

Go After 1511

Chapter 1511

Seeing that Raeleigh wouldn't come out of the car, the man went to knock on the front car door. She tried to catch a glimpse of the man's face, but he never even took a glance at her, only knocking on the window, trying to get her out of the car.

Looking at the man, she called Jepherson immediately, but instead of speaking to him, she asked the man outside, "Who are you? What's the matter?"

"Show me your license," the man said with a straight face. Raeleigh looked around and said, "There are so many cars here. Why did you only stop me? I don't believe you are traffic police."

On the other side, Jepherson got out of bed and asked while putting on his clothes, "Which road are you on?"

"Antarctic Road, to Waverly Village," Raeleigh said. Jepherson had picked up the phone and called the people nearby. "What's going on?"

It was an authoritative tone. In other words, "Are you nincompoops not aware of what was happening?"

The person on the other end of the line immediately reported, "We're closing in. Please rest assured, Mr. Jepherson, Miss Raeleigh is safe."

"If she is, she wouldn't be stopped. Go to her immediately."

"Yes..."

Jepherson hung up the phone and left the manor, heading to where Raeleigh was.

The Harvey family car Jepherson was on was specially his. As the driver knew he was anxious about Raeleigh's safety, he rushed the one-hour drive with only thirty minutes to where Raeleigh was. The driver would be on edge every time he ran a red light, as on the one hand, he needed to rush to Raeleigh, and on the other, he couldn't let anything happen to Mr. Jepherson.

Tired from reading, Zorion looked out the car and happened to catch Jepherson's car dashing past him, running a red light.

"Whose car is that?" Zorion asked knowingly. The driver replied, "I think someone from the Harvey family got into trouble at the roadblock ahead."

Zorion was reading a medical book; he had no interest in the field, but Rossie did.

The driver's words got Zorion displeased. He slowly turned his head to the driver. "When? Why didn't you tell me?"

"I've told you, Mr. Zorion, but you've been paying attention to the book," The driver said helplessly. Since Miss Lautner left, Mr. Zorion had been absent-minded most of the time.

He had reported there was an incident at the roadblock ahead; someone had hijacked a Harvey family's car.

To the driver, it was a significant matter. After all, the Harvey and Atkinson families were allies in the Capital City, and neither would sit and watch while the other was in trouble. But...

Zorion only nodded and continued to read. So he could only continue driving. Who would've thought Mr. Zorion would suddenly remember this.

"Go and have a look."

He lowered his head and continued to read, but his mind wasn't on the book this time.

It has been more than a month. Why was something happening again?

Zorion raised his head as he put the book on his lap, shifting his crossed leg, and said, "Arrange some men around the scene. I want him alive."

"Yes, Mr. Zorion."

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Jepherson's car reached Raeleigh like a gust of wind, but he didn't get out. Seeing that the traffic had cleared and Raeleigh drove ahead, Jepherson ordered the driver to follow her. When she arrived at Waverly Village, he did, and so did Zorion.

Out of the car, Raeleigh looked at the person behind and smiled unknowingly. "Why are you two here?"

Still tired, Jepherson raised his eyebrows, walked to her, took her hand, and walked toward Xanthus's residence. After greeting Xanthus at the door, they went straight in.

Raeleigh followed Jepherson into her room. After getting on the bed, Jepherson went to sleep without even taking his clothes off.

Raeleigh took his clothes off piece by piece while he lay still like a child, waiting for her to undress him and tuck him in while he slept.

Xanthus had been standing outside. Seeing she had come out and closed the door, he asked, "You two fought?"

Raeleigh didn't know how to explain it but thought for a moment. "No. I just had a little trouble on the road, and he hadn't rested all day yesterday, plus he slept very late last night. So he's worn out and worked up."

"Don't come over then if you guys don't have enough rest." Xanthus had gone back to work now, and his place at the Waverly Village was only a rental. Although Raeleigh came to help every weekend, there was nothing much to do in actuality. What needed to be done was already done.

"Everything had been fine. We just came across minor trouble this time." Raeleigh didn't know how to explain it even if she tried. Xanthus looked at her for a while and said, "Come with me."

With that, they went outside. Xanthus said, "Remember I told you I'd tell Mom and Dad about your marriage?"

"Yeah, is it a no?"

“They didn’t say anything but that they would come next week.” Xanthus also thought they should talk about it face to face.

Raeleigh thought for a moment, “I see.”

Although she said with acceptance, she had an unexplainable lingering worry.

Xanthus said, “You’re their baby girl. Don’t worry.”

Looking up at Xanthus, she asked, “Is what I’m doing considered act now, report later?”

Xanthus did not answer; yes or no, what was done was done. All they could do was wait.

After a stroll, a thought struck her; she didn’t see Zorion.

“Is Zorion here?”

“He’s probably at Jacky’s.” Xanthus saw that Zorion headed to Jacky’s loft after getting out of the car.

Xanthus didn’t know if he was there for Jacky, but he definitely wasn’t here to sightsee.

“You still can’t?” Jacky fixed his gaze on Logan. Logan shook his head, speaking out of breath, “I don’t have the strength.”

Jacky glanced at the people on both sides. “Leave us for now.”

After they left, he helped Logan up from the wheelchair. Working up a sweat, Logan could barely stand.

At that moment, Zorion pushed the door open and walked in.

Looking over, Logan was stunned to see it was Zorion. With that, he used all his effort to stand.

Finding it strange, Jacky turned over, and Zorion had already got to the side, sat down, and crossed his legs.

“Why have you come?” Jacky sized Zorion up. To that, Zorion retorted, “Can’t I come? Or are you afraid that I’ll see what you’ve done behind my back?”

When Logan heard Zorion’s words, he immediately moved his hand away. Jacky grabbed Logan’s arm and turned to him. “Take a rest first.”

After putting Logan back in the wheelchair, Jacky called Harvey Swinburne in.

“Harvey, come here. Take your Logan inside and let him rest. Take care of him.”

Harvey was Logan’s subordinate and had always been in charge of taking care of Logan. Jacky did not trust anyone but Logan’s men at the given time.

Chapter 1512

Jacky had a lot of subordinates, and many of them were loyal to him. Although all of them served him, some hated wrongdoers.

As Logan bet Rhysed him, even if others promised they would leave him be, it was just a superficial promise. If they really held a grudge, they would not let him off easily.

So Jacky had to protect Logan and not let anyone harm him.

He could only rely on Logan's most trusted men.

Harvey wanted to take Logan away when he grabbed Harvey's hand, not letting him take another step.

With that, Harvey looked at Jacky. Jacky's face darkened. "It's none of your business."

Hearing Jacky's words, he knew it was for Logan's sake, so he immediately took him away.

After they left, Jacky turned to Zorion, "What are you here for?"

"Nothing."

Zorion turned his gaze away coldly, looking at the room, then stood up and threw a letter on the table, "Deanna's."

Stumped, Jacky walked over to pick up Deanna's letter. After confirming it was indeed from her, Jacky followed him outside.

It was getting warmer. Zorion wore a cashmere overcoat, his hands in its pockets as he stood at the door, looking into the distance.

Out the door, Jacky asked, "Why are you doing this?"

Humored, Zorion replied, "She's my sister. She begged me to give you the letter, and I promised. That's all."

Zorion took his hands out of his coat and glanced at Jacky. "I don't care that you're hiding Logan, but if he leaves, I'll make sure he comes back in pieces."

With that, he walked away without hesitation. Jacky looked at his retreating figure from afar and glanced at the letter in his hand, then turned around to read the content. It was a pregnancy report with an obstetric ultrasound scan attached. He could see the baby's face now.

There was a written line on the report, a question.

"Do you think it's a boy or a girl?"

Jacky immediately called Deanna. When the line connected, he told her, "I'll love our baby no matter if it's a girl or a boy."

"Who are you?" Rhys's face darkened. Deanna was showering. When he came in, the phone was ringing so he simply answered it. However, when he heard the voice at the other end of the line, his face turned gloomy that instant.

Lottie came in and saw her husband's displeasure. "Who's calling?"

In actuality, everyone was well aware, just that no one wanted to talk about it.

Rhys waited for Jacky to speak. Jacky said, "Sorry, wrong number."

And the phone was hung up.

Lottie directed her gaze at the bathroom and tugged on Rhys's arm. "Rhys, who is it?"

"Who else?" Rhys composed himself, put the phone down, and pretended nothing happened as he looked at his beloved wife.

Lottie wasn't dumb; she knew her husband's plan better than anyone else.

"You ended the call?"

"He did."

Rhys said after a while, "Jacky has set up an agency in Capital City; he's preparing to do a large-scale shipping business."

"Can he manage?" Lottie heard Jacky had a complex background. In other words, he was a gangster. How could he do business?

"If he is a dumb kid, he wouldn't leave Deanna alone. Do you think he has no motives for leaving her here?"

"What do you mean?"

"When the child is born, he will rightfully be a member of the Atkinson family." There had only ever been two things in Rhys's life that he was helpless about. One was fighting for Jen's affection with Calvin, and the other was Jacky. The former took away his love, and the latter was going to take away his daughter.

The former was excusable, but the latter was his pain.

Jacky grew up a gangster with no backing nor background. It was no feat for him to work his way from a nameless punk to the head of the Waverly Village today.

However, it was precisely that that Rhys worried about.

A dog would do as told, but a wolf would bring danger.

No one knew how massive Jacky's ambition was. He could give Jacky a chance if he was solely in love with his daughter, but it would be a different matter if he was onto his possessions.

On seeing Rhys remain silent, Lottie asked, "Rhys, is Jacky unreliable?"

"We'll only know when we find out."

"How? Zorion said he has expanded his influence to the Capital City. His men are everywhere. Will it be troublesome if we continue?"

"If he's able to conquer Capital City without my help or influence, I'll give him my respect."

Deanna came out of the bathroom wrapped in a bath towel, her belly big and round. "I don't like you being like this."

She pouted. Deanna was chubby as she had been growing since she was pregnant, and she could really eat. Even the doctor had told her to watch her weight; the consequences would be unimaginable if she didn't.

On seeing his daughter sitting down upsettingly, Rhys tried to please her despite his displeasure. "What did I say?"

The doctor had said it wouldn't do the baby and her health good if she got upset. Rhys didn't think much of the pregnancy when he was becoming a father, but now that it was happening to his beloved daughter, he was genuinely on edge. He even hated Jacky for getting Deanna pregnant at such a young age. He didn't know if there would be complications when she gave birth. How ridiculous.

How would Rhys dare to provoke his daughter?

Deanna laid down. "I think you're all targeting Jacky. He's very good to me."

She held her belly gloomily as she didn't understand her parents' worries. She had merely gotten a boyfriend, and they had a baby. Why didn't they like him? Do they prefer an old man then? Would they be happier if she married an old man?

Patting her stomach, she said, "Baby, you have to remember only we like Dad. Everyone else, including your grandparents, prefers if we fall in love with an old man because he's wealthy."

NTristany dying of anger, he glanced at his inconsiderate daughter before walking out. Lottie followed after him but stopped midway and closed the door.

Rolling her eyes at her daughter, she said, "Someone gave you a call and said he would love the baby no matter if it's a boy or a girl. When your father asked who he was, he said he had made a wrong call."

"Strange, don't you think? A number from Tamberland made a wrong call to another country."

Lottie was so angry she had such a daughter. Turning around, she left to find her husband.

As soon as Lottie left, Deanna jumped out of bed to call Jacky.

Chapter 1513

Jacky answered the phone but did not say anything until Deanna spoke, "Jacky."

"Phew..." Jacky heaved a sigh of relief. Sitting down, he asked, "You were taking a shower?"

Deanna had an obsession with taking a shower. In fact, she would be showering whenever she didn't answer his call. This was the only time Rhys picked up the phone.

Deanna thought for a moment. "Yeah, the baby feels a little cold, so I took a hot shower." In actuality, she was the one feeling cold.

Jacky frowned deeply, "Is it very cold?"

"This is what happens in spring; I feel exceptionally cold during this time." Deanna blow-dried her hair as she chatted with Jacky.

"Have you gone to a doctor?"

"I did. Nothing out of the ordinary; I'll be fine in a few days. Jacky..."

Jacky hummed lightly. Deanna pursed her lips, "I want to go back to school. The semester's starting soon, isn't it?"

Stumped, he answered, "Yeah."

And the two fell silent.

The conversation came to a stop. Jacky remained silent until Deanna said, "I want to go back."

"I'll visit you."

With that, Jacky hung up and bought a flight ticket that day.

Jacky was walking out of his loft when Raeleigh caught sight of him, "Jacky."

Jacky was carrying a travel bag in his hand, wearing a smart loose black cashmere overcoat and a black hat. In fact, most people wouldn't be able to recognize him dressed like this. However, Raeleigh was unexplainably able to recognize him at a glance.

Jacky turned around and looked at Raeleigh. "You're here?"

"Are you going out?" Raeleigh looked at the travel bag in Jacky's hand, and he nodded.

"To see Deanna?" Raeleigh knew only Deanna was able to get him to leave everything and go.

His hasty pace only meant that he was going to see his beloved. Other than Deanna, Raeleigh couldn't think of anyone else.

Jacky didn't answer, but she knew it was a yes.

"Have you ever thought that something terrible might happen if you go now?"

"Deanna wants to come back; I have to see her."

"You're being impulsive. You're still able to call her; she still hasn't given birth yet. Rhys is giving you time; he wants to test you."

"I'm well aware, but I can't leave her alone. She keeps feeling cold nowadays."

"Is she sick?"

"She was born with it; She would always feel cold in spring."

"Have her come back then. You'll be able to protect her here," Raeleigh said, but Jacky was not catching what she was throwing. "I don't get it."

There was a saying, monkey see, monkey do, and Raeleigh thought it was true. Jepherson was having a bad influence on her.

"Let's talk while we walk." With that, Raeleigh headed inside. Zorion had just left, which led Raeleigh to think something was going to happen. As expected, she saw Jacky walking out just as she walked toward the loft.

"I think you kidnapping Deanna is the best memory between you two. Although it's a cautionary tale, it's destiny. When you guys are old, it might be a great story to tell your grandchildren, don't you think?"

Behind her, Jacky carried his bag, fixing his gaze at her, "So you're saying..."

"I'm sure you love Deanna. Although she's like a child, her love for you is unmistakable. At least she's faithful."

"I think for people like Deanna, unless she doesn't love that person, once she falls in love, and you don't push her away, she will love you for the rest of her life."

"And you two don't want to leave any regrets, do you?"

Looking at Jacky, his eyes flickered with uncertainty; this was his most difficult decision to make.

"Do you know what will happen if I fail? And the consequences of you being involved?"

"What kind of consequences can there be? Would it be more worthy than the both of you experiencing the birth of your child together?" Raeleigh knew she was being a busybody, and she shouldn't butt in, but she couldn't help it. When she saw Jacky leaving, she called to him and just like that she blurted everything out.

Jacky fell silent for a moment, "I owe you a favor. If Deanna can return, no matter what happens, I will help you once."

"If you can help me twice, I can offer you a full service, but..."

"But what?"

"But I have one condition."

"What is it?"

Never had Jacky thought Raeleigh would come prepared.

Raeleigh said, "I heard you're doing a shipping business now. Is it true?"

Jacky raised an eyebrow, "You want to be a part of it?"

"No, I have something else in mind."

"Go ahead."

"Have you seen this before?" Raeleigh took out a box of condoms and showed it to Jacky. Gobsnacked, he looked at Raeleigh, "Condoms?"

"Yes, I want to get into the business."

Jacky burst out in laughter, revealing his snow-white teeth. If he wasn't close with Raeleigh, he would have taken her as a hustler.

"Does Jepherson and Santiago know?"

"They won't agree, but I want to do it." Raeleigh was serious about getting into the business.

She couldn't explain why, probably that it would be a good business. Also, she was very fascinated by their designs.

Laughing, Jacky said, "I think it's better to discuss this with them."

"Since you don't want to work with me, forget it. I'll find someone else."

Raeleigh thought she would be able to find a suitable partner anyhow.

Jacky bit his lip, "Hold up."

In a trice, Raeleigh stopped and said, "Fifty-fifty. We'll divide the money equally. I'll manage the factory and planning while you oversee the sales and platform; I'll hire a designer. We'll do field study when we're both free."

Jacky couldn't keep up with Raeleigh at all, "You sure you want to do this?"

"I have the tech, and you have the market. It'll definitely be a success."

"But?"

"You can turn me down."

Jacky heaved a long sigh and thought for a moment, "Alright, I do it."

Raeleigh smiled, walked up to Jacky, waved her hand, signaling him to come closer, and whispered in his ear. "You're not joking, are you?"

"No, I'm not."

"If you do this, you will start a war between Zorion and Jepherson."

"This has nothing to do with them. You just need to do it, but you can't say it's my idea, or I will put the blame on you and say you forced me."

Jacky was rendered speechless.

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He didn't know how to react. It was as if he had dug his own grave.

"Have I just dug my own grave?" Jacky asked. Raeleigh handed the box of condoms to Jacky. "My wedding gift to you. With your baby's best interest at heart."

Jacky looked at Raeleigh's gift, looking all awkward, but Raeleigh had already walked away.

Chapter 1514

It was already night when Jepherson woke up. Raeleigh was waiting for him to have dinner. As soon as he stirred, Santiago came in, shot a glance at him, and asked, "Did you see Jacky?"

Raeleigh shook her head. "No."

"I can't find him."

Santiago went inside to wash his hands. He came back and sat opposite Raeleigh. "Didn't you see him?"

"Didn't I say that I didn't see him?" Raeleigh replied while munching on the food. Jepherson was looking up at them when Santiago said, "A street vendor told me that he had seen you talking to Jacky and gave him a box before Jacky left."

Jepherson swept his eyes over Raeleigh, who then took a bite on a fish. "Was the street vendor sure it was me?"

"Would he tell me if he wasn't sure?"

Santiago chomped on the food before he asked so. Gazing at him, Raeleigh replied, "You're here to find fault with me, aren't you? I'm not a babysitter either. Why do you have to question me when Jacky has gone missing?"

I will only bear the responsibility for the missing of one person in this world, your brother."

Jepherson was placing a mouthful of food into his mouth when he heard this and he almost choked.

Getting up, Jepherson coughed twice and poured himself a glass of water. Santiago burst into laughter. "Did you do it on purpose?"

Jepherson looked back at these two people, who would always argue whenever they met. Then, he sat back down and continued eating.

Raeleigh said, "Don't blame me for everything. I just said no, and I meant it. I'm your sister-in-law. Aren't my words more credible than those of a street vendor?"

It's possible for some people to resemble each other. Maybe the street vendor mistook somebody else for me.

Besides, do you think it's appropriate for you to ask me when Jacky has gone missing?"

Santiago raised his hand to pat his chest. "This is so exasperating."

Jepherson passed some food to Raeleigh. "Calm down."

Raeleigh ate her cake. "Only if he stops talking."

Santiago lifted his head. "You want to continue, huh? Didn't I stop?"

Raeleigh bowed her head and continued crunching the food. Santiago glanced at Jepherson. "Don't you care?"

"Enough. It's indeed inappropriate for you to ask your sister-in-law about Jacky. Get someone to install surveillance cameras along the main streets in Waverly Village tomorrow. Tell them that it's sponsored as an anti-theft measure."

Raeleigh looked at Jepherson. "Will it cost a lot of money?"

"Not much."

Only then did Santiago then stop talking.

After the meal, Santiago left Raeleigh's place and made another call to Jacky. This time, Jacky answered the call, but he was abroad.

"Are you overseas now?"

"Yes, there's something I need to do. Help me take care of Logan."

"Don't tell me that you're looking for Deanna?" Thinking of Raeleigh's obstinance was when she denied it, Santiago felt that things were not so simple.

"Even if I go, I won't be able to see her. Don't worry, I'm not looking for Deanna, but I do have something to do. Don't you know my job?"

Hearing Jacky's words, Santiago instantly remembered Jacky's profession.

"Is it a big deal this time?" Santiago leaned to one side. He would not be bothered if Jacky was not looking for Deanna.

"More or less. Enough for a lifetime."

After all, he would be satisfied his whole life if he had Deanna, so technically speaking, what he said was true.

Santiago found it amusing. "Let's wet our whistles when you come back."

"No problem."

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After hanging up, Jacky glanced at his phone and put it into his pocket. After that, he focused on the entrance of the Hubton Academy, ordering his men to get ready.

"When they come out later, you guys go and abduct her while the rest of you lure the others away. Zorion is not an ordinary person, therefore don't be careless.

Leave immediately after luring them away. We can't afford to be late for the flight an hour later."

"What about you?"

"I can escape myself."

"Okay."

Since Rossie had been kidnapped, Zorion had arranged many bodyguards around her, but Jacky still managed to succeed.

When Rossie was on the plane, she was reeling in shock as she did not expect Jacky to be here. Although she disliked him, she was aware that Jacky would not hurt her. Hence, she did not struggle at all.

While on the plane, Rossie intended to go to the washroom. Thus Jacky took her to it. He would take her wherever she wanted, and he would also ask for her preference when it came to meals.

Rossie let out a long sigh when she disembarked. Little did she expect to come back after leaving for a few days.

“How much are you going to extort from Zorion this time?”

“This time, it’s not for money, but for my brother.” As he finished his words, Jacky brought over a hat and placed it on Rossie’s head. He then pulled her wrist and took her to Waverly Village.

It wasn’t until Rossie had gotten into the car that she knew what had happened to Logan. Moreover, they were all there last time except her. This time, Jacky wanted to fulfill Logan’s final wish before his death.

He wanted Logan and her to get married.

“Are you kidding me? I’m also very sympathetic to Logan, but how can we do this?” Rossie asked Jacky in the car. Jacky gazed outside with a stern expression, saying, “Then what should we do? My brother almost died for you, yet you continued your studies outside without him. Now, his last wish is to marry you and let you give birth to a child for him. Do you think this is too much?”

There was no change in Jacky’s tone, but Rossie felt edgy hearing his words as he didn’t seem to be lying.

“I need to call Zorion.”

“I will call him. You can rest assured about this.”

When the car arrived at the desNorahion, Jacky pushed open the car door and emerged from it. Rossie darted a glance at the outside and refused to get out of the car. “We weren’t here last time. It’s not the right place.” Rossie was a little perturbed now, and she even intended to run away.

“This is the house I’ve prepared to celebrate Logan’s wedding. He is living here, so this is not the place you went to last time.”

After speaking, Jacky motioned for his men to bring Rossie over. Resisting, Rosse turned around to pick up a stone, lifted it up and said to Jacky, “You don’t have the rights to do this.”

“I know very well about human rights. My brother almost died because of you. After marrying you, there’s nothing left to be complained about even if he’s dying.”

“You are all robbers.”

“If you’re that brave, hit me. If you can flee from me, I promise that I won’t capture you back. Though I’m afraid that it’s beyond your capabilities.”

Turning around, Jacky walked toward the opposite side while instructing, “Take her to Logan’s place.”

“Yes, sir.”

They pushed her to Logan’s place. As she had entered, they locked the door from the outside.

Nobody would come to her rescue even if she screamed for help.

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“When is it?”

Zorion’s face fell the moment he received the call about Rossie’s abduction.

“We’ve been looking for her for two days.”

Zorion gritted his teeth. “Jacky, you must be tired of living!”

Hanging up, Zorion walked out. Just as he reached the door, he stopped and paused as he recalled the letter from Deanna. Afterward, he walked back, picked up his phone, and called Jacky.

However, Jacky did not answer his call.

Chapter 1515

From his house, Zorion headed straight for Waverly Village. Jacky’s men blocked his way as soon as he was at the village’s entrance. The villagers were busy decorating the village, and it looked like a celebration was about to happen.

However, there was something wrong with the atmosphere.

Everyone wore a woebegone expression, sighing while hanging the banners.

“Tell Jacky to come out.” Zorion stood at the entrance of the village with a cold countenance.

There were more than a dozen vehicles behind him. Even though he was resourceful, Waverly Village was not in the coverage of his influences. For a place like here, even an army could not simply enter, let alone Zorion.

Nevertheless, Zorion couldn’t care less as he was enraged.

The men who stopped Zorion knew him as Jacky had informed them beforehand. They knew he was no pushover.

“Mr. Jacky is setting up the bridal chamber. He isn’t free to come out for the reception. Mr. Atkinson, please go back. We’ve no time to entertain any guests as we’re holding a wedding in the village.”

“Tell him to come out, or you will know the consequences.”

As Zorion spoke, the people behind him had already taken out their guns and aimed at Jacky’s men who were blocking them. Dozens of guns were pointed at the leader’s head. Even if they were toy guns, it was very intimidating.

“Inform Mr. Jacky that an honored guest has arrived.”

Sensing a commotion, the other villagers all went home and hid. Meanwhile, Zorion went back into his car.

Santiago came out from the village and walked over to Zorion. He asked, “What’s going on?”

“Jacky has abducted Rossie.”

“What?”

Thinking that he had misheard it, Santiago turned to look inside the village and wondered why he didn't know it.

"Are you sure?"

"Do I look like I'm joking?"

Zorion raised his head with a ferocious look in his eyes. Santiago ruminated momentarily and leaned against a car, asking, "For money?"

Zorion did not reply.

"If it's not for money, then what is it for?"

While Santiago was talking, Xanthus also came out from the village. Raeleigh and Jepherson had left the previous day. At this time, they should still be unaware of what was happening here.

Xanthus was baffled by the behavior of the villagers, wondering why they had decorated the village.

Logan's body had not recuperated yet. Due to the cross infection, he couldn't even get down from the wheelchair.

A wedding? He pondered on this.

Xanthus walked from the village to Zorion. "Why did you bring so many men here? If someone calls the police, won't you be in trouble?"

Xanthus said so out of kind intention, but when Santiago and Zorion heard it, they stared at Xanthus as though it was a joke.

Xanthus mused on this matter for a moment before he said, "Tell your men to put the guns away. We can talk about it calmly."

"Jacky has kidnapped Rossie and wants her to marry Logan. Don't you know about this?"

Santiago asked. Xanthus was stunned. He asked back, "Logan can't even get out of his wheelchair, yet he's getting married?"

"What did you say?" Zorion's expression turned cold as ice in an instant. He got out of his car, approaching Waverly Village. Santiago pulled him from behind. "Can you get in? He's doing this deliberately. I don't think he will let you in that easily."

Zorion turned around and threw a punch at Santiago. Santiago dodged it and gave Zorion a kick in return. "Don't be ungrateful. I'm doing this for your own good."

"Go and get Jacky! Tell him that if he doesn't come out, I'll set this village on fire."

"Do it yourself. He must have had this all planned. He wouldn't be afraid of any of your threats."

Gnashing his teeth, Zorion turned around to look at Waverly Village. Jacky led his men over and stopped in front of them. "I'm here."

Zorion walked over from the side and took away a gun from one of his men. He stood right before Jacky and pressed the gun on Jacky's head, cocking its hammer. "You're so eager to die, aren't you? All right, I will fulfill your wish."

Jacky's men instantaneously stepped forward, whereas Zorion's men all aimed their guns at Jacky's men. However, Jacky's men remained unfazed and were also prepared to take out their guns. Jacky said, "No one move."

The people behind Jacky suddenly took a few steps back. Concurrently, Jacky looked Zorion into the eyes. "I want Deanna."

Zorion gritted his teeth. "Jacky, that's so shameless of you!"

"It's not that I'm shameless. Deanna will be cold in the spring and you let her stay abroad alone. My mind will be in turmoil when I can't see her."

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Standing behind, Santiago licked his teeth with the tip of his tongue and wrapped his arm around Xanthus's shoulder. "Xanthus, let's go back inside."

Xanthus lifted his hand to push Santiago's arm away, but to no avail. That said, Xanthus did not stay either as he did not want to meddle in other people's business. There were so many guns here, and his life would be in peril if he stayed because they might accidentally discharge.

Xanthus followed Santiago and left first. After they left, Zorion threw his gun onto the ground. It accidentally discharged, and a few shots were fired.

Jacky didn't move at all. "I want Deanna to come back for a few days. She can go back later if there's nothing else."

"Don't tell me that you have no intention of letting her give birth here!"

Zorion kicked Jacky, who didn't dodge. Consequently, he fell to the ground.

"Mr. Jacky..."

"Don't move."

Jacky stood up from the ground. His men dared not to move as ordered by him. Zorion got near him and kicked him once more. Jacky lost his balance and fell down again.

"Jacky, mark my words. One day, you'll regret it." Zorion gnashed his teeth and turned around to leave.

Jacky got up from the ground and took a deep breath. "Don't allow anyone to enter these two days, including the relatives."

"Yes, sir."

As he watched Zorion leave, Jacky turned around and went back.

Santiago gazed at Jacky from afar. When Jacky had come back, Santiago asked, "Who suggested that you do so?"

“What do you mean?”

“I know you can’t come up with such a crafty idea. Is it Raeleigh?” Santiago knew what was going on at the thought of Raeleigh’s reaction that day.

Jacky replied, “It’s my idea. I want Deanna to come back. That’s it.”

“Then you are asking for trouble. If Zorion wants your life, I will help him.”

“I’m the son-in-law of the Atkinson family. They can’t kill me. The child needs a father.”

Jacky strode away. Santiago turned to stare after him, smirking. Following that, he took out his phone to call Raeleigh.

“Deanna is coming back,” said Santiago when Raeleigh answered the call. In response to this, Raeleigh frowned for a second. She was having breakfast with Jepherson, who sat opposite to her. Jepherson lowered his eyes. “Is it Santiago?”

“He said that Deanna is coming back. Do you know about this?” Raeleigh intentionally did not take her phone away while asking Jepherson. Jepherson paused for a while with his mouth full of food. He then looked at Raeleigh. “Deanna is coming back?”

“Santiago told me so.”

“Really?” Jepherson didn’t know what Raeleigh and Santiago were doing. He continued eating elegantly with his head down. Raeleigh asked, “How did you know it?”

On the phone, Santiago let out a sigh of relief. “Raeleigh, you’re amazing!”

Chapter 1516

Subsequently, Raeleigh hung up, took a look at the beeping phone, put it down and continued her meal.

Jepherson slightly lowered his head. “I don’t care if you want to help Jacky, but if I find out that you’re working with him in the condom business, you’d better be prepared to stay in bed with me for three days without getting out of it.”

The surrounding servants all lowered their heads as they were mortified to hear such lecherous words. To them, Jepherson was too straightforward.

Raeleigh took a sip of her juice without answering him.

After the meal, Jepherson took her to the company as usual.

Zorion called Deanna to ask her when she was going to come back. Hearing this, she bounced up from the bed like a ball.

“Zorion, do you want me to go back?” Deanna was eager to go back. In fact, she had been contemplating going back before receiving this call. Her brother calling her was like her dream was about to come true.

Deanna’s beautiful eyes kept rolling. Zorion had a headache. He raised his hand to rub his smooth forehead, and there was blue veins bulging on it.

Deanna would take everything seriously. This phone call would bring him a trouble.

Nonetheless, he had to make this call.

“Deanna, the next semester in the university is about to start. Are you coming back?” Zorion asked, stroking his forehead. Deanna replied, “Zorion, I have long been intending to go back, but you see, Mom and Dad won’t let me. With such a big belly, they won’t allow me to go back. What should I do?”

Zorion hesitated for a bit before saying, “Tell them that you miss me, so you have to come back. You always excel at it, don’t you?”

“What do I excel at?” Deanna looked at the sky. She could not recollect what she was adept at.

“Try a hunger strike. If they don’t allow you to come back, don’t take any meals. You’re pregnant now. They will worry about the baby even if they don’t worry about you. They will compromise in a few days.”

Deanna cogitated momentarily. “But if I don’t eat anything, it’s not good for the baby. It’ll suffer from malnutrition.”

“Can’t you see how much weight you put on? Malnutrition is impossible at this point.”

Zorion would have a video call with his younger sister every day, so he knew how plump she was now. He even suspected that Jacky would give up loving her if she couldn’t return to her original figure after giving birth.

A few seconds later, Deanna asked, “Zorion, do you dislike me?”

Zorion did not deny instantly, and this had made Deanne aggrieved. She said, “I’m telling you, don’t laugh at me. I’ve asked the doctor, and I was told that it’s normal for pregnant women to gain weight. If you dislike me, your future wife will be fatter than me. You will know when the time comes!”

Zorion was not in the mood to joke with her. He said, “Don’t let them know that I’ve told you to do so, or you won’t be able to come back.”

“Okay!”

“I’m hanging up. As for the other details, figure it out yourself.”

Zorion sat back onto the sofa. He gritted his teeth and clenched his fists. “Jacky, just you wait.”

That night, Deanna lay on the bed morosely. She had begun a hunger strike. She had been silent the whole while, staring blankly at the roof. Lottie was especially anxious, and she even wondered if Deanna had lost her mind.

Rhys flew off the handle, but he couldn’t vent his spleen on his daughter. Therefore, he broke the glasses downstairs to vent his anger.

“Rhys, what should we do?” Descending the stairs, Lottie was on pins and needles. The fact that Deanna had skipped a meal was enough to leave her overwrought, let alone skipping all meals in a day. To Lottie’s consternation, Deanna didn’t tell them anything.

Rhys sat down. “Prepare some of her favorite food. She will eat it when she’s hungry.”

“Won’t she starve?” Deanna was the apple of Lottie’s eyes, and she could not bear to see her starving at all.

Rhys was at his wit’s end. How could he not know his beloved wife’s thoughts?

Furthermore, Deanna was his daughter too. His heart also ached for her.

Rhys wore a darkened expression, and there was an aura of sternness about him. Looking at Lottie, he held her into his arms. “We had been cosseting her too much in the past. That’s why this is happening.”

Lottie leaned in her husband’s embrace as she asked, “What should we do?”

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Rhys made up his mind to let his daughter starve for two days.

Two days later, Zorion received a call from Deanna, saying that she was going home soon.

Zorion did not ask anything as he was well aware of the reason. He was sure that the hunger strike must have been effective.

After receiving the call, he leaned on the sofa and rested briefly. Then, he called Jacky as he wanted to see Rossie first.

Jacky didn’t answer the call. It wasn’t until Zorion visited him that they spoke to each other. Zorion expressed his thoughts, saying that he didn’t want anything upsetting to transpire at the moment.

“Jacky, remember, I will get even with you sooner or later. May the strongest one win.”

With that, Zorion got into the car and left. Jacky cast a glance at Raeleigh, who had just come over, and said, “It seems that I’m going to have some troubles.”

“What do you think he will do to you?”

“It must concern the child. His eyes told me that he will take my child away.”

“If Waverly Village can’t protect your child, nowhere would be safe.” As she spoke, she heard footsteps coming from behind. She turned around to find that it was indeed the person she had expected.

Jepherson approached them from behind.

“Raeleigh, didn’t you tell me that you’re going to visit the lonely old folk? Is Jacky a lonely old man?” Jepherson cracked a joke as he came over with Santiago behind him. He then walked to Raeleigh and held her hand.

The weather was getting warmer. The Harvey brothers didn’t wear too much clothes, but Raeleigh was surprised that neither of them wore a coat.

“It’s so cold out here. Why didn’t the two of you put on a coat?”

“I didn’t bring mine and I don’t like my old ones anymore,” Jepherson replied, pulling Raeleigh aside. “Xanthus told me that everything is about buildings today. We don’t have anything to do here. Let’s go shopping.”

“That’s a surprise!”

“There will be a press conference tomorrow.” Jepherson meant that they needed to prepare some formal attire for it. Raeleigh knew that she needed to attend it. Lately, the sales of the car she and Jepherson had designed were in a dead heat. It would be a good opportunity for her to persuade the audience into supporting her.

On second thought, she gave up this idea. If she failed to do it, Jepherson would have a chance. He had too many female fans, whereas she had no fans at all. She might lose more than she gains.

Thinking of this, Raeleigh said, “I will go with you guys to choose some clothes for you. I’ll get some for Xanthus too. You two have worn most of his clothes.”

Raeleigh gave a meaningful look at Jepherson.

Jepherson pulled Raeleigh into the car, and then the chauffeur drove the three of them to the mall.

Emerging from the car, Santiago put his hands in his pockets and shook his head. “I don’t like it here.”

Jepherson, who had yet descended, asked, “Where do you want to go then?”

“Overseas.” Santiago placed his elbow on the car and looked down at Jepherson.

Raeleigh was sitting inside too. If Jepherson did not get out, she could only wait.

Jepherson lifted his hand to check the time. “We can’t make it in time.”

“Tomorrow is the weekend. We can defer it for a day.”

Chapter 1517

“Do you think I will break my promise?” Jepherson stared at Santiago as Santiago said, “Your physique is about the same as mine. I can go with Raeleigh. We will attend it if we can catch up, but if we can’t, we won’t attend it.”

“Are you using this as an excuse to go on a vacation?”

“We’ve agreed that it’ll be just a shopping trip.” Santiago knocked on the top of the car. Jepherson replied, “I’ll postpone the press conference for three days. You must come back in three days.”

“Sure.” Santiago waved at Raeleigh, whose face fell. “I’m not going,” she refused.

Jepherson gazed at her. “Are you afraid of him?”

“Who said I was afraid of him? It’s just that I don’t want to go out with him.”

Raeleigh didn’t lack clothes. Hence she didn’t intend to go. From the looks of Santiago, he seemed to be planning something.

Raeleigh did not want to be deceived by him.

“You can use the money in these cards and remember to take care of Raeleigh.”

Jepherson opened his coat and took out a few cards, handing them over to Santiago, who then took the card and sat into the car with a grin. "Chauffeur, send me back. I need to get my passport."

"I don't want to go," Raeleigh insisted. Leaning against the seat, Jepherson held her hand. "Didn't you say you want to buy a suit for your brother?"

Raeleigh looked at him. "I can buy it here."

"It's our first time giving him a gift. We have to get one better than his previous one. It has to cost more than a hundred thousand dollars. Can such a suit be found here?" Jepherson leaned against the seat with his eyes narrowed.

"More than a hundred thousand dollars?" Raeleigh did not see it coming, and her face was filled with astonishment. Wide-eyed, Jepherson looked at the woman beside him. "Do you think that the Osteen family is poor?"

Raeleigh did not answer. Her family was indeed wealthy. Every time her parents went out, they would purchase valuable gifts for her. Some of which came with a price beyond her imagination. Even so, she did not expect Xanthus's clothes to be so expensive.

After a while, Raeleigh asked, "Are you sure it's that expensive?"

"Absolutely," said Santiago.

Laying on the opposite side of the car, he bent and crossed his legs due to his height. Raeleigh stared at him gloomily. "What an excuse to justify your intention of going on a trip. You didn't even wear his suit."

"There's an eminent international fashion designer, Welmen. He has a well-known brand for men under his branding. They only produce ten pieces of clothing each period. They are completely hand-made, and the quality is excellent."

Raeleigh was fascinated by Jepherson's words. He added, "Santiago's and my clothes are designed by him too. Although the Harvey Family has our own in-house designers, we still seek his help. My parents are also his friends. If you go there, I believe he will also devote his time to design clothes for you."

"This time, I will call Welmen personally and ask him to design a set of wedding attire for us. If it's a set..."

"We haven't decided on a wedding yet. Isn't it inappropriate to book a wedding dress so Tristany?"

In Raeleigh's mind, there was no need to be hasty.

"Since..." As Jepherson spoke, Raeleigh's phone rang, and she picked it up. It was Xanthus. Raeleigh froze for a moment upon hearing it. "I got it. I'll be right there."

"I'm going to the airport. My parents are coming."

Jepherson swept his eyes toward Raeleigh, whereas Santiago got up from his seat.

The Harvey brothers had not expected that her parents would come at this time.

“Go to the airport,” Jepherson ordered immediately. After that, he called his father, Calvin, to explain what had happened here.

Belle woke up from her sleep. She had no clue what was going on as she was still sleepy.

Hearing her son’s voice on the phone, she was bemused, wondering why her son was calling them at this time.

“I see. I’ll leave with your mother right away.”

After Calvin had hung up, she asked curiously, “Who called?”

Calvin looked at his beloved wife. “Something happened to Jerry. Let’s go and take a look first.”

Calvin got out of the bed and put on his clothes. Belle asked hurriedly, “What happened? Did they quarrel?”

“It’s about the company.”

“The company?” Hearing that it was not about her son but the company, Belle changed her tune then and there. She didn’t care about it anymore.

While changing his clothes, Calvin observed his wife. Her reaction didn’t seem bizarre to him as he had gotten accustomed to it.

In her eyes, she only cared about her family as money was not as important to her.

After changing his clothes, Calvin bent down to kiss his wife. “Get up.”

Belle got out of bed slowly, got dressed, and went out with Calvin while yawning.

Belle was in her forties, but she acted like a young girl when with Calvin. He would always make sure to walk in front of her and take care of her. From time to time, he would turn around to look at her or pull her towards him.

After packing up, they headed straight for the airport.

Paige heard that they had left. She asked the servants, “Did you guys see Madam Belle’s expression when she was leaving?”

“Yes, she was not in a hurry at all, but Mr. Calvin was. He even urged Madam to be faster, but she still took her time.”

Paige lowered her head and considered for a moment. “It seems that it isn’t about Stella. Stella should be staying abroad to receive treatment currently.

Maybe it’s related to the company.”

Paige was well aware that Belle only cared about her husband and two sons. She never bothered about the company’s affairs, as if those things had nothing to do with her.

Her sons, on the other hand, meant differently to her. Any minor problems to them were enough to put her in agitation.

Raeleigh saw Xanthus waiting and checking the time occasionally when she arrived at the airport. She ran over speedily. When he saw her, he asked, "Getting nervous?"

Raeleigh shook her head. "No. Didn't you say they were going to arrive the day after tomorrow? Why has the time been moved up?"

"I'm not sure. I just got a call from Grandma, telling us to pick them up as they are on the flight."

"Grandma called you?"

"Yeah."

Xanthus glanced at the Harvey brothers and said, "You brothers do follow her everywhere."

"We were heading to the mall," Jepherson explained.

Lamar and Jazelle came to the arrival hall. Lamar was pushing the suitcases, whereas Jazelle held her husband's arm. They were walking towards them with quite the amount of luggage.

"Here they are." Seeing them, Jepherson hugged Raeleigh and took her there. Xanthus raised his hand and lowered his head to look around before he walked over.

"Dad, Mom!"

Raeleigh walked to them at once. Lamar gave way to his wife and Raeleigh. Jazelle sized Raeleigh up, but she neither spoke nor behaved close to her.

Finding it strange, Raeleigh stood still. Then, Lamar and Jazelle walked to Xanthus. Jazelle gave him an inquiring look and asked, "Why is she with someone else?"

Chapter 1518

Xanthus was mystified for a bit, whereas Jepherson understood what Jazelle meant in an instant. Raeleigh was also aware that her parents were protecting her.

Raeleigh pretended to bow her head. "I should explain it to you."

"You don't need to explain. We merely want to know if you and my son have broken up." Jazelle had practiced at home many times. Therefore, the way she feigned disapproval was quite realistic. Raeleigh almost laughed, but she still shamed indignation and shot a glance at Jazelle.

Jazelle felt good as she was very proud of her pretense.

Lamar said, "Xanthus, let's go."

Xanthus glanced at Raeleigh as he took over the luggage from his father and explained, "Raeleigh and I have broken up. It was my fault. I've fallen for someone else."

"What?" Being shocked, Jazelle gaped at her son. "Is it true?"

Xanthus reluctantly nodded. "Yes."

"What? So, you were two-timing?" Jazelle didn't take Xanthus's side at all. She prioritized her daughter.

In embarrassment, Xanthus hesitantly said, "Raeleigh and I broke up with each other due to our incompatible personalities. It wasn't until then that we fell in love with someone else. Even so, our relationship remains, so I've adopted Raeleigh as my younger sister."

"Seriously? Aren't you mad, Raeleigh?" According to Jazelle, Xanthus was the one who cheated on Raeleigh.

Raeleigh lowered her head slightly. Her mother did put them in awkwardness.

Nothing was better than her.

Xanthus nodded to end the conversation.

Jazelle then said, "Well then, Raeleigh, since you've become Xanthus's sister, you are my daughter. I will treat you as my own."

Jazelle pulled Raeleigh's hand and patted it. The mother and daughter went out together, leaving the four men behind. Two of them followed Raeleigh, whereas one of them stayed behind to keep Lamar company.

Jepherson was the one left behind.

Neither of them spoke as though they were wary of the people around them. Reaching the car, Jepherson opened the car door in person. "Uncle Lamar, Aunt Jazelle, you can take my car. Santiago will be accompanying Xanthus."

Jazelle took a look at her husband. Lamar then replied, "No need, we can fit into Xanthus's car. Raeleigh, I will ask about the matter between you and Xanthus later. Now that you've become Xanthus's sister, you are a member of the Osteen family. You can get into the car first."

"Okay." Raeleigh followed Xanthus into his car, so did Jazelle. At this time, Jepherson said, "I'll book a restaurant to welcome you."

"No, we will have our meal at home. You guys can head back first."

Lamar turned and entered Xanthus's car. Xanthus entered his car, started the engine, and left.

Behind Jepherson, Santiago asked, "What should we do?"

"Play it by ear."

Jepherson got into his car. Santiago darted a glance before following him into the car. They went straight to Waverly Village.

As expected, Xanthus also took his parents to the village. Once entering it, Jazelle instantly cuddled Raeleigh. They wept for a while. As a result, Raeleigh's eyes had reddened.

She thought her mother would blame her, but her mother felt sorry for her.

"It's all my fault. I didn't take good care of you. You must have been through many difficulties. My poor baby!" Jazelle burst into tears in the car. Lamar took out a handkerchief and wiped her tears.

"Don't cry. We'll get out of the car soon."

Jazelle's tears came out of the blue, but they dissipated so fast. After wiping away her tears, her clean, fair complexion made her seem youthful, especially with her curly hair. Raeleigh stared at her mother in amazement. She knew that her mother was impulsive, similar to that of Deanna. However, she didn't expect her mother to still be so self-centered at this moment.

Raeleigh beamed at her. "Mom, Xanthus is going to build a hospital in the village. You can have a look."

"I've heard from your brother. There's nothing special about the hospital. I prefer you to live in good conditions. Let's visit your room."

Emerging from the car, Jazelle looked around before following Xanthus to where Raeleigh and the others stayed.

At the door, Jazelle gasped. "Sweetheart, this is where you've been living at?"

"Yes, it's nice here, and the villagers here are also obliging." Raeleigh brought Jazelle inside. After entering, Jazelle was not dissatisfied, but still, she felt that this place was substandard.

In fact, Jazelle could endure any hardships herself, and she could stay anywhere. As an archaeologist, she had been to dirtier and messier places.

However, at the thought of her daughter living in such a place, Jazelle secretly shed two drops of tears.

A spoiled brat would complain as soon as they entered such a place. Only her daughter would not complain and think of it as a nice place.

It was because Raeleigh had suffered too many hardships since she was a child. Even though this was an ordinary place, she was still content with it.

Jazelle held her daughter's hand tightly. "Sweetheart, I will stay here tonight. Is there any empty room?"

"Mom, are you and Dad going to stay here?"

"Of course, the people here are so hospitable and helpful. In addition, both you and Xanthus are here too, and we have to build a hospital. Besides, I've seen the decorations in the village. Is there going to be a wedding? We can join it. Your dad and I had gone to the countryside when we were young. Whenever there was a wedding there, we would join it."

Remembering her youth, Jazelle was a little exhilarated.

Raeleigh looked back at Xanthus. "No problem. There is an extra room."

"That's great. Xanthus, help me carry my luggage." Jazelle pulled Raeleigh into the house. Raeleigh pushed open the door of her room and introduced it to Jazelle. The mother and daughter had much to say to each other. Hence they didn't come out any time soon.

While Xanthus was carrying the suitcases, the Harvey brothers came over. They knocked on the door and came inside, making the house seem crowded.

The living room was not spacious, and it looked smaller with Lamer and Jazelle's suitcases.

Lamar sat on the sofa, and he did not speak when Jepherson and Santiago came into his sight. He cast a glance at them and picked up a glass to have some water.

“Uncle Lamar.”

Jepherson entered the door and paused momentarily. Subsequently, he changed into indoor slippers and walked to the side. “Santiago, go get some ingredients. I need some fish, chicken, and shrimp. As for the rest, you make the call.”

“All right.”

Santiago turned and went out. Through the rear-view mirror, the chauffeur looked at Santiago, who was dozing off. To the chauffeur, something seemed to have happened, and Santiago seemed strange.

...

Jepherson did not help Xanthus. Instead, he stripped off his blazer, put on an apron, rolled up his sleeves, and asked Xanthus, “How much should I prepare?”

Xanthus glanced at his father, who was sitting on the sofa, and then looked at Jepherson. “It’s up to you.”

Jepherson turned around and went back to the kitchen, beginning his preparations for a hearty meal.

Chapter 1519

By the time Santiago returned, Xanthus had put away the luggage. Xanthus took over the groceries and went into the kitchen to help Jepherson with the cooking.

Santiago knew nothing about cooking. He sat beside Lamar. He did not try to be well-mannered as he turned on the TV and crossed his legs while watching it.

He also drank water, just like Lamar.

On the way to the washroom, Jazelle saw Santiago crossing his leg. She couldn’t help being a busybody. “Everyone is busy cooking. It’s okay if you can’t cook, but you should at least help them. And why are you sitting there cross-legged?”

Only then did Santiago place his leg down. “The kitchen is too small for the three of us.”

Jazelle cast a look at the kitchen. “I agree.”

Turning around, Jazelle went back to Raeleigh’s room. She and Raeleigh continued to lie down and have their conversation.

Raeleigh was not troubled. The fact that her mother had come back suggested that the situation was not too bad.

With that said, Raeleigh wasn’t relieved either. After all, things were not very good.

Jazelle asked, “Sweetheart, do you truly like Jepherson? Did he force you to marry him?”

“He didn’t force me. It was the situation that forced me to do so, but I made the decision based on careful consideration.” Raeleigh had gotten married, and she didn’t regret it now.

She was responsible for her own life, after all.

Jazelle caressed Raeleigh’s head. “Sweetheart, as long as you are happy, your dad and I will agree to everything you do. Still, your dad wants to test them out and you have to cooperate with us. Do you understand?”

“Okay.” How could Raeleigh not agree?

The food was ready soon. Santiago knocked on the door to call them for dinner.

“Got it.” Jazelle and Raeleigh went out of the room. Right then, there were lots of dishes on the table and even wine.

Seeing Jazelle, Jepherson said politely, “I’ll hope you’ll enjoy the meal, Mom.”

“Who are you calling Mom?” Jazelle and Raeleigh washed their hands and sat down to observe the dishes on the table. The dishes gave an appealing look and aroma, to say nothing of the taste, which demonstrated that Xathus and Jepherson had put a lot of effort into it.

Raeleigh threw a glance at Jepherson before she sat down.

“Let’s dig in.” Lamar held his cutlery and took a mouthful of food. Meanwhile, he passed his wife’s and Raeleigh’s favorite dish to them, but he didn’t do so for his son. Following that, he continued chewing the food quietly.

During the meal, Jazelle didn’t talk much, nor did she ask anything. She finished her portion and got up, saying she wanted to take a stroll around the village. Behind her in second to finish was Jepherson. He stood up and went to accompany Jazelle.

“Why is it you?” Jazelle thought that her son had come out, but she looked back, only to find that it wasn’t Xanthus. She was not disappointed, but her tone sounded like she was.

“I’ve finished eating. Xanthus and the others haven’t.”

“Is it because you ate a bit only?” Jazelle recalled that he used to eat like a horse.

“My parents will be coming over, so I’m a little nervous.” For the first time, Jepherson was anxious. It was not because he was meeting Raeleigh’s parents, but because his parents were about to meet Raeleigh’s parents too.

Jazelle’s eyes widened slightly, “Are your parents so strict?”

Jepherson was at a loss for words. He felt like he was having a conversation with Deanna.

“No, I’m apprehensive about the meeting.”

“Who and who?” Jazelle asked knowingly.

Jepherson ruminates shortly. “You and Dad.”

“Don’t address me in this way. We’re not that close. And we won’t acknowledge this marriage. What’s more, we’ve been against it from the very beginning. You went forward with it before getting our consent.

Moreover, are Lamar and I unreasonable people in your eyes?”

Jepherson had finally witnessed Jazelle’s strength that day. Although she looked harmless, she was harsh with her words.

“I didn’t mean that. Mom, you’ve misunderstood.”

“I’m not your mom.”

“Raeleigh is married to me, so it makes you my mother-in-law.”

“It’s easier said than done. I don’t want to talk to you about this anymore. Since you’re done eating, and I want to look around, I’ll allow you to keep me company.”

Jazelle stepped outside. It was still cold out, but Jepherson did not have time to go back to get another coat. Seeing that Jazelle had stridden away, he gave her his coat. He only wore a thin T-shirt himself.

Jazelle looked back at him, asking, “Aren’t you cold?”

“A bit, but I cant still stand it.”

“If you’re cold, we can go back.”

“It’s fine. Let me show you around. I’m not very familiar with this village, but I’ve come to this street quite a few times.”

As Jepherson spoke, he began to lead Jazelle along the street. It took them two hours to go around it.

When they went back, Jazelle was a little weary. She entered the house, put down the coat, washed her hands and went to rest in Raeleigh’s room.

At this time, Raeleigh had finished tidying up her belongings. Seeing Jepherson’s outfit, she passed him a coat in two shakes. “Why did you wear so little?”

“I don’t feel cold. I’ll take a shower later.”

“All right.”

It was not that Raeleigh did not feel sorry for him, but just that she was in an awkward position. She didn’t know how to help him.

While Jepherson was taking a shower, Raeleigh asked Santiago, “Are you are not going to leave?”

“I will sleep on the sofa.”

Lamar looked up at Santiago, drank some water, and headed in the direction of the bedrooms. There were only three rooms here. He and his wife shared one, and one each for his son and daughter. Since Santiago would be sleeping in the living room, where would Jepherson be sleeping? The balcony or the kitchen? Lamar pondered on this.

Returning to his room, Lamar lay for a while. When he was about to fall asleep, Jazelle returned from Raeleigh's room. Raeleigh sent her back. After saying good night and telling Raeleigh not to wake her in the morning, Jazelle entered the room.

Leaving her parents' room, Raeleigh bumped into Jepherson, who had just come out from the shower. They met face-to-face, and Jepherson went into Raeleigh's room.

"You..." Raeleigh followed him inside in fright.

"I have a cold. Get me some medicine."

At first, Raeleigh intended to drive Jepherson out. With her parents' presence, he could not stay in her room that day. However, when she heard that he had a cold, she turned around and went to Xanthus's room to get the medicine.

After that, she came back and checked on Jepherson. Since then, they didn't come out. It wasn't long before the light in her room went out.

In the living room, Santiago had laid for a short time before he got up and walked toward Xanthus's room. When he reached the door, he knocked on it.

Xanthus had taken a shower and just changed into his pajamas. As he opened the door, he was puzzled to see Santiago. "Why haven't you slept?"

"I have a cold. Do you have any medicine for it?"

Xanthus turned around to get him the medicine. To his dismay, once he had turned around, the door behind him closed, and Santiago had entered.

Not only had he come in, but he had also taken off his clothes, unzipped his trousers and put away his belt. With a pair of boxer shorts, he lay on Xanthus's bed. Xanthus was speechless by his actions.

After getting into bed, Santiago pulled the quilt over himself. He stretched and yawned, making himself comfortable as if this was his bed. Then, he closed his eyes, ready to sleep.

Xanthus found it hilarious. Whose bed was this again?

Chapter 1520

When Raeleigh woke up, she heard that there were people who had arrived. However, they were not going to stay here. Furthermore, when she woke up in the middle of the night, Jepherson went out to answer a call, so she knew he went to see his parents. Due to the current situation, it was not suitable for her to meet his parents. Thus, she didn't follow him.

In the morning, she came out from her room, intending to prepare breakfast. Just as she entered the kitchen, she saw Jazelle, who was busying herself in her kitchen.

Raeleigh stood by the kitchen door, not knowing what to say. Before this, she had envisioned her mother preparing breakfast for her in a small house.

She didn't expect that such a scene would come true one day.

Jazelle turned around to take a look at her daughter. "Sweetheart, did you sleep well last night?"

"Yes, Mom. Didn't you say you wanted to sleep in and told me not to wake you?" Raeleigh remembered it clearly.

Jazelle let out a laugh. "I did sleep until I woke up. You haven't said good morning to me yet."

"Good morning, Mom." Raeleigh gave in to her mother and went into the kitchen to wash her hands. Jazelle immediately said, "I don't need your help. I'll handle everything here. Go and get dressed. You're not a mom yet, so you have to keep up with your appearance. Remember to take care of your skin. I've made your favorite pudding. I learned it from a baker.

Sweetheart, henceforth, let your brother prepare breakfast. He's a man, and it doesn't matter for him to have poor skin. You are a woman, so you should pay attention to skincare. Additionally, it's not good for your health to sleep after 10 o'clock each day. Do you understand?"

Raeleigh could not utter a word, feeling touched while standing at the door of the kitchen.

"Shall I go out then?"

"Go wash up. I brought a lot of clothes for you, a suitcase full of it. Your dad will tell you which one is yours, and there's another one for your brother."

Jazelle was busy fixing breakfast, so she chased Raeleigh out.

Leaving the kitchen, Raeleigh washed up before she knocked on the door of her parent's room. Lamar opened the door. Seeing that it was his daughter, he let her in. She closed the door and found that there were several suitcases on the ground. Two of them had been sorted out while the other two of them were left untouched. The silver suitcase was smaller than the pink one.

Raeleigh walked over. "Mom said that there are some clothes for me."

"The pink one is yours. The password is four zeros. Go ahead and take a look." Lamar was putting on his clothes. Raeleigh walked to the pink suitcase and opened it. Inside it was spring-appropriate clothing, including gloves, socks, and undergarments. Raeleigh shut the suitcase and looked at Lamar.

Noticing his daughter's silence, Lamar said, "Take it to your room. There's a yellow coat that is more of your style. Your mother designed it for you herself."

Raeleigh was bewildered for a moment. Perhaps it was underneath the other clothes that she didn't see it.

"I'm heading out."

Raeleigh walked out of her parents' room and went straight to her own. Afterward, she decked out in a slightly loose red woolen sweater and a pair of black wide-leg pants. Not only were such garments fashionable, but they highlighted her nice figure as well. She hung the coat on the door of her room and intended to put it on when she was going out later.

Raeleigh had a great curve. Before coming here, Jazelle had already inquired about her daughter's figure from her son, so the clothes fit Raeleigh perfectly.

After coming out, Raeleigh prepared to have breakfast. Jazelle fixed her hair for her before breakfast.

Xanthus also stirred Tristany. He even went outside to exercise. Santiago woke up last. When others were having breakfast, he was washing up. When he had done and was ready for breakfast, the others had finished theirs. It wasn't even eight o'clock yet. Santiago received a call from Jepherson, saying that they had arrived at the door.

Santiago put down his phone and went to open the door. They had left some food for Jepherson. After breakfast, Raeleigh and her whole family sat in the living room and chatted. As the door opened, Jepherson brought his parents inside.

It wasn't until the previous night that Belle got to know their purpose of coming over. It wasn't for the company's affairs but to meet Raeleigh's parents.

Belle was a little excited the previous day, but soon, her drowsiness overcame her excitement. Lying in the embrace of Calvin, she almost overslept.

Seeing them enter, Lamar stood up, and so did Jazelle, Raeleigh, and Xanthus.

"We've made it in time." Without giving his son the time to introduce them, Calvin stretched out his hand toward Lamar, who didn't do the same instantly. Instead, Lamar looked down first before extending his hand. "Mr. Harvey, I'm surprised to see you here."

"The surprise is inevitable. After all, it's related to the two children. We should have come to apologize in person earlier, but our last visit was unprepared. We didn't get clear on many things back then. That's why we came here today to explain it.

The children have grown up, and we shouldn't let our mistakes stand in the way of their happiness.

We came here with sincerity. I hope that Mr. Osteen can give us this opportunity to explain it."

Lamar smiled. "Let's sit and talk."

"All right."

Calvin didn't stand on ceremony. He had already switched into indoor slippers. Even though the living room was small, there was still room for him to sit.

Both Raeleigh and Xanthus stood aside. Belle sat down with her husband and took the initiative to speak to Jazelle, "I have always wanted to meet you, but I didn't expect Raeleigh to resemble you so much."

Jazelle shot a glance at Raeleigh and replied with a smile, "It was also unexpected to me."

As the conversation between the women had been struck up, Belle became more confident and less fretful.

Belle felt that she was more nervous than meeting her own mother-in-law back in the days.

"Children, you guys should leave. It's not spacious here. Enjoy yourselves outside. Xanthus, book a restaurant. We'll have lunch over there at noon."

As Lamar said so, Xanthus went back to his room to take his wallet and coat. Raeleigh also went into her room to put on her yellow coat. She felt that it was unseemly for them to stay too.

The Harvey brothers went outside too. Raeleigh appeared in her coat, which made Jeherson gaze at her. "You're looking good."

Raeleigh did not respond as she went outside.

As the four of them went out, Raeleigh's expression froze suddenly. She had no idea what her parents would be talking about in the living room, and she had a hunch that things were not that simple.

Jepherson approached her from the side and hugged her. "It'll be fine."

Raeleigh looked at him. "You won't divorce even if it isn't fine, will you?"

Jepherson withdrew his hand. "Divorce is out of the question. I have already bought insurance. If we are divorcing, you need to compensate me, so does the insurance company. Bear in mind that you may not afford this compensation."

Raeleigh stopped in her tracks. "How much is the compensation?"

"You'll only know when you propose a divorce, and you need a lawyer for it."

Raeleigh said nothing. Turning around, she was still troubled. Anyhow, the parents of the two families were sitting together. No one could predict what would happen next. How could she not be worried?