

## Go After 1211

### Chapter 1211

Raeleigh decided to skip dinner and entered her room. Meanwhile, Cynthia and Xanthus were still chatting at the dining table, the topic revolving around Cynthia's aspiration to be a doctor.

"I also want to be a doctor. I'm wondering how long it'll take," Cynthia was highly interested in Xanthus' job and was planning to follow him to the university again the next day.

Raeleigh returned to her room after sitting on the balcony for a while.

Life was indeed full of surprises, just like Cynthia's.

She wondered how Cynthia's life would be had she not met Santiago. Would she still be interested in being a doctor if she had not met Xanthus?

Raeleigh was lying on the bed as she thought about her own life. Perhaps, life was predestined. If it weren't for those people's revenge on her parents, she wouldn't have met her grandmother, and that orphanage would not have been burnt down by the fire. Therefore, she felt that fate had already planned her life out for her.

She knew that she and Jepherson were destined to meet. She did not want to think too much about it. If everything was already written in the stars, there would be no meaning to life.

Raeleigh soon fell asleep. She had no idea that her grandmother had retreated into the room until the sound of her phone ringing jolted her awake. It was a call from Scarlett.

Raeleigh sat up in bed. Novalie asked her, "Who's calling at this hour? It almost scared the life out of me."

"It's Scarlett. I'll go out and answer the phone."

"Oh, I see."

Novalie was no longer mad when she heard that it was Scarlett. She closed her eyes and continued sleeping.

Raeleigh stepped out of the room and answered the phone. Scarlett was crying on the other end of the line. It took Raeleigh quite a while to figure out that Hadrian had found her.

"Don't cry. Calm down, and try to tell me everything," Raeleigh sat down on the sofa. Cynthia only decided to come out of the room when she heard Raeleigh.

Raeleigh briefly glanced over at Cynthia and mouthed, "It's Scarlett."

"What's wrong?" Cynthia frowned. Raeleigh shook her head and said, "I'm in the middle of asking her."

Scarlett cried for a long time before finally saying in between tears, "Hadrian locked me up in the room. He refuses to let me out."

"Then why are you crying?" Raeleigh knew that Scarlett was a person who did not give up easily. Although she was locked up, she knew that she would find a way to escape.

“He’s going to kill my landlord. What should I do?” Scarlett was worried about her landlord.

Raeleigh froze for a moment before muttering, “Do you have a new boyfriend?”

She knew that Scarlett was a person who liked to mess around. There was nothing wrong with that, but Hadrian would believe whatever she said.

“What should I do?” Scarlett was sobbing.

“I’ll call Santiago and see what he can do. Don’t cry. I doubt Hadrian will dare to actually kill your landlord. Where are you now?”

“I’m on Sicily Island.”

“That’s far! Don’t worry, I know what to do. Just stop crying.”

Raeleigh hung up the phone and immediately called Santiago. It was only when Santiago received her call that he suddenly remembered her and Cynthia.

“What’s up?” Santiago glanced at Jepherson who couldn’t help sitting upright in bed. Thankfully, Jepherson was already feeling much better.

“Hadrian found Scarlett and locked her up. He’s just gone to find her landlord, and she’s crying. She’s worried that something will happen. Can you please call Hadrian and tell him not to be so impulsive?” Raeleigh pleaded. Santiago glanced at Jepherson and put his phone on speaker so that he could hear what Raeleigh said.

“I can’t find Hadrian, but Jepherson can. Why don’t you come over and ask him?” Santiago suggested. Raeleigh was silent for a moment before she replied, “If so, please pass him the phone.”

“He’s not up yet. He’s still asleep,” Santiago lied.

Raeleigh was immediately rendered speechless.

She replied, “Fine, I’ll come over. But what happens if Hadrian has already beaten up the person?”

“He won’t, don’t worry. You better come over right now. Mind you, my brother’s life is hanging by a thread.”

After Santiago said that, he immediately hung up the phone.

“What did he say?” Cynthia asked. Raeleigh shook her head and sighed, “He’s not willing to help me. He asked me to go over and visit Jepherson. He even said that Jepherson was on the verge of death!”

To be honest, although Raeleigh did not believe in Santiago’s words, she was still a little worried.

Cynthia assured her, “Don’t worry. That won’t happen.”

“I think I should go over and have a look,” Raeleigh stood up. Although she did not want to go, she still could not help but change her clothes and head straight to the hospital. Xanthus was worried, so he offered to send her there.

Raeleigh walked into the hospital and made her way to Jepherson's ward. It was currently in the middle of the night, so she was not surprised to find all of the rooms pitch-dark. She had no idea whether she was at the right ward. It was only when she called Santiago to ask that he turned on the lights in the ward.

Jepherson, who was lying in bed, quickly sat up when he saw Raeleigh standing by the door.

"Come in," Jepherson immediately invited Raeleigh into the room before Santiago could say anything.

Raeleigh dawdled for a while, then pushed the door open and went in.

When Santiago saw Raeleigh, he stood up and pointed inside, saying, "Here, do sit down. If there's anything you need to say, you can tell him. He hasn't been in good condition these days. I'll go out and grab a pack of cigarettes."

With this, Santiago walked out and closed the door. Raeleigh watched as he left the ward so nonchalantly.

Raeleigh then walked over to check on Jepherson before sitting down.

Jepherson patted his bed and said, "Come and sit here."

"No, thanks. I'll just sit here. I'll leave as soon as I finish," Raeleigh answered curtly as she took a seat on the chair that Santiago had just vacated.

Jepherson stared at Raeleigh and said nothing.

After awhile, Raeleigh started talking, "I came here to talk about Scarlett and Hadrian."

Jepherson leaned against the head of the bed, "What about them?"

Raeleigh said, "Hadrian found Scarlett and locked her up in her room. I think there is misunderstanding between them."

"Not only that, Hadrian has gone to find her landlord to settle scores. She is worried that something bad is going to happen."

"So you want me to call Hadrian?" Jepherson asked. Raeleigh nodded in response.

Jepherson turned around and looked at his hand. After looking at it for a while, he said, "What's in it for me?"

Raeleigh did not expect Jepherson to ask such a question. She immediately fell quiet.

Jepherson looked at Raeleigh and requested, "If you stay here and accompany me for a day, then I will make the call."

Raeleigh clenched her teeth and said, "Isn't that a little too much?"

"I don't think so. I have been nothing but kind to you. I've only ever been cruel to myself," Jepherson said. Raeleigh couldn't see through his intentions. Why did he look so wronged now? Could she detect grief in those listless eyes that were looking at her?

“Fine, we have a deal. I’ll accompany you for a day. In the face of a threat, what can I do?” Raeleigh sneered. She finally saw through his true colours. He was a person who would do anything to achieve his goal.

Jepherson picked up the phone, refuting, “This is not a threat, it’s a test of loyalty!”

Raeleigh thought that he was being ridiculous, but she did not want to say anything in response to what he said. Instead, she just remained silent.

## **Chapter 1212**

To Raeleigh, the day passed as if it was a baby crawling to reach its goal. The feeling of time stretching itself was especially vivid when she had to spend time alone with Jepherson.

Fortunately, Jepherson kept his promise and made the call. In the end, Hadrian did listen to his words.

He felt a little thirsty after hanging up the phone and requested, “Can you please get me some water?”

Jepherson asked softly, his every word clear as day. They relayed no emotions, but when he looked into people’s eyes, there was a touch of tenderness.

Raeleigh got up and poured a glass of water for Jepherson. Then, she turned around and handed it to him. However, he did not reach out to accept it. Raeleigh then asked, “I thought you said you were thirsty?”

“Feed me,” Raeleigh was mind-blown by his words and almost dropped the glass in her hand. She may have a good temper and could deal with people teasing her, but...

Raeleigh had made a promise with him. Whatever the case was, she had to spend the entire day with him. It was going to be a long day.

Thus, she sat down and brought the glass to Jepherson’s mouth. Jepherson opened his mouth and took a sip of water. Then, he shook his head to indicate that it was enough. With that, Raeleigh took the glass away and handed him some paper towels, but he did not take it. He wanted her to wipe his mouth for him.

Raeleigh held the paper towel and gave it some thought before reaching out to help him wipe his mouth.

“What would you do if you found out that we’re brother and sister?” Jepherson looked up at Raeleigh. Finding it hilarious, she asked, “Why would we be brother and sister?”

Jepherson did not answer. Raeleigh sat back down on her chair and put the glass aside, asking, “Do you think I’m your sister?”

Raeleigh thought back to the time where she initially mistook Jepherson for her brother. A wave of sadness pummeled her.

Jepherson did not answer her question, nor did Raeleigh tell him how she would feel if they were siblings. In fact, the solution to this problem was simple. However, Raeleigh did not want to talk about this matter anymore because it reminded her of their dead baby.

If she had lost Jepherson, would she feel as painful as she did now?

She did not have the courage to experience loss again. Hence, she would rather continue making mistakes instead of letting him know that he was wrong.

“Answer me,” Jepherson could not wait and pressed her for an answer.

“If we were siblings, then I would acknowledge you as my brother,” She hoped that he would be satisfied with her answer.

Raeleigh’s heart seemed to have cracked open from the lack of love and care.

“But I don’t want to,” Jepherson had felt nothing but regret after losing their baby. However, it was too late, and this was the reason why he was so upset.

“What are you trying to say?” Raeleigh simply dragged the topic.

“I did an investigation on the orphanage and found out that you’re my sister,” Jepherson said slowly. He observed Raeleigh’s expression as he talked. Raeleigh’s face blanched. It was as if someone had stabbed a knife into her chest.

They all had made such a low-level mistake and immediately jumped to conclusions.

Raeleigh thought back to the first time where she wanted to terminate the pregnancy because she thought that Jepherson was her brother. She hated him when he asked her to terminate the pregnancy later on. Right now, she saw herself in Jepherson. What reason did she have to resent him now?

However...

How pathetic! She was the one who had brought this pain upon herself.

“So what?” Raeleigh sneered. Jepherson felt distressed and reached out to grab her, but she moved her hand out of the way.

“I need some time alone,” Raeleigh took this opportunity to stand up and sit on the other side of the room. When she sat down, she realised that she still couldn’t face Jepherson. So, she stood up again and left the room.

She closed the door and sat along the corridor. She did not speak for the whole day. Instead, she leaned against the wall and quietly reflected on their unborn baby who hadn’t had the chance to enter this world.

How cruel were they to have done such a thing! At first, his mother had wanted to kill him, and then his father had insisted on sacrificing him. He had done his best to hang on, but ended up dying unexpectedly because of his mother’s accident.

Raeleigh wondered if the baby had chosen a merciless death because he resented his useless mother and deemed her incompetent, forever giving up his rights to have lived out his life in happiness.

Raeleigh then stood up and started pacing back and forth along the corridor. Jepherson had no way to get up, but Santiago was sitting outside.

“Are you not going to tell him?” Santiago asked. Raeleigh shook her head and said, “I’m not.”

“You’re afraid that he’ll be sad?”

Raeleigh did not answer, but it was true.

A few moments later, Raeleigh decided to take a seat along the corridor and rest. She was woken up by Cynthia around eight o’clock the next morning.

“Raeleigh, I brought you some food. You can go back to sleep after eating.”

Cynthia was very worried. The weather outside was bad, and it was inappropriate for her to just fall asleep like this. That was why she woke Raeleigh up.

“Did I fall asleep here?” Raeleigh opened her eyes and looked around when she saw Cynthia. Santiago was no longer by her side.

“Santiago’s in the room talking to Jepherson. They’ve booked a flight to Sicily Island.”

Before Cynthia could finish her sentence, Raeleigh stood up, uttering, “Is that so?”

Cynthia also stood up, but she could not tell that Raeleigh wanted to leave.

“I’ve fulfilled my end of the bargain. I’ll head back home first,” Raeleigh was worried about Scarlett, but she had no plans to go and find her. Furthermore, Sicily Island was so far away.

After saying that, she turned around and walked towards the elevator before Cynthia could stop her. However, Cynthia could not just leave with her; she had to at least inform Santiago.

Cynthia was about to look for Santiago when he emerged from the room. By then, Raeleigh had already gotten into a taxi and left.

Raeleigh gave the taxi driver the address to her grandmother’s house. When she arrived home, Novalie did not say anything to her. Hence, she went straight back to her room and resumed sleeping.

A while later, Xanthus went to check on Raeleigh, but she was in such a deep sleep that she did not even open her eyes. Novalie sighed. “It’s all my fault. If it weren’t because of me, you guys could have left.”

“You’re wrong. If it weren’t because of you, I would not have been able to find Raeleigh.”

Novalie looked at Raeleigh and felt distressed. She knew that Raeleigh must have hit a dead end. Otherwise, she would not be acting like this.

When Raeleigh woke up, she pretended as if nothing had happened. Novalie watched as her granddaughter got out of bed and went to take a shower. After that, she put on a fresh set of clothes and was once again ready to head out again.

However, Raeleigh was stumped when she emerged from the room and saw Jepherson sitting in the living room.

“What are you doing here?” Raeleigh paused for a while before walking over. She did not sit down because she was planning to head out for class.

Xanthus had made breakfast. When he saw Raeleigh, he immediately went into the kitchen. Raeleigh followed behind him, after which Jepherson stood up and joined them as well.

However, Raeleigh stopped him before he could enter the kitchen.

“Don’t come in. It’s very smoky here. It’s not good for you.”

Raeleigh did not allow Jepherson to enter the kitchen. However, he refused to listen to her words. She could only sigh while eating, “Don’t come in. You’re going to make me lose my appetite.”

Jepherson then stopped in his tracks but still did not leave. Instead, he stood at the door waiting for her.

After Raeleigh finished her breakfast, she washed her dishes and then said to Xanthus, “Come on, let’s head over to the university.”

Xanthus subconsciously paused for a moment before agreeing, “Okay.”

With that, Raeleigh exited the kitchen, followed by Xanthus. At the door, Jepherson reached out for Raeleigh’s hand, calling out gently, “Raeleigh...”

“Let’s go. Don’t waste time,” Raeleigh pulled her hand back without looking back.

### **Chapter 1213**

“You do realize that he could’ve misconstrued your actions, right?” Xanthus continued as Raeleigh remained uncommunicative.

Xanthus also knew that Raeleigh had been through a rough time recently and that she refused to let any advice sink in.

There was no point in trying to talk her out of it.

Raeleigh stepped out of the car as soon as Xanthus pulled into a parking lot. Xanthus knew that everything was feasible as long as Jepherson was not mentioned in the process.

Their arrival at the campus saw them branching off into their separate ways. Xanthus reminded her to be careful.

Lowering her head, Raeleigh bore her gaze through the notebook in her hand. Then, she made her way to the lecture hall and knocked before entering. As soon as the lecturer gave her permission, she strolled in as naturally as possible.

Her body almost seized up the moment she set foot in the hall. Was that Jepherson Harvey?

At that moment, Jepherson was sporting a pair of black pants and a white shirt. He had his hands pressed against the table as he stood on the platform. Raeleigh could not believe her eyes: How in God’s name had he materialized where he should not have?

However, it was too late now. They exchanged glances, engrossed in their own thoughts.

Jepherson spoke first, “Oh, you’re late. Make sure you come earlier next time.”

Raeleigh pursed her lips. If her memory served her correctly, she and Xanthus had left the house before him. There hadn't been a traffic jam along the way, nor had they made any detour. But voila! Here he was, winning the race.

Raeleigh remained reticent. Jepherson swept his eyes across the room and said, "There is an empty seat in front of Santiago Harvey. Do claim it for yourself."

Raeleigh seemed to be immersed in an entirely different world from him as she remained despondent.

Jepherson watched as she trudged to the seat in a daze, asking, "Why, Miss Anson, are you okay?"

The last time she had daydreamed in class, he had punished her by making her stand outside of the class. She wondered if history would repeat itself this time.

In her defense, Jepherson could not punish her anymore.

Raeleigh suddenly came to her senses and was startled to see Jepherson. She stepped back and almost hit the table. Jepherson reacted quickly and grabbed her tightly, holding her in his arms.

Raeleigh raised her hands to push him away. She started to blush, her breathing ragged.

Jepherson immediately let go of Raeleigh when she pushed him away.

He stared deeply into her eyes, but his tone was soft as he spoke.

"Be careful now. You may return to your seat," After saying that, Jepherson went back to the podium. Raeleigh turned around and headed for her seat, her mind rattling as she tried to calm her senses down. Just when she finally felt a little calmer, Jepherson was halfway through his lecture.

Jepherson picked up a chalk and began writing on the blackboard. Raeleigh stared as he rolled up his sleeves and scribbled non-stop, nothing from the lesson registering in her mind.

Soon, the class was over. Raeleigh packed up her things and was about to leave the class. However, Jepherson stopped her. He said, "Raeleigh, follow me to my office. I doubt you listened to a single word I said during the entire lecture. I figure I should explain it to you."

After saying that, Jepherson turned around and left. Raeleigh was reluctant to follow him, but in the end she braced up and did as she was told.

She soon found herself standing outside of Jepherson's office, not wanting to enter. She mustered up an excuse, "I have something else waiting for me..."

"Are you afraid of me?" Jepherson walked towards Raeleigh. She was subsequently pushed against the wall.

"No, not at all. Honestly, I have something to do."

"Do you really? Or are you just trying to avoid me?" Jepherson asked, pleased with himself. Raeleigh found his actions hilarious. She hadn't gotten on his bad side, but he acted as if she had.

"Come in, will you," Jepherson grabbed Raeleigh's hand. She struggled for a moment before breaking free.



Just as Raeleigh was about to leave, Jepherson turned around and pulled her back into his office. Then, he slammed the door shut behind them. Raeleigh was pressed against the door. Taking a deep breath, she clamped her hands on his shoulders and grunted, "Consider yourself warned. Don't you forget what our actual relationship is."

There was a hint of sadness in Jepherson's eyes, but he did not let her go.

His face was a mask of anger and hatred as he snarled, "You've never believed my words, but why did you believe me when I told you that you are my sister?"

Ever so calm, Raeleigh stared at his cold handsome face and replied, "Because I know that it's the truth."

Jepherson snorted.

His face was taut with mockery. He lowered his head, but not to kiss her. Instead, he let out a sigh.

Raeleigh felt uneasy. She turned around and looked elsewhere. She did not dare to push him away. They were deadlocked. A few minutes later, Jepherson lowered his head and kissed her neck. Raeleigh was so scared that she shrunk back. She tried to push him away, but when executed, she felt as if her heart was breaking into two. She raised her head and just stared straight at him, gasping.

Jepherson could no longer keep his impulses on a leash. He opened his mouth to suck on Raeleigh's neck until she yelped.

Only then did he let go. He pulled Raeleigh over to his desk and drew the blinds closed. Then, he sat opposite Raeleigh, exchanging glances with her. Raeleigh felt uncomfortable as if she was sitting on pins and needles.

"Would you like to share with me what you have learned from my lesson just now?" Jepherson asked after a while. Raeleigh looked at him and knew that he came here to look for trouble. He was the vice president of the Harvey Group, and instead of heading to the office, he came here to impart a lesson to her. He had never done this in the past, so why the gusto now?

"I listened to every word of your lecture," Raeleigh wanted to leave Tristany, so she lied.

Jepherson laughed, "Oh, really? What did you learn?"

Raeleigh remained silent, laying bare the truth: she had not paid attention at all.

"Since you listened to every word, then why don't you tell me what you learned? You may leave after that," Jepherson was no longer irritable. He knocked on the table, took out a book and glanced at it before tossing it aside.

Raeleigh caught a glimpse of the book on the ground. Frankly, she had not paid attention in class, and was therefore unable to share anything.

However, she wanted to leave as soon as possible, so she said, "I don't really understand, sir. Would you mind explaining it again?"

Jepherson observed her carefully before leaning back in his chair, "Look, I can only start my lesson after you sit down. I'm not going to make you stand while I teach. Agreed?"

Raeleigh then sat down and waited for Jepherson to explain the entire lecture to her. However, he dilly-dallied in all his glory and took his lovely time to explain the lecture to her.

“Will you be coming tomorrow?” Jepherson asked useless questions as he flipped through the book nonchalantly.

Raeleigh said nothing and just looked at him with a poker face.

“Do you believe me when I say that I will strip naked in here?” Jepherson asked her. Raeleigh was amused. She challenged him to it, “Be my guest.”

Jepherson stood up and started unzipping his pants first. Then, he started unbuttoning his shirt, and then his cuffs. Just as he was about to take his shirt off, Raeleigh’s expression finally changed and she called out to him, “This is as far as you go.”

Jepherson propped his hands on the table and looked at her, “It agonizes me to know that you’re my sister. I am also sad that we had to terminate the pregnancy, but I can’t do anything about it because the damage has already been done. Raeleigh...”

Raeleigh stood up and made her way towards the door. Jepherson shouted at her, “Where can you go? Even if you reach the ends of the earth, the same blood will still flow in your body – the same blood as mine.”

“Bang!” Raeleigh slammed the door behind her and left determinedly.

## **Chapter 1214**

Raeleigh was rankled, but she was not angry. The way Jepherson had been acting was the same as she did previously. She really did not know how she could have been so stupid then.

And she felt a little distressed because of this.

However, there was nothing she could do about it. The baby was gone, and the snow globe that used to hold their mutual dreams had shattered. There was no way she could make peace with this.

After leaving Jepherson’s office, Raeleigh did not know where to go, so she simply went to find Xanthus.

When Xanthus saw Raeleigh, he froze for a moment. He roughly knew what had happened. Raeleigh went inside and found a place to sit, saying, “I want to stay here for a while.”

Xanthus poured a glass of water for Raeleigh. He sat beside her and asked, “He’s here, isn’t he?”

“He’s been insisting that I am his sister. He’s been digging up old memories, trying to reopen my old wounds. I can understand his feelings, but it is precisely because of this that whenever I see him, I feel like I am seeing myself in him. How am I to live with this truth?”

“If you can’t accept it, then don’t accept it. It’s okay,” Xanthus held Raeleigh’s hand, feeling guilty. He should have told her earlier. That way, they might have been able to keep the baby.

For Raeleigh, losing her child was more painful than dying.

She could have slowly forgotten about it, but Jepherson regretted it now. Desire and interweaved love was more important than the so-called noble bloodline that he once looked so highly upon. Hence, he began to involve Raeleigh instead.

If things continued on like this, Raeleigh would only get swallowed deeper into this whirlpool of hell.

Xanthus completely understood this state of limbo. On the one hand, she felt pained because of her child and was afraid to bring up anything related to that pain of hers. On the other hand, another sight of Jepherson meant another moment of misery.

If Jepherson had told her about their relationship earlier, or if he had said something sooner, she would have at least asked him to prove it to her. However, it was too late. The baby was gone and Jepherson was already blaming himself. If Jepherson was told that he and Raeleigh were not biological siblings and that he had ultimately made an irreversible mistake, he would only end up all the more devastated. Deep down, Raeleigh was worried that Jepherson would find out about it.

Xanthus held Raeleigh in his arms. He needed to come up with a solution as soon as possible. If this matter continued on, Raeleigh might not be able to take it anymore. It might be the catalyst to her downfall.

“Pull yourself together. Please. I’m sure we will find a way,” Xanthus continued, “That reminds me, it’s the holiday season now. Why don’t we bring Grandma with us and spend some time overseas?”

Xanthus could not think of a better solution. He let go of Raeleigh and added, “Why don’t we defer one semester and go abroad for a short getaway?”

Raeleigh was hesitant. Xanthus insisted, “Only for one semester. Who knows, maybe Grandma will like it abroad and ask to stay.”

“You are her only hope. If you are not happy, do you think she would be happy?”

Xanthus kept on talking, but Raeleigh did not answer him.

Not long after, Raeleigh was found by Jepherson.

“Can I come in?” Jepherson’s gaze was cold and fierce. He looked much like a predator hunting down his prey. Xanthus pretended to be polite, especially since he had his white coat on.

Xanthus had a polite smile on as he spoke in a gentle tone. When he saw Jepherson, Xanthus was not angry. After all, he was the one who did not make things clear before asking Raeleigh to terminate the pregnancy. As Raeleigh’s brother, he did not like men like Jepherson. A man should not make such a mistake.

However, they were in Capital City, Jepherson’s territory. He could not fight Jepherson head-on, therefore...

He had to be polite.

Cynthia looked at him from behind. Xanthus smiled at her as assurance. Then, Santiago raised his hand and touched Cynthia’s face, coaxing, “Let’s go outside. It’s hot in here.”

“All right,” Cynthia was not young, but she was in the same class as her brother Flynt.

Fortunately, Flynt had transferred schools. Otherwise, it would have been humiliating.

Santiago turned around and brought Cynthia out of the room. Outside, he found a very quiet place under a tree and told Cynthia, “I am planning to bring you abroad to have your scar removed. We may be gone for a long time.”

“Must we go?” Cynthia was a little reluctant to leave this place. She did not want to leave her friends.

“You’re a woman. You will not look good with a scar on your body. If you don’t have it removed, it might be hard for you to find a husband in the future,” Santiago jumped and snapped a branch off from the tree.

Cynthia stared at Santiago. She knew that the relationship between her and Santiago was like that of a brother and sister, and not love between a man and a woman.

“I’m not sure if I’d be lucky enough to meet someone who won’t judge me by my outer appearance,” Cynthia clasped her hands together and stared at Santiago, who had his back to her. Santiago’s face had a hint of a smile. He turned around to look at her and chuckled, “Don’t be silly. There isn’t such a man in this world. Men usually fall in love at first sight, and that’s usually what works for them.”

Cynthia sighed in response, “Look at these flowers. No one likes an ugly flower. People always want the beautiful ones.”

“But I want the person to like me because we share the same interest, not because of my looks.”

Santiago responded, “But I still think that looks are very important. I mean, it’s a good thing that you capture a man with your beauty. Then, you can use your intelligence and elegance to conquer this man. Have him wrapped around your little finger.”

It was then Cynthia understood that it was time for them to separate. Although they were reluctant to part, all good things must come to an end.

“Well, then I’ll go abroad and have my scar removed. After that, I will come back and do what I’ve always wanted to do.”

Cynthia had always known what she wanted, it was just that no one had believed in her.

That same afternoon, Santiago bought a flight ticket abroad. Cynthia followed Santiago to bid their farewell to Raeleigh. It was only then that she learned about their plans. Yet, she had her hands full just dealing with Jepherson.

“You’re leaving?” Raeleigh got up from the inside and pulled Cynthia into the room. Cynthia sat down and began to explain everything to her.

“I want to stay with Raeleigh tonight,” Cynthia told Santiago. Santiago immediately answered, “I’ll keep you company then.”

With that, both the Harvey brothers spent the night at Raeleigh’s.

Xanthus did not protest. However, it was then that he came to a decision: he would leave with Raeleigh.

## Chapter 1215

Raeleigh and Cynthia spent the whole night in a tete-a-tete. They talked until Cynthia ended up crying.

“Raeleigh, if I leave and never come back again, will you miss me?”

Raeleigh thought for a long time before answering her question, “I will definitely miss you. You are one of my besties, aside from Scarlette.”

“What about Deanna? Isn’t she your best friend too?” Cynthia asked as she brushed her tears away. Raeleigh shook her head and said, “You don’t understand Deanna. She’s very naive and doesn’t know what love is. Sometimes, I feel like she’s still a kid. She is willful and self-centered, but she’s also very kind-hearted.”

“Deanna would never befriend someone like me. Of course, I do treat her as my friend, but she’s still very immature. You have to treat her like a kid.”

“Deanna is indeed a little immature, but I feel that she’s changed after meeting Jacky. Though she still seems a little out of it and knows nothing,” Cynthia laughed. She had already studied Deanna’s recent behaviour.

Raeleigh also chimed, “I think Jacky is a very frank person. He’s very patient as well. If I were Deanna, I would be very happy.”

Raeleigh was not good at observing people, but for some reason, she was very confident with her evaluation of Jacky. She felt that Deanna was the luckiest among them.

“I really hope that I still have a chance to come back, but I won’t have any if I leave. If I come back, the Cole family will not let me go. I’m sure they will not let Santiago go either. I don’t want to cause trouble. I want to live a peaceful life. One day when we’re old, I hope you still keep me in your thoughts by then.”

“Cynthia, I will always remember you. I will visit you when you come back.”

“Positive?”

“Of course!”

Then, Cynthia kept quiet and lay beside Raeleigh. She reached out for Raeleigh’s hand and the two fell asleep together.

Cynthia’s flight was the next morning. Santiago simply packed their suitcases and was ready to leave.

Raeleigh and Xanthus saw them off, and so did Jepherson and Stuart. In the end, Deanna and Zorion came as well.

Deanna cried so hard and refused to let go of Cynthia’s hand.

“You must come back,” Deanna did not know what had happened. However, she had a feeling that Cynthia’s departure heralded an end to their friendship: she would leave and never come back.

Deanna hugged Cynthia and wept for a while. Cynthia even took out her favourite keychain and gave it to Deanna.

“This is one of my favourite belongings that I bought using my own savings. I’m giving this to you now. It’s very beautiful,” Cynthia handed the keychain to Deanna, who studied the keychain carefully. It was made of yellow crystal and was indeed very pretty.

“It’s beautiful! Thank you, Cynthia.”

Cynthia embraced Deanna and looked at Raeleigh. Then, she handed a pen to Raeleigh, saying, “This is the pen I used to write my notes in class. I will not be using it anymore. I was planning to keep it until I was old, but I did not expect to go abroad so soon. I have no idea when I will return. Raeleigh, do you mind keeping this for me?”

Raeleigh looked at the pen and took out her own, laughing, “I don’t know whether it’s a coincidence or not, but we have the same pen. Why don’t you take mine instead?”

With that, she handed her pen to Cynthia. Raeleigh had a hunch that Cynthia would not be gone for long. She knew that Cynthia would return soon, and their paths would cross once again.

Cynthia accepted the pen and said, “Thank you, I’ll cherish this.”

“Bon voyage.”

“Thank you.”

Deanna pondered for a long time, wondering what to give to Cynthia. She did not bring anything. Hence, she took off her necklace and presented it to Cynthia, “This is for you.”

Zorion was a little upset. He was the one who had gifted her the necklace.

Cynthia accepted it and thanked her. Santiago, who was standing beside the girls, walked over to Raeleigh. After looking at Raeleigh for a while, he reached out and hugged her, murmuring, “Take care of yourself. No matter what happens, you must be patient. Do not act impulsively. Don’t forget to call me and wait for me to come back.”

Raeleigh looked up slowly. Santiago had brought his lips to her ear and whispered to her. They locked gazes for a while, no one saying anything. A while later, Santiago let go of her.

Raeleigh gave it some thought and replied, “Have a safe trip.”

“Don’t forget to call me,” Santiago glanced at Jepherson instead, “Take care of her.”

“Safe travels,” Jepherson bid.

The two brothers looked at each other tacitly. After that, Santiago turned around and walked towards the boarding gate with one hand holding the suitcase and the other holding Cynthia’s hand.

Cynthia kept on glancing around the airport while walking, but she saw no signs of Flynt.

Even when they arrived at the boarding gate, Flynt was nowhere to be seen. Therefore, she turned around and followed Santiago onto the plane.

After Cynthia left, Raeleigh turned around and walked over to Xanthus. She held his arm and dragged him away.

Jepherson walked over to stop them. Raeleigh looked up with a firm gaze and repeated herself, "I have already made it clear to you: we are done, finished."

"You're my employee. Our company rules state that you are not allowed to have a boyfriend before you graduate."

This was the final trick he had up his sleeve.

Stuart really admired how ruthless Jepherson was.

He wondered since when did the company have such a rule.

In fact, he knew that Jepherson had clearly made that up.

Raeleigh scoffed, "Funny. I don't remember reading that in the contract."

"I'm adding it into the contract right now," Jepherson looked gloomy. Almost everyone around was looking at them. Just then, Deanna stomped towards them and stood in front of Raeleigh protectively. She looked up and frowned, "Jepherson, I think you're getting carried away with this. Although things did not work out between the two of you, you can still be friends. Why must you do this?"

"Whatever I do is my business," Jepherson said, refusing to back down. Deanna couldn't bear it, so she pulled Raeleigh by the hand and wanted to leave. Zorion immediately said, "Deanna, we have something else to do. Let's go first."

"Zorion, can you please help Raeleigh?" Deanna rushed over to Zorion and tugged on his hand. Zorion sighed, "Don't stick our nose where it doesn't belong. We should leave."

Zorion turned around and led Deanna away. Deanna kept looking over her shoulder, but nothing she did now could change what was about to happen.

Jepherson waited for Zorion and Deanna to leave. Then, he briefly glanced at his watch before asking Xanthus, "Dr. Osteen, do you not have anything to do today?"

"I'm going to hand in my resignation letter," Xanthus replied curtly.

"You're going to, but you haven't. Why, it means you mustn't neglect your duty. Dr. Osteen, I hope you know your responsibilities."

Jepherson spoke in a demeaning tone. Consequently, Raeleigh was boiling with anger.

"Xanthus, you should go. I'll be fine," Raeleigh loosened her grip on Xanthus' hand. Xanthus was worried about her and wanted to wait for her, but was stopped by Jepherson.

"I have a meeting scheduled. Follow me," Jepherson turned around and made his way out of the airport. Raeleigh's heart throbbed with pain as she watched him walk away.

"How much longer am I going to continue hurting like this?" She thought to herself.

**Chapter 1216**

In the end, Raeleigh followed Jepherson out of the airport. Just then, she suddenly stopped in her tracks. Stuart lowered his head and tried to convince Raeleigh, "Miss Raeleigh, Mr. Jepherson does not have any bad intentions. He's just jealous. If you can keep your distance from Xanthus, he will stop acting this way."

Raeleigh did not say anything because she did not know whether it was true. Since she was his subordinate, he had every reason to make things difficult for her.

Meanwhile, Jepherson waited in his car, his patience running thin. Then, he turned around to look at Raeleigh. Stuart gasped and immediately said, "Miss Raeleigh, after you."

Raeleigh then entered the car and followed Jepherson to the company.

She remained silent during the entire journey. For more than once Jepherson stole glances at her from the rearview mirror, but she did not even look at him once.

Jepherson felt a flicker of irritation. The more Raeleigh did not respond to him, the more furious he was. There was a storm brewing in his eyes.

Jepherson clenched his jaw at the thought of Xanthus and his tenderness towards her.

All the while, Stuart was sitting in front, his palm beading with sweat. If this continued on, it would be a recipe for an ensuing doom.

Soon, they arrived at the Richard's Group headquarters. Stuart hurriedly got out of the car and opened the door for Jepherson. After Jepherson got out of the car, Raeleigh opened the other door and got out as well.

Raeleigh walked around the car and waited for Jepherson. He wanted to reach out for her hand, but she kept her hands behind her back, refusing to let him touch her.

Jepherson approached her and stared at her, his gaze deep and unwavering.

Raeleigh wanted nothing more than to leave. Jepherson then asked, "Okay, so you want me to carry you in."

Raeleigh glared at Jepherson and shot back, "Oh, yeah? You can shove it. I am merely one of your employees."

"But I don't mind treating you like a queen," After that, Jepherson bent over and wanted to gather her in his arms, but she took a couple steps backwards. He then shot her a warning look, as if telling her not to act rashly. After doing so, he still approached her, but not to carry her. Instead, he gave his hand to her and said, "You have two options. Pick one."

Raeleigh looked down at Jepherson's once gentle hand. It was not until this moment that she realised that love was actually a double-edged sword. In the end, both parties would get hurt.

With that, she gave her hand to Jepherson. The moment their hands touched, Raeleigh's heart trembled slightly. No one forced them into it; it was their fault for what happened. They not only hurt themselves, but also the people around them. However, it was too late to do anything now for their baby was gone.



As soon as Raeleigh extended her hand towards him, Jepherson immediately held it and strained a smile, "For once, you actually did not rebel."

Raeleigh froze. It was not until this moment that she realised how hideous Jepherson's bitter smile was.

She knew that he was forcing it. Jepherson immediately held her hand and did not wait for her answer. He turned around and led her into the office.

Stuart shook his head yet again. He knew that Jepherson was wrong beyond words to be doing this.

He was afraid that Jepherson would not be able to find a way out of this.

One of Jepherson's subordinates came out to talk to him as soon as he entered the door. He had an important meeting he needed to attend later, but he had yet to have breakfast.

As soon as Jepherson arrived at his office, he immediately called for a takeout while Raeleigh sat quietly on the couch. Jepherson took off his coat before taking a seat at his desk. He then turned on the computer and briefly scrolled through the news before going through a few documents.

Jepherson skimmed through the agenda of the meeting and it was not long before his breakfast was delivered. He got up and went to the door, opening it to allow Stuart to push the cart full of food in. Then, he asked Stuart to go downstairs and wait for him. After closing the door, he pushed the cart to the front of Raeleigh, only to realise that she had fallen asleep. Raeleigh was exhausted after not sleeping a wink the night before and sending off Cynthia at the airport this morning.

Jepherson sat down and waited for her to wake up. He sat there and took in her sleeping face. However, it did not seem like she was waking up anytime soon, so he went to grab his coat and cover her with it. Then, he stood up and made his way to the conference room for his meeting.

By the time Raeleigh woke up, it was already afternoon. When she opened her eyes, she realised that there was no one in the room. The coat that was covering her had slipped to the floor. She bent down and picked it up. She studied her surroundings before it registered with her that she was in Jepherson's office.

When she saw no one in the room, she stood up and ambled to the door.

Jepherson's office door was left ajar, so Raeleigh did not think that there would be anyone guarding the door. Sure enough, she was right.

Since there was no one guarding the door, her escape would be unencumbered.

It wasn't long before she arrived downstairs. She initially thought that she had successfully made her great escape but little did she know, there was a function ongoing at the lobby. Downstairs, all the experienced designers of the company were chatting with each other. Raeleigh came out of the elevator only to meet Jepherson's glare. It was only then she understood why there wasn't anyone upstairs.

Raeleigh did not say anything when she saw Jepherson. Instead, Stuart was the one who took a few steps forward and whispered something in her ear. Raeleigh briefly looked at him before walking towards Jepherson. Then, she said politely, "Sorry, I'm late."

No one spoke. Jepherson glanced at Raeleigh with his tender eyes and said, "You may continue."

The designer continued to discuss the design of the car. Raeleigh then spotted her mentor, Lamarre, in the crowd. Hence, she walked over and greeted him.

Lamarre was a person who adored his disciples. When he saw Raeleigh, he immediately started discussing the design of the car and its flaws.

Raeleigh initially felt dispirited, but as soon as Lamarre started talking about the car, she felt a surge of energy coursing through her body.

Jepherson, who was standing not far away from her, would occasionally glance over at her from time to time. However, Raeleigh's attention was always on the car.

Before the function ended, Jepherson raised his hand and clapped twice, commanding everyone's attention. He then announced that he was going to treat them to a meal today.

Everyone was taken aback. Although Jepherson was known to be generous, this was the first time he had invited them to dinner.

For more than a year since Jepherson had been in the company, everyone had already found out that he was not a fan of social events.

Although Calvin was the president of the company, everyone knew that Jepherson had long since proved his worth. That was why Calvin was willing to let him run the company. Besides, it was said that Calvin was a sucker for his wife, so he wanted to drop all his responsibilities and bring her for a honeymoon. He had always wanted his son to take over the company, and this was the perfect opportunity to do so. He was not about to let this slide.

After Jepherson had taken over the company, things were much more flexible. He was quite nice to his employees, his only demerit being his short fuse.

Therefore, the employees wondered why he was suddenly eager to buy them dinner.

However, it was a gospel known to all that Jepherson was not in the right frame of mind today. From the moment he arrived downstairs, he kept staring at the elevator. Anyone with discerning eyes would know that he had been expecting Raeleigh.

Once she showed up, he hadn't been able to take his eyes off her. This was a story of his life plain to the onlookers but not to himself.

This meal must have been for her.

## **Chapter 1217**

Raeleigh had not intended to go, but Lamarre succeeded in persuading her. When they arrived at the restaurant, she sat right next to Lamarre; she was his apprentice, after all. Besides, he adored her because of her talent.

Lamarre knew that something must have happened between Jepherson and Raeleigh. Despite being an old nut, he knew a thing or two about young love.

As soon as Raeleigh sat down, the two began to engage in conversation. The only person she was close to in the company was Lamarre. Their topics always revolved around car designs.

No one would nor could chime in.

When all the dishes were served, Jepherson handed Raeleigh some utensils before pouring some juice into her glass. He then poured a glass of wine and handed it to Lamarre. Jepherson wasn't planning to drink that day, but he poured a glass of wine for himself anyway.

Once the food was served, Jepherson picked up his glass and took a sip of wine. He sat on the other side of Raeleigh. The only person who dared to talk to Jepherson was Lamarre. The others were afraid of him. They did not even dare to breathe.

Raeleigh ate quietly. Halfway through the meal, she excused herself from the table to make a phone call to Xanthus to inform him that she would not be coming home for dinner.

Xanthus was waiting for Raeleigh at home, and when he realised that she was not home yet, he immediately knew that she was most probably not going to come home for dinner. However, he still waited for her to call home to inform him.

It was normal for a brother to worry about his sister. Although he knew what she was going to say, he still wanted to hear her say it.

When Xanthus finally received her call, he reminded her to be careful and not to imbibe any alcohol. Before he hung up the phone, he asked her for her location, in case she got lost.

After hanging up, Raeleigh emerged from the toilet cubicle only to find Jepherson standing by the entrance. Stunned, she asked, "How in the world did you get in?"

"What do you mean how did I get in?" Jepherson was amused by her question as he looked towards the door where Stuart was standing. The effects of the alcohol started to kick in. He then pulled her into the cubicle and lowered his head to kiss her, which she refused.

Raeleigh tried to push him away but to no avail. Jepherson held her and said in a slurred voice, "I'm all worn out. I want to go home and rest."

Raeleigh did not answer. She raised her eyes slowly. What could be more ironic than the two of them in life? Their love for each other were reciprocated, yet they wanted each other dead.

Jepherson hugged her for a while before finally letting her go. Raeleigh immediately stumbled towards the door and left without looking back.

Jepherson slowly turned around and watched as she vanished from the restroom. He knew that there was a knot in her heart, and for that alone, she would never forgive him.

After relieving himself, Jepherson stood in front of the mirror for a while. He washed his hands and exited the restroom in search of Raeleigh. Meanwhile, Raeleigh was gaping at a young man before her. He was holding a glass of red wine, harassing her into drinking some.

Jepherson's expression suddenly darkened. Raeleigh obviously knew the man was drunk. She was aware that alcohol could make a person feel stronger and more fTristaness.

Raeleigh repeatedly refused the offer to drink, but the man was having none of it. He held out the glass for her and waited for her to chug it.

Raeleigh was a little agitated, but she did not want to make a scene.

Lamarre had gone out to answer a phone call.

She had no idea whether he had already left or if he was still talking on the phone. She had wanted to check on him, but was stopped by this interloper.

Raeleigh looked at him and squeezed out a wry smile. Jepherson had left his seat for a few minutes, and almost everyone was drunk.

For some people, their rationality was compromised once drunk.

And one of those people was this man in front of Raeleigh.

Jepherson strode over to Raeleigh. When the man saw Jepherson, he immediately trembled with fear and retreated.

The people around them all lowered their heads. Jepherson dragged Raeleigh up to her feet and glanced at the half sober man. He declared through gritted teeth, "From tomorrow onwards, you don't have to come to work anymore!"

After saying that, he grabbed Raeleigh by the waist and walked toward the door.

Raeleigh did not know what to do. In the end, she chose to compromise.

As soon as they stepped out from the restaurant, Raeleigh immediately shook herself out of Jepherson's embrace and stood aside. Emptied of a Raeleigh-shaped figure, he looked over at her. Although he was somewhat unhappy, he did not yell.

However, his face remained somewhat serious as he said, "You're not allowed to leave my embrace in the future."

Raeleigh froze for a moment. She could hear the pain in Jepherson's voice.

Jepherson immediately bent down and got into the car. After he got in, he patted the seat next to him and said, "C'mon, hop in."

Raeleigh looked around and realised that there weren't any cars around because it was already quite late at night. She had no choice but to enter his car.

She bent down and got into the car, still keeping her distance from him.

Jepherson's gaze fell on Raeleigh. Then, he closed his eyes and leaned back in his seat. The street lights mottled his face as the car navigated through the streets. Raeleigh observed him, but only from the window's reflection.

He was exhausted. She could tell by his heavy breathing.

When the car finally stopped, Raeleigh realised that they were at the Harvey Group Manor.

Stuart opened the door and invited Raeleigh to get out of the car, but she did not. She looked at Jepherson and insisted, "Send me home, please."

"Would you please come out of the car? This will be your home, sooner or later," Jepherson stared at her from outside the car. Raeleigh did not share his views for the Richard Groups Manor was Jepherson's home, not hers.

Raeleigh refused to get out of the car, so Jepherson had no choice but to drag her out of it. With a tense face, she snarled, "I don't like that you keep forcing me."

"Then stop making me force you."

After saying that, Jepherson dragged her out of the car and into the Harvey Group Manor. He led her towards the Fragrance Garden.

Raeleigh had been to the Harvey Group Manor a handful of times. She knew where the Ink Garden was, but this was her first time visiting the Fragrance Garden. Her breath was taken by the scenes inside.

Raeleigh was indifferent to everything, and nothing could surprise her.

However, this time, she thought that everything in front of her was indescribably beautiful.

Jepherson walked inside the Fragrance Garden and ordered the servants to leave them alone. He led Raeleigh to one of the bedrooms, pushed the door open, and entered.

Raeleigh stood outside the door. She was sure that this was the master bedroom.

Jepherson set foot inside. When he realised that Raeleigh wasn't following him, he turned around to look at her. Raeleigh stood there for a while before realising how cavernous and luxurious the room was.

"This is your room," Jepherson said as he turned on all the lights in the room. Suddenly, everything in front of them lit up. Raeleigh carefully surveyed the room. She sighed when she realised how beautifully decorated the room was. The person must have put in a lot of effort into decorating this room.

Unfortunately, she was not the person for him. She was destined to let him down!

## **Chapter 1218**

Raeleigh surveyed the room before asking, "Do I have to stay the night?"

"I'll stay here with you." Jepherson took off his coat and put it away before making his way into the bathroom. Raeleigh stood there, dumbfounded. Jepherson began stripping out of his clothes even before closing the door. After Jepherson emerged from the bathroom, he quickly changed into his pajamas. He then lifted the quilt and got into bed. Raeleigh, who was sitting on the couch, asked, "What are you doing?"

"Catching some rest." Jepherson wanted nothing more than to sleep.

After a while, Raeleigh said, "I want to go home."

"Raeleigh... I don't want you to leave."

“We’re-”

“Just two people together.”

Jepherson did not want to hear anything else from Raeleigh. All he longed for was just to be with her. He could not watch her be with other men; it made him feel terribly insecure.

A few moments later, Raeleigh sprung to her feet, saying, “No, I can’t be with you.”

She spun around, ready to leave. However, as soon as she opened the door, she came face-to-face with Stuart who greeted her politely. It was then she knew she would not be able to leave that night. So, she turned around and went back into the room.

She found Jepherson already lying in the bed, observing her as he waited for her.

Raeleigh stood motionless for a moment before walking towards the couch.

Stuart closed the door and locked it from the outside.

Raeleigh then took out her phone and called Xanthus to inform him that she would not be coming home.

After hanging up, she decided to catch up on some news. This was the only thing she could do since leaving was not an option.

However, Jepherson soon got up from the bed and stopped in front of Raeleigh. He bent down and pulled her into his arms before leading her towards the bed.

Raeleigh writhed as she was enveloped in his arms. However, he was much stronger than she was. She was a woman, after all.

When they got to the bed, Jepherson tucked her in and said with a serious face, “Stop struggling or I won’t be able to control myself.”

Raeleigh immediately stopped moving.

Jepherson looked at her face and frowned. “Attagirl.”

Raeleigh had never seen his expression do a turnaround that quickly before. The coldness in his face was immediately replaced with tenderness.

After kissing Raeleigh on her forehead, Jepherson flipped onto his side and laid down beside her. He held her hand and closed his eyes.

Raeleigh felt all the old memories resurfacing, sending shivers of discomfort down her spine.

“I watched my mother fall from the cliff, and at that moment, I felt the earth beneath my feet shift. At the time, I hoped that I could have been with her when she fell, but I wasn’t. I was taken away.”

“I had been very excited that I was going to have a baby sister. However, when we finally reunited with my mother, I realized that her stomach was flat.”

“My sister was gone.”

Jepherson kept holding on to Raeleigh's hand as he fell into slumber, his muttering trailing off. Raeleigh did not sleep until the wee hours of the morning. She stayed up and watched him sleep.

However, when Raeleigh was finally claimed by sleep, Jepherson woke up again and pulled her into his arms before resuming his slumber.

Before Raeleigh could open her eyes, she heard a noise outside. She could make out someone talking outside. With her eyes open, she listened to the voices as attentively as she could. When she was sure that it was Madam Paige, she immediately jolted awake.

Jepherson, who had been sleeping beside her, was naked from the waist up. Raeleigh looked at Jepherson's back and immediately started to blush. She had no idea when Jepherson had taken off his clothes.

"When did Jepherson return?" Paige sounded angry. Her voice was so sharp that it could pierce through a person's bones. Though Raeleigh had just been blushing furiously, her heart pounding in her chest, all giddiness ebbed away in an instant.

She turned to look at the door. Although a door separated them, Raeleigh could imagine the look on Madam Paige's face.

"Last night, Madam Paige," the servant reported, her voice trembling out of fear. Although Jepherson treated everyone well, he wasn't home as often. Thus, no one could stand up for the servants in his absence.

Paige's face turned pale. "What a bunch of good-for-nothings. Mr. Jepherson has been led astray, yet you're still trying to keep this under wraps. Let's wait and see how I will deal with all of you later."

"Madam Paige, please calm down."

"Oh, whatever! Go get Mr. Jepherson."

Paige sat on the couch along the corridor. She decided to save herself the trouble by not barging into the room – though if it was any other day, she would not have given that a second thought.

Furthermore, she was getting old. If she had been younger, things would have been different.

The servant did not dare disobey her. She hurriedly knocked on the couple's door before entering. Inside, came Jepherson's frosty voice. "Let's see who dares enter this room."

The servant trembled in fear once more. She could not afford to offend either party.

Paige sounded, "Then get yourself out here."

There was no movement in the room. Raeleigh had already gotten dressed and was out of the bed. She initially did not want to interfere with the Harvey family affairs. However, she was forced to spend the night here. In the past, she would have stayed out of it, but the times were a-changing.

Since she was no longer in a relationship with Jepherson, she had little care to give.

Raeleigh looked at Jepherson, coldness spilling from her eyes.

Jepherson only made a move to get up when she was about to leave.

When he saw Raeleigh walking towards the door, he immediately got out of bed, revealing his bare chest.

Jepherson didn't use to be like this. He would always make sure to get dressed before doing anything, but things had changed.

As soon as he got out of bed, the room was immediately filled with morning breath. He looked disheveled and crude, even.

Raeleigh couldn't be bothered. She immediately pushed the door open and went out, ready to go home.

However, soon as she emerged from the room, everyone's eyes nTristany popped out of their sockets. It was only then that Raeleigh noticed something was wrong. By the time she realized what it was, it was too late. She turned around and saw Jepherson in all his disheveled glory.

Shock pinned Raeleigh in place. She knew Jepherson all too well. No matter how uncomfortable he felt, he wouldn't have dressed like this. What in the world was happening?

Raeleigh fixed her eyes on Jepherson. She would have been petrified if not for Paige's cold voice.

"A woman who stoops this low to seduce a man is trashy at best."

Raeleigh froze for a moment. The voice behind her shot through her body like a knife. Raeleigh immediately turned around to look her in the eye.

"Did she just call me... cheap?" Raeleigh thought to herself.

Raeleigh stared into Paige's icy eyes and sarcastic face, and she lapsed into silence. She was curious to know what else a noble woman like her had to say to degrade her status.

Sure enough, Paige continued, "Did you not hear me the first time? You're a cheap, trashy woman, through and through!"

## **Chapter 1219**

Raeleigh stared at Paige as the color drained from her face. Ever since she was a little girl, she had heard countless unpleasantries, but Paige's words were the most horrible ones she had ever heard to date.

As Raeleigh was a sensible person who had basic manners, she knew to respect the elders.

Thus, even though Raeleigh did not like Paige and knew that she was using her status to belittle her, Raeleigh would still behave politely.

However, on that day...

Raeleigh had no idea why Jepherson did not defend her, but she decided that she was no longer going to endure Paige's verbal abuse anymore.

There was a limit to one's patience. Furthermore, respect was earned and not given. This was what Novalie taught Raeleigh ever since she was little.



Novalie knew that Raeleigh was a smart girl. She would think twice before she acted and always stayed away from trouble.

That was why she kept reminding Raeleigh when she could, and she was worried that Raeleigh would have gotten taken advantage of.

Nevertheless, Raeleigh never recalled her grandmother's words. As respect worked both ways, she was not going to respect someone who did not show her the same decency. Her patience had reached its limit and Paige had crossed the line for the last time.

Raeleigh fixed her eyes on Paige. "I did not ask you for your opinion! Just because you look good on the outside does not mean you're not rotten on the inside. There are people who can't afford clothes, but have a heart of gold."

Kindness came from within.

There are some who know that regardless of their age, if they see an elderly person crossing the road, they should run up to help them.

While there are others who are aged, but like to flaunt their seniority and find joy in belittling people perceived to be inferior to them.

Although these people may appear royally noble on the outside, they are actually rotten-hearted.

Who in the world would want to be poor when they can be rich?

However, I don't care how rich you are because I don't want anything from you. No matter how well you dress, it will not stop you from aging or getting ill and in the end, dying. It will not stop you from being lonely.

With no husband, children nor grandchildren by your side.

This house might be big, but you're the only one living in it. Just because you have people serving you does not make this place feel like home.

However...

You are old and you want to hear people saying nice things to you. But do you realize that no one is ever sincere to you? That's because they are afraid of you. They specifically say nice things to make you happy. It's like coaxing a dog.

They will get you anything you want, but have you ever thought about whether they've ever spat in your food?

In fact, you live a very sad life. You lie alone in bed every night, trying to come up with ways on how to make people feel inferior.

You like to control other people's life. You even control your son's and your grandson's lives.

Unfortunately, no one cares about you. You're just making a fool of yourself."

Everyone in the room was stunned by Raleigh's long, honesty laced speech. On the other hand, Paige was quivering with anger. As she raised her hand and pointed at Raleigh, she was wordless with rage. Then, she looked over at Jepherson who was just standing there, not saying a word.

Paige's husband was a sore topic for her. In fact, it was not that they fell out of love. Her husband just did not agree with her coming here. Hearing Raleigh mention it ignited fiery anger within her.

Raleigh remained unmoving. She swept her eyes across the entire room and looked at everyone, including Jepherson, who was standing beside her with a look of anger on his face. Even if she was angry, she should not have said such words. Was she trying to piss Paige off?

Jepherson knew that Raleigh felt wronged and was unhappy. However, her behaviour was unacceptable.

At this moment, it was best for Jepherson to remain silent. He knew trouble awaited if he were to say something.

Paige flew off the handle and pointed at Raleigh with rage. Soon after, she passed out.

"Madam Paige, Madam Paige..."

A group of servants hurriedly rushed over to her but Raleigh was still looking at them indifferently. In a haste, Jepherson ran over to his grandmother and gathered her in his arms. Then, he shot a glance at Raleigh without saying a word before immediately rushing out the door and straight to the hospital.

After everyone left, Stuart stared at Raleigh and wondered what she had been thinking.

Not bothered by the incident, Raleigh took one last look around and left.

Things were better off this way as she knew that Paige would despise her even more after this. She did not mind it at all, as this was a great opportunity for her and Jepherson to have a smooth, clean break.

Raleigh went out the door and tried to hail a taxi. Stuart offered to give her a ride but she refused. Thankfully, she managed to get a taxi and left.

Just as the taxi pulled up to her building, she saw Xanthus standing at the door, waiting for her. Hurriedly, she paid the taxi driver before getting off and walking towards Xanthus.

"Sorry for worrying you."

"It's my responsibility to worry about you. Have you had breakfast?" Xanthus placed an arm around Raleigh's shoulder as they walked. Raleigh shook her head. Thus, Xanthus led her back to the house and made breakfast. As Novalie knew that her granddaughter wanted a clean break from Jepherson, she brought up the topic of wanting to go abroad during breakfast.

At first, Raleigh was reluctant to hear her out as Novalie was getting old. If something happened to her, Raleigh would not forgive herself.

With that, Raleigh did not agree with the idea of going abroad and just stared at her grandmother. However, Novalie asked that she reconsider.

After breakfast, Xanthus drove Raeleigh to the university. On the way, he asked Raeleigh whether she was worried that Jepherson would show up again. When she heard the question, she immediately told him what happened earlier at the Harvey Group Manor.

Xanthus nTristany hit the side of the curb when he heard about the incident. The driver behind them had even cursed at Xanthus.

Raeleigh looked over at Xanthus and said, "I feel like sometimes, people think I'm an easy target. I don't really talk much when I'm around Scarlett and Deanna. That's probably why people like taking advantage of me, but Deanna and Scarlett would always stand up for me. However, when I'm not around them, I'm different."

"Especially when people insult me."

With her hand supporting her cheek, Raeleigh sat in the front passenger seat, looking helpless.

Xanthus stared at Raeleigh for a while before saying, "You and your mother are quite alike. Both of you sigh the same way."

Raeleigh raised her gaze. "Are we really?"

"Yes, very much so..."

At the mention of his mother, a look of tenderness unconsciously flashed across his eyes. "Both of you are foolish and stubborn."

That rendered Raeleigh speechless.

## **Chapter 1220**

When Raeleigh and Xanthus arrived at the university campus, they chatted for a while before going their separate ways. Raeleigh made her way towards the lecture halls for her first class of the day.

Raeleigh thought that Jepherson would still be in the hospital, taking care of his grandmother and would not be able to teach today.

However...

Before Raeleigh arrived at the lecture hall, Flynt appeared in front of her with his backpack strapped to his back.

He was dressed in smart casual attire, his hands in his pockets. As soon as he appeared, Raeleigh realized that he was quite a popular guy in school.

Flynt was currently surrounded by a lot of people who wanted to talk to him.

In the past, Raeleigh had only focused all her attention on Santiago and had no idea that Flynt was popular.

Raeleigh hesitated for a moment. The group of people were blocking the entrance to the building. So, she had to walk around them in order to enter.

It was only then that Flynt noticed Raeleigh. When he saw her, he immediately said to the people around him, "I'm sorry, everyone. I need to consult my lecturer urgently about something. Please excuse me."

Raeleigh paid this no mind, but the crowd around Flynt dispersed in a huff.

Soon after, Flynt managed to catch up with Raeleigh.

"Were you annoyed?" Flynt came over and asked Raeleigh. She casted a glance at him and replied, "No."

"You're such a liar," Flynt said as a smile appeared on his face. However, Raeleigh did not say anything in reply.

All of a sudden, Flynt mentioned, "I'm here for class."

Raeleigh thought for a moment before blurting, "Is it because of your family?"

"No, I came because of you."

Raeleigh was not at all surprised by Flynt's words. It sounded cliché, as if something out of a romance novel or a TV show.

Thus, Raeleigh did not reply as she continued walking.

"You don't look surprised," Flynt said as he followed behind Raeleigh. Raeleigh posed a question, "Why would I be?"

"I thought you'd be surprised to hear that I came to school for you. It seems that I've set my hopes too high, and you were able to see through my intentions."

"Everyone has an agenda, one way or another. What you do has nothing to do with me."

Raeleigh walked through the door of the lecture hall. She was Tristany for class, so there were only a few students in the hall. She walked to her designated seat, sat down, took out a book and started reading quietly. Flynt stood at the door for a while before making his way to another lecture hall.

There were many whom Raeleigh did not want to see here while there were also a lot of people whom Flynt did not get along with. So, it was a good thing for him to leave.

Raeleigh remained in her seat as the rest of the students slowly entered the hall. At first, they were surprised to see Raeleigh, but their initial shock dissipated soon after.

Deanna followed Zorion and Rossie to the university and was delighted when she saw Raeleigh. Taking the seat directly behind her, she tried starting a conversation with Raeleigh. However, not long after, she went quiet.

It was because Jacky had entered the hall. The moment he appeared, Deanna seemed to have transformed into a different person. She was so scared that she immediately fell silent.

Jacky sat in the back of the class and kept his eyes on Deanna.

Soon, the class began and the only person absent was Santiago. Normally, Raeleigh couldn't be bothered about him. However, she found herself wondering what Santiago was doing at that very moment.

As she was deep in her thoughts, her cell phone suddenly rang.

The lecturer turned around and scanned the class for the culprit. Raeleigh hurriedly excused herself and went outside to take the call.

It was Santiago; he made a long-distance call to her.

Raeleigh was on cloud nine to hear from him. With that, she quickly composed herself before answering.

"Hi!"

"Do you miss me?" Santiago said frivolously as soon as he heard Raeleigh's voice, sending Raeleigh into a long bout of silence.

Then, he asked, "Did anyone bully you?"

Raeleigh muttered something in reply. With that, Santiago immediately asked, "Who bullied you?"

"No one. But I did anger your grandmother and caused her to be sent to the hospital."

Santiago asked, slightly amused, "So it was you?"

"And?" Raeleigh was unhappy to hear that. It sounded as if Santiago was undermining her.

Santiago sneered and Raeleigh immediately knew that he was indeed looking down on her.

"Why aren't you being flirty?" Santiago laughed, his voice sounding very deep. Sometimes, Raeleigh had her doubts about him being seventeen years old.

"Stop being rude," Raeleigh said. Santiago was silent for a while, then he said, "Who's being rude?"

"You."

"Hmph!"

Then, Santiago immediately hung up the phone. Raeleigh only realized that he had done so when she heard sounds of beeping.

Putting her phone away, she stood outside for a while and did not return to the hall. She wandered aimlessly along the corridor and found a place to sit. The weather was cold but she had not thought to bring an extra layer of clothing. Sitting on the bench, she reminisced about the time Jepherson took out his coat and draped it around her shoulders.

Although Santiago and Jepherson were brothers, Santiago was a person who liked making things clear. Jepherson, on the other hand, was very different as he never liked clarifying anything.

Raeleigh felt that she and Jepherson were the same kind of people.

This was why they were not a good fit as their personalities were too similar.

Raeleigh looked up at the sky and smiled. She was very lucky to have met Jepherson and would never forget him. What they shared was something that could not be changed. However, the past would still eventually be forgotten. Why would she want to trouble herself so?

She was going to let bygones be bygones and move on with life.

Things had come full circle, and it was time to look forward.

Raeleigh turned around and was about to leave when she saw Flynt, standing in front of her with his hands in pockets. Raeleigh froze for a moment then asked, "Have you been following me?"

This was very possible since she had to walk past his lecture hall.

Flynt only came out when he saw Raeleigh outside.

"You looked like you were in a trance. I was worried, so I thought I'd come and check on you." Flynt walked towards Raeleigh, frowning. "Are you alright?"

"Yes."

...

"I wasn't in a trance. I just came out to get some fresh air. I'm fine now and I'm going to find Xanthus. You should go back to class."

Raeleigh then turned around and walked towards Xanthus's office. Flynt paused for a moment before deciding to follow her.

Turning around, she looked at Flynt, "Was I not clear enough?"

Flynt laughed, "What? Do you own this place? You can't tell me what to do."

Raeleigh thought about his words and fell silent. A moment later, she turned around and continued walking. Flynt followed behind religiously until she arrived at Xanthus's office. After she entered the office, he turned around and headed back to class. It was then he realized that Zorion and Deanna had been following him.