

Extraordinary 881

[Chapter 881 Spill It](#)

How can this be? What's so great about her marrying a man who can lose it at any moment like a lunatic?

Penelope came to her senses, and resentment began flooding her. It's just marrying Lucas. With his mania, what's there to be smug about? Given the current prevalence of domestic abuse incidents, it's hard to tell what kind of life she's leading at the Nolan family home. What's with her attitude?

She abandoned her earlier admiration for Ashlyn and stared at her with disdain. "You'll regret this, Ashlyn. This time, we have successfully cooperated with Haddock Group, and when the time comes, you can only look at me with admiration."

"Really? I wish you both a fruitful collaboration, then," Ashlyn said while appearing indifferent.

What exactly does Dixon want from Yates Group? Or was his so-called deal the collaboration with Yates Group today?

She felt a little uneasy.

These two idiots, Penelope and Mary, didn't do anything stupid, did they? Dixon's tactics and intellect are undoubtedly more than ten times greater than theirs. There's more to this birthday party, for sure.

Ashlyn arched her eyebrow, and with an icy gaze, she slowly approached Penelope. "Tell me, what's the collaboration between Dixon and you guys?"

Her tone was not one of inquiry but of command.

Penelope was already a little shorter than her step-sister, and the moment she raised her head, she found Ashlyn's shadow covering her.

Her heart almost stopped for a moment.

"W-What are you trying to do? Was hitting me just now not enough? What else do you want?"

Penelope paled and could not help but take a half-step back, leaving her body firmly pressed against the edge of the cold sink.

Ashlyn stared down at her condescendingly. "Penelope, I'll let you out as long as you tell me the truth. If not... I can't guarantee that you'll be able to walk out of this door safely."

She played with a sharp dagger that gleamed under the light with her fingertips, and the sight of her doing that made Penelope look even paler.

“You lunatic! Are you out of your mind? I'm going to sue you for intentional injury!”

“Cut the crap and spill it!” Ashlyn did not have the patience to watch her whining. She pressed the dagger she was holding onto her step-sister's smooth face. “You'd better tell the truth.”

Penelope was trembling all over, angry and terrified. “We... We brought the Yates Group investment project, which is to build a wig factory in Lake City. Mr. Haddock said he had a ready-made factory and all we had to do was sign the paperwork.”

“When the time comes, you'll be able to save a sum of money from building a factory, and you and your mom are going to take that money, right? You guys got some nerve,” Ashlyn said, raising her brow.

Penelope did not expect Ashlyn to be so clever, and she quickly denied it, “No. We have to return the money to Yates Group. We can't take it for ourselves. That's against the law.”

“Is that so?” Ashlyn looked at her step-sister's ashen face with an ice-cold expression. “Just this matter?”

“I didn't lie to you,” Penelope said, shaking her head violently in terror as she thought the dagger's tip was about to pierce her skin.

“If you lie, I'll show you no mercy!” Ashlyn gave her a deep look before turning to leave.

Penelope stared at her straight and slender back while clutching her chest, her heart beating wildly.

Why does Ashlyn care so much about our collaboration with Haddock Group? What exactly does she want to know?

She exhaled deeply as she collapsed to the ground.

Ashlyn was so scary just now. What should I do? Mr. Haddock said that the collaboration with us is a secret. If he finds out that I've told Ashlyn...

Fear gripped her. Does Ashlyn want to ruin this collaboration? No... No way. She doesn't have that kind of power. Collaborating with Mr. Haddock is a great thing. That money is not a small amount. When the time comes, my mom and I will have it in our hands, and we'll be rich with nothing to worry about.

Penelope immediately supported herself and stood up from the floor. In the future, I'll have wealth, status, and identity as opposed to now when I have nothing. What's there to be afraid of? She gathered her courage once more as she imagined the glorious life she would lead in the future. Ashlyn is nothing. She merely had a dagger today.

[Chapter 882 The Snack](#)

Ashlyn went straight back to the private room after leaving the restroom.

As she approached the door, it swung open, and a tall, slender figure stepped out.

The lights in the corridor shone on him, making him look bewitching like a vampire count stepping out of an old castle. His crimson, thin lips combined with his deep, dark eyes, especially, perfected the look.

He had one hand in his pocket, and he looked imposing.

Ashlyn stopped in her tracks and stared at Lucas, who was nearby, in a daze.

The moment the man's calm eyes spotted her, something stirred within them. Following that, he extended a hand to her. "Come here."

The voice echoing in the quiet corridor was surprisingly pleasant.

"Dixon has a factory that he intends to let Yates Group use. They signed the contract today." Lucas told Ashlyn the information he had found.

Ashlyn raised a brow. "You knew it so soon?"

"Yeah. You knew it too?" Lucas read between the lines.

"I made Penelope spill it." She felt that her method was simple but brutal. "She said it was for making wigs, but I felt something flashing by, and I missed it."

Feeling frustrated, Ashlyn hugged his strong waist and buried her face in his firm chest.

"We'll find out eventually." Lucas stroked her long hair gently. "Be patient."

"You're somewhat indebted to Old Mrs. Yates, so I don't want anything to happen to the Yates family. Something tells me that she's very kind and sees things in a bigger picture." Ashlyn freed herself from his embrace as if the agitated and vulnerable person earlier was not her.

She was back to being the strong and brave woman she was.

Lucas smirked as he gazed at her with a slightly doting look on his handsome face. "Honey, do you wish to eat Limburger sandwich? I remember when we were married, you would sometimes sneak out to eat it and you thought I didn't know."

Ashlyn stared at him in surprise when she heard that. "You knew?" She could not help but find it funny. "Why are you only telling me now?"

"Because I could smell it on you every time you came home after having it. Do you think I'm dumb?"

Lucas could not help but chuckle.

For some reason, she suddenly felt a little emotional. Life is truly unpredictable. If he hadn't mentioned divorce back then, would I have kept pretending? Despite being a powerful person, I had to play dumb every day.

He had a dashing appearance, and his smile was so alluring and charming that it could send one's heart racing.

Ashlyn could not help but sigh inwardly as she gazed at his exquisite features.

This man truly can make all the women flock to him. Just his face alone is captivating enough.

"Let's head into the private room."

Lucas curled his lips and intertwined his hand with hers. If he still did not go in, everyone would probably think that the host had disappeared.

Not long after they had entered, the waiter brought over a plate of food that surprised everyone.

The hale and hearty Harvey blinked. "My goodness. When I was working in a factory in the past, I always had one after getting off work every day."

He had not eaten that kind of food ever since he became a chairman. Not that he did not wish to eat, but he did not have the chance to do so.

James also smiled while concealing his shock. "Limburger sandwich? I didn't expect The Peacock to serve this kind of dish."

With a smile, the waiter glanced at Lucas and then at Ashlyn. "Mr. Nolan specially ordered the kitchen to prepare this for you, Mrs. Nolan."

Ashlyn stared at Lucas in shock.

There seemed to be an added glow on the handsome face of the man beside her, so beautiful that it seemed unreal.

In particular, his dark, angular eyes had an unnaturally hazy appearance as though they were veiled in tulle.

The appearance of a Limburger sandwich that did not belong in a place like The Peacock made her think of the time when they were married.

As she took another look at the dish in front of her, she felt as if she was dreaming.

If it had been a few years ago, she would never have imagined that something like this would occur.

[Chapter 883 Earthquake](#)

Time flew by.

Some things seemed to have changed during the divorce in the past, while some things were already predetermined, just like her relationship with Lucas.

This man never fails to make me feel touched.

The plate of Limburger sandwich was unexpectedly popular.

A familiar taste spread in her mouth as she ate a piece.

“D-Did Mrs. Langdon make this?” Whenever I sneaked out in the past, I fancied visiting Mrs. Langdon's stall in the night market. Her Limburger sandwiches were stinky, but the flavor was excellent, not to mention the aftertaste was luscious. Besides, Mrs. Langdon would also serve my sandwich with a complimentary side dish, such as chips or coleslaw. At times, she would even gift me a bowl of mushroom soup. I miss those delightful days.

“That's right. I hired her.” Lucas fed her another piece of sandwich. “Eat.”

From then on, Limburger sandwich was added to The Peacock's menu.

The new addition to the menu even caused a sensation.

“Our lady boss likes to eat this, so we decided to let our customers try out the dish as well. You can order if you wish to give it a try. Otherwise, just ignore it.”

The news was even trending on Twitter, sparking heated discussion among netizens with the hashtag: #LimburgersandwichatThePeacock

One netizen wrote: I have regained my faith in love again. This is so great. Mr. Nolan and Mrs. Nolan are genuinely in love with one another. Can I just say how jealous I am of them?

Another netizen commented: I can't believe a high-class restaurant like The Peacock is serving food like Limburger sandwich. I'm truly impressed by their extraordinary love.

Meanwhile, the atmosphere inside Lucas' personal private room in The Peacock was lively.

Suddenly, a deafening sound thundered in the air.

The Peacock shook as the earth trembled. Even the chandelier atop was swinging.

“What happened?” Harvey frowned at the chandelier. “The chandelier is moving.”

James was also slightly taken aback. “The rumble earlier was exceptionally loud. Did something explode?”

Lucas made a call. “Spencer, what's going on?”

“I'm not sure, Mr. Nolan. Nothing happened inside The Peacock. The loud noise seemed to have originated from outside. I'm investigating further.” Spencer sounded anxious.

Another booming sound rang out as he spoke.

The entire earth trembled as the building shook.

At that moment, Spencer was standing on the rooftop of The Peacock. A terrifying thought popped into his mind as he gazed at his quivering surroundings.

He uttered in a daze, “Mr. Nolan, I think it's an earthquake!” Earthquakes rarely happen in Lake City, which was established on flat ground. In that case, the earthquake must've happened at a location nearby, so we are merely suffering from the aftershocks. I can't believe the aftershocks are reaching Lake City.

At that moment, Ashlyn's phone rang.

She saw Cassandra sending her a series of messages.

She put down the fork in her hand and said solemnly, “I just received an update. Five minutes ago, a magnitude seven point nine earthquake struck Xanfield, an area in the southwest region. This is another episode of a major earthquake following the disastrous earthquake in 2008.”

James stared at her in astonishment. “Is this news confirmed?”

“Affirmative.” Ashlyn got to her feet. A grim expression spread across her face. “I'm going to the disaster area.”

Lucas' expression changed drastically. “The disaster area is so dangerous—”

Before he could finish his sentence, Ashlyn interrupted him, “I'm a doctor, and saving lives is my obligation. James, I reckon your superior will relay instructions to you soon—”

Right then, James' phone rang. The governor called. “Hello, Mr. Lawson. Yes. Yes, I'll head over right away. I'll gather my men immediately.”

James stood up after hanging up the call. "I'm sorry. I need to go to the office now." Then he shifted his gaze to Joseph. "Joe, send me there at once."

Lucas calmly gave his orders to his subordinates as well to send help to the disaster area.

Harvey got up and strode toward the exit as well. "Let's pray for Lake City to be safe. This is a significant issue. We don't know anything about the situation at the disaster area for now, Linnie. Magnecal Tech will certainly donate supplies and provide manpower. By then, you—"

[Chapter 884 Evacuation](#)

"I'll take part, of course." Ashlyn nodded.

"All right. Your name will be on the list by then." Harvey had arrived at the doorway, looking solemn. "Natural disasters like this cannot be avoided. May God bless us."

Everyone around the table dispersed subsequently.

Meanwhile, the deafening noise also scared the people inside the other private room.

Colors drained from Dixon's face. "It's an earthquake!"

Penelope, who had just returned to the private room, staggered and almost fell to the floor.

Right then, a commotion erupted outside the room. "It's an earthquake! Hurry up and run!"

"I'm so scared. Will people die?"

"Is it an explosion or an earthquake? Did an explosion occur somewhere?"

The Peacock's waiters' voices were also in the mix as they attempted to calm the crowd. "Don't be afraid, everyone. We haven't received any official news yet."

Mary's face turned pale. "Mr. Haddock, let's hurry up and leave. We should quickly find a place to hide."

Dixon replied in annoyance, "What's there to be afraid of? It's just an earthquake." He got to his feet and addressed all the guests, "Perhaps an earthquake or some other thing happened. It is better for us to leave now."

Pandemonium reigned outside as screams and shrieks echoed in the air.

When the people inside Dixon's private room opened the door, they saw a horde in the corridor. Almost all of their customers had exited their respective rooms.

All of them were in a hurry and wearing tense facial expressions.

"It's an earthquake! Earthquake!"

"Something exploded! There's an explosion!"

"Oh my! I read the news on Twitter. A magnitude seven point nine earthquake struck Xanfield!"

"Let's leave immediately. We can feel the earth trembling and rumbling sound here. This is so scary."

While the customers were in haste to escape, The Peacock's broadcast system sounded.

"I am Lucas Nolan, the owner of The Peacock."

His magnetic voice was like a treat to everybody's ears.

"The National Earthquake Information Center has just released the latest news. A magnitude seven point nine major earthquake struck Xanfield. The tremors are strong, and the nation suffers greatly from this disaster. I would like to request all our customers not to panic. In the face of this natural disaster, those who are still safe at the moment should, all the more, stay calm. The experts predicted intense aftershocks to happen in the upcoming three days. The Peacock will waive the bill for all our customers today and has prepared a small gift for all of you to calm your nerves. Now, please queue up and evacuate in order under The Peacock's employees' guidance."

"Is that Mr. Nolan's voice? Is he in Lake City now?"

"He doesn't sound like a lunatic or manic patient. His voice is so calming. I was quite disconcerted earlier, but my fear significantly lessened after I listened to him."

"That's enough. Quit chatting. Let's hurry up and leave."

Heavy rain started pouring outside as large rain droplets hit the ground.

Lightning flashed across the dark sky.

Lucas stood in front of the window. Behind him, Spencer was looking at his employer's upright figure.

"Mr. Nolan, what should we do now?" Are we really going to the disaster area when it is raining cats and dogs?

"Where's Ashlyn?" Lucas asked in a deep voice while fixating his piercing, dark eyes on the pouring rain outside the window.

"Ms. Berry went to the hospital. The reconstruction of the Imperial Hotel has also been halted." Spencer hesitated briefly before adding, "I thought Mr. Haddock would cause trouble tonight. Unexpectedly, something like this happened."

Instead of having to deal with Dixon stirring a ruckus, they received the frightening news of an earthquake after waiting for the entire night.

“Gather all available men to aid the disaster area, including employees from Nolan Group, South Star Airlines, and other capable volunteers. Also, allocate supplies worth fifty million and send them to the disaster area. We'll depart after everything is prepared.” Lucas gave precise orders.

Spencer's expression turned serious, and he responded at once, “Understood.”

At the same time, in First Hospital, Ashlyn, dressed in the same shirt she wore in the day, hastened into the director's office. However, there was no one in the room.

[Chapter 885 She Means Everything To Me](#)

She strode toward the meeting room hastily.

The sky outside boomed with thunder and lightning, casting a bright glow on her face, which bore a stern expression.

Thud!

She pushed the door to the meeting room open.

Inside were the hospital director, Barney Hammer, the deputy director, Holger Sloth, and a few chief doctors from various departments.

Ashlyn cast a cold look at Barney. “I want every doctor and nurse in this hospital gathered here immediately. I'm heading to the disaster area, and anyone who wishes to accompany me may do so. Those who don't wish to come along are welcome to stay here in the hospital.”

She cut to the chase without wasting any time.

Barney had been discussing this matter with the chief doctors and had no idea Ashlyn would come this quickly.

He soon regained his composure and asked, “Aren't you going to wait until tomorrow morning?”

“We have to leave now. South Star Airlines will send a plane to pick us up later.” Ashlyn's reply was curt. “The medical supplies need to be ready by then. You'll be in charge of that, Dr. Hammer.” She then whipped out a bank card and stuffed it into his hand. “There is one hundred million inside.”

Barney shivered. “One hundred million?”

That is a lot of money, isn't it?

“Lucas donated fifty million, and I donated the rest,” Ashlyn said, then glanced at Holger. “Inform the rest.”

Holger and the other doctors gaped incredulously at the shocking scene.

After all, one hundred million was a lot of money.

They couldn't believe she was generous enough to donate the money to buy medical supplies.

Holger was about to make the call when he heard Ashlyn talking to someone on the phone. “It's raining heavily all over the country, so it is essential that we take necessary steps to avoid waterlogging in the already affected areas. The downstream water levels will rise considerably, which in turn will have a domino effect on the upstream areas, worsening the situation for the victims living there. It is essential that we act quickly and prepare in advance for any potential flooding. We should send our team downstream to block the water and also notify the local government to get ready with sandbags to avoid any further flooding.”

What did I just hear? Is she just a doctor? She's amazing! How did she come up with the idea of preventing floods before they happen and preparing aid for those affected by the floods?

“I'll head back to my office now. Let me know when everyone has gathered,” Ashlyn said to Barney and the rest after the call ended. She then turned to leave, leaving them no room to hesitate.

“Dr. Hammer, isn't Dr. Berry too...” Holger was still a little bewildered even after notifying all the doctors and nurses to attend a meeting. “Why aren't you mad when she gave orders to everyone, including you?”

Barney shot him a glare. “Don't you know Mr. Nolan bought this hospital?”

“What?” Holger was close to tears. How could I forget such an important matter?

Barney glanced at Holger and pondered the fact that the latter was getting older. “Dr. Berry is our boss lady now. Who else could possibly be better suited to make the decisions around here?”

The other chief doctors were completely taken aback by the remarkable display of self-assurance and assertiveness demonstrated by Ashlyn earlier.

At that moment, in the small town of Xanfield in the southwest of the country, the earth below began to tremble and shake, causing a low rumble that seemed to reverberate through the town.

A cacophony of thunderous crashes filled the air as items of furniture, decorations, and other household items came crashing down onto the floor.

The homes in the town began trembling with tremendous force.

“It's an earthquake!”

“Earthquake!”

Various villagers were suddenly jolted awake by the commotion and hastily hopped out of their beds. They rushed out of their homes hastily without even taking time to change out of their nightclothes.

Some villagers were still roaming around as they hadn't gotten around to going to bed yet.

Some were attempting to place phone calls, but with no success. It seemed that the catastrophic earthquake had disrupted the signal, or some other unknown factor was at play. Unfortunately, their efforts were futile, as there seemed to be no signal around.

The streets of the town were a sight to behold, with items and debris scattered all around. Many of the walls had been partially destroyed, creating an unsettling atmosphere.

As the ground beneath them trembled, many people found themselves struggling to maintain their balance and ended up tumbling to the floor.

Suddenly, a large crack emerged on the ground like a giant python, ready to consume anything in its path.

Someone screamed, “Holly! Holly! Holly fell into the crack!”

The village head was sobbing as he stopped Holly's father from going to her. “Let's go! We need to go now or risk falling into the crack!”

“That's my daughter! My daughter!” Holly's father wailed in despair as a piece of concrete smashed into his calf, sending a sharp pain up his leg. “If she's gone, I won't be able to live without her. She means everything to me!”

[Chapter 886 Consequences Of The Earthquake](#)

He broke free of the village head and dashed toward the crack.

“Honey! What would I do if something were to happen to you?” His wife's tears began to flow uncontrollably as she hugged their baby close. The baby, sensing the distress of the situation, began to wail, too.

The village head's face drained of all color as the crack in the ground grew wider and wider. He hurriedly grabbed the woman by her arm and dragged her away. “We must go. If we don't leave now, we'll all be dead!”

Once they left, a huge chunk of cement plummeted to the ground, producing a hole in the surface of the earth.

As the ground quaked, the villagers hastily abandoned their homes and fled the scene.

The anguished cries of the victims could be heard everywhere.

In the face of natural disasters, humans are powerless to protect themselves from the overwhelming power of nature.

Gradually, a putrid stench began permeating the air, causing discomfort and disgust to those who were unfortunate enough to be in its presence.

The source of the stench was unknown, but it might have come from the depths of the earth or the corpses of the livestock.

The powerful earthquake continued, causing houses to rumble and eventually collapse.

Large, heavy boulders tumbled down the nearby mountains, eventually rolling over the frightened people who were attempting to shelter themselves from the earthquake.

In just a few minutes, the town was razed to the ground.

The devastating earthquake caused numerous homes to collapse and roads to rupture.

Xanfield was once a bustling town, but its buildings and streets had been reduced to rubble and ruin.

It was a living nightmare, a horrid sight to behold, as everything had been destroyed.

The relentless downpour of rain mixed with the ruins of rubble had caused devastation to many lives.

The aftermath of the destruction had left a profound impact on all those affected. Children became orphans, while parents were forced to cope with the unbearable pain of losing their children.

The realization that they had lost their homes caused a heavy atmosphere of sadness and pain to hang in the air.

Time seemed to have stopped, for everyone was crying in despair.

The villagers were in a state of shock, some of them standing there motionless while others were fervently praying, wishing they had four legs so they could swiftly flee the area.

The sudden disaster had destroyed their lives entirely.

As the earth shook and the sky rumbled with thunder, they felt as if they had been transported back in time to the past.

The event left many people without homes. The children, who were once adored and cherished by their parents, were now left as orphans, robbed of the smiles on their faces.

When Ashlyn and the medical staff of First Hospital arrived in Xanfield, they were greeted by the sight of hundreds of villagers seeking refuge on the nearest hill.

The streets were filled with rubble, and fear was etched on the faces of those who had survived the destruction. It was a heartbreaking scene.

The tragedy of Xanfield was felt beyond the town itself, with its neighboring towns also suffering the same fate. In fact, the entire city of Xenhall was affected.

Xanfield had been razed to the ground.

The cities that neighbored Xenhall had dispatched soldiers to the area to provide assistance. Government employees and volunteers had also traveled all the way here to do their part by working tirelessly in the downpour to save the victims, clad in raincoats.

Humans are small and insignificant in comparison to the immense power of natural disasters.

Before the earthquake struck, many of the people in the area might have been watching television, consuming meals, conversing with their relatives, and socializing with their friends. However, the earthquake had a devastating impact, changing the lives of those involved forever.

“Bring down all the medical supplies,” Ashlyn ordered everyone behind her. She put on a raincoat over her white clothes and rushed off the plane. “If you are strong and able, come with me to help the villagers who are trapped beneath the debris. Girls, stay here and take care of the villagers who have been hurt.”

After that, she stopped a man who was nearest to her. “Sir, may I know who the most senior person in charge here is?”

“Oh, I heard he's a government official. I think his surname is Field?” the man replied. He was covered in mud, making it difficult to make out his features. “He's right there. If you walk west, you'll find him.”

Ashlyn nodded and went west as told, her boots splashing around in the mud.

Field? Could it be James?

A few minutes later, she saw a middle-aged man with a pale complexion in the rain donning a raincoat.

The rainwater was spilling down his raincoat, and he appeared to be thoroughly soaked.

[Chapter 887 Help From The Neighboring City](#)

“James!” Ashlyn called out.

James turned over his shoulder to see Ashlyn's slender figure before him. Looking stern, he responded, “Ashlyn, it's dangerous here.”

“It's fine.” Ashlyn shook her head. “I'm here with some medical personnel who are bringing down medical supplies. Where should we put them?”

“The villagers are seeking refuge on a hill. There is an old bomb shelter left over from the war nearby the hill that is dry enough for you to put the supplies there. I'll ask Joseph to bring you there.” James turned to Joseph, who was busy digging out survivors with a hoe. “Joe, bring your Aunt Ashlyn to place the supplies in the shelter!”

Joseph quickly wiped the mud and water from his face before sprinting toward Ashlyn.

Why did Dad yell so loudly? Now the whole world knows I have an aunt who is the same age as me.

After they got to work, Lucas' plane arrived.

He had brought along a group of volunteers from Nolan Group, as well as a generous selection of food and beverage.

Recruiting volunteers from Nolan Group and South Star Airlines was time-consuming as both organizations were sizable and employed more employees.

That was why Lucas arrived a bit later than Ashlyn.

Ashlyn and the rest were busy moving the medical supplies. It was still raining heavily when she gazed at the dark sky.

All of a sudden, there was a loud thunderclap, and a brilliant bolt of lightning illuminated the sky.

The ground started shaking again.

The volunteers quickly dropped the boxes they were holding and screamed in terror, running away in search of a safe place to hide.

No one was prepared to die here.

Ashlyn steadied herself and hollered, “Don't panic! Don't be scared! Protect yourselves. Your safety is

far more important than any supplies.”

Suddenly, a magnetic voice boomed out through the rain, calming everyone's nerves. “That was an aftershock. Together, we can overcome this! Natural disasters can be intimidating, but it's our lack of courage that we should be afraid of! Everyone, grab the supplies and place them on the ground neatly.”

The familiar voice caused Ashlyn to whip her head around in shock. She saw a tall figure marching toward her in the dark.

Lucas? He's here?

Lucas extended his muscular arms and gently took the large package from her.

His deep, dark eyes glimmered in the night like a single star in an otherwise dark sky.

“Honey, leave the hard work to me,” Lucas said. The sight of mud splattered on her face caused his heart to constrict in pain. “Leave this to me. You should go and see if the injured villagers need any help.”

Ashlyn nodded. “All right.”

They only conversed briefly before getting to work.

Just like two planets in the galaxy, they crossed each other's paths momentarily, but that moment was forever imprinted on their memories.

Ashlyn hurried over to the temporary medical shed where her colleagues were doing their best to treat the injured villagers.

The stench of blood permeated the air, accompanied by the woeful cries emanating from the villagers.

“Blood, Dr. Berry. We need more blood. The blood bags we brought aren't enough. The villagers are seriously injured. Many of them need to be amputated. Their bodies were buried under the debris for too long, and their bones have been crushed. They can no longer keep their limbs.” An orthopedic surgeon quickly ran to Ashlyn with a bag of blood that had been handed to him by a nurse. He was so anxious that he was close to tears. “Besides, we lack the necessary equipment to perform major surgeries.”

Ashlyn furrowed her brows. “I'll contact the hospital from the neighboring city to send over a helicopter. We can send the severely injured villagers there.”

[Chapter 888 Frontline Reporter](#)

Back in the governmental residence at Lake City, Fae was watching the news about the disaster.

Almost all the TV stations were reporting about the earthquake.

Before she could switch off the TV, Charlotte had already rushed over to her.

The little girl was wearing a bright pink pair of pajamas that featured a cheerful cartoon cat and a matching pair of fluffy slippers. Her long, unkempt hair cascaded carelessly down her back. Anxiously, she asked, "Mum, will Joseph, Ashlyn, Dad, and the rest be fine?"

Fae comforted her, "Calm down. They will be fine."

However, Charlotte couldn't bring herself to relax.

"Mum, I'm worried. It's dangerous there..."

Right then, the reporter attracted their attention.

"Greetings, everyone! I am a frontline reporter from Lake City, currently stationed at the most damaged area, Xanfield. It is clear to see that the place has been reduced to rubble. The survivors have been moved to several nearby hills, thanks to the generous donations from South Star Airlines, Nolan Group, and other donors, who have also contributed supplies. Medical teams and much-needed medical supplies have also arrived from hospitals across the country. However, the weather is not helping the situation. The aftershocks of the earthquake have worsened the lack of supplies."

After a pause, he resumed his story. "Xanfield is a very remote location, with mountains that are located ten kilometers away from the village. It skips the autumn season and goes directly from summer to winter. We are currently in the midst of winter here even though the surrounding areas are still in autumn. The weather is extremely cold and supplies are running low. In response to this, the government has sent troops to the area in order to provide aid and disaster relief. Mr. and Mrs. Nolan of Nolan Group arrived a while ago to help out and have entered the most heavily affected areas. Unfortunately, water and electricity have been cut off from Xanfield. I had to climb up a hill in order to get a reliable signal. I do hope Mr. and Mrs. Nolan are safe."

Right then, something caught his eye. "Oh, dear. Isn't that Mr. Joseph Field? What is he doing? Is he going to look for Mr. and Mrs. Nolan?"

Following his scream, the camera shifted to Joseph, who had donned a thin black raincoat and rubber boots that were now completely caked in mud. He no longer looked like a wealthy scion.

With dozens of people behind him, he strode toward the severely affected areas. The reporter leaped out of his car and ran toward him.

"Mr. Field? Mr. Field!"

Hearing the reporter's anxious yell, Joseph came to a stop and turned to look at him.

“Mr. Field, have Mr. and Mrs. Nolan been in touch?”

“No,” Joseph responded sternly. His handsome face was splattered with mud. “Lucas and Aunt Ashlyn will be safe.” He then wiped away the mud on his face. “I’m sorry, but I need to hurry there now.”

“Okay, good luck! Good luck to Mr. and Mrs. Nolan, too!” The reporter quickly turned to the camera. “Humans are helpless before natural disasters. I applaud Mr. Field for his efforts! I strongly encourage everyone who is watching to do what they can to help, whether it is through donating supplies or money. You can do so through the method displayed on the screen.”

After the live stream ended, the reporter belatedly realized something and asked the cameraman, “What did Mr. Field say just now? Aunt Ashlyn? Is Ashlyn his aunt?”

The cameraman was baffled. “Are you sure you’re not mistaken?”

“I don’t think so...”

Due to unfavorable circumstances, they decided to resort to live streaming instead of recording the content beforehand.

Unbeknownst to them, the audience had erupted into an uproar before their devices.

[Chapter 889 Be With Them](#)

The news regarding the earthquake was all over Twitter, and many volunteers were seen rushing to the affected area to provide aid.

There were also many others who were following the news, and even Joseph’s aunt was trending on social media.

Someone wrote: Ashlyn is Joseph Field’s aunt? The way he addresses her as Aunt Ashlyn is so cute.

Finding it amusing, another commented: My aunt and my best friend became husband and wife.

Later, Fae posted: Sorry for posting at a time like this. Ashlyn is like family to me, so I hope everyone can turn their attention to the disaster. Thank you.

After she posted that on Twitter, she noticed that Charlotte, who was beside her, was watching the news with a pale expression.

Charlotte felt as if she had been struck by thunder when she saw the scene of the disaster on the television.

She started to feel dizzy as if her world was about to end.

She never knew that disasters were this horrendous.

She took in the dejected faces of the victims and listened to their cries for help. When she saw Joseph carry the cold body of a five-year-old boy lying in the mud and put it in the coffin, she almost broke down.

Then she saw how the mother of the child was kneeling in the mud, wailing in grief.

Unable to hold back her tears, she allowed them to stream down her face.

She suddenly understood why Joseph, Ashlyn, and Lucas had rushed over to the scene when they first heard the news.

At that moment, Charlotte was overwhelmed by emotions. She bit her lower lip and immediately ran upstairs.

When she came down, she was already in a different clothing.

She was now wearing a pair of Dr. Martens shoes, a pair of black pants, and a black jacket. Her hair was even tied up into a ponytail.

She had a suitcase with her, and inside the suitcase were foods and clothes.

Seeing that, Fae walked up to her and looked at her in shock. "Lottie, what are you doing?"

"Mum, I'm going to join Joseph, Ashlyn, and the rest." The tears were still streaming down Charlotte's face, and her voice was low as she went on, "I can't just sit here and watch them when they're risking their lives over there."

"Lottie, Ashlyn knows martial arts, and both Joe and Lucas are men. You're so thin. What can you even do when you get there? Do you want them to take care of you even when they're already busy enough?"

Fae was trying to talk Charlotte out of this. Her husband, her son, and the others were there in the disaster area now. She dared not imagine if anything were to happen to them. She really hoped that Charlotte wouldn't go. What will happen to me if everyone leaves me?

That thought made her feel even more depressed. She already had tears rolling in her eyes as she said, "Lottie, listen to me. Don't go."

"Mum, I'm an adult now, not a little kid. Joseph and Ashlyn are there too. I really don't want to see them in danger, and I don't want to be someone who hides behind everyone. I want to help everyone in the disaster area, and I want to face and bear that with all of them. I want to be with them no matter what

happens!

“Besides, there are so families that have become homeless, and some even lost their families. Mum, I want to go. I really do. I don't mind if it's just carrying bricks or cooking for them. I just want to be with Joseph and Ashlyn. You're worried about them too, right? I feel the same as well. Can you really sit here and do nothing when they're there?”

Fae was at a loss for words.

She parted her lips, but words wouldn't come out of her mouth.

In Fae's perspective, they were all her children, and she would try her best to protect them from anything no matter what.

However, she had forgotten that they had already grown up now, and she was getting older.

Fae only hoped that everyone she cared about could be safe. Instead of replying to Charlotte, she stood up and helped Charlotte wear the hat that was hanging at the entrance. After that, she went to her room and quickly changed into warm clothing.

[Chapter 890 Do Not Bother Us](#)

Fae started putting some of the clothes and food from the house into a huge suitcase.

She then looked at Charlotte and said, “Let's go. I'll go with you. You're right. Sitting at home is not a solution. I'm the mayor's wife, and I should be helping out the people in that disaster.”

Charlotte felt a warm current flowing through her heart when she heard that.

Fae sent a WhatsApp message to an “only wives” group that read: I'll be going to the affected area. If any of you have anything to donate, you can pass them to me. I'll be keeping in touch with the officers. They'll send the supplies over every day.

What Fae said attracted everyone's attention, and the people in the group started responding positively.

In less than half an hour, there were already many supplies at the door of the Field residence.

They were loaded onto a huge black truck before being sent to Xanfield.

The journey there was hard due to the heavy rain, and both Fae and Charlotte had been dialing Joseph's, Ashlyn's, and everyone's numbers on the way there, but to no avail.

Their calls would not get through, and Fae's heart slowly sank.

She kept having a bad feeling about it.

The truck finally got closer to Xanfield three hours later.

They stopped and rested for a moment at a rest stop along the highway before continuing their journey to Xanfield.

Another hour passed, and the rain was only getting bigger. After they exited the highway, the condition of the roads was getting worse.

Foe started putting some of the clothes and food from the house into a huge suitcase.

She then looked at Charlotte and said, "Let's go. I'll go with you. You're right. Sitting at home is not a solution. I'm the mayor's wife, and I should be helping out the people in that disaster."

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Another hour passed, and the rain was only getting bigger. After they exited the highway, the condition of the roads was getting worse.

The entire town was in ruins after the earthquake. The roads were rocky, and there were rubbles everywhere.

It was already evening when they arrived in the severely affected area in Xanfield. After Foe and Charlotte got off the truck, they changed into their rain boots and walked forward.

James was sitting in the tent, having a discussion with the village chief and the policemen.

Foe lifted the flap and peeped into the tent, and through the slit, she saw how haggard James was. It had only been a few days, but strands of his hair had already turned white.

His face looked pale, his cheeks looked sunken, and there were also stubbles on his chin.

It seemed that James hadn't rested for a few days, and Foe felt her heart ache when she saw that.

She slowly put down the flap and sighed before she stepped away.

"Mum, why didn't you go in?" Charlotte asked Foe in a low tone when she saw that.

"I don't want to interrupt them." Foe just smiled without saying anything more.

Charlotte looked around the area and walked out. "I'm going to take a look."

"Don't wander off, Lottie. It's dangerous out there." Foe immediately stepped forward and grabbed Charlotte's arm. "Don't make me worry."

"I just want to take a look at the emergency medical center to see if I can help with anything. I won't wander off," Charlotte replied with the raincoat on her.

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"I just want to take a look at the emergency medical center to see if I can help with anything. I won't wander off," Charlotte replied with the raincoat on her.

With that, she stepped out into the rain. The road filled with mud was hard to walk on especially after heavy rains.

She stumbled her way to the tent of the emergency medical center, and she saw how busy every one of the medical staff in the tent was.

Charlotte gritted her teeth and walked toward a male doctor who looked much older. "I'm Ashlyn's little sister, and I'm here to help. Is that all right?"

"You study medicine?" The doctor was bandaging a patient while looking at Charlotte. "Are you certified as a doctor?"

Charlotte shook her head, and she heard the doctor ask again, "Then are you certified as a nurse?"

Again, she shook her head.

"Don't bother us, then! Stand at the side." He finished bandaging an injured villager and yelled, "Take him away! Next!"

Charlotte bit her lip when she heard that. Right then, she saw two villagers walking in. Both the women seemed to be in their thirties.

Charlotte lowered her body and helped the villagers carry the injured man away to a straw mat on the ground not far from them. That would be the injured man's temporary sick bed.

She didn't know nursing or medicine, so for the past two hours, she had been helping the female villagers carry the patients to their resting spots.