

## Go After 1151

### Chapter 1151

"You're here as well?" Cynthia immediately greeted Raeleigh when she entered the car. Although Cynthia was slightly older than Raeleigh, she was sensible.

Yanora, who sat in the back with Raeleigh, took the initiative to greet her as well. She didn't want to lose to Cynthia.

Raeleigh politely exchanged greetings with both Cynthia and Yanora. The three of them were calm all the way. Santiago then started the car engine and drove towards the shopping mall. Yanora had her gaze fixed on Santiago as he drove. The displeasure in her eyes surged when she saw Santiago smiling at Cynthia. Raeleigh, who was sitting beside Yanora, quietly observed her. When they arrived at the shopping mall, Yanora did not immediately get out of the car. Santiago turned around and announced, "We're here."

Yanora had never been treated in such a way. Her driver would usually help open the door for her, but unfortunately, there was no such service that day. She was in a terrible mood.

Especially after witnessing Santiago and Cynthia exchanging looks with each other throughout the whole journey, Yanora clenched her teeth in hatred.

Right then, she had no choice but to open the car door on her own because Cynthia did not seem as if she was planning on helping her.

Yanora tried her best to maintain a smile as she asked Cynthia, "Cynthia, aren't you coming with me?"

"She wants to accompany me. We're planning to catch a movie later," Santiago chimed in. Cynthia naturally obliged. As for Raeleigh, she certainly knew that Santiago was lying. He was a smart boy and could definitely see through Yanora's intentions.

Yanora's expression showed subtle changes. She glanced at Cynthia, who was sitting in the front seat and said, "Alright then. You guys have a good time."

Then, Yanora got out of the car and closed the door. She took a few steps back and waved them goodbye. She wanted to leave a good impression on Santiago, but she did not expect him not to even look at her as he drove away.

When the car was out of sight, Yanora's face darkened. Her face looked so gloomy that those around her instinctively retreated and backed away.

Yanora stood still on the spot for a long time before she hailed a taxi.

"If you treat her this way, then she will be furious." Cynthia briefly cast a glance at Raeleigh before speaking.

In fact, even if Cynthia did not mention it, everyone was well aware of it. However, she was a smart person, so she was the first to say it out loud.

Raeleigh said nothing and sat in the back in silence until Santiago chuckled. "I'm not going to let her take advantage of you."

"She's my sister after all."

Cynthia lowered her head before raising her head to look outside the window. Raeleigh understood that certain matters would make others feel helpless.

Cynthia was engaged to Santiago right then. She felt pressured.

"So what if she's your sister?" When Santiago said that, Raeleigh lifted her head to look at him. For a moment, Raeleigh felt that Santiago did care about Cynthia, or else he would not be worried about her.

Cynthia noticed it, so she turned around and told Raeleigh, "In fact, things are not how you think."

"You don't have to care about her," Santiago said as he drove towards the cinema. Cynthia was at a loss for words. She looked at the indifferent Raeleigh through the rearview mirror, not knowing what to say. Raeleigh smiled at her and said, "I'm fine. I'm used to his way of talking."

With that, Raeleigh turned to look outside the window. Right then, she felt like a third wheel and wanted nothing more than to get out of the car.

She pondered for a moment before saying, "You can drop me off at the front, or you can drop me off at the university. I'll call him and ask him to pick me up. I doubt he's at the university at this hour of the day."

The person Raeleigh was referring to was Xanthus. She felt as if she needed to talk to Xanthus.

Santiago glanced at Raeleigh in the rearview mirror. "No, we're going to watch a movie."

Raeleigh was lost in thought. "We?"

"Yes, we."

"The three of us?"

In fact, Raeleigh wasn't the only one who found it weird, even Cynthia felt awkward. She was surprised when she heard Santiago's words. The three of them were going to watch a movie together?

It turned out that was the case. Raeleigh got out of the car and was dumbfounded. Standing on the spot, she shifted her gaze to look at Santiago and Cynthia. Then, the three of them made their way towards the cinema. Cynthia walked alongside Santiago, and she did whatever she was told, even if she was unwilling to do so.

At that moment, Raeleigh did not expect Cynthia to voice out her discontentment. So, Raeleigh had no choice but to speak out.

"I don't feel like watching a movie. You guys can go ahead. I'm going to head home. I can take a taxi," Raeleigh said and intended to leave.

Santiago reached out for Raeleigh's hand as well as Cynthia's and made his way to the ticket counter. The trio immediately attracted the attention of the moviegoers as everyone in the cinema stared at them.

One of the reasons was that all three of them were very good-looking, especially Santiago. The other reason was that Santiago alone held a girl in each hand to the movies in broad daylight. Although it was quite a common thing to do, it was rare to witness such a scene where one did it openly in public.

Santiago led Raeleigh and Cynthia to the ticket counter under the watchful eyes of the public.

Ever since Raeleigh had fallen pregnant, she herself felt that she was too delicate and pampered. She was careful about everything and was afraid that accidents might happen to the baby. While Santiago was pulling her as they walked, she hurriedly placed a hand on her belly and followed him obediently. Cynthia, on the other hand, never dared to go against Santiago's orders. So, she followed him without a word.

Those around were very surprised. Some sharp-eyed ones recognized Santiago at a glance. They pointed at Santiago and asked in astonishment, "Isn't that Santiago Harvey from the Harvey family?"

"That's right. It's no wonder he has two girls. That's Cynthia Cole from the Cole family, right?"

"I guess so. I've only seen her on TV once. What about the other girl?"

"I'm not sure. However, I've always heard that members of the Harvey family are allowed to marry more than one wife. Since Miss Cole is here with them, it means that they've agreed to the fact that having multiple wives is permissible."

"Mr. Santiago is different, isn't he? I remember that he's quite young."

Soon, those around them began gossiping. At first, there weren't many people at the cinema. After all, no one would want to watch movies in the morning. To their surprise, the cinema hall was packed and booked after Santiago had bought the tickets. The others were actually not interested in the movie. Instead, they were interested in what the three of them would be doing in the cinema hall.

After Santiago bought the tickets, he handed them to Cynthia. He then turned around and walked towards the snack counter. He stood there as he went through the menu. In the end, he ordered three buckets of popcorn and some snacks.

Santiago held all three buckets of popcorn in hand as well as the snacks while they waited. As soon as they were allowed into the cinema hall, he led both Raeleigh and Cynthia into the hall.

They managed to find their seats as soon as they entered the hall. Santiago was the first to take his seat. Cynthia, on the other hand, glanced at Raeleigh before taking a seat next to Santiago. Since Raeleigh was already there, she might as well take the other seat next to Santiago and wait for the rest of the people who were watching the show to fill up the hall.

## **Chapter 1152**

It was a famous romantic movie, and it happened to be airing at the right moment. Raeleigh and Cynthia were so immersed in the movie that they had even forgotten to eat the popcorn, especially Cynthia, who had burst into tears.

Santiago took a piece of tissue out and helped Cynthia wipe her tears away. Cynthia was absorbed in all the crying and couldn't be bothered to react to it. Then, he reached out and brushed her nose gently. "Don't cry. It affects others and makes my heart ache for you."

Santiago hugged Cynthia and comforted her before letting go. It was only then she felt embarrassed and stopped crying to continue watching the movie.

Raeleigh, who was sitting on the other side of Santiago, was also invested in the movie, but not to Cynthia's level. Perhaps it was because of the environment she had grown up in. She did not share the same views in love as the others. Raeleigh did not like the female lead in the movie. She felt that the female lead was a coward and was willing to suffer and bear everything her family had brought upon her.

However, Cynthia was different. She was born into a wealthy family and lived a different life compared to others.

The person in the movie was a noble lady abandoned by her family, and that was the reason for her sad ending. It was normal for Cynthia to share the same feelings with her, but Raeleigh did not like it.

The more she was trapped in such a situation, the more she couldn't give up.

Santiago handed Cynthia the popcorn once she finally composed herself as he coaxed her. Cynthia was probably embarrassed by the hug just then, so she remained silent, not shedding a single tear ever since then. The ending of the movie was slightly confusing, and no one knew what happened to the characters.

Raeleigh felt a little tired after the movie. She was physically and mentally tired after sitting for two hours. She got up and exited the cinema hall, followed by Santiago and Cynthia.

Raeleigh checked the time and realized that it wasn't even twelve in the afternoon yet, but she wanted to return home.

Raeleigh stood at the door and told Santiago, "I want to go home. Could you please send me home? After that, you can resume your date."

"It's about time I head home too. You can send me home before both of you return home together," Cynthia offered. In fact, there weren't many places they could visit as they would attract attention regardless of wherever they went. In fact, Cynthia was satisfied that they were able to watch that movie.

"No, it's alright. I..."

"Stop talking. It's now autumn. Let's go to a place where we can watch the leaves fall off the trees." Santiago turned around and walked towards the car. He swiftly got in and waited for the two of them. Raeleigh watched him as he sat in the car. If she did not leave, then it would seem like a slap in Santiago's face. So, she told Cynthia, "Let's go."

Cynthia remained silent and followed her to the car.

Later, Santiago started the car and made his way to a resort. There was indeed a forest of fallen leaves in the back mountain of the resort. Once they arrived, both Cynthia and Raeleigh were a little surprised.

They did not expect that it would be such a beautiful place. The leaves were falling from the tree, and the gentle wind blew. There was even a bridge made out of bamboo.

Santiago was not surprised. That was not the first time he had been there. He began walking towards the mountain with his hands in his pockets while Cynthia and Raeleigh trotting behind him in awe.

It was a short walk to the mountain, but Raeleigh was pregnant, so she walked slowly even though the road was relatively flat.

Cynthia took the initiative to talk to Raeleigh. Raeleigh felt that Cynthia could be considered a kind person. Although she talked to her only because of Santiago, Raeleigh knew that it was probably not easy for a person with her status to do it.

"It's so beautiful," Cynthia commented sincerely. Raeleigh glanced at her and agreed. "Yes. It's breathtaking."

Santiago, who had been walking up ahead, decided to take a seat. The two women were walking too slowly, so he could only stop and wait.

As Santiago waited, his face darkened. He stood up and looked downwards. Raeleigh could also sense that something was wrong. She, too, turned around and lowered her gaze to see a group of people running towards them. They seemed to be holding something in their hands.

Raeleigh was quick to react. She hurriedly reached out for Cynthia and quickened their pace towards Santiago's direction.

Cynthia still had no idea that Raeleigh was pregnant. She turned around to look at those who were chasing after them as she ran. Raeleigh was wearing trousers, but Cynthia was wearing a long white dress. It was a perfect outfit to wear on a date, but right then, it seemed to be a burden.

Santiago took two steps forward, shielding Raeleigh and Cynthia. He swept his eyes across his surroundings to see how many people there were.

As though something had flashed through his mind, Santiago informed Cynthia all of a sudden, "Raeleigh is pregnant. You must protect her."

Cynthia was stunned for a moment before she immediately agreed to Santiago's request. "I understand. Don't worry. I'll definitely protect her."

Raeleigh was a little speechless. She wondered how a frail person like Cynthia could protect her?

"I'm fine. Don't worry about me. Who are they?" Raeleigh was unusually calm. She firmly believed that they were neither there for her, nor were they her enemies.

She had known Xanthus for a long time, and she had never heard him talk about his enemy.

Santiago snorted. "Who else could it be?"

Cynthia slowly looked over and said, "Are you saying that Yanora sent them?"

Santiago did not answer. He knew that there was no point in answering. They were sisters, and she was very clear about it. It was not the time to upset her.

What did Yanora's mistake have to do with Cynthia?

Cynthia staggered. Raeleigh immediately held onto her hand. Cynthia initially had a glimmer of hope in Yanora since they were family.

When Raeleigh felt Cynthia's icy hands, she knew that such a blow could put Cynthia, who had grown up in a prominent family, in desperation.

"We're not sure whether it's indeed her. Right now, we're just going by our assumption. We'll ask about it when we get back." Raeleigh did not know what else to say. She felt that she should not have asked the question earlier.

Cynthia shook her head and said, "No, it's not like that..."

"Cynthia, take care of Raeleigh."

Santiago spoke all of a sudden. Cynthia felt as if she had just awakened from a dream. She instantly came back to her senses and looked at Raeleigh as she held her hands, saying, "Don't worry. I will not let anything happen to you."

Raeleigh was speechless. Santiago was excellent at reading people's minds.

"I'll be fine, so will you. He can handle it." Raeleigh briefly looked at Santiago. Cynthia nodded, but her face was still somewhat pale, and her heart was in desolation.

Then, those people with the sabres in hand were already charging towards Santiago.

Cynthia was so scared that her hands began to tremble. However, she still did not let go of Raeleigh's hand as they turned around and fled. "Let's go. We must not let them catch up to us."

Cynthia pulled her along. Raeleigh had no choice but to follow her. After a few steps, she stopped and said, "You don't have to be nervous. He'll be fine, so will we."

Cynthia was so frightened that she had the urge to burst into tears. Raeleigh comforted her. "It's useless to cry. It only proves that we're weak. Even if we have to fight, we will not die."

Cynthia stared at Raeleigh in a daze. Raeleigh fished her phone out of her pocket and called Scarlett to inform her of their location. Scarlett was immediately energized when she heard about their situation. She told Raeleigh, "Take care of yourself. We'll be there soon."

Raeleigh hung up the phone and held Cynthia's hands. "Although we're not good at fighting, we excel in other stuff. We must not let others underestimate us. We have to learn to protect ourselves."

Cynthia stared at Raeleigh blankly. After a while, she came to her senses and nodded firmly. Raeleigh was amused by her reaction.

### **Chapter 1153**

Raeleigh and Cynthia held each other's hands tightly. Raeleigh would be lying if she said she wasn't worried. She said it because she did not want Cynthia to worry. As for how worried she was, she was actually more worried than Cynthia.

She was afraid that Santiago would not be able to dodge when she saw them thrusting their daggers forward. However, she did not dare exert pressure on Cynthia's hands, as once she did so, Cynthia would know that she was actually worried.

Although Santiago could take those men down alone, there would be a moment where one of them might run loose. Then, several of them tried to go after Raeleigh and Cynthia. Santiago failed to stop them and yelled, "Run!"

Raeleigh instantly turned around and pulled Cynthia to follow her. Although she managed to get out of there in time, she did not dare to run fast.

"Cynthia, they might be coming for you. You should hide. We'll be fine as long as you don't come out." Raeleigh wanted Cynthia to go into hiding, but she refused. "No, I can't let you be in harm's way because of me. You should hide, Raeleigh. You're pregnant."

When Raeleigh realized she had failed to convince Cynthia, she continued running, pulling Cynthia along with her until they searched around and found a couple of sticks. She picked them up and handed them to Cynthia. "Here, take this. Use this to defend yourself. Make sure that they do not approach you."

"Got it," Cynthia said as she held the stick in her hand. "Don't worry. I'll protect you."

Raeleigh was speechless. She did not know what else to say when she heard Cynthia saying that she would protect her.

Cynthia's entire body was trembling. How was she going to protect her?

Raeleigh did not give in. She found a stick and looked at the road ahead. "Let's find a crowded place. I'm sure Scarlett will be here soon."

"Alright."

Then, Cynthia followed Raeleigh. It was a tourist spot, and there must have been people visiting during the day. It was currently lunch hour, and most of them were in the restaurants. Those thugs still dared to chase after them. Even if there were people along the way, they had all hidden.

Raeleigh led Cynthia to the restaurants. She thought before saying, "Let's not go inside. We'll hide at the back. Come on."

Raeleigh knew that those thugs would search along that place, but they would not show up in a group, maybe one or two will turn up. They had to make it seem as though they had entered the restaurant. People were generally selfish, and she doubted that anyone would help cover and hide their tracks.

Raeleigh and Cynthia hid behind the restaurant. Raeleigh comforted Cynthia. "Don't be afraid. We need to protect ourselves. I'm sure Santiago will be fine. He will even die to protect us."

Cynthia nodded vigorously, and her face turned pale out of fear. Raeleigh lowered her head and looked at Cynthia's torn dress. She bent down and tore off pieces of Cynthia's dress, and she then ordered her, "Don't move. Wait for me right here."

"Alright." Cynthia was scared out of her wits. She could only agree to it.

Raeleigh walked to the front with a couple of pieces of Cynthia's torn dress in hand and scattered them at the door to make it seem as if they had entered the restaurant. Then, Raeleigh quickly led Cynthia into the woods to hide.

"Do we really have to stay here? If they find us, then we're doomed." Cynthia came to her senses and immediately pointed out. Raeleigh shook her head and said, "No, I doubt they will be able to find us. Don't worry. Help is on the way."

"Is that true?" Cynthia was in disbelief. Raeleigh then said, "Scarlette is on the way, and I'm sure Santiago will be able to defeat those thugs. Let's walk a little deeper into the woods. I'm sure they will not be able to find us."

In fact, Raeleigh was exhausted, but she had no choice. She had to lead Cynthia out of danger.

Finally, they arrived at a safe place. There was a deep ditch in the depths of the forest. It was covered by the fallen leaves. Raeleigh accidentally stepped on it and fell into the ditch. As Raeleigh was holding Cynthia's hand, she, too, fell into the ditch. Then, Raeleigh said, "Let's hide here and wait for Scarlette to rescue us."

"Alright."

Cynthia was completely at a loss and was panicking. So, she listened to whatever Raeleigh said.

The two of them waited in the ditch, holding each others' hand for about an hour before they finally heard Scarlette's voice.

"Raeleigh, Raeleigh..."

"Cynthia, Cynthia..."

Scarlette was walking in front with Santiago behind her. When Raeleigh heard Scarlette's voice, she immediately emerged from the ditch. Before coming out, she told Cynthia, "Stay here. Let me check it out. I'll let you know if it's indeed them."

Cynthia wanted to follow, but Raeleigh had already left. So, she could only wait.

It took great effort for Raeleigh to climb out of the ditch, but when she saw that it was Santiago and Scarlette, she turned around and notified Cynthia. "It's them. You can come up now."

Only then did Cynthia climb out of the ditch. Raeleigh had no strength to pull Cynthia out of the ditch, laying on the ground, panting. Santiago stopped in his tracks when he saw what Raeleigh was doing. After a brief pause, he continued walking towards Raeleigh. When he arrived at her side, he bent down and carried Raeleigh in his arms before turning around to leave. Cynthia was stunned. Santiago stopped, turned around to look at Cynthia, and instructed, "Scarlette, take care of Cynthia. She's probably still frightened. I'm going to bring Raeleigh to the hospital."

Scarlette hurried over. "Alright, Master Santiago."

Raeleigh fixed his gaze on Santiago's face that was full of displeasure. "I'm fine. Put me down."



“You’re bleeding,” Santiago said. Raeleigh’s face turned deathly pale. She immediately thought that she was having a miscarriage, so she looked over at her pants. As a result, Santiago rolled his eyes and said, “Is that the only place you can think of?”

Raeleigh was stunned. “Then...”

Raeleigh looked at her hands, which were dripping with blood, and got a fright.

“I’m fine. You can put me down. I can walk.” Raeleigh reminded him. However, Santiago refused to listen. He carried Raeleigh out of the forest. When they descended the mountain, he held Raeleigh in his arms and quickened his pace. There were a lot of police officers around them, and they had arrested the thugs. Someone stopped him along the way, but he ignored the person and continued his journey down the mountain. Then, he got into the car and left with Raeleigh at once.

It was then that Raeleigh noticed that Santiago’s arm was injured.

“You’re hurt?” Raeleigh was astonished. Santiago remained silent. Although Santiago sped all the way, his driving was steady. It was not long before they arrived at the entrance of the hospital. He then got out of the car and carried Raeleigh down the car before making their way into the hospital. He made sure to let the doctors give her a quick examination before making a call to Xanthus.

When Xanthus heard that Raeleigh was injured, he immediately dropped everything and rushed over to the hospital. When he arrived, he did not even greet Santiago. Instead, he hurried over to Raeleigh’s side.

“I’m fine. The doctor did an ultrasound, and the baby is in great condition. It’s just that I have minor scratches on my hand,” Raeleigh explained. She knew that Xanthus would be worried.

Xanthus was indeed quite worried. He glanced at Santiago and asked, “What happened?”

“Someone sent some thugs to hunt us down. That’s all.” The wound on Santiago’s body needed to be dealt with. He had been slashed by a knife whilst fighting. However, he did not want to leave Raeleigh alone without Xanthus by her side. Right then, as Xanthus was there, he went off to get his wound cleaned and bandaged.

But Raeleigh was still worried about him, so she decided to follow.

## **Chapter 1154**

Raeleigh sat in the waiting room and waited for Santiago to emerge from the examination room.

The doctor said that Santiago had to be hospitalized to monitor his condition, but he refused. Raeleigh had no choice but to persuade him.

“You’re seriously injured. What happens if your wound flares up?” Raeleigh kept on lecturing him. Xanthus couldn’t stand it anymore, so he suggested, “If you don’t want to spend the night in the hospital, then you can stay at my place. I can take care of you. I have all the necessary equipment at home, and I’m quite experienced in this.”

“Fine, I’ll stay in the hospital,” Santiago said all of a sudden. Xanthus glanced at Raeleigh. In fact, he did not have all the necessary equipment at home. He made it all up.

Raeleigh pursed her lips and took a look at Xanthus when she realized that he had used reverse psychology on Santiago.

Raeleigh intended to help Santiago with the hospital admission procedure. However, Xanthus stopped her and said, "You're pregnant. You'd better be careful. Leave it to me. You can stay and accompany him."

With that, Xanthus went to the registration counter to complete the admission procedure while Raeleigh accompanied Santiago to his ward. By the time Xanthus was done, Raeleigh had already fallen asleep.

Xanthus was a little worried about Raeleigh, so he gave her an injection. Raeleigh opened her eyes and was about to move when Xanthus said, "Don't move. I'm going to give you an injection for the baby. Don't be afraid."

Raeleigh did not move and waited for Xanthus to give her the injection. Taking his seat, Xanthus said, "You can continue sleeping. I called Novalie and told her that you'd be spending the night at my place. You can give her a call when you wake up."

"Alright." Raeleigh then went back to sleep with ease. After Raeleigh fell asleep, Xanthus turned around and looked at Santiago, who was awake, before leaving the room to get some food. When he came back, he sat at the side, and the two of them did not say a single word to each other. Santiago was not in the mood to explain what had happened, so he gave Cynthia a call.

Cynthia had been waiting for his call ever since he had left. When she heard that he was injured, she could not help bursting into tears.

"Could you please come over to take care of me and Raeleigh? You shouldn't go home. I'll inform Flynt." After hanging up the phone, Santiago called Flynt.

Flynt was surprised when he received Santiago's call. He then asked Santiago, "What's the matter?"

"I don't want to explain what happened earlier, but I don't want you to worry about Cynthia. I'm calling you to give you a warning. I'm going to let this one slide for the sake of Cynthia. If it ever happens again, then there will be trouble."

Then, Santiago hung up the phone. Flynt immediately tried to call him back, but Santiago refused to answer the phone.

At that time, Flynt was already lying in bed. He immediately got up and got off the bed to put his clothes on, walking out of the room. Along the way, he had an unpleasant look on his face because he had no idea what had actually happened and why Santiago had said such a thing. It was obvious he was implying that the Cole family was involved in that matter.

Flynt did not forget what had happened a few days back. As a result of Quirina's matter, Santiago went straight to Meica's residence. Soon after that, Quirina was r\*ped. That matter caused a storm, and people eventually found out that Quirina had undergone plastic surgery. The news was spread throughout the entire world. Even though Old Master Brooklyn had decided not to meddle in the affair, it had a great impact. At least right then, his father did not dare to leave the house and could do nothing at home.

Flynt did not have a good impression of his father, but the Harvey family was ruthless. As for Meica, he had no idea how she was doing right then. The last he heard was that she had been hospitalized because she had a stroke. As for Quirina, he hadn't seen her recently. However, if Santiago wanted to cause trouble for Meica and the rest, then he would not have called to give him a heads-up.

Flynt went out of the door and headed straight to Raeleigh's house. However, when he arrived at the place, he realized that no one was home. It was only then he called Cynthia. She informed him that she was currently at the hospital.

"We're in the hospital. I'm fine, but Raeleigh and Santiago are injured. It's late. You don't have to come over. If anything happens, then you can wait until I return home tomorrow."

Cynthia had never thought about the consequences of the matter. At present, the only ones she cared about were Raeleigh and Santiago. So, she hung up the phone and went to the ward. When she saw Santiago lying in bed, injured, she could not stop her tears from rolling down her cheeks.

Santiago's expression darkened when he saw Cynthia crying. "What are you crying for? I'm fine."

Cynthia sniffled before walking over to his bedside. However, she could not stop her tears from streaming down her face. Scarlett entered the room, glanced at Santiago, and called out to him. Then, she walked over to Raeleigh's side. Deanna was gone, and right then came Cynthia. Although Scarlett did not hate Cynthia, it seemed like she had an extra person to take care of in the future. Scarlett's head throbbed with pain at the thought of it.

She could barely take care of Raeleigh, and right then, she had to take care of Cynthia?

Raeleigh had fallen asleep but was awakened by the sounds of Cynthia's sobs.

Raeleigh opened her eyes and looked at Cynthia. Then, she sat up straight in bed. Xanthus certainly would not say anything to stop her from doing so, but he was still a little worried. He could not help telling Raeleigh, "You should be careful. You're also injured."

"I know." Raeleigh looked at Xanthus and felt grateful for his care. However, Xanthus felt that it was his responsibility to take care of his sister, so he said, "Don't worry. It's my responsibility to take care of you."

Scarlette raised her eyebrows. What was going on?

"Scarlette, I've regarded Dr. Osteen as my brother. Don't get me wrong," Raeleigh hurriedly explained. Scarlette's eyes were wide open, and her face was full of surprise. "Wait, did I hear it correctly?"

Raeleigh laughed. "Why would I lie to you?"

"I guess so," Scarlette said.

However, it was still hard for Scarlette to accept it. Siblings? It was hard for her not to misunderstand especially when Xanthus looked at Raeleigh with those loving eyes. Why was he looking at her as if he treated her like a treasure?

“Well, although I’m very grateful to you, Raeleigh’s taken,” Scarlett reminded him. Xanthus was stunned for a moment and he then said, “I know. I regard her as my sister. There’s nothing more. You can be assured of it.”

“I’m indeed worried when I see you looking at her.” Scarlett was merciless. Although she was afraid of Santiago, she was never afraid of Xanthus.

Scarlett took a few steps towards Xanthus and warned, “You’d better keep your promise, or else you’ll be sorry.”

Scarlett gave Xanthus a stern look. Xanthus chuckled. “I get it.”

Raeleigh tugged at Scarlett’s hand and said, “Scarlett, it’s not what you think. I promise.”

“That’s what you think, but others might not have the same thought. Raeleigh, you’re a fool. He might be a wolf in sheep’s clothing,” Scarlett said, not caring about Xanthus’ feelings. Raeleigh blushed upon hearing that.

Santiago stared at Scarlett. “If you continue talking, then I’m going to slice your tongue off.”

Scarlett hurriedly covered her mouth and stood aside. Only then did the ward become quiet for a while.

Xanthus said, “You should get some rest. You must be tired.”

Raeleigh nodded and took a look at Cynthia, who seemed a little upset, before lying down.

Cynthia had stopped crying, and there was finally peace in the ward.

## **Chapter 1155**

The next morning, when Raeleigh opened her eyes and saw Jepherson, she was a little stunned. She did not expect Jepherson to show up at that moment.

Raeleigh wanted to sit up in bed, but Jepherson quickly placed a finger on his lips, gesturing for her to continue sleeping.

Raeleigh took a quick look around the ward and realized that everyone was still asleep. She was the only one awake.

However, Raeleigh refused to go back to sleep and immediately sat up in bed. She had a lot to say to him. She needed to get all of those thoughts and feelings out of her head, or else she might feel uncomfortable.

She disregarded Jepherson’s instruction and immediately got off the bed to put on her shoes. Then, she pulled Jepherson out of the ward into the corridor. She wanted to blurt out those thoughts in her mind, but just as she was about to do so, she heard Jepherson say, “Raeleigh, I have something to tell you.”

Raeleigh stood in the corridor and turned to look at Jepherson, slightly confused. “What’s the matter?”

Raeleigh wondered what Jepherson needed to tell her.

"I don't know how I should tell you." Jepherson raised his hand to stroke Raeleigh's face. Raeleigh felt that he was acting a little weird as she held his hand. "You can tell me anything."

"I let you down," Jepherson said. Raeleigh stared at him and asked, "What did you do?"

Jepherson did not answer her question. "Forget it."

Raeleigh frowned. She had a lot she needed to tell Jepherson, but at that moment, she could not bring herself to say anything.

She pursed her lips and she then asked, "What can't you tell me?"

"Nothing. Your hand is injured. I think it's best we wait until it's healed before we have a talk," Jepherson said as he reached out for Raeleigh's hand and started walking. She asked, "Aren't we heading back to the ward?"

Jepherson said nothing and decided to bring Raeleigh elsewhere.

It was only when they arrived did Raeleigh realize that he had brought her to a cafe. She lowered her gaze to look at her clothes and was glad that she was dressed in her own clothes, if not she would be embarrassed.

Jepherson had ordered an assortment of food. Raeleigh felt full just by looking at the food. There was way too much food for the two of them.

"This is too much. It's impossible for us to finish all of them," Raeleigh said as she looked at Jepherson. He smiled and gave her a shrimp dumpling, saying, "You're going to have to eat more. If we can't finish it, then we can have the staff pack it up to give it to Scarlett and the rest."

"What? You're going to give them our leftovers? You should have ordered less instead and place another order for Scarlett." Raeleigh did not like wasting food. They could not finish it, so they could pack the leftovers to prevent wasting food, but she felt bad giving Scarlett and the rest their leftovers.

"Then, you have to eat more," Jepherson replied with a single sentence, but there were no happy emotions in his eyes. Raeleigh could tell just by looking at him.

"Jepherson, is there something wrong?" Raeleigh tried to ask. He shook his head and said, "No."

"Why do you look upset then?" They were a couple. They could tell whenever the other was in low spirits.

Jepherson took a bite of his food and said, "It's nothing. Let's eat."

No matter how hard Raeleigh tried, Jepherson would not confide in her. In the end, Raeleigh gave up trying. Breakfast was depressing. After their meal, Raeleigh packed up the leftovers and went back to the ward with Jepherson. Raeleigh then asked Jepherson where he had been those few days and why he had not been answering her calls.

"I had awful cell phone reception. I was looking for someone and had also been busy with Deanna's affairs," Despite Jepherson saying so, Raeleigh did not believe it, but she could do nothing. Since Jepherson did not want to tell her, she was not going to ask anymore.

When they arrived back at the ward, Jepherson entered the door and placed the food on the table. Raeleigh felt bad, so she said, "We brought you all some leftovers. Don't worry. We did not touch them."

Raeleigh was very careful when she ate. She made sure not to touch the food that she did not want to eat.

By then, Santiago was already awake. He had washed his face and brushed his teeth, and was currently sitting up in bed.

He pointed at the breakfast when he saw it. Cynthia went over and grabbed it for him. He opened it and waited for Cynthia to feed him.

Scarlette, who was standing at one side, was impressed by Santiago. He sure knew how to capture a woman's heart, and Cynthia was a perfect example.

After everyone had their breakfast, Raeleigh handed Xanthus a box of shrimp dumplings and said, "We did not touch this one either."

"It doesn't matter even if you did. I don't mind." Xanthus accepted the box, sat down on the bed, and began eating them. Raeleigh turned around and told Jepherson, "Come here, there's something I need to tell you. It might come as a shock."

Raeleigh pulled Jepherson over to Xanthus and said, "Dr. Osteen and I are destined to meet in life. I've regarded him as my brother."

Jepherson gave Xanthus a once-over. He did not seem to be glad, but he did not argue with her. He knew Raeleigh's temper, but he did not smile. All he did was to say, "I know."

Raeleigh froze for a moment and she then turned to look at Jepherson. "Jepherson..."

"I have never had a good impression of him, but I don't object to you being his sister." The meaning behind Jepherson's words was evident. He had a right to intervene with Raeleigh's personal affairs, but he was not going to get along with Xanthus just because of her.

Raeleigh felt uncomfortable. She felt that she should not have told him yet. However, she was worried that Jepherson would misunderstand her, and right then, it seemed that he had indeed misunderstood her.

"You've misunderstood. Raeleigh and I..."

"Whether I've misunderstood anything is my own business. Sorry, I don't feel well. I'm going to head out and get some fresh air." Then, Jepherson turned around and left. Raeleigh watched as he left, not knowing what to say.

"I'll go and check on him." Raeleigh left the ward in search of Jepherson. He was sitting on a bench along the corridor.

Raeleigh went up to him and took a seat beside him. "Are you alright? Did you misunderstand me and Dr. Osteen? We treat each other like siblings, not like what you think."

"I'm fine. I'm just in a terrible mood. Raeleigh..." Jepherson looked at Raeleigh and stroked her face. "Don't take it to heart. You know I have a bad temper, and I'm not good at hiding my feelings, especially for those whom I dislike."

"But if you want me to go in and apologize, I will."

Apologize?

Raeleigh looked at Jepherson. Logically, Jepherson should go in and apologize to Xanthus because he was her brother. If he were to apologize, then she might feel satisfied. After all, it was his fault, but...

Since when would Jepherson apologize to anyone?

She should just forget about it.

Raeleigh held Jepherson's hand and said, "You know what? Just forget it. It's not entirely your fault. I did not inform you in advance. I'm also in the wrong. Why don't you take a rest? I'll sit here and accompany you."

Raeleigh planned to talk to Xanthus about it but did not head back right away. She felt that since Jepherson was not in a good mood, she should accompany him.

Jepherson held her hand as he leaned back in the chair. "Why don't you head back inside?"

Although he asked her to head back into the ward, he did not let go of her hand. Raeleigh did not point it out. She sat outside and accompanied him instead. She felt that something was wrong with Jepherson, but she could not quite put her finger on it.

They sat in the corridor for a while before Jepherson's phone rang. It was Paige. She asked him what was going on and wanted him to head home immediately.

Raeleigh could hear her words. Paige was furious and was yelling into the phone.

Jepherson remained silent as Paige spoke, before promising to return home. Then, he hung up the phone and stood up.

"I need to go home." Jepherson pushed the door open and took a look inside. "Santiago, can you come out for a while?"

Santiago got out of bed, and Cynthia immediately followed him. Santiago's face was full of amusement. "Stay here."

Cynthia stopped in her tracks. When Santiago emerged from the ward, Jepherson turned around and started walking. Right then, the iciness emanating from Jepherson's body was overwhelming, filling the entire corridor in an instant. For a moment, he felt like a stranger to Raeleigh.

Santiago glanced at Raeleigh. "You don't have to follow us."

Raeleigh stopped. Actually, she wanted to see Jepherson off, but Santiago prevented her from doing so.

They hadn't seen each other for such a long time. Didn't he want to get close to her?

Raeleigh watched with disappointment as the brothers continued walking down the corridor. She could not help but to wonder, what was going on with him?

The two brothers soon made their way into the elevator. Once the door of the elevator closed, Jepherson cut to the chase and said, "We have to find out who did this. We must not let this matter slide."

Santiago looked at Jepherson. "What's wrong? Who provoked you?"

Jepherson did not answer. "You brought Raeleigh and Cynthia to the movies yesterday. Someone took a picture of you guys. Grandma is furious, and I need to go back to explain it to her. I don't know who leaked the news that Deanna's kidnapped. It must be that Clark guy. He must have suffered losses and wanted revenge. He moved his whole family, thinking that we could not find them. We have to get to the bottom of this. We mustn't let it slide just like that."

"Zorion will not let him go either," Santiago said.

"I'll go back and explain it to Grandma. Take good care of yourself and Raeleigh. I may not come over these few days."

The door of the elevator opened, and Jepherson exited. Santiago then asked, "Did someone offend you?"

"No."

Jepherson then left. Santiago remained in the elevator and headed back up to his ward.

Raeleigh was waiting outside. When she noticed Santiago, she hurried over to him. He paused for a moment when he saw her and he then asked, "What? Did you miss me while I was gone?"

Raeleigh wore a poker face. "You should mind your language."

"I'm being polite," Santiago said as he made his way back to the ward. Raeleigh stood rooted to the spot. Santiago walked to the door and he turned to look at Raeleigh. "What are you doing?"

"You know your brother very well," Raeleigh said. She knew that Santiago was wise. It was not that he did not see through it, but he did not want to mention it.

"Don't overthink. Grandma is looking for him. He needs to go home and talk to her. He'll be back once he's done." With that, Santiago turned around and entered the ward. Raeleigh looked at the closed door of the ward. She did not enter and sat outside in the corridor instead.

When Scarlette did not see Raeleigh, she headed out of the room only to find Raeleigh sitting in the corridor once she opened the door. So, she asked in confusion, "What are you doing?"

Raeleigh lifted her head and looked at Scarlette. "I just wanted to sit out here for a moment."

"What for? Come in." Scarlette urged her to return to the ward. Raeleigh stood up and followed her, but an uneasy feeling gradually rose inside her.

It had been a few days since Santiago had been hospitalized. Raeleigh's hand had fully healed, and they were about to be discharged. However, Jepherson did not show up in the past few days, nor did he



contact Raeleigh either. It was Raeleigh who took the initiative to call him twice. Although he did answer the phone, he was no longer as gentle as before. There was still warmth in his tone albeit different.

Raeleigh hung up the phone and looked over at Scarlett. "Let's go. Jepherson is not coming. He has something to attend to."

"He's not coming even when you're being discharged today?" Scarlett complained in a low voice.

"Let's go." Raeleigh exited the ward, followed by Scarlett and the rest as they all headed home together. Xanthus was a great help. He even sent them home. When they arrived home, he got out of the car and went up to Novalie's room to explain to her the situation.

Raeleigh stood aside. Novalie lifted her head and took a look at her granddaughter. She instantly knew that Raeleigh and Jepherson must have had a fallout and was not on talking terms.

"Raeleigh, Xanthus has helped you a lot recently. Why don't you ask him to stay for lunch?" Novalie asked. Raeleigh immediately agreed. "Alright then. I'll go and inform Serra."

"Go ahead."

Raeleigh turned around and went down to the kitchen to inform Serra that they would be having an extra guest for lunch. After that, Raeleigh sat in the living room. She kept thinking about what she did to have Jepherson distance himself from her. Could it be that he had misunderstood her?

Santiago was also sitting in the living room with Cynthia. The two were watching TV when Cynthia's phone rang. Santiago briefly looked at the caller ID and realized it was Flynt who was calling.

"Flynt..."

Cynthia's face immediately turned pale when she heard her brother's words. Then, she looked over at Santiago. She could not believe it when her brother told her that two of Yanora's fingers had been chopped off. Not only that, but she had also been molested.

Flynt sounded furious when he informed Cynthia of what had happened. He even told her that he was currently standing outside their house.

Cynthia put her cell phone aside and turned to look at Santiago. "Did you do it?"

Santiago nodded solemnly.

"Didn't we agree to let it go?" Cynthia sounded weak when she said that. She knew that she shouldn't have said anything about that matter, but Yanora was her sister. How could she stand by and do nothing?

Santiago seemed unperturbed. "There's nothing I can do. Jepherson is mad about what happened. If he had taken action, then I'm sure your sister would have lost more than just two fingers."

Cynthia pondered for a moment before saying, "I get it."

Raeleigh sat aside. Cynthia felt unpleasant. Yanora was nTristany violated. Although she deserved punishment, she could not accept that Santiago had asked his men to chop her sister's fingers off. Couldn't he give her a good beating instead?

Santiago stood up. Even though he had been discharged from the hospital, his arm was still bandaged, in a sling.

Santiago stood at the door and looked outside. When he saw Flynt standing at the door, he stepped out.

Before he reached the door, he could already hear Flynt yelling at him.

“Santiago, you’re inhumane! That’s my sister! Why did you have to do that to her?” That was the first time that Flynt had lost his temper. He initially thought that with Cynthia around, Santiago would not do anything out of line. But right then, it seemed that he was literally a psycho.

Cynthia did not dare to leave the house. She sat in the living room, clenching her hands in a tight fist. She did not even dare to return home right then. She was going to be homeless soon, and her family would call her a black sheep.

Raeleigh understood how she was feeling. That was why she did not say anything. Instead, she went out to check on Santiago.

Santiago stood at the door and stared at the irascible Flynt with indifference in his eyes.

Flynt stopped yelling, licked his lips, and he then said, “Are you out of your mind?”

Even though Santiago was young, he was still as intimidating as Jepherson. When he spoke, Flynt instantly fell silent.

“Yanora is clearly jealous of Cynthia. The other day, she wanted to tag along with us on our date. I did not reject her for Cynthia’s sake and even dropped her off at the shopping mall, leaving right after that.”

“Afterwards, she sent someone to hunt us down. I’m sure you know that I was not the target. It was Cynthia.”

“She was heartless, so I treated her the same way. I will not let anything happen to Cynthia. I couldn’t care less about the others. If she hurts Cynthia, then it means that I’ll be hurting her in return. It’s not my fault. You should ask her for an explanation instead of me.”

After saying that, Santiago went back into the house.

Santiago was somewhat stunned when he saw Raeleigh. He then asked her to follow him. Raeleigh turned to look at Flynt before entering the house. Flynt seemed devastated. He eventually stumbled back into his car and sat there in a daze.

A few moments later, Cynthia received a phone call and left. Raeleigh was worried, so she decided to follow her. Cynthia was soft-hearted. She followed Flynt to visit Yanora at the hospital after leaving their house.

Raeleigh returned home to tell Santiago. “Cynthia went to the hospital.”

Santiago sat on the couch with a helpless expression, but he got up and went outside, complaining as he walked. “Women are really troublesome.”

“Scarlette, keep an eye on Raeleigh,” Santiago instructed as he walked out the door. Scarlette hurriedly replied, “Alright.”

Santiago went out to find Cynthia. Raeleigh headed into the kitchen to check on lunch. She then went upstairs to ask Xanthus whether he wanted to eat at the dining table or with Novalie. In the end, he chose to enjoy his meal with Novalie. Raeleigh couldn't be at ease in front of them, so she had her meal downstairs with the rest.

After lunch, Santiago returned home with Cynthia. Cynthia was towing her luggage while Santiago was carrying two pots of flowers in his hands.

Raeleigh was sitting on the couch as she fixed her gaze on the two of them. Santiago said the moment he entered the house, "I have something to announce. From now on, Cynthia will move in to live with us. She will no longer be staying with the Cole family."

No one asked anything. Scarlett knew that that day was inevitable. She knew that it would happen sooner or later after such a thing had happened.

However, she admired him in her heart. Santiago was really not a person to be trifled with.

A minor trick of his could easily tear a family apart.

However, she had no idea what Santiago was thinking. If he really got married to Cynthia, then wouldn't he piss Paige off?

However, Scarlett was intrigued. Paige usually acted high and mighty. She wondered how furious she would be when she learnt about that?

Scarlett knew that Paige was not fond of Raeleigh. She wondered, did she like Cynthia?

Scarlett took pleasure in other people's misfortune. Raeleigh hurried over to help Santiago with the flower pots. She said while walking up the stairs, "There are two empty rooms beside Santiago's. You can have the bigger room of the two."

"Thank you." It was a tough decision for Cynthia, but she knew that it was better for her to move out of the Cole family residence. It was better than to be singled out.

Just then, when she was in the hospital, her mother slapped her, and everyone cried as soon as they saw her. All the things came to her one after another. There was nothing she could do right then.

There was no point in staying. The only thing she could do was to leave for the time being.

## **Chapter 1156**

It had been a few days since Santiago had been hospitalized. Raeleigh's hand had fully healed, and they were about to be discharged. However, Jepherson did not show up in the past few days, nor did he contact Raeleigh either. It was Raeleigh who took the initiative to call him twice. Although he did answer the phone, he was no longer as gentle as before. There was still warmth in his tone albeit different.

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## **Chapter 1157**

Now that Cynthia had stayed, Raeleigh began to ruminate on Jepherson's matter. She called him for the third time, at which point she got through, and took the initiative to say, "I somewhat miss you. When will you come back?"

There was a long silence on the other side of the line before Jepherson answered, "I'm not sure when I can go there. I have to deal with some things."

"But it's time for me to have a prenatal check-up. Don't you want to accompany me?" Raeleigh said, hoping that she could persuade Jepherson. After all, Jepherson had promised her.

Finally, there was an answer from the other side of the line. His voice was as deep as the sound of a cello, as if he was tugging at her heartstrings.

"Then, I'll pick you up tomorrow. We'll do the check-up."

"Okay."

...

The conversation continued on for a while. Jepherson might not have said much, but Raeleigh was still thrilled. She was flooded with joy even after the phone had been put down.

However, little did she know what would await her the next day.

She spent the whole night getting excited about it. The next morning, she changed her clothes and waited for Jepherson. She deliberately wore her favorite dress and waited downstairs.

Santiago stared at Raeleigh. "You are not going on a blind date. Why did you put on lipstick?"

"Why do you care so much?" Raeleigh ignored him and stood at the door, waiting.

Seeing that Jepherson was coming, Raeleigh instantly went out and approached him. After they met, Jepherson froze momentarily before cracking a smile at her. "Why, hello, gorgeous."

"Hmm..." Raeleigh blushed and walked over. She rarely wore makeup. It had been said that pregnant women shouldn't apply makeup to avoid accidentally consuming lipstick, which would in turn affect the baby's health. She would wipe it off whenever she was having the meal to prevent that from happening.

Furthermore, she wanted to put on makeup, so that she could look more energetic.

Of course, she was delighted at Jepherson's compliment.

After saying that, Jepherson turned around and walked towards the door. Raeleigh was bemused for a moment, as she had expected a hug from him, but he straightaway left.

When she got out through the door, Stuart had already opened the car door and motioned for her to get into the car.

Jepherson sat inside the car while Raeleigh bent down and got into it. There was some distance between the two of them. Normally, Jepherson would have sidled up to her, but that day...

While sitting inside the car, she looked at Jepherson's handsome face. The car was slowly driven away. She hesitated, as her grandmother was right about how she could also make the first move in her romantic relationship. In love, there was no inferiority to speak of. The only difference was whether she loved him or not.

Raeleigh extended her hand and held his overlapped hands. Jepherson was slightly startled before he pulled out one hand and rested it atop Raeleigh's. However, he did not look at her. He just said, "I have looked for the best doctor for you. Don't worry."

"Is there anything troubling you? Tell me, I will help you figure out a solution," Raeleigh said, shifting closer to him. Jepherson glanced at her and turned his head away with a smile. "Nothing, really. It's just that Serra hasn't been found. We're still searching for her."

"After the checkup, I will help you find her. I heard from Santiago that Zorion has found a clue. Plus, he didn't seem to be bothered, so I thought it was nothing. If you are that concerned, then let's look for her together. In this way, you don't have to fret so much."

"No, it's not convenient for you to move around. Let's do the checkup first."

Jepherson seemed to be less chatty that day, after which Raeleigh stopped asking. When they arrived at the hospital, they got out of the car to have a checkup in the hospital. When they entered the consultation room, Raeleigh was a little astonished to see that the doctor was a stranger. He wasn't the one whom she had met the previous time.

"Where is the doctor from our last consultation?" Raeleigh asked. Jepherson placed his arm around Raeleigh's shoulder. "This is the most accomplished doctor. He will be the obstetrician for you in the future."

Raeleigh was obviously not very willing to accept it, but she did not say anything. Since Jepherson had arranged it, it must be the best choice for her.

What followed was the checkup procedure. After that, the doctor told her, "There is something wrong with the baby. I hope you can consider it carefully. It's advisable for you to have the baby removed."

Raeleigh was dumbstruck. She stood motionlessly by the door.

Jepherson turned to look at Raeleigh. With a darkened expression, he frowned and said, "We are still young. We can have another baby."

Raeleigh stood there without answering him. She swept her eyes over the doctor and Jepherson. "I need to be quiet for a while."

Then, she sat on the chair, accompanied by Jepherson, who gave her some time to calm herself down. Afterwards, she took out her phone and called Xanthus. "Come here. I am in the hospital. Something is wrong with the baby."

For some reason, the first person who came to her mind was Xanthus.

"Who did you call?" Jepherson asked her. There wasn't a tone of unhappiness in his voice, but his face fell. Raeleigh kept her phone and stared at him. "You didn't tell me anything when I asked you, but you wanted me to remove the child. Why?"

Jepherson furrowed his brows deeply. His face looked pale and he seemed to be in pain.

"There's a problem with the baby. If it's born, then it'll be of no benefit to anyone, even to the baby itself," he explained.

Raeleigh shook her head. "I don't believe there is something wrong with the baby."

"Raeleigh, don't be stubborn. There are some things in this world that you have to believe no matter what." Jepherson tried to comfort her, but she still shook her head. "No, no."

They had a long conversation outside. Raeleigh didn't agree with the assertion that there was something wrong with the baby, until Xanthus and Santiago came.

Xanthus ran in. Seeing Raeleigh, he walked to her side. She stood up and said, "He said there's something wrong with the baby. I don't buy it."

Gazing at Xanthus, her eyes glazed over.



Her sadness didn't stem from Jepherson's decision to get rid of her yet-to-be-born child, but it was because he couldn't give her a good reason as to why he insisted on it.

Raeleigh felt that her chest had been clogged by something. She really could not bear this kind of suffocating torment.

That was why she couldn't hold back her emotions when Xanthus showed up. To her, those two hours of suffering felt longer than a few years.

"It's okay, I'm a doctor. I'll run a checkup. I won't let anything happen to you. Don't be afraid." Upon hearing his words, Raeleigh suddenly hugged Xanthus, as if she was clutching at straws and refusing to let go of him.

Jepherson was taken aback for a second. He pulled Raeleigh away and handed her to Santiago. Subsequently, he raised his hand and gave Xanthus a punch. Following that, the two of them started fighting.

Standing aside, Raeleigh shouted and urged them to stop fighting. Jepherson took no notice of her words and threw several continuous punches at Xanthus.

Xanthus dodged them all, but Jepherson's first punch was so fierce that he bled. He took a few steps back before he could stand firm.

Santiago was unable to put up with it any longer. Hence, he stepped forward to block the attack. Jepherson was throwing a powerful punch at Xanthus's direction when Santiago advanced towards him. Jepherson then withdrew his fist at that critical moment.

Santiago glanced at Xanthus behind him. "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine." Xanthus was worried that Raeleigh would be frightened, so he said nothing. He went to Raeleigh's side, held her shoulder, turned around, and walked towards the corridor with Raeleigh. "Let's go."

Raeleigh turned back to look at Jepherson. "I'll go back first. You guys can come back later."

Raeleigh turned around and followed Xanthus to the elevator. As soon as she entered, her tears came streaming down. Xanthus went near her, faced her, and looked at her. He couldn't help feeling sorry for her. At the same time, he also felt guilty for this sister of his, whom he had just found. If he had found her earlier, then she wouldn't have suffered so much.

## **Chapter 1158**

Seeing that Raeleigh had left with Xanthus, Jepherson intended to catch up with her, but was stopped by Santiago. "Raeleigh will be fine. Now, let's talk about the two of you."

"What's there to be talked about?" Jepherson's expression darkened. He was anxious to catch up with Raeleigh, but he did not leave.

They were brothers, and he was all too familiar with Santiago's character, so he was not in a hurry to leave.

Santiago swept his eyes all over Jepherson. "You should know better about what's going on. Why did you decide to get rid of the baby?"

"The doctor said that there's something wrong with it," Jepherson replied calmly. Santiago said through his gritted teeth, "That's your son. If you don't want him, then you shouldn't have impregnated her in the beginning. Now that you want to get rid of the baby, how's she going to live with it?"

"We can have another child in the future, but I can't risk her life," Jepherson said decisively. Santiago glanced at the two doctors behind Jepherson. "Since that's the case, I'll take her for an examination. Once it's certain that there's something wrong, I'll make sure she rid herself of the baby. If there's nothing wrong, then for this, I'll beat him to death."

Santiago gestured his chin at the doctor behind Jepherson. The doctor was scared silly that his face turned pale and he didn't dare to say a word.

After saying that, Santiago spun around and walked towards the elevator. Halfway through, he kicked over the trash can in the corridor. Standing still, Jepherson clenched his fists, and his face was drained of color.

Raeleigh had been in a daze ever since they came out of the hospital. Xanthus flet unsettled about her condition, therefore he took her to another hospital.

After they reached there, Raeleigh first had a checkup. After that, Xanthus arranged a ward for her. Throughout the whole process, Raeleigh had been feeling down in the dumps and was not up for much talk.

Santiago made a call to ask Xanthus where they were. After a short while, he also came over. The result of the diagnosis result was out.

"Take a look at this." Standing outside the ward, he handed the report of the diagnosis to Santiago while Raeleigh was sleeping. He then waited for Santiago's response.

Santiago read through it and chucked it into the trash can.

Pushing the door open, Santiago went into the ward and took a look at Raeleigh. Raeleigh had fallen asleep with her brows knitted. Santiago walked over, pressed his finger on the knot in between Raeleigh's brow, and loosened it. He shot a look at Xanthus, who was standing at the door. "Thank you."

Xanthus was staggered to hear it. "This is what I should do. She is my sister."

"Let's not draw any conclusion on this matter first. Give me some time, and I will investigate it thoroughly. Now that Deanna still hasn't been found, everyone is under a lot of pressure. Grandma is pushing him too hard."

As Santiago spoke, he poured himself a glass of water. After drinking the water, he sat down opposite Raeleigh and crossed his legs. He placed one of his hands between his legs and leaned his head against the chair. All of a sudden, he looked a decade older, or more, and traces of aging emerged from his cold face. Xanthus closed the door, sat down and looked at Raeleigh. If it weren't for the fact that she had met Jepherson first, and that she was pregnant, things might have taken a different turn between her and Xanthus...

After Raeleigh woke up, she received a call from Jepherson.

“Are you looking for me?” Picking up the call, Raeleigh got up and stood aside. Jepherson fell silent briefly before he answered, “Regarding the child, I would like to have a talk with you.”

“I’m willing to do anything, as long as it’s not to remove him.” Raeleigh was not clear about what had happened. Nevertheless, she wouldn’t yield when it came to the child’s issue. If she gave in, then she would probably regret it. She did not want the child to get entangled in the adults’ affairs. Besides, the child had once been questioned by her, and right then, his life was in danger because of his father. Hence, she would not allow the same mistake to happen again.

Jepherson could give up on her, but she couldn’t give up on her child.

Still in silence, Jepherson hung up.

Raeleigh thought that Jepherson had given up. She did not expect that soon after hanging up, the door of the ward was pushed open. Standing outside the door was Jepherson in the flesh.

Raeleigh frowned when she saw him. “You’re here?”

Jepherson glanced across the ward before he approached Raeleigh. He sat down beside her and held her hand in his. “Are you still uncomfortable?”

Raeleigh shook her head, as if it was not Jepherson himself who had brought her the discomfort, but someone else instead. Raeleigh was amused by him. That said, in the face of such an abrupt change, she really couldn’t bring herself to laugh.

Raeleigh fixed her eyes on him. “Hasn’t Deanna been found yet?”

“Not yet. I’ll send Santiago to search for her later.” Raeleigh was stunned momentarily when she heard this. She wondered if Jepherson was planning to send Santiago away, so that he could find a chance to make a move on her.

“Okay.” The only thing Raeleigh could do was to agree. She sat there quietly. Santiago stood up and poured some water for himself and Raeleigh. Then, he said, “If I’m to find Deanna, then what about Raeleigh?”

“I will take care of Raeleigh,” Jepherson answered. Santiago was silent for a while. “Grandma has our backs all the time. Still, someone has to be by her side. Just focus on dealing with her, and I’ll take care of Raeleigh.”

“You can’t take care of so many people at once. I will take Raeleigh back and tell Grandma about the matter between Raeleigh and me,” Jepherson said. Raeleigh felt that things were not like that. She stole a glance at Santiago subconsciously. Afterwards, Santiago sat down. “Scarlette and Hadrian will follow me. Can you relax now?”

“Raeleigh is pregnant. She can’t follow you.”

“I will ensure her safety.”

“It’s not a matter of assurance. You might encounter danger while you’re looking for Deanne. How can you promise that Raeleigh will be safe?”

There was a heavy silence in the ward. Xanthus sat down at the side and simply observed the argument between the Harvey brothers. They glared at each other with their piercing eyes. Even so, they did not fight.

Jepherson said, “Raeleigh is my beloved girlfriend. If I want to hurt her, then you can’t stop me, although I’ve no intention to do so.”

“You’ve gone mad, huh. Why would I know what you’re going to do?” Santiago retorted. Jepherson’s face fell. “Hey, watch your mouth when you speak to me.”

Surely enough, Santiago became calmer. He suppressed his anger, but he still refused to concede.

Raeleigh thought for a moment before she told Santiago, “Get Scarlett and Hadrian to go with you to find Deanne. I’ll stay with him. After you’ve found her, we can sit down and address the issue head-on. I also want to be with him, since we haven’t been together for a long time. I would like to know why he did a 180-degree turn in his attitude all of a sudden. We are all adults, and we should be able to resolve the problems in our relationships. We haven’t reached the end of our rope, have we?”

Still holding her hand, Jepherson didn’t answer. Santiago chuckled. “He wouldn’t have done such a ridiculous and brainless thing if he was not at the end of his rope.”

“Enough! Can we drop this? I’ll give you ten days. If you fail to find Deanne in ten days, then you don’t have to come back. Get lost,” said Jepherson, asking Santiago to leave, but he didn’t move.

“Still not leaving?” A hint of anger flashed through Jepherson’s eyes. Only then did Santiago get up. If there was someone in the Harvey family who could make Santiago behave, then it was definitely Jepherson.

## **Chapter 1159**

If Santiago were to be disobedient, then even Calvin himself wouldn’t be able to do anything to him. However, he obeyed Jepherson’s words.

Standing up, Santiago took a look at Raeleigh, and he then turned back to scowl at Jepherson. “If anything happens to her, then I won’t let you off.”

Raeleigh was baffled for a second. She looked at Santiago in surprise. Those who were close to them knew that they were always together and had feelings for each other. Those who didn’t would have thought that they were a couple, and that the father of her child was not Jepherson but him.

Jepherson said coldly, “Are you threatening me?”

Santiago shrugged. “Sort of.”

“I’ll settle the score with you after you come back.” Jepherson’s expression darkened. Xanthus also had no idea what was going on between the brothers.

Raeleigh gazed at Xanthus. “Dr. Osteen, you should go with him. I can take care of myself.”

Walking to the door, Santiago turned to look back at Xanthus. "Don't follow me."

Xanthus did not intend to follow him. He sat in his original seat, unmoving.

Santiago turned around and left. He closed the door and took out his phone to make a call.

"Keep an eye on Mr. Jepherson. By any means, you must protect Raeleigh, especially her child. Whoever dares to lay a finger on her, I'll take his life."

Putting away his phone, he looked back at the door of the ward. After considering for a moment, he called Cynthia.

After Santiago left, Raeleigh shot a glance at Xanthus. "I'm fine now."

"I'll leave you two to yourselves. I have something to do. Call me if you need anything." Xanthus got up and went out of the ward. Raeleigh watched Xanthus leave before she asked Jepherson, "Why would you do this?"

Jepherson's heart sank but his expression remained unchanged. "I don't want this child."

Raeleigh furrowed her brow. "Why?"

"No reason. I just think it's too reckless. Initially, I planned to have the child after our marriage, but I changed my mind because Grandma had been badgering me. I thought it would be better to have the child first. It's just that I feel like it isn't right to do it now."

Jepherson spoke gently while caressing Raeleigh's hands. Raeleigh couldn't wrap her head around his reasoning. Now that he had decided to be with her, why would he want to get rid of the child? Or, did he fall in love with someone else? She pondered over this.

Raeleigh stared at him. "Have you fallen in love with someone else?"

"No, and don't think too much," Jepherson denied straightaway. Raeleigh looked him in the eye to find that he didn't seem to be lying. It didn't make sense. If he wasn't lying, then why? There must have been a reason.

Pursing her lips, she lay down. It was dark outside. She gazed out of the window in a daze.

Jepherson stood up and covered her body with a blanket before he sat down again. Raeleigh looked at him and held his hand. "I'm tired. I want to sleep for a while. Ask someone to prepare the food. Let's have dinner later. Stay here at night."

"What would you like to eat?" Jepherson took out his phone. Raeleigh thought briefly. "Anything is fine."

Jepherson made the decision on his own, ordering people to prepare the food. Looking at him, a feeling of inexplicable melancholy descended upon her. Her grandmother was right in that they were two of a kind. They were too reticent to share their feelings.

Raeleigh dozed off for a while. Hearing the knock on the door, Raeleigh opened her eyes and took a look at the door. She saw that Jepherson had already taken off his blazer and was going to open the door. His shirt was white, and his pants were black. Suddenly, Raeleigh found one thing, that he was much

thinner. In the past, although he was not fat, he was not as thin as he was then. Why did he become so thin then?

From the doorway, Jepherson pushed the dining trolley into the room. Raeleigh sat up from the bed, lifted the quilt, and got out of the bed. She went to the door and scanned the corridor. Xanthus was not outside, and she wondered where he had gone. Turning around, she was still thinking about it when her phone rang.

She took out her phone and looked at it. There was a text message sent by Xanthus.

"I'm next door to you. I've already eaten. Don't worry about me. By the way, I'll make a report. I might take a few days off for that."

Raeleigh replied to him that she had received the message and deleted it from her phone. After that, she turned to look at Jepherson, who was arranging the food.

It was no wonder he had not lost his temper. It turned out that Xanthus was not around.

However, he had lost too much weight. It might not be obvious on his face, but his body...

Raeleigh lowered her head and asked, "What do we have?"

"Nothing special. Here, look." Jepherson opened the metal lids on the trolley and showed the dishes one by one. Raeleigh went to wash her hands and sat down, waiting to dig in.

Jepherson placed the dishes nicely, rolled up his sleeves, and turned around to wash his hands. She gazed at him with a heavy heart. She wondered what exactly had happened. He was reluctant to divulge it, and he wouldn't say it even if she asked.

Jepherson came back and sat down. Raeleigh handed the cutlery and bowls to him. He picked up the bowls and they began to have dinner.

"Eat more." Jepherson placed some food in her bowl, and she did the same. "You too."

"Hmm."

Neither of them spoke during dinner. After they finished it, Jepherson pushed the dining cart out of the room. Soon, someone came to clean up. Raeleigh stood by the window and looked outside. That autumn seemed to be very cold outside. It was just late autumn, and winter had not come yet, but the weather had started to get cold.

Jepherson approached her from behind. He held Raeleigh in his arms and rested his chin on her shoulder. "What are you looking at?"

"Autumn. It's the season I hate the most, but for some reason, it's also the season I look forward to."

"It's the time when the fruits ripen. People in medieval times looked forward to this season the most. It would be the harvesting season for them."

"Also, the poets, playwrights, and writers had taken a liking to this season since ancient times. It's always accompanied by a sense of glumness."

As Jepherson spoke, he kissed Raeleigh on the cheek. Raeleigh stared at him and couldn't utter a word. He used to kiss her on the lips, but right then, he didn't. He deliberately avoided her lips, and kissed her on the cheek.

Raeleigh fixed her tender eyes on him without saying a word. With his arms still wrapped around her, and his chin on her shoulder, he covered Raeleigh's belly with his hands. The warmth of his hands made her feel that she was being cherished by him.

With that being said, why did he choose to get rid of the child?

Could it be that he was like this season itself, which brought both joy and endless regrets simultaneously?

After standing for quite a while, Raeleigh felt tired. She turned around and went back to the bed. Jepherson cast a glance at the bed and asked, "Are you sure that this bed can accommodate both of us?"

Raeleigh leaned to the side. "Well, there will be enough space if we squeeze in together."

"I'm going to sleep on the other side. Call me if you need anything." Jepherson went to Raeleigh's side and bent down to tidy the bed for Raeleigh, but he didn't get onto the bed, which made Raeleigh feel more or less uncomfortable.

Raeleigh took off her clothes and lay down. Jepherson made a phone call before he went back to lie on another bed.

People tended to suffer from insomnia when they were troubled by something. For instance, Raeleigh was experiencing it then. She couldn't fall asleep, even though she didn't toss and turn.

After lying down for a short time, Jepherson turned over, facing Raeleigh. He closed his eyes and covered himself with a blanket. Raeleigh also closed her eyes, but she couldn't fall asleep.

## **Chapter 1160**

Raeleigh didn't get much rest throughout the night. She only fell asleep in the morning. Jepherson got up Tristany to fetch some water outside, wash the towel, and ask someone to send Raeleigh's clothes there. It seemed that nothing had happened, but Raeleigh knew that it would never be the same again.

Jepherson had been bottling up something, and he refused to spill it out, come what may.

When Raeleigh woke up after eight o'clock, she went to wash up. By the time she returned, Jepherson had arranged the dishes for breakfast. It wasn't until she sat down that she remembered Stuart, whom she hadn't seen in the past two days.

"Where is Stuart?"

Sitting opposite him, she asked. Jepherson, who was wearing a white shirt and clutching some cutlery and bowls, handed them to Raeleigh. "I'm concerned about Santiago, so I asked Stuart to go with him."

Raeleigh shot a look at him in perplexity. He had sent all the people around them away. What in the world was he going to do?

After breakfast, Jepherson went to the doctor and inquired about Raeleigh's state. Her condition was very stable and she was allowed to be discharged from the hospital.

"The doctor said that you can be discharged from the hospital. Shall we leave now?" asked Jepherson. Raeleigh thought momentarily. "Then, let's go. Do you have a lot of stuff to work on? If you are busy, then you can send me back..."

"I'm going to the company. If you want to go, then you can come along."

"Then, I want to go to the company."

They talked and left the hospital together. Xanthus couldn't rest easy, so he followed them. After coming out of the hospital, they got into the car while Xanthus stalked them from behind. Sitting in the car, Raeleigh didn't feel anything wrong. However, the chauffeur didn't take the usual route. Later, Raeleigh also found that someone was tailing them.

Somewhere along the way, Raeleigh realized that Xanthus had been left behind.

Raeleigh stole a glance at Jepherson, who was holding her hand, and explained, "Xanthus and I are friends. I think he is a decent man. He told me that I look like his sister, which is why he took me as one."

Jepherson held Raeleigh's hand. "Xanthus did have a younger sister. But, according to my investigation, she is dead."

Raeleigh was dumbfounded for a second before she raised her head to gaze at Jepherson. "You've investigated it?"

"I won't turn a blind eye to this kind of thing. Raeleigh... don't trust others easily, especially male strangers." Jepherson held Raeleigh's hand even tighter. Raeleigh didn't know what to say, so she kept silent.

When the car arrived at the desNorahtion, Raeleigh took out her phone and sent a text message to Xanthus. Jepherson walked in front of her and confiscated her phone. He did not look at Raeleigh's text message, but he displayed his domineering demeanor, which was enough to intimidate Raeleigh.

"I just don't want him to worry about me."

"What's there for him to worry about when you're with me? You're my girlfriend, what's there for him to worry about?"

Raeleigh remained silent for her own sake.

With that, her phone was placed in Jepherson's pocket. With his overbearing attitude, she had no choice but to obey him.

After entering through the door, she followed him and signed her registration at the reception. Jepherson stayed on the ground floor for a few minutes before he walked towards the elevator with her. Once they entered the elevator, he pulled her hand over to him. She stared confusedly at him and couldn't figure out what he was doing.



Back in the day, in the presence of outsiders, he always wanted to hold and hug Raeleigh in his arms, as if he wanted to announce to the whole world and let everyone know that Raeleigh was his, to keep every other man away from her.

However, at that moment, when they entered the company offices, he walked in front of her, intentionally keeping a distance from her. His hands did not come into contact with hers either. When they got into the elevator, however, he could not wait to hold her hands.

Stepping out of the elevator, they headed for his office. He took off his blazer and gestured for her to sit. After that, he turned back to his chair while Raeleigh sat down on the couch for a while. She watched Jepherson operate the computer and start to get busy.

“Is there anything I can do for you?” Raeleigh stood up and tried to lend him a hand. He moved the mouse. “No, I’m good. You didn’t sleep well. Take a rest. I will accompany you when I’m done with my work.”

“Then, I’ll go and see Mr. Lamarre.” Raeleigh stood up, walked to the door, opened it, and went out.

Jepherson took a look at the door and reopened the browser tabs. He began to stare blankly at the news regarding the many painless methods of terminating a pregnancy.

Consequently, his expression gradually grew more gloomier.

After browsing for some time, he slumped into his chair. He raised his head and closed his eyes. Then, he loosened the collar of his shirt and breathed hard.

Raeleigh visited Lamarre. Although she was reprimanded by him, she was still very cheerful.

Raeleigh stayed by Lamarre’s side for the entire morning. Jepherson called her and asked when she would like to have lunch. Raeleigh told him that she would not go back in the afternoon because she wanted to keep Lamarre company during lunch.

“Then, I’ll book a place and pick you up later.”

“Alright.”

Raeleigh agreed and stayed at Lamarre’s place the whole time. At noon, Jepherson still hadn’t come over. Thus, she got up and went to find him.

“I’ll go and check, and I’ll pick you up later.” Lamarre was also busy when Raeleigh left. He waved his hand, signalling her to go first while he didn’t follow her.

Raeleigh went all the way back to Jepherson’s office. When she arrived at the door of his office, she knocked on the door, but no one responded. She pushed the door open and went in to find that there was indeed nobody in the office.

She looked around the office. Her phone was still on his table, so Jepherson should not be too far away from the office.

Raeleigh walked around. She intended to take a look at the phone on the table. Unexpectedly, she touched the mouse, after which the monitor lit up.

It was also the first time she had found that the screensaver set on Jepherson's computer was her photo. To be precise, it was a photo of her sleeping.

Sitting down, she took a careful look at this photo. She double-clicked the mouse and tried to recall the password which Jepherson would normally use. She tapped a few times on the keyboard, and it was unlocked as expected.

However, she was reeling in shock with what had been shown before her eyes.

There were more than twenty tabs on the browser, all of which were world-class hospitals renowned for their painless pregnancy termination procedures, as well as the experts in this field.

For a moment, Raeleigh felt as though she had been plunged into a deep valley.

After briefly sitting down, Raeleigh stood up slowly. She accidentally bumped her hand on the table, which caused the phone to drop from the table. She hurriedly caught it and put it down. Afterwards, she glanced at her bruised arm, walked to the couch in a daze, and sat on it.

Jepherson came back after a while. When he entered, he was surprised to see Raeleigh. He walked to her side. "When did you come back?"

Raeleigh raised her head to look at him. "Let's break up. I'll get rid of the baby myself."

Jepherson sat down. "What did you just say?"

"I said let's break up. Xanthus and I..." Raeleigh pursed her lips for a long time before she continued to say, "I found that I've taken a fancy to Xanthus. He also promised me that he would take me to leave this dangerous place and settle down abroad. I don't like large families like yours, and I hate being disturbed by the Cole family. I long for a tranquil and peaceful life."

"The child is mine. You don't have the right to..."

"The baby is in my belly, I will consider keeping him. But now, I am sorry. Xanthus has proposed to me. I'm contemplating accepting his proposal. He doesn't mind even if I have a child."

As Raeleigh spoke, she stood up. She could not bear staying here any longer.

Jepherson got up and pulled her back. He held Raeleigh in both of his arms, tightly. "The child is mine. I have the right to decide whether to keep it or not. Why would you want to leave?"

Raising her head to gaze at him, she tried to push him away with her hands. "You said the child is yours, but no one can prove it. If it belongs to Xanthus, then what are you going to do?"

Jepherson frowned deeply. "That's impossible."

"I am the child's mother, and he's in my belly. Nobody can prove it before he is born."

"Cut the cr\*p."

"I'm not talking cr\*p. I'm just feeling unwell. Anyway, I have an appointment with Mr. Lamarre today for lunch. If you don't let me go, then he will come to look for me. By then, things are going to get ugly."

Only then did she push him away. Her pace was slow when she turned around and left, but still, she went out.

Jepherson followed her. Outside the door, he pulled her over and held her face tightly, which was wearing a cold expression.

Giving a wry smile, Raeleigh wanted to leave.

Those that were unattainable were always the best. Things would not be as marvellous as they used to be when people had obtained them.

If the child was gotten rid of, then there would be nothing left between the two of them.

Walking to the elevator, she stopped and requested for her phone. "Give my phone back."

Jepherson was mystified. "You didn't have a phone just now. How did Xanthus call and talk to you?"

Raeleigh did not explain. "Of course there's a way. I won't tell you everything about me. Now, I have nothing to say to you. Give my phone back to me, or else Mr. Lamarre will make fun of me."

"How is he going to make fun of you?" Jepherson came closer to her, but she stepped back. He approached her again, and she retreated again. Her back was against the wall. Jepherson simply pressed himself onto her. The fetus was in the Tristany development stage and her belly was still in a normal shape. It would be fine even if he did so.

Raeleigh's breathing grew heavier. She had long been accustomed to his body. As soon as he approached her, she would be turned on. Moreover, this would happen from time to time.

Sometimes, she would also ponder if she had fallen in love with his body first, or him as a person first.

To this date, she hadn't figured it out yet.

"How is he going to make fun of you?" Unknowingly, Jepherson lowered his head and wanted to kiss Raeleigh on her lips. However, when he got close to her lips, he avoided them, and kissed the other part of her body instead. She was turned off in an instant. She looked up slowly. "Nothing. Let me go. I'm going to have lunch. I'm hungry."

"What if I don't let you go? What are you going to do?" Jepherson said, pulling her hand and placing it around his waist. He lowered his head and looked into her clear and deep eyes, and it made his breathing unsteady.

Without waiting for Raeleigh's reply, he kissed her on the cheek and everywhere on her face, except for the lips. Finally, his eyes fell on her lips. Raeleigh's breathing became heavier while she was gazing at his lips. Initially, his lips had already landed on hers, but he shifted them slightly at the last minute. As a consequence, they landed on her nose. After that, he held her in his arms, as if there was a sharp pain in his heart. He said, "Even if I am wrong, there's no turning back for me. If I am going to die and will go to h\*ll, then I will take you along with me."