

Go After 1141

Chapter 1141

After spending the entire night in between the sheets, Rossie could finally fall asleep as the first signs of daylight surfaced. However, Zorion seemed to have excellent stamina. He started kissing Rossie as soon as she fell asleep.

“Enough...” Rossie was spent. She could only open her eyes slightly and look at Zorion. She held his hand and silently prayed that he would stop attacking her. She was exhausted. She barely had any strength left in every part of her body.

Right then, he had already used all the methods he had at his disposal, and she really had no strength left.

“Are you tired?” Zorion was still in high spirits. He seemed to have unlimited energy bursting from within and seemed like he could continue. He did not seem tired at all after powering through the entire stormy night.

On the contrary, Rossie seemed to be exhausted and had no strength left at all.

Rossie’s eyes were blurred, and her face was reddish. She felt powerless throughout the ordeal and had been taken advantage of by him again.

If the first time was regarded as an assault, then what would this be considered as?

Right then, she was exhausted to the core. She just wanted a good sleep. Was it possible?

“I’m really tired.” Rossie’s voice was slightly hoarse.

She was not sure whether she had encountered a pervert, but then again, she could not use that to describe him because he was like a child who loved grinding others. He had tried many positions the night before, and she wanted to cry at the thought of it.

However, when he spoke, he did not look like one...

Rossie was conflicted. What should she do?

“If you give me a kiss, then I’ll let you rest,” Zorion said as he rested himself on Rossie’s body, their bodies attached and pressed against each other. Rossie’s face immediately flushed red. He must have done it on purpose. He knew that she was naked, yet he still wanted to do it.

But she was really tired.

After thinking about it for a while, Rossie decided to give in and kissed him. However, just as she was about to kiss him, he immediately turned his face away. Rossie was stunned and was at a loss for words.

Zorion turned around and lowered his head to entice Rossie to kiss him. Rossie had no choice but to kiss him. In the end, they engaged in a brief makeout session which ignited Zorion’s desire.

By the time they were done having s*x, two hours had passed. It was only then was Rossie finally able to get the rest she had been craving for.

Once Zorion was satisfied, he finally felt the effects of the previous night's activities. He lay on the bed as he held Rossie's hand and eventually succumbed to sleep.

...

"Right here," Jacky said as he stood in the potato field. Deanna held a basket in her hand and ran over. When she saw a potato buried in the soil, she knelt down and dug it out with her bare hands.

She did not mind that her hands were dirty. She wanted to collect more potatoes so that she could bring them back to the hut to be cooked.

Everyone in that village knew how to cook potatoes. Initially, she had no idea that those were potatoes as she thought that they were turnips.

However, it did not matter what it was called. What mattered the most was how good it tasted.

The previous day, Deanna tried to make a dish using the two potatoes she had harvested. The old lady downstairs was kind enough to give her some mustard. With a dip of the sauce, the fried potatoes tasted amazing.

After putting the potatoes in the basket, Deanna stood up and looked at Jacky. Jacky frowned. She was such a fool!

earlier that day, Jacky went out and had left her alone in the house. There was even a car parked outside. The hut was located next to a wide road. She did not escape but sat in the hut for the whole morning that day.

When Jacky returned home, he found her sitting by the window, staring up at the sky.

Jacky was sure that Deanna would definitely starve to death if he left her alone for three days.

"How many do you have in there?" Jacky asked. Deanna looked at the potatoes in the basket and counted. "Six."

"That's enough. Let's go back."

As Jacky started making his way back to the house, Deanna briefly looked into the basket before following him. She took two quick steps forward and accidentally bumped into Jacky.

She raised her head to look at Jacky, who had suddenly turned around, and apologized. "I'm sorry!"

"I've received the money from your brother."

"I knew my brother would give you the money. He's rich." Deanna's eyes lit up at the mention of her brother. However, in the next moment, she instantly corrected herself. "But I think you're much richer."

Jacky's face was full of amusement as he said, "Just because of your words, I'm going to ask him for another ten million dollars."

"W-why?"

As Jacky walked ahead, Deanna chased after him. Jacky strode forward with ease, and Deanna had to break into a jog to catch up to him. As soon as they arrived back at the house, Jacky immediately went

to grab a fresh set of clothes as well as a towel before making his way to the bathroom located at the back.

Deanna followed him all the way to the bathroom. Just then, a cool breeze blew across the field. It was already autumn.

“Are you planning to take a shower outside? Aren’t you cold?” Deanna had meant to ask him about the extra ten million dollars, but she had totally forgotten about it.

“If you’re worried, then you’re more than welcome to join me. That way, I will not freeze.”

“No, thank you.” After saying that, Deanna immediately ran back to the house. She found a pot and fetched a basin of water. She was shivering due to the autumn breeze while washing the potatoes.

After ensuring that they were clean, Deanna carried the basin and waited for Jacky to come out of the shower.

Soon, Jacky emerged from the shower clad in only a pair of trousers. He was shirtless and was still dripping with water when he came out.

When Deanna realized that he was shirtless, she hurriedly turned around, silently muttering to herself that she had not seen anything.

When Jacky noticed Deanna shivering, he looked down at his body. Did he look that bad?

He then dried his hair as he walked over to Deanna and asked, “Do I look good?”

Deanna did not even look at him. She hurriedly nodded and replied, “Yes! You look great!”

“Is this how you should react if you think I’m good-looking?” Jacky reached out to pinch Deanna’s chin, forcing her to turn to look at him. He wanted her to look at his lean and strong body.

In fact, Deanna wasn’t thinking about anything. She just felt that it was not right of her to look at him when he was shirtless.

However, Deanna pouted because he was pinching her. Jacky inadvertently rolled his eyes at her.

After allowing Deanna to stare at him for a while, Jacky asked, “So, do I have a good physique?”

Deanna hurriedly nodded.

Jacky let go of Deanna’s chin and asked, “Have you ever seen anyone with a better physique than me?”

Deanna thought for a moment. She had seen her brother’s and Santiago’s. They had much better physiques than Jacky.

However, she shook her head at once.

Deanna was certain that Jacky was self-obsessed.

“Come in.” Jacky turned around and entered the house. There was no one around that day. Everyone had attended a gathering at a neighbouring village. They would not be back until late at night. In fact, Jacky was invited to the gathering as well, but when he thought of Deanna at home alone, he decided to

come and check on her. Surely enough, she was such a fool. When he came home, Deanna had not escaped. She was still there, staring at her surroundings.

After entering the kitchen, Jacky looked at Deanna and asked, "You've been learning to cook recently. How are your cooking skills coming along?"

Deanna hurriedly replied, "It's going well. I've learnt how to cook."

Deanna was afraid that Jacky would starve her. When she heard Jacky's question, she immediately told him about her progress. She was pleased with her newfound skills.

She was genuinely happy.

Deanna was neither afraid of working hard, nor was she afraid of suffering. All of those things she had learnt during that period of time were new to her.

Especially when it came to cooking and cleaning.

Chapter 1142

"Then, you can start preparing the food. I'm going to lie down for a while. Call me when it's ready." Jacky then made his way upstairs. Deanna looked around to see if there was any firewood to start a fire. After washing the pot and placing the potatoes in it, she went outside to gather some firewood. The weather that day was somewhat chilly and gloomy. Deanna could not handle the cold, and her face was beginning to turn red.

It did not take long before she came back with a pile of firewood in her arms. She placed the firewood underneath the stove before lighting it up. Once the fire was big enough, she started to cook the potatoes. She would then sit by the fire to warm herself up while waiting.

Once the pot began to boil, Deanna briefly glanced at the time and felt that the food should be ready. She then put out the fire.

After waiting for the pot to cool down, Deanna took out the potatoes and served them on a plate. She brought the plate to the table and yelled for Jacky to come down. When Jacky descended the stairs, he was stunned when he saw Deanna's present appearance.

At that moment, Deanna was wearing a pair of shoes that barely covered her feet and a torn shirt. Her hair was wrapped in a piece of cloth, and her entire body was covered in dirt. Somehow, even ashes from the pot managed to get onto her face.

Jacky paused for a moment on the stairs. She was indeed a fool.

He could not help but to wonder, why was Zorion so smart, but she wasn't? Were they even from the same family?

Jacky continued walking down the stairs over to the dining table. At that moment, Jacky was wearing a long-sleeved shirt. He seemed warm and comfy in it, and Deanna was envious of him. She did not even own any proper clothes. How could she not be envious?

Jacky grabbed the chair and sat down. Deanna was practically akin to being his slave. She walked over to Jacky and stared at him from the side. If Jacky did not give her permission to sit down, then she would not dare to sit.

“Come and eat. After that, you can go ahead and boil some water,” Jacky said as he took a potato and began eating.

Deanna had cooked six potatoes in total. When Jacky finally gave her permission, she immediately reached over for the largest potato. Once she finished it, she took a medium-sized one before devouring a third.

Jacky frowned and muttered in his heart, “She’s such a fool. She only knows how to eat.”

“Are you full?” Jacky asked Deanna. She hurriedly nodded her head. She was afraid that Jacky would get angry if she took too long to reply to him.

“Go and boil some water for a warm shower.” Jacky got up and went outside. He stretched and briefly looked up at the sky. It seemed like it was going to rain soon. It was most likely that the lady and the others would not be coming home that day.

Deanna went out to gather more firewood so that she could boil some water for Jacky’s shower.

Deanna knew that the water must have been too cold for him earlier, so that was why he wanted a hot shower.

She was envious of him!

After the water was boiled, Jacky brought a basin out and instructed, “Pour some water into the basin.”

Deanna obediently filled the basin with water, scoop by scoop. Then, she looked at Jacky and lifted her eyebrows.

When she was done, she quietly informed him. “I’m done.”

“Go ahead and take a shower,” Jacky said as he walked to the side. He sat down and waited for Deanna to take a shower. When Deanna heard his words, she was so frightened that she immediately broke out in cold sweat, cowering in fear.

“There’s... there’s no need for that. I... I don’t need a shower. I’m good.” When Deanna first arrived, she was not even willing to wash her face. If it weren’t because Jacky had ordered her to do so, then she would not even want to wash her face.

Crouching in a corner, Deanna was depressed. What if... What if something happened? What should she do?

“You’re fine with it, but I’m not. Hurry up and take a shower. Otherwise, I’ll help you.” Jacky shot a displeased look towards Deanna. She hesitated for a long time and did not move.

Then, Jacky pretended to stand up. Deanna was scared out of her wits and quickly turned around to take a shower. She entered the bathroom and shut it tightly before using a rope to bind the door. Only then did she relax and finally take a shower.

Deanna quickly got into the water barrel after taking off her clothes. She wanted to shower at once in case Jacky came in and took advantage of her.

Deanna showered with her back facing the door. That way, if Jacky came in, then he would not see anything. In the end, Jacky did come in. Furthermore, the rope that Deanna used to bind the door snapped as soon as he pushed the door.

Jacky pushed the door open and paused to glance at the rope attached to the door. He did not know what to say when he realized that she had used a weathered rope to bind the door. Deanna indeed lacked intelligence.

Jacky lifted his head to look at Deanna who was in the water barrel, who then turned around. She looked at him, dumbfounded, while exposing half of her chest.

Jacky's eyes subconsciously fell onto her chest.

Deanna slowly lowered her head and instantly let out a scream.

Jacky quickly threw the clothes in his hand to one side before saying, "Put this on before you come out."

With that, he turned around and went outside. He closed the door behind him and smiled.

At that moment, it had already begun to rain. Jacky walked over with his hands on his waist as he stood at the entrance, enjoying the cold and gloomy wind and rain.

It did not take long before Deanna emerged from the bathroom. She stood at the door, dressed in Jacky's loose clothes. His shirt was way too big for her. It was so oversized that she basically looked like she was wearing a dress.

Upon hearing the sound, Jacky turned around to look at Deanna. He saw her standing by the door as she bit her lip, blushing intensely. After sizing her up for a while, he walked over.

When Deanna saw Jacky coming over, she hurriedly took two steps back. Jacky stopped and said, "You're quite bold. How dare you move away from me?"

Deanna's lips squirmed. "I wasn't."

"Then, what were you doing?" Jacky lifted his eyebrows. His voice grew a little louder, causing Deanna to tremble in fear. She hurriedly retorted, "I was just moving to the side."

Jacky was speechless. He wanted to laugh at her words.

When Deanna did not say anything, Jacky walked past her and headed upstairs. "It's going to rain tonight. It'll probably be cold. Come back upstairs instantly once you've poured the water away."

Upon hearing Jacky's words, Deanna felt as though she had been given a reprieve. She hurriedly poured the bathwater away, closed the doors and windows downstairs, and opened them again. She then stood at the door and looked outside.

Jacky waited for a long time and saw no signs of Deanna. His patience was wearing thin. When he could no longer wait, he walked to the landing of the stairs and found her looking outside. His voice boomed all of a sudden. "What are you doing?"

Deanna was so frightened that she suddenly ran out into the rain. She was immediately drenched, and the hot shower she had just taken ended up being a waste.

Jacky walked down the stairs and stood at the entrance of the stairs, glaring at Deanna. At that moment, she seemed like Cinderella from the fairytale as she stood in the rain, not daring to return home.

Jacky's face darkened, "Aren't you planning to come back in? Are you going to stand there in the rain?"

Jacky had initially wanted to coax Deanna to come back in, but he was furious at how stupid she was. For a moment, his tone was somewhat stiff. Deanna could not comprehend it, so when she heard his tone, she realized that he must have thought that she had wanted to escape.

As soon as the thought crossed Deanna's mind, she turned around and fled in fear.

She could not escape previously. Furthermore, the old lady wasn't around that day, and it was raining heavily outside. Jacky might not be able to catch up to her.

Deanna felt that it was a perfect opportunity to escape, so she turned around and ran as fast as she could. Her shoes were hindering her from speeding up, so she quickly stopped and got rid of them before continuing on with her great escape.

Chapter 1143

Jacky stood at the entrance of the stairs in a daze. He watched the heavy rain outside the door, completely lost in thought. When he finally came back to his senses, Deanna was already miles ahead.

Jacky hurriedly chased after Deanna. She initially thought that Jacky would not be able to catch up as she was sprinting, but before she knew it, he had already caught up to her in half an hour and dragged her back towards the house as if he was carrying a chick.

As soon as they entered the house, Deanna immediately retreated to one corner. She cowered in fear, not saying a single word.

Jacky was drenched. His hair was dripping with rainwater when he looked down.

"Why did you run away?" Jacky asked after a moment of silence. Deanna shook her head in a flurry and shrunk like a tortoise. She did not dare look at him.

Jacky walked towards Deanna and stopped to observe her. She looked like a mudskipper and was also drenched from head to toe. How many times had she tripped and fallen?

Deanna suddenly said, "I did not run away. I wanted to find the old lady. She's not back yet, and it's raining so heavily."

After saying that, she lowered her head, panting cautiously.

Jacky frowned. "If you had not run away, then why are you so afraid?"

"I'm not," Deanna stammered as she spoke.

Jacky swept his eyes across the entire room before turning around to check the pot. The pot was still warm. He then placed some firewood underneath the pot and lit it up before pouring in some water. In no time, the water was boiled.

Jacky turned around and placed both his hands on his hips as he stood there and said, "You have two choices. You can either choose to accompany me in the shower, or you can call your brother and ask him to give me thirty million dollars as compensation for you running away."

"I did not run away." Deanna was adamant, but she did not dare to meet his gaze.

Jacky then said, "So, are you going to accompany me to sleep?"

"I've been doing that every night, haven't I?" Deanna muttered in a low voice. The corners of Jacky's mouth curled upwards. "It looks like you're planning to have my kids, huh?"

Deanna hurriedly raised her head and shook her head. However, she pressed her lips together and did not say a word.

Jacky sneered and asked, "Were you running away just now?"

Deanna hesitated for a while and finally gave in. "I... I did run away."

In the end, Deanna had no choice but to admit to it.

Jacky walked towards Deanna and lowered his head to look at her drenched self before asking, "So, are you going to choose between the former or the latter?"

"I'll choose the second option." Deanna did not hesitate. Jacky turned around and went to boil the water. After the water was boiled, he opened the lid and poured the water into two separate buckets. He then turned around and carried the two buckets of water into the bathroom. A few moments later, he emerged from the house with a bucket of cold water.

"Go and take a shower."

"Are you... Are you asking me to take a shower?" Deanna looked at Jacky in shock. Jacky's face was full of amusement as he said, "I thought you did not want to shower with me?"

"Right. I'll go and take a shower." Deanna hurried into the bathroom. Jacky turned his head around to take a look before boiling another pot of water. After the water was boiled, he fetched Deanna a set of dry and clean clothes he had worn when he was fourteen. That time was no exception. Jacky pushed the door open and entered.

Deanna was so frightened that she curled up in the barrel and did not dare to come out. She entered the bathroom in such a hurry that she had forgotten to bring in a new set of clothes.

When Jacky entered the bathroom, Deanna hurriedly hid in the barrel. She already had a plan in mind because she had anticipated him to come in.

Jacky stood at the entrance for a while. After putting the clothes aside, he turned around and left.

Deanna briefly glanced at the shirt. It was a white shirt with blue stripes.

After Jacky left, Deanna immediately came out, wiped herself dry, and put on her clothes. She lowered her head to look at the shirt and realized that it was still oversized.

Jacky turned around to look at Deanna when he heard her coming out of the bathroom. He was slightly taken aback by her appearance. However, he did not say anything as he carried the bucket into the bathroom. He poured the used water out of the barrel and refilled it with clean water. He then took his drenched clothes off before climbing into the barrel. Deanna hurriedly covered her eyes with her hands as her heart began pounding in her chest.

“Come here,” Jacky called out to her. Only then did Deanna put her hands down and asked Jacky, “What do you need?”

“You’ll know when you come over.”

“My brother will give you the money.”

“It’s not about the money. Rub my back.”

“Oh.”

Deanna was naive, so it was easy to fool her. She would do whatever others told her to.

Deanna walked towards Jacky with a towel in hand. She then soaked the towel before helping Jacky rub his back.

Jacky let out a sigh of relief and asked, “Why did you want to run away?”

Deanna thought for a moment before saying, “You were really fierce. I was afraid, so I decided to run away. In fact, I knew I could not escape from here because I had no idea where I was. I couldn’t differentiate the directions. Don’t you agree?”

Noticing Deanna acting very cautious, Jacky narrowed his eyes. “I’ve never talked to anyone this nicely before. So, I’m warning you, if you ever run away again, then I’m going to catch you and violate you.”

“I won’t. I won’t!” Deanna hurriedly said. Her heart was about to leap out of her chest. She felt as if she might have a heart attack.

Jacky was leisurely enjoying himself while Deanna helped him clean his back. In fact, he had just taken a shower not too long ago before the rain. He was considered quite clean. He just wanted to fool Deanna.

“Have you ever helped anyone wash their backs?” Jacky asked. Deanna thought for a moment before replying, “I once helped my brother. He would occasionally help me too.”

Jacky’s face sank. With a splashing sound, he turned around and faced Deanna. “You’ve taken a shower with your brother before?”

“Yes, when we were younger.” It seemed like Deanna was panting heavily. Jacky stared blankly for a moment. “How old were you?”

“Three years old.”

With a splashing sound, Jacky turned around. She was indeed a fool!

"I'm nTristany done here. Go upstairs and get me a pair of trousers."

"Alright."

Deanna wanted nothing more than to leave the bathroom. Upon hearing Jacky's words, she hurriedly put the towel in her hand down and turned around to leave, behaving like a child as she skipped up the stairs.

Jacky stood up and stepped out of the bath barrel. He grabbed a bath towel and wrapped it around his waist before walking out.

It wasn't long before Deanna emerged from the house with a pair of trousers in hand. She then handed it over to Jacky. She gathered her drenched clothes and placed them in a basin, preparing to wash her clothes.

Jacky put his pants on and looked at her.

"Stop washing. You can wash it tomorrow. Head back upstairs," Jacky instructed her. Deanna's face was unusually flushed. It was raining heavily, and it was autumn. It was easy to catch a cold in that weather.

Deanna shook her head. "I'll come back after washing up."

"There's no need for that. Go on." After saying that, Jacky turned around and made his way upstairs. He had managed to catch her that time, so he doubted that she would try to run away again right then. Jacky was confident about it.

However, at that time, Deanna did not follow him obediently. Instead, she stubbornly washed her clothes downstairs. Jacky waited impatiently upstairs. By the time he decided to come down and check on her, Deanna had already finished washing her clothes.

When Jacky came down from the stairs, he realized that Deanna was hiding something behind her back.

"What are you hiding?" Jacky stood at the landing of the stairs. Deanna shook her head and said, "Nothing."

"Do you want me to come over to you?"

Deanna then showed him the lace panties she had been hiding. It was dripping with water.

When Jacky saw what it was, Deanna immediately hid it behind her back and lowered her head. "I don't have any clean panties left."

Jacky's sword-like brows twitched as his gaze fell on Deanna's body. He turned around and walked up the stairs. "Come up now."

"Oh." Daeanna hurriedly ran up the stairs, with her feet stomping on the stairs. Jacky turned around to take a look. Deanna was making her way up the stairs but she was immediately chased back downstairs.

"Wash your feet before you come upstairs. Your feet are full of dirt, and you're going to soil the entire floor. There are shoes in the box. Find one that suits you." After saying that, Jacky went back upstairs. Deanna hurriedly washed her feet and went to find the right pair of shoes before making her way into

the house, wearing a pair of striped home slippers. Jacky looked at her shoes and frowned. "Take them off."

Deanna looked at him before taking off her shoes at the door. She entered the house and secretly found a suitable place to hang her panties.

When she returned, she felt much better. Then, she walked over and sat down.

The weather was a little cold, and Deanna's hair was still wet. She found a dry towel and tried to dry off her hair as best as she could.

At that moment, the rain outside was getting heavier and heavier. There were even sounds of thunder. Deanna had always been afraid of thunder ever since she was a child. Whenever there was thunder, she had the urge to burst into tears and would always bury herself in Zorion's arms.

However, Zorion was not there that day, so she hugged herself tightly and sat in the corner. Jacky took a look outside before walking over to Deanna. He sat down and pulled her into his arms. Deanna was so scared that her entire body was trembling. She raised her hands over her head and started shuddering.

He hugged her tightly and said, "Lightning is a natural phenomenon, so it won't enter the house."

Deanna shook her head. She then wrapped her hands around Jacky. It was as though she would not leave the corner even if she had been beaten to death.

Jacky lowered his head to look at her before pulling her back into his embrace and soothed her. Soon, she fell asleep. She thought that she was in Zorion's arms.

She whispered, "Zorion, I want to have some cake."

Jacky lowered his head to look at her only to realize that she had fallen asleep. What a fool!

The sound of the rain soon died down, and thunder could no longer be heard. Jacky wanted to lay her down, but she had been tugging at his clothes the entire time, not letting go. Jacky had no choice but to lie down beside her, tugging both of them in.

Deanna suddenly developed a fever in the middle of the night. Her entire body was trembling.

Jacky had already fallen asleep. He opened his eyes and lowered his head to look at the person trembling in his arms.

Jacky got up and turned on the lights. He lifted up Deanna's chin and lowered his head to look at her.

At that moment, Deanna's face was flushed, and her entire body was burning hot. She would open her eyes from time to time in a daze.

"Little fool." Jacky had started addressing her in that manner from the beginning. Deanna was unwilling to have him do so, but in the end, she could do nothing about it.

That time, when Jacky shouted, Jacky's name immediately appeared in her mind. She muttered in a low voice, "Jack... Jack..."

Jacky sat up and pushed Deanna away. He turned around and went downstairs to fetch two bottles of wine as well as some paracetamol.

He went upstairs and took off Deanna's clothes. As a result, he was stunned.

"Cold. It's so cold." Deanna was flailing in front of him. Jacky swiftly opened the bottle and drank two mouthfuls of white wine. He then poured the rest of it on his hands and rubbed it on Deanna in an attempt to cool her down, but as he rubbed on her body, he couldn't control himself!

Chapter 1144

Deanna woke up the next morning and felt a little groggy. When she moved slightly, she felt pain all over her body. When she opened her eyes, she could see warm yellow Rhyss pouring in through the windows.

Deanna pondered for a moment in bed before getting up. Just as she was about to sit up, she felt as if something seemed to be gripping her waist. She then looked at her waist and saw an arm firmly wrapped around her body. She turned sideways only to find that the arm belonged to Jacky.

What the h*ll happened the previous night? Deanna did her best to try and recall her memory, but she couldn't seem to remember anything!

She raised her hand to rub her head. Deanna then looked at her arms and wondered, what happened to her sleeves?

She looked at her arms and over to her body...

"Ah!"

Deanna shrieked and woke Jacky up in the process.

Jacky immediately sat up and looked over at Deanna. He hurriedly pulled her into his arms. Deanna was completely scared out of her wits when she realized that both of them were naked.

"Scoundrel! You scoundrel!" Deanna started to cry. How could it have happened?

Jacky wasn't mad. Instead, he looked as if he was about to burst into laughter.

Jacky pushed her away. He stared at her for a moment. She was crying pitifully and looked as pale as a sheet of paper.

"You're not allowed to cry."

Deanna sniffed and immediately stopped crying. Jacky reached out and wiped her tears away. Then, he lowered his head and kissed her. At first, she wasn't willing to have him touch her, but later on, Jacky raised his voice and locked his gaze on her, so she compromised in fright. She wrapped his arms around his shoulders until she did not have the strength to resist him.

After wiping her tears away, Jacky lay down beside Deanna and pulled her into his embrace. She placed her hands on his chest as she lay in his arms.

Jacky asked her, "Does it feel good?"

“Yes.”

When Deanna answered, she blushed a little. In the end, she remained still in his arms and did not say anything. She was honest and was as obedient as a kitten.

Jacky ran his hand along Deanna’s arm and said, “You should get some rest. I’ll bring you out tonight.”

“Oh.” Deanna’s hand remained on his chest. It was as if she was trying to push him away. After she closed her eyes, Jacky placed one of her arms over his body. Then, he pulled up the blanket to cover her body. He rarely used the blanket as it was usually hot at night. Soon, the two of them fell into a deep slumber.

“He’s not back yet?” Santiago asked as he walked down the stairs. The weather was great that day. He glanced at Raeleigh, who was waiting for Jepherson to return home. Raeleigh turned around and said, “Not yet. Could you please call him to check whether he’s home?”

Santiago took his phone out and called up Harvey Manor to check whether Jepherson was around. That was not the first phone call. It was as if he had vanished from the face of the Earth. No one had heard from him, nor could anyone get in touch with him.

Santiago hung up the phone and glanced at Raeleigh. He walked to the side and took a seat. He put the phone in front of him and shoved his hands into his pocket.

There was no one downstairs besides the two of them. As Scarlett was throwing a tantrum, Hadrian was keeping an eye on her and did not allow her to leave the room. Stuart, on the other hand, was with Jepherson. However, at that time, no one could reach Stuart either.

Santiago’s face darkened as he asked, “Did the two of you have a fight?”

Raeleigh froze for a moment and she then looked at Santiago. “No.”

“Then, why haven’t we heard anything from him?” Santiago did not look at Raeleigh, but he could tell something was off. Raeleigh shook her head and looked out of the window. “I have no idea. I have this uneasy gut feeling... He has never disappeared like this before. I’m not sure if something has happened to him.”

“I’ll go out to find him.” Santiago stood up and was about to head out through the door. Raeleigh stood up to stop him. “Don’t. If he wanted to come back, then he would have.”

Santiago stopped and turned to look at Raeleigh. There was a kind of indescribable emotion in his eyes.

“What happens if he does not come back since I did not go out to look for him?”

Raeleigh thought for a moment. “He’ll come back when it’s time. Maybe he’s looking for someone.”

After thinking for a while, Santiago walked over to Raeleigh. He looked at Raeleigh with a deep gaze and asked, “Do you know something?”

Raeleigh shook her head. How could she know? She could not even contact him. She initially thought that he was busy trying to look for Deanna, but right then, it seemed like that was not the case.

Raeleigh stared at Santiago. She did not know what to say. Whatever the case was, she had to ask him. However, he had not returned home yet. How was she supposed to ask him?

Santiago took out his phone and called his grandfather, Hudson.

When Hudson saw the caller ID on his phone, he was surprised. However, glancing at the door of the person who had not left his room for two days, he silently understood.

“What’s the matter? Why are you so kind to call me?” Hudson’s opinion of Santiago was different from his wife, Paige. He had two different ways of looking at people as well as his grandsons. He liked them both regardless of whether they were good or bad. After all, they were his grandsons.

Calvin was his only son. That son had two sons, one was Jepherson, and the other was Santiago. Putting aside the others, they were all descendants of the Harvey family. They were his only grandsons, and he was pleased with the two of them. One was a born leader, whereas the other one was an innate warrior.

If the former was the image of a king, then the latter had the aura of tyrant. He could not pick a favorite. As a grandfather, he felt that his grandsons were perfect in their own ways. However, some outsiders had their own thoughts about his grandsons and couldn’t recognize their respective potentials.

However, he himself knew very well that with those two children, the Harvey family’s fortune would surely skyrocket. They wouldn’t hold themselves back.

At the end of the day, he felt that Jepherson was too calm. Sometimes, when he spoke to him, it was as if he was dealing with a sly fox. He had to speak carefully lest he fell into any of his traps. Santiago, on the other hand, was more likeable. He was very straightforward. Even though he was somewhat cynical and frivolous, he was still young, so this temperament matched his age.

Hudson leaned towards Santiago.

His feelings towards Santiago were different from Paige’s.

Paige had nagged him several times as a result of their opposing views, saying that he was old and confused. However, Hudson did not say much about that matter. Whether he was confused or not, he knew it in his heart. There was no need for him to explain himself.

He felt relaxed when he talked to Santiago because he was fond of him. Santiago, who was on the other end of the line, asked casually, “Is he there?”

Hudson casually asked, “Who?”

“Are you already senile?” Santiago did not care if his words would offend his grandfather. Since his grandfather pretended not to know who he was talking about, he deserved to be offended.

Hudson turned around and glanced at the locked door upstairs. No matter how much he liked Santiago, he could not offend Jepherson. After all, both of his grandsons were equally important to him.

After thinking for a while, Hudson thought of a compromise and said, “I haven’t seen him. Why don’t you try and call him?”

Santiago was not a fool. He sneered and said, “The older, the wiser. I get it.”

With that, Santiago hung up the phone. As for Hudson, he wanted to say a few words to his grandson, but before he could even say anything, Santiago had already hung up the phone.

Hudson put his phone aside and glanced at Stuart, who was standing downstairs. He then said, "Santiago's temper has always been bad. Please cut him some slack."

After saying that, Hudson got up and went upstairs. Just as he was halfway up the stairs, he turned back around to retrieve his phone. Stuart stood downstairs and lowered his head as he wiped the sweat off his forehead. Was he saying that Santiago or he himself should not be blamed for his bad temper? That old man was humorous. He was exaggerating, but there was a never ending stream of ways to scare people. Stuart had been freaked out a lot since he was young.

Chapter 1145

On the other side, Santiago put his phone away and looked at Raeleigh. "He should be fine. He's at Harvey Manor."

"So, he's fine because he's there?" Raeleigh looked at Santiago. She was slightly relieved when she heard his words.

"What can happen to him? My grandfather treats him like a treasure. He should be fine. If you're worried, then I can bring you there to check on him." Santiago spoke as if he was telling the truth. Raeleigh immediately shook her head and said, "There's no need for that."

Raeleigh turned around and sat down. She guessed that he probably needed some space. Therefore, she decided not to look for him. If he needed her, then he would come back on his own. Besides, she did not dare go to Harvey Manor as there were too many people around. Regardless of what identity she used, it was still better to stay at home.

Raeleigh sat down and fell silent. Santiago, too, took a seat. He remained silent as he waited for Raeleigh to say something. However, she did not say anything. Although she was a little sad, she did not blame Jepherson.

He probably had an unsolvable problem, and a person like Jepherson would definitely want to deal with it on his own. Earlier, he went to find his sister. He was probably frustrated that he still could not find her.

He had put in so much effort, yet he still could not find her. If it were her, then she would have been frustrated as well. She knew that once he got over it, he would come home.

Raeleigh felt as if she and Jepherson were slowly drifting apart. It was as if he was beyond her reach.

Both of them were the kind of people who loved to keep their problems to themselves. That was their greatest flaw.

Raeleigh said nothing after sitting there for the entire day. The next day, Raeleigh was woken up by a call from Xanthus, asking her to go out. Raeleigh hesitated for a moment. Scarlett did not need any more injections and recovered at a speedy pace. Not only that, she and Hadrian would spend the entire day locked up in the room, arguing. Occasionally, sounds of objects breaking could be heard. It seemed that Scarlett had recovered faster than expected.

Every day, Hadrian would cook a lot of nutritious food for Scarlett. That was the first time that Raeleigh realized that Hadrian cared so much about Scarlett.

"I have a class to attend later. I will not be heading into the office for a few days." Since Jepherson had not been going to the office, Raeleigh felt that it was unsuitable for her to head over as well. A couple of days ago, she had been absent-minded because, at that time, she wasn't sure whether she was Jepherson's sister. Thankfully, Jepherson had already informed Lamarre, so she was slightly relieved.

She still had not completed the first trimester of her pregnancy. She did not have a baby bump yet, so she could still attend class.

"Alright then, let's meet up at the university." Once they agreed to it, Raeleigh hung up the phone.

With that, Raeleigh made her way down to Scarlett's room and knocked on the door. After a long time, Hadrian finally emerged from the room wearing a black shirt that exposed his chest. He said to Raeleigh, "What's the matter?"

"I'm looking for Scarlett. I'm planning to head over to the university, and I want to check whether she'd like to come with me. That way, Dr. Osteen might be able to examine her wound."

Raeleigh took a look inside and realized that Scarlett was dressed and ready to go. However, she still seemed somewhat unpleasant and was unwilling to forgive Hadrian. It seemed like Hadrian was playing hardball and was very controlling of her. Scarlett did not even have the right to speak up for herself.

If Jepherson was around, then he might have been able to help Scarlett. Unfortunately, he wasn't, and Scarlett was left to defend herself. At that moment, she was at Hadrian's mercy and was controlled by him.

"I'm fine now. I'm coming with you." Scarlett immediately exited the room when she saw Raeleigh. Hadrian looked at her and said, "You're not fully recovered yet."

"So what? It has nothing to do with you. I'm warning you. You'd better take away your belongings, or else..."

"Or else what?" Before Scarlett could finish her sentence, Hadrian turned around and glared at her. She immediately kept quiet, pursed her lips, and snorted. Then, she walked out of the door, dragging Raeleigh along with her.

Raeleigh turned to look at Hadrian, who did not follow them. She initially thought that he would leave them alone, but after breakfast, he emerged from the room with a jacket in hand.

Raeleigh sat down and looked at Scarlett. "You're no longer a kid. Stop throwing tantrums."

"Raeleigh, let's not talk about this anymore. I really need some space." Since Scarlett had said that, Raeleigh decided not to meddle with her business.

After breakfast, Scarlett and Raeleigh made their way to the university. Santiago naturally followed them. Meanwhile, Hadrian was tailing them from behind, in a black sports car.

On the way to the university, Scarlett's expression gradually turned more and more displeased. She had no idea what was wrong with Hadrian. Out of nowhere, he decided that he wanted to enrol in the university and made a special request to have the same classes as Scarlett.

That day was his first day at the university, and he decided to drive a limited edition car from the Harvey Group. Although that car came out two years ago, it was enough to attract people's attention. Back when it was first released, Scarlett was so envious and wanted to take a ride in it. However, Hadrian refused no matter how hard she begged. Right then, he decided to drive it out. She had no idea what his intentions were.

Scarlett gnashed her teeth in anger. Raeleigh, who was sitting right next to her, had a strange look on her face. Was there a need for such a reaction for a car?

When they arrived at the university, the two cars successively pulled into the parking lot. When Scarlett came out of the car, she did not even bother to look at Hadrian's car. Raeleigh had a helpless look on her face when she noticed that. She could not help but to wonder, who Scarlett was mad at?

Santiago seemed unperturbed. He got out of the car and whistled. He put his hands in his pockets and swaggered forward, calling Raeleigh to follow him.

Raeleigh, of course, immediately followed him. Santiago was basically her bodyguard. Who else would she have followed if not Santiago?

Raeleigh asked while walking, "Is there any news about Deanna?"

"I'm not sure. I haven't heard anything from Zorion. However, I know that he's been transferring money to the kidnapper, and the amount is getting bigger and bigger. I have a feeling that he has contacted the kidnapper, but he doesn't want us to intervene in this matter," Santiago said with a smile as if something interesting was happening. Raeleigh looked up at him. "In fact, you're partly responsible for Deanna running away."

Although she was partly to blame, Raeleigh still felt that it was mainly Santiago's fault.

He clearly knew that Deanna liked him, but he still chose Cynthia over her. Although no one could control his feelings, Raeleigh still felt that Santiago had crossed the line.

Santiago paused for a moment. He turned around to look at Raeleigh with his eyebrows lifted. "What do you mean?"

"You're partly responsible for Deanna running away. You knew that she likes you, but you chose Cynthia over her. Even if no one says anything about this, even if you don't act so decisively, Deanna will find out sooner or later, so she will naturally suffer a lot. However, you're not soft-hearted at all. I don't think it's appropriate for you to act in this way."

"I did not ask for your opinion. Plus, it's none of your business," Santiago said while shooting Raeleigh a disdainful glance. Raeleigh wasn't mad, but she looked unhappy. She turned around and left.

Raeleigh really did not know how to handle a person like Santiago. She must have owed him something in her past life. That was why in that life, he had to make things difficult for her. Especially his sharp and vicious mouth. He was neither easy-going nor polite.

She was a woman. She could definitely not win an argument with him. However, if she did not refute him, then she would feel annoyed!

Raeleigh entered the lecture hall and realized that there was a newcomer that day. Hadrian had entered the hall, and he was sitting in the last row, right behind Scarlette.

Raeleigh had no idea what had happened between Scarlette and Hadrian as they were there before her. However, Raeleigh knew that they must have had a fight, since she could feel the tension between them.

As soon as Raeleigh took her seat, she immediately switched her focus in preparation for class. However, midway through the lecture, she felt a little uncomfortable, so she decided to leave the class earlier. Thus, leaving Santiago's sight.

Raeleigh went to the restroom in order to avoid arousing Santiago's suspicion. As a result, when she emerged from the restroom, she found Santiago standing outside, leaning against the wall. He only left when he was sure that Raeleigh was alright.

"You don't have to follow me. Nothing will happen to me in the restroom." Raeleigh wanted to meet Xanthus, so of course, she had to avoid Santiago, but he kept following her. She found it very annoying.

"You don't want me to follow you? Why? Do you have a secret meeting to attend to?" Santiago proceeded to walk ahead with his hands in his pocket as he asked Raeleigh. Raeleigh raised her head to look at him. "What secret meeting? Who else can I possibly meet in private besides your brother?"

"Like me, for example." Santiago turned around to face Raeleigh and walked towards her. He forced Raeleigh to stop, and only then did she stop.

"I don't care what you want to do, but you'd better give me a heads-up. Otherwise, I will not take any responsibility if you make a fool of yourself." Santiago observed Raeleigh for a while before turning around to leave.

Raeleigh hurriedly followed in his steps and informed him, "I do have something to tell you, but it's related to my identity, so I can't tell you."

"I know more about you than you know about yourself. How can I not know your background?" Santiago snorted. He did not even turn around to look at her.

Raeleigh did not know what to say. She felt like such a fool when she was around a smart Alec like Santiago.

"What do you know?" Raeleigh asked cautiously. Santiago stopped and turned to Raeleigh. "Everything."

Raeleigh remained silent and pondered for a while. Then, Santiago turned around and called out to Raeleigh. "Come here."

Raeleigh lifted her head and looked at Santiago, who was quite far ahead of her, so she had to approach him.

They left the building and made their way to Xanthus' infirmary. Santiago stopped and turned around to look at Raeleigh. "I'll wait for you here."

Raeleigh froze for a while before walking towards Santiago. She raised her head and looked at him. "How is it possible that you know so much?"

"If you don't want people to know, then you shouldn't do it. There's nothing in this world that I don't know. The whole world knows that if an adult falls from such a high place, then it's a miracle that the adult is alive, not to mention the child in the womb."

"Later, my father recalled that when my mother fell down the cliff, her belly must have hit something. I feel that even if the baby managed to survive, it would probably be paralyzed. It's impossible that nothing happened to the baby."

"Although you're somewhat stupid, you're not paralyzed."

Santiago's words shocked Raeleigh. What he said was true. Even if the baby was indeed alive, it was impossible for the baby to be entirely fine. That was to say, the baby had most probably died, but...

Raeleigh looked at Santiago. "But he has been searching for so many years, hasn't he?"

"You also know that he has been searching for so many years. Everyone knows that this is a sore subject for him. At that time, my mother went there for his sake. We did not expect her to fall off the cliff. Her temporary disappearance nTristany ruined our entire family. My father nTristany lost his sight in the process of searching for her. With such an incident, how much of a blow did his heart suffer?"

"Although there was a reason, and he was also innocent, everyone knows his character. He's clinging on to that slight hope that he will be able to find our sister."

"When he was five years old, he was young and ignorant. When he grew up, he gradually understood that it was him who caused our mother to fall off the cliff and the baby's disappearance. He's been blaming himself ever since."

"My father tried looking for our sister. In fact, it proves that the baby had most probably died. Although we're unwilling to accept this reality, only a fool would cling to the little hope."

"He's a smart fool, while you're genuinely a fool."

Raeleigh froze for a moment. "Why do you have to drag me into everything? It seems that if you don't call me a fool, then you will feel uncomfortable."

"Hmph!" Santiago turned around and looked elsewhere. "It's possible that Steffan lied, but I doubt that he would lie to my mother about this matter. He most probably told a white lie. I think that the child has most likely passed away. My mother was in really poor health at that time, so that's why he did not lie, and I think he fell in love with my mother at that time."

Raeleigh was silent. She wasn't sure whether she should believe Santiago or not. But then again, she knew that Santiago would not lie about that matter. After all, the baby was his sibling.

Raeleigh was silent for a while and said, "Then, why don't you come in with me? I've thought about this matter long and hard. I don't know what else to think."

Raeleigh said as she entered the medical room, followed by Santiago.

Xanthus was not surprised to see Raeleigh, but he was surprised to see Santiago.

"I thought Scarlett's supposed to be with you? Since when has she been replaced with another person?" Xanthus intended to mediate the dispute, but Raeleigh cut to the chase and said, "He knows. I asked him to accompany me. You can tell me."

Raeleigh watched as Santiago entered the room and took his seat at the side. Xanthus then put his coat on. "Let's go out and have a conversation."

Raeleigh looked at him for a while before she stood up. She looked at Santiago and waited for him to get up. Then, the three of them went out together.

The three of them got into the car and found a quiet place. In fact, they were at Xanthus' new house.

After getting out of the car, Raeleigh looked up at Xanthus' house. It was quite luxurious and had peaceful surroundings. She then asked, "Did you just buy it?"

"Yes, I did. Not bad, right? I'm planning on settling down here. Our parents will come over some time later. This place is suitable for your development. If possible, we will live here for six months out of the year to accompany you."

As Xanthus spoke, he glanced at Santiago. "Let's go in and take a look."

Xanthus talked as he entered the villa. The door opened. The living room was grand. Raeleigh realized that it was not lavishly decorated and had a musty smell from the books.

There were no servants in the house. After entering the house, Xanthus removed his shoes, and asked Raeleigh and Santiago to take a seat in the living room. He poured three glasses of water and set them on the table. Then, he brought out some documents and information sheets for Raeleigh. With that, he said, "Have a look. This may be the reason you said that you were three years old when you arrived at the orphanage."

Raeleigh accepted the brown envelope, took out the documents inside, and began reading through the information. Most of the notes were handwritten, with signatures and photos on them.

One of them was a baby girl wrapped in swaddling clothes.

The most interesting thing was that there was a USB drive.

Raeleigh read the information. Xanthus inserted the USB drive in the computer. Soon, a woman who was about ten years older than Raeleigh appeared on the screen. She was beautiful and looked like she was in her thirties.

It was that woman, who uncovered the mystery that had been haunting Raeleigh's life.

Chapter 1146

Raeleigh entered the lecture hall and realized that there was a newcomer that day. Hadrian had entered the hall, and he was sitting in the last row, right behind Scarlett.

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Chapter 1147

“When I was ten years old, I was probably the most antisocial one in the orphanage. Usually, the older children would not get adopted. I remember a lot of them would get adopted at two or three years old.

“I looked good when I was younger. I had big eyes, a straight nose, and was very clean. However, I had a bad temper and I did not like socializing with the other children. That is why most of the kids were adopted while I remained in the orphanage.”

"I remember that it was cloudy that day. I heard that a new kid was sent to our orphanage. I was curious, so I went to check it out. I saw Madam Caprice carrying the baby, and she told me that it was a baby girl. She even pitied her because she was a newborn and was abandoned."

"Later, as the kid grew up, she would frequently fall sick. Madam Caprice would occasionally bring the baby home to take care of her."

"She did the same with me. I have no idea why, but as I grew up, I developed a strange temper. I have a feeling it was because I did not want to be separated from Madam Caprice. No one wanted to adopt me because of my temper. With that, I could remain by Madam Caprice's side."

"Later, as the baby grew older, she would still frequently fall sick. There was a time, I remember it was around the time when she learnt how to walk. She fell seriously ill and developed a high fever. Madam Caprice had no choice but to send her to the hospital, and ever since then, she never came back."

"Later, when she was probably three or four years old, she came back with another child. The new kid had a cute name then. She was called Bowie."

"At that time, I was already thirteen years old. When I first saw Shuna, I thought she had been transferred from another orphanage. Later, I somehow felt that I had seen her before. The first time she left, she was only one year old. When she came back... I roughly guessed that she was about three years old. She still looked the same but was quite small for her age. She was different from the other kids. She had curly hair and big round eyes. Like those cute children you see on TV."

Raeleigh instantly grew nervous when she heard her words, grabbing the armrest of the couch. She remembered that she had curly hair when she was younger. It was only when she grew older that her hair became less curly.

"Later, I also heard Madam Caprice telling a lady that she did not expect Shuna to come back. They agreed that she was unlucky because she would always fall sick. She was three years old like most of the kids in the orphanage, but she was very thin. Some people who thought of adopting at first decided not to go ahead with the adoption because her past sickness was in her medical records. Later, Madam Caprice said that it did not matter. If no one wanted to adopt her, then she would bring her home."

"I stayed in the orphanage for another year, and when I was fourteen years old, I had good grades, so I received a scholarship for my studies. I would come back every year to visit the kids in the orphanage. One day, when I came back, I found out that the orphanage was burned to the ground. I thought that she had perished in the fire."

"So, she's still alive..."

The person in the video fell silent for a while before she waved her hand towards Raeleigh, who was at the other side of the screen. "Shuna, congratulations, you've found your brother! Do you remember Skye? She used to bring you delicious food."

Raeleigh raised her hand to cover her mouth and burst into tears. She seldom cried, but whenever she thought of Skye and the fire in the orphanage, a lot of images would flash through her mind...

Raeleigh would usually avoid thinking about the orphanage because she was afraid. When she was ten years old, she started living with Novalie. She never liked to talk about her time in the orphanage. Every

time she dreamed, she would be awakened by the fire. She had never thought that she could still meet someone from the same orphanage.

Xanthus was right. Only those who left the orphanage could prove that people had perished in the fire.

"Hey..." Santiago turned around and called out to Raeleigh. Raeleigh was crying very hard. Santiago wanted to remind her about the baby in her womb.

Xanthus stood up, walked to Raeleigh, and sat down beside her. He held Raeleigh in his arms and said, "Don't cry, don't cry. It's not good for the baby."

Xanthus was busy coaxing Raeleigh, who could not control herself.

At that time, a few people took turns appearing on the computer screen. The first person was a man. He was about the same age as Raeleigh.

"Shuna, is that you? Do you remember me? I'm Harper. I gave you a piece of chocolate before I left. It turns out that you're still alive. I went back to the orphanage once, but you weren't there anymore. The fire took away a lot of lives. It was a nightmare for me. I left two days before it happened. It's terrible."

Harper began to cry. Raeleigh stared at the man who was speaking. She thought about it carefully. It was true that the fire happened two days after Harper had left.

"Shuna, I'm Archer. I'm Gail..."

A dozen people then talked to Raeleigh. Raeleigh couldn't do anything except cry. Xanthus sat by her side and helped wipe her tears away. He lowered his head and looked at Raeleigh. "I thought I would not be able to find you until my next life. I'm really lucky to have found you."

Xanthus pulled her into his arms and let out a long sigh of relief. He said a silent prayer and thanked God for being fair. It turned out that all the trouble he had gone through to find her was worth it.

Raeleigh held Xanthus and kept crying. It took her the whole morning to finally calm down.

By the time she calmed down, she was exhausted. Xanthus laid her down on the couch and gave her a quick examination. After confirming that she was fine, Xanthus stowed away the information.

Then, he looked at Santiago. "It seems that you don't have any opinion on this matter."

"The two of you are related by blood. What else can I say?" Santiago said bluntly. Xanthus paused for a moment before asking, "Were you investigating me?"

"Shouldn't I have?"

"No, it seems that you're much more concerned about Raeleigh than your brother," Xanthus said as he stood up to get a quilt. It was already autumn, and the weather was slightly cold. Xanthus was worried that Raeleigh would catch a cold.

Raeleigh had fallen asleep on the couch. She must have been exhausted from all the crying.

Xanthus made a phone call to order takeout and sat down to talk to Santiago.

"Don't pry into my brother's affairs." Santiago bent over and covered Raeleigh with the quilt.

"I won't inquire about your business. There are some things that only us men should understand. Women don't have to, especially Raeleigh." Xanthus briefly glanced at Raeleigh before looking at Santiago.

"What are you trying to say?" Santiago's face was full of displeasure and iciness.

"Nothing. I'm grateful that you treat Raeleigh well." Xanthus sat there, looking calm. Santiago could not help chuckling. "I don't need your gratitude. I do whatever I want. No one can control me."

"You misunderstood me. I feel that Raeleigh is lucky to have someone like you by her side, that's all."

After Xanthus said that, he looked at Raeleigh, who had fallen asleep. Santiago gritted his teeth and glanced at Raeleigh. He raised his hand and patted Raeleigh twice, and he then withdrew his hand.

Raeleigh moved a little. It was a knee-jerk reaction. Xanthus, who sat opposite her, had been keeping an eye on her.

Chapter 1148

It was slowly turning dark outside by the time Raeleigh woke up. She was awakened by the sounds of her phone ringing. It was Scarlett who was calling her. She hurriedly answered the phone. Santiago, who had been lying on the couch, sleeping, woke up as well.

After Raeleigh was done, she put the phone aside and asked Santiago, "I fell asleep?"

"Yes, you slept like a pig," Santiago replied. Raeleigh was rendered speechless. He had always regarded her as a pig.

"If I'm a pig, then what are you?" Raeleigh was a little annoyed with his answer. Santiago's attitude could infuriate just about anyone at any time.

Especially her!

"He's also a pig," Before Santiago could speak, Xanthus emerged from the side and spoke.

Santiago raised his head and looked at Xanthus. "Mind your own business."

Raeleigh blushed slightly. She hurriedly explained, "Don't worry about him. That's just how he is, but he doesn't have any malicious intentions."

At that time, Xanthus had returned from the grocery store. That place was quite convenient as it took him less than an hour to get to and from the store. He planned to cook dinner for Raeleigh that night.

He did not eat lunch. The takeout he had ordered had yet to arrive before Raeleigh fell asleep. While Raeleigh was sleeping, both Santiago and Xanthus were left in the room. Santiago gradually fell asleep. Xanthus sat opposite of them, deep in thought.

Xanthus ended up not having lunch. Instead, while waiting for Raeleigh and Santiago to wake up, he decided to go to the grocery store to get some ingredients to make some nutritious food for Raeleigh.

Xanthus spent his time in the kitchen, making dinner, as he waited for Raeleigh and Santiago to wake up.

It was only when he heard Santiago's voice that he went out to the living room. As soon as he emerged from the kitchen, he was met with Santiago's hostility. He had no choice but to defend Raeleigh, but it seemed to be a little unnecessary. Instead of helping her, he frightened her.

Xanthus' hand was still dripping wet at that point. He took a napkin and wiped his hand as he looked at Raeleigh. "I didn't say anything. I was kidding."

Raeleigh was relieved and did not doubt Xanthus' words. She looked around and realized that it was already dark outside. It was no wonder Scarlett sounded so worried when she called.

Raeleigh got up from the couch and took a look outside. "I think we should head home, or else everyone will start to get worried."

"Raeleigh." Xanthus hurriedly stood up when he saw that she was about to leave. Raeleigh turned around to look at him and said after coming to a realization, "I'll leave after dinner."

"That's great. Dinner is almost ready. If you leave, then the food will go to waste. You have not had any lunch, and I made quite a lot of food. I doubt I'll be able to finish all the food," Xanthus said as he pointed at the table. Raeleigh was stunned and said, "I get it. Let me help you."

"Alright then." Xanthus made his way back to the kitchen, picked up an apron, and put it around Raeleigh's head.

Raeleigh stood by the kitchen door. Before she could say anything, Xanthus had already helped her tie the apron.

Raeleigh felt somewhat uncomfortable, but she still followed Xanthus to the kitchen. There was a beginning to everything, and she believed that Xanthus would not lie to her.

As for Xanthus, he was genuinely surprised that he was able to find Raeleigh.

He had been searching for her for many years and acknowledged how fortunate he was to have finally found her.

Xanthus entered the kitchen and began making himself busy with dinner as he talked to Raeleigh while he cooked. He also asked her about her food preferences and told her about his. He even told her what kind of food their parents liked.

Raeleigh stood at the side and watched him cook, trying to remember every single information.

In the past, Raeleigh had no plans to look for her biological family. She had not expected that she would be overwhelmed with emotions once she had a family. She was very excited that she could not contain her emotions.

"I like steamed and light food. Nothing too strong," Raeleigh said as she placed the fish in the pan. She was not surprised when Xanthus mentioned that he and his parents liked to eat steamed food. It was because she liked it too.

"You like to eat steamed food as well?" Xanthus stood on one side. They talked as if they were friends who had not seen each other for years, completely ignoring Santiago, who was waiting for them in the living room.

However, Santiago had his own entertainment. He was texting Cynthia while watching TV.

Cynthia knew about Deanna's incident, and it was Santiago who had told her. However, he just mentioned that Deanna had gone missing and nothing else. Cynthia was a little worried about Deanna, so she kept asking for an update on the matter.

"She still hasn't been found?" At that moment, Cynthia was tending to her plants. She was, right then, the most well-known person in the Cole family. Although her mother and sister did not visit her and treat her well the way they used to, she felt stressed whenever she was with her sister.

"Not yet. Zorion had heard from the kidnapper, but I've heard nothing from him ever since. If I don't hear anything soon, then I'll go and search for her."

"Don't be rash. You've got to take things one step at a time. I wonder whether Flynt has anything to do with this?"

"I doubt so."

...

After Cynthia hung up the phone, she was instantly plagued with the thought that Flynt might have something to do with Deanna's disappearance. She stood aside and looked at the flowers, feeling slightly melancholic.

Cynthia liked chrysanthemums, so she decided to plant a few pots. There were all white chrysanthemums.

It was of a common species. It was not difficult to buy them on the market. Santiago had personally gifted her two pots, and she was particularly fond of them.

She took great care of the chrysanthemums, and they gradually started to bloom. Everyone admired the flowers. Even Flynt, who had come by twice, liked them. He even asked her to give him a pot, but she was unwilling to part with the flowers, so she told him that she would wait for them to grow bigger before dividing them into smaller pots. Only then would she give it to him.

When Flynt realized that Cynthia was unwilling to part with the flowers, he decided to let it go.

Little did Cynthia know that those flowers would turn out so beautiful. She had no idea how she was going to divide it and was reluctant to do so.

As Cynthia stared at her flowers in a daze, someone entered the front door. She walked over to the door and saw that it was Flynt. He was carrying a pot of daisies in hand as he made his way towards the garden. When he saw Cynthia, he handed the pot of daisies to her and said, "Here. This is for you."

Cynthia stared at the pot of daisies that was shoved into her hands and was dumbfounded. "What is this?"

"This is a pot of daisies. It belongs to the same species as the chrysanthemums. It's not as expensive as the ones you have, but they are very beautiful as well," Flynt said as he entered the garden. Cynthia looked at the flower in her hands before arranging it on the rack. After that, she went to pour Flynt a glass of water and asked, "What are you doing here?"

“Am I not welcomed?” Flynt smiled. Cynthia said, “I did not say that. I’m just surprised that you’re not busy today. Didn’t you attend class today?”

“I did, and I’m done for the day.” Flynt took a seat on the chair and leaned back as he stared at Cynthia. “Fortune favors the fool. Am I right?”

Cynthia was bewildered with her brother’s words. “What are you trying to say?”

“Nothing. I have something I want to confide in you. That’s why I came.” Flynt had always been close to Cynthia ever since he was young. Even though Yanora treated him well, she was not as close to him as Cynthia was. He would usually look for Cynthia whenever he had a problem.

Cynthia sat down and said, “You don’t have to beat around the bush. Just tell me.”

Flynt rested his chin on his palm after hearing his sister’s words, leaning to one side. “Cynthia, I feel that Santiago is great for you.”

Cynthia blushed. “Why are you mentioning this?”

Flynt smiled and said, “How should I put it? I think your character is suitable for Santiago. He’s a little cunning while you’re the quiet type. The two of you are the opposite of each other. You guys complement each other. He might look like a bad person, but he at least cares about you. Most importantly, you do like him.”

“That’s enough. I don’t feel like talking to you about him,” Cynthia said, pulling a long face. She did not want to say anything more about her relationship with Santiago.

Flynt tapped his fingers and said, “That’s fine then, but there’s another thing I need to talk to you about.”

Cynthia did not say anything and continued fixing her gaze on her brother as she waited to hear what he had to say.

“Cynthia, if you love someone, then are you willing to do anything to please the person? When you see that the person is anxious, you too will feel anxious. When you see that the person is happy, you will be delighted as well, right?”

Flynt was acting very strangely that day. If it were someone else, then they would not be able to understand him, but Cynthia could.

She had taken care of Flynt ever since he was young. She could see through his intentions by observing his gaze. She was even familiar with his movements. No one knew him better than her.

After a moment of silence, Cynthia asked, “Are you talking about Raeleigh?”

Flynt lifted his head to look at his sister and clicked his tongue. “You know me so well.”

Cynthia fell into silence. “Raeleigh is a rational person. I doubt she’d be in two minds when it comes to her feelings.”

“But I like her.” Flynt interjected all of a sudden. Cynthia fell silent. “She doesn’t like you. She likes Jepherson. If you do like her, then you should quietly admire her.”

“I tried, but I can’t.”

“Even so, you shouldn’t do anything harmful to win over her.”

Cynthia said as she stared at Flynt. Her anger spiked. She knew her younger brother too well. There was no such thing as ‘no reason’. There had to be a reason for everything.

She initially wanted to ask, but right then, she felt that it was unnecessary. She already had her answer by testing him.

Flynt’s silence meant tacit admission.

“Do you know what happened to Deanna?” Cynthia asked Flynt. Her face was already dark and gloomy. Flynt raised his eyes to look at his sister. “Cynthia, I have nothing to do with her disappearance. I saw what happened and know a little about it. I did nothing to save her.”

“That is to say, you clearly knew that Deanna was in danger, but in order to win Raeleigh’s heart and for her to show you gratitude, all you did was merely stand by and watch.” Cynthia was certain of that matter.

She could not suppress the anger that arose in her chest. It was because of him that Deanna was faced with danger. Cynthia blamed herself for what had happened. She felt that she had let Santiago down.

Chapter 1149

Flynt sat and said nothing as Cynthia lectured him. In the end, he could only stand up and leave.

“I’ll take my leave.” Flynt made his way to the door and was about to leave. However, when he reached the door, he turned around and looked at Cynthia, and he then said, “I mean no harm. I want to please her, that’s all. I don’t want her to avoid me when she sees me. Cynthia, Jepherson and I are both men. Am I not comparable to him?”

“Flynt, there’s no comparison in relationships. You’re going to regret it sooner or later.” Cynthia did not know how to feel. On one hand, Flynt was her brother. On the other hand, it concerned the person she cared about the most. She did not know how to rectify the situation, but she knew that what her brother did was wrong.

Flynt looked at his sister and said, “Cynthia, I didn’t do it on purpose. It’s just that I can’t control myself sometimes.”

With that, Flynt walked out of the room. Cynthia stood at the door and watched as Flynt left. When it came to love, no one had the right to judge. Perhaps she was wrong, and Flynt could not help himself as well.

Cynthia turned around and sat back down. She held her phone in her hand and was about to text Santiago. Before she could text him, Cynthia heard someone knocking on the door. She lifted her head and stood up as she chucked her phone to the side.

Yanora entered the house with some food in her hand. She said as she walked, “I heard that Flynt was here, so I decided to come over. Is he gone?”

“Yes, he just left.” Cynthia glanced outside. Flynt had just left moments ago. How was it possible that they did not bump into each other?

“Well, this is for you. I made it myself. When I heard Flynt was here, I quickly rushed over. But somehow, it seemed like he did not want to see me. I’m his sister too.”

Yanora walked to the side as she spoke. She placed the food on the table and turned around to check on the two pots of chrysanthemums once more.

“The flowers are gorgeous. It looks much better than the ones I’m growing. Is this a daisy?” Yanora asked. Before Cynthia could take a look at the food Yanora had given her, she walked over to her and explained, “Yes, it is.”

“It’s a daisy.”

“It’s beautiful.” Yanora raised her hand and touched the flowers carefully. Cynthia frowned when Yanora did so. People who grew flowers were not fond of others touching their flowers.

“It’s alright.” Cynthia stood by the side. She did not know what to think of Yanora’s sudden visit, but she inexplicably had her guard up.

“Cynthia, I have a place I need to go tomorrow. Would you like to accompany me? It’s been a long time since we last hung out.” Yanora turned around and asked her sister. Cynthia looked at her and asked, “Yanora, did something happen?”

“No. I just want to hang out. It’s my fault for not standing up for you the last time. I’d like to offer my apology, and I hope that you can forgive me,” Yanora said with tears welling up in her eyes.

Cynthia’s heart softened, but she wasn’t a fool. When she saw Yanora, she felt that something was amiss. Right then, as she was crying, Cynthia was certain that there must have been a reason for it. She was puzzled.

In fact, ever since the previous incident, she had always known that Yanora was prejudiced against her. She had also inquired about Santiago several times, but Cynthia herself did not want to expose it.

Yanora showed up that day. It was obvious that she did not come to pay her a visit but was there for Flynt instead.

Cynthia stood there for a while and said, “But I’ve already made plans with Santiago.”

Yanora smiled. “That’s not a big deal. Why don’t you send me over? By the time we’re there, I’ll leave the space to the two of you. You don’t have to worry about me.”

Cynthia sneered inwardly. Everyone knew how Yanora felt about Santiago. Could it be that there were no other men in the world? Why must she go for Santiago? Whatever the case, Santiago was her fiancé. They were birth sisters. How could she do that?

Cynthia pursed her lips. “It doesn’t matter what I say. Santiago has the final say.”

“Then, why don’t you call and ask him now?” Yanora asked in a hurry. Right then, she wanted nothing more than to see Santiago for no particular reason.

Cynthia looked at Yanora with melancholy in her heart. She had no choice but to call Santiago. Santiago was amused when he received her call. Weren't they just texting?

"What's up?"

When Santiago's phone rang, he got up and went outside to enjoy the cold wind.

Raeleigh came out of the kitchen and set the steamed fish on the table. She looked at the door to check on Santiago. When she saw that he was on the phone, she turned around and headed back into the kitchen.

"Nothing much. Remember our plans for tomorrow? My sister has a place she needs to go to tomorrow and invited me to come along, but I told her that I've made plans with you. She wonders if it's alright for her to tag along?" Cynthia was a smart person. After getting along with Santiago for a long time, she already knew how to talk to him. She knew what to say to get a certain reaction out of Santiago.

"What time should I come to pick you and Yanora up tomorrow?" Santiago smiled wickedly. The surrounding lights were hazy, casting the whole of him in a layer of light.

"Let me ask her." Cynthia turned around and looked at Yanora. Yanora immediately said, "Nine o'clock."

"Nine o'clock."

"Alright, I'll pick you up at nine."

With that, Cynthia hung up the phone. When Yanora learnt that she would be able to see Santiago the next day, she quickly said a few words before excusing herself. Cynthia walked her sister out the door and texted Santiago about the matter.

"You didn't have to do that."

"I haven't had dinner yet."

"Then, go and have your dinner." After that, Cynthia did not reply. Santiago put his cell phone away and went back into the house. He washed his hands before making his way to the dining table. When he was eating, he told Raeleigh, "I'm going out with Cynthia tomorrow, but I'm worried about you."

"I'll head over to the university..."

"I can take care of her. If she wants to go to the university, then I can still keep an eye on her," Xanthus said without waiting for Raeleigh to finish her words.

Santiago stuffed a spoonful of his dinner into his mouth and glared at Xanthus. "There are some things I haven't figured out yet. Even if I had figured them out, you have no reason to meddle with Raeleigh and my affairs. I don't care whether you'll be heading over to the university or not. I was talking to her, not you."

Santiago's aggression left Raeleigh helpless. She had no choice but to say, "He's like that. You don't have to take him seriously."

“What are you talking about? What do you mean by not taking me seriously? Are you saying that I’m bullying you? He interrupted your words, and I’m just trying to defend you. You really do not know how to appreciate my good intentions.”

Santiago had his way with words. On the contrary, Raeleigh was speechless.

“Raeleigh, can you get me a bowl of soup?” Xanthus pushed his bowl over to her and kept a straight face. Raeleigh glanced at him and said, “He might sound harsh, but he means no harm.”

“Raeleigh, please?” Raeleigh knew it was a signal for her to leave. She knew that Santiago would not be in a disadvantageous position, but the problem was that she was worried Xanthus would suffer a blow.

“Go.” Santiago glanced at Raeleigh. Then, she turned around and made her way into the kitchen. After entering the kitchen, she turned around and looked at the dining table. The two men were engaged in a staring contest, not moving the slightest inch. Then, she turned around and filled the bowl with soup.

Chapter 1150

“I know that you have your own views, but Raeleigh is a person. You can’t be rude to her,” Xanthus said after Raeleigh went into the kitchen to fetch some soup. Santiago, who sat opposite him, took a bite of his food and refuted, “That’s my problem. Mind your own business.”

“I won’t care about you, but there’s no way for me not to care about her.” Xanthus’ face was filled with displeasure. Santiago shot him a glance and said, “You can care about her all you want.”

Santiago did not give in to Xanthus at all, and Xanthus was so pissed that he stopped eating, but when Raeleigh returned to the table, he hurriedly picked up his cutlery and continued eating as if nothing had happened.

Raeleigh placed the bowl of soup in front of Xanthus and Santiago. Xanthus drank a mouthful of soup before putting it down. The two men pretended that nothing had happened, but Raeleigh sensed the tension in the room.

Raeleigh sat down and began to eat. During that period of time, she did not speak. Xanthus and Santiago remained silent as well. After dinner, Raeleigh told Xanthus that it was time for her and Santiago to take their leave. Xanthus quickly offered to drive them back home.

Scarlette had been waiting for Raeleigh outside the house. She was relieved when she saw Raeleigh in Xanthus’ car.

Scarlette immediately ran over to Raeleigh as soon as she stepped out of the car. She wanted to know why Raeleigh came back so late.

“Dr. Osteen needed some help over at his house. I happened to be of use, so I followed him home. After that, he invited us to stay for dinner.”

Raeleigh briefly explained and glanced at Xanthus. Santiago, on the other hand, had already entered the house. Scarlette tilted her head and pondered. Was Santiago one who would randomly enter anyone’s house?

It was so strange.

“Thank you for sending us back.” Raeleigh thanked Xanthus. He smiled and said, “I have to go now. Scarlette, it looks like your legs have recovered well. Why don’t you swing over to my place tomorrow when you have the time? I’ll give you a quick examination.”

After saying that, Xanthus entered his car and drove off. Raeleigh watched Xanthus leave and breathed a sigh of relief. She was glad to know that she was not Jepherson’s sister. If she was, then she really did not know what to do.

“What time did you reach home?” Raeleigh asked Scarlette as they made their way back into the house. Scarlette informed her that she had arrived home at noon. As soon as they entered the house, Raeleigh ran to her grandmother, hurriedly telling Novalie that Xanthus was her brother. Novalie knew that Raeleigh was glad to have found her family member when she saw the wide smile on her granddaughter’s face.

“Raeleigh, that’s great! Promise me from now on that you’ll smile more. You’ve been acting like a grumpy old lady.” Novalie advised Raeleigh, “Or else, you’re going to scare Jepherson away.”

“I wasn’t grumpy. What are you talking about, Grandma?” Raeleigh said coyly. Novalie chuckled and patted her bed. “You can bunk with me tonight. Is Jepherson not home yet?”

“Grandma…”

“I get it. You can still bunk with me when he comes home, right?” Novalie was amused. If Jepherson was home, then Raeleigh probably would not be there with her. They were practically inseparable. How was it possible that she would even want to bunk with her own grandmother?

Raeleigh went to take a shower before returning to her grandmother’s room. When she entered, Novalie was already lying on the bed. So, she went and lay beside her grandmother. Just then, Novalie said, “I haven’t seen Jepherson recently. Did something happen? Have you managed to find Deanna?”

“Not yet.” Raeleigh turned over and hugged her grandmother. “I don’t know what happened to him either. He didn’t tell me.”

“If he didn’t tell you, then it doesn’t mean you can’t ask him, right? You can’t expect him to tell you everything. It doesn’t work like that.”

“I’ll call and ask tomorrow.” Raeleigh was about to fall asleep when Novalie said, “You’ll never make your call since you’re saying this. He might have returned by tomorrow. Why can’t you call him now?”

“Fine, I’ll call him now.” Raeleigh got out of bed and went to make a call to Jepherson as she was told.

In fact, Raeleigh was planning to call him even if Novalie did not mention it. However, she had intended to call him after her grandmother fell asleep. She did not expect that her grandmother would urge her to call him at once.

“You, youngsters.”

“I really don’t understand what’s going through your head. I’m a little tired. I won’t continue talking to you anymore. You should go and call him. I’m going to sleep.”

Novalie immediately closed her eyes as soon as she finished her words. Raeleigh was afraid of disturbing her, so she got up and left her grandmother's room. She dialed Jepherson's number as she made her way back to her own room.

On the other side, Jepherson had spent the entire day lying in bed with his eyes fixed on the ceiling. He had not eaten for a few days, and Hudson was worried that he would starve to death, so he called the family doctor over to give Jepherson a nutrient injection to ensure that he would remain healthy.

When Jepherson heard his phone rang, he picked it up and looked at the caller ID before putting it down once more.

Raeleigh called several times but no one answered. In the end, she gave up.

After lying in her bed for a while, she snuck back into her grandmother's room.

After Raeleigh entered the room and lay down, Novalie opened her eyes and asked, "Didn't he answer his phone?"

Raeleigh froze for a moment. "No, he did not. Maybe he's not in the country and is probably busy with work at this time."

"Did he go abroad?" Novalie continued to ask. Raeleigh shook her head and said, "I actually have no idea."

"Why don't you ask someone who knows? Since you can't reach him, others might be able to get through to his phone." Novalie was really worried about her granddaughter's emotional well-being. Her baby's father had disappeared, but she was not anxious at all. If that did not concern her, then she had no idea what might.

Raeleigh thought for a moment. "Santiago has no idea where Jepherson is either."

"He can choose not to come home, but you must know where he is. You must also find out what's troubling him. It's not a good look since he disappeared without a trace, without notifying anyone. Santiago is not God. You can't rely on him to know everything about his brother, and you should take the main responsibility. You need to know how to handle this matter. Since Jepherson did not answer his phone, you can try calling Stuart. If he does not answer, then you can try asking Scarlett to call him. There are a lot of ways to work this out."

Raeleigh paid lip service to Novalie's words. The next day, Raeleigh did not make the call.

One reason was, Raeleigh knew that he was in Harvey Manor, but not the one in Capital City.

Secondly, Raeleigh had no idea what was going on. If he chose not to answer his phone, then she could only wait for him to return her call.

After breakfast, Santiago brought Raeleigh out with him, and Scarlett wanted to tag along as well. However, when she saw the look in Santiago's eyes, she immediately changed her mind.

In the end, Scarlett chose to stay at home.

After Raeleigh got into the car, she turned to look at Scarlett and said, "Stay at home, alright? I'll be going over to ask about Deanna. Santiago said there's some news about her, so you don't have to worry about it."

"I know."

Scarlett agreed. Then, Raeleigh followed Santiago over to the Cole family residence. As soon as they arrived at the entrance of the manor, Santiago quickly got out of the car in search of Cynthia. Soon after, he managed to find her, along with Yanora.

Santiago opened the door to the front passenger seat, motioning for Cynthia to get in. Raeleigh was sitting in the back. Of course, Yanora, too, had to sit in the back.

It was only when Cynthia entered the car that she realized that Raeleigh was also in the car. When she saw Raeleigh, she froze, feeling a little awkward.