

Go After 1461

Chapter 1461

Xanthus was silent the entire time. Jepherson continued, "Not to mention, Stella almost lost her life saving me. I will never forget that."

"So you'll bet Rhys your conscience?" Xanthus asked, amused.

Jepherson did not refute but said, "I am very clear about the feelings in my heart. I pour my heart and soul into all my relationships, just as my love for Raeleigh."

"Although what Stella did was wrong, I did not side with her, nor am I blindly being partial. I need to get to the bottom of this and measure the interests involved as well."

"The Doyle family is no ordinary family. If I make a move on Stella, I would have to consider the Harvey family's future."

"The Capital City is full of dangers, and I don't have the confidence to secure the situation. Flynt is in no condition to lead the Cole family, and Colston has taken over. Colston is no simple man; he would negotiate before resolving in brute force. I don't want to just jump to conclusions."

"Your relationships are too complicated. We can't handle it." Xanthus said with his eyes still closed.

"I believe in Raeleigh just as I believe in myself."

Xanthus opened his eyes and looked at Jepherson. His outline was clear, and his eyes were deep.

"Since you believe in Raeleigh, why don't you take any measures? Didn't you know Raeleigh was worried?"

"I do, but I have to consider the bigger picture."

Jepherson took a deep breath and closed his eyes a little. "What I'm bearing on my shoulders is the entire Harvey family and our allied Atkinson family. If my mistake leads to countless sufferings all because of my personal feelings, how am I to face the people who trust in me?"

"The situation has been set in stone with the Doyle family's invasion and the Cole family taking a step back. Even if I have Jacky by my side, I still have to consider the big picture. After all, the Atkinson family isn't a part of all of this. If the situation gets out of my hands, the Doyle family will join forces with the Cole family. I have to measure the interests involved in this matter and also keep the Doyle family at bay."

Xanthus was silent for a moment before he concluded, "Those who want to achieve greatness must set aside their personal feelings. Since you're high up above, why bother yourself with troubles? You'll be able to free yourself if you let Raeleigh go."

"Heh..."

Jepherson sneered, "I was not born for power. If I can't even have the woman I want, no matter how much power I have in my life, I'm as good as a walking corpse."

Xanthus stared at him as he spoke, then stood up and strode out of the bath. He pulled a towel on the side, quickly wrapped it around his waist, and walked toward the door.

Jepherson stood up and said, "I can still protect you and Raeleigh if you stay. Stella will have to think twice about doing anything with me around."

"She will hold back, but if you leave Capital City and return to your parents, you two will not be the only ones she targets."

Xanthus stopped in his tracks and turned to look at Jepherson. "You think too highly of yourself; do you really think the Osteen family can't withstand a single blow?"

"It's not that I think so, but some people will do anything to achieve their goals while you don't have such malice."

Staring at him, Xanthus said, "So you know everything."

"Stay and use me to deter the Doyle family. Even if she makes a move, she won't dare do it outright. I will take measures and prevent her from having another chance." Jepherson was resolute.

Fixing his gaze on Jepherson, he said, "Put on your clothes."

With that, he left the bathroom, and Raeleigh was standing behind the door.

She wasn't too surprised to see Xanthus naked. After all, it wasn't the first time, plus they were siblings.

In haste, Raeleigh took a towel and draped it over Xanthus. He dried himself with the towel while taking Raeleigh out as Jepherson would be coming out in a bit.

Raeleigh went to get some clothes for Xanthus after exiting the room, and Jepherson came out when he was done changing.

Seeing the siblings, Jepherson also went to put on his clothes, and the three went downstairs. Jepherson looked at Raeleigh and said, "I'm heading out later; Santiago will come."

"No, we don't need to..."

"From now on, don't act rashly. And you..." Jepherson looked at Xanthus with displeasure. "If you hadn't gone to Stella, this may not have happened."

Xanthus did not say anything else, as there was no point in explaining when it had been done.

With Jepherson's reminder, Raeleigh turned to Xanthus with curiosity.

However, Xanthus did not explain the matter but said instead, "You're not welcomed here."

Stumped, it was the first time she had seen her brother so furious.

Jepherson's eyes darkened, and he gritted his teeth. "It's not up to you whether I come or not."

"Jepherson..."

"Santiago will be here soon." Jepherson wasn't angry when he spoke, but Raeleigh thought his attitude wasn't the best.

Raeleigh stared at Jepherson dazedly. He turned around, took his coat, and left before his hair even dried.

Raeleigh turned around and looked at the closed door, baffled.

Xanthus said after Jepherson finally left, "Get packing; we're leaving."

Raeleigh turned and looked at Xanthus. Although hesitant, she still did as Xanthus said.

Raeleigh brought two suitcases full of things down as she said, "I didn't realize I had so many to pack."

Xanthus stood up and walked over to help, intending to leave with Raeleigh. But just as they reached the door, Santiago arrived with Jacky.

Raeleigh opened the door to find Santiago standing behind it. The two suitcases caught his eyes, and he asked with curiosity, "What are you doing?"

"Nothing," Xanthus answered him before Raeleigh could. Amused, Santiago pushed them back into the house and separated Raeleigh from her suitcases.

Jacky closed the door and looked at the two people in front of him. Santiago said, "Your urinalysis won't be able to pass security. Are you planning on putting on a show with Raeleigh by your side?"

Xanthus frowned at that. Santiago continued, "Do you think there wouldn't be traces of meth in your blood when you've taken so much?"

"How long will it remain?" Raeleigh looked at Santiago, but he wasn't sure, so he turned to Jacky. However, Jacky didn't answer as he was unsure either. But judging from Xanthus's condition, there should be traces of meth left in his system.

"Raeleigh, put your luggage aside." Xanthus sat on the sofa, staring sharply at Santiago. Santiago's arms could move now, and he was well dressed.

Seeing Xanthus seated, Santiago followed suit, his legs crossed, head looking up as he drummed on both the armrests. "There are two things at hand. First, you won't be able to pass security with the drug in your system. Second, this person..."

Santiago pulled a photo out and showed it to Xanthus. It was a picture of a young lady.

"I don't know her," Xanthus said, certain.

Raeleigh took the photo from him and thought she looked familiar but couldn't tell where she had seen the girl no matter how hard she recalled.

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"This is Colston's wife, Louisa," Santiago said. Jacky also went to take a look at the picture.

Raeleigh took the photo and sat on the couch, taking a good look at it, asking, "She's the one that was in the same fire?"

"That's her."

Santiago had only just gotten the photo from Jepherson.

Puzzled, Raeleigh asked, "She does look a bit familiar. Are they deliberately using her to test us?"

With one leg over his knee, Santiago said, "It's hard to say. If someone knows your past, they will make an issue about this matter. If this is only the Cole family's doing, it would be easy to deal with. But what's troubling is that if the Doyle family is involved as well."

Unable to comprehend, Raeleigh asked, "What does it have to do with the Doyle family?"

"The Doyle family is a jewelry merchant. They dabbled in various businesses years ago, and one of them involved antique porcelain. Jepherson suspects your parents had offended the Doyle family back then."

"I thought it was your family?" Raeleigh asked. Amused, Santiago retorted, "I do like to fight, but you can't blame me for everybody that dies."

"My grandmother had indeed done some wrong in the past, but no one will know the details if we don't investigate."

Silent, Raeleigh looked at Xanthus, who had been silent the entire time and only spoke up a while later, "Since we can't go anywhere, we'll have to stay."

Hearing that, Raeleigh wanted to see this woman named Louisa.

At four in the afternoon, Raeleigh asked Santiago, "Has the Harvey family and the Cole family made up now?"

"Sort of."

Raeleigh put a bowl of fruits down as she asked; Santiago was watching the TV. Across them, Xanthus was reading a book while Jacky was resting; no one in the room was doing the same thing.

"I want to meet this Louisa." Raeleigh thought she would be more certain whether Louisa was from the same orphanage as her if she visited the Cole family. If so, she would remember. If not, perhaps this person appeared with a purpose; the Cole family must be planning something.

Santiago put down the remote and glanced at Raeleigh, then stood up and walked toward the door.

Raeleigh looked back, and Xanthus said, "Following him is more reassuring than following his brother."

Raeleigh froze for a moment before following Santiago to the door.

Xanthus obviously had a prejudice against Jepherson, but she didn't want to explain anything now. After all, Jepherson had indeed handled Xanthus's incident poorly.

After getting in Santiago's car, they headed to the Cole Manor, with Santiago driving. She turned to him and asked, "Is it really okay for us to go there just like this?"

"Don't worry about it. I'll show you around."

Raeleigh wasn't worried about anything else, but it was unjustifiable now that Cynthia was missing, and the Cole family didn't ask for Santiago to bring her back when they were the ones who approved of the two.

When the car arrived at Cole Manor, Santiago got off but told Raeleigh to wait in the car, seeing it was cold outside, and then knocked on the door.

It didn't take long for a servant to come out. After asking Santiago's purpose of visiting, they hurried back to inform Colston.

A moment later, Colston came out with Louisa. They greeted each other and invited Santiago to enter.

"Hold on." Santiago went back to open the car door and helped Raeleigh out.

Surprised by Raeleigh, Colston and Louisa sized her up unknowingly. Santiago held Raeleigh's wrist as he stood next to her, and she didn't shake his hand off, thinking it was better if others misunderstood. He wasn't afraid, so why should she be? Since she had decided to leave, there was nothing to worry about.

Moreover, her identity was intriguing. She was sometimes Jepherson's fiancée, then sometimes Xanthus's girlfriend, and now she was standing next to Santiago.

Since it would only make things more complicated if she explained, it was better not to; she would leave others to assume.

"I'm sorry, this is?" Colston asked, curious, and Santiago said, "She's my classmate. I brought her here to let her have a look around."

"Classmate?" Colston naturally didn't believe Raeleigh and Santiago were just classmates.

"Come in then." Colston immediately invited Santiago and Raeleigh in. All this while, Raeleigh had been observing Louisa, and the more she looked at her, the more she felt familiar, especially Louisa's eyes. But no matter how she couldn't recall where she had seen her.

As they walked, Raeleigh took a look around the manor. Although she had often heard of it, it was the first time she visited.

The manor was indeed different from other places; Raeleigh was aware.

After entering the main hall, Raeleigh and Santiago sat down, and Louisa immediately ordered their servants to prepare some refreshments. The four of them then sat down and talked. Halfway through the conversation, Raeleigh asked about Louisa.

"When were you born? You look about the same age as me." Raeleigh asked. Humored, Louisa replied, "I'm twenty this year, just past my birthday."

Raeleigh thought for a moment. "Then we're the same age; I just turned twenty too."

"My birthday is in March. What about you?" Louisa said enthusiastically. Raeleigh thought for a while and answered, "Mine's August."

"August... I like August. It's autumn."

Raeleigh only replied with a nod, then brought her attention back to the others. Louisa, on the other hand, barely asked about Raeleigh. At around five, they planned to leave, but the couple asked them to stay for dinner, and they only left after that.

Colston and his wife sent them off personally and didn't leave until the car drove off.

Raeleigh sat in the car and looked at the fading figures, carefully recalling the birthdays in March in the orphanage.

Raeleigh had an acute sense of memory, and she was known for it even back in the orphanage. She remembered everyone's birthday well, as the days the orphanage wasn't well off, the children could only eat better when it was someone's birthday. Moreover, she was also a gluttonous child, so the dates stuck to her.

If her memory served her right, there were only six who celebrated their birthdays in March.

One of them was the child who went to the orphanage with her; the girl who cried for three days and more because they changed her name from Brisa to Francia.

But could things be so coincidental? Had Francia survived when she did as well?

No way.

She took a nap in the car. When they arrived home, she had a chat with Xanthus before going to rest.

Over the next few days, Raeleigh's life finally returned to peace, and she was finally able to sit down and think about her relationship with Jepherson.

Raeleigh received a call from Jepherson in the morning, asking her to go to work. She took a glance at Xanthus, who had already recovered, and thought for a moment before refusing. To Raeleigh, even the most important thing was not as crucial as Xanthus's health.

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With that in mind, Raeleigh refused Jepherson. Xanthus said, "If you're not going to the company, what are your plans?"

Raeleigh shook her head. "No plans."

"Since you're free, let's go out for lunch," Xanthus said as he glanced at the time. Jacky had been here for some time. Seeing they were heading out for a meal, he glanced at Santiago. "Are you going back with me or staying?"

"I'm staying," Santiago said as he lay on the sofa. He was also a patient; it didn't matter where he went.

And just like that, Jacky left. After he was gone, Santiago stood up and looked at Xanthus. "I want to take a shower."

Xanthus looked at him. "And you want me to help?"

"Am I supposed to ask Raeleigh then?" Santiago said, amused. He took off his clothes as he went to the bathroom downstairs, not forgetting to tell Raeleigh, "I need a change of clothes."

And off she went. With that, Xanthus could only follow Santiago to the bathroom and assist him.

As Raeleigh took Santiago's clothes to the bathroom, someone rang the doorbell when she was about to knock on the door. She thought it was Jepherson, but the visitor had caught her by surprise when she opened the door.

Flynt Cole?

Flynt's face was pallid, looking ill. She hesitated for a moment before she turned to the bathroom and knocked on the door.

Xanthus opened the door, wearing a bathrobe. Raeleigh was afraid that it was Santiago, so she didn't dare look until the door opened and someone spoke.

Xanthus came out and said, "Leave the clothes at the door. I'll get them later."

Raeleigh said, "Flynt is here; he is at the door. He didn't bring anyone with him."

Xanthus glanced at the front door, then back at Santiago, who was still showering. "Alright, we'll come out in a sec."

He then closed the door and told Santiago. "Flynt's outside; come out when you're done."

Santiago still couldn't take a bath on his own; it was Xanthus who bathed him. When he heard Flynt had come, he turned around with a cold and arrogant face.

"Is he here to seek death?" Santiago strode out with a towel wrapped around his waist.

He changed his clothes at the bathroom door and dried his hair as he looked at Raeleigh. "Nervous?"

Raeleigh shook her head. "No, curious. What happened to his arm?"

The corner of Santiago's mouth twitched. He thought Jepherson sure was ruthless, but how come no one told him.

"How would I know?" With that, he strode to the front door. Raeleigh hadn't a clue what he said to Flynt, but he was driven right out in a matter of minutes. By the time she got to the door, Flynt had already returned to his car.

She stared at Flynt, who never drove off or got out of the car before turning to Santiago by her side, asking, "What did you say to him?"

"I told him not to come again."

"That's it?" Raeleigh asked in disbelief.

"What else do you want me to say?"

Amused, he pulled Raeleigh inside. Closing the door, he glanced at Xanthus and went to his room upstairs.

After closing the door, Santiago went to the window to take a look and called Jepherson.

"Flynt came."

Jepherson was in a meeting right then. Hearing Santiago's words, he raised his hand and motioned for the meeting to stop. He left his seat and strode out to the corridor, stopping at a window, asking, "What did he say?"

"He wants to work with us." Santiago drew the curtain and looked at Flynt in the car. He had never seen the driver before; he didn't look like a local.

"Work with us?"

Jepherson thought it was amusing. "He still wants to work with us when I tore off one of his arms?"

"That's what he said, but it didn't seem like he came for me."

"Protect Raeleigh and Xanthus; I'll send more men over to you. You're still injured; don't be reckless."

"I know; I'll be fine."

After that, Jepherson hung up and made a call to Zorion.

"Send someone to protect Santiago and Raeleigh. If Flynt dares to take action, don't hold back."

Jepherson put his phone away and turned to look at the people standing not far away. He stepped back into the conference room and continued the meeting.

Brooklyn had been in a good mood lately. While he was drinking water on his bed, he was informed Elina was at the door.

Ronard directed his gaze at the door and knew she was here because of Flynt. But seeing the old master now would only be adding fuel to the fire; it was better if she didn't come.

"Call her in," Brooklyn said, and Ronard went to greet her personally at the door.

The best thing Elina had done over the years was serving Brooklyn well, leading him to like her because of how she knew when to take a step back.

For her son, Flynt, to become the head of the house, she had sacrificed a lot. Misfortune even fell upon her two daughters, let alone her own family.

That alone, even if Flynt had fallen out of favor with Brooklyn, she was still unparalleled as the mistress of the family.

With Brooklyn still around, Elina could still live in dignity for a few more years.

Furthermore, he still gave her the respect she deserved.

When Ronard opened the door and saw Elina, he greeted, "Madam."

"Greetings, Ronard." Elina was still polite to Lennox; she couldn't vent her anger on others just because she had fallen from power. She had never done so in the past, nor will she in the future.

Ronard admired her politeness deeply; she sure was someone who had gone through thick and thin. With that alone, she wouldn't have too hard of a time in the Cole household.

Although Flynt had fallen from power, it didn't mean that he had lost completely.

In other words, where there is life, there is hope. As long as he was still alive, he'd still have the chance to return.

"You're too polite, Madam Elina. Please come in. Old Master Brooklyn is waiting for you inside." Ronard stepped aside to let Elina enter. A servant behind her handed her a box before she went in, greeting Brooklyn when she saw him. "Greetings, Old Master Brooklyn. How are you doing?"

"Not too bad. I've even had some tonic today. What do you have with you?" Brooklyn asked, and Elina presented the box to him. "Some pastries; I made them myself."

Elina took out the pastries as she spoke and put them on display. Brooklyn took a look at them before turning to Ronard, who ate a couple. It wasn't until Brooklyn was sure Ronard was okay that he took a bite.

He thought it was scrumptious, so he asked Elina about the pastries.

She then explained how she made them, not mentioning Flynt at all.

Ronard had been standing aside the whole time. When Elina got ready to leave, she stood up and told Brooklyn to rest well. But Brooklyn called her back after she took a few steps. "Elina."

With that, she stopped in her tracks and turned to look at Brooklyn. "Yes, Old Master."

Brooklyn said, "Flynt will always be the best to me. It's just that we're in troubled times, so I have to think of the greater good."

"I understand. We'll abide by your orders." Elina said.

Although she was a little downhearted, there was no resentment.

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Brooklyn said, "It pains my heart to see Flynt like this. But now that things had come to this, have him look after our businesses in the countryside. He can recuperate there in the meantime. Tell him to come back when he recovers; I have other arrangements for him."

Elina was stunned for a moment before she thanked him, "Thank you for thinking of Flynt, Old Master. Our businesses in the countryside are never passed to outsiders; I'm sure Flynt will manage them well and not disappoint you further."

"Good that you know. You may leave."

Brooklyn waved his hand, and Elina left. With a murderous look hidden in her eyes as she walked.

That old man, was he getting rid of Flynt now that he was useless to him?

Elina was eager for the old man's death.

However, Elina did not hate Colston. The world was competitive; one would rise when the other had fallen. But she hadn't expected this to be the outcome when she had not only lost her own family, but misfortune even fell upon her two daughters.

Therefore, the person who she hated most was Brooklyn.

After Elina left, Brooklyn looked at the door and said softly, "Why must both exist? If the two brothers from the Harvey family didn't exist, this wouldn't have happened to Flynt. Alas, the child can be too strong-willed sometimes; he doesn't know when to back down. It's good that he's competitive, but it wouldn't do him good if he doesn't know when to give up."

"Unlike Colston."

Brooklyn took family status seriously. If he hadn't been against Flavian's marriage, his son wouldn't hold a grudge against him and even cut ties with him.

Ronard agreed, "You're right, Old Master Brooklyn, but is it really good for Mr. Flynt to go to the countryside in his current state?"

"He is the successor I raised after all. There's no way I can seal his fate, can I? Colston is not like Flynt; Flynt is more obedient, but Colston is even more difficult to deal with, and this Louisa is a headache."

Ultimately, Brooklyn didn't like Louisa; he would die with a grievance if Louisa stayed. They were no family who would take in just about anyone, let alone an orphan.

Moreover, Colston was a nobody in the family, a concubine's child. What a joke it was to let him actually lead the family.

Brooklyn was quite careful and had long made plans.

"Ronard, go and see what Thorin has been doing lately," Brooklyn whispered.

Receiving his orders, Ronard got busy.

He returned to Brooklyn with the news, "He's talking business with someone."

"He's still doing the flower business?" Brooklyn asked, and Ronard replied with a yes. Brooklyn recalled what happened a few years ago to Thorin. He was a rather obedient child, but he fell in love with a girl in college, and the two lovebirds planned on getting married. However, Brooklyn broke them up and even used his connections to send the girl abroad. Unfortunately, the plane crashed, and she died.

After that, Thorin left home and began working for others. He even said he would never come back.

Later, he started a flower business and had yet to return.

Thorin was the child of the first wife of his second son and the fifth son of his generation.

His mother passed away at an Tristany age, and his father remarried, but regardless, he was still the first wife's son. Moreover, his mother was of a noble family outside of the Capital City.

Although Brooklyn did not interact with his mother's family, Thorin kept in touch with them.

Brooklyn thought Thorin would be an excellent candidate to rule over the family, seeing that his business was doing well and he was brilliant. Given that he was willing to return to the family.

Ronard suggested, "There's a family gathering this month. Should I ask Mr. Thorin to return?"

Brooklyn nodded. "Go ahead."

Ronard nodded and left.

“I’m going to the countryside?” Never had Flynt expected this to happen to him when he had broken his back for the family. Brooklyn established the family business in the countryside years ago. Although it was doing alright, it was where their ancestral grave was too. Brooklyn had undoubtedly asked him to look after the grave; it was not a job he would take lying down.

Elina sat opposite him, drinking tea.

She looked at the servants to her sides and waved her hand, dismissing them. After they left, she said, “You have to break your back to achieve greatness. Remember, what you have today is exchanged with all you ever had, including your dignity, power, and body.”

“Is it worth it to sacrifice so much for a woman?”

“Look at her now. Do you see even the slightest bit of distress from her?”

Elina only hated two people in the world; one was Brooklyn, and the other was Raeleigh.

If it weren’t for her, this wouldn’t have happened to her son.

Flynt’s heart sank when he recalled how Raeleigh had probed into his matter to save Santiago.

“I’ll keep your words in mind, Mother.” Elina’s words had been deeply engraved in his heart.

“Head to the countryside tomorrow then. Do your best. Prepare for two things. One is to come back, and the other is to rise from the ashes. If you want to come back, you must be capable and have subordinates. By then, you can have any woman you want.”

Elina believed her son would be able to bounce back this time.

Flynt said after a long time, “What about you?”

“Don’t worry. I’ll keep an eye on things here for you. Colston won’t be having the last laugh. Although he has some ability, he’s a nobody in the Cole family. Knowing Old Master Brooklyn, he will never allow Colston to take charge of the family, so you still have a chance. But judging the situation, it’s likely he’ll ask Thorin to rule over the family next. I have to keep an eye on all this, so I can’t leave.”

“You’ll have to be careful.”

“I will.”

Elina had already had plans, so she sent her son out in person.

After Flynt left for the countryside, she immediately sent someone to the Neurology Department to bring Yanora back and re-train her, preparing to pave the way for Flynt.

It was already a few days later when Raeleigh heard about it. She heard it when she was in the same space as Santiago as he talked to Jacky about it.

“Did you say Yanora is out?” Raeleigh put down the fruit and asked. Santiago took a bite of the apple. “Scared?”

Raeleigh pursed her lips. "Not really, just surprised that Yanora would come out at this time."

"Now that Flynt has fallen, he absolutely needs someone who can help him. Plus, they're siblings; why shouldn't she come out at this time?" Santiago commented as he ate. Raeleigh thought for a moment and said, "I was present when Yanora was locked up as a madman; Flynt's attitude toward her was complete disdain. With such a relationship, why would Yanora help?"

Raeleigh was only stating the facts.

Santiago leaned on one side and shook his legs. "Most stories among the wealthy stemmed from interests."

"It beats being locked up. What's more, she loathes you, so she'll be able to get even with you if she can come out. So tell me, does she have a reason?"

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Raeleigh fell silent for a moment staring at Santiago. "When Yanora comes out, her only plan may be to kill me. So no matter what, she would agree to help Flynt."

"Smart girl." Santiago finished the apple in a couple of bites, threw the core in the trash can, and took another one.

Raeleigh fell silent for a while and continued, "Alas, misfortune never comes singly. I've already got Stella to worry about, and now Yanora's back in the equation. I guess I won't have to worry about being bored."

Amused, Santiago commented, "Sounds like you know what's good for yourself."

"People should know their limits, not to mention I'm facing two cunning tigers."

Raeleigh got up and went upstairs. She was sick and tired of all the chaos she was in, no longer wanting to bother anymore.

However, she had no choice but to face it as she couldn't leave at the moment.

Raeleigh planned to go to work that day as she had to explain something and ask for Lamarre's whereabouts.

Raeleigh wanted to know where Lamarre was since New Year's, but she never got the chance to ask.

Santiago said that he didn't know, and she also tried to contact him but failed.

Jepherson was her only chance left, but she didn't hold any hope, though she still wanted to try. Since she was going to the company to explain things, she could ask in the meantime. It would be best if she could find out, but so be it if she couldn't.

As she was thinking about this, Raeleigh's phone rang. As soon as she answered, a sharp scream from a woman came from the phone. It shocked her and made her heart pound.

Raeleigh tightened her grip on her phone; she checked the number and confirmed it was a local line.

She put the phone next to her ear again, wanting to know who it was. However, all she heard was the engaged tone.

Holding the phone in her hand, she waited for a while before it rang again. As she was mentally prepared this time, she was no longer afraid. She put the phone on speaker and distanced herself a little.

A sneer came after the shouts faded. "Well? Scared?"

Calm, Raeleigh looked out the window. "You did scare me, but I'm not afraid, just a little nervous. After all, I'm normal, and you're not. If I acted the same as you, I'd be a crazy lady too."

Yanora's face turned cold, and she gritted her teeth. "Don't be so complacent, Raeleigh. I'm already fine now. I'm warning you; I'll ruin your life and let you regret living."

"Who would believe the words of a lunatic? It's good that you're able to come out. Don't do anything stupid and end up in there again. Oh, how sad that would be."

You know, there's an animal who would be used as a pawn, released when they're needed and locked up when they're not. Do you know what it is?"

Raeleigh asked nonchalantly while Yanora clasped her phone. "It's all thanks to you, Raeleigh Anson. How long do you think you can run free?"

"Forever, I think. Compared to some people, I'm surrounded by elites, and they're all infatuated with me while I don't have to make any promises. They will give me what I want, and every one of them is gentle and considerate to me. They really love me."

"While you have nothing but anger. The one who is always angry will look old the fastest. As a woman, I pity you, but I can't do anything to help you. Shame."

Raeleigh wore a faint smile as she said confidently. On the other hand, Yanora huffed, "Don't be too arrogant, Raeleigh. You will die in my hands sooner or later; I want you to die more miserably than anyone else."

"Anybody can say so, but I wouldn't do it if I were you. After all, you have nothing but a bad reputation now, worse than the children born to concubines in the Cole family."

Raeleigh grew excited as she spoke, while Yanora grew furious. How she wished she could rush to Raeleigh's door to kill her.

Not hearing an answer from Yanora, she continued, "Hope you won't be so mean when you call next time. Not even kids would fall for this."

With that, Raeleigh hung up the phone, pushed open the door, and went downstairs.

Downstairs, Santiago and Jacky were sitting. On seeing Raeleigh, Santiago raised his head and asked, "I thought you've already gone to bed."

"Listen to this." Raeleigh opened the recording of Yanora's second call. At first, there was a sharp scream, then her conversation with Yanora.

Santiago found it rather amusing. "Not bad."

Raeleigh knew Santiago was a frivolous one, so she went straight to the point. "Yanora is obviously targeting me, but why is she so high-profile?"

Raeleigh thought it would be better for someone like Yanora to kill her in secret. Why was she warning her?

"Why else? She's a lunatic." Santiago commented in amusement, rendering Raeleigh speechless. "Who says she's a lunatic?"

Yanora was triggered indeed, but it didn't mean there was something wrong with her brain. Raeleigh was very clear about this. If it weren't for Flynt's indifference, Yanora wouldn't have been locked up at all.

It was only then Raeleigh realized Flynt was unreliable. If he was even able to hurt his sister, who else wouldn't he hurt?

Raeleigh had seen through Flynt's character. She couldn't be friends with him anymore.

"If she is not a lunatic, why did she call you? Her family almost killed her, yet she's still willing to help them out. How is this not the behavior of a lunatic?"

Raeleigh was once again rendered speechless, so she simply ignored him. She stood up and was about to go upstairs when she saw Xanthus coming down.

She didn't know when Xanthus came out, but he stood in the middle of the stairs, staring at Raeleigh in silence, waiting for her to tell him.

Raeleigh thought for a moment and explained, "A dog that bites doesn't bark. I don't believe Yanora will do anything to me."

"She won't, but I'm still worried. I don't know how long this road will last. I'm beginning to wonder if I should take you and leave; let them disappear from this world. I'm growing agitated by the day."

"Xanthus..."

"Don't worry; I'm fine." Xanthus glanced at Santiago and Jacky before heading back up. Raeleigh followed Xanthus back to his room to explain, hoping to ease his worries.

Xanthus sat on the chair and looked at his sister, who wanted to tell him not to worry. He motioned for her to sit, and she did. With that, he said, "We can't just be sitting ducks; I can't let anything happen to you again."

"Things are not that terrible. Yanora failed to harm me the last time, and it will be the same this time around as well."

Raeleigh firmly believed that Yanora could do nothing to her.

Chapter 1466

“That still won’t do. We can’t afford to be caught unprepared. From now on, Santiago must stay by our side, and you need to learn self-defense. I will prepare some medicine and knives for you.”

Xanthus had already made up his mind; they couldn’t fight an unprepared battle.

Raeleigh looked at Xanthus, dumbfounded. “Xanthus...”

Before Xanthus could speak, Raeleigh rushed to say, “It’s illegal to have knives on you. I can’t possibly take a knife with me.”

“Then it’s legal for them to hurt you?” Xanthus asked, but Raeleigh hesitated. “We’re not the same as them.”

“We’re not that different. If they lay their hands on us, what we have to do is break them.”

Xanthus had made up his mind; no one could change it. They did not stir up the trouble, but it doesn’t mean others could trample on them.

It was a world of dark and light. If they insisted on being a pacifist, they would be the ones to die in the end.

Raeleigh knew Xanthus was serious this time, but she couldn’t agree to his methods.

“Santiago can’t stay with us all the time; he has things he has to do. What’s more, his arm still hasn’t healed. Even if he stays with us, he can’t do anything.” Raeleigh argued.

With that, Xanthus retorted, “It’ll do as long as Jacky’s around. Also, this is not his first rodeo; it’s already an everyday thing for him to be with us.”

Seeing Xanthus wasn’t giving in, Raeleigh could only give up.

Xanthus got up and went downstairs. He told Santiago to stay with them for the next half a month.

“Okay, I don’t mind. It doesn’t matter where I’m at as long as there’s food and drink.” Santiago thought it was better that way; it meant that he didn’t have to go anywhere else.

Standing aside, although Raeleigh was in a dilemma, she thought the four of them together would be safer than just her and her brother. Moreover, there were people protecting Santiago; if something did happen, they wouldn’t sit idly.

When the matter was settled, she decided to prepare dinner. She had just entered the kitchen when she received a call from Jepherson.

He wanted her to tell everyone that Scarlettte was treating them to a meal.

Finding it odd, she asked, “Why would she want to treat us to a meal?”

He didn’t answer. He hadn’t had a proper meal for a whole day; couldn’t they at least eat together?

Then, the phone was hung up. Raeleigh stared at it strangely and intended to call him again but didn’t at the thought that she might make Jepherson misunderstand something.

Thus, she called Scarlett. She was sitting in Jepherson's car. On seeing that it was Raeleigh's number, she glanced at him and thought, "What bad luck!"

"Hello!" Scarlett immediately answered.

"Scarlett, it's Raeleigh."

Raeleigh said on the other side, and she replied right away, "I know it is you. Are you with Mr. Jepherson?"

C'mon, she was the one with him, alright?!

Raeleigh thought for a moment. "No. Is there anything important?"

"I did talk to him about inviting you guys over for dinner. Bring Santiago and Dr. Osteen with you, and that Jacky. I want to discuss some marriage matters. Isn't it a matter of liveliness and joy?"

Raeleigh froze for a moment. "Well..."

"Didn't Mr. Jepherson call?" Scarlett asked, but Raeleigh didn't answer.

"It may be that he has been too busy to remember. I'll call him again." With that, Scarlett wanted to hang up, but Raeleigh immediately said, "No, I'll call him. The guys happen to be with me."

"Well, alright then. I'm going to prepare the food. Come earlier and help me, will you?"

On seeing that Jepherson looked lifeless when he couldn't see Raeleigh, Scarlett felt nervous. She knew something must've happened. It had already been half a month since she last saw Raeleigh; she wondered what Raeleigh had been doing and why she hadn't visited.

After hanging up the phone, Raeleigh looked at it before walking out. She found it weird that Scarlett thought about treating them to a meal at this hour.

She walked out of the kitchen and looked at the guys who were all waiting for dinner. "Scarlett called and invited us over for dinner, so we're not eating here."

Santiago glanced at Xanthus. "Great, save us the trouble."

Santiago was the first to get up and put on his coat, and the rest followed suit.

When they arrived at Scarlett's place, Jepherson hadn't arrived. Raeleigh even purposely went in and had a look.

Seeing someone had arrived, Scarlett came out in her wheelchair and asked Raeleigh immediately, "Where's Mr. Jepherson? Didn't he come with you?"

"He has something to do. He should be here soon." Raeleigh said.

Santiago took a look at Raeleigh. "Did you call him?"

However, Raeleigh didn't answer. Xanthus looked at Santiago with displeasure, but Santiago ignored him and urged others to go inside.

“I’ll wait for him outside. I happen to have something to talk to him about.” Santiago pointed with his chin, indicating for everyone to enter.

After Raeleigh and the others entered, Santiago stood outside. Jacky came back out and went to his side. “What is it?”

“Someone’s following us.”

“My men or Xanthus’s?”

Jacky already knew the people following weren’t just their’s.

Santiago shook his head. “Neither.”

“Who is it then?”

Just as Jacky was speaking, Jepherson’s car pulled over.

The driver got out of the car to open the door. When Jepherson came out of the car, he saw Santiago looking around. He turned to the driver and said, “Head back first.”

“Yes, Sir.”

The driver got in the car and drove away. Then, Jepherson waited for Santiago to open the gates. As Santiago turned around and looked at his brother, he thought that there must be something fishy going on.

“I’ll open the gate later. Follow me. When I open it, take your knife out and stab my brother.”

Then, Santiago strode toward the gates. Jacky glanced at Santiago, not wanting to know what he was thinking and if he meant it, only doing as he was told.

When Santiago reached the gate, he asked Jepherson as he opened it, “I thought you know the password?”

He asked to distract Jepherson.

“It may have changed.”

Jepherson answered with a devil-may-care attitude, and at that moment, Jacky raised his knife and thrust it at Jepherson.

Jepherson did not move, but the knife fell to the ground with a clang.

When he looked over, he saw Jacky holding his hand, looking around.

In a low and unhappy voice, Jepherson said, “What’s wrong with you? Are you asking for a beating again?”

Chapter 1467

Jepherson walked in and glanced at Jacky’s hand. “If it weren’t for me, you would’ve been dead. You’re following his lead to mess around?”

Jacky looked down at the back of his hand. After making sure it was alright, he let go and looked around, asking Jepherson, "I can't believe you have other men like Stuart by your side; I thought he's the only one."

"It's impossible there would be no one around me. Only you will think such a thing."

Jepherson took a sudden glance at Santiago and stepped inside. Santiago turned to look at his brother before turning to Jacky's swollen hand. "Are you okay?"

"I'm okay. It hurts, but my hand is still attached. If it weren't me, this hand would definitely be gone."

Jacky had always thought Jepherson was not the type to care about protection. After all, he had never seen anyone following him around apart from Stuart and his driver.

Unlike Santiago, even the slightest mishap would result in people appearing.

But it seemed that it wasn't the case.

"You don't know my brother at all, do you? Two things about him are terrifying; one is that he's sinister, and the other is vicious."

You just haven't seen that side of him yet. When you do, you'll think otherwise."

"What's the story?" Jacky followed Santiago in; he picked up the knife and put it away. Santiago chuckled and said, "As I caused a lot of trouble when I was a teenager, I got bullied. He asked me how, and I told him they ganged up on me."

"The next day, he brought them to me and told me to bully them, so I did."

"But their leader later came to get even with me, and we fought. I didn't know which b*stard tore my clothes. When I went home, I looked particularly disheveled."

"He asked me again, and I told him it was their leader."

Later, he took his pocket money and hired the best lawyer to ruin his family's reputation. If not for our mother, he would have sued his father until he had been imprisoned."

"You could say the matter was settled, and I thought everything was over."

"But the guy couldn't let it go. He hired a few people to kidnap me and took me to the mountains. He wanted to starve me to death and leave with the money."

"My mother was scared spitless and cried bitterly; my family was in a glum state."

"My father brought Jepherson with him into the mountains to pay the ransom. But my father fought against the kidnapers halfway through their journey while Jepherson came to save me. The ringleader gave me a huge dose of sleeping pills. I, on the other hand, was a dead weight. My brother found us and agreed to give the money to the kidnapper. But after the guy took the money, he slipped on the cliff. Jepherson could've lifted his arm and grabbed him, and the guy even begged for help."

“The effects of the pills were starting to wear off. I slowly opened my eyes, only to see Jepherson standing on the top, looking down. He was sixteen at that time, and he watched the man fall off the cliff without even blinking an eye.”

“Do you know what I saw?”

“What?” Jacky was very cooperative.

“Viciousness.”

Santiago recalled, “Growing up, as long as it had nothing to do with me, Jepherson would barely bat an eye. But if I’m involved, my brother will become a devil.”

“It is a little abnormal for a sixteen-year-old not to flinch seeing someone fall off a cliff, but I wouldn’t call him a devil.” Jacky could understand how Jepherson felt to see his brother kidnapped and unconscious.

Humored, Santiago said. “That’s where you’re wrong. Although he didn’t kill the man, he deliberately drove him to the cliff for him to fall off.”

“When I woke up, I watched him take the bag that held the cash off his back, unzipped it, and threw all the money down the cliff, leaving them everywhere.”

“When the police got to that guy, none of them were in the mood to deal with him. They had their attention on the money. All because my father said the money didn’t matter; our safe return was more important than anything else.”

“Also, my father never told me how much the ransom was. In other words, they decided how much I was worth.”

“I think Jepherson had thought of using this against them from the beginning. He used the money to bribe him to save me. If that guy left sooner and was not greedy, he may still be alive.”

Jacky was amused. “Are you afraid of your brother?”

Santiago glanced at Jacky. “You’re not?”

“No.” Jacky didn’t think there was any reason to be afraid.

“If you do Deanna wrong, maybe the person you have to deal with isn’t Zorion or Mr. Atkinson but him.”

“I don’t think so,” Jacky said.

“Have a try, and you’ll know.”

Santiago entered the house, and Jacky followed suit. They didn’t see Raeleigh and Jepherson right away and thought it was strange. Santiago asked, “Where’s Raeleigh and Jepherson?”

“They’re in the kitchen.”

Scarlette really couldn’t think of anything else to eat, so Jepherson gave her a lot of money. She bought some ingredients and invited them over for a barbecue; it was a perfect night for it.

However, there were too many ingredients, and someone had to get them ready. Serra couldn't manage herself, so Scarlett asked Raeleigh to help out; Jepherson followed her.

Santiago glanced at the table and sat down to watch TV. Xanthus was sitting on the other side, talking to Scarlett. She was asking how much her operation would cost for her to be able to stand.

Her money didn't grow on trees; of course, she had to ask.

Hadrian was sitting on Scarlett's other side.

"Serra, you go out first," Jepherson said. With Serra around, he couldn't get to Raeleigh.

After Serra left, he went to Raeleigh.

She was washing vegetables, so he helped.

"Still mad at me?" Jepherson asked, but Raeleigh didn't answer. She had long gotten over being upset, but she couldn't pretend nothing had happened, nor could she ask anything of him.

After all, he didn't believe what she said.

"I grew up with Stella after all, and the Doyle family is no ordinary family," Jepherson explained. Raeleigh didn't say anything and continued to wash the vegetables.

Seeing that she wasn't responding, he leaned in and gave her a kiss. Raeleigh dodged, but he still managed to kiss her.

She wanted to roll her eyes at him.

After that, neither of them spoke. If Raeleigh washed the vegetables, Jepherson would help. All in all, whatever she did, he followed.

When the food was all ready to cook, Raeleigh left the kitchen, Jepherson following behind.

Everyone sat around the table.

After everyone sat, Raeleigh went to sit beside Scarlett. She thought no one would change seats after they were all seated, but Jepherson switched seats with Scarlett and never got up after that.

Chapter 1468

Raeleigh was eating less and less. She had already lost her appetite because of what had happened to Xanthus. It was worse now with the barbecue in front of her. If it weren't for the few sides, Raeleigh really couldn't eat.

However, seeing that she barely anything, Jepherson turned a deaf ear and kept giving her food even though she had told him she didn't want any.

She couldn't throw it away, and it would be a waste if she didn't eat them. Scarlett also kept asking her if something was wrong.

Raeleigh wanted to go back after dinner, but Scarlett insisted that she stay with them.

"It's already late. Stay for the night." Scarlett said, sitting in her wheelchair, holding Raeleigh's hand, wishing she would stay.

In all honesty, it didn't matter where Raeleigh stayed. Scarlett was used to her life now; it didn't make a difference if Raeleigh was with her.

She now belonged to Hadrian. He would carry her whenever he could, so she didn't feel bored at all. On the contrary, she would feel bound if Raeleigh stayed for the night.

Moreover, Jepherson followed Raeleigh wherever she went, and she felt pressured whenever he was around. She really didn't want to be under the same roof as him.

Scarlett was getting more and more accustomed to her life with Hadrian. She could do whatever she wanted, and Hadrian would always let her.

"You don't have so many rooms here."

"Of course, we do. We have rooms everywhere. Even if Deanna came, there would still be enough rooms."

"Scarlette..."

"One more thing. Raeleigh, you must help me." She was afraid that Raeleigh would leave, so she quickly told Raeleigh. Raeleigh asked, "What is it?"

"Hadrian and I have already talked about getting married, and we're planning to hold a ceremony when the weather turns warm. But as you can see, the weather isn't warm, and I'm getting anxious."

Raeleigh thought Scarlett didn't look anxious because of the wedding but that she would leave.

Poor Scarlett. How loyal to Jepherson.

"Alright, I'll stay, but we're sharing a room."

"Huh?" Raeleigh's words got Scarlett stunned. She turned to look at where Jepherson was; fortunately, Hadrian was with him.

She wore an embarrassed smile and looked at Raeleigh. "It's not that I don't want to sleep with you. But if I share a room with you, what about Hadrian?"

Raeleigh laughed. "I didn't think about that."

"Well, I have to think about who would carry me upstairs, wouldn't I? You don't look like you'll be able to carry me." Scarlett always had an excuse, and Raeleigh didn't say anything but only stared at her. Since she could come up with so many excuses, it didn't matter what Raeleigh said; she would have many reasons and excuses.

Scarlett gave in in the end; she'd have to put Mr. Jepherson's matter aside now. Waving her hand, she said, "Okay, let's sleep together. Happy?"

"Yeah."

Raeleigh finally agreed to stay. As for Mr. Jepherson's matter, she could only try her best.

“Let’s sit for a while and talk about my marriage.”

She truly wanted to get married sooner. She had initially thought with all that Jepherson had given her, she could call herself a genuine rich woman. However, when Hadrian talked to her about their marriage two days ago, he took out a black pouch, which contained all his savings. She was very disdainful of it at that time and thought the amount would be nothing but measly. But the total amount shocked her; he had two hundred million in the bank.

Two hundred million?

She didn’t eat all day that day, clutching onto that pouch for an entire day.

Hadrian only sat opposite her, waiting for her to regain her senses. After she did, she kept asking him for the password, but he never spilled a word, promising he would tell her after they got married.

With that, she thought they should get married immediately, lest anything unexpected happen.

“What’s there to say about your marriage? Don’t you have a house and a car? Just decorate the house a little, find an officiant, and get the marriage certificate.”

Raeleigh thought getting married was a simple task; one could call themselves married once the marriage certificate was signed; no reason to be nervous.

But Scarlett looked to be very nervous.

Scarlett rolled her eyes and said, “You don’t understand. It’s no question I have to fuss over it. It is my first time; of course, it has to be formal.”

Raeleigh looked over at Hadrian, who was opposite them; he had a terrible look on his face.

He couldn’t bear to be silent and asked, “Are you hoping for a second marriage?”

Scarlett looked back. “Of course not.”

She continued discussing with Raeleigh whether to eat, where to eat, wedding dresses and taking wedding photos. The most important thing was her bridal shots; it was a must.

“You’re going to take wedding photos now?” Raeleigh asked in surprise. Scarlett nodded. “I can sit in a wheelchair, and... Raeleigh, come here.”

She waved, motioning for Raeleigh to lean in. Scarlett whispered in her ear, leading Raeleigh to look at her in surprise. “Are you sure?”

“Of course, I think it’ll be wonderful.” Scarlett was serious about it. Raeleigh took a look at the people around her.

It probably would be fine if it were only Jepherson and Santiago, but she even wanted Xanthus and Jacky.

“I’m afraid it’s not my call. I have to ask them.”

If anything, she could agree on behalf of Xanthus, but she couldn’t say the same for Jacky.

After all, it seemed inappropriate for Jacky to be Hadrian's groomsman, considering the difference in their social status.

No matter what, Hadrian was a bodyguard, but who was Jacky?

He was the king of Waverly Village.

It would be a little unreasonable for him to be Hadrian's groomsman.

Besides, Santiago and Jepherson were the young masters of the Harvey family; be groomsman for a bodyguard?

Raeleigh thought for a while and said, "Let me ask them for you."

"Okay. I don't need you for the rest of the preparations."

Scarlette thought if she should call Deanna and invite her to the wedding, and Zorion too.

"It's getting late; let's get some rest."

Raeleigh stood up and looked at Xanthus. "There aren't so many rooms here. I'll be at ease if you share a room with Santiago."

Xanthus had been a particular presence to Raeleigh since his incident. She would worry about him no matter where he went.

"I'm fine. You go ahead; I'll watch some TV for a while."

Xanthus still wasn't feeling sleepy, so he decided to sit downstairs for a while.

Raeleigh intended to wait for Xanthus to rest, but Hadrian picked Scarlette up and took her upstairs. With that, she followed them upstairs.

After putting Scarlette on the bed, Hadrian left. As Raeleigh closed the door, Hadrian gave her some instructions.

"Scarlette would need to drink a bit of honey water at night. Just a little bit of honey and water is enough. Both the honey and the water are on the table; it's all ready."

"Got it."

"And her medicines are in the drawer. The intakes are all written on the container; check the numbers on it and give them accordingly."

Hadrian repeatedly instructed before leaving.

Raeleigh closed the door and turned to Scarlette. She waved at Raeleigh, signaling her to go over, being all secretive. Then she took out a bunch of deposit receipts from the drawer and spread them on the bed to show off to Raeleigh.

Raeleigh went to her, sat down, and picked up the deposit receipts on the bed. The amount was all tens of millions.

"They are all Hadrian's," Scarlette said proudly.

“Well, you’re finally rich.” Raeleigh was amused. She liked that Scarlett wasn’t pretentious; even if she was greedy, she admitted it!

Chapter 1469

Raeleigh tidied up Scarlett’s list and put it away. As she did, she listened to Scarlett talk about how she could live a worry-free and comfortable life with the money even if she could never stand up.

Raeleigh lay on the bed. She really didn’t know what to say to her.

Scarlett’s mindset was completely different from other people.

“Although money is important, love still comes first. If there’s no love, would Hadrian give you so much money?”

“To put it bluntly, Hadrian has given you all he has to love you.”

As Raeleigh talked, Scarlett picked at her fingers and said, “You’re right, but not entirely. Raeleigh, we’re human beings. How can we not have desires? I love money as much as my life, and you know that.”

Raeleigh argued, “But even if the money’s gone, you’ll still have someone by your side. If you’ve lost everything one day, you’ll still have Hadrian. You’re winning at life.”

The more Scarlett listened, the more uncomfortable she felt. She couldn’t help asking Raeleigh, “Raeleigh, what’s going on? Did you break up with Jepherson again?”

Raeleigh did not answer but only lay quietly in bed.

Although it was a windy winter, the night was as bright as day. The moonlight penetrated through the curtains and fell on them. Raeleigh pulled the covers over her and remained silent.

Scarlett asked Raeleigh again, “Why aren’t you saying anything?”

Raeleigh just laid still until Scarlett said, “Mr. Jepherson was the one who asked me to treat you guys to dinner. He gave me the money.”

Scarlett didn’t even tell Hadrian about this.

Humored, Raeleigh said. “I know.”

Raeleigh already had a hunch on her journey, and she was certain when she arrived.

“You knew?” Scarlett was shocked at first, but later she understood; no use hiding anything from Raeleigh.

Raeleigh remained silent. Scarlett asked, “Raeleigh, tell me the truth. What on earth are you thinking? Do you love Mr. Jepherson? You always give me the feeling that your love for him wavers, unlike his, unyielding.”

“Although there are a lot of things that are driving a wedge between you two, and Mr. Jepherson always has something that is holding him back, his love for you never changed. His heart always belonged to you. But you, on the other hand, are always wavering, and no one can guess what you’re thinking.”

Raeleigh looked at Scarlett and asked, "Am I like this?"

"Of course. When it comes to your relationship with Jepherson, you've always stood still while Mr. Jepherson tried to get close to you. When he finally did and could finally hold your hand, you backed away, putting your hands behind your back."

"Raeleigh, I'm not trying to offend you, but don't you think you don't respect Mr. Jepherson?"

Raeleigh was silent. "I need him to respect me too."

"I think compared to my relationship with Hadrian, Jepherson is very respectful towards you. You're just not content with it. Raeleigh... the love Mr. Jepherson has for you is hard to find. If you're still unsatisfied, I really don't know who can treat you better."

"Although Mr. Jepherson sometimes acted arbitrarily, he's also a man of love and righteousness. Just take a look at how he treats Hadrian and me, and Mr. Santiago, Deanna, and the Atkinson family."

"If you've met a traitor or a heartless man, no matter how good he treats you initially, I think he will leave you sooner or later."

"People with feelings and righteousness are all just. You can rest assured when you are with him."

"Scarlett, I know you mean well. I also want to be with him, but I can't watch him be partial to Stella when she had harmed Xanthus. He even said outright to me he would get to the bottom of it. The truth is all already laid right in front of our eyes. I only want him to be on my side."

"I didn't ask him to do anything, not even to look for Stella."

"Stella had hurt him once before. This time it was Xanthus; it could even be you or Santiago next."

"I don't even dare to imagine it, but he believes in Stella through and through."

"What am I to him then?"

"Well..."

She didn't know what to say anymore.

When Scarlett fell silent, Raeleigh pulled the covers and told her to go to sleep before closing her eyes.

After she fell asleep, she dreamed of Jepherson as well as Stella.

Stella had her hands wrapped around Jepherson's arm, and he smiled at her. Distraught, her eyes shot wide open.

After she woke up, Raeleigh couldn't fall asleep anymore. Feeling a little thirsty, she got up to pour herself a cup of water. There was still water in the room after she gave Scarlett her honey water and medicine, but it was empty when she went to get some.

She turned around and looked at Scarlett, who was sound asleep. It couldn't have been her; she couldn't get down from the bed on her own.

Raeleigh took the cup and intended to go out to get some water. However, as soon as she walked out of the door, she saw Jepherson coming out of his room.

Jepherson also held a cup in his hand. When he saw Raeleigh, he asked, "Thirsty?"

"Yes."

Raeleigh didn't want to say anything more. Jepherson turned and walked downstairs, saying as he walked, "Come down. I'll pour some for you."

Raeleigh followed him downstairs, and they went to the kitchen. But there was no water there either.

Raeleigh figured someone had poured out all of the water.

Jepherson boiled a pot of water, and both of them had to wait. There wasn't even a drop of drinking water left in the kitchen, let alone boiled water.

Raeleigh leaned against the wall while Jepherson stood staring blankly at the kettle with his back to her.

"Raeleigh... Can we make up?"

Raeleigh looked up at his back and watched him turn around.

"Do you want to explain?" Raeleigh asked, and he shook his head.

Raeleigh pursed her lips. "I assume you have a plan you can't tell me about. Is it because you're afraid something will happen to me or something else?"

Jepherson's eyebrows twitched. Raeleigh continued, "Like how you knew someone would hurt Santiago and arranged for protection, you want people to think we have fallen out so that Stella would let her guard down. You're trying to protect me this way."

Jepherson didn't answer but only stared at her. She walked past him and switched off the boiled kettle.

He turned around and looked at the intelligent woman in front of him.

She thought for a moment. "I know what to do."

Then she picked up the kettle and poured a glass of water for him before heading upstairs with the kettle.

After she left, Jepherson directed his gaze back at the cup of water on the counter; it was still steaming.

When Raeleigh returned, she saw Scarlett sitting up waiting for her the moment she opened the door. Scarlett asked, "Did you boil some water?"

"There's no more water."

Raeleigh closed the door, put the water down, and laid back down again. Scarlett asked why she didn't drink the water, but she only turned her back to Scarlett and ignored all of her questions.

Raeleigh switched off the lights, told her to go to sleep, and that was all that night.

Chapter 1470

Raeleigh insisted on leaving the next day despite Scarlett's plead for her to stay. Scarlett then asked if she wasn't going to care about the wedding or the bridal photos and all anymore.

It wasn't that Raeleigh didn't care but worried that she would drag Scarlett down.

She had already put Xanthus in danger; she wasn't going to let anyone else hurt because of her.

"Jepherson will take care of your wedding, and I don't know anything. Besides, I'm helping you with something else."

Raeleigh glanced at Jepherson. There was still a hint of affection in his eyes, but Raeleigh ignored it.

"I'm leaving." With that, Raeleigh left with Xanthus, and Scarlett felt helpless about not being able to make Raeleigh stay.

Judging from Mr. Jepherson's grim face, she knew she could've done better.

"Mr. Jepherson."

"I have work." Jepherson walked out and went straight to his car. His look was so cold that even Scarlett was also frozen. She had a feeling tough days were ahead, and she wouldn't be able to count on him for the wedding.

After getting in the car, Jepherson told the driver to start driving. He was in a bad mood. However, when the car was about to reach the company, the driver thought he saw the corners of Jepherson's lips tip up slightly. It was a happy one.

But no matter how carefully he looked, he couldn't see it anymore.

With that, he doubted if he actually saw it, thinking if it was his imagination.

Raeleigh looked out the window after getting in the car, holding her hands from time to time.

"What are you looking at?" Santiago sat next to her. Xanthus was seated in the front with Jacky driving. He leaned close to her, and she gave him a push.

"Did you just push me?" Upset that she had pushed him away, he leaned against the car, angry.

Raeleigh couldn't care less. Feeling a little sleepy, she leaned against the car and took a nap.

It wasn't until the car stopped halfway through their journey that she woke up. She opened her eyes to discover many cars surrounding them, and when she looked ahead, there were even more cars. She assumed there was an accident.

Raeleigh sat up and intended to wind down the window, but Santiago grabbed her hand, leading her to look at him. He said, "Let's wait and see."

Hearing that, Raeleigh put her hands down. Neither of them got out of the car, and Xanthus was extraordinarily quiet.

Santiago asked Jacky, "Are your men close by?"

"We're separated." Jacky was also looking around, but he was sure his people weren't close by.

It was only then Raeleigh realized something terrible was going to happen. Otherwise, the guys wouldn't be this tense.

"My men are also not nearby," Xanthus spoke up, but Santiago didn't seem bothered. He leaned against the car door and took a glimpse outside. Seeing no one suspicious, he turned his gaze back.

"No matter what happens, do not get out of the car." Santiago would never do anything he wasn't confident in. It was dangerous to stay in the car, but getting out was far worse.

Right then, their best course of action was only to keep an eye on the people approaching their car.

Santiago unzipped his coat, pulled Raeleigh over, and pressed her in his arms.

Raeleigh was about to move when Santiago's voice rang. "Stay put."

Only then did Raeleigh stay still. A few minutes later, the car inched forward. She wanted to get up, but Santiago was still pressing on her, not giving her a chance to get up.

After some time, the car stopped, and Jacky said, "Coast is clear."

Santiago let go of Raeleigh and scanned outside before turning his gaze behind. "They are getting bolder; how dare they kill in our territory and broad daylight at that."

Santiago leaned against the side, thinking. Raeleigh looked around; she didn't see anything out of the ordinary until she looked behind them. It was chaos.

"What happened?" Raeleigh asked. Jacky glanced at the rearview mirror and replied, "Someone was slain."

"What?" Raeleigh couldn't believe someone was bold enough to kill in broad daylight.

"What's going on?"

Jacky explained, "When we came, a few people took advantage of the chaos to approach us, but they were killed before they could even get close."

"Too many people have died; it may cause panic. We'll have to leave it to the higher-ups to cover it."

Raeleigh frowned. "Who is it? Stella or Yanora?"

"Stella wouldn't be this stupid to make a move at this time. What's more, she only used a little dirty trick to hurt Xanthus but not kill him.

"It's Yanora then? She got impatient?"

None of the guys speak up. It was quiet for a while, and Raeleigh didn't take the matter to heart.

As the saying goes, one who survived a great disaster was destined to great fortune. Since she could escape death many times, she believed she would be unscathed, so she wasn't too worried.

Raeleigh had intended to go home when Santiago decided to go to Harvey Group to look for Jepherson at the last minute.

Raeleigh followed them out of the car; the three handsome men surrounded her.

People in the company stared at her, especially when Santiago pushed her into the elevator. If he weren't Santiago, the second son of the Harvey family, all the people in the Harvey Group would think she was being kidnapped.

When they reached the top floor, they went directly to Jepherson's office. The secretary and assistant ran to tell Jepherson that Santiago had come, looking like he was asking for a fight.

Raeleigh sat on the sofa, reading a magazine that Jepherson would never read.

But the content?

A woman with a curvaceous figure in a sexy bikini piqued her interest, looking at it attentively.

On one side, Santiago merely took an indifferent glance at her, but it was that one look that got him raising his eyebrows, and his mouth twitched.

Raeleigh looked at the magazine with great interest, scanning the picture repeatedly until Jepherson came.

Hearing they were ambushed, Jepherson left the conference room and rushed to them, but he had to appear calm when he arrived at the door of his office.

He pushed the door open, appearing in front of the group.

He had thought Raeleigh would at least look up, but she didn't.

After greeting the guys, Jepherson looked in Raeleigh's direction and noticed she was reading a gossip magazine, and Santiago was looking at her. The strangest thing was that Santiago's expression was a bit odd.

Staring at Raeleigh, he walked straight over.

Raeleigh put down the magazine in her hand only then looked up at Jepherson. Her gaze was indifferent, still giving him the silent treatment.

After looking at Raeleigh for a while to make sure she was fine, Jepherson looked at the magazine in her hands. He wanted to know what she was reading and why she was so absorbed in it.

Then he heard, "Never would I have guessed this is your type, Mr. Harvey."

Jepherson's expression changed instantly. "I don't know who left it here."

Jacky snickered, nTristany laughing out loud, and with that, Jepherson glared daggers at him. Jacky apologized before turning to look at the decoratives.

Raeleigh picked up the same magazine and read it with great interest.

Her actions got Jepherson's face as dark as the void.