to the ground one by one, dead.

"Capture their leader alive!" The captain of the special forces roared, "Do not let them escape!"

These terrorist groups are getting more and more audacious by the day! They've even started smuggling people into the country. I can't believe these criminals are looking down on us law enforcers and conducting these businesses rampantly!

After living through a night of battling the terrorists, Cassandra and the others sat on the ground wearily as soon as the police officers arrived.

All of them were covered in dirt, especially Cassandra.

The girly dress she had on was a dirtied and tattered mess at that point. She wiped away the blood on her face and crawled over to see how Spencer was going.

Chapter 1004 Oddly Good Match

"You have a gunshot wound on your leg," Cassandra remarked as she studied the injury on Spencer's thigh. When she touched it, she noticed his pants were already soaked in blood.

Upon noticing the harrowing sight of blood on her hand, she grimaced and carried him up.

Spencer was rendered speechless for a moment before he gulped. "Can you not carry me?" This is so embarrassing, especially when there are police officers everywhere. I'm a grown man, and I certainly don't want to be seen carried around by a petite woman! I wish the ground would swallow me up right about now.

However, Cassandra didn't understand why the man was feeling ashamed. Expeditiously, she grabbed a

medical kit from the tank, leaped out of the vehicle, and landed before him.

Upon opening the medical kit, she pulled out a dagger.

A dagger? Can anyone tell me why there's a weapon inside a medical kit? A bewildered Spencer watched as Cassandra sanitized the dagger by running it through the fire twice.

She then explained, "We have to get the bullet out of you right now. Hold still, and bear with the pain while I dig the bullet out."

The man was dumbfounded. Is she really going to employ such a simple but brutish technique to extract the bullet from my leg?

He shook his head vehemently. "No! Let's wait for Ms. Berry. She's a pro- Argh!"

Before he could finish his sentence, the brutish Cassandra ripped open the leg of his pants, then swiftly and forcefully stabbed the dagger into his thigh.

A thud rang out, and the bullet came out of his thigh before falling to the ground.

Spencer saw Cassandra retrieve a clean handkerchief from the medical kit and press it against his wound.

Her movements were swift, decisive, and efficient.

With her fair, dexterous hand, she hastily pulled out gauze and bandage from the medical kit. She also removed some medicinal powder from the kit and sprinkled it on Spencer's wound.

As blood leaked out of his body, he was in so much agony that he paled and almost fainted. I really do not understand why Cassandra always acts so straightforwardly and savagely, even though she has a cute, innocent, and delicate face. Her appearance is a stark contrast to her demeanor. I must say, her behavior can't help but make me recall a certain hammer-wielding paladin from a popular battle arena game. Ugh, f*ck. This is so bloody painful. Still, I must endure. I mustn't allow her to look down on me. I'm a man, after all! How can I be weaker than her?

Once Cassandra was done dressing his wound, she lifted the man up once more. "You're hurt, so you can't exert yourself or walk around. Therefore..."

A malicious grin settled on Cassandra's pretty face. Mischievously, she carried him as though he was a princess. "I suppose I'll have to lower my ego and bring you inside!"

Spencer was speechless. My dignity as a man has never taken such a huge hit before!

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It was then two figures dashed out of the forest.

When Spencer saw who they were, he shouted, "Mr. Nolan!"

Lucas' countenance was scarily dark. But when he saw the petite Cassandra carrying his assistant in her arms, his gaze settled on them for a moment.

He then looked away, though the edges of his lips curved upward, revealing his inner thoughts. Will Spencer ever look this adorable again? It's amusing to see a freakishly strong yet petite woman carrying him like a princess!

Meanwhile, Ashlyn wasn't as composed as Lucas was. While she had just escaped the carnage, it didn't affect her mood to enjoy the scene before her.

She swept her gaze past the chaotic sight in front of her before peering at Cassandra and Spencer again. They seem like an oddly good match for each other.

"I must say, Spencer, I think you're very suited to stay in Cassandra's arms." Caressing her chin, Ashlyn remarked, "Hopefully, this will continue for the rest of your lives."

Cassandra snorted. "As if I'd want to stay with him my whole life."

Disdain shrouded her pretty face. "He's a cowardly man. Did you know he wanted to wait for your return just so you could remove the bullet in his leg?"

Arching a brow, Ashlyn asked, "How are you feeling now, Mr. White? Is the bullet still in you?"

Chapter 1005 Sienna Was Shocked

"It has been removed already..." informed Spencer weakly. I feel like the image I've spent my life building has been ruined tonight.

"I was the one who dug it out!" Cassandra stated pridefully and cutely.

Moments later, uniform footsteps were heard coming from behind the group.

Ashlyn turned around and saw the captain of the armed police officers leading his men toward her.

"Ms. Berry," the captain greeted.

She nodded. "Thanks for the help, everyone."

The captain grinned. "I'm just glad you aren't upset by our tardiness. Tonight has been very fruitful. It's thanks to you and Mr. Nolan that we've successfully captured many terrorists."

He then extended his arm and gave Lucas a firm handshake. "Thank you, Mr. Nolan."

A serious expression was set on Lucas' countenance. "No problem."

Almost every armed police officer was escorting a terrorist.

However, none of them seemed to have captured anyone important, and Ashlyn was slightly disappointed by that.

Wilson and Dixon were also escorted into a police car.

Meanwhile, the first rays of dawn finally appeared over the horizon. After a night of endless bloodshed and escape, the dense forest appeared exceptionally sinister and creepy.

But as dawn broke and the sun rose once again, the looming darkness was instantly swept away.

It was just like the ray of justice that would never dimmed.

Dixon sat in the police car, looking extremely dispirited. He was sandwiched by two armed police

officers to prevent him from escaping.

At that moment, he scowled with frustration. Why did it turn out like this? Everything... was going so well!

His face was gloomy, and a hostile, menacing aura surrounded him still.

Even though he was already a prisoner, he was still rearing to search for an opportunity to escape.

Concurrently, Wilson was sitting in another police car, sharing the same dejected look Dixon had on. It's over. I'm done for. I've lost everything because I was greedy. Blackhand Mafia will soon be helmed by someone else. I should've appreciated the position that I spent so much effort on attaining.

The police immediately announced Dixon's capture.

That night was far too bloody, horrifying, and cruel.

To ensure the news wouldn't cause the public to panic, the police merely stated that they had captured criminal gangs and people smugglers.

After that, Wilson and Dixon were immediately taken into custody. An investigation was pending, and more details would only be released once the investigation was completed.

Sienna waited for Dixon the entire night, but he never returned.

She sat on the couch in the living room and waited from dusk until dawn, feeling uneasy the entire time. Unknowingly, the sun had risen. Sienna didn't feel drowsy at all, though she was plagued by fatigue, lethargy, anxiety, and inexplicable unease. When Dixon left last night, he told me he had a matter to attend to and asked me not to wait up for him. I still remember the cautious expression he had on when he left. I can't help feeling worried for him...

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Sienna wasn't paying attention to what was being broadcasted on the television until she heard a familiar name.

She lifted her eyes in surprise and saw a disheveled man on the screen.

Meanwhile, the news reporter announced, "Good morning. This is Aurora News at seven in the morning. Last night, a significant incident occurred in the northern suburbs. The police referred to the incident as the 11.22 major smuggling case. The CEO of Haddock Group, Dixon Haddock, was involved in people smuggling and other criminal activities. By utilizing shipping containers, he smuggled Alendorians into our borders. There are, in total, forty-four of these stowaways. All of them froze to death on their journey here. The temperature inside these containers is extremely low, reaching twenty-seven degrees below the freezing point. Technically speaking, no human can survive in this temperature. Currently, we're waiting for Mr. Dixon Haddock to be sanctioned by the law."

The remote control in Sienna's hand dropped to the ground as she gazed at the television with a pale face. On the screen, Dixon had on a pair of handcuffs. His expensive suit was wrinkled, his face had blood on it, and his hair was a mess. The man's handsome face was completely devoid of emotions.

Chapter 1006 Interrogating Dixon

How is that possible? Dixon is a smuggler? I don't believe it! Sienna teared up. I always knew Dixon was a criminal, and I've illegally collected money with him plenty of times before, but I always thought that was the extent of it. I never imagined Dixon would commit such a heinous crime! He's responsible for forty-four deaths!

When her train of thought ended there, she felt dizzy.

Sienna stood up unsteadily, intending to go upstairs to get a change of clothes. She wanted to go to the

police station.

Thump!

Suddenly, she collapsed to the ground.

"Ma'am!" the housekeeper screamed.

Meanwhile, Dixon was sitting inside the interrogation room of a police station. His hands and legs were cuffed. Furthermore, his body was even restricted by a rope as though the police were afraid he would escape.

Two police officers sat opposite him, staring at him. "Name."

"You don't even know who I am? I'm famous in Lake City, you know." Even though Dixon was a prisoner at that point, he still acted arrogantly and looked down on the police officers.

"State your name!" The officer glared at him with annoyance. "You're just a criminal when you're inside this room! I don't care how amazing or incredible you were in the past. Once someone is here, they're a criminal, regardless of their status!"

"Dixon Haddock," he spat while sending vicious glares toward the police officers. Once I'm out of here, I'll make sure they suffer! How dare a bunch of trash act haughtily in front of me!

The officers proceeded to ask him a couple of questions about himself, such as his gender and age.

After Dixon patiently answered all their questions, the officers continued with the next stage of interrogation.

"When did you begin your smuggling operation?" one of the officers questioned.

"I want to meet my lawyer. He'll address all of your questions," Dixon demanded expressionlessly.

Clearly, he wasn't going to cooperate with the authorities.

When the officer saw Dixon's unapologetic demeanor, he was enraged and roared, "I'm questioning you right now! Answer me!"

"I want to meet my lawyer." Dixon lifted his eyelid and glanced at the officer. The officer's rage didn't bother him at all.

At that moment, he couldn't care less how those officers acted.

It was then the police chief approached the officers and inquired, "How is it going?"

"He refuses to say anything," answered one of the officers resignedly.

"Exhaust him for two days," the chief spat coldly as he stared at Dixon. "Don't give him any water, food, or sleep. I want to see how long he'll last."

"Roger."

Thus, Dixon was bound to his chair in the large interrogation room. He was left alone to endure the endless silence within.

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After the chief stepped out of the room, he returned to his office.

Lucas and Ashlyn were enjoying a hearty and delicious breakfast there.

A bloody stench was still lingering on their bodies. Fortunately, the blood didn't belong to them but was splattered on them during the fierce battle from the night before.

The police chief arrived before Ashlyn and informed politely, "We couldn't get anything out of Dixon, Ms. Berry. We'll see how well he'll do after exhausting him for two days."

Ashlyn nodded and delivered a bite of egg benedict to Lucas' lips. "Try this."

The edges of his mouth curved upward as he fed her a mouthful of oatmeal porridge. "You too."

Meanwhile, the chief was in agony as he watched the affectionate scene unfold. They don't look like two people who had fought throughout the night. I can't believe they still have the energy to act all lovey-dovey.

Suddenly, someone knocked on the door. "Come in," said the chief.

James pushed the door open and stepped into the room with Joseph. A few city leaders followed behind them.

Without delay, James held Lucas' hand. "What the heck happened last night, Lucas?"

Then, he turned to Ashlyn. "Your sister's unsettled at home and concerned that something might have happened to you, so she asked me to get here as soon as possible. How are you two? Were you hurt?"

Chapter 1007 James Has Been Arrested

James' caring tone warmed Ashlyn's heart. "I'm fine."

Lucas patted the back of James' hand and disclosed, "Aside from Spencer, who only suffered minor injuries, a few of my subordinates were impaired."

"The city council will definitely issue a pension for them," replied James hastily. "Last night was incredibly dangerous. You two really..."

Joseph was feeling similarly emotional and lightly punched Lucas. "What the heck's wrong with you? Why didn't you tell me?"

"It was too dangerous—" Before Lucas could finish his sentence, a few armed police officers barged into the office and quickly surrounded the group.

Lucas frowned and glared at the police captain who had aided him the night before. "What's the meaning of this?"

"I'm sorry. I'm just doing my job," the captain apologized resignedly before turning to James and instructing, "Take him away!"

The moment he ended his sentence, two officers approached and handcuffed James.

In an instant, the tension in the room became so thick that one could cut the air with a knife.

Everyone was bewildered by the scene unfolding before their eyes.

Even the police chief exclaimed in disbelief, "What are you doing, Captain Lewis? Why are you apprehending Mr. Field?" Why did he come in here with armed officers, ignore me, the police chief, and arrest Mr. Field? What's going on?

Lucas stepped forward and blocked the captain's path. "Please clarify the situation, Captain Lewis."

"I'm only responsible for arresting him. If you want to know more, you'll have to wait for the higher-up's announcement." Rykard Lewis was troubled by the issue as well. It's a lot of pressure for me to arrest the mayor of Lake City, okay?

"Did you know what you did to warrant this, Dad?" Joseph asked anxiously before turning to Rykard. "My dad is an upstanding man. Did you make a mistake?"

"No," replied Rykard gloomily. I'm a police captain. There's no way I'd make a rookie mistake like this.

He glanced at his deputy, who immediately stepped forward and showed everyone an arrest warrant. "This is the warrant from the higher-ups to apprehend James Field. Everyone, please take a look."

When Joseph saw the red seal on the paper, he paled and struggled to breathe. "No! My dad didn't do anything wrong! You can't take him away!"

"I'm sorry, Mr. Field, but this order is from the higher-ups. Neither you nor I can do anything about it." Rykard sighed and turned to James. "If you have anything you want to say, do it quick. We'll come again in five minutes."

Lucos stepped forword ond blocked the coptoin's poth. "Pleose clorify the situation, Coptoin Lewis."

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Then, he left the office with his subordinates.

"I'll help you unearth the truth behind this matter, James," Ashlyn uttered with a grim expression. This matter is most unusual. It happened so abruptly that it caught us all by surprise. There wasn't even a hint of that happening.

Obviously, James was shaken as well.

The city leaders were equally dumbfounded and expressed their disbelief.

"How can this be? If you leave, Mr. Field, what'll happen to Lake City?"

"There are many projects that depend on you, Mr. Field!"

"Yeah! You're the hero who helped save countless lives during the disaster! What on earth are the higher-ups thinking?"

James looked at them wordlessly, finally snapping back to his senses.

"The higher-ups must've had a reason to make this decision. Everyone, please calm down. Once they've investigated the matter and found me innocent, they'll give me the justice I deserve," he said.

James then cast an affectionate glance at his son and instructed him, "Don't tell your mom about this for now, Joe. She isn't in great condition. I'm worried she may not be able to handle the shock. Just tell her I went on a business trip."

Chapter 1008 Despair

Joseph's heart ached as he asked, "Dad... how could we cover this up?"

James' gaze spoke of the stress he had endured from being in an influential position for a long time. He said to his son, "You have to find a way. Even hiding it for a second is precious time saved. Don't let me down, Joe. And take good care of your mom and sister, all right?"

"Dad..." Joseph was choking up with tears.

James spoke as though he was sharing his last wishes before death. Joseph was devastated, yet there was nothing he could do to change the situation.

He regretted his decision to follow Lucas into business instead of going into politics.

Perhaps I could've been more helpful to my father as a politician and not a businessman.

"Ashlyn and Lucas, you're both fine, intelligent people. Nobody knows what will happen to me next, so don't try anything rash, okay?" James worried the couple would attempt something extreme and land themselves in a sticky situation instead.

His words caused Ashlyn's heart to burn with rage.

James was a good man and had been kind to her.

During his term as mayor, he contributed significantly to Lake City's economic development and safety and made great progress in the city's urban planning.

Why would they criminalize someone as nice as him?

Ashlyn vowed, "Don't worry, James. We'll definitely save you."

"Take care of yourself, Mr. Field. We'll do everything we can to prove your innocence."

Lucas nodded somberly in agreement. He exuded a terrifying aura as he pondered the culprit responsible for engineering the Field family's downfall.

Once I find out who this person is, I'll tear him into pieces!

James continued rattling off more work-related instructions to his subordinates, but alas, it was soon time to go.

The police chief's office plunged into austere silence after James was escorted away.

Everyone was dejected and had no idea what to say.

At the same time, Sienna rushed into the Fraser residence to meet Lochlan. She wore an elegant dress, though its crumpled fabric gave away the fact that she had not changed in over a day.

She pleaded for help, "Mr. Lochlan, your family seems to be on good terms with the Haddock family. I'm coming to you because I'm utterly out of options. Please, won't you help? Dixon shouldn't be wasting his

life in prison. He's still young ... "

While Sienna had always feared Dixon, she found herself worrying over his wellbeing since he was incarcerated.

Her mind was filled with images of his miserable, agonizing state in prison.

Every recollection of that imagery worsened her heartache.

Eventually, she could only think of turning to the Frasers for help.

Lochlan himself had only learned of Dixon's imprisonment earlier that morning.

His relief far exceeded his shock at the news. He thanked his lucky stars that he had never involved himself with Dixon's illegal affairs.

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Meanwhile, Kate rushed downstairs after hearing of Sienna's visit.

She gripped Sienna's hands and wailed agitatedly, "Dixon is the only person left of my older sister's bloodline. What should we do? What if something happens to him? He doesn't even have any children... He's still so young and unmarried. Ms. Oates, why didn't you stop him earlier? You're his elder, for goodness sake!"

The label "elder" suffocated Sienna.

She paled and struggled to catch her breath. When she was composed enough to muster a reply, she retorted, "Dixon always flirts with the extreme. How could I stop him if he had already made up his mind?"

Lochlan chose this moment to cut into the women's conversation.

He appeared pained as he offered, "Mom, why don't I ask some friends in the police station to allow us some visitation time? His capture is national, even global news. Too many people are watching his movements. Saving him will be near impossible."

"You're right, Lochlan. His crimes are too high-profile. Smuggling and so many deaths? The whole world is scrutinizing him," lamented Kate.

Her despair only grew the more she thought about it.

Tears streamed down her face, unbidden. Dixon had always had an odd temper, which made him overbearing and emotionally unstable at times.

Chapter 1009 Arrested For Corruption

However, the thought of her sister's unnatural death caused by the Haddock family and the former's only son locked up in prison made Kate feel horrible.

At the end of the day, Dixon was her nephew.

Meanwhile, Lochlan was thinking about something else. It's been so long. Surely there's a result already?

Just as he was thinking about it, he suddenly received a notification from Twitter.

He tapped on it subconsciously. The moment he saw the content of the piece of news, his lips curled into a sinister smirk.

Well, well, James. I bet you never saw it coming.

"Why are you smiling so creepily, Lochlan?" Kate eyed her son dubiously, finding his expression all too foreign.

She could not help but feel a chill run down her spine.

"Nothing. It's just that Field's in big trouble. That's why I'm happy." Lochlan showed Kate his phone screen. The moment both Kate and Sienna glanced at it, they both saw the latest piece of news.

It read: The mayor of Lake City, James Field, is currently being investigated for corruption and bribery. The amount involved in this case is at least thirty million. In 2019, James established Drieso's demolition headquarters and took up the position of the project's commander-in-chief. Due to it being an extremely profitable project, he made a profit of fifteen million by collecting money illegally. Starting from February 2020, James made a profit of fifteen million by bribing officers. An investigation is still ongoing to find the officers involved. For further information, please stay tuned to our account.

Kate was dumbfounded. As far as she knew, James had a good reputation and lived a simple life. He did not look like someone who would dabble in illegal affairs.

"Mr. Field is involved in corruption?"

"Yes. He's been arrested already." Lochlan put away the phone calmly, looking not the slightest bit surprised.

He then turned to Sienna and said, "Ms. Oates, I'll go look into it now. You may leave if you have other things to attend to. If not, you can stay here with my mom to keep her company and to calm yourself."

"It's fine. I'll wait for you." Sienna nodded.

At this juncture, she had no other choice but to rely on the Frasers' help.

In the meantime, Fae was about to turn on the television at the Field residence but found it to be broken.

She shook the remote. Still, it would not turn on.

Given no choice, she set down the remote to browse through TikTok on her phone.

Right then, Joseph walked in and snatched her phone away. "Mom, your phone's so old. Why don't I buy you a new one?"

Fae did not find his gestures odd. "It's okay. It's still usable."

Suddenly, her phone fell to the ground with a crash, and the screen shattered.

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Fae was speechless. "You good-for-nothing. Why did you break my phone?"

"Oh. It slipped from my hand. Come on. Let's go get you a new one," said Joseph cheekily.

He feared Fae might sense something was amiss if she continued staying at home.

After all, he lied to his mother about James going on a business trip the moment he returned.

Fae's gut told her something was off with her son, but she could not quite put her finger on it.

"Come on. Dad's not at home. It's quite boring here." Joseph took his mother's hand and led her toward the door.

Hence, Fae had no choice but to leave the house.

Charlotte, too, followed them with a grin. Noticing that, Joseph took her hand in the other.

It was quite a comical scene to see Joseph walking in between Fae and Charlotte while holding their hands.

With that, the three left the governmental residence.

Fae immediately noticed the wife of the minister of communications from afar. Thus, she put on a smile, wanting to go over to greet the latter.

Strangely, the woman left hastily, as if she was avoiding Fae. The former rushed off with her head hung low, pretending to not have seen Fae.

An uncomfortable feeling rose in Fae's heart. "What's up with her? Why is she so scared of me?"

Chapter 1010 | Would Be Crying

Joseph simply smiled. "Maybe she didn't see you."

The truth was, human relationships were superficial. Now that James was in trouble, his acquaintances feared they would face the same fate if they got too close to the Field family.

The world was a cruel place, and Joseph had foreseen something like this to happen.

"Don't think too much about it, Mom. Let's go shopping," Charlotte comforted Fae.

Thankfully, Charlotte's words sent a warm feeling into Fae's heart. "You're such a thoughtful sweetheart."

With that, the trio arrived at the mall. The first floor sold phones and jewelry.

"Mom, let's get you an iPhone twelve. It was just released," suggested Joseph as he approached the store. "What about a red one? Apparently, it brings good luck."

"Tsk. I'm already way past that age for such a striking color. That's for young ladies." Fae chuckled and hit him lightly.

Charlotte, too, glared at him, saying, "Obviously white and black suit her better."

Suddenly, a sarcastic voice rang out from a distance. "Oh! I was wondering who this was over here. Turns out it's the renowned Mrs. Field." The voice attracted their attention. Frowning, Fae glanced over and spotted Kate, who was dressed to the nines.

The latter held a limited-edition bag as she walked over with her high heels clicking against the ground. After scanning Fae from head to toe, Kate sneered, "This is interesting. I can't believe you still have the mood to shop for a new phone here."

"Why wouldn't I have the mood to shop for a phone? Mrs. Fraser, I don't think there's much for us to talk about, so please don't disturb my shopping session." Fae cast Kate an icy glance before retracting her gaze.

The look of gloat on Kate's face made Joseph's heart lurch with dread. He quickly took his mother's hand and said, "Come on, Mom. Let's check out another store."

"Yep. Let's go." Charlotte, too, took Fae's hand. The former felt uncomfortable seeing Kate there.

"Why are you leaving? Hah. Looks like you just fend for yourself when your partner's in trouble." Kate stepped forward to block their path.

She was feeling extremely triumphant as if she had gotten her revenge. Even the excitement and disdain in her gaze were palpable to everyone in the mall.

"What do you want?" Fae knew Kate was implying something, and it made the former feel uncomfortable.

Kate's smile only grew smugger. "Nothing. I just pity Mr. Field. Tsk, tsk, tsk."

"Why would you bring James up all of a sudden? What makes you think you can talk about him so casually?" Fae glared at the woman impatiently.

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However, Kate gaped dramatically, which was disgusting behavior.

She then purposely raised her voice to another pitch as she said, "Everyone knows Mr. Field has been arrested for an investigation. If I were you, I'd be too ashamed to appear in public. I'd be crying all day at home."

The look on Fae's face stiffened as she stood there in a daze.

The revelation left her feeling as if she had been struck by lightning.

Fae's body shook, and her eyes widened with disbelief as she stared at Kate's annoying face. "What did you say?" Even her voice was trembling.

Kate eyed Fae with shock. "Oh my goodness! Don't tell me you have no idea."

The former's smile widened and excitement bubbled within her as if James were sentenced to a horrifying punishment.

In fact, she almost broke out into a dance. Her tone was laced with satisfaction when she said, "Mr. Field's been arrested. The police chief personally arrested Mr. Field this morning. Goodness. I don't understand how you three can still go on a shopping spree when he's been arrested. How ungrateful..."

Fae's mind went blank as she watched Kate explain everything with dramatic gestures. There was only one thought running through the former's mind. James has been arrested. He's been arrested...