Go After 1561

Chapter 1561

Raeleigh fixed her gaze on Austin and repeated, "I want to make a call."

But Austin merely sneered. "That's not possible."

"I don't want to cut my hair." Raeleigh tried her best to fight for her hair instead, and Austin laughed. "You have no choice; it will only cause trouble if you keep it. You have a beautiful face, so you won't look ugly even if you cut it short."

"My parents will be sad if they see me like this." Raeleigh was unbothered by her hairstyle, but she was concerned about how her parents felt if they saw her short hair.

"Cut it. Rules are rules. When in Rome, do as the Romans do." Raeleigh could not waver Austin's stand at all if he made up his mind. No matter what she said, he insisted. Her hair was not much longer than a man's either.

Raeleigh's hair was black, her chin was sharp, her face fair. With her hair short, she stood on the spot, staring at Austin in a trance. Austin had also had a haircut that day, but his hair was much shorter than that of Raeleigh's.

Raeleigh kept her head lowered the whole way back to the cell. She knew she had just barely survived, but she still felt uncomfortable.

It was a man's prison. How awkward things would get for a woman like her to be in a man's prison.

Raeleigh wandered around the prison by Austin's side after cutting her hair short. After breakfast, everyone had to work, including Raeleigh. Raeleigh had expected it to be labor and hard work, but it was one that she would have never expected when she entered the room.

Raeleigh stood in a computer lab and watched the group of people from the last shift retreat. Raeleigh and the rest were to take over.

Austin sat in front of a computer and took over the game by the gamer from before.

Raeleigh took her seat next to Austin, then he asked, "Do you know how to play computer games?"

"A little."

Austin smirked, a leisurely one. With her eyebrows raised, Raeleigh looked at him, saying after being in much dilemma, "But I don't know if I'll be good at it."

"You need to learn, or they'll deduct your wages if you keep losing. Since you don't have any money right now, you have no chance but to win to earn some. I paid for your meals," Austin said as he passed her an earpiece, who said with her face solemn, "Guide me through the game."

"Kiss me, and I'll be your guide."

Austin's eyes shone. Raeleigh pursed her lips and looked at those around her. Everyone was immersed in the game.

She looked at the screen engaged in a game. "I can play from the start with tutorials, but if I start playing halfway through the game, I will perform horribly. If I do as you guys do and learn the game at the same time, I will definitely lose money. If you have money, lend me some. I'll return it to you once I leave this place."

Austin glanced away before he looked back at Raeleigh, "You may have yet figured it out. This is a place where no one can leave, and no one has ever left."

"You may come in alive, but you'll definitely leave a dead man."

Raeleigh bit her lip and retorted in return, "How did Yanora get out then?"

Austin pondered for a brief moment before he guessed, "I don't know the person you're talking about. A woman?"

Raeleigh didn't answer, but he knew he was right. Austin's smile widened into an evil grin, and his eyes flickered with an enchanting glint.

"She could please Lechen. Can you? That man's a pervert. Can you do what she did?"

When Austin spoke, his gaze was carefree and calm.

"I won't please anyone." Raeleigh was stubborn, and Austin pinched her chin. "Kiss me. Anywhere will do."

Raeleigh stared at him and slapped his hand away, still refusing.

She looked at the computer as an idea popped up in her mind. "Could you do me a favor? Tell them I want to register a new account."

Austin smiled. "What do I get?"

"What do you want?"

"Well..." Austin gave it some thought. "Wash my feet."

"Deal."

Raeleigh agreed without hesitation. Austin continued to stare at Raeleigh, his gaze surging with complex emotions.

"Come here." Austin raised his hand. A man in a correctional officer uniform approached them.

At their side, he reminded Austin, "Lechen doesn't want you to cause trouble."

"Register a new account."

With that, Austin gestured to his computer. The officer said, "If you want to register a new account, I have to inform the superiors. The fee..."

"I'll pay for it," Austin said. With that, the officer told Raeleigh to get up. Raeleigh did as told but was worried something might happen, so she called out to Austin, "Austin."

Austin paused before turning to look at Raeleigh. "What's up?"

Raeleigh pursed her lips. "If you don't want to, I won't say it."

"Say it."

Raeleigh mustered the courage to say, "I want to stay with you."

Austin instructed the officer, "Get two accounts; we'll play the game together."

After a moment's hesitation, the officer took them to a private room. When they entered the room, Raeleigh looked at those inside and found several of them were sleeping. "They are risking their lives," Raeleigh thought.

But they were all young.

After entering the room, the officer retrieved two cards and handed them to Austin and Raeleigh before leaving.

Austin went to one of the computers, inserted his card, and turned it on; Raeleigh did the same. The system was set up in advance, so she could play the game at once.

Austin registered the account with his name, and Raeleigh caught a glimpse of his ID number. "You're 28?"

"Old?" Austin played the game as he asked in return. Raeleigh shook her head. "No."

She said nothing more but registered her name and entered her ID number.

Those in the room cast curious glances at Raeleigh. They hadn't left the room since the day before, so they were surprised to see a woman.

Raeleigh focused on the game. Austin watched her before he leveled up in no time. Raeleigh tried to learn the ropes while playing the game. In actuality, all games were somewhat identical. Raeleigh was glad Scarlette had exposed her to it.

Right then, Raeleigh hoped to meet her in the game so that she could contact her.

It was a pity that Scarlette was, right then, worried sick, in no mood to play any video games.

Right then, Raeleigh and the others were playing the hottest game in town. The prisoners played that game to unlock new levels in exchange for some money.

Raeleigh did not want to know why there was such an amusing task in prison, but since it was a prison, everything was possible.

Raeleigh broke through the hundredth level in no time and had soon familiarised the game.

Before Raeleigh knew it, someone stood behind her and was not there with kind intentions.

Chapter 1562

Raeleigh didn't need to turn around to know it was the man who disliked her the most, Lechen.

Raeleigh kept playing until it was time for lunch. They were given a break then. Most of the prisoners went to the bathroom before having their meals, while Raeleigh did the opposite.

The bathroom was considered clean, but it was crowded.

Raeleigh insisted Austin accompany her.

As Austin had always been one to be indifferent and never cared a fig, he became the center of attention when a woman appeared by his side all of a sudden.

After lunch, Raeleigh and Austin continued the games. It wasn't until the night came that Raeleigh left with Austin.

Raeleigh already felt brain fried when she left the room, and she could barely hold her cutleries when it was time for dinner.

But she cleaned her plate regardless.

She wasn't going to yield to the environment.

After dinner, Raeleigh followed Austin back. Entering the cell, Austin told her to take a shower, and she did. She didn't know whether she should feel lucky that there was a shower in Austin's cell.

After taking a shower, Austin threw a new set of clothes at Raeleigh. Noticing he had done a quick change and left the worn clothes on the ground after she emerged from the bathroom, Raeleigh picked it up and washed both of their clothes.

After she was done, Raeleigh came out with a basin of warm water in hand, staring at Austin. She didn't forget their deal.

Compared to kissing Austin, washing his feet was nothing.

Raeleigh put the basin of water in front of Austin's feet. Looking at Raeleigh, Austin blurted out, "It's not too late for you to change your mind."

"I don't regret it. If I want to survive this hell-hole and save myself, I have to pay the price. It puts my mind at ease."

"Have you ever washed others' feet?" Austin asked. "My grandmother's," She replied.

Austin fell silent. Raeleigh stirred the water, then put his feet in the bath one after the other.

As Raeleigh washed Austin's feet, she did not forget to ask, "When can I make the call?"

"It will never happen."

Raeleigh was not discouraged. Although she received an unsatisfactory reply, she continued to wash Austin's feet. After that, she wiped them dry, poured the water, and hung the towel. When she returned, Austin was lying on the opposite bed. She asked, "Are we sleeping together again?"

"You don't want to?" Austin asked, and Raeleigh reminded, "I'm a married woman."

"Well, your husband's incompetent then. He didn't even know his wife was lost and couldn't even find her after searching for so long. Even if he manages to find you a year later, you might even already have a child. Ten years later, you might even have forgotten him." "That's for me to worry about in the future. He's looking for me, but the world is big. He would never have thought his wife would be taken to prison and be resorted to slavery."

Raeleigh slumped onto the opposite bed and tucked herself in as she said. After gaming for the whole day, she was worn out.

Raeleigh had noticed there was only one blanket. If they didn't cuddle up, there would be a person without a blanket.

Although it wasn't cold in the cell, it wasn't warm either. The bed was made of wood and on top of it was a thin layer of the mattress. It was chilly even with a blanket, let alone without.

Raeleigh made space for Austin. For the first night, he looked over at her but did not go to her side. Raeleigh woke up in the middle of the night, moved to his bed with the blanket, and slept with him.

Austin stretched his arms out to hug her from behind, leading her to shoot her eyes open, but then slowly closed them back and continued to sleep.

It was the same routine the next day.

Raeleigh's life in prison had been so since then. Women occasionally visited the prison; they weren't thrown in like she was but the prisoner's family instead.

If they were husband and wife, the prison would arrange a private room for them if they paid up. They would sleep and eat there, and the meals that day would be excellent as well.

They were provided full course meals, and they could request any dishes they wanted.

Raeleigh only learned about it when she saw the other inmates.

She had also overheard some prisoners saying if one could please and flatter Lechen, even the dead can revive.

Raeleigh had, however, never thought of doing so as she knew very well how ridiculous it was to get blood out of a stone.

Raeleigh and Austin didn't have to game on the weekends; they could take a stroll outside their cell. Raeleigh would stick by Austin's side, even when he went to the toilet.

Some had their eyes on Raeleigh. Who wouldn't fall for such an elegant and noble woman?

Raeleigh carried a natural elegance with her. Both her eyes and her mouth could easily lead one to fantasize.

She had no supporting undergarments, so she would always wear lots of layers. In a place like a prison, Raeleigh faced many inconveniences, especially when she was in a male prison.

Her only thought was to escape the hell-hole.

As they walked to the center of the square, Raeleigh saw some people approaching them with malicious intent.

And she immediately hid behind Austin, and the gang soon arrived before Austin.

"Austin."

The man walked over and wore a smile. He was good-looking, but shrewdness pervaded his gaze. Raeleigh didn't have a good impression of him at all.

"Skip the formalities, spit it all out." Austin stuck his arms in his pockets, his gaze on the man lazy.

With a chuckle, he took a glance at Raeleigh. "It's been almost half a month. Don't you think it's time we have our turn, Austin?"

Raeleigh looked at the man, then up at Lechen, who was leaning, watching the fun from the upper floor. Raeleigh surmised he must've had something to do with him.

With a smirk, Austin jeered, "Sure. Go ahead if you have the ability. Right here."

Raeleigh froze for a moment and looked up at Austin, who stepped aside. The man was pleasantly delighted. "You said so."

Austin walked away. Seeing so, Raeleigh quickly ran to him, and he never turned his head back once. Seeing Raeleigh about to flee, the man tried to grab her hair but failed to do so. Stumped, Raeleigh realized why Austin had wanted her to cut her hair short.

With the failed attempt, Raeleigh quickened her pace at the sight of someone digging in the distance, with Austin heading in that direction as well.

As the man knew how Octus died, he had his men stop Raeleigh. Hearing that, Austin turned around and looked at him as his men swarmed over to block their way.

Raeleigh used the opportunity to snatch an iron shovel, then turned around and looked at the man who had caught up, dragging the shovel toward him while gritting her teeth.

In fact, Raeleigh did not have the guts to harm the man, but desperate times called for desperate measures.

Chapter 1563

Just like when she was forced to confess her feelings to Jepherson, she wouldn't do it if she wasn't driven into a corner.

Though Raeleigh held a weapon in hand, he did not take her seriously despite having his guard up; he still walked toward her. On her first hit, the man tried to grab the shovel, but Raeleigh's swing was faster than he had expected, staggering backward from the blow. Austin glanced at his lackeys, and one of them bellowed, "You have the guts to bully her."

With that, they rushed forward. The crowd outside was controlled, but those in the middle charged forward like a swarm of bees, leaving Raeleigh bewildered. When the crowd dispersed, she saw the man lying dead on the ground with a thin gash on his neck.

He died just like that, with his eyes wide open.

Raeleigh gasped for breath and turned to look at Austin, who chuckled and gave her a thumbs-up. Raeleigh did not know how she should respond, but she could feel that her smile at that moment would be uglier than her cry.

Austin lifted his gaze to the upper floor, leading her to follow his line of sight, only to see Lechen turning around to leave.

Raeleigh flung the shovel in hand aside and walked toward Austin. Austin pinched her cheeks and praised, "You're smart."

Raeleigh took a look at the shovel on the ground, then back at Austin and mumbled, "Thank you."

"That's it?" Austin asked.

After a struggle, Raeleigh said, "I'll wash your feet."

Those around her burst into laughter, leading Raeleigh to look at them, bewildered.

Austin grabbed Raeleigh's hand and walked. Looking down at her held hand, she wanted to withdraw it but dismissed the thought as she knew it would protect her from harm.

Austin settled down on a chair. Someone had disposed of the body and cleaned up the scene in no time.

Raeleigh said with her lips pursed, "If it weren't for me, two less would die, right?"

"If it weren't for you, they would die anyway. Why should we stop him when he wanted to dig his own grave?" While speaking, Austin held Raeleigh's hand and kissed the back of it.

Several pairs of eyes were fixed on them. Flustered, Raeleigh withdrew her hand and hid it behind her.

Austin basked in the sun and the cold wind. Finding herself chilly, Raeleigh stood up and paced around, but she would never leave Austin far.

"Austin, your girl sure is getting more beautiful by the day," said Austin's lackey. Austin looked up at the sky and asked faintly, "Is that so?"

"Yeah."

"She's yours then."

"Oh no, Austin, she's your girl. I prefer to have my head attached to my body."

"There's only one woman in this s*hit-hole. No matter how you look at her, she's beautiful. If you want a girl, talk to Lechen and have him give you one."

"No thanks, man. They're a bunch of nasty b*tches."

"Haha..."

Austin chuckled; Raeleigh wasn't bothered by their joke. Looking at those working away in the yard, she asked, "Why don't we have to do that kind of work?"

"Do you want to?"

Raeleigh did not answer. Austin's lackey immediately chimed in, "Those who can't play games are those who need to do all the hard work; they can't compare with us."

Raeleigh looked at the person who had spoken and inquired, "Are you gonna stay here for the rest of your life?"

"More or less. We're all death criminals; we're only alive because we can afford to pay. Even if we're released, we have no chance for a turnover."

"But what are you going to do when you're old? What if you're no longer capable of playing games."

The man fell silent.

Austin opened his eyes and looked at Raeleigh, asking, "Why worry about the future?"

Raeleigh did not answer. Austin stood up and returned to his cell, Raeleigh following right behind.

Over the next few days, Raeleigh lived a comfortable and peaceful life in the prison, except that she had to play games every day to the point that her hands were red and swollen.

In the past, Raeleigh had always thought it was tiring to have to rack her brain, but right then, she thought using her hands was more tiring.

Raeleigh was worn out at night, so she soaked her hands with hot water to relax her muscles and ease the sore.

"I've never seen someone care that much for their hands," Austin said, looking at Raeleigh's swollen fingers. Raeleigh dried her hands with a cloth, her delicate hands right then red and swollen. "You don't understand. I need them to make a living."

"I can tell." Austin walked out. They sat in the empty room, doing nothing. In the end, Raeleigh decided to crack up a conversation. "When did you come in?"

"Three years ago."

"What crime did you commit?"

"What do you think?"

"Murder?" Raeleigh subconsciously thought so. Austin laid on the bed and responded, "I don't know what crime I'm charged with."

Raeleigh was in disbelief. "And you came in resignedly?"

"What else can I do?"

Raeleigh remained silent. It seemed to be the case.

Raeleigh didn't probe further. It was getting late, so the two rested. Raeleigh slept on the inner side of the bed while Austin lay outside on his back.

As Austin wouldn't cuddle Raeleigh those days, she was able to sleep soundly.

Raeleigh couldn't think of anything else right then. After all, Austin was the only one who could help her. For her to get out of there alive, she had to sleep beside him. She started to worry about how she would have to face Jepherson once she managed to escape.

"How old is your husband?" Austin asked, and Raeleigh gave it some thought before saying, "Twenty-three."

"For real?"

"Yes."

"Is it legally allowed to marry this Tristany?" Raeleigh frowned. "It's legal for him to marry after his twenty-third birthday, and I've also passed my nineteenth birthday."

"How long have you been married?"

Raeleigh thought for a while before she replied, "I got married around this new year's."

"Ha..."

Raeleigh looked at him. "What's so funny?"

"He lost his wife just after getting married?"

"It's not his fault."

"It's yours then?"

Raeleigh said nothing in response, but she found it ridiculous herself. She had a feeling Jepherson would never figure she'd be in this place.

If she couldn't find a way out and Yanora kept her lips sealed, she'd be stuck here forever.

Raeleigh turned around to face the wall, feeling a chill run down her spine. Austin turned over and hugged Raeleigh. "If you can't leave, what are you going to do?"

"It's not an option." Raeleigh closed her eyes, took Austin's hand on her waist, and put it on the pillow to feel at ease.

Austin found it amusing and withdrew his hand to lie on his back, closing his eyes. Raeleigh secretly breathed a sigh of relief. With him next to her, how could she fall asleep soundly?

But even if she couldn't, she was slumberous.

The next day, Lechen took Austin away. With a terrible gut feeling, she held onto Austin, not letting him go, "Don't go."

Austin turned to Raeleigh and sighed, saying, "I can't break the rules."

"What about me then?"

Austin looked around and said, "Don't let anything happen to her."

"Don't worry, Austin. She's in safe hands."

Austin pulled Raeleigh's hands away and followed Lechen. Raeleigh returned to the cell and stayed put.

But someone called for her almost immediately after.

"4468, come out."

4468 was Raeleigh's number; she hesitated for a long time before she walked out. Everyone looked at her. "Go on; your day has come."

Chapter 1564

"Officer, where are you taking her? She's not feeling well these days."

"It's none of your business; now scram." The man then pushed Raeleigh. Raeleigh fell to the ground on purpose and grabbed her feet, exclaiming, "I sprained my ankle."

Raeleigh fell with a heavy thud. To make it seem genuine, she slammed herself against the floor and actually hurt herself, her face pale.

The officer stared at her and said, "Get up. Stop pretending; you're going to meet your maker today."

"We don't like that tone of yours, officer. Even if you don't respect her, you have to respect Austin."

"Hmph, Austin? There's no Austin here, only Lechen." The man took Raeleigh's arm and wanted to drag her away. Seeing things were going south, the others charged at the officers. As the fight got brutal, the officers retreated with a series of curses.

When they left, Austin's men helped Raeleigh up. "Let's bring you back to your room."

She limped back to her cell. Once she entered the door, Raeleigh asked, "When will Austin be back?"

"It shouldn't take too long. They can't keep Austin for too long. Don't worry. We won't let them take you away."

"Thank you."

Although Raeleigh knew they didn't do it for her but Austin, she couldn't help thanking them.

"No worries. How's your foot?"

"It's fine. Don't leave; stay with me. I'm a little worried. Lechen won't let it slide when he hasn't gotten his revenge. If Austin doesn't come back, I'm afraid he will make another move."

As Raeleigh spoke, someone was slamming the cell doors with a baton. In response, everyone exited. Those by Raeleigh's side spoke up, "We have to go out. If not, this won't be the end of things."

"I'll go with you. Let's not separate."

Raeleigh knew she might not be able to escape this time, but she wasn't going to resign to fate. If she held on for another second, she might be saved.

Raeleigh stood up, pretended she had sprained her ankle, and followed them out, limping all the way.

After exiting the door, Raeleigh joined in the line.

When they were in formation, water started to spRhys from above them. The water jets this time were much stronger than the last one she experienced.

Everyone squatted on the ground. Half an hour later, the water finally stopped. Raeleigh opened her eyes and swept her wary gaze around.

Lechen brought his men over, and they held electric batons in their hands, fully armed with protective shields. The prisoners feared the electric batons in their hands. Raeleigh looked at the water on the ground and knew that they would electrocute to death if the batons came into contact with water.

"Everyone, go back to your cells. You have five minutes, or we'll punish you as an escaped convict." A man behind Lechen shouted. Raeleigh pursed her lips and watched the last two who had left.

Raeleigh could only return to her cell, but she locked the door from the inside as soon as she entered.

Five minutes later, keys rang at the door, and it unlocked. Horrified, she didn't know what to do.

Finally, the door opened. Looking at Lechen as he stepped into the room, Raeleigh retreated, sitting on the bed trembling like a sieve.

Lechen closed the door behind him, threw the keys onto the ground, and unbuttoned his shirt as he taunted. "I've never toyed with women; you're the first. Consider today your lucky day."

"Don't come over. Austin will not let you off when he comes back."

"Austin is nothing but a criminal; he will do what I tell him to. He's nothing more than a dog to me. Do you actually think he can protect you? I'd like to witness how skilled you are in bed to be able to control him."

Lechen approached Raeleigh step by step like a beast while she hugged her body out of fright, shouting for him to leave her alone, but Lechen threw his shirt and belt aside and unfastened his pants in no time.

Raeleigh gave him a deathly glare. "You will rot in hell."

"I'm well aware if I'll be, but I will kill you before I die. You're the only one who dares come against me."

Lechen walked to Raeleigh and grabbed her foot, trying to pull her over. Refusing to give in, Raeleigh shrank her foot with all her might. Lechen found it amusing, saying, "Your skin is excellent; looks like Austin has been nourishing you well these days."

Raeleigh said, "Don't come any further."

How could Lechen listen to Raeleigh? He threw himself on her and started smooching her face, and Raeleigh immediately started kicking. Delighted, Lechen laughed. "I like this. The more you refuse, the more I want you."

Lechen held Raeleigh's waist to remove her pants. Raeleigh gritted her teeth and shouted, "Help..."

"No one... Ah! Ah..."

Lechen screamed. Raeleigh fumbled off the bed, chasing after him with a sharpened toothbrush clenched in between her fingers. Lechen covered his eyes and screamed in agony, blood pouring out of his left eye.

Raeleigh didn't dare put her guard down. She ran after Lechen and stabbed him in the throat. Waving his hands to shake her off, he staggered. Raeleigh looked at the toothbrush stained with blood and gritted her teeth, yelling, "Lechen, you forced me into doing this. You forced me!"

Raeleigh caught up with him and kicked Lechen in the crotch. Lechen was already in pain and could no longer fight against her; not even a 5'10 feet tall, 140 pounds strong man could stand her attacks. Lechen fell to the ground, holding his crotch and covering his face as his entire body started to spasm. Gritting her teeth, Raeleigh went to Lechen, turned him over, and laid him on his stomach as she couldn't kill him face to face. She couldn't even kill a fish, let alone a human being, but if he lived, she would come to no good end.

Raeleigh was never a coward, and she had never wanted to stir up trouble, but she was no pushover either.

While gnashing her teeth, Raeleigh grabbed Lechen's hair with one hand, just like how he had once grabbed her by her hair, and held one end of her toothbrush tightly with the other. Her toothbrush had been sharpened into a shiv. Raeleigh had been doing that long ago, little by little. She kept it close after she had finished grinding it; it finally came in handy.

Lechen came to a realization of what Raeleigh was about to do and gripped her hand with his bloody hands, pleading, "Don't... kill me, I... ugh..."

Raeleigh stabbed the entire sharpened toothbrush into Lechen's ear, and he immediately stopped moving.

Staring at the dead man, Raeleigh stood up and took two steps back but quickly pulled the toothbrush out again.

Biting her teeth, Raeleigh took the toothbrush into the toilet, mashed it up bit by bit, then flushed it down.

Chapter 1565

It was as if Raeleigh had been through a nightmare. She was extremely calm and unruffled after killing Lechen, telling herself repeatedly she had just killed a beast.

After cleaning the scene up, Raeleigh dressed Lechen and washed the blood off him. All the correctional officers wore a hat; Lechen came over wearing one as well. Raeleigh capped the hat onto Lechen's head and opened the door to gaze outside. Several correctional officers were patrolling the hallway above; the prison cells below had all their doors shut. Sneaking out of the cell, Raeleigh pulled Lechen out, brought him to a chair, and sat him there before wiping the floor with a wet towel. The blood on the ground soon disappeared, and the floor began drying up.

Raeleigh looked at those watching her from above; none of them said anything. Perhaps they were oppressed and had had enough of Lechen.

Raeleigh finished cleaning and glanced at those looking at her from within the cell. Then she returned to her room and closed the door behind her, cleaning the place and even washing the towel.

Finally, Raeleigh double-checked to make sure there were no traces of what had happened. She wrapped Lechen's key with a towel and left it on the table next to him.

Raeleigh raised her head and looked at those around her watching her as if she were a lunatic.

Then, she walked back with a steady pace, holding the towel in her hand.

At some point, Lechen's body fell to the ground with a thud. The officers patrolling upstairs dashed down only to find Lechen dead while Raeleigh was resting in her cell.

...

The whole tragedy had ended, and Raeleigh was asleep when Austin returned.

The cell was spotless, and everything had been washed.

Austin sat down, and Raeleigh got up from the bed. When she saw Austin sitting in front of her, she hugged him and cried, "I killed someone!"

Austin held Raeleigh in his arms. "Haven't you planned to kill him long ago?"

Raeleigh did not answer. That was right. He had been watching from the side every time she sharpened her toothbrush with tiles. He was the one who told her there was only one item that could kill and be turned into a weapon.

Although he didn't say it explicitly, that was what he meant.

Raeleigh had been on guard against Lechen for a long time.

"Everyone will keep their mouths shut, but the superiors will definitely investigate this matter. Don't leave this place for now. I need to find out who will take over the management before I can make sure you're safe."

It would b best if it's one of the officers here."

Raeleigh left his embrace, lifting her head to look at him, and asked, "And if not?"

"Then I'll send you away. Make sure you can leave safely."

Austin pinched Raeleigh's cheek and said, "It seems that we're going to separate soon, kiddo."

She didn't know why but she didn't like the idea, even reluctant to leave.

"Will you be fine if I leave?"

"I don't know, but you have to leave. They can't do anything to me." Austin stood up and went to the door to eavesdrop on the situation outside. He glanced at her before saying, "Don't come out for now; I'll check on the situation."

"Alright."

With that, Austin went out, and Raeleigh immediately hid in the bathroom.

For the next few days, Austin would stay outside until nightfall and bring some food back for Raeleigh; she would only feel at ease at nighttime.

A few days later, Austin woke her up in the middle of the night. "It's time to go, kiddo."

Bleary, Raeleigh opened her eyes and got up, looking at him. "Austin."

"I'll send you away now. You won't be able to leave tomorrow; the person appointed isn't one to be messed with."

Raeleigh gave it some thought before promising, "Austin, I'll come back and save you and your men."

Austin laughed. "You can't save me on your own. Are you going to ask your husband?"

Raeleigh pursed her lips. "I have family. You can rest assured that I will come back. As long as I can escape, I will come back for you."

"Silly girl, don't come back if you manage to escape. I'm fine here; I have nothing to do even if I can leave this place. Take this with you." Austin gave Raeleigh cash, a knife, and a mini electric baton.

Raeleigh lowered her head to look at them. "What is this?"

"Escape and find a place to call your family. I'm sure they'll find you. I can only protect you when you're here; now that you're leaving, you're on your own. The guys that sent you here are finding ways to kill you, meaning they know how you're doing here."

"Beware."

Raeleigh nodded and put the stuff away. Austin could only get her a set of male correctional officer outfits; even the smallest size seemed loose on Raeleigh.

Raeleigh put it on and exited the room, keeping an eye on the person guarding the door.

Austin turned around and walked toward the door, bringing Raeleigh to the exit.

After they were outside, Raeleigh found a phone in her pocket. She wanted to make a call on the spot, but Austin stopped her from doing so, "Don't call until you're half a mile away from this place. The knife and the electric baton are the only things that can save your life within the radius. Watch your back. Don't leave this place just to be caught and to be sent to another place."

Raeleigh stopped to look at Austin. "Why do you treat me so well?"

"I'm not; I just feel sorry for you. Go back and get a divorce; your husband doesn't deserve you."

Austin cupped Raeleigh's cheek, held the back of her head with the other, and kissed her on the lips. Raeleigh was rendered dumbfounded, but Austin had already backed away.

"Let's go." Turning around, Austin walked forward, Raeleigh following close behind.

When they arrived at the door, the heavy iron door opened, and Raeleigh stood behind it but did not get out at once. She looked at Austin and promised once more, "Austin, I will come back; you must wait for me. If I can't find you here, I will search every prison. It's a promise."

Amused, Austin said, "Don't tell me you're addicted to washing my feet, kiddo?"

The rim of Raeleigh's eyes turned red. She took a look outside and replied, "I have to go, Austin. Wait for me."

Austin pushed Raeleigh out the door. "This is a sh*t-hole. I'm not as kind as you think. Don't come back after you leave."

Raeleigh turned around and looked at Austin. "I will come back. Wait for me. When you're out, ask for me at the Harvey Group. I'm Jepherson Harvey's wife. If I'm not there, find me at Waverly Village. My brother's Xanthus. Ask for him. He's a doctor.

"If you really can't find me, put out search notices. You will definitely be able to find me."

Raeleigh said a lot. Austin stood on the spot before urging, "Go."

He then closed the iron door. Standing outside, Raeleigh banged on the iron door, yelling, "Austin, no matter what, don't forget."

Austin waited until the noise died before he turned around. Outside, Raeleigh had already run toward a bright light in the dark night.

She did not look back. Following Austin's instructions, she only made the call half a mile away from the prison.

Raeleigh walked for more than half an hour before she pulled the phone out and dialed a number. She had been thinking about who she should call.

In the end, she made the call.

Chapter 1566

Raeleigh had been waiting. All she had said was one sentence. She was not sure when they would come and save her. She did not move for fear that accidents would happen to her.

Zorion was also surprised that Raeleigh had chosen to call him.

It was not long before Zorion's car arrived at Raeleigh's location. Raeleigh confirmed it was the car of the Atkinson family before she got up and emerged from her hiding spot.

The weather in spring was neither cold nor hot. Raeleigh had been waiting for more than an hour until Zorion finally showed up. She was so nervous and anxious that her sweat had drenched through her clothes while walking. Her sweat had already dried up after waiting for more than an hour. She immediately walked up to Zorion, who recognized her at once from his car. Although she was wearing a police uniform, Zorion was certain that the figure in front of him was Raeleigh.

Meanwhile, Rossie was sitting in the car. At first, she was uncertain if it was actually Raeleigh, but when she noticed Zorion's expression, realisation immediately dawned upon her. Zorion pushed the door open and got out of the car. Raeleigh looked up at him and said, "I want to get in the car."

With that, Zorion helped Raeleigh into the car. Closing the door, Zorion was about to ask the driver to leave when Raeleigh grabbed his arm and looked at him, begging, "I have a request to ask of you."

"Go ahead."

Both Rossie and Zorion were so relieved to see her. After a month's disappearance without the slightest trace of her whereabouts, the fact that she had returned out of nowhere was a miracle.

Such a miracle would probably never happen again. Zorion knew that Raeleigh was desperate for his help and was betting everything she had on the line.

Too much had happened that month. Anything could happen, including...

"I have to save one person from the prison in front of me. I don't want to worry about it in the future, so I have to do it now. Help me, please. I have no other choice."

Raeleigh's eyes were shimmering with desperation. She had no choice but to do so as she couldn't have Austin take the responsibility on her behalf. If nothing was going to happen, Austin would not send her out all of a sudden. Raeleigh was quite clear that things were probably so terrible that they were spiraling out of her control.

Zorion glanced in the direction Raeleigh was pointing at, asking in disbelief, "You said you came out of the Green House?"

"I don't know what that is. I just know that I have to save someone."

Zorion was in a dilemma, "In Capital City, I can help you with anything, except for affairs regarding this place. Green House is not under our control and is under the jurisdiction of an international institution. Although it's a prison, the prisoners are all people in deep waters. I don't have the ability to do so."

Zorion had heard his father, Rhys, talking about it. Green House was different from other prisons. The prisoners were all from powerful backgrounds, and he couldn't afford to offend them.

The fact that Raeleigh still managed to escape surprised Zorion.

However, he failed to come up with a solution and just kept staring at Raeleigh's clothes.

Raeleigh asked, "Can you ask someone to keep an eye on the surroundings in case anybody is being brought out from the inside? Can you ask someone to check on him?"

Zorion shook his head and sighed, "I don't know. I'll have to ask my father."

"But if you leave now..." Raeleigh was at a loss. She looked in the direction of Green House and couldn't stop worrying about Austin. If anything happened to Austin, she would be condemned by her conscience for the rest of her life.

Zorion racked his brain for a solution and blurted out, "Maybe someone has a way."

"Who?"

Raeleigh asked and looked at Zorion as if he was her only string of hope. A moment later, Zorion muttered, "As far as I know, the Matthews family has a powerful influence internationally. If it's the Matthews family, you should probably have no problem helping him."

"The Matthews family? Who's that?" Raeleigh asked, not knowing anyone from the Matthews family.

Zorion replied, "Have you met Lenold before? His father and Mr. Harvey are sworn buddies who have gone through thick and thin. Moreover, he..."

"I know him," Raeleigh was suddenly reminded that she had met such a person before.

However, she did not really have a lasting impression on him, so she had forgotten all about him.

"Then please bring me to Jepherson. Now."

She had recalled that Jepherson and Lenold were pretty good friends as well. If she could find a way to contact them, they could probably help her resolve her predicament.

Zorion dialled Jepherson's number, whereas Raeleigh called Xanthus on the way to Waverly Village. When Xanthus received the call, he left the house and waited for her arrival at the entrance to the village.

Lamar and Jazelle had also suffered a lot in the past month. At that moment, they waited for Raeleigh alongside their son.

On the other hand, Jepherson dashed out of the hotel and rushed to Waverly Village. Santiago hadn't returned home for some time, so he couldn't get in touch with him.

The driver knew that Jepherson was anxious, so he sped and drove like a maniac all the way there.

When Calvin and Belle received the news, they rushed in the direction of Waverly Village as well. During that period of time, they had to return to the Harvey Manor. As they were on their way to Waverly Village, Belle's heart hung mid-air in nervousness. She didn't know what Raeleigh had gone through in the past month.

Jepherson had been clenching his fists tightly along the way. Raeleigh had finally returned, but he wasn't the first person she contacted. What did that mean?

Soon, Zorion arrived at the gate of Waverly Village. Raleiehg got out of the car, only to see her parents standing at the entrance of Waverly Village. She dashed towards her parents and buried herself in Jazelle's arms. Jazelle couldn't help but start crying, making Lamar and his son exchange glances of concern.

Zorion stepped out of the car with Rossie. Rossie had the urge to cry upon seeing the scene in front of her. They had never thought that Raeleigh would return. She had been missing for a month. They thought she had died but...

"Let's go home," Lamar suggested. Raeleigh shook her head and replied, "I can't. I have something to deal with. Dad, bring Mom back. I will return home after I've handled everything. I'll wait here for Jepherson. I have a favour to ask of him."

Raeleigh's gaze was different from before. As her father, Lamar deeply understood that his daughter had changed after the accident. It was reasonable.

Gratified, Lamar compromised, "I'm glad you're back and that you're still able to act rationally. Go ahead. I'll return home and wait for you. Leave your mother to me. Don't worry."

"Thanks, Dad," Raeleigh was glad that she had such an understanding father.

Although Jazelle was unwilling to part with her daughter, she respected Raeleigh's decision and decided to talk about it after Raeleigh had returned home.

Similarly, Xanthus wanted to stay behind but Raeleigh said, "Xanthus, you should return home as well."

Xanthus stared at Raeleigh before turning around to leave.

From then on, Raeleigh had nothing to do but to wait for Jepherson's arrival.

Some things took time.

Finally, Jepherson arrived.

His car came to a halt in front of her. The door was pushed open as Jepherson stepped out of the car. The moment Raeleigh saw him, she almost burst into tears, but she suppressed the urge to cry. She knew it was not the time to sob.

She watched as Jepherson approached her swiftly. She had never seen him so anxious before as he charged towards her in large strides.

Coming up to her, Jepherson pulled her into her embrace and wrapped his arms around her forcefully as if he wanted to fuse her into him. It was as if he had used all his crushing strength to pull her into an embrace and didn't want to let go.

Chapter 1567

The gloomy sky outside had darkened the atmosphere and lighting inside the car. Raeleigh had her head lowered as she stared blankly at the entrance of Waverly Village.

Jepherson had carried her into the car. All the while, her heart was filled with complex emotions. It was as though after such a long time, Jepherson's embrace had grown distant and strange. She no longer knew his touch.

Raeleigh could not understand why there were so many trials and tribulations of love between them.

"Why won't you speak?" Jepherson reached out to grasp Raeleigh's hand. Raeleigh didn't struggle, but she slowly withdrew it.

Jepherson's attempt had failed. He looked at Raeleigh with a trace of sorrow in his eyes. Instead of reaching out once more, he curled his fingers into a tight fist.

Raeleigh was somewhat nervous. The unprecedented tension lingered in her heart and could not be gotten rid of.

Raeleigh spoke after a long time, "You know Lenold, don't you?"

Jepherson paused for a moment. His thoughts started swirling in his mind.

"Why are you mentioning him all of a sudden?"

"I heard that Lenold's family has connections to the international police," Raeleigh made no effort to explain. All she wanted was to save Austin as soon as possible.

She had a gut feeling that something horrible was going to happen.

Jepherson gave it some thought before he answered, "I know him, and yes, he has connections with the international police."

After a moment's struggle, Raeleigh mustered the courage to say, "Help me save someone. Please help me ask Lenold if he can save someone from Green House. If he can, I will do whatever it takes to repay his kindness."

Jepherson's gaze gradually turned cold as his heart sank.

Green House harboured various criminals with complex political backgrounds. The crimes they had committed were so serious that it wasn't a place to lock them up but for them to await their death.

The prisoners, however, consisted of all men and not a single female. How did Raeleigh manage to get in and get in touch with someone from the inside?

Unconsciously tightening the clenching of his fists, Jepherson stared at Raeleigh, who pursed her lips and didn't say a word.

After some time had passed, Jepherson asked, "Who is it?"

"A prisoner. His name is Austin Quirk."

"Austin Quirk?"

Jepherson did not know that man, but judging from the name, Jepherson knew that the man was not an ordinary person. Looking at Raeleigh's determined expression and attitude, Jepherson's heart sank further.

"I'll give him a call now," Jepherson took out his mobile phone. The other party quickly answered the phone at once.

The moment Lenold's voice was heard, Jepherson went straight to the point and asked, "Do you know a prisoner in Green House by the name Austin Quirk?"

There was a short silence on the other side of the phone before Lenold asked in return, "How do you know him?"

"You don't need to know how, but I want to save him. Is that possible?"

"It's impossible."

"Why?"

"You don't have to ask me why. I don't know either. Saving him is equivalent to turning the ashes in an urn into a corpse then resurrecting it."

Lenold stood firm. Jepherson glanced at Raeleigh and asked, "I want to meet him."

"Are you joking? Do you think I own the place?" Lenold laughed. Jepherson fell silent before suggesting, "If you won't help me, I'll break into prison myself."

"Are you threatening me?"

"Kind of."

Lenold was at a loss for words.

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A hush silence fell over the car. Some time later, Lenold was finally heard sighing, "Oh well, I guess I'll just go over since I do have some stuff to do there. But I'm not going to help you. I'm just going over to deal with my business. Let's talk about it when we meet. I'll be on my way now."

After hanging up the phone, Jepherson looked at Raeleigh. She had overheard the entire conversation.

Raeleigh watched as he hung up the phone and muttered, "Thank you."

"Why are you being so polite?" Jepherson's gaze was scorching. Raeleigh avoided eye contact as she didn't know how she could face him and explain what had happened in prison.

While Raeleigh sat straight, Jepherson reached over for her hand. This time, he held her hands gently as if he was afraid of crushing them.

Raeleigh didn't retrieve her hand at first, so Jepherson slowly placed it on his palm in an attempt to interlock fingers with her. The moment his fingers came into contact with Raeleigh's palm, he froze. Then, he held up her hand and tried to take a closer look.

The light in the car flickered. Hoping for a closer look, Jepherson turned on another lamp and realised that the woman in front of him was no longer the Raeleigh in his dreams.

Her hair had been cut short. Although it was not ugly, he preferred her long hair.

Raeleigh struggled but Jepherson pulled her closer to examine her fingers. Her fingers were covered with invisible scars, as though someone had dipped the tips of her fingers into boiling water. As the scars were tiny, they were unnoticeable at first glance. However, if one took a closer and careful look, one could see the circles of dead skin around them.

Raeleigh's fingers were somewhat red and swollen. Jepherson kept looking at her scars before looking up at Raeleigh, asking, "What happened?"

"I had to work to eat. Just like everyone else," Raeleigh wanted to withdraw her hand, but Jepherson held it tightly and looked at her with an unwavering gaze. He asked her in a soft and comforting voice, "What sort of work was it?"

"Playing online games."

Jepherson paused and then asked, "Will your fingers end up this way from playing an online game?"

Raeleigh pursed her lips, "We would usually play after breakfast all the way to dinner."

Jepherson trembled and shifted aside. The minute he let go, Raeleigh immediately withdrew her hand. She didn't blame him for not locating her at once. Though, some things had already changed silently between them.

It was just like the merciless flow of time. Even if one didn't plan to do anything with it, time would still tick away normally.

Raeleigh looked out of the car and muttered "I want to visit my parents."

When she opened the door and got out of the car, Jepherson was still frozen in the car. He didn't know where it was that hurt, but he just couldn't move a muscle.

He did not know what Raeleigh had experienced. He did not even have the courage to ask.

Green House, saving someone, playing online games all day, cutting her hair short... What could all these possibly mean?

Jepherson didn't dare ponder on it.

Raeleigh got out of the car and turned to look at Jepherson, saying, "Thank you for helping me. I hope your friend can arrive earlier. The sooner the better. I can't wait anymore."

Then, she bowed to thank him. All the while, Zorion and Rossie were sitting in the car staring at Raeleigh. They didn't know what had happened, but Raeleigh was acting strangely.

Watching as Raeleigh turned and walked away slowly, disappearing into the endless night, Zorion got out of the car and cast a glance at Jepherson's car.

Belle and Calvin did not leave either. At that moment, they were also staring at Jepherson. Belle wanted to burst into tears, only to have Calvin pull her into a comforting embrace. He patted his beloved wife on the shoulder and whispered, "Don't cry. The sky hasn't collapsed yet!"

Chapter 1568

Zorion walked to the front of the car. Standing outside the car door, he looked at Jepherson who was sitting in a daze. Then, Zorion asked, "Would you like to come down and take a walk?"

Jepherson lifted his gaze to look at Zorion and muttered, "Where did you find Raeleigh?"

"One kilometer away from Green House."

Jepherson was deep in thought, "Does that mean Raeleigh was sent to prison?"

Jepherson clenched his fists tightly as he spoke, his knuckles cracking with each word he spoke. Zorion glanced at Jepherson's arm building with veins and reminded Jepherson, "Things might not be as you think. We have yet made a thorough investigation."

"Yanora's death was too quick. This matter isn't that simple. We've been looking for Raeleigh for a month, so the Cole family must know about it."

"Since they've decided to go all out, don't blame me for being ruthless."

Jepherson turned around and looked out the window before saying, "I want to meet the one in charge of Green House."

Zorion stood still for a while before saying, "We don't know anyone in there."

"Then how did Raeleigh get in?" Jepherson scoffed as he turned to look at Zorion with a slight grin on his face. Zorion couldn't help but feel worried when he saw the grin on Jepherson's face. This was a tactic often used by Jepherson to conceal his pain.

They say that a person at wits' end was the most dangerous. At that very moment, Jepherson looked desperate, which could signify his intent to do anything he wanted, even if it was taking someone else's life.

"Find a way to find out who the current warden is. I want to meet him."

Zorion stood outside and said nothing in response. It was obvious that Jepherson had already shut off all other advice from others.

"I'll try," Zorion closed the door for Jepherson and turned to walk towards his car.

All the while, Calvin didn't get out of the car. Instead, he made a phone call to Zorion, who picked up the phone and explained the situation. Belle was instantly at a loss.

"Let's wait and see. He won't listen to us right now, so we can only return home."

Stella was still at home waiting to be dealt with. Right then, Calvin's top priority was to get rid of the past grudges from the previous generation so as not to cause trouble for his sons.

After the couple had left, Zorion left the place as well.

Waiting at the entrance of the village, Jacky got out of the car to look for Jepherson once he had arrived. Jepherson, however, did not wait for him to get to the front of the car and pushed the door open to exit the car instead, informing Jacky, "I won't return today. Thank you for your help."

Jacky was stunned. He stared at Jepherson, who seemed to have returned to normal. For a moment, he was at a loss for words.

Jepherson checked the time and ordered, "Try contacting Santiago and tell him to come home as soon as possible."

With that, he turned around and headed towards Raeleigh's place.

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Raeleigh froze upon returning home to find that the house was empty with only piles of bare bricks and tiles laying in front of her. She looked around and noticed Xanthus emerging from somewhere hidden.

Xanthus walked over the moment he saw Raeleigh. He noticed how she was still in men's clothing and knew that something terrible must have happened, so he pulled Raeleigh into his arms.

"It's good that you're back."

Raeleigh embraced Xanthus back and murmured, "Sorry to have made you worry."

"It's normal for me to worry, but it's all because I didn't take good care of you," Xanthus had been blaming himself for what had happened to Raeleigh. If it wasn't because of his determination to seek out Raeleigh, he would've still be bedridden with no life left in him to stand up.

"It's not your fault," Raeleigh led Xanthus go and the siblings walked side by side for some time. Raeleigh was of a few words as Austin was all she could think of. Xanthus asked, "Where have you been these days?"

Raeleigh looked at Xanthus after a long time and sighed, "Give me some time before I'm ready to tell you."

Xanthus nodded. He shouldn't have asked.

Raeleigh entered the house. They had moved to a neighbouring house, which was ordinary but clean.

When she stepped into the living room through the door, Jazelle jolted up from the sofa and hurried towards Raeleigh.

She then hugged Raeleigh tightly.

"My baby..."

Lamar turned to look at his daughter. His gaze was smeared with complex emotions.

It was rare and precious to regain what had been lost, but losing it once again was a heart-wrenching pain no one could understand.

Yet, he had to experience it twice, so it was conceivable that he was in low spirits.

Raeleigh felt sorrowful, but she did not cry out loud. She held Jazelle for a long time before she let go and wiped Jazelle's tears away.

"I'm back. Mom, don't cry," Raeleigh smiled. Jazelle raised her hand and stroked Raeleigh's short hair in between sobs, "Baby..."

"My hair was always a nuisance. Now that I cut it off, I feel much more liberated," Raeleigh grinned. Jazelle was briefly stunned before hugging Raeleigh tighter and bursting into louder sobs.

It took a long time for Raeleigh to stop Jazelle from crying. After that, Raeleigh sat down on the sofa with her family and requested a meal. Jazelle got up to cook while Lamar went to help her in the kitchen.

Raeleigh fixed her eyes on the kitchen and felt sorry for her family.

In an effort to reassure Xanthus who was sitting opposite from her, she decided to say, "I'm fine. I suffered a little and did some hard work."

"Don't worry, I still have some unfinished business to deal with. When everything is settled, I will return home and stay with Mom and Dad."

"You still need to continue your studies," Xanthus didn't want Raeleigh to give up on pursuing her education. However, Raeleigh shook her head, "I can study anywhere. I just don't want to stay here anymore."

"In addition, I will tell Jepherson that I will sign a contract with him and regularly send him designs from abroad. In this way, we can still proceed with the agreement."

"Since you have already made up your mind, we will respect your choice."

Xanthus had recently lost a lot of weight. He was relieved as Raeleigh was back. As for what had happened, Raeleigh didn't want to let others know, so he couldn't probe into it although he was her elder brother.

"I want to get some rest. You should rest Tristany too after dinner."

Feeling exhausted, Xanthus got up and returned to his room. Raeleigh sat on the sofa and waited for dinner. In fact, she was not hungry at all, but she could only ask for a meal to distract her parents.

Jazelle had cooked a bowl of noodles for Raeleigh. As she had not eaten noodles for a long time, Raeleigh gobbled everything up and even drank up all the soup.

Jazelle tried to hold her tears back as she watched Raeleigh eat. How pitiful her daughter looked!

After she was full, Raeleigh suggested, "Dad, Mom, let's all get some rest. We can talk about it tomorrow."

"Alright," Jazelle answered. She stood up and went to the room with Raeleigh. After taking a few steps forward, she heard someone knocking on the door, so she turned around to open it.

Standing outside the door, Jepherson annouced once he saw Raeleigh, "I won't leave tonight. I'm staying here."

Raeleigh paused momentarily before asking her parents for permission, "Do you have any rooms left?"

"Yes..."

"There's no need to get me another spare room. Raeleigh and I are husband and wife, so we should stay together."

With that, Jepherson entered the house. Raeleigh stood still in the doorway and did not close the door until Jepherson appeared from the room after washing up. Only then did she close the door and turn around.

Chapter 1569

It was Raeleigh's first time sitting on that bed. After all, it was all new, and she didn't know where the old one had gone.

Raeleigh sat on one side whereas Jepherson sat on the other.

Raeleigh didn't take off her clothes. Jepherson, who was the complete opposite, was snuggled warmly in the quilt with half of his body exposed.

Raeleigh turned her back to Jepherson, not daring to look at him.

"Go to sleep," Jepherson called out to her from behind. Raeleigh mumbled a reply and turned the lights off. Seeing as Raeleigh did not take her clothes off, Jepherson lifted the quilt and laid aside, turning around to hold her in his arms. It was uncomfortable to hold her since her clothes were of a prison guard's, and it felt stiff and stuffy.

"Is this garment rented or borrowed?" Jepherson asked Raeleigh softly. Raeleigh answered, "Neither."

"If not, why don't you take it off when you sleep? Don't you feel uncomfortable?"

Raeleigh felt Jepherson's hands caressing her. She grabbed his hands to stop him from continuing and said, "I'm going to change my clothes. Wait for me."

Then, she fumbled around to grab some clothes to change. Instead of changing in the room, she decided to head outside. Jepherson waited for half an hour, but she had yet to come back. After getting up to look for her, he saw her sleeping on the sofa with a pillow in her arms.

Jepherson walked over and sat by Raeleigh's feet carefully. Since she didn't return to the room, he had no plans to do so either. He just sat by the sofa and fell asleep by Raeleigh's feet.

When Lamar and Jazelle woke up in the morning, they were all surprised to witness such a scene.

"Let's go," Not wanting to disturb the two of them, Jazelle dragged Lamar away to buy some breakfast.

When Raeleigh woke up, she heard the sounds of knocking. Although she was asleep, she did not respond much to whoever was talking or walking by. However, the minute someone started knocking on the doors and windows, she was immediately startled awake.

Jepherson was shocked by the sudden movement and opened his eyes. He watched as Raeleigh sat straight up and was about to bolt for the day, only to suddenly sit down. It was as if she was just reminded that she was safe at home.

"What are you afraid of?" Jepherson asked as Raeleigh sat down. Raeleigh looked at him in a daze. Then, she asked in confusion, "Why are you here too?"

"I came out because you didn't go back in," Jepherson couldn't hide his worry, "Are you not used to the feeling of being at home?"

Raeleigh shook her head and denied, "No."

Jepherson did not say a word. Just then, the door opened, revealing Lamar and Jazelle who had breakfast in their hands. Jepherson immediately got up to the door and helped them with the food. Glancing at the takeaways in hand, he attempted to lighten the mood, "It's your favourite."

When he looked up, Raeleigh had already gone back to her room.

Jepherson set the breakfast on the table and went back to the room to check on Raeleigh. Yet, he found the door was already locked, and no matter how he turned the doorknob, the door just wouldn't open.

Jepherson stood outside for a while before turning around to meet Jazelle. He tried to give an excuse, "She might have accidentally locked it."

Yet deep down, they knew it wasn't an accident. It was obvious she had locked it on purpose.

Despite the obvious move, the two of them said nothing. Jazelle went to set the kitchen table while Lamar went to prepare breakfast.

When Raeleigh emerged from the room, Jepherson had finished washing up in the toilet. After getting a change of clothes, Raeleigh suggested, "Let's have breakfast."

Jepherson walked up to Raeleigh and lowered his head to kiss her. However, she dodged his kiss instinctively.

As Jepherson was dumbstruck, Raeleigh changed the topic rigidly, "Let's have breakfast."

She walked past him and took her seat at the table. Jepherson's gaze followed her around as she sat down and greeted everyone. Everyone pretended as if nothing had happened, but no one could ignore the tension.

Jepherson walked over to sit at the table. He didn't change his clothes and was wearing the same outfit he had worn the previous night. Once he sat down, he started to devour his meal.

No one spoke during the breakfast until they had finished their meal.

After eating, Jepherson went to wash up whereas Raeleigh stood outside the house. After both of them met up, she asked, "Is your friend here?"

Jepherson looked at Raeleigh and hesitated before calling Lenold, who picked up the call after a few rings. At that time, Lenold was just exiting the airport, "I'm already here. Where are you? I'll come to you."

"I..."

"We'll go to Green House and meet him there," Raeleigh turned around and went back to inform her parents. Lamar and Jazelle exchanged glances and reminded Raeleigh to be careful before seeing her out.

Jepherson looked at Raeleigh. Why was she so anxious to meet that person?

"Let's take your car," Raeleigh said after she left the house and saw Jepherson frozen on the spot. She then walked towards the entrance of the village, jogging all the way.

Jepherson followed her from behind. The two then headed to Green House.

On the way, Raeleigh kept urging the driver to speed up. Jepherson had never seen that side of her. He felt jealous and unpleasant for some reason.

When they arrived at the gate of the prison, Raeleigh immediately opened the door and got out of the car. She looked around and didn't see any cars, then started looking at her watch anxiously.

All the while, Jepherson sat in the car. Raeleigh didn't ask him when he would get out of the car either.

At a loss, the driver looked into the rearview mirror and was surprised by the Jepherson he was looking at.

Since when did Jepherson have such patience?

Raeleigh stood for a while and couldn't see Lenold anywhere. Turning around to look at Jepherson, she asked while standing on the spot, "Are you sure your friend can find this place?"

"Yes, he can."

A brief moment later, Jepherson bent down and got out of the car. He looked at the surroundings and asked Raeleigh, "How do you know this place?"

Raeleigh froze before sighing, "I was sent here by Yanora."

Jepherson said through gritted teeth, "And then?"

"Then I was brought to a place and saved," Raeleigh explained briefly without going too deep into the details. Jepherson fixed his sharp gaze on Raeleigh while she spoke and followed up sharply, "Where were you brought?"

"Back then, I was knocked out after being stunned. When I woke up, I was tied up and people were bidding for me."

Raeleigh explained while her gaze wandered. She wondered what kind of explanation would satisfy him.

"They tied you up like a dog?" Jepherson gritted his teeth. It took him much courage just to say those words.

"That was how they dealt with things. Prisoners were treated that way."

"And then?"

Raeleigh cast a glance at him and sighed, "It's all in the past. You don't have to..."

"I have the right to know what kind of abuse my wife suffered in a place like this. I want them to pay."

"Why bother? Everyone is different, so of course they'll act differently towards an issue. As a hostage, I was sold here as goods. It makes sense since they paid for me being here. Who would you look for to ask them to pay?"

"I won't let them go."

"Jepherson..." Raeleigh pursed her lips, "I killed a prisoner. To survive, I spent a month in a cell with Austin. There was a warden named Lechen, and he was a pervert. He wanted to r*pe me, and in order to survive, I killed him."

"Austin sent me out just to save me."

"He might be in danger as we're speaking right now, so I can't leave him behind. I have to save him."

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Raeleigh did not want to talk about it, but Jepherson kept pressing her to give him an answer.

She knew that only him could help her now.

Jepherson turned around and looked aside, feeling restrained in his outfit. He tugged at the button on his collar forcefully and took off his black necktie. He pulled it over his head and wrung it on the floor.

The silk necktie fell onto the ground and fluttered into the air, blown away by the wind.

Raeleigh had never seen Jepherson losing his composure like this before. It was as if he was so angry he wanted to rip the earth into two.

She didn't know what to do. Her heart was beating anxiously, and tears threatened to fall down her cheeks. However, she held them in.

The two of them refused to give in. Just then, a black SUV emerged from a distance. Raeleigh saw the car and asked, "Are they finally here?"

Jepherson turned around and took a look, both of his hands settling on his thin waist as he welcomed the strong wind blowing toward them. He had unfastened his coat as though he was feeling quite hot and stuffy.

When the car stopped in front of them, Jepherson looked inside. Shortly, Lenold swung open the car door and came out of the car with a briefcase in his hand. Dressed in a black suit and a pair of huge polarized sunglasses on his face, his presence was extremely eye-catching.

Another man appeared behind Lenold, and his expression was as cold as Lenold's.

"Why are you in such a hurry? I just got off the plane when you told me to come over. You're not even concerned if I'm worn out by my work."

Lenold looked at Jepherson and Raeleigh and teased them as he got out of the car.

Raeleigh walked to Jepherson's side queitly.

Jepherson let out an inaudible sigh and looked at Lenold before asking, "I want to see Austin. Help me arrange for it."

"Do you think you're God? That you can meet whoever you want?" Lenold looked at them with a sneer, holding his sunglasses between his fingers.

Raeleigh looked at Jepherson and asked, "What can we do?"

Jepherson turned to look at Lenold and was more straightforward, "Tell me. What conditions do you have?"

"Well... I haven't really thought about it yet. But I assume it must be something important for you to take it so seriously. Lucky for you, I brought my friend here with me. He is here to take over the warden's position. Perhaps I can make an exception for you."

Raeleigh was taken aback. She stared at the man in front of her. This was the new warden?

She paused and continued, "Austin is my brother."

The man looked back at Raeleigh through his sunglasses and said, "That has nothing to do with me."

Raeleigh froze and turned to look at Jepherson as he stretched out a hand and introduced himself to the man, "I'm Jepherson Harvey."

The man just stared at Jepherson's hand, not even bothering to remove his sunglasses. It seemed like he didn't care about Jepherson at all as he remarked, "I am not good at dealing with businessmen. I have long heard about you, Mr. Harvey."

Jepherson withdrew his hand and looked at him with a smile, "Oh, really?"

"Don't worry. He and I are sworn brothers, and we would take a bullet for each other. As long as such a person exists, I will definitely bring you to him. As for whether I can set him free or not, we'll talk about it another day. There are legal procedures we have to follow after all."

"We can talk about that once we meet him," Jepherson conceded.

Lenold laughed, "Since when did you learn to make a concession? It's a rare sight. Let's go."

Lenold led the man to Green House's entrance and knocked on the door. After declaring he was here to take over the job, the door opened. He went inside, Raeleigh following suit closely behind.

When Raeleigh entered the room, she was taken aback by the unfamiliar faces. She frowned in confusion as she walked behind Jepherson.

Jepherson turned to her and asked perceptively, "What's wrong?"

"It's nothing."

She held onto his arm and looked up at him. Jepherson lowered his head as she whispered something in his ear.

"Are you sure?"

"I'm sure."

Then, he turned around and looked at the guards at the door. He then muttered, "These men have been replaced. The old ones are all gone."

Lenold turned around and stared at Jepherson curiously, "How did you know?"

"It's not important. I'm just telling you the truth."

Raeleigh gazed at the prison guards. She used to come out every now and then, and she knew everyone here. Throughout her one-month stay here, she had already figured out the terrains. There was no way she would mistake these people here.

"That's weird. Why did they change the prison guards?" Lenold looked at the man behind him, only to have the man reply, "That's impossible. We would have to approve of it first."

"Then how do you explain this?" Jepherson asked while gesturing. The man pondered over it before looking around and speculating, "Unless something has happened here."

"I was sent here because I was ordered to investigate Lechen Cook's death."

"Lechen was the old warden here who worked here for ten years. The cause of his sudden death is suspicious."

Raeleigh suddenly grew nervous, and her grip on Jepherson's hand tightened. Her palm was slick with sweat. Jepherson instinctively took her hand and wiped it on his shirt.

Raeleigh lifted her head and looked at him. Then, he said, "You said Austin didn't do it, so what are you afraid of?"

Raeleigh was stunned for a moment. Then, she slowly turned to look at Lenold and the man.

"Let's go in and have a look."

Lenold followed the man inside while Raeleigh and Jepherson walked behind them. Raeleigh realized that Lenold seemed to be familiar with the prison's layout. He did not seem to have difficulty finding his way around as he led the new warden around the prison.

Raeleigh also found the prison particularly quiet that day. Even the cleaners outside were nowhere to be seen.

It was her first time being in the office building of the prison. After a while, a few men came out from the office to greet Lenold, but she did not recognize any of them.

She stood in a daze as she watched the men greeting them. She felt nervous.

Jepherson gripped Raeleigh's hand even tighter to give her strength.

It was already afternoon by the time they completed the handover, and Raeleigh felt restless. Initially, the group planned to have lunch together, but she decided to meet Austin first as she did not feel like eating. Lenold agreed to her decision.

When Raeleigh entered the prison, it was lunchtime. She was familiar with most of the people inside, but all of them seemed to not recognize her. It was as if they had been hypnotized.

Raeleigh went to the cell where she and Austin had been held captive. There were two prisoners inside. As she walked into the cell, the two prisoners were called over to be questioned. They said that they had been living in that cell for several months

Raeleigh instinctively knew that something was not right, and she quickly asked to see Austin. The acting warden gave Raeleigh a list of dead prisoners and told her that the prisoner named Austin had already died two years ago.

Austin was dead?

Raeleigh stared at the list and shook her head in disbelief, "That's impossible. You must have hidden him away."

She could not help but confront the acting warden, only to have the person scoff, "Miss, do you think we have the time to joke with you? The warden and the Interpol are here, and we are under their control. How would we dare to do such a thing?"

Raeleigh was furious. She stormed towards the prisoners who were in the middle of eating lunch and grabbed one of them by the collar. She demanded, "Tell me, who am I? Do you recognize me?"

The man looked at her and shook his head blankly.