

Go After 1501

Chapter 1501

Because the topic of their daughter ended on a sour note, Jepherson went back to his room upset. Meanwhile, Raeleigh was unwilling to go back in so soon, so she strolled around Fragrance Garden.

After lying in bed for half an hour, Jepherson came out of the room. If he didn't come out, she wouldn't go back.

Out the door, he still wore a cold expression, still upset.

However, he could not ignore his wife just because of his daughter.

He had wanted to leave Raeleigh be when he saw her looking at the night sky from afar. But the moment he laid eyes on her, his mood brightened.

Jepherson became an inflated ball, releasing breaths of warm air.

After some thought, Jepherson put his hands behind his back and fixed his gaze on Raeleigh. He liked looking at her like that; it was as if he was looking at a beautiful landscape, but it was still unparallel to her looking up at the moon.

After standing for a while, Jepherson suddenly felt a little cold, so he went back to grab a jacket, but she was no longer there when he came out; he didn't know where she had gone.

With that, Jepherson looked everywhere for Raeleigh in the Fragrance Garden and even went beyond the area. When he tried to call Raeleigh, her phone was switched off.

Just as he was about to get people to search for her, the servants reminded him that perhaps Raeleigh had gone back to rest. With that, he returned to his room. When he opened the door, Raeleigh was getting ready for bed, already showered and changed.

Standing at the doorway with a pair of sinister eyes, Jepherson entered and closed it. Raeleigh lay in bed, looking at Jepherson. "You're back? It's so cold outside. What are you doing out there?"

Jepherson was tongue-tied.

Raeleigh blinked. "I'm sleepy. Goodnight."

With that, Raeleigh tucked herself in and paid no attention to him.

"Raeleigh..." Jepherson called to her, but Raeleigh ignored him. Jepherson took off his clothes, got into bed, switched off the lights, and snaked his hands under her pajamas. Raeleigh grabbed his hand and said, "I'm tired."

"Mm..."

"Jeph-"

Raeleigh let out a breath and held Jepherson's shoulders tightly with both hands. "Are you crazy?"

"What do you think, Raeleigh?" Jepherson's breath brushed against her ear. Although it was warm, Raeleigh felt strange.

"Did I hurt you?" Jepherson asked, mid tenderness. He circled her arms and laid his body on hers as he looked at her in the dark. Raeleigh was nTristany out of breath, but she shook her head. With that, Jepherson's lips parted into a smile, looking more devilish in the dark. He bowed his head to kiss her, taking her in further.

Raeleigh couldn't even get out of bed the next morning; she hit the covers in annoyance as she tried to get up several times. Next to her, Jepherson lay lazily in bed, his arm over Raeleigh's waist, sleeping freewheelingly. Although it was cold outside, the room was warm. The covers were sprawled across them, with Raeleigh pulling it over her chest while Jepherson merely had it covering the middle of his body.

Raeleigh opened her eyes and looked at the ceiling. She finally understood why people would have an affair and why they were fascinated with having a mistress.

In truth, it did feel good!

With that thought in mind, Raeleigh covered her eyes with her hands. She had been led astray.

Just then, Jepherson rubbed Raeleigh's lower abdomen with his hand. Raeleigh looked at Jepherson and pushed his hand away, only for him to place that hand lower. Petrified, she ducked into a ball as she shoved his hand away and kicked him.

"If you do that again, I'm leaving!" Raeleigh wasn't joking. Who would've thought the young master of the Harvey family was a ruffian who would do such vulgar things?

Jepherson shuffled a bit and looked over at Raeleigh with a malicious smile, leading her to roll her eyes at him immediately, "I'm serious."

"You're my wife now. Where else can you go?"

Jepherson said firmly, but her gaze at him was filled with caution. "Even if we're married, I can still leave you. Don't be so cocky."

"I'm supposed to act like a coward then? Have you forgotten we're merely fulfilling our duties as husband and wife?" Jepherson said as he laid on top of her. Raeleigh was still holding onto the covers, but he didn't need to pull it away from her but only lift it and take it from below.

Raeleigh gasped as she looked at her two pale legs and Jepherson's muscular body and wanted to kick him and ignore his predominance. However, before she was ready, he had already invaded. As she bit her lips in anger, he grabbed her chin and kissed her, not giving her any room to be distracted, lest he was unsatisfied.

Time passed, and Jepherson used almost all of the positions in the Kama Sutra that morning. On the other hand, Raeleigh's face was beet red. Outside, the servants had called them out several times for breakfast; Paige had told them not to oversleep and head over immediately.

Raeleigh wanted to go, but Jepherson couldn't stop.

Just like that, after a few tosses and turns, Jepherson turned Raeleigh over and held her in his arms. He got up, clasping her hands with one hand while clamping her waist with the other. As a result, Raeleigh was forced to look up, gasping for air. As Jepherson pressed her hands above her head, she couldn't cover her mouth even if she wanted to. Biting on her lips, she tried not to make a sound, but with just a change in position, she already couldn't keep it in, breathing heavily.

She didn't dare make a sound, and her face was turning blue from holding in. Meanwhile, Jepherson looked at the door while moving.

"We know. Get lost," Jepherson said with a deep voice, bursting with anger. He just wanted to get some exercise, but he didn't expect the people outside to be so annoying, disturbing again and again. He felt as if he was having an affair.

It seemed that it really wasn't suitable for them to live here in the long run.

Horrified, the servant turned around to run away but bumped into Calvin by accident. In a trice, his face darkened, and he looked at the person in front of him silently with displeasure. His look alone was enough to scare her out of her wits.

She was in her twenties, a newcomer. When she looked up and saw Calvin, she nTristany knelt in fear and hurriedly greeted him, "Mr... Mr. Calvin."

"So you know who I am. Don't you watch where you're going?" Calvin hated klutz, and unfortunately, she was one.

Sure enough, someone had to be here to keep the place in check. He had merely gone on a vacation for a few days!

“Madam Paige told me to bring Mr. Jepherson and Miss Raeleigh over for breakfast and tell them not to sleep in anymore. But the three times I came over to inform, Mr. Jepherson wouldn’t answer. Just now, he shouted at me to get lost; it’s so scary!”

The servant was so terrified that she told the truth. However, she regretted it right after, trembling in fear.

Calvin looked over; impatience flashed across his eyes. “Leave them be; they’re a couple of newlyweds. Don’t cause unnecessary trouble.”

With that, he turned around and left.

Chapter 1502

It was already ten when Raeleigh got up. She felt that her body was going to fall apart just from sitting up.

If it weren’t that Jepherson had a human face, Raeleigh would think he was a monster.

“I hate you!” Raeleigh said while washing her hands in the bathroom. It was the first time she had said something like this. She took a sniff after washing, but the smell was still there.

Looking into the mirror, Jepherson was just done with his shower, wrapped in a bath towel when he walked to her. She had to look up as they had a height difference between them, after all. He had a body even finer than a supermodel’s, and his hair was pushed back, showing his face. As she gawked at him, he had already stood behind her.

“What are you looking at?” Jepherson’s voice was deep and hoarse, as alluring as a cello.

Raeleigh admitted that she would fall in love with this man even if she only listened to his voice.

Nevertheless, he still crossed the line. It was only bright and Tristany, and he had just gotten a little better when he turned into a different man again.

She was worried but angry at the same time.

He, on the contrary, was on cloud nine while she had to worry what the people in the manor would think of her and how she should face people.

Moreover, he even used her hand...

Raeleigh bit her lip as she flew off the handle at the thought of what had happened just now.

“You’re such a fiend!”

Raeleigh bit her lip. Jepherson hugged her waist from behind and lowered his head to kiss Raeleigh’s shoulder, leading her to draw a quick breath. “Why did you take a cold shower? When?”

Jepherson laughed in a deep voice. "Are you distressed? Or worried?"

"You're unbelievable. You've just recovered, and now..."

As she spoke, he pulled the bath towel she wrapped around her chest, and she quickly held onto it, feeling a chill on her back. However, she may have protected her front but not her back from Jepherson, and he took her just like that, leading her to fly in rage. In the end...

As Raeleigh came out of the room, Jepherson draped a red coat around her. It was the one Santiago had gifted her. She took a look at it and said, "I'd better not wear it lest I make grandma angry. Grab a different one."

"If she doesn't like you, she won't be happy about anything. It doesn't matter what you wear." Jepherson said as he helped her wear the coat, and Raeleigh thought he was right, so she let him do so.

Sure enough, when they arrived at Paige's, she was displeased to see Raeleigh in red.

"I ask you to come for a meal, but why did you guys take such a long time to come?" Paige was unhappy and tried to find a fault in Raeleigh. However, she did not speak but only stared at Paige. Jepherson held Raeleigh's hand and stood in front of her.

"I was the one who said we wouldn't be joining. I was having a gastric problem in the morning, and Raeleigh had been taking care of me."

Raeleigh had to hand it to Jepherson to come up with such an excuse.

However, his words only displeased Paige even more. "Why didn't you see a doctor instead? Is she a doctor?"

Raeleigh remained silent and deadpan. There were guests in the living room; Geraldine, who said she would be leaving, was still sitting in the living room, and so were her family, accompanying Paige and Hudson.

Hudson's gaze was fixed on Raeleigh, but he did not show any emotion.

Calvin and Belle were out that day.

Paige said, "Although you've just married into the family, there's no need for you to wear such a flashy color, is there? Are you trying to be ostentatious?"

Raeleigh raised her head and fixed her eyes on Jepherson. As she had expected, Paige had used her clothes as an excuse to pick on her.

Jepherson spoke up, "Santiago got this as a bridal gift for Raeleigh. Why do you keep picking a bone with her, Grandma?"

"Hmph, since you don't want to eat, then don't," Paige said out of nowhere.

Jepherson glanced at his grandfather before he grabbed Raeleigh and wanted to leave. On seeing that, Paige said, "We still have guests at home. Shouldn't you be entertaining them? Where are you going?"

Jepherson paused for a moment and said, "Raeleigh has a stomachache; I'm going to take her to the hospital. I had intended to give her a rub at home, but as you said, nothing beats a doctor."

Jepherson strode out, holding Raeleigh's hand. Behind him, Paige scolded and told him to come back, but he didn't stop.

A few minutes later, he brought Raeleigh to his car.

Raeleigh sat in the car and looked at Jepherson. "Why bother? I feel nothing."

"But it doesn't mean we shouldn't fill our stomachs," Jepherson said, sitting in the car. They hadn't eaten all day, and they wouldn't be able to continue at night with an empty stomach.

As Raeleigh was indeed hungry, she didn't refute, going out for a meal with him.

"Mr. Jepherson."

Someone stepped forward to greet them as soon as they got out of the car. Jepherson took a look at the person at the door, held Raeleigh's hand, and took her into the restaurant.

The person at the door looked surprised. Mr. Jepherson had brought a woman?

All of a sudden, the news went viral; the whole of A City was talking about it. Nobody knew who had leaked it, but someone took advantage and reported extensively, saying Jepherson was married and it was registered in A City.

"Look at this." Paige threw the newspaper aside, looking livid. Hudson picked it and glanced at it before handing it to Calvin. After reading it for a while, Calvin frowned and put down the newspaper.

"Why aren't any of you saying anything? The problem with the Doyle family still isn't solved yet. What am I supposed to explain to Stella?"

Paige was absolutely livid. She already didn't like Raeleigh; she couldn't believe Raeleigh married into the family just like that, and now this.

"Since she has married into our family, there's no reason for us to be secretive," Calvin said as he leaned against one side. Belle did not speak; her stance was unyielding. She wanted to protect Raeleigh, but she couldn't make a move before the right time.

She was the last line of defense; she could only come out when no one could protect Raeleigh.

But if that time came, it meant her relationship with Paige would fall out.

Paige was angry. "All of you leave. Let Stella enter our family as soon as possible and save us all the worries."

Calvin said, "It's only been a few days since they got married. If we bring Stella in now, others might think our family is trying to curry favor with her. Let's put this aside for now."

"You..."

Paige looked at Hudson, who held Paige's hand. "Calvin's right; we can't act too hastily now. Now that things have come to this, let's wait a little longer."

Paige finally understood they were all against her. She gritted her teeth and said, "I will listen to you once but don't forget, Stella must enter our family."

With that, Paige stood up and walked into her room. Hudson glanced at his son and daughter-in-law and gestured for them to leave first while he went to his wife.

The wife he knew was gone, but his love for her remained unchanged.

No one would ever understand what the person involved was thinking when it came to love.

His wife gave her life to him, accompanied him when he was at his lowest, and even gave him a son. Those were all he would never be able to repay in his life.

Hudson thought as long as he was still around, she could continue to make trouble.

As long as things never got too serious.

As for the Doyle family, if this was how they would play, he would play along. There would be ways to get rid of them.

In the room, Paige was still in a rage when Hudson entered. She stood by the window and shed some tears as she felt wronged. Her husband was hers, her child was hers, and she had brought up Jerry too. But now, they were all going against her, and she became the target of everyone's criticism.

Hudson closed the door and walked to Paige, hugging her from behind. "The children have grown up, and they have their own lives. This is the same as a rebellious child; your restriction will only make this worse. If you leave them be, they might even agree with you."

Paige looked back at her husband. "Really?"

"Of course."

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Chapter 1503

Paige looked at her husband for a while before looking elsewhere. "Well, I'd like to see when this will end."

Hudson grunted and smiled. He placed his chin on his wife's shoulder and said, "It sure has been exhausting lately. I'm always reminded of what happened back then whenever I see a member of the Doyle family; the knot is still in my heart."

Stumped, Paige thought for a moment and held Hudson's hand. "Stella means the world to the Doyle family. If she can marry Jerry, we don't need to worry anymore."

With a faint smile, Hudson said, "It's no use getting blood out of a stone. This is why I have not interacted with the Doyle family over the years. If it weren't for them, that wouldn't have happened to us."

Paige thought for a moment. "You really don't like Stella, do you?"

“Not at all!” Hudson did not hesitate, and even though Paige was a little upset, she did not refute her husband. She held his hand and said, “Okay then.”

Hudson said, “Let’s rest, Paige.”

“Okay, I’ll help you lay down.”

With that, Paige helped Hudson to lay down on the bed. He held her hand and said, “I sure prefer peace and quiet now that I’m old. We don’t even have time alone now that they’re here.”

Paige thought for a moment and said, “But I can’t drive the Doyle family away, can I?”

“Ask Stella to come here and accompany you, let Raeleigh follow Jerry back to the Capital City, and the Doyle family will leave.”

“Will the Doyle family agree to let Stella accompany me?”

Paige could see that her husband didn’t like Stella and wanted to separate her from Jerry.

“What can they do if they disagree? We barely have time together with so many people in the house. In the past twenty years, you’ve put all of your energy into Jerry. Now that he’s grown up and has his own life, if you still don’t accompany me, the day I die...”

“Quit that nonsense. You are in such good health; how can you be...” Paige pursed her lips and was reluctant to hear her husband say such words.

She didn’t get it in the past. She had poured her heart and soul into her son and grandsons when they were little. Now that they were all grown up and had a successful career, her husband had become old.

It was only now that she realized it was not her son or grandsons who would accompany her to the end of her life but her husband, Hudson.

Paige thought for a moment. “Then, we’ll ask Jerry to bring Raeleigh and Stella back; they can do whatever they want. You don’t like Stella either, so they can decide what they want to do themselves.”

Hudson did not speak until after a long while. “Regardless, Raeleigh is part of the family now. Doing so will only have people see us as laughing stock.”

“Then what should we do?” Paige asked; Hudson thought about it and said, “Let’s do what you suggested. Let Stella stay in the Ink Garden while Raeleigh stays in the Fragrance Garden. Have Calvin and Belle stay lest something bad happens.”

Paige thought about it and realized it was indeed troublesome if his son went as well. “Alright, let them go back then.”

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Raeleigh was asked to see Paige as soon as she got up in the morning. Although Paige wasn’t happy, she did not give Raeleigh a hard time after her husband’s enlightenment the day before; she only waved her hand and told them to leave.

With that, Jepherson took a look out the door and left with Raeleigh, not even turning back once until Belle called him from behind. Jepherson finally stopped and went to Belle.

“Mom.”

“Oh, so you remember I’m your mother? Where are you hurrying off to?” Then Belle turned to Raeleigh and held her hand. “I know we owe you for what happened, and it’s not fair for you to settle Stella’s issue like this, but we have no choice given the circumstances now. You must look out for yourself and keep an eye on everything. If you need anything, call. I will remind Santiago to help you.”

“I know.” Raeleigh did not expect Belle to be so worried. She looked at Calvin and said, “We’ll be going, Dad.”

Calvin said, “Remember who you are. No one can hurt the Harvey family.”

Stumped, Raeleigh looked at Calvin for a long time before she finally said, “Thank you, Dad.”

“Go on then.”

Calvin held his wife’s waist as Jepherson took Raeleigh to the car, and the driver drove them to the airport.

Raeleigh was in a blur the entire journey back. She had intended to go to Waverly Village, but Jepherson took her to the Harvey Group Manor in Capital City.

Raeleigh got out of the car and stood at the gate of the manor. “I want to live in Waverly Village.”

“You are now my wife. If you live in Waverly Village, wouldn’t you be making me live like a widow?” Jepherson said, hugging Raeleigh and pinching her nose.

Raeleigh stared at him. “I’m going regardless. I don’t intend to live here.”

“You’re leaving now that the show has begun?” Jepherson still had her in his arms, and she struggled for a while before giving up.

“This kind of environment is not for me, and you know that. Why are you making me stay?”

“If you leave, I’ll be here alone. Aren’t you afraid something will happen to me?”

“What could possibly happen to you?” Raeleigh raised her eyebrows. Jepherson lowered his head and said, “What if a beautiful lady tries to seduce me?”

Raeleigh was amused. Seduce?

“Then go ahead. But I’m telling you, if you succumb to her seduction, I’ll seduce other men. We’ll be even that way.”

Raeleigh’s words got him lost for words for a moment.

Jepherson chuckled and pinched Raeleigh’s chin. “Say it again.”

“I’ll say the same still. Haven’t you heard people warning about men having an affair?”

Jepherson did not understand. Raising his eyebrows, he asked, “What do you mean?”

“It means that if you sleep with another woman, I will sleep with her boyfriend. If she doesn’t have one, I will sleep with her father. If her father is dead, then I will sleep with your father.”

Immediately, Jepherson’s face darkened. “Who did you learn it from?”

“The internet. This is a realistic problem, so you better not do anything to hurt me. What goes around comes around. So if you decide to cheat on me, I’ll return the favor; it is that simple.”

Raeleigh said matter-of-factly, and Jepherson could only hand it to her.

He gritted his teeth and held Raeleigh in his arms, “I think it’s time for your protein intake. Let’s see if you still talk big after that.”

Raeleigh rolled her eyes. “If you didn’t do anything wrong, why are you afraid of being accused?”

“Hmph!”

With a bang, the door opened, and Jepherson placed Raeleigh on the bed. He then closed the door hurriedly while she retreated a little, sitting cross-legged on the bed. “Jepherson, let’s make a deal.”

Standing aside, he took off his clothes while looking at Raeleigh. After taking off almost all of his clothes, he bent down to hold Raeleigh’s feet, pulled her over, and kissed her as he unfastened her belt, then said, “Do whatever you want!”

Raeleigh blinked, “I don’t want to just take your word for it.”

Jepherson took off Raeleigh’s clothes and bowed his head to kiss her. “Then we’ll sign an agreement.”

“Good.”

And with that, he took her.

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Raeleigh could finally head back in the afternoon; she came back alone as Jepherson was occupied. After the driver took her to Waverly Village, she told him to leave right after getting out of the car.

At that instant, the driver was in a dilemma. Mr. Jepherson wanted him to bring the missus home, but she had no intention of returning from the looks of it!

Chapter 1504

After Raeleigh got out of the car, she walked ahead to the spot where she designed. Barely anything was done yet, but the construction materials were all ready.

Raeleigh stood there for a while before walking in to look for Xanthus. Right as she entered the door, she heard Xanthus calling her name. She turned around and saw him walking to her with several buns. In a trice, Raeleigh ran to him and threw herself into his arms. It was so sudden that Xanthus almost threw the buns away.

Xanthus breathed a sigh of relief, hugging his little sister.

The reunited siblings hugged for a while, and Xanthus took a good look at her. He was glad to see her face rosy.

“How have you been?” Xanthus asked as they walked toward the house. Raeleigh nodded, “I’m fine, Xanthus. What about you?”

“Of course. Do I look like I’m not doing well?” Xanthus was worried she was worry-filled that he could barely eat. Hence he had only gone out to buy some buns.

Raeleigh took a look at the buns in Xanthus’s hand. “If you’re really fine, you wouldn’t be eating this.”

Xanthus looked down and took out a bun for Raeleigh. “Have a bite. It’s good.”

Upon taking a bite, Raeleigh agreed that it tasted really good.

However, thinking of the fact that Xanthus only ate this, Raeleigh felt a little uncomfortable. “I want to eat fish.”

Her words got him stumped for a moment, but right after that, he put Raeleigh’s things down and asked her to wait for him at home while he went and buy some fish. However, Raeleigh insisted on going to the market with him.

In the end, they left with a fish, some meat, and a chicken after shopping for an hour plus.

Someone saw Raeleigh as they walked and said immediately, “You’re back. Your boyfriend is so worried about you that he hasn’t cooked for a long time but only stands at the village entrance all day and watch. Don’t leave him again.”

“Ah, I won’t.”

Raeleigh waited for the person to leave before asking, “Didn’t you say you were fine?”

“Can’t it be just that I’m tired of cooking? Can’t I go to the entrance to see if my sister is back?” Xanthus refuted. She looked at Xanthus and said, “Fine, say all you want; I won’t leave anymore.”

“Good to hear.”

Xanthus had the same idea.

Then, the siblings went back to cook. Just as they were about to sit down and eat, two people came in. Who else, if not Santiago, stood in front between the two?

Behind him would naturally be Jacky.

As they entered, Raeleigh stood up and went to get another two sets of plates and cutleries.

After washing his hands, Santiago sat next to Raeleigh while she waited for him to sit down before she did.

Upon seeing the mouth-watering food, Santiago picked up the cutleries and wolfed down. Raeleigh looked at him; he looked like he hadn’t eaten for a few days.

“When was the last time you ate?” Raeleigh asked, and Santiago glanced at her. “Since you left.”

Raeleigh froze for a moment. "You're going on a hunger strike?"

Santiago put down his cutlery. "He won't cook."

With that, Raeleigh looked over at where Santiago pointed with his chin and commented to Xanthus. "You've become the target of public criticism."

Xanthus was eating leisurely and was about to speak when someone knocked on the door. Raeleigh looked over and thought, "It couldn't be Jepherson, could it?"

With that, she went to open the door, and the person standing in front of her got her stumped.

Speak of the devil.

"Why are you here?" Raeleigh checked the time. Hadn't he said he had an engagement?

"I'm hungry." In other words, he came for dinner. Raeleigh watched as Jepherson changed his shoes, put down his coat, and went to wash his hands. Raeleigh followed him over, and he said to her as he washed his hands, "It's too far here."

She didn't know what to say.

"We'll head back after we eat." Jepherson continued.

As if he was rushing, he headed straight for the dining table after washing his hands and ate Raeleigh's food, not even thinking of getting his own.

When Raeleigh came out, Jepherson had already finished half of her meal.

Seeing so, she went to get herself a set of plates and cutlery. When she returned, Jepherson had gotten himself another portion. Santiago, on the other hand, was baffled. "When was the last time you ate?"

Raeleigh was at a loss for words. Wasn't that her line?

Jepherson looked up at Raeleigh and said, "Every day."

"Then why are you eating like this?"

"I have something tonight." When Jepherson spoke, Raeleigh's heart throbbed. She bit her lip in anger and thought he was shameless.

"An engagement?"

Santiago raised an eyebrow. Jepherson ate a little and said, "Yes."

As he was only given a vague reply, Santiago wanted to get to the bottom of it. However, Jepherson did not elaborate but only went to the bathroom to wash his hands after he was done. After he came out, he sat and waited aside.

Raeleigh was taking her sweet time, eating in small bites, absent-minded as she took a glimpse at Jepherson from time to time.

Meanwhile, Jepherson looked at the time every now and then, looking as if he was waiting for Raeleigh to leave together.

After his meal, Santiago took a bowl of soup, walked to Jepherson, and asked as he ate, sitting next to him, "Are you here to pick someone up?"

"What do you think?" Jepherson was reading a book about design. Santiago looked at Raeleigh, who was taking her time clearing the table; it was apparent she didn't want to leave.

Santiago drummed his fingers on the sofa, wanting to see how the scene would unfold.

On the other hand, Jacky had some matters to attend to. After eating, he stood up and said he was leaving.

"Santiago, are you leaving or not?" Jacky called after him before he left, and Santiago waved his hand; it was a no. Thus, Jacky left.

After Jacky left, Raeleigh felt a little depressed and restless.

After cleaning up the kitchen, Jepherson stood up. "I'm staying here tonight."

Raeleigh froze for a moment. "There aren't many rooms."

"Santiago, go stay at Jacky's. I'll stay in Raeleigh's room."

Raeleigh took a deep breath. "Don't you have an engagement?"

"I rescheduled it. I'm getting up Tristany tomorrow morning; I have a meeting in the company. Come with me." With that, Jepherson headed straight to Raeleigh's room.

Raeleigh stood at the door of the kitchen in a daze. Xanthus looked at her and asked, "What's going on?"

Raeleigh glanced at her room and wondered if she should tell him she was married.

"Raeleigh..."

Raeleigh pursed her lips. "There's something I've been meaning to say, but I didn't get the chance to."

Xanthus frowned deeply. "What on earth is it?"

Taking a deep breath, she said, "Jepherson and I are married."

In a trice, the veins on Xanthus's head bulged, and he felt a dull pain. He stared at Raeleigh, not knowing how to react. Xanthus sat down and held the armrest of the sofa without saying a word.

He knew Jepherson must have a backup plan, but he didn't expect him to be so cunning.

"I wanted to tell you about this, but I didn't know how, and..."

Xanthus looked up at Raeleigh, who had come up to him. She had been holding her hands nervously.

Xanthus asked, "Did you do it willingly?"

Raeleigh nodded. "Yes."

“Then why is he here?” Xanthus asked knowingly, wanting to confirm.

“He wants me to live in Harvey Group Manor.” Raeleigh glanced at the doorway. Xanthus strode to her room and knocked on the door.

Inside, Jepherson had just come out of the bathroom when he heard the knock. He wrapped a bath towel around his waist and walked toward the door. There were only a few people here; they were all men apart from Raeleigh, so he didn’t care.

However, a punch came right at him when he opened the door.

Chapter 1505

“Jepherson...” What happened was too sudden. As Raeleigh hadn’t expected Xanthus to punch Jepherson, his action gave the fright of her life. Meanwhile, Jepherson did not dodge at all, and Xanthus’s fist landed firmly on his face. As Xanthus used all his strength, his punch made Jepherson take two steps back.

Immediately, Raeleigh ran in to check on Jepherson.

There was blood on the corner of his mouth.

Raeleigh held Jepherson’s face. “Why didn’t you dodge?”

Jepherson threw a glance at Raeleigh. “He’s your brother. Am I supposed to fight him?”

Stumped, Raeleigh pursed her lips. Though Jepherson was hit, her heart ached.

Xanthus entered the room, gnashing his teeth as he waved his fist, ready to hit again. Raeleigh immediately held Jepherson in her arms; she did not say anything, and that was all she could do.

Xanthus put his hand down and said coldly, “Remember, Raeleigh’s the reason you didn’t die today.”

After that, Xanthus left, and Raeleigh chased after him. Meanwhile, Jepherson wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth, took a look at it before changing his clothes, and went out.

At this time, Raeleigh stood looking at her brother, who was sitting on the sofa. He glanced at her and said, “Sit down.”

As Raeleigh sat down on one side, Xanthus looked at her with a calm expression. Seeing she hesitated to speak, Xanthus spoke up, “At least he knows he’s lucky when he got you for nothing. If he doesn’t treat you well, I will give him a piece of my mind. Also, give me your marriage certificate only then I’ll consider you two married. Otherwise, don’t even think about it.”

Xanthus’s train of thought got Raeleigh stumped for a second; she couldn’t keep up with it. “He’s hidden the certificate away.”

“Then take it out.” Xanthus wasn’t going to take no for an answer.

At that moment, Jepherson came out in his pajamas. “The marriage certificate is Raeleigh and mine; you can’t have it.”

“If you don’t give it to me, don’t think about leaving with Raeleigh.” Xanthus looked up at Jepherson with a fathomless gaze; it was the only right he could fight for his sister as a brother.

Jepherson’s lips twitched. “There’s no way I’d give you my marriage certificate.”

“Do you think you can tie Raeleigh down just like this? I can have her go anywhere I want her to because I’m her brother, related by blood, while you are just her husband.”

“You are too selfish.”

“Yes, I am. What about you?”

...

The two were neck and neck, and Raeleigh didn’t know who to help. However, she looked at Jepherson and said, “What are you afraid of?”

“Even if I’m not, I can’t give my marriage certificate to others.”

With that, she didn’t know what else to say.

She believed a marriage certificate could solve nothing.

Instead, Xanthus said, “If you don’t want to, then forget it. You’re sleeping with Raeleigh today, and don’t even think about taking her away.”

“You can’t do this.”

“And you can take Raeleigh to A City and get a marriage certificate secretly?”

Jepherson fell silent at that.

Seeing that the argument wouldn’t escalate into a brawl, Raeleigh went to get some ice from the kitchen to put it on Jepherson’s bruise. Then she looked at her brother and husband before saying, “Well, the certificate is not with me regardless. Whichever one of you wants it, take it. I’m going to bed.”

With that, she went to her room, leaving Jepherson to stand aside with anger on his face. “I’ll give it to you tomorrow.”

After saying so, he followed Raeleigh, but Xanthus stopped him, saying, “You’re sleeping in my room. You can only sleep with her after I see the certificate tomorrow.”

Raeleigh heard Xanthus’s order at the doorway of her room.

Hearing that, she headed back into her room.

Jepherson could forget about going to her room that night.

Sure enough, Jepherson did not enter her room that night, but he didn’t go to Xanthus’s room to rest either but sat beside Xanthus the whole night.

In the morning, Raeleigh came out of her room to see Jepherson still lying in the living room, and so was Xanthus.

Raeleigh asked, "Do you two want breakfast? What would you like?"

Both of them opened their eyes at the same time, but Jepherson did not speak. He got up and went to Raeleigh's room. Xanthus breathed a sigh of relief and said, "Anything."

Then, Raeleigh walked to Xanthus and sat beside him. "I'm sorry."

Xanthus looked at Raeleigh and said, "Don't be; we just have different opinions. It's not wrong for you to love him and marry him, but I have to protect your rights."

"The marriage certificate may just be a piece of paper, but it will shackle your life. He is tying a rope to you. No matter where you fly, you will be his kite. He can pull you back when you fly high and let go when you're low."

"I want to be the one in control and not him; only then can you have all the freedom."

Looking at Xanthus, Raeleigh felt a pinch in her heart. Not knowing what to say, she wrapped her arms around Xanthus's shoulders as tears pooled in her eyes.

"I never got the chance to be by your side all those years, leading to all this today. I can't let some people take advantage."

"You can have a happy life, but there can't be strings attached."

"The Harvey family is a wealthy family with many networks. I have to make sure there's a backup plan for your sake."

Xanthus said, hugging Raeleigh. "Forgive me, but this is non-negotiable."

Raeleigh shook her head. "I will tell him to give you the marriage certificate."

With that, Xanthus did not say anything else. He pushed Raeleigh away and said, "Go buy some food; don't cook."

Only then did Raeleigh head out to search for some breakfast.

When she came back, Jepherson had changed his clothes and was waiting for her outside. Stumped to see him standing at the doorway, she walked up to him and said, "Give him our marriage certificate, will you? The real one."

Jepherson frowned. "What if I don't?"

"What do you think?"

It wasn't a threat. Raeleigh knew he would not refuse her, but the question was how to take it from him.

He would definitely refuse to give it to Xanthus directly, but he would listen to her.

Sure enough, Jepherson said, "The marriage certificate is originally my guarantee from you. Now it seems that it has become his."

Raeleigh was rendered speechless.

She stared at Jepherson, not knowing what to say.

Jepherson looked at the busy street and said, "If you don't leave the company, I might give it to you, reluctantly."

"How are these two related?"

"Then how are marriage and family related?"

"This is forced logic."

"It's better than being forced."

Jepherson got her at a loss for words.

It was only then she realized he was not a person to be trifled with. He was like a porcupine, thorns all over his body.

"Alright, I promise to go back to the company, but you need to give me the marriage certificate."

Jepherson agreed reluctantly in the end, absolutely unwilling.

"Kiss me," Jepherson said with a straight face out of the blue.

Raeleigh stared at him blankly, "Are you crazy?"

Jepherson looked at her. "Do I look like I am?"

"Yeah, you are. There are so many people here, and they all think Xanthus is my boyfriend; how do you want Xanthus to react?"

"It's only a matter of time before someone knows about us. You're my wife." Jepherson was being stubborn, and Raeleigh could do nothing about it. But she had to do it for the marriage certificate. Raeleigh looked around furtively; after confirming no one was looking at them, Raeleigh tiptoed and planted a kiss on Jepherson's lips.

"Happy now?"

Jepherson rolled his eyes and went back inside. Breathing a sigh of relief, Raeleigh followed him in.

The next day, Jepherson brought the marriage certificate to Xanthus.

Chapter 1506

Raeleigh sat aside, staring at Xanthus, who was using all kinds of instruments to verify the marriage certificate. Was he examining a marriage certificate or money?

The Harvey brothers sat next to Raeleigh.

Santiago supported his cheek with his hand looking puzzled as he thought the scene was very strange.

After Xanthus was done checking the certificate, he put it away.

He got up and said, "Since the paper is legal, I will bring it up with my parents and let you know the details after I receive news from them."

During this time, if Raeleigh is okay with it, she can stay with you or in the Harvey Group Mansion. Everything else will have to wait.”

“But let me warn you, don’t do anything that upsets me.”

Jepherson was silent. Xanthus went to his room while Raeleigh turned to Jepherson. “Are you okay?”

“No.” Jepherson’s expression darkened; he was visibly feeling awful.

“Then why are you still here?” Raeleigh had already told him to leave and leave the matter alone after he brought the certificate.

But Jepherson had to be his stubborn self and stay, and sure enough, this was the result. She really wanted to ask him who was to blame for this situation but him?

He didn’t say a word as he was in low spirits.

After a while, Raeleigh stood up. “Didn’t you say you want to eat something? I’ll make it for you.”

With that, she went to the kitchen. Santiago looked toward the kitchen, and after he couldn’t see her anymore, he turned to his brother. “You two are married?”

As he was still bitter about the marriage certificate, he did not respond.

On seeing that Jepherson wasn’t going to speak, Santiago got up and went outside. He walked along the broadest street in the village. He came out without wearing a jacket, only a green shirt on him, but he didn’t feel cold despite the weather. Even though it was made of cotton, the bone-chilling wind could still penetrate through.

Santiago walked mindlessly just like that. When Jacky saw him, he was standing at the village entrance, looking in the direction of Capital City.

His face was cold, and his skin was ruddy. It seemed that he had been standing there a long time, frozen.

Jacky got out of his car and walked over to Santiago, calling out to him when he got to him, “What are you doing?”

“Nothing.”

With that, he turned around and continued walking. Jacky really couldn’t tell what Santiago was doing, only that he was in a bad mood.

For the first time, he had a feeling Santiago was about to die.

“Let’s have a meal. We can find someplace warm.”

“No, I’m going to your loft. Don’t tell anyone. If my brother asks, just tell him that I’ve gone back. Don’t follow me either.”

When Santiago was heading to the loft, he lost his footing entering the door and fell to the ground; he turned over and laid motionless there, facing the roof. The cold wind poured in from outside as the door was still open, but he had never moved since lying still.

When Jacky went over, Santiago's face looked pallid, and he quickly helped Santiago to his feet. He carried him to the loft and immediately took off Santiago's clothes. He ordered someone to turn the heater up, but the pipe was frozen and cracked to their dismay; they couldn't get some heat even if they wanted to.

Jacky then carried Santiago down to another loft.

When he reached the other side, Jacky threw Santiago into a hot tub. Inside, the hot water was constantly exchanged. Santiago leaned against the wall with his eyes closed, not making a single sound. Jacky had no choice but to call Xanthus. However, he did not tell him Santiago was ill but Logan.

On his journey, Xanthus thought the direction was off and immediately knew it wasn't Logan who needed help, and sure enough, he was right.

Santiago laid motionlessly in bed. When Jacky saw Xanthus, he immediately said, "He's been like this the whole time. He wouldn't open his eyes or speak or even respond to my questions. He told me not to tell Jepherson he's here, so I had to call you."

Xanthus put his medical kit down and immediately walked toward Santiago. He took out the flashlight and examined Santiago's eyes first. After confirming that he was still fine, he checked his temperature. Xanthus didn't have any medicine with him, so he asked Jacky to get them.

"Because of Raeleigh?" When Jacky went to retrieve the medicine, Xanthus sat down and asked Santiago. Santiago wouldn't say a thing nor even open his eyes.

Seeing he wouldn't get an answer out of Santiago after a long time, he got up and took a sip of water.

Then turned to him and said, "Now that things have come to this, you should let go."

After that, Xanthus went outside. Santiago winced and pursed his lips. He did not open his eyes, but a drop of tear flowed out from the corner of his eyes.

When Xanthus returned, Santiago was still lying motionlessly and unresponsive in bed. Jacky handed the medicine to Xanthus; he first gave Santiago a shot of antipyretics before starting an IV drip.

However, Santiago didn't wake up either, looking asleep, but he was sweating profusely later.

When Raeleigh called Xanthus to ask when he would be back for dinner, he was worried about Santiago's condition. If the fever didn't subside, it could cause some serious damage to his brain.

"I am outside. There are signs of infection from Logan's surgery; I'm worried about him, so I won't be going back tonight. You guys eat without me."

"I see." Raeleigh hung up the phone. Seeing that Jepherson was still sitting on the sofa, she said, "Let's eat."

"I'm not hungry." He glanced to a side and was stunned for a moment. "Where's Santiago?"

Raeleigh did not know what to say. "He left this morning. Have you only noticed he's gone now that it's dark?"

With a slight frown, Jepherson pulled out his phone and called Santiago. However, Santiago was asleep. Xanthus took a look and handed Santiago's phone to Jacky when he saw it was Jepherson. However, Jacky fell into a dilemma whether to answer the call as Jepherson was shrewd; things would go south easily if he answered it.

"Santiago, it's your brother."

The man who kept his eyes closed the entire day finally opened them and even reached his hand out. To others, it seemed like a miracle.

Santiago took the phone and answered, "What is it?"

"Where are you?" Jepherson asked as he looked at Raeleigh and waved his hand, motioning for her to come to him. She did so, and he pointed to the food. She rolled her eyes at him; why couldn't he just say so if he wanted to eat?

With that, Raeleigh went to the kitchen to prepare dinner. There were only the two of them, but she had cooked a lot. It seemed that they would have leftovers for breakfast.

"Come over. Raeleigh's made dinner."

"You want me to go to Waverly Village from Capital City just for a meal?" Santiago sounded rebellious. Jepherson frowned. "When did you leave?"

"This morning."

"Why didn't you tell me?"

"You already have a family. Why should I stay? I didn't even know you got married."

At that instant, Jepherson's voice turned cold. "How can I tell you when I don't know you left?"

Santiago fell silent at that. Jepherson wasn't angry, but he wasn't feeling any better either.

"Santiago, come back for dinner."

"Tomorrow."

"Definitely?"

"Definitely."

"Okay then. I'm hanging up."

"Okay."

The brothers hung up at the same time. After Santiago put the phone down, he closed his eyes. He was asleep again!

Chapter 1507

The next morning, Raeleigh asked Jepherson, "Aren't you leaving? Didn't you say you have a lot to do in the company these couple of days?"

“I’m not leaving today; I’m going to buy some groceries later.”

“What for?”

Raeleigh watched him button his shirt in the room and put on her brother’s wool sweater, looking like a family man before coming out to hug her from behind. She turned her head around to look at him and asked, “What’s up with you?”

“Santiago will be back in a bit. I’ll cook.”

“You’re cooking?” It wasn’t that she didn’t believe in Jepherson’s cooking, but that she didn’t understand the sudden change of plans.

“Are you sure?”

“I’m sure.”

Raeleigh got out of his embrace, turned around, and put on Xanthus’s loose cotton-padded jacket. She took her wallet and put on her shoes. Standing by the door, she said, “Let’s go.”

Taken aback for a moment, Jepherson then walked toward her and put on his coat. He took a look out the door; seeing that Santiago wasn’t in sight, he accompanied Raeleigh to the market to buy some ingredients. This time, they got Santiago’s favorites.

“I don’t like this.”

Raeleigh pointed at the vegetable and said. However, Jepherson took out his wallet and paid the vendor. Without raising his head, he said, “These are not for you, but Santiago.”

Raeleigh put the vegetable in the basket and helped carry their purchase.

Jepherson gave his wallet to her before turning around to get more ingredients.

Raeleigh followed behind Jepherson. “Do you regret marrying me?”

“I will never regret marrying you.” Jepherson turned to look at Raeleigh, bowed his head, kissed her, then turned back around and continued shopping.

Raeleigh froze for a moment and nTristany dropped the wallet in her hand. Only then did she look around to find everyone was busy; no one cared what she had done.

Jepherson walked ahead and bought some shrimps. Raeleigh didn’t need to ask to know that they were Santiago’s favorite too.

After they were done grocery shopping, Raeleigh asked as they walked, “Other than women, is there anything you two won’t share?”

“Underwear.”

Raeleigh was rendered speechless.

And she didn’t say anything after that.

When the food was ready, Raeleigh stood at the door and looked around. "Are you sure he will come back even if you didn't give him a call?"

However, Jepherson didn't reply but only continued to cook the shrimps.

Raeleigh thought he did not hear her and went back to ask again, but he still ignored her question.

She looked at the time, and it showed two. "He's not here yet."

"He's busy. He'll come when it's time. There's some dough.; I'll make pizza."

"You know how to make pizza?"

"He loved pizza since he was a child, but he doesn't like the ones the servants make at home."

"I bet he just wants to see you busy in the kitchen." Raeleigh stood at the door of the kitchen, looking amused. Looking at Jepherson, she understood Xanthus's behavior toward her. They weren't any different; they would do anything for their younger siblings.

Raeleigh was watching him when someone came in. Surprised, she thought Santiago had indeed come but only to find it was Xanthus when she turned around.

"Xanthus, you're back."

Xanthus changed his shoes and put down his medicine kit. "Unhappy to see me?"

"Of course not."

Raeleigh went to him and took his coat to hang. Meanwhile, Xanthus glanced at the food on the table.

"What are you guys celebrating?"

"Nothing." Raeleigh didn't know what to say, and Xanthus didn't press on, nor was he surprised to see Jepherson cooking when he went to the kitchen. Though he thought it was rather strange to see Jepherson in his clothes.

"I'm going to take a shower," Xanthus said and went to the bathroom. Raeleigh was walking into the kitchen when she heard movement at the front door; she took a look to find it was Santiago in a puffer jacket, changing his shoes at the door.

Raeleigh stood at the door of the kitchen, a little spaced out as she stared at Santiago.

"Jepherson, Santiago's here."

"Why do you need to tell him I'm back?" Santiago walked to them, looking alright. Leaning against the kitchen wall, he asked Jepherson, "Did you make pizza?"

"I did; wash your hands." Jepherson glanced at Santiago. He paused for a moment before asking, "You're sick?"

"I caught a cold." Santiago came out of the kitchen and went to sit at the dining table. Not long after, Jepherson came out and put a bowl of hot soup in front of him. "Have some soup first."

Not caring about his manners, Santiago brought the bowl to his mouth and took a mouthful. Jepherson touched his forehead and asked, "Have you gotten an injection?"

"I did."

"Where's your medicine?" Jepherson pressed on. Standing aside, Raeleigh felt rather uncomfortable, thinking both of them were in pain.

And she was the source of it.

With that, she went to the kitchen to get the plates and cutleries ready while Jepherson and Santiago talked in the room. A few moments later, Jacky entered the house.

Seeing that everyone was present, Raeleigh took out the last two dishes for Santiago, and everyone then sat down to eat.

Raeleigh didn't have the appetite, but Jepherson kept shelling shrimps for her.

"Why is this thing so ugly?" As she didn't feel like eating, she had to find an excuse.

Across them, Santiago was eating with gusto, leading Raeleigh to stare at him. Upon hearing her words, he looked up at her and said, "It's better than nothing."

"Don't talk while you eat," Raeleigh said. With that, Santiago munched on the shrimp's head.

Raeleigh rolled her eyes, still not eating.

Seeing so, Jepherson left her be and ate his meal. Taking a look at him, Raeleigh thought he looked like an ancient king. He would never lose his manner, grace, superiority, and aloofness.

And then there was Santiago, eating the shrimp one after the other, as rough as a tramp.

Raeleigh fixed her eyes on Santiago and wondered if the shrimps were as good as he made them look.

Giving in, she took one, used a lot of effort to shell it, and was finally able to eat the meat.

In her opinion, it wasn't that the shrimp was exceptional, but because it took so much effort to eat it, the hard work was worth reliving.

With that, Raeleigh ate one after another and sunk her teeth into the shrimps before she knew it. No one fought them with her except Santiago.

As a result, everyone left the plate of shrimps to Raeleigh and Santiago.

With her belly filled, she went to wash her hands and sat on the sofa.

Jepherson said after Raeleigh left the table, "C'mon, that's enough. You're actually not supposed to eat shellfish when you're sick; it won't do you any harm to eat less."

Nobody knew whether Jepherson deliberately left them for Raeleigh or that he was worried about Santiago. But all in all, he put the rest of the shrimp in the fridge.

It was still fine during dinner, but both Raeleigh and Santiago were having trouble sleeping that night. One came out of the room, and the other got up from the sofa to head to the kitchen.

When Raeleigh went into the kitchen, Santiago was taking out the plate of shrimps from the fridge.

Closing the fridge door, Santiago rolled his eyes, looking all annoyed as he turned to look at her.

On the other hand, Raeleigh wore a sly smile like a fox. "Your brother won't let you eat it."

Once again, Santiago rolled his eyes. "Do you think he kept it for you?"

"I'm not sick."

"I've recovered!"

The two were at a stalemate, neither giving way to the other. At that time, Jepherson came out of the room to look for Raeleigh. Standing behind her, he saw the two of them fighting for half a plate of shrimps in the kitchen.

Santiago gave the shrimp to Raeleigh and said, "Take it."

Raeleigh pushed it back. "You took it out. Of course, you should eat it. I only came down for water."

"You just said you wanted to eat."

"I don't remember saying that."

Then, Jepherson walked to them.

Chapter 1508

"I was planning to warm it up for you guys, but since neither of you wants it, just throw it away."

Jepherson came from behind and took the plate of shrimps from Santiago's hand, intending to throw them away, when Raeleigh grabbed his hand hastily and said, "Don't, it'll be a waste."

Jepherson turned to look at her hand, and she let go. Then he directed his gaze at her face before glancing at Santiago and asked, "Are you two going to eat or not?"

Raeleigh hummed a yes, while Santiago said, "I'm fine now, so I should have no problem eating it."

Raeleigh looked at Santiago and said, "We'll share."

Santiago did not reply, but it was a yes.

Jepherson looked at the two of them upsettingly, put on the apron, heated up the food, and even served the plate of shrimp to them. Santiago and Raeleigh both held their sets of plates and cutleries in their hands, waiting for Jepherson, looking like children. After sitting down, Jepherson gave each of them a shrimp. Santiago shoved the entire shrimp in his mouth, sucking on the juice as he ate the meat with gusto. Meanwhile, Raeleigh shelled the shrimp, but she was too slow.

Raeleigh couldn't do it like Santiago, not because she was afraid of being laughed at, but she couldn't bring herself to do so looking at the hideous creature.

Unlike Raeleigh, Santiago had already eaten two when she barely even finished one.

Raeleigh was really anxious as she never had anything this good.

“Mmm.”

Raeleigh moaned softly. Jepherson was sitting on one side, scrolling through his phone while he waited for them to finish.

Hearing Raeleigh’s moan, he looked over at her, who was self-conscious of showing that she had accidentally bit the inside of her cheek.

Stumped, he put down his phone and walked to the bathroom. He came out soon after, sat down next to Raeleigh, and shelled a shrimp for her to eat while she hung her head low, feeling warm on her face.

With Jepherson peeling the shrimp for her, even though Santiago was fast, Raeleigh caught up to his speed with Jepherson’s help.

Although a little embarrassed, she couldn’t care less, seeing the food in front of her.

After they destroyed the plate of shrimp, she got up to help clear the table, but Jepherson told her to wash her hands; she obliged, and Jepherson cleaned up in the meantime.

Santiago also went to wash his hands. When Jepherson came out, only Raeleigh was left.

Raeleigh intended to explain something, but Jepherson said, “I’ll make more tomorrow.”

Raeleigh froze for a moment. Although a little embarrassed, she did not say anything.

After turning off the lights, Jepherson held Raeleigh’s hand as they walked to the bedroom. Jepherson asked while walking, “Have you brushed your teeth?”

“Yes.”

With that, he pounced on her, sealing her lips with his as soon as they entered the room.

Raeleigh widened her eyes in shock at first but slowly closed them, then wrapped her arms around his neck, holding him tight, and spent the rest of eternity with him.

...

The next morning, Xanthus planned to warm up the leftovers, but he opened the fridge only to find the shrimps gone and the plate cleaned.

With that, he looked around; seeing nothing, he went out to get breakfast instead of cooking. When Raeleigh got up, Xanthus had already set up the table.

She washed up before eating then followed Jepherson to the company.

“I may not come back in the evening. Call me if anything.” Raeleigh told Xanthus before she left.

“What can possibly happen to me? I’ll be busy in the hospital these days, and the construction won’t start soon. Also, I need to make some plans, so you have to come back to help me this weekend.”

With that, they’ve come to a rendezvous. Jepherson asked, “Have you found a construction team?”

“Not yet. I’ve sent someone to look, but there’s still no news.”

“Leave this matter to Jacky. His people are reliable, and he knows what to do. If you bring in outsiders, the locals will think you have something against them. Since what you’re doing is to contribute to the locals, get a local construction team, and negotiate with Jacky. Easy done.”

“I’ll think about it.”

“Let’s go then.” Jepherson turned around and opened the car door. Raeleigh took a glance, sat in the car, and waved at Xanthus. Jepherson then got in the car and drove away.

Jepherson drove these recent trips to Waverly Village. Looking at the car, Xanthus could only hand it to him. Jepherson was the vice president of the Harvey Group, after all, but to sell the cars made by his company, he drove all around.

However, Jepherson’s move proved to be practical. Soon, the car Jepherson had been driving sold like hotcakes; the millions of them that had been sitting in the warehouse before New Year’s sold out within a month. In Raeleigh’s opinion, Jepherson’s influence could overthrow a normal human being’s judgment.

There was even news of girls borrowing money from loan sharks just to have the same car as Jepherson. Some even took nudes in exchange for money, leading to their doom.

And when they couldn’t pay up in the end, they fell into disgrace...

Sat in the office, Raeleigh skimmed through the reports in the newspapers and magazines. The ridiculous event rendered her speechless. Were those girls crazy?

“Don’t you think it’s your fault?” Raeleigh asked Jepherson all of a sudden; he was looking at the online sales of the company. She thought Capital City was oddly quiet lately, so quiet that it sometimes didn’t feel like the Capital City but the Waverly Village.

She had never gotten follow-ups of the assassination attempt, and what was even stranger was Santiago’s detention had become a thing of the past. No one in Capital City had ever mentioned it again.

Also, the Cole family had not made any moves at all.

Raeleigh had been staying by Jepherson’s side during this time. During the day, she would follow him to various departments of the company.

In the evening, they would go back to the Harvey Group Manor, and on the weekends, they would head to Waverly Village to help out. Jepherson would even change into the workmen’s clothes and work alongside them.

Even Jacky commented on his abnormality.

However, Raeleigh was more worried about what was written on the news than that; they called him an indirect murderer.

Murderer?

Raeleigh didn’t like the word. Even if those girls bought a car because of him, used their ID and naked photos as collateral, it was not his fault. They let their desires get the best of them.

They still jumped when they obviously knew it was a bottomless pit. Was the car more important than their lives?

Jepherson moved his gaze away from the computer to Raeleigh. "They brought it upon themselves."

Raeleigh froze for a moment. Although she knew he didn't have anything nice to say, she did not expect him to be so harsh.

"That's harsh. Do you not have a heart?"

"Even if I sympathize with them, who will feel bad for their parents? Their families? Anyone above eighteen is considered an adult. Even if it's a fraud, no one will blackmail a minor, nor will the law acknowledge illegal loans. All of them are legal adults; some of them are even in their thirties with a husband and children but still can't think straight. It's a waste for such people to live."

Chapter 1509

"Still, your words are harsh." Raeleigh had never seen anyone who would say something like that.

"Even if I'm not mean, would they be fine? They would even go as far as to sell their body in exchange for money. Why would I need to pity them when they live only for luxury and want everything for nothing?"

"Still, it doesn't mean you should say things like that. How sad would their parents feel to lose their children."

"I can only say they're unlucky." Jepherson turned back to the computer. Raeleigh then understood; it was useless to talk any sense into people like him.

Raeleigh put down the magazine in her hand and walked to the window, where she could see the whole city.

Hence it was her favorite spot.

Leaning on the sofa, Jepherson stared at Raeleigh's slender back. "I'm going to the hospital for an examination later."

Immediately, Raeleigh turned to look at Jepherson. "What's wrong?"

"Nothing. Just a premarital checkup." Jepherson's eyes were fathomless. Raeleigh suddenly recalled how moody he had been lately and how upset he was when he first found out her period had come. Although he didn't direct them at her, she could tell he was in a bad mood.

Raeleigh thought for a moment. "Do you want me to have a check too?"

"Yes."

Raeleigh was silent for a while before turning her gaze back out to the city. Frankly, she did not want to do the checkup as she was a little scared.

The office soon fell silent. Neither of them continued the topic, nor did anyone speak. But the plan to get a checkup didn't change.

Raeleigh took a shower in the evening before going to bed but was restless. Jepherson hugged her from behind. "Nervous?"

She didn't answer but turned around and leaned into his arms the whole night.

It wasn't until in the morning that she dozed off.

But Jepherson still woke her up at seven.

Bleary, she took a look at him and got out of bed to get ready to head to the hospital with him.

After the examination, the doctor told Jepherson, "There is nothing unusual, but there is a little bit of contraceptive in your wife's blood."

The doctor said it to Jepherson in front of Raeleigh. Jepherson tightened his grip on the test result and looked at Raeleigh; she stood up and said to the doctor, "He knows."

With that, she walked out of the hospital. Jepherson said a few words to the doctor before he followed Raeleigh out.

March was the best time of the year as the weather was nice and warm.

As the saying goes, a day's plan lies in the Tristany morning, and a year's plan lies in the spring.

Out of the hospital, Raeleigh stood at the entrance and glanced around. When Jepherson came out, she merely stood rooted to the spot.

Jepherson walked to her and asked, "Why?"

As Raeleigh didn't say anything, Jepherson tugged on her and said, "Answer me."

However, Raeleigh did not turn around, only staring at the people walking in and out of the hospital and the moving vehicles. "I've already crossed my line by marrying you behind my parents' back. I can't get pregnant again. I had a child, but I failed to keep it."

"Although we love each other, there are still too many uncertainties between us. The Harvey family wouldn't accept me easily. I don't have to worry with your grandfather around, but the Doyle family is still the biggest threat between us. Plus, the Cole family is also breathing down our necks. There are worries all over the Capital City."

"I won't carry your child at a time like this. How can I protect him when I can't even protect myself?"

Raeleigh looked at Jepherson, and he said, "I can protect you both."

"You can't; you can't even protect Xanthus. How can you protect me? Stella's a ticking bomb that can explode anytime, anywhere; I won't give her a chance to hurt me."

"Nor will I have a baby when I don't know if my parents agree to our marriage."

Raeleigh had learned her lesson, and she would not be so stupid this time.

Jepherson's face was cold. "You still remember the child we had?"

She said nothing, but her eyes turned red. How could she forget the pain?

Raeleigh turned around and swallowed hard.

Jepherson hugged Raeleigh from behind. His impetuous heart gradually calmed down as he kissed her. "Okay, we'll have a child after everything is settled."

Raeleigh nodded but did not speak.

A thought came to him, and he asked, "What medicine are you taking?"

Raeleigh turned to him. "Haven't you noticed I look better lately?"

Jepherson lowered his head and asked, "You've gotten thinner?"

"I wish." humored, Raeleigh said as she looked at her breast. Jepherson frowned. "Is it not because of me?"

"What do you mean?"

"Because I kept massaging them."

"Can you be serious?" With a huff, Raeleigh turned away.

Jepherson held Raeleigh in his arms and measured her breasts with his hand. In a trice, Raeleigh grabbed them and warned. "If you keep this up, I'm going to snap at you."

Thus, Jepherson withdrew his hands and brought Raeleigh back into the hospital.

When he found the doctor, Jepherson asked if the medicine Raeleigh took had any side effects.

"Mrs. Harvey's contraceptive is the most common one in the market. But I don't suggest you take them before you've given birth. It's best to use condoms rather than taking pills; it'll be better for your fertility in the future."

Standing aside, Jepherson arched his eyebrows and turned to look at Raeleigh, "I asked the pharmacist, and they said it was the safest." She said in defense.

"All medicine has side effects. Mrs. Harvey's good complexion has something to do with the medication, and the biggest gain from this kind of medicine is that at the Tristany stages, the skin will be smooth, and the face will be ruddy. You'll be more needy than usual in your sexual life..."

Raeleigh blushed and said nothing.

But the doctor didn't care and continued to talk to Jepherson, "However, long-term usage will cause mutation in the pituitary gland in the brain. There will be more saliva in your mouth, and your face will be flushed; there will even be symptoms of night sweats and infertility. Hence, I don't recommend consuming this pill."

Jepherson gritted her teeth. "So using a condom is the best solution?"

"Yes."

“What about now? Does she need to be hospitalized?” Jepherson was taking the matter seriously. The doctor shook his head and said, “No need. Mrs. Harvey has only been taking it for a short time, so there wouldn’t be any side effects. If she stops taking it this month, she’ll be fine in a few days.”

“Noted, thank you, Doctor.”

“Not at all, Mr. Harvey.”

Jepherson nodded.

After the doctor left, Jepherson turned to Raeleigh, staring at her with a threatening gaze. “Scared now?”

Raeleigh refuted, “The people in the pharmacy really did tell me that it’s safe.”

“They would say that to anyone to sell medicine, and you took their word for it?”

Raeleigh did not answer but looked around her. There were too many people, so she didn’t want to argue with him.

With that, she headed out and got into the car directly.

Naturally, Jepherson looked awful as he came out of the hospital. However, the tension instantly disappeared after he got into the car.

Chapter 1510

“I want to go to Waverly Village.” Raeleigh thought they should take a break from each other for a couple of days. Jepherson glanced at her and said, “I have an engagement this evening. We’ll go tomorrow, and I’ll need to stop at the drugstore along the way.”

Puzzled, she looked at him, “What for?”

“Don’t tell me we’re not having sex anymore.”

His words rendered her speechless.

It was too straightforward. Raeleigh covered her face with her hands and leaned against the car while Jepherson started the car and drove to the drugstore. After he pulled over, he headed straight to where they displayed the condoms. He turned his head back to see Raeleigh had come in with him, but she was self-conscious, so she stayed put.

Then, the person in charge asked if they needed help, and Jepherson asked, “Which one is the best?”

“These. They’re well known, and they have all different types, and they have a better feel than the others.”

The person who was talking to Jepherson was a young woman. Just hearing it got Raeleigh blushing, but that woman promoted it like it was nothing. She even took a box and showed it to Jepherson.

“I want every type of condom from this brand.”

As Jepherson spoke, Raeleigh shot her gaze up at him, but he had made up his mind. Moreover, the woman had gotten all thirty-plus boxes of condoms for him.

In a trice, Raeleigh dashed outside. Coming out of the drugstore after making the payment, Jepherson looked over at his car; Raeleigh was sitting inside with a gloomy and ruddy face. He opened the door and put the bag of condoms on Raeleigh's lap. At the spur of the moment, Raeleigh wanted to throw it out the window but worried about wasting his money.

"Who buys condoms like this?" Raeleigh was clearly unhappy. Jepherson started the engine and asked, "Are you going to come here every time we need one?"

His words rendered her speechless.

At a loss for words, she remained silent.

Looking at the bag on her lap, she took out a box. "What does spiral mean?"

"Never used it before." Jepherson was uncertain as well.

Of course, she knew he had never used it before. She took one out to see it was a thin transparent layer, and it was very smooth. With curiosity, Raeleigh pinched it. While driving, Jepherson grabbed it from her and chucked the entire bag behind.

The initial plan was to head back to the company, but he changed his mind halfway. When they arrived at the Harvey Group Manor, Jepherson covered the condoms with his clothes and headed straight to their room with Raeleigh. He even ordered the servants not to disturb them, shooing them away.

They went into the bathroom and had used more than a dozen condoms on the first day. They used one from each box and changed to a different one after a while.

Raeleigh finally managed to leave the bathroom in the afternoon; she thought she might have to spend the whole day in there.

Lying in bed, she stared at the ceiling while Jepherson came out of the bathroom and wiped himself dry. He took a condom out from a new box, chucked it aside, then got on the bed and pulled Raeleigh to him, kissing her...

That day, Raeleigh did nothing but try out condoms with Jepherson for the whole day.

At six in the evening, Raeleigh fell asleep before she had dinner. Jepherson got up from the bed and made a call.

"Hurry up and find out the Doyle family's plan. The sooner, the better."

After hanging up, he turned to look at Raeleigh, who was sound asleep and stood by the window for a while.

The reason she wasn't willing to bear a child wasn't only because of all the chaos, but mostly because of the miscarriage.

She was worried, wasn't she?

At ten, Raeleigh fished around the bed and opened her eyes to find Jepherson wasn't in the room. She got out of bed. Upon seeing the condom packages on the floor, she threw them away then cleaned up the bathroom as they were all over the floor.

After coming out of the bathroom, Raeleigh went out to find Jepherson. He wasn't at the door, so she went to the room beside theirs. Opening the door, she saw him with his computer and some documents.

"What are you doing?" Raeleigh walked in. Jepherson rubbed his eyes. "I didn't get to work during the day, so I asked my assistant to send them over."

"Can't you do it tomorrow?"

Raeleigh didn't know what to say about it as she believed they would be the joke of the town if people heard they burned the midnight oil and didn't eat or sleep, all to try condoms.

"Tomorrow's a weekend." Jepherson only got up because the thought came to him. Otherwise, he would've been in bed.

Raeleigh suddenly remembered she said she wanted to go back to Waverly Village during the day. With that, she left the room and came back with a bowl of soup soon after and gave it to Jepherson.

He took a sip and continued with his work.

On seeing that he was working, Raeleigh stayed and accompanied him. She leaned against the bed behind Jepherson; there was a duvet, and the room was warm, plus she could even put her feet on his lap.

Jepherson drank the soup and held Raeleigh's feet. "Put them inside."

Raeleigh obliged, putting her feet under his pajamas, all snug.

Lying there, perhaps they had tested out one too many condoms during the day; mountains of them appeared in her head as soon as she closed her eyes.

Raeleigh said, "I want to start a company."

Jepherson paused for a moment and turned to Raeleigh. "Didn't we agree not to?"

"I've agreed not to start an architectural firm, but I didn't say I won't do anything else."

"What are you going to do then?"

Raeleigh hesitated because she still had some concerns.

Jepherson squinted his eyes, his gaze emitting danger. "Don't tell me you want to sell condoms."

Raeleigh did not answer, but her expression told him he was right.

With a headache, he scoffed, "The esteemed vice president's wife of the Harvey family, doing birth-control businesses?"

Raeleigh thought for a moment, "It is indeed not a very good idea."

“Of course...”

“But what if I don’t show my face?”

“Believe me; the word would get out faster than anything.”

What if people find out? How embarrassing would things get?

“What’s wrong with being financially independent?”

Raeleigh tried to negotiate, but it was a hard no from Jepherson.

Raeleigh covered her head with the duvet innocently. “What else can I do with my life other than design cars for you?”

“Be the mother to my children.”

With that, Jepherson left the room. Raeleigh brought the duvet down her face. Seeing that he had left, she intended to get up only for him to return with the bag of condoms. He opened another new box, chucked it aside, and jumped into bed.

“Are you crazy?” Raeleigh tried to shove him away, but he whispered in her ear, “I can’t sleep without doing it.”

Speechless, she rolled her eyes. Can’t or won’t?

With that, they basically tried all the condoms they had bought after this round. Raeleigh rested at the inner side of the bed, with Jepherson hugging her on the outer side. Unlike the beds in the bedroom, the one in the study was a single, so it was quite cramped for two.

As Raeleigh was worn out, she was sound asleep. However, poor Jepherson could barely rest the rest of the night.

Raeleigh got up at eight the next morning. As she tidied up the condoms thrown everywhere in the study, she ragged on Jepherson, who was dead asleep; he barely even flinched.

Seeing that he looked worn out, she didn’t wake him up and drove to Waverly Village alone after breakfast.

She encountered a roadblock on her journey, so she was stuck in traffic. Just as she stopped the car, someone in uniform came up from behind her car and knocked on her door, telling her to open it.

With that, Raeleigh glanced at the person through the rearview mirror, but he kept his head down the entire time, so she stayed in the car.