

## Go After 1231

### Chapter 1231

Deanna had been in a friendly relationship with Jacky and had even promised him that she would buy some things for him.

In reality, her promises had their own reasons. For example, she had planned to give Jacky a useless watch she had at home.

When money was in her hands, it was impossible for her to spit it back out. However, since that item wasn't hers, it was another matter altogether.

Once they had made their plans, the first thing that she would do was to go home and bring him the watch.

"Jacky..."

When night fell, Deanna rolled about in her sheets while calling out to Jacky. When he stirred, he thought that she was in pain. He raised his head and looked at her red face. He was quiet for quite some time.

"Mmm..." He couldn't help but to kiss her again. She looked fine, but Jacky continued anyway.

She was also quite obliging. Even though she didn't know what he was trying to do, she didn't mind it if she lost her innocence to him. Either way, it was already that way.

She still thought that this was good and liked it very much.

A pair of small hands hooked around his body, allowing him to do whatever he wanted to do with her. She began to babble as their bodies came together.

Since she didn't know anything, she was genuine with this affair. She always cried out when it hurt and beat him hard with both hands.

Jacky didn't have any other lovers, and Deanna was the first.

"I want to go home," she said suddenly. Jacky asked, "Why?"

"I remember that there's something I wanted to give you. I want to bring it back." She blinked her eyes and rubbed her legs against his body.

Jacky immediately asked for it like a fierce beast.

His coarse breath and the woman's moaning interweaved and filled the room. It wasn't until the Tristany hours of the morning did she finally fall asleep. Her small hand wrapped around him and he hugged her as though he was afraid of losing her.

It wasn't until the afternoon of the second day did she finally wake up from her sleep from the sound of a ringing phone. It was Jacky's. After receiving the call, he pulled her into his arms and patted her on the head. She leaned into his embrace and blinked her eyes. She was completely naked.

"I see. We'll head over there in the afternoon. We can talk about it then."

He hung up the phone, turned over, and pulled the quilt aside. He lifted her legs and spread them open. His youth gave him plenty of energy to spare.

Deanna had already gotten used to this by then and placed her arms around his waist.

After they finished, Jacky got out of bed and pulled her out to take a bath. They came out to change their clothes and left the house. She sat in the car and held her bulging bag. It was full of money.

Halfway to her home, Deanna called the house. A servant answered the call, saying that her brother, Zorion, wasn't home, and had left with Rossie. She had asked Jacky to take her home. She couldn't let her older brother find out about all the bad things she had done.

When the car reached the entrance, she immediately descended the hill and followed Jacky towards the house.

When the maid saw them, Jacky was still a stranger to her. She called Zorion, but Deanna didn't care about that. He was about to leave anyway, and it was too late to turn back. If he didn't see them, then she didn't need to care.

When the maid called, Deanna told Jacky, "Jacky, make yourself at home. I'm going upstairs to get changed. I'll be down in a while."

Deanna ran upstairs and hid her bag when she entered the house. She thought about it and decided to keep it.

After putting the money into another bag, Deanna cleaned up and put on her clothes.

Jacky had never been to her room. He took advantage of this opportunity to head upstairs and open the door to take a peek.

It looked like a girl's room, a little princess's room.

Inside, it wasn't very different from a usual girl's room. It was big and clean.

Deanna spotted him. "Why did you come up?"

"Can't I?" Jacky entered the room and closed the door. He bent down to pick her up, as she was about to leave. It wouldn't be good to get caught if she was upset.

That was much too troublesome. Jacky kissed her a few times before getting up.

Deanna fiddled around for a little while before coming out of her room and running into her father's study. Jacky followed her in as well.

She entered and went to the counter on the side, where Rhys's favorite gifts were placed. They were given to him by his family.

Among them, there were some from Deanna, some from Lottie, and some from Zorion. They were all kept there.

When she got there, she entered the code for the lock and took out a watch for Jacky. "This is for Dad. He didn't bring it over. I bought it from abroad. Let me give it to you."

She was simply trying to win his favor. Jacky glanced at the watch that she handed to him. He took it and looked at it, but he didn't wear it.

Jacky raised his dark eyes and said, "I don't want it."

Deanna looked surprised and dejected. What did that mean?

Jacky continued, "I want the one that's further inside."

Deanna turned around and saw that there was a black limited edition model, which her big brother had bought for her father. Deanna thought about it for a long time and recalled that she had asked her big brother about the price, but he said it was worthless.

Worthless?

She blinked, opened the glass window, took out the watch from inside, and opened it to look at the price tag on it. It seemed to be 20,000 dollars.

"Then, I'll help you put it on and see. I might want to get a matching watch band." She hurriedly put the watch back in her hand and helped Jacky put it on.

His wrist was almost exactly the same as Rhys's. He lifted his hand and looked at it. It was very nice.

The corners of his mouth curled into a smile. He kissed Deanna's small mouth. She was also very happy, and the corners of her mouth curled into a very charming smile.

Jacky was a little confused.

Holding her in his arms, he put his forehead on top of hers and smiled. "Silly girl!"

Deanna frowned. "I'm not silly!"

"OK, you are not!"

As they were leaving, Jacky turned around to take a look and he then left with Deanna. She was afraid of being seen, so she quickly pushed the door open and followed him downstairs.

The servants tried everything they could to stop Deanna. They tried their best to prevent her from leaving. However, she didn't seem to be able to hear them, so they followed after her.

Since her eldest brother wasn't by her side, everything was different.

No one could stop her.

After leaving the entrance, she sat in his car and followed him.

When Zorion came home, the maid was standing at the door, saying that she had just left, but she didn't dare to say that she had followed a man. This matter would ruin the young mistress's reputation.

However, the maid still had her own ideas. Since Madam Lottie and Master Rhys weren't around, if something were to happen to the young mistress, that would be the young master's fault.

No one knew what had happened to the young master recently. He seemed to have lost his mind. Because of Miss Rossie, even the young mistress was completely ignored.

## Chapter 1232

What would happen if the lady of the house and her husband found out?

"I know." Zorion looked back at Rossie, who was sleepy. He didn't ask for much in the past two days, especially previous night. He didn't do anything for the entire night with her in his arms. But looking at her then, he was very sleepy.

"I'll head to the hospital later. Don't worry about the family. I'll talk to Deanna."

"Yes, sir."

Zorion turned around and returned to the car. He sat down beside Rossie and held her in his arms. She leaned against him in a daze and was taken to the hospital. When they arrived at the hospital, she was taken in for an examination. The doctor didn't say anything. Later, he explained that she had simply overworked herself.

Zorion booked a ward and stayed with Rossie.

Overworked...?

Zorion leaned back in his chair and squinted. "Did I ask for too much?"

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Deanna had left home to head to the bank. When she reached the bank, she took out the money and deposited it before leaving.

In the car, when she and Jacky were heading home, Jacky asked, "I'll take you somewhere interesting. Are you up for it?"

Deanna couldn't resist his tempting offer. After hearing him say that, she surrendered immediately.

Jacky curled his lips and brought Deanna to school.

"It's the weekend." Deanna was puzzled. Why was she at school over the weekend?

Jacky stopped the car and got out. He entered the school and the guards nodded when they saw him.

The guards looked at Deanna and asked, "Do you know each other?"

Jacky said, "Yes."

She followed and said to herself, "You're so powerful."

Jacky turned his head to look at her. His dark eyes were depthless, but she wasn't afraid of him. On the contrary, she was rather fond of him and even smiled at him when he looked at her.

"Remember, except for me, no one else is allowed to laugh and don't try to please other people. You are my woman, and I will protect you. If one day I can't make it, then other men will try to get you and bully you. Even if they touch you, I will not let them. You must remember that you can only be with me, else I will find your parents and brother to settle the score..."

“You’re not allowed to harm my family. Don’t make me resent you!” The words that left her mouth were all true.

He laughed. “In that case, you’d better listen to me. You’re my woman and I’m not going to let any other men in this world have the slightest chance to get close to you.”

Deanna was unhappy. “Fine. Just don’t hurt my family, else I won’t let you off.”

Jacky’s handsome face looked amused. “That’s my girl.”

“Who’s your girl?” She snorted coldly. Jacky walked in front. “Does your hand still hurt?”

Deanna looked at her hand and said, “It doesn’t hurt anymore.”

She had completely forgotten about their previous arguments.

However, at the very next moment, Deanna asked, “Why are we at school? Didn’t you say that we don’t have any classes?”

“Yes, no class...”

After saying that, Jacky walked over to his apartment. Elkton University had set up several private apartments for the benefit of the young masters and mistresses from wealthy families.

One of these buildings was Flynt’s apartment.

Flynt had attended this school some time ago, but the apartment hadn’t been available yet, so he didn’t bother to. The apartment was still under his name.

When they arrived at Flynt’s apartment, Deanna stood behind him and asked, “What are you doing here?”

“Nothing. Let’s go in and take a look.”

As Jacky said this, he pushed the door open and entered. She was flabbergasted. “This is wrong. Entering like this would be...”

Like a thief committing a robbery?

It didn’t seem so as he was entering it illegally.

She grabbed his hand. He ignored it and grabbed her wrist, walked in, and closed the door behind him.

They were at the entrance and the spacious living room was just ahead. There were a few people sitting on the couch when they entered.

When they saw Jacky and Deanna, they immediately stood up.

They looked about the same age as her. Those who were eighteen or nineteen years old were students at the university. When they saw her and Jacky, they immediately greeted them.

“Nice to meet you, Jacky. Nice to meet you, sis.”

Deanna looked surprised as she carefully looked at Jacky. He nodded and asked, “How’s it going?”

“She’s already awake, but she hasn’t said anything. She’s lying down inside,” one of the men said. Jacky walked to the door to take a look. He pushed the door open and walked in. She hesitated for a moment before entering.

She was stunned when she entered the room. Wasn’t that Flynt?

“Flynt?” She stood behind Jacky, looking quite surprised.

Jacky glanced at her and rubbed his head. He walked inside and sat down. He crossed his legs and threw a glance at her.

Deanna walked over to stand behind him, still looking somewhat proud.

Flynt laughed coldly, and the light in his eyes looked extremely sharp. “Jacky, you’re just a punk and you’ve even taken control of the village. You’re quite brave, yet you dare to come to the university to commit adultery. Do you think that you can do anything you want just because you’ve kidnapped me?”

“I did say that anyone who bullied my woman would meet a bad end. I don’t care what you did as a r\*pist in the school. But if you hurt my people, then you will die.”

“I, Jacky, have committed all manner of crimes ever since I was young. If others respected me, then I would respect them. On the contrary, if anyone attacked me, then I’d attack right back.”

“I only pushed her a little. You want to kill me?” Flynt didn’t move, but his eyes were extremely sharp.

“Don’t even mention pushing her, because you won’t survive even if you lightly touch her.”

Jacky smiled and pulled over Deanna’s small hand, and showed it to Flynt. “I don’t care who you are. You’ve hurt my woman, so things won’t end well for you.”

Flynt’s gaze fell on her small hands which were covered in white gauze.

“I don’t care what you did in the past, but it has nothing to do with me. I won’t bother with whatever you plan to do now, on the sole condition that you don’t test my limits.”

“Having said all that, it was all just an excuse for your crimes. You kidnapped her and r\*ped her. Now, the Atkinson family can’t do anything to you. You took Deanna with you and used her to threaten the Atkinson family. Zorion didn’t confront you because he was afraid that you would ruin her. But it doesn’t mean that Zorion doesn’t hate you.”

“Heh...” Jacky smiled and let go of her small hand. She wasn’t get upset with this. She didn’t believe Flynt, and believed that he was only trying to sow discord between them. As for everything else, she was considering her situation.

Jacky leaned against the chair. “People like you are always thinking about these things. Zorion is a smart man. He knows what I’m after. He doesn’t hate me, but for you it’s different.”

“I don’t care about you. So, I’ll just chop off one of your legs, one of your arms, and give them to your mother.”

“The Cole family has a large fortune. One billion dollars is nothing to you. If you don’t give me one billion dollars within a week, then I will destroy you.”

“Jacky... why don't you just kill me? How could the Cole family have so much money? The Cole family is honest and upright and has never taken an extra penny. You actually want that much? You're crazy!”

“It's not me who is crazy, it's you.”

### **Chapter 1233**

Jacky stood up and walked towards the door. As he walked out, he said, “Cut off his pinky finger on his left hand and send it over to the Cole family. They'd understand.”

“Yes, sir.”

Deanna followed him as he left. Halfway out, she told Flynt, “Don't do things the hard way if you can do it the easy way. You should always put yourself first. The Cole family definitely has money, and there's no shame in borrowing some from them. Your missing finger won't be ever grow back. However, if you borrowed money, then you can always return it to them sooner or later. Flynt, for Cynthia's sake, I'll tell Jacky not to cut off your finger. Write a letter to them and tell them that they should just hand over the money.”

“My brother paid up, so I'm fine. Look at me, not bad right?”

Deanna said this earnestly but Flynt sneered. “You can sleep with him but I can't.”

She frowned. “That's a different matter altogether. We still have to pay him. Even if you did sleep with him, he'd still ask for money. You have to understand that your brothers will definitely collect their dues.”

Flynt's life had been turned upside down by her. She behaved so differently from a regular person.

Flynt stopped talking and was too tired to say anything else.

Deanna turned around and walked out to stop them from cutting off Flynt's fingers.

Flynt was lying down inside, appearing quite amused. Deanna had actually helped him.

“Jacky...” She pleaded in front of Jacky. He had sent someone out and slapped his thigh. Jacky sat down and hugged her. “Don't worry, this is just something we men need to settle.”

“How can a man be without a woman? If you have a daughter in the future, then would you say the same things to her?”

Jacky laughed. “Why a daughter? Isn't a boy better?”

Deanna shook her head. “I'd like to have a daughter.”

“Then, let's have a daughter and two sons. What do you think?”

Deanna thought about this. “I want to ask my brother, if he isn't happy, then I...”

“Having a son would make him an uncle,” Jacky said. Deanna then changed her mind. “Really?”

“It's true.”

“Then, I'll have a son.”

“Mmm.” Jacky hugged her and kissed her for a while. She had forgotten all about the chopping off fingers business, but Jacky didn’t forget. He still respected her and chose not to cut off Flynt’s fingers.

After taking a look at Flynt, Deanna followed Jacky and walked out. As she did, she asked, “Will he starve to death?”

“No, he’ll be fed regularly.”

“With just a potato?”

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Jacky smiled but didn’t say anything after.

Deanna tugged on Jacky’s sleeve and asked, “What if someone finds out?”

“Then, I’ll go to jail,” Jacky said, stopping in his tracks. “Are you afraid?”

“What’s there to be afraid of? If you’re in jail, then you still get to eat and sleep.”

“I heard that prison is terrible. The people inside will bully you.”

“No one dares to bully me.” Jacky’s lips curled up as he pulled her away from the school.

After leaving the building, she asked in confusion, “Were those people your men?”

“That’s right.”

“Then, are you the boss of the school?”

“I’m not sure.”

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The more she asked, the more confused she became. In the end, she decided not to ask any more questions. She couldn’t figure it out, so what else was there for her to ask?

Deanna called Raeleigh and wanted to tell her about it. Unfortunately, the phone line was busy the whole time. It was strange. Did something wrong happen?

As she looked at Jacky, who was driving, she said, “I want to find Raeleigh. Can you take me to her?”

“Right now?” It was dark outside. Deanna looked at the time and said, “Let’s go home after seeing Raeleigh.”

Jacky drove to Raeleigh’s place. On the way there, Deanna continued calling Raeleigh’s phone, but it was either getting engaged or left unanswered. She was so worried that she wanted to run around like a mad dog.

When she arrived at the entrance of Raeleigh’s house, Deanna got out of the car and went towards the building. The residential area was quite shabby, so it was inconvenient for her to go upstairs. She eventually made her way upstairs after greeting the neighbors. When she arrived at her door, she knocked on it and rang the doorbell. She had done everything she could, but she knew something must have happened since no one came out.



She continued to call her phone and finally got through. Deanna asked, "Raeleigh, is that you?"

Raeleigh had just gotten off the plane. When she answered the phone, Deanna slumped down and sat down on the floor. Novalie also sat down and decided to rest for a bit. Xanthus stood to the side, waiting for Raeleigh to answer her phone.

"Deanna, are you at my house?" Raeleigh knew that she must have been worried. Otherwise, she wouldn't have called like this.

"Yes, I am at your house. Why didn't you come out when I knocked on the door? Aren't you at home? I've been calling you, and you didn't come out. What's going on?"

Deanna kept asking so many questions, so Raeleigh told her that she had gone abroad. Only then did Deanna realize.

Raeleigh said, "Deanna, I just got off the plane. I'll call you later. Don't tell anyone that I'm away. I want to calm down. Do you understand? I'll call you."

"Raeleigh, you don't want to be with Jepherson anymore, do you?" Deanna thought that this was very complicated. On one hand, she liked Jepherson, and on the other hand, she loved her friend, Raeleigh. She didn't know who to help.

"Deanna, we've broken up. We can't be friends."

"But Raeleigh, Jepherson adores you. He's always been so nice to you. He will get a hold of his bad temper eventually. His mood has just been bad recently. Don't you want to ask him why?"

"I have to solve this problem. If I don't, then I won't be able to live a good life."

Deanna was particularly earnest right then. Raeleigh looked around the airport. She didn't know what to say. Then, she said, "Deanna, just give me some time. I will come back after the holidays. No matter what happens, I will face it calmly. But I can't right now. I've lost too much. I want to calm down."

"Then, you should take care of yourself."

"I know, and you too."

...

After chatting for a while, Raeleigh hung up the phone. She looked at Xanthus, stood up, put the phone away, and helped Novalie stand up. Novalie was in high spirits. There were indeed not many foreigners abroad, but she couldn't make out what they were saying from the rustling sounds coming from their mouths. She didn't know but she always felt that it was noisy.

Novalie felt that this world was really quite amazing. No two people were the same. Their words sounded so confusing.

However, there was nothing wrong with looking at a city like this. Immediately afterwards, Novalie said, "You guys don't have to look after me. I'll be fine."

"Grandma, let's go." Xanthus pushed the luggage along and safely supported Novalie. The three of them left the airport.

There was a black car already waiting for them. Since it was to pick up Novalie and Raeleigh, Xanthus had arranged for a limousine from his house.

#### **Chapter 1234**

Before Novalie left, someone came and said to Xanthus politely, "Sir, we're here to pick you up. Please have a seat in the car."

Xanthus looked up and saw the car. He looked back at Novalie and said, "Grandma, let's go."

Novalie saw the car and Xanthus explained, "My family doesn't want anyone to know about what's going on. The current state of the world isn't too good. Someone harmed us that year. My father was worried that those people would come back again. Since my parents were unwilling to be around other people, they took revenge on them. My parents now hope to take Raeleigh in as my fiancée and asked me to bring her home first. Then, they can hide the fact from the whole world. In the future, they'll naturally accept their adoptive daughter."

"This way, Raeleigh will be safe. I hope you don't mind."

Novalie smiled. "What's there to be worried about? This is goof for her."

"My father is in the car. He can't come out to meet you. I hope you don't mind."

Xanthus explained this politely. Novalie smiled and said, "It's alright. We're family. Let's go."

Novalie walked towards the car after saying that. She opened the door and sat down inside the car. She didn't get to reply when a middle-aged man beside her asked, "So you've arrived?"

Novalie sat down and looked at the man in the car. This person looked very similar to Xanthus, which meant that this had to be Lamar Osteen.

"You must be Mr. Lamar?" Novalie asked, thinking about this. Lamar said, "That's right, I'm Lamar, Xanthus's father."

"Well, I can see that you and your father look very much alike." Novalie glanced at Raeleigh, who was sitting next to her nervously. "Raeleigh, this is your father. You've met him."

"Yes, I have." Raeleigh raised her head and looked over. Lamar had been observing Raeleigh for a long time. He didn't expect that Raeleigh would meet him so soon. In fact, he couldn't hold back his excitement, but he didn't want to frighten his daughter.

"Raeleigh, if you aren't used to it, then you can call me Uncle Lamar for now. Now, I don't want you to call me father right away, in case other people find out and use you to hurt us."

"Well, okay." Raeleigh was confused. It would have been such an overwhelming moment for her to meet her biological father for the first time.

"Let's head home first. We'll talk about it once we get home." Xanthus got in the car, and they all sat together. The driver drove off as the car quietened down.

Raeleigh lowered her head. She didn't know what to do right then.

Along the way, Lamar began to talk to Novalie and asked about her health. He also asked about Raeleigh's and Novalie's matters. Novalie didn't say much in the car. There were some things that she didn't want to repeat.

The car soon arrived at the Osteen family residence. Raeleigh was a little surprised when he got out of the car. Osteen Manor was much more magnificent than Harvey Manor. Although it wasn't as glamorous or beautiful, it was full of classic elegance.

The manor was large and so vast that it covered thousands of square meters of land. It was a place that couldn't be seen in its entirety in just one day.

There was a servant at the door. The car drove directly into the compound. After entering the manor, they drove for some distance. When they stopped, Lamar said, "Madam, I'll be going ahead from here. I can't drive in. We have to walk. Let's head down."

Lamar said this politely. He opened the door and got out of the car. He then turned around and bent down to help Novalie out of the car.

Novalie sighed. "I didn't expect that there would be such a day like this in my life."

"There are still many more days like this for you. We'll take good care of you." Lamar's innate gratitude was indescribable. When he saw Raeleigh in the photo, he was sure that she was his and his wife's daughter.

Raeleigh looked just like his wife. Especially her eyes, they were almost the same as his wife's when she was younger. He couldn't mistake her for someone else.

How could there be such a person in the world? It was impossible, especially if it wasn't her sister or her daughter.

Lamar believed that she was his daughter. Even if she hadn't done a DNA test or a genetic comparison, he still believed it, not to mention the comparison in height between them.

"This is your fate. I'm just a passer-by. Besides, Raeleigh has brought me so much happiness."

Novalie was still very happy. If she hadn't been kept safe all that while, then she might not have lived such a fulfilling life.

Being by herself was a really lonely life. Of course, she didn't like that kind of life.

Raeleigh fixed her eyes on Novalie and Lamar. As they talked, Raeleigh stepped out of the car and supported her.

"There's no need to mind me. You two, as father and daughter, ought to get to know each other."

Novalie looked at Xanthus, who was standing in front of her, and said, "You can accompany me and introduce your family to me. I'm old and can't remember much anymore."

"Okay, I'll keep you company." Xanthus walked over and held Novalie's hand. Raeleigh had nothing to do and seemed to be at a loss.

She didn't know what it was like for a normal family to acknowledge each other. She felt really embarrassed.

After Novalie and Xanthus left, Raeleigh slowly raised her head and looked at Lamar. He then said, "Let's go. I'll show you around, so you can familiarize yourself with the place."

Raeleigh froze for a moment, but Lamar had already turned around and left, as though he meant to leave Raeleigh outside. It seemed as though he didn't care about Raeleigh at all.

Raeleigh followed from behind. Perhaps, this was just her father's disposition.

The entire area was covered in green lawn grass. People were working about the manor. It appeared that mechanical tools weren't allowed. Several gardeners were trimming the grass on the ground. Lamar said, "Your mother's health has always been poor. She is quite depressed. Sometimes, she acts like a child and makes noise. She needs some peace and quiet. When she works out in the courtyard, she can't use mechanical things, it will upset her.

"Once she wakes up, we have to put those things away in case she gets triggered and ends up having terrifying thoughts."

"Back then, when your mother was still young, someone paid us a lot of money and asked us to run a scam, but your mother and I refused. We made those people lose a lot of money and they took you away. Your mother was consumed by guilt and thought it was our fault that you were taken away."

"At that time, the doctor lied to us and said that the child was dead."

"We didn't believe it, but there was nothing we could have done. At the time, your mother and I kept looking for you. However, if we didn't leave, then we would have lost our lives."

"Your mother's entire body broke down because of you. She began to blame herself after she returned home. Sometimes, she would wake up at night and try to jump out of the window. I then sold our family assets, bought this place, and built our home."

"It was beautiful, but in fact, it was a cage for your mother. She wasn't capable of walking out."

"I knew that I had made a very wrong decision, imprisoning her here, but..."

## **Chapter 1235**

Lamar turned to Raeleigh and said, "I had no choice. I can't protect her once she leaves this place."

"In all these years, I've rushed to so many places and searched all around, but I couldn't find you. Your mother's situation wasn't optimistic. Sometimes, she cried like a child. Over the past year, the situation was pretty good, but she was still in a wheelchair and couldn't get out. I know that so many of these complicated problems are now being dumped onto you. It is difficult for you to accept it, but I must ask for your forgiveness because I can't change any of it."

"I don't hate you." Raeleigh looked at the man who was her father. She really didn't hate him.

Lamar turned around and looked at her. "You're a very good child. We got you into trouble. If it weren't for my original decision, then you would have been fine and safe."

“No, I am also doing very well now.”

Raeleigh blushed and lowered her head. She was like a child in front of her father.

Lamar asked, “Can I hug you?”

Raeleigh lowered her head and nodded.

He walked over and held Raeleigh in her arms. “I’m sorry.”

Raeleigh froze for a moment and she then shook her head. “It wasn’t your fault.”

...

After pulling away from each other, Lamar said, “No matter who did it, I hope you’ll stay. This is your home now. We want you to live together with us.”

“I’ll think about it.” Raeleigh had thought about this a lot. At first, she wanted to continue her studies, but now it seemed she didn’t. Her family was important to her, and she didn’t want to go back.

“Let’s go.” Lamar didn’t want to be too hasty. He was very happy that his daughter was back. He shouldn’t expect too much.

If she wanted to leave, then Lamar would accept it.

At first, Raeleigh didn’t talk much about it, but she soon opened up about it.

When Lamar asked why Raeleigh chose to study car design, she thought about it for a moment and said, “In fact, I don’t really enjoy this major either. But when I was in the orphanage, there was a child named Arsel. He and his parents came to my orphanage and gave us so many things. We only knew each other for a day. I wanted to be with him. But I was very young then. Then, there was a fire in the orphanage that same day, so I was separated from him. I thought he died in that fire. I was disheartened and thought I had...”

She couldn’t bring herself to say the word ‘abandoned’, so she looked up at Lamar. Her eyes expressed the word she couldn’t.

“Baby girl...”

Lamar couldn’t help but to blurt this out. Although she was already grown up and secure, in their eyes, Raeleigh was, after all, the same small crying girl who had just been born. She never changed.

Raeleigh looked at her father in surprise. Lamar said, “I can’t change any of this. Although we haven’t seen each other for so long, I’ve always had you in my heart. If you aren’t used to it, then I will make it right.”

Raeleigh was shocked. A man of his age had called her ‘baby girl’.

But thinking of the pain of having a child stolen from him, Raeleigh understood.

“Nothing. If you are used to it, then that’s fine.” Raeleigh felt that there was nothing wrong with her being called ‘baby girl’. It was just a name.

However, she was still used to being called Bowie.

But she didn't say it out loud.

"Mmm." Lamar hummed and walked on. He stopped for a moment and asked Raeleigh, "So, you said it was for Arsel's sake, just because of your friendship with him?"

"Not just that. I thought that Arsel and the other children in the orphanage were also swallowed up in the fire. But I later found out that he wasn't dead. Before that, I had been very eager to find Arsel's parents. Although I didn't think of doing so then, I remembered that it was a black car with a good-looking couple who came out of the car that brought Arsel to my place.

"At that time, the side of the car was facing me. I didn't see the brand, so it was difficult to find them. Later, I became interested in cars. Especially when I walked about, I liked to look out for it."

"Although I didn't see the front of the car, I remembered how the sides looked. I haven't found that car model yet. If I did, then I'm sure I would remember it."

"I've been designing cars all these years, but I want to go further to understand them to guess what the car looked like in front."

Lamar looked at Raeleigh and said, "You are more talented than me and your mother. Although we are from very different fields, we're experts in archaeology, but..."

"Your mother and I fell in love with each other at first sight at a design exhibition. At the time, we had already known each other and were classmates. However, we didn't think about each other that much. And I was shocked when I heard about her design skills."

"When she was young, and bored to death, she would design clothes or something like that for clothing companies to produce, and she would also make some herself."

"I liked designing too. Many ancient historical relics and paintings were completed by your mother and myself."

"I didn't expect for you to inherit our talents as well."

Raeleigh didn't say anything, and simply smiled.

"Well, don't keep your mother waiting. She dressed up today just to see you."

Lamar held Raeleigh's shoulder and took her around the house like a father. She raised her head and said, "There are so many rooms here, but your mother likes them very much. She said she wanted to live with you. You have to be mentally prepared."

"I know." Raeleigh then walked in with Lamar. There was a woman talking to the old lady and Xanthus when they entered. Hearing the sound of the door opening, the woman nTristany lost her patience. Then, she turned around and looked at Raeleigh. When she saw her, she got up from the wheelchair, which shocked everyone.

Lamar was glad that her eyes looked gentle.

His daughter's disappearance caused his wife to break down, but her return was as good as a dose of medicine. His wife's legs were miraculously healed, and she was able to walk. This must have been God's gift.

Raeleigh froze at the door, looking at the beautiful woman who was quickly approaching from the other side of the room, holding her shoulders in front of her. She cried out with sadness, "Baby girl, is it really you? I'm your Mom, can't you see?"

Raeleigh's eyes turned red upon her mother calling out to her and tears welled up in her eyes. Xanthus also stood up in shock and couldn't help looking at his father.

Lamar was over fifty years old, but he was in such high spirits just looking at his son with a faint smile on his face. He had explained everything with a smile.

Xanthus also understood what was going on.

He smiled with satisfaction.

Raeleigh cried and held the woman in front of her tightly. The two women cried so hard that their eyes were red. The old lady wiped her tears. It was good that she had come back. It wasn't a waste of her years of great care.

Ten days had passed, but Raeleigh couldn't remember why she had come here.

She accompanied her mother in the garden every day and followed her to see her work in the painting studio. She had to admit that she had a very talented and romantic mother.

It was raining that day. Raeleigh had returned from her mother's room. When the weather was bad, her mother would lie in bed. Raeleigh would feel distressed when she saw how uncomfortable her body looked. But there was no other way around it. It was pain that remained from her younger times.

She accompanied her mother for a while before heading back. She remembered Santiago's call from the day before. He said that he would come to her place. Raeleigh asked him about Cynthia, and he said that everything had since settled down.

Santiago didn't elaborate though, which Raeleigh felt wasn't a good thing. "Okay, but what does that mean?"

She initially wanted to ask about the scar, but Santiago quickly hung up the phone, so she didn't ask any more questions.

As she looked around the room, Raeleigh was lying on a beautiful and comfortable bed. The longer she stayed, the more she didn't want to leave. She had missed out on her parents' love ever since she was a child. She would think of her parents all the time. Now that she had returned to them, she was very reluctant to leave because she missed them so much.

However...

There was an agreement with the Harvey Group. She had agreed to work for them because of the scholarship.

If she didn't design anything for the Harvey Group, then they wouldn't be able to do anything about it. But if she chose not to continue her studies, then it was uncertain what might happen to her.

Jepherson wasn't an ordinary person. He wouldn't easily let go of things. It wasn't in line with his style.

She fiddled with her long hair, turned over, and lay in bed. She unclasped her hands and stared blankly at the ceiling. "What should I do?"

If she went back, then she wouldn't be able to protect herself. Jepherson wouldn't let her go so easily.

Getting entangled with him, as a brother and sister, they'd be discovered sooner or later.

Right then, everyone knew that they weren't siblings. Jepherson had mistakenly assumed this. If he knew that they weren't siblings and that the children hadn't gone missing, then what would he be like?

Raeleigh covered her face with her hands. What should she do?

It was raining outside. She turned to look out of the window. It was still raining heavily at a time like that.

Raeleigh didn't rest that day either. She didn't get up until it was evening. She walked to the mirror listlessly and looked at herself. She didn't know if she was hallucinating. Raeleigh felt like she looked a little plump.

She lifted her hand to hold her chest, checked her waist, and touched her behind. It seemed that she really was a bit plump.

Her skin was pale and delicate. Raeleigh pinched her cheek. She didn't know what was going on. Was it because of her face cream or was it something she ate? Her whole body felt different. She looked like an egg with its shell peeled off. She was so beautiful that she had nothing to say.

She touched her smooth black hair. Recently, Xanthus had been taking her to get her hair done. She had to do it every day. She didn't ask someone to do it. There was still more than half an hour before then. She wasn't used to it, but she was then.

Her hair was really lustrous.

Raeleigh walked towards the window and looked outside. No one knew how wealthy the Osteen family was, but she certainly felt rich.

Taking a deep breath, she casually tied up her hair, turned around, put on her coat, and went out of the room. Raeleigh was too embarrassed to ask the servants to call her when it was time for dinner. She had her own hands and feet, so it was unnecessary.

As she stepped out of the door and went downstairs, Raeleigh heard someone talking downstairs.

"So, you're Jepherson Harvey?" Lamar's voice came from downstairs. She stopped on the edge of the stairs. She looked down. Jepherson stood up and turned to look upstairs. He couldn't wait to find her with his own eyes. After spotting her, he went around and walked towards her. But he stopped after taking a few steps and stared at her in a daze.



Raeleigh took a deep breath and went downstairs, dressed in a nice white dress. She walked towards him and frowned. "Why are you here?"

"Santiago told me that this was all a misunderstanding." He suddenly said this. Raeleigh was stunned for a moment and pursed her pinkish red lips. "You..."

"I've known for as long as you were here. I can't live without you, but I didn't have the courage to see you."

Raeleigh slowly raised her head and stared at him, but she didn't know what to say.

As Santiago walked around, Raeleigh felt a little confused. Then, she walked into the living room and looked at Mr. and Mrs. Osteen who called for her.

"Baby girl, didn't you tell me that he is the child's father?" Jazelle couldn't accept this. The man who killed her grandson had the audacity to appear here. She was so overwhelmed that she was trembling. This behavior made her husband and son worry about her. Right then, she had another daughter to worry about.

Seeing that her mother was about to cry, Raeleigh quickly walked over and sat down to hold her hand to comfort her.

"Mom, don't do this. It's all over."

"Then, let him go. I don't like him."

Jepherson was stunned and turned to look at Jazelle. She looked so similar to Raeleigh. If he hadn't seen her with his own eyes, then he wouldn't have believed it.

"Raeleigh..."

She raised her head out of fear of irritating her mother. Then, she said, "Let's talk outside later. Wait for me."

"Okay." Jepherson went to the other side of the room and looked at the antique decorations.

Raeleigh explained everything to Jazelle. Later on, Lamar came to assure Raeleigh not to worry. Then, she stood up and took Jepherson outside.

After leaving the room, Raeleigh turned around and looked at him. He then took off his coat and put them on Raeleigh. He said, "Don't dress like this in the future. I don't like my own woman being looked at by other people, not even by her own biological parents or brother."

Raeleigh looked down at her long dress. When she bought it, it fitted quite loosely. However, she had gotten quite plump those days, which made it fit tighter.

But at that time, it wasn't the right time to explain it, so she ignored it.

She pursed her lips and found that she wasn't used to her past self, who was strong, stubborn, and unyielding.

She was like a little bird without any natural predators here. She had dropped her guard and had begun to focus on her life. She was no longer the hedgehog with thorns all over its body, yet fragile within.

Raeleigh forced a smile. "We..."

"Reconcile!" Raeleigh hadn't even finished speaking, yet Jepherson answered immediately. He stopped talking. She was dressed rather scantily. He came dressed in a white shirt and a coat that Raeleigh had returned.

Cold autumn rain was drizzling outside. It wasn't the right season to dress simply in a shirt, especially when it rained.

Raeleigh could tell he was cold, but he didn't feel cold at all. Instead, he stretched out his hand to grasp her hand and placed it on his chest, so that she could feel his heartbeat.

Raeleigh fixed her eyes on him and drew back her hands. "No!"

After screaming that out, Raeleigh turned around and sighed helplessly.

### **Chapter 1236**

Ten days had passed, but Raeleigh couldn't remember why she had come here.

She accompanied her mother in the garden every day and followed her to see her work in the painting studio. She had to admit that she had a very talented and romantic mother.

It was raining that day. Raeleigh had returned from her mother's room. When the weather was bad, her mother would lie in bed. Raeleigh would feel distressed when she saw how uncomfortable her body looked. But there was no other way around it. It was pain that remained from her younger times.

She accompanied her mother for a while before heading back. She remembered Santiago's call from the day before. He said that he would come to her place. Raeleigh asked him about Cynthia, and he said that everything had since settled down.

Santiago didn't elaborate though, which Raeleigh felt wasn't a good thing. "Okay, but what does that mean?"

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As she looked around the room, Raeleigh was lying on a beautiful and comfortable bed. The longer she stayed, the more she didn't want to leave. She had missed out on her parents' love ever since she was a child. She would think of her parents all the time. Now that she had returned to them, she was very reluctant to leave because she missed them so much.

However...

There was an agreement with the Harvey Group. She had agreed to work for them because of the scholarship.

If she didn't design anything for the Harvey Group, then they wouldn't be able to do anything about it. But if she chose not to continue her studies, then it was uncertain what might happen to her.

Jepherson wasn't an ordinary person. He wouldn't easily let go of things. It wasn't in line with his style. She fiddled with her long hair, turned over, and lay in bed. She unclasped her hands and stared blankly at the ceiling. "What should I do?"

If she went back, then she wouldn't be able to protect herself. Jepherson wouldn't let her go so easily. Getting entangled with him, as a brother and sister, they'd be discovered sooner or later.

Right then, everyone knew that they weren't siblings. Jepherson had mistakenly assumed this. If he knew that they weren't siblings and that the children hadn't gone missing, then what would he be like?

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She touched her smooth black hair. Recently, Xanthus had been taking her to get her hair done. She had to do it every day. She didn't ask someone to do it. There was still more than half an hour before then. She wasn't used to it, but she was then.

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As she stepped out of the door and went downstairs, Raeleigh heard someone talking downstairs.

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Raeleigh took a deep breath and went downstairs, dressed in a nice white dress. She walked towards him and frowned. "Why are you here?"

“Santiago told me that this was all a misunderstanding.” He suddenly said this. Raeleigh was stunned for a moment and pursed her pinkish red lips. “You...”

“I’ve known for as long as you were here. I can’t live without you, but I didn’t have the courage to see you.”

Raeleigh slowly raised her head and stared at him, but she didn’t know what to say.

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Seeing that her mother was about to cry, Raeleigh quickly walked over and sat down to hold her hand to comfort her.

“Mom, don’t do this. It’s all over.”

“Then, let him go. I don’t like him.”

Jepherson was stunned and turned to look at Jazelle. She looked so similar to Raeleigh. If he hadn’t seen her with his own eyes, then he wouldn’t have believed it.

“Raeleigh...”

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Raeleigh forced a smile. “We...”

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Raeleigh could tell he was cold, but he didn’t feel cold at all. Instead, he stretched out his hand to grasp her hand and placed it on his chest, so that she could feel his heartbeat.

Raeleigh fixed her eyes on him and drew back her hands. “No!”

After screaming that out, Raeleigh turned around and sighed helplessly.

### **Chapter 1237**

Raeleigh turned around, but Jepherson held her from behind. She withdrew her hands and tried to pull away from him, but he refused to let go.

“What are you doing?” She tried to pull away from Jepherson’s hand, but he held on. As expected of Jepherson, he held her even tighter.

“I won’t do anything. Let’s make up. Come back with me.” Jepherson held her in his arms from behind, not letting her move. She couldn’t move away. She looked back at him. Seeing her so close, he lowered her head to kiss her. She wanted to turn around, but he let go of her face and kissed her hard.

Raeleigh’s breath quickened as their lips and teeth became entangled. However, she couldn’t push him away. She felt anxious and wanted to cry.

“Jeph... Jeph...”

It took a long time for Jepherson to let go, and she felt like she nTristany died.

He hugged her. It was hard for her to breathe. She gasped in his arms. Jepherson held Raeleigh in his arms and didn’t want to let her go. He pressed down on her head as he lowered his chin.

Raeleigh gasped for a while and looked up at Jepherson. It was dark outside.

“We have something to discuss, don’t you agree?” She tried her best to calm down. Otherwise, she would truly be swept away by Jepherson.

“As long as we don’t break up, I promise to do anything.” Jepherson was very serious, but Raeleigh hesitated. After hesitating for a while, she figured out a way to deal with him.

“I’m not going to promise, but... I don’t want you to force me into anything, including physical contact. During this time, I also hope to be at peace and consider things between us.”

“Are you trying to stall me and make me leave?” He wasn’t a fool. He knew perfectly well what she was planning.

It was because he could see through her. That was why he was so very angry.

His face darkened.

Raeleigh was barely able to withstand the pressure and she said to him, "It's already been like this between us. What else do you want?"

"You know very well that we aren't siblings. You and the rest of the world knew, but I didn't. Did you think I was a fool and would never find out?"

The more Jepherson spoke, the angrier he got. His child was gone.

Raeleigh was shocked. "No matter what you say, it really is all my fault. If you feel bad, then I have nothing to say."

"You..." Jepherson was so angry that he wanted to hit her.

Raeleigh turned around and was about to go back inside. Jepherson went to pull her back, but instead of pulling her, he pulled on her clothes. Before he could stop her, she had already gone back inside the villa.

Jepherson followed her from behind. Raeleigh was afraid he might catch up, so she ran a few steps ahead. He saw her running and followed her. Raeleigh's legs weren't as long as his. No matter how fast she ran, she couldn't get away from him.

As soon as they arrived at the door, Jepherson stopped her. "Raeleigh..."

Raeleigh stepped back with her sharp eyes.

Jepherson looked back at the Osteen couple who were standing inside. That wasn't the time to use force.

"Let's go in together."

After saying that, he turned around and pushed the door open, waiting for her to walk in together.

She hesitated for a moment, but Jepherson stopped her at the door. If she didn't want to go in, then she could stay outside, but what if she went in?

Raeleigh finally stepped inside.

He then followed her into the room. Speaking without knowing the situation clearly, Raeleigh turned around and glanced at him. "Isn't your flight later today?"

"I hadn't booked a ticket back." Jepherson's eyes were as deep as the ocean. Raeleigh turned to her parents. "I'm feeling a little unwell. I'm heading upstairs. I won't have any dinner."

"How can you not eat something? I'll cook for you. Baby girl, shall I accompany you?" Jazelle got up and followed her upstairs. Halfway up the stairs, Jazelle looked back at Jepherson and gave him a very disagreeable look.

Lamar looked back at his wife for a moment, and at his daughter who had returned to her room. Lamar then turned to look at Jepherson.

Jepherson held his coat in his hand and looked at Lamar.

"I've long heard of the Harvey family from Capital City. I've never met your father, but I've heard that he is a remarkable businessman."

"Seeing you, I can picture the kind of person your father is."

"The Harvey family can be considered one of the most prominent families in Capital City, and also in the military. Am I right?"

Lamar asked Jepherson this but didn't invite him to sit down. Jepherson thought about this for a moment and said, "You could say so."

"Since you're in the military, your education must be pretty good."

"Yes, sir."

Different families had their own rules about education, but Jepherson didn't think that his own education was all that bad.

But right then, Lamar meant much more than that.

"My daughter was taken away from me when she was only a child. I've been looking for her for a very long time, and now I've finally found her. You should be able to see that my wife resembles her very much. I'm sure you don't think that I'm lying to you on purpose, right?"

"I don't doubt that Raeleigh is your daughter. I had already confirmed it several times before I came here."

"What do you mean?" Lamar was also involved in the accident. He had dealt with all kinds of people for so many years and had met most of them. When dealing with people like Jepherson, it wasn't easy for him to deal with them, but he was also familiar with their type.

Standing by the side, Jepherson blinked his eyes for a few seconds and looked at Lamar. "I love Raeleigh. I really love her. I also have a sister, but I haven't been able to find her. Some time ago, I found Raeleigh and the orphanage. I was confused and thought she was my sister."

"I've been with Raeleigh for some time. She was pregnant. I was quite sad. I thought that it was all a ruse to trick people. So, I got rid of the baby and kept her with me. Then, we could spend the rest of our days together."

"It was none of my business. It was as if it had already been messed up from the start."

"I was so confused when Raeleigh lost her baby. I knew she was very sad, so I wasn't able to come home to face her."

"But when I think of Raeleigh as someone else's wife, I can't bear it."

"You're an experienced person yourself. You must have experienced the pain of losing someone before. You must have."

"There is no such thing as a perfect person. Realizing your mistakes can make for some great changes. I already know that I was wrong. I will cherish my own safety. Others may hurt Raeleigh like I have because they have nothing to lose. So you might not understand. I believe you to be a sensible man."

"If I choose not to accept it, then I'm just confused. Did you want to tell me this?" Lamar's face suddenly changed, as he stood up.

"See him out."

Lamar went upstairs, as the servant emerged from the side and said politely, "Sir, this way please."

Jepherson stood downstairs. That was the first time in his entire life that he had been treated like this, and there was no way around it.

"I'm sorry to have troubled you."

Even if he was being thrown out, he wouldn't forget his manners. Jepherson brought out all the gentlemanly manners he had. Even the servants were impressed by his attitude.

After sending Jepherson off, Lamar immediately spoke about this matter.

### **Chapter 1238**

"I know. Dinner's ready. Call Madam Jazelle and Miss Raeleigh down for dinner later."

Lamar stood by the window of the room and looked downstairs. He couldn't see anything outside, but Jepherson was still quite a youngster.

However, he was looking for a son-in-law who had nothing to do with the riff-raff.

He was quite unlucky.

Turning around, Lamar went downstairs. A man then came downstairs and stood at the door waiting for him.

"I'm not a warlord. Why are you so afraid of me? We're friends. There's not much to discuss. You help me and I'll give you a reward. It's simple. What do you think?"

Lamar came down step by step, walked towards the couch, and raised his hand to invite the newcomer to sit down.

The man was in a hurry to remove his shoes. He walked towards Lamar, greeted him politely, and then sat down.

"Have you found a clue?" Lamar looked up at the other person. The person thought for a moment and took out the things he found and neatly placed them on the table.

"We've discovered some information, but the question was whether you'll continue investigating," the man said as he took out several more documents and placed them on the table.

Lamar picked up one of them. "The Perry family from Capital City?"

"Yes, the Perry family. The Perry family is also related to the Harvey family. However, they haven't been around all these years. Instead, they chose to remain here in A city. Rosa, the daughter of the Perry family, is married to a son of the Harvey family, Martin."



“Martin and Calvin from the Harvey family are quite different. Calvin wasn’t interested in politics and the military. He was only interested in the business world. His own son didn’t intend to join the military or politics.”

“However, Martin was handsome and a true master of politics. He was known throughout the world.”

“He was considered a legend.”

His wife, Rosa, was a well-known general in the military world, and General Perry only had Rosa as his only daughter. Wherever his daughter was, he would go to her without hesitation.”

“With the Perry family’s military assistance, this man, Martin Harvey, was like a duck to water.”

“This is the crux of this matter. I have completed my investigation. The Perry family also showed up during my search. I mean, it happened in Capital City. It was a coincidence.”

Lamar said, “I believe that General Perry has a daughter too.”

“Yes,” the man said. Lamar placed down the materials in his hand and looked at the other documents. The person opposite from him began to explain.

“The Cole family’s status wasn’t very well-known at that time, and we couldn’t find out their connection to the investigation.”

“This is the Matthews family. The family is well-known in Capital City. Albie Williamson and Calvin have a very good relationship. But strangely, at the time you told me about them, the Matthews family had disappeared.”

“Disappeared?”

Lamar frowned, and the other person nodded. “Yes.”

Lamar placed down the document in his hand and looked at the other three folders. One of them was the Harvey family, another was the Atkinson family, and the last one was the Scott family.

“The Atkinson family appeared at the time, but Rhys was found to be upright and honorable. Although his background wasn’t very clean, he wasn’t the type of person who would use such means,” the man explained. Lamar laughed. “Of course not, he and I are friends.”

“Really?” The man smiled awkwardly. He didn’t find that out.

“Additionally, this Scott family suddenly appeared at that time and took over the village. Although he wasn’t very strong, he is very popular within the village. This person called Jacky Scott is considered the overlord of the village. He has great influence within the village.”

“But the Scott family wasn’t very suspicious. His parents were ordinary people. He had been a punk since he was a kid. He’s been quite famous until now.”

“As for what happened 20 years ago, he was just a child. It probably had nothing to do with him.”

“It just so happens that the Scott Family had recently entered Capital City, so I brought back his information.”

“I wouldn’t have asked for such a favor for nothing. I’ll give you an extra twenty percent of the profit later.”

“Thank you,” the man said and looked at the Harvey family folder. “The only family I suspect is the Harvey family.”

Lamar read the information about the Harvey family. He reached out to open it. It had information about everyone in the Harvey family.

“Mr. Osteen, we can clear our suspicions of Martin. I’ve checked on him. He wasn’t in Capital City at the time, and we’ve had no contact during that time.”

“Jepherson, Santiago, and Martin’s two daughters aren’t suspects. The suspect could only be Hudson or Calvin. Some of them have had contact with these people that you’ve mentioned.”

Lamar looked up at the other person. “Do you mean to say that it was the Harvey family who took my daughter away?”

“You could say that.” The man was very sure. Lamar held the file and pondered for a moment. “I’ll give you another fifty percent. Continue to check on this matter for me. I will give you money whether this is successful or not. But I hope you’ll keep your promise and not let this get out.”

“I can do this, so I’ll head back first.” The man began to pack his things up. Lamar asked him to leave them behind. He packed them up and placed them back down. He turned towards Lamar who then called the housekeeper over. “Give him the sum of money. He needs this for a favor I’ve asked of him. Remember this and be sure to pay me back.”

The man smiled and nodded at Lamar, following the housekeeper to collect the money.

Lamar put the documents away and sat downstairs for a while.

Jazelle brought Raeleigh back downstairs. Jazelle watched Raeleigh eat every day and took care of her like a child who couldn’t speak and doted on her.

Raeleigh thought it was quite fortunate for her to have been taken away. Otherwise, she might have been spoiled.

When they went downstairs, they saw Lamar sitting down in a daze, holding something in his hand.

“Lamar.” When Raeleigh came down, she heard her mother calling her father tenderly. She sounded like she was very unhappy that her father was in a daze and didn’t pay attention to them.

Lamar looked back at his wife and daughter. They were like a pair of sisters.

“What is it?”

“What are you doing? Didn’t you even realize we had just come down?” Jazelle was unhappy. Every frown and smile looked coy. Raeleigh stood aside and quietly watched. This was her mother. If she didn’t know it, then she would have thought that she had been possessed by Deanna.

However, this was proof that her parents were quite loving to each other. Deanna was the daughter of her parents, and her mother was the apple of her father’s eye.

Raeleigh stood aside. Lamar stood up and said, "How many times have I told you to watch your tongue? You also have a mother-in-law. And you forget my words again?"

Hearing Lamar say that, Jazelle suddenly remembered something and spoke as advised, "I forgot, it won't happen next time."

"You say that every time, but you forgot everything anyway."

Jazelle didn't answer. She lowered her head slightly and thought of other things. Raeleigh laughed in her heart. Although she said this seriously, her eyes were full of love.

With such a husband, her mother was still so youthful, and almost the same age as her.

### **Chapter 1239**

"Dinner." Lamar was preparing to take Raeleigh and Jazelle to dinner. The person who just left stepped out with a silver box. When he saw Lamar, he bowed at him and greeted him, "Sir."

"Well, you can leave. If something happens, then I'll contact you. I wish your mother a speedy recovery."

"Thank you." The man turned around and left. Before he left, he glanced at Raeleigh. The man looked familiar, as though she had seen him somewhere before, but she couldn't remember.

After he left, Raeleigh went to have dinner. She then asked Lamar, "How do you know him?"

Lamar removed the bones in the fish for Raeleigh, placed it back on the plate, and he then did the same for her Grandma. Then, he answered her question. "I'm investigating how you were taken away from us all those years ago."

Raeleigh placed her cutlery down and looked at Lamar.

Lamar continued to remove the fish bones for Raeleigh. He knew that she liked eating fish. That night, they were eating all kinds of fish and she really liked the smaller ones. So, he had asked his staff to prepare them for dinner. They were all fresh and very tasty.

Raeleigh didn't respond. Lamar continued, "Actually, I've always wondered who took my daughter away."

"Didn't you say that it was those people who took me away?" Raeleigh was talking about the people who had forced Lamar to lie about the incident.

Jazelle said, "Baby girl, you don't know this yet, but your father and I were invited out to the country at the time. When we arrived, we didn't see any of the people who had invited us. Instead, we met a different group who told us to pretend to be strong."

"Do you mean that those people who invited you out there were the ones who tricked you?"

Lamar looked at Novalie and said, "What do you think about this?"

Novalie thought about it. After being here for the past few weeks, she knew what kind of person Lamar was. He took care of her as though she were his own mother. Novalie was also quite blunt.

“This matter isn’t a simple one. If we don’t find out the truth, then it will prove to be quite troublesome in the future. If you ignore it, then the other party might not let things be. They’ll want to tie up any loose ends they have.”

“If your missing daughter never returns, then it’s considered done with. But if you find your daughter, then things will take a turn for the worst.”

“No matter how big and secretive your manor is, there will be a day when it gets out. If so, it will be very hard to deal with it. If the other party knows that you’ve found your daughter, then no matter what the reason, they will not let you go.”

“Reclaiming your family now would be the worst thing you can do. You can avoid hurting people, but you can’t show mercy to anyone.”

“You’re right.” Lamar looked at Raeleigh and said, “We have already informed the public that you’re my daughter-in-law, but we’re all still a little worried. We can only protect you in our own way.”

“I know, I just feel a little strange. Who even wants to take me away? Does someone have a feud with you?”

Raeleigh tried to think, who might have tricked her parents into traveling into Capital City to take their daughter away from them?

Lamar looked at Raeleigh and said, “Your mother and I have never done wrong by anyone. Some people just don’t like us, so they may have acted out.”

“But... we can’t exclude the possibility that some people didn’t mean to take you away, but only wanted to ruin our reputation.”

“What do you mean?”

Raeleigh didn’t understand. Lamar pondered this for a moment and said, “If your mother and I had accepted their threats and played pretend, then they would have control over your mother and me for our entire lifetime. They might have exposed this matter to the public and ruin our reputation.”

“But we didn’t do it. Maybe they didn’t expect that. Then, they carried you away in a fit of anger.”

“So, they didn’t hurt me. They just wanted to take revenge on you to vent their anger.” She had already summarized what had happened.

Lamar served some more food to her. “Maybe. They didn’t want to hurt you. They just lost you by mistake.”

Raeleigh kept silent for a while and said, “But I don’t think the fire in the orphanage was an accident.”

Lamar considered this and said, “I got your brother to investigate this matter. He told me that someone had deliberately started the fire, but nobody found out who it was. They started an electrical fire. That is the most difficult type of arson to identify.”

“But they made a big mistake.”

“What mistake?” Raeleigh asked with a puzzled look.

Jazelle, who was worried about Raeleigh's IQ, said, "Baby girl, I'm really worried about your IQ. I thought you were worried about your EQ, but I didn't expect to be so anxious about your IQ. This was man-made arson. The people responsible wouldn't have done it personally. One person wouldn't be able to do it. They would have colluded with others to commit their crimes. Although this was committed many years ago, it's easy to figure it out after all these years. Did you know that?"

Raeleigh looked at her mother blankly. The people around understood what she said. But she didn't carefully analyze what she said. It was the arsonists who burned the people in the orphanage to death, but they couldn't have burned themselves to death.

Finding those people would be the breakthrough they needed.

Raeleigh was speechless after hearing that her intelligence and emotional intelligence were both at concerning levels.

What kind of parents talked about their children like this? Both their EQ and IQ levels were at concerning levels too.

"I see," Raeleigh replied with a red face. Jazelle raised her hand and touched her hair. "Baby girl, you should be more careful from now on. Don't get fooled."

"Ok." Raeleigh nodded. She never expected her mother to be like this.

Novalie was eating happily. She said while she ate, "Actually, Raeleigh is very smart. She's just a little lost when it comes to relationships. This is all my fault. I didn't get to teach her about it. You can take good care of her in the future."

"Granny, it's not your fault, it's my fault. It's all my fault that I didn't take care of my child." Jazelle was very kind. She always placed the blame on herself. Novalie looked up at Raeleigh and said, "You're just one person. At the very least, you gave birth to the baby safely. Sometimes, Raeleigh acts just like you. It's obviously someone else's fault. But you don't need to bear the responsibility."

"Granny..."

"Well, let's eat. Forget I said any of this."

"Let's eat."

Lamar gave Novalie a meatball and she happily ate it. The family continued eating their dinner.

Raeleigh glanced at her grandmother, who was seated on the opposite side of the table. After she had dinner, she went to rest with Novalie. Jazelle was afraid that her daughter might get lost, so she sent Novalie to have a rest. She was waiting downstairs and would look at the door upstairs from time to time, like a child.

Raeleigh talked for a while in Novalie's room while Jazelle waited for her to come out. Her husband reminded Raeleigh to have some soup later that night. She was quite busy preparing the soup. She took care of her daughter much more earnestly than she would with a baby.

**Chapter 1240**

When Raeleigh went downstairs, Lamar was waiting for her downstairs. As Raeleigh made her way to the kitchen to help, Lamar called her, “Baby girl, come here.”

Raeleigh stopped and looked at Lamar. She wasn’t used to being called ‘baby girl’. When she heard her mother call her, she felt awkward and couldn’t say anything.

She turned around, walked back to Lamar, and sat down beside him. Lamar had no awkward feelings with his daughter. He got straight to the point and said, “I hope you’ll be safe, and I hope nothing bad happens to you. You and your brother have found someone you adore and I wish you a long life.”

Raeleigh didn’t say anything, sat down opposite him, and looked at Lamar.

“If you love someone, then go ahead. I won’t interfere. If you want to do something, then please go ahead. I won’t interfere in that either. If... If you want to go back, then I’ll agree as well. Mom will be sad. But she has me, so you can rest assured that she’ll be okay with it.”

“Your Mom may look fragile, but you can’t imagine how strong she really is. Don’t worry.”

“The only thing I won’t discuss with you is this business with your grandmother. Granny is old and no one will take care of her when she returns home. On one hand, you should pay attention to her. On the other hand, I don’t want her running around with you at her age. She’d be happy to have the best care we can provide her here.”

“If she misses you, we will come and pick you up.”

Raeleigh didn’t know what to say. Hearing the noise coming from the kitchen, she went to check on Jazelle. Jazelle was standing in the doorway with soup in her hand, and her eyes were red. But when she saw Raeleigh looking at her, she immediately spoke with a smile, “I’ll support you no matter what you decide. If you want to keep going, even if we’re at the end of the world, then I will support you no matter what.”

“Your father and I will take care of ourselves. Don’t worry.”

Jazelle walked over to Raeleigh, placed down the soup in her hand, and sat beside her. Raeleigh hugged Jazelle and said, “I won’t leave, I won’t leave you and Dad behind.”

“Silly girl. Your father and I are still young. You don’t need to take care of us. We should be taking care of you. If you want to fly, then fly. Don’t worry about us. When we are old, you can return. Don’t fly off then.” When Jazelle said this, Raeleigh’s eyes turned red.

“Mom...”

Lamar couldn’t sit still when he saw his wife and daughter crying together. He got up, walked to the two of them, and hugged them. It took a while for them to calm down. The three of them drank some soup before they went to rest.

Raeleigh received a call from Jepherson as soon as she went upstairs. She wondered how he found her new number and wanted to leave as soon as she went upstairs.

“I’m at the door. Come out and pick me up.” Jepherson was standing outside, waiting for her. But she fell silent when she heard it was him.

When she was about to hang up, he quickly said, "Don't hang up, or else I'll be angry."

"That's your problem whether you're angry or not. If you think it'll do you any good to threaten me, then go ahead."

"Raeleigh..."

She paused for a moment. "Let's just talk."

"How can we talk if you don't come out?" He pulled violently on his tie. Raeleigh opened the door and went into her room. She closed the door and went towards the window. The lights in the room were switched off. She didn't like to turn on the lights when she rested. No one else would turn off the lights. He knew that Raeleigh didn't turn on the lights while he was outside.

She walked towards the window and looked outside, but she couldn't see anything. The manor was just too big.

Raeleigh turned around, switched on the lights, and lay down on the bed. She was still talking to Jepherson on the phone.

"Let's talk over the phone and clear things up. Otherwise, don't say anything." Her voice sounded cold and indifferent. It took a while for Jepherson to suppress his desire to rush in. He then spoke over the phone.

Raeleigh stayed silent for a while. Then, she said, "What happened between us is over. We can be friends from now on."

It was a little difficult for him to say the word 'friend', but he might not agree to the breakup if he didn't say so.

It was simply ridiculous that even though they had already broken up, he still refused to let go. She had no choice but to take a step back from this.

"Hmph..." Jepherson opened the car door and got off. After walking two whole rounds around his car, he couldn't diminish her irascible temper. He turned to face the manor and said, "I want to see you. Right now."

Raeleigh lay down on the bed with her eyes closed, imagining Jepherson jumping about in a rage.

"We broke up a long time ago. Have you forgotten?"

Raeleigh didn't want to mention the baby, but if he continued pushing her around, then she would. She wasn't sure if he would though.

Back in the car, Jepherson had calmed down. "Raeleigh, come out. Let's meet..."

Leaning against the car, Jepherson felt like dying.

Raeleigh knew that he was in pain, but she had no other choice. She really had no idea what to do next.

"It's just too painful. I want to be quiet. Even if I go back, I don't want to be with you. I'm not the same person as I was."

“He bit his lower lip. He clenched his white teeth until his lower lip bled.

“I’ll think about it.”

Raeleigh hung up the phone, put it down, and lay on the bed. What should she do?

After falling into a deep sleep, Raeleigh woke up the next morning and felt very tired. She went downstairs to ask the servants if there was a car outside the manor. The servants confirmed that there was indeed a car there. She then stopped asking about it.

At noon, Raeleigh heard from the servants that the car had left.

Raeleigh was relieved upon hearing that Jepherson had left.

That afternoon, Raeleigh walked around the manor for a while, as she was planning to draw with her mother. However, when she brought the drawing board out into the yard, the only thing she could think of was a retro car design.

Raeleigh raised her head and gasped. Her mind was out of sorts.

“Baby girl, what’s wrong?” Jazelle held a brush and some paint in her hands. Raeleigh was in a daze. She then looked at her mother and said, “I’m thinking about a car design.”

“That’s great. Inspiration can come from life. If you have an idea, then you should express it. Bernardo, go and take the things I’ve prepared for the young lady.”

“Yes, Madam.”

The old Lennox immediately led his men inside. Not long after, they moved some tables and chairs outside and prepared all kinds of paper, pens, and rulers.

Raeleigh was lost in thought for a while. Then, she sat down and started on her design.

About an hour later, Jazelle had drawn Raeleigh’s portrait. Whoever approached her would be gestured at and was asked to step away. If she was distracted from her inspiration, then she would lose it.

Raeleigh stood up just as she finished her design. As the wind blew, her forehead was covered in sweat.

Jazelle took her painting and showed it to her. Raeleigh got up and returned it to Jazelle. The image of a mother’s and daughter’s love was enviable.

Then, Jazelle went to see the car that Raeleigh had designed. She was a little lost at what she saw. Although she didn’t understand it, her daughter’s talent was shockingly impressive.

It only took her just slightly more than an hour to create such bold and avant-garde ideas. She could do something that no one else could do.