

Go After 1531

Chapter 1531

Frightened by Santiago's action, the doctor immediately stood up, holding his tongue. Santiago's eyes flashed with anger. The doctor explained, "I'm just trying to treat her. This kind of illness can only be treated when it acts up. When she's in pain, for example."

"So you say, but did you have to hug her?" Santiago's face was cold. The doctor said, "Yes, I need to hug her from behind."

"She needs to hold her breath. I will clench my fist and massage her from top to bottom, as well as the left and right sides of her chest. Then, she will have to slowly exhale. She can do it by herself, but judging by her current state..."

The doctor looked at Raeleigh, who was grappling with pain. She couldn't even clench her fist, let alone massage herself.

"Is there no other way?" Santiago's face softened. The doctor said, "Well, she can try to lie down and roll around in bed to alleviate the pain. But paradoxically, she's going to endure a great amount of pain. She can also try to stretch away the pain."

After the doctor explained, Santiago climbed onto the bed and sat behind Raeleigh to help her up. Before Raeleigh could struggle, he had already started.

"Breath in..."

Raeleigh took a deep breath and held it. The doctor froze for a moment and then raised his hand to press Raeleigh's ribs. "Does it hurt?"

Raeleigh did not answer, but sweat slid down from her forehead. Santiago turned sideways to look at Raeleigh. He clenched his fist and slowly massage her ribs, per the doctor's instruction.

Raeleigh did her best to endure the pain. A few moments later, the pain started to subside. It was not until she regained her strength that she pushed Santiago away. Only then did he let go of her and climb down from the bed.

Santiago glanced at the doctor and growled, "Remember to make things clear before taking action next time, otherwise it will cause unnecessary trouble."

In other words, Santiago meant that he would take action against the doctor, should he act rashly again.

The doctor did not even dare to wipe away the sweat on his forehead. "I'm sorry, I was anxious when I saw the patient in pain. I will be careful next time."

"What's your next course of action to treat her illness?" Santiago immediately asked, sounding very intimidating. The doctor did not even dare to meet his eyes and could only say, "I'll give her an injection later. Then, she will have to stay in bed for the next two days and relax herself. She should be fine after."

"Can you please ask a couple female doctors to come and examine her bruises from yesterday's incident? Ask them to bring along whatever medicine necessary."

“Alright. We will arrange it right away.”

Santiago used his chin to motion for them to leave. Then, the doctor brought his team out. It was only after he stepped out of the room that he dared to wipe the sweat from his forehead.

After the door was closed, Raeleigh sat in the bed, motionless. Santiago turned around and said to her, “Lie down.”

Raeleigh did not move. She sat in bed and looked towards the door. Santiago intended to help her lie down, but she quickly lay down herself. During this period, Rossie was standing beside Zorion, watching their interaction. Rossie felt strange. She wondered whose girlfriend was Raeleigh? Why did she feel that Santiago loved her more than Jepherson?

Raeleigh lay down and pulled the quilt over her body. She looked at Santiago. “Leave me alone, thanks. You can head home first. I will go home once I’m discharged.”

“Do you feel better?” Santiago asked as he sat to one side and stared deep into her eyes.

Raeleigh kept quiet. It was useless for her to say anything to a person like him.

Not long after, Raeleigh succumbed to sleep. When she woke up, Rossie persuaded her to have some food, but her mouth was full of ulcers and she dared not open her mouth. Nevertheless, her appearance looked fine.

“I’m full.” Raeleigh did not feel like eating anymore after taking a couple mouthful of porridge. She had never been like this before. She did not want Rossie to find out about her ulcerous mouth.

Rossie asked her, “You only ate two spoonfuls. Is your stomach not feeling well? Do you want me to go and get the doctor?”

“No, it’s just too hot. Why don’t you let it cool down for a bit?” Raeleigh asked. Rossie nodded and put the porridge aside. “I’ll make some soup for you later. I’ve got everything prepared.”

“Don’t bother. Initially, I was supposed to come and take care of you guys. Instead, now you have to take care of me and Zorion. I’m such a nuisance, aren’t I.”

“Don’t worry about it. I was planning to make some soup for Zorion anyways even if you weren’t here. His body is very weak and his stomach is not good, but he has to eat.”

Zorion had lost a huge amount of weight while Rossie wasn’t around.

Rossie had no idea that a person could shed so much weight in a short period of time.

Zorion was quite tall and weighed around 60 kilograms last time. She doubt that he weighed that much now.

Rossie thought that he had stomach issues and even asked him whether he’d gone to see Louisa to diagnose the problem. He said he did and it had been cured.

So the problem stemmed from him being a picky eater. Rossie planned to take advantage of this period of time to fatten him up.

Although she had to take care of Raeleigh as well, Zorion was the most important one.

Raeleigh did not know what else to say. So, she just thanked her.

“Thank you so much.”

Raeleigh did not finish her porridge, but instead lay back down on the bed. After a while, she started to have a fever.

Santiago had been keeping an eye on Raeleigh. It was unclear whether she was asleep or not, but her face gradually turned red. She would occasionally toss around in bed. The doctor did ask her to lay in bed, but somehow she kept tossing and turning.

Santiago saw Raeleigh frowning and reached out and placed a hand on her forehead. It was burning hot.

Santiago hurriedly got to his feet and called a doctor. Raeleigh felt that her ears were buzzing, as if someone was shouting at her. She raised her hand to cover her ears, blocking the noise.

Santiago held Raeleigh in place, but she kept rolling around on the bed and eventually curled up in bed. Santiago snapped, “Zorion bloody Atkinson, are you dead?”

Zorion slowly got out of bed and walked to the door. When he pushed the door open, Rossie had returned with the doctor in tow.

Once bitten, twice shy-the doctor entered the room and stood by the door, waiting for Santiago’s say-so.

Santiago saw him. “What are you still standing there for?”

The doctor then hurried over to Raeleigh’s bedside. Santiago sat on the bed and held her in his arms. She was in a daze at this time and could not tell what was going on. Her high fever had already made her delirious.

Santiago was hugging her, but she wasn’t even conscious enough to realize that.

She curled up in Santiago’s arm, who held her down so tightly that she wouldn’t move.

The doctors checked Raeleigh’s eyes first, then opened her mouth. The doctor froze for a moment when he saw her mouth was covered with ulcers. Then, he released Raeleigh and looked at Santiago. “She has a severe flu, the hallmark of a highly dangerous viral infection.”

“What do you mean?”

“She needs to be quarantined and kept under observation.” The doctor wasn’t sure whether the virus was infectious, but in this situation, he could only suggest that Raeleigh had to be transferred to an isolation ward for observation.

Santiago’s expression darkened when he heard the doctor’s words. “Is it fatal?”

“I’m not sure.”

“Get ready, send her to the isolation ward now!”

Santiago looked down at Raeleigh in his arms and suddenly held her tightly. He rested his head against hers and kissed her.

Chapter 1532

Rossie and Zorion eyeballed each other when they saw Santiago kiss Raeleigh. Then, Santiago got out of bed, picked Raeleigh up and walked out. Rossie turned around and followed him. She asked Zorion, "Isn't their relationship a bit, uh, I don't know-questionable?"

Zorion's eyes were deep. "Tell me one that isn't."

Rossie was stunned for a moment before she turned to look at Zorion. "Why are you speaking in riddles?"

"No reason." After that, Zorion followed them outside, with Rossie at his heels.

No sooner had Raeleigh arrived at the emergency room than the doctor performed a brief examination on her. The doctor did not ask Santiago to leave because he had already come into close contact with Raeleigh. Santiago remained by Raeleigh's side after she was transferred to the isolation ward.

Raeleigh's fever gradually subsided after the doctor gave her an injection. However, she still felt slightly uncomfortable. She would murmur and toss around from time to time.

Raeleigh felt sore in her arm after receiving the injection. However, she was still in a delirium. It was inevitable that she would feel uneasy.

Santiago stayed by her side, holding her other hand.

Raeleigh would then stop moving.

Rossie sat outside the isolation ward. "Do you think that Santiago's feelings for her are real?"

Zorion was sitting beside her. When Rossie asked him, he glanced at her and said, "So long as he himself is clear with his feelings, there's no need to put up an act for anyone's eyes."

"Why do you sound like you are talking about us?"

"Am I?" Zorion did not want to say anything. However, judging by Santiago's actions, he concurred with her-Santiago had crossed the line!

"I mean, it's so quintessential Santiago to act within the boundary. He knows what to do and what not to do. However, this time, it seems like Jepherson might have to send the helve after the hatchet."

Zorion muttered to himself. It sounded as if he wanted Rossie to hear it as well. Rossie looked puzzled. "What do you mean?"

"Jepherson believed in his intuition. His intuition told him that Santiago would know where to draw the line when it came to Raeleigh.

However, love knows no bounds. Just like us, I was willing to abandon Deanna just for you."

Zorion bowed his head slightly. He did not expect to be forgiven for what he had done to Deanna.

It was because of this that he felt heavy in his chest. It was so heavy that he could not breathe.

Rossie clasped her hand with his and said, "You're doing this for Deanna. I'd wanted to tell you a long time ago that Jacky is a good person."

Zorion turned to look at Rossie. "How so? Is it because he's so aesthetically pleasing that you are trying to defend him?"

"You're not making any sense." Rossie pulled back her hand and rolled her eyes at Zorion. She turned her head away and ignored him.

Zorion chuckled. Although his face was still a little pale, he had a bright smile on his face.

Rossie turned around and stole a glance at him before turning away again. She wondered why she had not noticed that Zorion had a childlike, innocent smile.

"Am I ugly?" Zorion's voice sounded petulant when he saw her turn away. Rossie turned around and stared at Zorion with spark in her eyes. "Not at all. You're better looking than Jacky."

"How do I know whether you're telling the truth?" Zorion drew his face closer to Rossie, after which she gave him a kiss. "Do you believe it now?"

Zorion was stunned. He could not stop staring at Rossie. Then, he pulled her into his arms and kissed her hard.

The driver quickly turned around.

Rossie was suddenly pushed away and was completely dumbfounded. She did not understand what was going on.

At this time, Zorion asked, "Is Raeleigh having the same symptoms as me?"

Rossie thought for a moment and said, "Yeah... Her symptoms are similar to yours."

"Hey, would you mind asking around whether Raeleigh and I have the same symptoms?"

The driver immediately went to inquire. Not long after, the driver came back and looked at Zorion. "The doctor said that her test results are out. He confirmed that you and Raeleigh have the same symptoms."

"Does it mean that I was the one who infected Raeleigh?"

"Your guess is as good as mine."

The driver felt that Zorion was right, but he did not dare to say it. After all, everything happened too fast.

Zorion had a serious look on his face. "Go and get the doctor. Ask him to give the same injection and medicines to Rossie, now!"

Zorion did not want Rossie to end up in bed like Raeleigh.

The driver understood and went in search of the doctor. Not long after, he came back with a bottle of water in his hand and handed some medicine to Rossie. Zorion only breathed a sigh of relief after she took the medicine.

However, Rossie's lips would temporarily be a No-Touching Zone for him.

Raeleigh gradually woke up and was transferred from the isolation ward to an ordinary one. When Zorion saw the frown on Raeleigh's face, he said, "I think it's best you guys move into another ward. I don't want Rossie to get infected with what you have."

Santiago looked at Zorion and then at Rossie. He ignored her and continued doing what he'd been doing.

He was not planning on moving into another ward.

This was Santiago's nature-he had an authority issue and would not take orders from anyone.

Since Santiago was not budging, Zorion called for his driver to get another ward ready for them so that he and Rossie could move in.

"What are you doing? Aren't I fine and dandy now?"

Rossie felt like Zorion had given her an eye-opening experience. How could there be such a person? Apparently, a friend in health was a friend indeed, while a friend in sickness was a friend no more.

How could there be such a person? He forsook them in times of sickness.

"If they are not gonna move, we will." Zorion got out of bed and put on his shoes, intending to leave.

Raeleigh couldn't say anything, though she hoped Rossie would stay. After all, if Rossie left, it meant that she would be alone with Santiago.

However, she was now having a severe flu and would feel bad if Rossie was infected.

Rossie pulled a long face and said, "You were the one who infected Raeleigh, and now you want to up and leave? Don't you feel bad?"

Zorion put on his clothes, reached out for Rossie's hand, and strode outside. Closing the door, he went into another ward.

After they left, Raeleigh pulled the quilt over her body. She closed her eyes and did not speak.

She wanted to call Jepherson, but for some reason, he had not visited last night, nor had he called her. She guessed that he was probably on a full workaholic mode.

Raeleigh turned over and lay down. Her ribs did not hurt anymore, but she still felt a little weak. She always felt a little cold and her head was heavy.

Santiago poured a glass of water and handed it to Raeleigh. She did not take it, so Santiago put it down and continued keeping his eyes on Raeleigh.

As a result, neither of them spoke for the entire day. Santiago could sit for an entire day, while Raeleigh could sleep for an entire day.

When the nurse came in for the first time, she saw two people-one sitting, one lying, both with their eyes closed.

Raeleigh opened her eyes while she received her injection, so did Santiago.

Santiago advised the nurse to be gentle. However, Raeleigh soon closed her eyes.

When the nurse came in for the second time, Raeleigh was still sleeping. Santiago was seated in the same spot. They both opened their eyes together when Raeleigh received the injection. Santiago again reminded the nurse to be gentle.

In the evening, the nurse came in again and was stunned to see them still frozen in time, with their positions remained unchanging.

Chapter 1533

Raeleigh did not have dinner. Santiago hadn't prepared any food anyway. The doctor gave Raeleigh a nutrient injection, which was enough to stop Raeleigh from feeling hungry.

Raeleigh felt like using the washroom after drinking some water.

Thus, she got out of bed and walked in the direction of the washroom. After she had barely taken a few steps, Santiago went up to her and carried her into the bathroom. Caught off-guard, Raeleigh stood inside, stunned. She looked at Santiago across the threshold. His stubble had grown over the past two days. He said, "I'll wait for you outside."

Raeleigh said nothing. There was nothing to say.

Raeleigh closed the door and stayed inside for a while. That was the only place she did not have to see Santiago.

A few moments later, Santiago knocked on the door. "Can I come in?"

Santiago pushed the door open and entered the bathroom even before Raeleigh answered him.

When Santiago saw that Raeleigh had washed her hands and was ready to go outside, he approached her and was about to pick her up when she exclaimed "Don't touch me!"

Sure enough, Santiago stopped in his tracks. Raeleigh exited the bathroom and went back to her bed to lie down. She did not say a single word to Santiago for the rest of the night.

She didn't even look at him.

Santiago stayed up the entire night and watched as Raeleigh slept.

The next morning, Raeleigh woke up feeling completely recovered. As she felt healthy again, she wanted to be discharged.

"Miss Raeleigh, if you leave the hospital now, the chances of you having the same reaction as last night are high. If you relapse, it's going to be very difficult to treat it."

The doctor's suggestion was from a professional point of view. However, Raeleigh wanted to leave the hospital due to personal reasons.

“I’m fine now, I’m sure. Rest assured, you don’t need to take any responsibility in the event anything happens.” Raeleigh wanted to go back home. Since Zorion had Rossie to take care of him, she felt that it was the appropriate thing to do.

“Miss Raeleigh, you have to be considerate of the people around you. If you leave the hospital and come into contact with your family, they might get infected with the virus. When that happens, it’ll be too late.”

That managed to convince Raeleigh. She immediately decided to stay in the hospital as the last thing she wanted was for her parents and Xanthus to be infected.

Raeleigh spent the entire day in bed. When night fell, she had regained her appetite somewhat.

Her dinner was prepared by Rossie, who rejoiced at seeing that Raeleigh was finally eating again.

“Raeleigh, eat up. I made a lot of food.”

Rossie kept Raeleigh company for dinner while Santiago accompanied Zorion at the latter’s request.

Although Raeleigh was eating again, she still wasn’t able to eat much.

“I’m not very hungry. I’m sorry to have troubled you.”

“Don’t act so gracious with me. It’s only right for us to help each other.” Rossie was a chatterbox. The sole reason she had been so quiet before was because Zorion had worn her down.

Raeleigh smiled. She was particularly silent for the past two days.

While they were eating, Raeleigh received a call from Jepherson. She answered the call, informing Rossie that she would head out for a while.

“Do you miss me?” Jepherson immediately asked with a smile after Raeleigh picked up. He spoke in a husky, affectionate tone.

Raeleigh looked around the corridor and asked, “Have you gone to work yet?”

“No, for the past few days, I’ve been busy helping with Hadrian’s wedding preparations.” That was also why Jepherson had not come to visit her.

Waverly Village was already decorated festively for the wedding. Calvin and his wife were already there, too. Scarlett wanted the wedding to be held as soon as possible, so anywhere was fine for her. She didn’t fuss over it.

Hadrian informed Jepherson about the whole affair. So, all the while, Jepherson had been at Waverly Village helping out with the wedding preparations.

In fact, there was nothing that urgently required his help. However, since Raeleigh’s parents were there, Jepherson did his best to spend time with them.

Raeleigh was surprised. However, the atmosphere in Waverly Village was nice. She could see how Scarlett decided to take advantage of the free time they had to hold the wedding.

“When is it?”

"It's on the 16th of this month."

Raeleigh briefly looked at the calendar and remarked, "That's in ten days' time!"

"Yes, ten days."

"What gift should I get for her?"

"Don't worry, I'll take care of it. If you have any suggestions, let me know."

"Alright. Will you be coming over to see me anytime soon?"

"I might not have the time. Santiago hasn't called me for the past two days. Did you guys have a fall out again?"

Raeleigh was silent. She did not want to lie to Jepherson; Jepherson knew far more than he let on. Besides, she knew that he was waiting for her to tell him the truth.

"A couple days ago, I was attacked at the hospital on my way to visit Zorion," Raeleigh confessed suddenly. Jepherson was silent for a while. He had no idea.

"Hello, are you still there?" Raeleigh repeated. Jepherson answered, "Yes, I am. What happened after that? Did you get hurt?"

"No. I met Flynt. He helped me. Later, when the police came, we sat down and talked for a while. When Santiago saw us talking, he was furious. I think he misunderstood. He punched Flynt."

"I wanted to stop him, but he pushed me down onto the chair. My ribs were injured and subsequently I caught the flu. I had to be hospitalized after that. I've been ignoring Santiago ever since."

Raeleigh told Jepherson the whole story. On the other end, Jepherson frowned, although he kept his tone gentle. "Santiago did not tell me any of this. How are you feeling now?"

"I'm fine now. I wanted to be discharged, but the doctor suggested I stay out of concern that my family will get infected too."

Raeleigh felt downhearted. She lowered her head as she spoke.

"I'll be right there," said Jepherson.

"No, don't..."

Before Raeleigh was even done talking, Jepherson had already hung up. He quickly rushed out of the house. Just then, Calvin and Belle were in the kitchen making dinner. When Belle saw her son dashing out of the house in a hurry, she asked, "Jerry, where are you going?"

"Something came up. I will not be coming back tonight."

Jepherson got into the car and went straight to the hospital where Raeleigh was. Belle stood at the door, holding a spatula as she watched the car disappearing into the distance.

"Why was he in such a hurry to leave?"

"Perhaps it's something to do with Raeleigh. He wouldn't get so flustered for anyone else."

Calvin pulled his beloved wife into the house and they began eating their dinner.

He much preferred spending time alone with his wife.

Raeleigh put down her phone and went back into her room. Not long after she got into bed, Jepherson arrived at the door of the ward. Raeleigh looked at the time. An hour had passed since they last talked. Although an hour was a long time for her, Jepherson looked like he had hurried over as soon as possible.

Jepherson pushed the door open and went in. He felt a little disconcerted when he saw Raeleigh.

"I've recovered." Raeleigh took a look at herself, insinuating to Jepherson that she was completely fine.

However, Jepherson's face remained pale. After sitting down, he pulled Raeleigh into his arms and held her.

He caressed her back and said, "I'm sorry."

Raeleigh paused for a moment. "What's there to be sorry about? It wasn't not your fault that I got sick."

Jepherson did not answer. His hand kept tenderly stroking Raeleigh's back. Raeleigh pushed him away and looked at him. "What's wrong?"

"I'm scared!" Jepherson pulled Raeleigh into his arms again and held her tight. He rested his chin on Raeleigh's shoulder. "I did not expect Flynt to show up."

Raeleigh hugged Jepherson and asked, "Do you not believe that Flynt could change for the better?"

Jepherson did not answer; his silence was enough to tell her that he didn't believe that at all.

Raeleigh was about to say something in response, but when she looked up, she saw Santiago standing at the door. When Santiago saw Raeleigh staring at her, he turned around and walked away. Raeleigh told Jepherson, "Santiago's outside."

Only then did Jepherson let go of Raeleigh. Following that, he stood up and opened the door. However, Santiago was nowhere to be seen.

Chapter 1534

Jepherson stood in the corridor, casting a glance down it to look for Santiago. He then closed the door behind him and went in search of his brother. He searched the entire corridor but still saw no sign of Santiago. Soon after, he went back into Raeleigh's room and told her that he was nowhere to be found. Raeleigh said, "I swear I saw him."

"Perhaps you mistook someone else for him."

Raeleigh did not speak. She looked over Jepherson's shoulder in the direction of the door. She wondered whether that really was the case.

Jepherson walked to Raeleigh and said, "I'll call Santiago in a bit. You're a patient, so you should rest up. Just rest."

Raeleigh lay down and did as she was told. Jepherson telling her that she had probably seen someone else instead of Santiago meant that he wanted to drop the topic. Raeleigh accepted that.

After Raeleigh fell asleep, Jepherson got up again and went out the door. He checked the corridor once again. There was indeed no one hiding or waiting along the corridor.

Jepherson then made his way towards Zorion's ward. When the chauffeur saw Jepherson, he immediately greeted him. Jepherson looked at the man for a while and asked, "Have you seen Santiago around?"

"Yes, he went downstairs."

Jepherson glanced towards the elevator. He opted against taking the elevator and went down the stairs instead.

Though he had traversed several floors downwards, Jepherson still hadn't seen Santiago. He continued walking down the stairs. At last, he found Santiago eating a bowl of noodles in the cafeteria.

Santiago was slurping on his noodles when suddenly, he saw a pair of legs stop in front of him. He paused momentarily before continuing to eat.

Jepherson raised his hand and set it down on the table. Then, he sat down and ordered noodles too.

By then, Santiago had almost finished his food. He slurped up the noodle broth, then looked up at Jepherson, evidently displeased.

Jepherson grabbed Santiago's chin and asked, "What's wrong?"

Santiago did not reply. Jepherson released him. "Useless."

Soon, the waiter placed a bowl of noodles in front of Jepherson. He picked up his fork and stirred the noodles around before pulling over Santiago's bowl. He gave his brother some of his noodles as well as a couple slices of beef and some soup.

After that, Jepherson began eating. However, Santiago said, "I don't feel like eating anymore."

"Are you full?"

Santiago thought for a moment before taking his bowl back and continuing to eat.

By the time Santiago finished his portion, Jepherson was still eating. Jepherson always took his time to eat, unlike Santiago.

Jepherson had always been very well-behaved since childhood. Santiago loved to scarf down his food so that he could head out and play, whereas Jepherson would take his time to finish his food.

That habit persisted until right then.

Once Santiago was done, he went to the counter and paid for the food before getting some wet wipes to wipe his mouth with.

By the time Santiago returned to the table, Jepherson had already finished his noodles and was cleaning his mouth too. He stood up and asked, "You're angry, right? Come, I'll take you somewhere to vent your anger."

Jepherson turned around and walked out of the hospital. Santiago raised his eyebrows before quickly following along.

When Zorion heard that Jepherson was there in the hospital, he could not help but keep staring out the window of his ward.

Less than an hour had passed before Jepherson led Santiago out of the hospital. The brothers swiftly got into one of the Harvey family's cars and left the hospital.

Rossie asked Zorion, "What do you think they are up to?"

"Santiago was bullied. As his elder brother, Jepherson wouldn't sit by idly and do nothing." Zorion said, amused.

Rossie was puzzled. "What do you mean?"

"Santiago was wronged. Jepherson wants to help him vent that rage out." Zorion put his hands into his pockets. He still remembered when they were little and Santiago was wrongly blamed for picking a fight with another kid. At that time, he was about seven years old. Zorion had forgotten whether the kid was from kindergarten or primary school.

Santiago did not eat or drink after returning home.

Jepherson got up from his chair and went outside. At that time, Jepherson was only about eleven. Zorion heard that Jepherson had went to confront the kid and even warned the kids' parents that they better give him an explanation or he would not let it go.

Back in the day, the Harvey family was not as powerful in Capital City as they were now. No one was afraid of them, let alone a child. Who would take his words seriously?

The kids' parents gave Jepherson a few perfunctory words. Jepherson didn't get angry, however. After returning home, he told Santiago that he would accompany him to school tomorrow and even requested a week off from his school for that purpose.

At that time, Calvin was out of the country and the servants were not aware of this matter.

The next day Jepherson brought Santiago to school. They ended up beating the kid up outside the school.

Jepherson did not do anything. It was Santiago who did all the bashing. When the kid saw Jepherson, he did not dare to move a single step. After all, Jepherson was slightly bigger than him. The kid was beaten to a pulp before going to class.

The next day, the kid informed his parents about what happened. The parents ended up going to the Harvey Group Manor. At that time, Calvin and Belle were not around. Jepherson sat at the table, glaring at the kid and his parents.

Jepherson told them, "If you just aren't as skilled as others, then no one can be blamed. You should not butt into your kids' problems. There's no point going to school if you have to defend your kid whenever he gets into a fight.

He clearly doesn't know how to fight. That's why he got beaten up."

Zorion was over at the Harvey Family Manor that day and heard those words with his own ears. If it wasn't because of that, he probably would not have remembered it so clearly.

The family was furious. They brought their son home and readied their son to fight Santiago back at school. However, before that could happen, Santiago beat the kid up first.

Jepherson used his week off from school to do nothing but bash the kid up.

Later, their teacher went directly to the Harvey Family Manor. At that time, Calvin happened to be home. The teacher explained the matter. Calvin gave the teacher two suggestions. One, he would transfer Jepherson and Santiago to another school. Otherwise, transfer the other kid to another school. It was either or. What else could he do if Santiago and the kid did not get along?

The teacher was at a total loss. In the end, the kids' parents decided that it was best if they transferred their child to another school.

A lot of things happened when they were kids, but this incident was indelibly etched on Zorion's memory.

"Send someone to follow them and report back to me."

Zorion left the window and returned to his bed to sit down. The person outside the door agreed and left immediately.

Rossie was actually curious as to what Jepherson and Santiago were up to.

...

As soon as they arrived at the countryside, Jepherson quickly got out of the car. Santiago followed closely behind. Jepherson paused for a moment before striding forward.

The Cole family had large fields and ancestral graves there. Jepherson was headed for Flynt's residence. His courtyard was larger than any other family's there.

When the two brothers arrived in front of the courtyard, Jepherson knocked on the door. Flynt came out to open the door. When he saw that it was Jepherson and his brother, he hesitated before opening the door.

When the door opened, Jepherson quickly stepped inside.

There were a few people in the courtyard. When they saw the brothers, they wanted to approach them, but Flynt stopped them. He said, "Carry on with what you're doing. Don't worry, they are my friends."

Jepherson smiled. "We're good friends!"

Chapter 1535

Santiago stood behind Jepherson. The very sight of Flynt ticked him off.

Jepherson walked up to Flynt and stood in the courtyard, observing the place. He said with his hands clasped behind his back, "This place is nice. There are a lot of people who would love to have a place like this to recuperate."

At that time, Flynt's subordinates emerged from the house. Flynt glanced at the closed courtyard door and looked towards Jepherson. "You guys have gone too far. I didn't offend you guys in any way. That day, I just so happened to pass by the hospital. I stayed back with Raeleigh to give a deposition. We sat and talked for a bit. Then, your brother just came up to me and punched me. He even pushed Raeleigh. Why don't you ask your brother what happened? Why did you have to come here to look for me?"

Jepherson laughed, amused. "Your showing up is what really strikes me as odd. Flynt, do you want to know where I threw your arm after I got my subordinates to hack it off?"

Flynt's face darkened. "What?"

Jepherson smiled. "I brought it to the dog pound and fed it to the dogs."

"You!" Flynt's face turned pale as his single hand balled into a fist.

Jepherson's eyes were full of contempt and arrogance.

"What?" Jepherson lowered his head slightly and walked up to Flynt. He stopped and said, "You have two choices today. You can either kneel down and apologise to Santiago, or I'm going to cut off your other arm."

Flynt's face turned pale as he subconsciously stumbled backwards. "Jepherson, you and I might not see eye to eye, but you've gone too far this time. God will punish you for oppressing others. Aren't you afraid of retribution?"

"Why do you care? You hired someone to assassinate Raeleigh. You frightened her and you even caused her to misunderstand Santiago. My brother's not happy about it. If you want to keep your arm, then you ought to kneel down and apologise. Then, I'll let the matter go. Well, if you want to show off your guts, give me your limb and I won't go to the Cole Family."

You'll be able to live a better life in that case.

Everything that you have is given by your parents. I'm sorry that I did not ask your mother for permission to take your arm. If I take your other arm this time, I'm not sure how you're going to explain it to her.

But you brought this all on yourself. If you did not provoke me, I wouldn't have come for you.

If there really has to be a winner in this situation, I'll be the one to come out on top."

Flynt gritted his teeth. "You want my other hand? You want me to kneel down and apologise? Over my dead body!"

"Alright, then. I'll do it myself."

Jepherson stretched his right hand out towards Flynt's only arm. Flynt managed to dodge, but his coat fell to the ground, exposing his only arm.

The corners of Jepherson's mouth curled up. "Wow, I'm surprised you managed to avoid that. You seem like you're in good shape. What were you doing at the hospital? How could you just so happen to be there when Raeleigh arrived? It seems a little too coincidental, don't you think?"

While speaking, Jepherson slowly approached Flynt. Flynt turned around and picked up a machete from the ground. The machete was very sharp as it was used for harvesting.

Santiago raised an eyebrow. "Is he going to kill you?"

"I'm sure he's been waiting for a long time to do this. Just watch," Jepherson said as he slowly approached Flynt. Although Flynt only had one arm, he could still slash the machete wildly. Most people would not dare to approach him. However, Jepherson was fearless. He walked up to him calmly while dodging the machete's strikes. Soon, Jepherson managed to grab Flynt's wrist and tapped him with one hand. The machete immediately dropped onto the ground.

Jepherson turned around and elbowed Flynt's stomach. Flynt retreated and bumped into the wall.

Jepherson glanced at Flynt before using his foot to tap the hilt of the machete. The machete flew straight up from the ground and into Jepherson's hand. Flynt, behind him, intended to pounce on him and snatch the machete away. Unfortunately, he was not as nimble as Jepherson. Jepherson held the machete in one hand, turned around, and grabbed Flynt's wrist with the other.

Just as Jepherson was about to bring the machete down, Flynt shouted, "Fine, I'll kneel!"

The machete landed on Flynt's shirt instead. The shirt was slashed apart, proving just how sharp the machete was.

Jepherson let go of Flynt's hand and tossed the machete straight into a wall. The force caused the machete to become embedded in the wall, shaking as it did so. It took a long time for its movement to stop completely.

Jepherson looked at Flynt. "Go ahead."

Flynt looked at Santiago before getting down onto his knees.

Jepherson looked at Santiago, who had turned around and gone outside.

Only then did Jepherson say, "Let bygones be bygones. If you still refuse to give up, then you'll meet death."

Jepherson walked to the door. Flynt slowly raised his head and stared at Jepherson, who was exiting the area. He gritted his teeth and seethed, "Jepherson, you'd better watch your back!"

Santiago walked ahead while Jepherson slowly followed him after leaving Flynt's house.

Santiago said, "I doubt he's going to let this one slide."

"Then you ought to take precautions. You knew that he was setting a trap. He wanted to frame you, yet you lost your temper and pushed Raeleigh."

Santiago stopped and looked at Jepherson. "Does it hurt you?"

“She’s my wife. What do you think?” Jepherson’s expression was solemn. However, Santiago doubted that his brother was angry.

Santiago turned around and continued walking forward. He asked, “Then, why aren’t you in the hospital, accompanying her? What the hell are you doing here?”

“You would still be mad if we hadn’t come here, wouldn’t you?”

“...”

Santiago did not speak at first. Afterwards, he said, “I still don’t feel too good.”

“What do you want to do then?”

“I’d feel much better if you gave Raeleigh to me.”

As Santiago spoke, he looked at Jepherson. Jepherson rolled his eyes at Santiago. “Are you itching for a beating?”

“...”

The two brothers walked on. The empty place stretched out endlessly. In the cold crispness of fresh spring, the brothers could not hear anything except the crunching sounds of their footsteps.

However, Santiago suddenly asked, “What if Raeleigh likes me?”

“Why don’t you ask me again when she likes you?” Jepherson did not stop. Santiago followed him placidly.

They made their way back to the car. Santiago entered the car and leaned against the window. Jepherson did not request to immediately head back to the hospital. Instead, he took Santiago to the hot springs. By the time they returned, the sky had darkened.

When Raeleigh finally heard footsteps along the corridor, it was already eight o’clock at night. She could tell that there were two people. The one walking in front was calm, while the one walking behind was anxious.

The latter had large, lazy strides. Who else could it be other than Jepherson and Santiago?

The door opened. Raeleigh opened her eyes and looked at the person at the door. She froze, as she usually did.

The brothers put down fruits and food, and one closed the door. They worked in sync. Raeleigh sat up and looked at Jepherson and Santiago. They had been out for an entire day. She immediately knew that they most probably went to do something really important.

Chapter 1536

“Santiago bought the fruits,” Jepherson said as he took off his coat and put it aside. Santiago entered the room and glanced at Raeleigh before taking a seat. He did not seem like he was going to apologize to her at all.

Raeleigh glanced at Santiago. “What? Is this his way of apologizing?”

"I guess. How would you like him to apologize?" Jepherson asked. Raeleigh replied, "I want him to promise that he will never hit me again. He is not allowed to lay his hands on me nor scream at me for no reason."

Jepherson turned to look at Santiago, who then said, "Flynt is up to no good. He's just trying to come up with ways to approach you, don't you know that? Why are you blaming me for what happened?"

"So, what you're saying is that you're not in the wrong?" Jepherson questioned. Santiago hesitated for a moment before replying, "No."

"So, you're a hypocrite now?" Jepherson picked up an apple and took it to the washroom sink to wash it. Raeleigh watched as Jepherson entered the bathroom before turning to look at Santiago. She did not say anything to him; she had nothing to say to him. The only reason she talked to him before was because Jepherson was there.

There was no need for her to fake it anymore since Jepherson was not in their vicinity.

After Jepherson came out of the bathroom, he cut the apple into half. One half of the apple was handed to Raeleigh. "Here, have some. You aren't allowed to eat too much, though, since you've just recovered."

Raeleigh took the half of the apple that was offered to her but did not eat. "I'm going to pass. I've already brushed my teeth."

"I'll give it to Santiago then." Jepherson plucked it out of Raeleigh's hand and gave it to his brother. Santiago did not eat it. Instead, he grabbed another whole apple before leaning back in his chair and taking a bite.

"Are you still mad?" Jepherson sat down and looked at Raeleigh. "How're you feeling?"

"I'm doing well. The doctor said that if I don't come down with a fever tonight, I can be discharged tomorrow."

Jepherson raised his hand and touched Raeleigh's forehead. After confirming that she was fine, he got up and brushed his teeth. After he returned, it was Santiago's turn. Then, the three went to sleep after turning off the lights.

Jepherson shared a bed with Raeleigh while Santiago had an entire bed to himself.

Raeleigh couldn't fall asleep at first, but she gradually sank into sleep as time passed.

When Raeleigh got up in the morning, Santiago was in the bathroom washing up, while Jepherson was changing his clothes. When Jepherson realised that Raeleigh was awake, he briefly checked the time before walking over to her. He placed his hand on her forehead to make sure that she was not running a fever. Then, he turned to the door and asked one of his subordinates to handle the formalities of her being discharged from the hospital.

Raeleigh got out of bed and got dressed in clean clothes, ready to leave the hospital.

However, as soon as Raeleigh got into the car, she realized that they weren't heading to Waverly Village but someplace else.

“Where are we going?”

Raeleigh could not think of any matter she had left unattended to.

“We’re going to meet a stylist,”

Jepherson told Raeleigh. He held her hand and gently stroked it. Miffed, Raeleigh asked, “What for?”

“We have a press conference to attend. I’ve been so busy for the past week with Scarlett’s wedding preparations and accompanying your parents that I had to postpone the conference to this week.”

“I thought you said that I could skip it?” When Raeleigh brought that up, she recalled that she initially was supposed to have a dress custom-made abroad for the event. However, things had taken an unexpected turn.

The corners of Jepherson’s lips quirked upwards. “You can skip the press conference, but there’s a banquet you need to attend after that. The banquet is scheduled to start at eight o’clock tonight. We’ll have to be there by seven. That’s why we’re heading over to meet the stylist now.”

“I mean, I can dress myself. I don’t need a stylist. I’ll just go like this.”

Raeleigh took one look at her current appearance. Jepherson just smiled and looked out the window while holding Raeleigh’s hand.

Raeleigh had no choice but follow through with the appointment. When the stylist met Raeleigh, she was extremely happy. She knew Raeleigh was the type of client who would look gorgeous regardless of what she wore.

Raeleigh immediately became the center of attention, as she was accompanied by the two sons of the Harvey family.

On the way inside, there were two rows of people flanking each side. One row of handsome men, and one row of beautiful girls. The oldest among them was barely 25 whereas the youngest was around 20. They were all dressed in the uniforms of Lennoxs and maids respectively. Raeleigh had only seen such a scene in games. She never thought that she would one day see it in real life.

The men all had short hair, neat and stylish. They nodded to Raeleigh and the brothers with their hands behind their backs, welcoming them.

The girls all had braids which were placed over their shoulders, with a maid’s bonnet on their heads.

Raeleigh walked behind Santiago, lowering her head inadvertently.

Jepherson reached out for Raeleigh’s hand. Even from her slightest reaction, he could tell that something was wrong.

“What’s up?”

Jepherson turned around and asked. Raeleigh said, “This place is beautiful.”

Jepherson smiled. “Even though this place belongs to the Harvey family, it’s also open to the public. It’s one way to make money out of it.”

“I can tell.”

Raeleigh did not make it clear what she meant.

Jepherson embraced Raeleigh in his arms. “Will you elaborate?”

“The residents of Capital City would flock to wherever you and Santiago go.”

Jepherson raised an eyebrow. “As long as you know that.”

Raeleigh followed them inside. Not long after, they arrived at a dressing room. Raeleigh took a seat there, along with Jepherson and Santiago.

They sat on either side of Raeleigh.

The three stylists took their positions at once. The one in the middle studied Raeleigh carefully and quietly. Raeleigh’s prominent clavicles caught the stylist’s eyes and he made a mental note to himself.

“What are you looking at?” Santiago asked stonily. The stylist was taken aback momentarily before hastily apologizing to Santiago. “Mr. Santiago, I was just trying to gauge what type of dress would best fit Miss Raeleigh.”

Santiago squinted at the mirror. “Don’t let your eyes wander.”

“Yes, Mr. Santiago.”

The stylist wiped the sweat off his forehead. He looked at Jepherson, who was also sitting beside Raeleigh. Jepherson’s gaze was calm. It was strange that he wasn’t affected in the slightest.

Had the stylist not known that Raeleigh was Jepherson’s girlfriend, he would have thought that she was Santiago’s.

When Jepherson and Santiago heard Raeleigh stand up, they did not open their eyes to look. Raeleigh went ahead of them to do her hair first. Then, Jepherson went to attend the press conference while Santiago stayed to accompany Raeleigh as her hair was being styled.

By the time Raeleigh’s hair was done, it was already noon. Santiago had not eaten anything that morning; he simply forgot to eat. Thus, he ordered takeout to eat in the dressing room.

Raeleigh’s face was still bare, although she had done a facial earlier. At the moment, Raeleigh’s skin was clear and lustrously fair.

While Santiago had his lunch, his gaze was drawn to Raeleigh’s plump lips. He smiled and abruptly chuckled to himself lightly.

Raeleigh got up to have some food too while pacing back and forth in the room.

Everyone in the room could not help but be attracted to the sight of the two. Raeleigh wiped her mouth after she was done eating.

The stylist immediately cried out. Raeleigh and Santiago turned around. The stylist exclaimed, “My dear, the two-hour-long facial has gone to waste with you smearing your skin like that!”

Raeleigh wiped her mouth again. The stylist nTristany choked with anger. She quickly patted her chest to calm herself down.

Chapter 1537

Santiago put his empty plate aside and took a tissue to clean his mouth with. The other stylist did not dare to speak to him. Everyone knew what his temper was like. He was like a ticking time bomb that could explode at any moment. No one dared to offend him.

The stylist in charge of Raeleigh hurried over to Santiago. She latched onto Santiago's arm with one hand and patted his chest with the other. "Mr. Santiago, I misspoke. You shouldn't bother yourself with people like me."

"That's enough from you." Santiago gave the stylist a scornful glance.

The stylist hurriedly went on, "I'm sorry, I forgot myself. It must be because I'm too used to dealing with the other customers."

Santiago did not reply. He strode towards the dressing room. After entering the room, he sat down on his seat. His stylist helped him put a face mask on.

When Raeleigh came back and saw Santiago with the face mask on, she found the sight quite amusing. A tall, strong man like him with such a delicate face mask...

Raeleigh sat down too. Santiago's eyes were closed, as if he had fallen asleep. As Raeleigh watched Santiago sleep, she gradually felt her eyelids getting heavier. Eventually, she fell asleep too.

The stylist ended up unable to do her makeup because she had fallen asleep. Glancing at Santiago beside her, she thought that it'd be best if she left them alone.

Santiago stirred from his sleep. For some reason, Raeleigh woke up too. She opened her eyes and looked at the people standing opposite of them. She found it funny that there were so many people afraid of Santiago.

When Raeleigh noticed that Santiago was staring at her, she looked away and stared at her reflection in the mirror. It was the first time she thought of herself as beautiful and flawless. There was no other way to describe it. However, Raeleigh also keenly felt that the face she saw staring back at her had been through a lot.

Somehow, she felt as if she had just woken up from a very long dream. She had been through so much and met so many people over the years. She considered herself very lucky to be able to reunite with her biological parents after being taken away as a baby.

Raeleigh lowered her eyes slightly, a smile gracing her face. Santiago looked over at Raeleigh and asked, "What are you smiling at?"

Raeleigh then turned to look at Santiago. "Is there a problem? If you don't want to see me smile, then don't look at me!"

Santiago pulled a long face. "Hmph!"

Raeleigh was momentarily startled, then looked back at herself in the mirror, quite amused.

The past few years hadn't been easy on her, but there were a lot of matters that she had no choice in. She had no regrets.

If she was given a choice right then, if she knew what would happen in the future and what she had to go through, she would still say without hesitation that she regretted nothing.

Raeleigh got up from her seat after the stylist finished with her makeup. By the time Santiago looked up, Raeleigh had already entered the fitting room. The stylist opened the door and was about to enter as well when Santiago asked, "Do you want me to break your damned legs?"

The stylist immediately stopped in his tracks, trembling with fear. He turned to look at Santiago. "Mr. Santiago, I have to go inside to help Miss Raeleigh with her dress."

The stylist was extremely anxious. He thought to himself that an instant death right there and then would be preferable.

It was way better than being tortured.

Santiago glanced at the stylist who was doing his hair and asked, "Are you done?"

"Yes, Mr. Santiago."

"Alright."

Santiago pulled off the hairdressing gown, got up, and strode towards the fitting room where Raeleigh was. The stylist quickly stepped aside to make way for Santiago to enter.

When Raeleigh heard someone enter the dressing room, she initially thought it was a female staff member who came to help her.

After all, there were many women in the studio. The moment she entered the room, she saw a box placed on the table. She had no idea when the box was delivered, but it had been put there nonetheless.

She walked over to the table and opened the box to take a look at what was inside. There was a long, fitted fishtail dress inside the box.

Raeleigh picked the dress up and placed it on her body. It looked quite good to her. Having assessed it, she entered the changing area and turned around to draw the curtains when she saw Santiago standing in the corner. It took her completely by surprise.

"What are you doing here?"

Raeleigh sounded very annoyed. On the surface, the two of them had made peace, but the truth of the matter was different.

Santiago raised an eyebrow. "What, there's nothing to see anyway."

"Oh, so you want me to strip in front of you?"

Santiago turned around and said, "I wouldn't mind that if you're willing."

Raeleigh gritted her teeth and swiveled around. She pulled the curtains shut and changed into the dress.

Santiago could only see her feet behind the curtains. Not long after, Raeleigh emerged from inside the changing area.

When Santiago saw Raeleigh, who had her hand pressed to her chest, he was taken aback. He closed his eyes and turned his back to Raeleigh. "Don't you know that you're not suppose to wear a bra under formal dresses?"

"Ah?" Raeleigh looked up at Santiago. "Are you serious?"

Santiago opened the door and demanded, "Does anyone have any pasties?"

The people outside were silent when they heard Santiago's question. They wondered whether Raeleigh was actually his girlfriend or Jepherson's. How could Santiago ask such a personal question?

Raeleigh faced away and blushed. Her body was burning up with embarrassment. She was about to explode.

Raeleigh walked inside and drew the curtain again. After a staff member gave him some pasties, Santiago opened the curtains and handed it to Raeleigh. "Do you know how to use it?"

"Let me have a look." Raeleigh took the pasties from Santiago's hand. She read the instructions on the box and chose a suitable size for herself. It took her quite a while for her to unzip her dress and put on the pasties. She stayed in there, not coming up.

"Do you need my help?" Santiago asked from outside.

Raeleigh asked curiously, "How are you so knowledgeable on these kinds of things?"

"Hmph! Even a fool knows stuff like this." In fact, Santiago was clueless. He was just blurting things out.

Raeleigh huffed, "I don't need your help."

Santiago looked away and waited outside for a few more minutes. Raeleigh took out her phone and searched the web on how to use pasties. She was relieved after confirming that she was right.

However, when Raeleigh looked down at her chest, her breath hitched in her throat.

Raeleigh said, "I'm not going to wear this. I want another dress."

Santiago, from outside, immediately said, "It's too late. This dress was specially made for you. If you had told them in the morning, they would probably still have the time to find another one."

"I thought this was just one of the dresses the stylist picked?"

"It's too late. If you don't want to wear it, then you would have to go in your birthday suit." Santiago pulled open the curtains, catching Raeleigh off guard. Santiago stepped forward to catch Raeleigh before she fell backwards. He pulled her into his arms. Raeleigh raised her head, her heart beating fast. Santiago slowly let go and looked down at Raeleigh's dress before turning around and heading outside. When the stylist saw Santiago emerging from the changing room, he asked. "How's the dress?"

Dumbfounded at the reaction, the stylist hurried into the fitting room.

Chapter 1538

Everyone's jaw dropped when Raeleigh came out from the changing room looking like a queen.

"Wow!"

The other stylists came in to see her. Raeleigh hurriedly placed a hand over her chest to cover her cleavage.

The stylists stared blankly at Raeleigh. Suddenly, someone said, "Wow, how beautiful."

Santiago, who was standing outside, said, "Get her another dress, one without a fishtail."

"Mr. Santiago, this is the most beautiful dress we have. I can guarantee you that Miss Raeleigh will be the center of attention tonight."

Santiago turned around and asked, "Who's the one calling the shots?"

The stylist was caught off guard and took two steps backwards. "You are, but we're pressed for time. We don't have much time to make changes to the dress."

Santiago stared at them. "Are you saying you're not willing to get it ready?"

"Mr. Santiago, this dress took days of work from six designers to put it together. No matter how good we are, we will not be able to put another dress together with so little time. Perhaps we can find a ready-made dress, but someone might be in the same dress."

The stylist was worried that there would be an outfit clash. He didn't want to cause Santiago any unnecessary trouble.

Santiago snorted and quickly shot a glance at Raeleigh. She was standing by the door, blushing red. Her hands were pressed against her chest. Santiago looked at the stylist and said, "Get something to cover her cleavage."

"Ah?"

The stylists immediately hurried over to Raeleigh. She retreated a couple of steps when she saw so many people rushing towards her at once. "Wait, stop!"

Santiago's face darkened. "What the hell are you thinking?"

She didn't know who was the one with the problem. Raeleigh wondered just what they were thinking.

Raeleigh pursed her lips while Santiago entered the dressing room and asked the stylist, "What do you suggest we do then?"

"Mr. Santiago, the dress is meant to be like that. When the designer was designing this, they forgot that women are shorter than men, so it is easy for the man to see her cleavage when they are dancing. But I have two solutions for this."

"Go on."

“Miss Raeleigh could wear a cardigan over the dress. The weather isn’t very warm, and it will be indoors. That way, she will not attract any wandering eyes.”

“Miss Raeleigh could also pair the dress with a diamond necklace. I think it should work.”

“This dress was specially designed for Miss Raeleigh since she has prominent collarbones. Besides, Miss Raeleigh has a great figure. Although it’s not really noticeable at times, this dress really accentuates it.”

“In my opinion, this dress is perfect for Miss Raeleigh. It’s one of a kind. When we first saw her in this dress, we were astounded. It’s perfect for her and it’s not too revealing either. Mr. Santiago, you may compare Miss Raeleigh to the models who had tried on the dress.”

“Although they looked elegant, none of them could come close to being compared to Miss Raeleigh. She looks absolutely stunning in the dress. She looks just like a queen.”

“What’s more, this shade of blue is very rare.”

Santiago snorted. “What’s your other solution?”

“We can get rid of the fishtail and use it to cover the front instead.”

Santiago stepped towards Raeleigh, and Raeleigh had to admit – she trusted him more than she did the stylists. Santiago circled around her and studied the dress for a while until he discovered two straps.

Santiago pulled on them and Raeleigh immediately felt something tighten around her chest.

Raeleigh felt a little uncomfortable, but she didn’t show it. However, one of the stylists immediately said, “Mr. Santiago, come over here and have a look. Don’t you think the first one was way better?”

Santiago paused for a moment and walked over to the stylist. He studied her briefly and took a deep breath before walking back to Raeleigh. He walked behind her and untied the strap.

Raeleigh immediately covered her chest.

Santiago walked in front of Raeleigh. He raised his hand and pulled her hand away. “Let me have a look.”

Raeleigh did as she was told. After all, there wasn’t any time for them to make another dress.

Santiago took a few steps backwards until he was standing beside the stylist. He said, “Let’s keep it like this. Go and get the jewelry.”

“Mr. Santiago, Mr. Jepherson had brought over four sets of jewelry. Which one should we use?”

Santiago turned around and went outside. The stylist opened all four sets. The first was a black pTristan set. The stylist said, “This one matches the dress. As the blue dress represents the sea, it’ll be a perfect match.”

Santiago glanced at the stylist and then looked at the second set of blue sapphire jewelry. The stylist also stated that these matched the dress.

Santiago looked at the third set – diamonds. Santiago looked over at Raeleigh. She had already walked out and a group of people were trying to find the right pair of heels for her. Six pairs of heels were brought over for Raeleigh. However, she didn’t seem to like any of them.

Santiago looked at the very last set – rubies, and brought it over to Raeleigh, who had a head down as she tried on the heels. He opened the box and placed the ruby necklace around her neck. It was an oval shaped pendant, a simple yet gorgeous accessory.

Santiago took the bracelet and the earrings out from the box and handed it to Raeleigh.

This surprised everyone. Out of all the jewelries, they disliked the rubies the most. Although the red colored gemstone was a symbol of passionate love, it didn't match the blue dress at all.

However, Raeleigh had fair skin and her had prominent collarbones. The ruby pendant fell on her chest, like the rising sun on the sea.

They could imagine how the light emitted from it could illuminate the entire world.

Raeleigh glanced at the necklace but didn't think much of it. Instead, she was a little frustrated that she couldn't find the right pair of high heels.

Santiago looked at the floor and bent down to pick up a pair of red high heels. Raeleigh stared at it and asked, "The red pair?"

Raeleigh wanted to say that she didn't want to wear them, but Santiago interjected, "We'll take this. We don't want the others."

The stylist immediately tidied up the rest of the heels. Raeleigh had a few extra inches on her. No one could take advantage of her.

It was only then that Santiago said, "I'm going to get changed."

"Mr. Santiago, your suit has arrived. Come with me."

The stylist led Santiago away. Santiago went to get changed while Raeleigh returned to her seat to get her hair done.

Raeleigh looked at herself in the mirror and raised her hand to touch the earrings and bracelets. She almost couldn't recognize herself.

"Miss Raeleigh, you're gorgeous!"

Chapter 1539

Raeleigh looked at the stylist. "Are all of you very afraid of Mr. Santiago?"

"Mr. Santiago isn't as reasonable as Mr. Jepherson. He talks with his fists. If he isn't happy, he will hit us. I fractured my hand once because of him."

The stylist smiled as he spoke. Raeleigh asked curiously, "You fractured your hand yet you're still smiling about it? Aren't you angry at all?"

"Though Mr. Santiago is not unreasonable, he doesn't talk through problems like Mr. Jepherson. Mr. Jepherson will never get physical while Mr. Santiago is the exact opposite. If he can solve his problems with his fists, he won't talk it out."

“In fact, Mr. Santiago is a good person. It’s just that he’s got quite the temper at times, and it’s not something he can control.”

“As long as we don’t anger Mr. Santiago, then nothing will happen.”

“Are you saying this because you work for him?” Raeleigh looked at the stylist strangely. She was surprised that the stylist was still defending Santaigo even though he had fractured his hand because of him.

The stylist smiled. “I’m not afraid of him. I respect him a lot. Mr. Santiago may sometimes act rashly, but he’s not a bad person. He knows what he’s doing.”

“Mr. Santiago hired most of us here. Some of us were bullied out on the streets, and he was the one who saved us and arranged for us to work here. In fact, I’m proud to be working here and the pay is good; at least I will be able to find a girlfriend and not get bullied.”

“But he hit you.”

“I’m sure there was a reason. One time, I accidentally messed up Mr. Santiago’s hair. He got up and gave me a hard push and I fell. When we went to the hospital, they told me I fractured my hand.”

“Later, Mr. Jepherson came by the hospital to visit me and gave me a huge compensation. He even let me take medical leave without any salary deduction.”

“You seem to hold Mr. Santiago and Mr. Jepherson in high regard.”

“Yes, I have massive respect for both of them.”

“In fact, when some people lose their temper, it’s for our own good. It wasn’t on purpose.”

“My mother told me that it’s like a parent-child relationship. He wants the best for us, that’s why he scolds and hits us. Or else, why would he even bother?”

“That makes sense.” Raeleigh fixed her eyes on the person in the mirror. She wondered whether Jepherson was the one who arranged for the stylist to come and tell her these things.

Santiago then came out of the changing room. Someone hurried over to straighten Santiago’s suit and Raeleigh turned to look at him. He was wearing a black suit with a white shirt. There was a red rose boutonniere on the lapel of his suit jacket.

Raeleigh believed that Santiago was a work of art. She knew that he would get ahead of Jepherson eventually. It was only a matter of time.

One day, he would be extremely far ahead.

Santiago glanced at Raeleigh before straightening his sleeves. The stylist brought over a box of jewelry, opened it and let Santiago take a look at it. He decided to go with a wristwatch and a ruby ring.

Santiago glanced at his watch. It was time for them to leave.

“Come on, let’s go.” Santiago took off his coat as he walked towards Raeleigh. He draped the coat over Raeleigh’s shoulders and took her hand in his as they walked out. Raeleigh tried to pull away, wanting

him to let go. However, there were too many people around, with too many eyes fixed on them. Santiago had one hand in his pocket while the other held hers firmly as they strode outside.

Raeleigh couldn't do anything but to follow Santiago as they left the styling studio together.

Outside, Santiago opened the car door and helped Raeleigh into the car before getting in himself. The driver then started the car and drove them to the venue of the banquet.

While in the car, Santiago took out his tablet and briefly scrolled through the news. The Harvey Group press conference had already begun.

Raeleigh leaned over and looked at his tablet. She could see Jepherson in a grey suit, answering the reporter's questions.

Jepherson left at the end of the press conference. Santiago put the tablet down and leaned against the window, gazing outside.

They soon arrived at the banquet venue. Santiago got out of the car and offered his hand to Raeleigh, but ignored his help and emerged from the car on her own.

Santiago reached for Raeleigh's hand, pulling her over.

"Watch what you're doing, or else I'm going to tell your brother..."

"If you keep talking, I'm going to kiss you." The driver was shocked by Santiago's words and pretended not to hear anything.

Raeleigh immediately stopped talking. Santiago held her hand, turned around, and made his way into the banquet hall. As they approached the building, a doorman held the door open for Santiago and Raeleigh.

After entering the elevator, Raeleigh pulled her hand out of his grasp and put her hands behind her back. Her expression was sullen.

The elevator door opened, and Santiago stretched his arm out, indicating for Raeleigh to link her arm with it. She had no choice but to do so as she followed him inside. The guests were immediately stunned when they appeared.

Raeleigh lowered her head slightly, feeling her anxiety creeping in.

"Lift your head up," Santiago reminded her. Raeleigh did as told. Her gaze swept through the entire hall. The room was crowded with people and she tried to look for Lamarre among the crowd, but she couldn't see him.

"Mr. Santiago," someone immediately greeted Santiago. Raeleigh wanted to leave, but Santiago had his hand on hers, forcing her to stay. Raeleigh had no choice but to stay.

Santiago exchanged greetings with others as he continued walking with Raeleigh towards the front of the hall. At the same time, Jepherson walked out from the other side of the hall.

When Raeleigh caught sight of Jepherson, she immediately left Santiago and went to him. Jepherson turned around and looked at Raeleigh tenderly. He lowered his head and kissed her lips.

The crowd immediately began to murmur.

“Is she the guest of honor?”

“I hear both Jepherson and Santiago like her.”

“She must be something. How rare for a woman to capture both their hearts.”

Raeleigh let the murmurs continue.

Raeleigh then stood at the side as she looked at the array of food. She thought of the look on her stylist’s face after two hours of their hard work. She couldn’t eat or drink.

When Jepherson saw Raeleigh in a daze, he whispered in her ear, “My beautiful wife, what are you thinking about?”

Raeleigh was stunned for a moment before turning to look at Jepherson. “Don’t you know?”

Jepherson laughed. “Eat whatever you want. You’re already the prettiest lady here.”

“That’s not what I care about. I just feel bad that I’d be putting the stylist’s effort to waste.”

“They’re not here. They wouldn’t know. Anyway, they’ve done their part.”

Jepherson picked up a piece of cake. “Cakes like this are sweet.”

Raeleigh opened her mouth for Jepherson to feed her with it. Then, she picked up a plate and put another slice on it.

Santiago walked over. “I want some cake too.”

Raeleigh turned around and saw that it was Santiago. She remained silent as Jepherson picked up a slice and gave it to his brother. While munching away at his cake, Santiago looked at the people around him.

“What time will it end?” Santiago hated crowded places.

Raeleigh also looked forward to leaving.

Jepherson smiled. “We just got here. We must at least dance before leaving.”

Santiago said, “This is a waste of time.”

Jepherson pulled Raeleigh towards him. “Come here.”

Chapter 1540

Raeleigh was still holding the cake but she had no way of refusing. In the end, she was pulled forward.

Jepherson was dressed in black from head to toe and had a blue rose boutonniere pinned to the lapel of his suit jacket. He walked up to the stage, picked up the microphone and greeted his guests. When he did, everyone in the room turned to look at him.

Just as Raeleigh was about to take a bite of her cake, Jepherson turned to face her and planted his lips on hers, kissing away the cream on her lips. Raeleigh immediately knew that he was up to something.

“What are you up to?”

“I’m going to make an announcement.”

Jepherson gave her a smile before turning around and looking at the guests below the stage.

“Good evening, I’m delighted to announce that the Harvey Group has already achieved its first quarter target. I would like to thank you for your time and effort, and for coming and celebrating with us. We look forward to your continued support for the Harvey Group in the coming years.”

Additionally…”

Jepherson pulled Raeleigh over. “I have someone I would like to introduce to everyone. This lady right here is Raeleigh Anson. She’s one of our company’s automotive designers. She is also my wife.”

Raeleigh nTristany dropped her cake. Everyone below the stage was wide-eyed in shock. They hadn’t expected Jepherson to make such an announcement at the banquet.

Santiago, who was standing in the distance, started clapping. The crowd turned their heads over to Santiago before following his lead.

As the applause rang out, Raeleigh felt like she was stuck in a dream. If she wasn’t holding a cake in her hand, she would definitely have had to pinch herself to make sure that she was not dreaming.

She desperately wanted to wake up from this dream.

“Next up, I would like everyone to join me on the dance floor. Let’s enjoy ourselves tonight,” Jepherson continued. Just as he was about to lead Raeleigh off the stage, a woman was pushed into the banquet hall, which caught everyone by surprise.

The crowd started to make way for the newcomer.

Santiago immediately noticed that something was amiss and looked in the direction of the crowd.

When Santiago saw that it was Stella, he was stunned for a moment. Then, he quickly walked up to her.

Stella was sat in a wheelchair, her eyes fixed on Jepherson and Raeleigh. Neither Jepherson nor Raeleigh smiled as their gazes reflected the shock in their bones.

No one could smile at such an abrupt appearance.

When Raeleigh saw Stella, she immediately turned towards Jepherson who was calmly staring at Stella.

Stella laughed below the stage. “If you two are a married couple, what does that make me?”

Everyone around them was shocked to hear her say that. What was going on?

Raeleigh remained silent as it wasn’t the time for her to say anything. Although she had her own opinions regarding this, she chose to stay quiet.

While Santiago was standing amongst the crowd, Jepherson retorted, “There’s nothing between us.”

Stella took out a stack of photos and tossed it towards the crowd. “Oh, really?”

One of the photos fell at Santiago's feet. He frowned when he saw them – they were the same pictures that Stella had taken a few months ago. However, he was sure that he had deleted all the photos. How could she have them?

Could she had made a copy?

Jepherson glanced at the photos that were all over the floor. He smiled and said calmly, "I'm not going to waste my time defending myself. You know better than anyone what happened that night. My conscience is clear."

"However, my grandmother has already agreed to let you marry into our family and become a concubine. You will not have a formal title, and Raeleigh will be my actual wife."

"Stella, I am genuinely disappointed in you. I wasn't expecting you to come and cause trouble like this."

"My grandmother has allowed you to live in Ink Garden and we've already talked things out, yet you still showed up here tonight, shameless! You should know that only the matriarch of the Harvey family is allowed to live in the Ink Garden."

"My grandmother not only proposed the marriage but even allowed you to reside there while she made Raeleigh stay in the Fragrance Garden instead."

"After all that, you still refused to compromise and insisted on making things ugly."

"Fine, I will meet with her to talk about this. Since I'm heading over there, I will bring Raeleigh along to visit her."

"Do pick up the photos before you become a laughing stock."

"My distinguished guests, I would like to formally apologize to everyone in the room. I should have dealt with my family's matters in private, and not here, at a public event."

"I ask for your understanding, and please continue to enjoy yourselves tonight."

The corners of Jepherson's mouth lifted as he spoke, smiling warmly and very charmingly at the crowd.

Raeleigh stood aside as she looked down at Stella, who had been ignored. She couldn't understand why Stella still wanted to make a fuss. It did not seem that she liked him, and judging by Stella family's status, Raeleigh was sure that she could find someone else, but that seemed rather impossible with everything that had happened.

She had single handedly destroyed herself.

Even though Jepherson was not an advocate of having concubines, it was normal for men to have them. Much like the men in the Cole family, especially Flynt's father, who had a total of seven wives and all of whom he had kids with.

Jepherson had already made it clear earlier. Not only did he respect his grandmother's decision, but Stella was shown courtesy and was allowed to live in the Ink Garden because of her family background. However, Stella still ungratefully came around and caused a fuss.

No matter how one put it, Raeleigh was his legitimate woman. Hence, Jepherson would bring her wherever he went. He would even proudly introduce her to everyone. But with regards to Stella...

To put it bluntly, everyone knew what dirty tricks she had used to become his concubine. Stella was only shooting herself in the foot by doing this.

Jepherson led Raeleigh off the stage and handed her cake to the waiter. Then, they walked towards the dance floor.

The music started playing, and the lights changed to match the ambience. No one gave Stella the time of day at all. Everyone had their eyes on Jepherson and Raeleigh, completely amazed by the two. Even if Stella caused trouble, their relationship remained unaffected and it was plain to see just how solid a pair the two were.

While Stella's servant collected the photos on the ground, Stella let out a scoff and turned around to look at Jepherson and Raeleigh, who were dancing together on the dance floor.

"Raeleigh, I didn't really want anything at first, but I can't stop myself now. You have to take responsibility for your actions."

"Let's leave." Stella took another glance before being pushed out of the banquet hall.

Raeleigh watched Stella leave as she held Jepherson. "Actually, this isn't beneficial to you. People may think that you're not content with what you have."

"I couldn't care less about what others think. Your thoughts are what matters most to me."

"Aren't you surprised at all?"

"What's there to be surprised about? I'm only surprised at how breath-takingly beautiful you look tonight."

Jepherson took a quick glance at Raeleigh before pulling her into his arms. He smiled gently as he twirled her around the dance floor.