Go After 971

Chapter 971

Raeleigh was calm. This was her character. The more dangerous the situation was, the calmer she was.

If it were not for Deanna, then Raeleigh would not have lost her composure.

At that time, Raeleigh was thinking the same thing as Santiago.

"Since it's Flynt, how about we go and find him now?" Raeleigh raised her head to look at Santiago. Santiago shook his head and said, "It's useless. Even if Deanna was actually with him, I doubt he would release her. If he admitted that he had kidnapped Deanna, then it would cause great harm to the Cole family. Mr. Atkinson is not in the country. The decision is in Zorion's hand, and knowing him, he would definitely not let the Cole family go."

"As you know, young people are fTristaness. Once the Cole family triggered this battle, Zorion would definitely subvert the entire Capital City."

"The Cole family had been entrenched in Capital City for many years. But then again, they could only be regarded as influential figures in the political situation. They cannot fully control Capital City."

"Over the years, the Cole family had not made any great achievements. The Atkinson family had already sealed the fate of Capital City. The Cole family has failed to change the situation. If they wanted to reverse the situation, then they would have to start from our generation."

"Flynt thinks highly of himself and refuses to agree to his sisters marrying into either one of our families. Of course, we think poorly of them too. Therefore, there are only two ways for him to turn the tables on us, and that was to draw one of us to his side while pinning down the other side."

"Unfortunately, the Harvey family and Atkinson family are inseparable. Even without the marriage alliance between Deanna and Jepherson to consolidate everything, our two families are still allies. With Jepherson and Zorion here, even if the road is endless, we still would not be separated."

"Flynt is making things worse for himself."

"Of course, he is smart in his own way, but why did he want to get us involved? We would not be easily harmed by him."

Scarlette lowered her head. Why were his words so unpleasant?

Raeleigh was stunned for a moment. Santiago was extremely frivolous, but Jepherson was the one who had to bear all the responsibilities.

"But we can't just sit around and do nothing. Deanna is too naive. If Flynt was the one who kidnapped her, then I'm sure she will not let it go. She would not sit there and wait to be rescued."

"Yes, you are right. However, Zorion has already sent out a search party. I'm sure he will be able to find her faster than us. What we need to do now is to think about how we're going to tell my grandmother about what happened between you and Jepherson."

Raeleigh did not respond to Santiago's words.

"What?"

Santiago rolled his eyes at Raeleigh and said, "About how Jepherson is interested in you."

Raeleigh did not understand. Scarlette suddenly sighed. Raeleigh was not a dumb person. She knew everything. However, Scarlette had no idea why she was so slow when it came to these things. At that time, she was still worried about Deanna. She was afraid that she would not be able to come out safely from the kidnapping.

Jepherson was nowhere to be seen now that Deanna was in trouble. It was impossible for Zorion to keep everything a secret. Once Old Madam Harvey found out about this, the next person she would deal with would be Raeleigh, yet Raeleigh was still worried about Deanna. Scarlette wondered whether Raeleigh was actually dumb.

A realization suddenly dawned on Raeleigh and she asked, "You mean, your family..."

"By now, my grandmother would have probably heard about what happened to Deanna. Now, there are two things you have to be mentally prepared for. The first thing is to meet my grandmother, and the second thing is to come clean to her about your relationship with Jepherson."

Raeleigh frowned and said, "There is nothing going on between your brother and me."

"You are smart," Santiago said, raising his hand. Raeleigh's heart was racing. She could not bring herself to calm down.

She had already fallen into a crisis because of this matter. She was also not sure what to do.

Santiago briefly glanced at Scarlette and said, "When my grandmother asks about this later, tell her that I'm interested in Raeleigh and that I want her to be my wife."

"What?"

Scarlette was slightly stunned. Raeleigh looked at Santiago quietly. Santiago laughed evilly and said, "Jepherson is a good man. My grandmother isn't worried about him finding a wife. However, I'm different. She will be very happy if someone is willing to marry me. You might come off as a weirdo in my grandmother's eyes."

"However, you have to be mentally prepared. Due to the relationship between the Harvey family and Atkinson family, my grandmother will most likely ask me to give you up to be with Zorion."

"I can tell you that now we are in a united front. If you do not help me, then I will not help you. If you make a mess, then no one will take care of you, so..."

"I understand. We are now a couple." Raeleigh immediately promised. However, Scarlette wasn't surprised.

If Santiago wasn't here, then she would have pulled her aside and talked some sense into her. However, she did not dare to do it because he was here.

"Very good. You're a smart girl. Come on, let's go and pay my grandmother a visit." Santiago turned around and began walking. Raeleigh was busy wiping the tears from the corners of her eyes, lest she saw anything.

"Don't we need to prepare ourselves? Do we have to visit her now?" Raeleigh felt that they should wait until later, or at least until they found Deanna.

Santiago lowered his head and said as he walked, "Now is the best time. Otherwise, if Zorion reaches them before us, then we are screwed."

Raeleigh said nothing and followed Santiago to Harvey Manor.

By the time they arrived, Raeleigh had already calmed down. She was then like a death penalty criminal, who was being rushed to the guillotine. It was just that it was a quicker death. In fact, regardless of what it was, she was going to die either way.

However, right then, she had no other choice but to put an end to this matter.

She could only do what Santiago said.

As they were walking, Santiago suddenly stopped in his tracks. The servants were shocked to see him. They greeted him, one after another. "Mr. Santiago, you're back!"

Santiago raised an eyebrow. "What do you mean? Am I not welcomed?"

The servant quickly lowered her head and said, "No. Of course, you are! I'm going to inform Old Madam Harvey right away."

"There's no need for that. Where is Grandma? I'll go and meet her."

"She's having dinner in the Ink Garden."

"Perfect. We haven't had anything to eat yet," Santiago said. He reached out for Raeleigh's hand as they made their way to the Ink Garden. The people in the villa were so scared that they did not dare to breathe. They had no idea what was going on.

They only knew that Santiago was back and there would not be any peace in this place anymore.

Soon, Raeleigh was brought to the Ink Garden by Santiago.

"Madam Paige, Young Master San-"

"What's the matter? How's the matter with Deanna?" Paige was worried about Deanna. Rhys was not home, so it would be troublesome if something happened.

What was she supposed to do by then?

And what was with this girl named Raeleigh? How did she manage to anger Deanna?

The servant stammered and could not say a word.

Santiago stepped through the door as he pulled Raeleigh, who had lowered her head.

Paige looked up and was slightly stunned to see Raeleigh.

Paige had seen Raeleigh's photo, so she knew this woman was Raeleigh for sure. She did not have to expend any effort, and Raeleigh had shown up at her doorstep.

Paige's face darkened. Just as she was about to lose her temper, her eyes suddenly fell on Santiago's and Raeleigh's joined hands. She instantly fell silent!

Chapter 972

"Santiago, what's the story with you and Miss Anson?" Paige asked as she sat on the big couch in the living room. Her expression was cold.

It was obvious that she was not happy with Raeleigh.

She had not invited Raeleigh to sit with them. Raeleigh stood next to Santiago. He was sitting on the couch as he gently stroked Raeleigh's hands. He briefly swept his eyes across the entire room and realized that everyone seemed nervous. The servants had no idea what was going on. They were only aware that Santiago had a crush on someone else's girlfriend.

And at that time, he was so full of pride that he brought Raeleigh back.

Raeleigh stood still. She looked as if she had been bullied. She knew that Santiago had his own tricks, and all she needed to do was to play along with him.

Santiago pretended as if he did not hear Paige's question. It took him a long time before he turned to look at Paige. He said, "I thought I just told you. I like Raeleigh. I want to marry her."

"Nonsense!" Paige slammed the table in anger. The people in the house were so scared that they neither dared to speak nor make a sound.

Santiago laughed and asked, "What? Do you think I'm joking?"

"How old are you? Jepherson isn't married and yet you're already thinking about getting married?" Paige was furious. She found it ridiculous that he actually brought a girl home and told her that he wanted to marry her. What was he thinking?

If it were someone else, then she would have let it go. However, this was Raeleigh they were talking about. She was the person who made Deanna run away.

Anger coursed through Paige's veins.

"If Jepherson won't get married, then does mean that I can't either? What does it have to do with me if he doesn't want to fight for love?" Santiago's face was full of displeasure. He was unhappy.

Paige's face turned pale. She then said, "You're only in your teens. Why are you in such a hurry? Besides, Deanna is missing now. Aren't you worried about her?"

"Deanna is Jepherson's future wife, not mine. She has nothing to do with me. The person I want to protect is Raeleigh. She will be my future wife. I can't neglect Raeleigh's feelings just because of our family's relationship with the Atkinson family."

"Raeleigh put her cell phone aside while we were in a conversation. Deanna caught sight of our conversation. Then, she took Raeleigh's phone away to peek at our messages. After that, she even threw

Raeleigh's phone away. I don't understand. What right does Deanna have to do that? Does she want to be my wife and not Jepherson's?"

Paige was stunned. "What did you say?"

"I said, Deanna chose not to sleep that night and tried to peek at Raeleigh's and my text exchanges. After she read the conversation, she threw away Raeleigh's phone and ran out of the room. What does all of these have to do with Raeleigh?"

"You cannot blame this on Raeleigh just because Deanna is from the Atkinson family."

"Deanna is human, but so is Raeleigh."

Paige quietened down and was a little confused.

She looked at her grandson, Santiago, and then at Raeleigh. "Raeleigh, is he telling the truth?"

Raeleigh did not answer immediately. Santiago then said, "Give me your phone."

Raeleigh did not want to give him at first. However, she eventually took out her phone and handed it to him. He opened their conversation and showed it to Paige, "This is her inbox. Have a look."

Paige opened it and realized that there was only one conversation in the inbox. It had the name Harvey.

Paige frowned and asked, "Deanna has misunderstood the whole thing, hasn't she?"

"How would I know?" Santiago did not care at all.

"You guys are to blame as well. You should have used your full name, not just Harvey. Then, we wouldn't have this problem, would we?" Paige was not only unhappy with Raeleigh, but also with Santiago.

Raeleigh knew very well that this matter was orchestrated by Jepherson. She used Jepherson's first name when she texted him, but right then it was changed to Harvey. It showed that Jepherson knew everything that was going on here.

"She should have thought it through before running off. How is this Raeleigh's fault? If Deanna does end up marrying Jepherson, and she so happened to have seen a girl texting a person named Harvey, is she going to assume that the girl is texting Jepherson?"

"How many times would she have to run away then?"

Paige was stunned for a moment. She thought about it carefully and realized that Deanna was indeed a little impulsive. She would rather run away than to face the truth.

According to what Santiago had said, it seemed like she loved running away on impulse.

"Alright, I get it. You can go now. Don't stay here and be an eyesore." Paige stood up, intending to head back to her room to rest.

Raeleigh could feel that there was a huge disparity between her and Deanna's status in the Harvey family.

She remained standing during their entire conversation. No one even bothered to invite her to sit down. If she were Deanna, she believed that she would not be treated like this.

"Grandma." Santiago rose to his feet. Paige turned to look at Santiago and asked, "What do you want?"

"I know that at home, men are seen as superior to women, and we have to respect our elders. However, I hope that you can give some respect to Raeleigh. I'm human and so is she. This is not Raeleigh's fault. You can't even be bothered to look at Raeleigh. I think that you think poorly of me."

"I, think poorly of you?" Paige laughed. "What are you saying?"

Paige looked at Raeleigh and snorted. "It seems like you've been living a comfortable life recently. You ought to know where you stand in this family. Don't think that you can bring back whoever you want into our house. I didn't drive you out because of your mother. I am very disappointed in you. Your mother is such a good person, yet she gave birth to someone like you. In my opinion, it is your father who spoiled you."

"I don't think my family has spoiled me, but I know there are a lot of people who look down on me." Santiago was full of defiance. Paige sneered. "Let me tell you this, if you want to have a casual fling with this girl, then it's fine. I will not say anything, but I will not allow you to marry this girl. You should give up before it's too late."

After saying that, she turned around and left. Santiago held Raeleigh's hand tightly.

Raeleigh felt sorry for Santiago. He was also part of the Harvey family and shared the same mother as Jepherson, yet he was treated badly.

It was not a surprised that Santiago had received such a treatment from his family.

"Let's go." Santiago held Raeleigh's hand and left quickly. He did not care about what Paige had said.

Santiago went to the garage after exiting the manor. He opened the garage door and stood there for a while. Then, he drove Jepherson's favorite car out of the garage.

Raeleigh got into the car and Santiago made his way out of the manor. However, he was stopped by Lennox at the door.

"Mr. Santiago, you cannot drive this car. This is Mr. Jepherson's car. Furthermore, you don't even have a driver's license yet. If you get caught..."

"Scram!" Santiago spat. Lennox shuddered in fear. Santiago then stepped on the accelerator and the car roared to life. Lennox did not dare to stop him. Santiago was like a wild horse that had left its reins. No one dared to provoke him.

Lennox then quickly got out of the way as Santiago drove out of Harvey Manor.

When the car finally stopped, Raeleigh turned to look at Santiago. He then got out of the car and went into a nearby convenience store to buy a bag of chips and a packet of cigarettes. He tossed the bag of chips to Raeleigh as soon as he got into the car. Then, he lowered his head and took out a cigarette before lighting it up and putting it in his mouth. He took a drag and leaned back on the chair. He rested his hand, that was holding the cigarette, on the door and held the steering wheel with the other. The street lamps were brilliant and dazzling. The soft glow enhanced his handsome face. However, it could not be compared to his current state of loneliness.

Chapter 973

Raeleigh looked down at the bag of snacks on her lap. She did not usually eat junk food, but somehow she was feeling a little hungry that day, and she wanted to vent her anger by eating.

Raeleigh reached into the bag and took out some packet of cookies. She opened it and began eating it.

Santiago took a drag on his cigarette and asked her, "Are you alright?"

Raeleigh chewed on a cookie and lowered her head. "I'm coping."

Santiago laughed and blew a puff of white smoke. "This is how society works. They think that it's better to get ahead in the world by abandoning their own principles than to endure poverty. It's alright for you to do bad things, but it's a sin if you are poor."

Raeleigh looked at Santiago and asked, "What should we do now? Deanna has not been found yet."

"You're such a good friend to Deanna. If she knew half of your goodwill, then things would not have ended up like this," Santiago did not answer her question. He took a drag on his cigarette and threw it out of the window. Then, he started the car and drove away.

Raeleigh turned to look at Santiago and said, "You're still young. You shouldn't be smoking. It's unhealthy."

Santiago's lips curled into a smile. "He said the same thing as well."

Raeleigh knew that he was referring to Jepherson. She could imagine that Jepherson was the only person in the entire Harvey family who understood him.

That was why he was willing to help Jepherson to deceive everyone else.

Santiago stopped the car at the entrance of the hospital. He looked at the hospital and said, "Flynt has been admitted here. The only thing we can do now is wait."

Raeleigh thought for a moment. "Where is Zorion? Does he know about it?"

"Yes, he knows. He's secretly waiting as well while looking for Deanna. I have a feeling that she must be somewhere close. I doubt she went far." Santiago reached into the bag for a donut and took a bite. He was not picky about food.

Raeleigh also saw that he had bought a packet of beef jerky. So, she opened it and handed a piece to Santiago. "You've been busy all day. You have to eat up."

Santiago did not stand on ceremony. He took the jerky and continued eating the donut.

Raeleigh looked around and said, "Your license plate is very striking. I'm sure it will attract people's attention if you park here. I'll go down and have a look. Why don't you park somewhere else? I'll give you my phone number. You can call me if anything happens and I'll come right back. I will not go too far."

Raeleigh opened the door and got out of the car. By then, it was already past ten o'clock. Raeleigh had not slept for nTristany 24 hours, but she did not feel tired at all.

She was worried about Deanna. There was no way she would be able to sleep.

Raeleigh closed the door and looked at Santiago, waiting for his response.

Santiago smiled and finished all the food in his hand. He then started the car and drove off. Raeleigh turned around and looked at the hospital. When she saw the name 'Cole' in the hospital's name, she instantly knew that the Cole family owned this hospital.

That was why...

At that point, no one knew how bad the accident was or if Flynt was actually injured. Everything was reported by the Cole family themselves.

Raeleigh stared at the hospital for a while before entering.

After entering the hospital, Raeleigh looked around. The hospital was so big that no one was suspicious of her. Raeleigh walked upstairs and was deep in thought as she walked. If Deanna had been brought here, then it could have been possible that she was locked up in a ward. Furthermore, this ward had to be in close proximity with Flynt's. In this way, he could still keep an eye on Deanna.

If what Santiago said was true, if Flynt's purpose was to draw the Atkinson Family over to his side, then he would take full advantage of Deanna.

Raeleigh walked up to the first floor and decided to check things out. There weren't any doctors or nurses around. She assumed that they were on their breaks. She also saw some people standing outside the operating theater.

Raeleigh walked over and realized that there was an orthopedics surgery going on. She knew she had come to the right floor. At least, it meant that she was indeed in the orthopedics department.

If Flynt was actually injured, then she would definitely be able to find some clues on this floor.

However, she found nothing. So, she went up another floor and soon, she finished searching the entire building. She searched the whole hospital but found no trace of Flynt. So, she took the elevator and went back down to the first floor.

It was already quite late at night, so there wasn't anyone in the elevator. As soon as she arrived on the ground floor, she exited the elevator and walked out of the hospital.

Raeleigh took a look around after emerging from the hospital. She had visited most of the wards while she was here. It was late at night, so it was no surprise that the patients were asleep and that the lights were off.

Raeleigh stood there for a while and observed the people downstairs. Soon, she saw some black cars that were parked neatly at the car park.

Raeleigh decided to walk a little closer to observe those cars. The cars had red flags on them. This license number was rarely seen in Capital City.

However, it also made known the identities of the owners of these cars. This brand of cars could only be used by high-ranking officials.

Raeleigh believed that she had made a discovery.

There was someone guarding the car and there was also a driver inside it.

This showed that these cars belonged to someone of high status. They all came with a driver. However, who was their boss?

Raeleigh was not in a hurry. She went to an inconspicuous place and hid.

Raeleigh looked around before sending a text to Santiago. She typed, "I have some clues of Flynt's whereabouts. You can follow..."

Raeleigh heard someone approaching from behind. She paused for a moment and turned around slowly. When she realized it was Santiago, she breathed a sigh of relief.

Thankfully, it was Santiago.

Santiago put the phone into his pocket and looked at Raeleigh. It seemed like he was checking whether she was hurt.

"Don't run around on your own. What if something happens to you?"

"I..."

Raeleigh thought for a moment. "I promise I will not do it again."

Santiago looked at her and then briefly at the time. It was already one o'clock in the morning.

Santiago put his hand down and said, "I have long known that Flynt is here."

Raeleigh froze for a while and said, "You didn't tell me."

"You didn't ask."

•••

The two of them did not say anything for a moment. Then, Raeleigh finally said, "It's not that I was trying to prove myself, I just wanted to find Flynt first."

"I understand that you're worried about Deanna but don't forget, haste doesn't lead to success. You have to be patient. You have to have a rational mind to solve this matter."

"Or else, we will never be able to find Deanna."

Raeleigh understood Santiago's words. But then again, she was very surprised to hear him speak like that.

Santiago turned around and began walking as he said, "Be careful. There are a lot of people below, all of whom are thugs. I can only bring one person with me and there's no way I'm going to bring you. I'm sure you know why."

"I know." Raeleigh immediately followed him. Regarding this matter, her goal was the same as Santiago's, which was to find Deanna.

Therefore, if something happened, then they could only sacrifice the one who is the most expendable and everyone agreed she was the most useless one.

Chapter 974

The two of them then quietly made their way to the inpatient department. Santiago made a gesture indicating Raeleigh to enter first. She went in from the side entrance, and he followed suit.

They were not surprised that the people in the cars had already fallen asleep, considering the fact that it was already very late.

Raeleigh breathed a sigh of relief when she realized that there wasn't anyone guarding the door.

They opted not to take the elevator because it was usually equipped with surveillance cameras.

Raeleigh quickly made her way to the stairway. She had briefly scouted the place and roughly knew which rooms were still lit.

Santiago did not stop her and followed her up the stairs. It did not take long before they reached the second floor.

When they arrived on the second floor, they realized that all the lights had been turned off, only ultraviolet lights were on and that there wasn't anyone on the floor. Raeleigh whispered to Santiago, "Do you know which room?"

Santiago shook his head and said, "If I knew, then I would have come earlier."

Raeleigh felt like a fool. She was about to lose her mind after having wasted the entire day trying to look for Deanna. She found it strange that Zorion was nowhere to be seen, and that Santiago remained calm the whole time. But, she knew there must have been a reason, she just did not know what it was.

She finally understood what was going on now that she thought about it. It was obvious that Santiago knew that Flynt had been admitted here all along and had long suspected that Deanna was here too. The reason they had not taken action was because Flynt was a member of the Cole Family. They could not just show up here and confront Flynt.

They knew Flynt would not let Deanna go so soon, so they were waiting for the right time for Flynt to let his guard down before coming in to rescue Deanna.

It was just that Raeleigh wondered where Zorion was at that time. Was he frantically rushing around trying to find Deanna like what she did earlier that day?

"I vaguely remember that there were a few rooms that were still lit. I suspect that they must be in one of those rooms. I think I remember which rooms. Let's go and check it out."

"Wow, that's impressive!" Santiago said, amused. The corners of his lips curled into a smile. He looked even more devilish in the darkness.

Raeleigh nodded and said, "Come on, let's go. I have a feeling that Deanna must be locked up alone. If Flynt wants to win the Atkinson family over, then I doubt he would do anything to her. I'm sure he will treat her well. Let's hope we can find her. Once we find her, if we are lucky, then we can escape together. Or else, I want you to take Deanna out of here. I'll find a way to get myself out of this place. I will hold them back."

Santiago did not say anything but stared at Raeleigh in the dark. For a moment, there was a hint of gentleness in his eyes.

"Don't worry. I'll be fine."

Raeleigh had encountered countless dangerous situations ever since she was a child. She knew that she would be fine. Otherwise, she would have long been dead.

Santiago asked, "Deanna likes Jepherson and so do you. You really don't mind at all? If Deanna dies, then you can have Jepherson."

"If Deanna died, then Jepherson would not forgive me. I would not be able to forgive myself either. However, I'm sure Deanna will come out of this alive."

Santiago did not reply. He looked around and said, "Come on, let's go. We'll follow your plan."

"Alright," Raeleigh said and followed Santiago up the stairs. The two of them slowly made their way upstairs. She had to rely on her memory to try and find the correct room. Soon, they arrived at the highest floor possible.

This was the second highest floor in the building. Raeleigh made a gesture to keep quiet. She asked Santiago to hide behind her while she stretched her neck out to check the surroundings.

Santiago stood behind her with an amused expression on his face. How dare she!

He should be the one in front instead.

Raeleigh briefly checked the surroundings before quickly stepping back. Terror coursed through her. She looked at Santiago and said, "We're at the right place."

Santiago looked at her. He was not nervous. Instead, he was amused.

"I'll go and have a look," Santiago said. He was about to leave, but was stopped by Raeleigh.

Santiago turned to look at her with his back against the wall. Raeleigh said, "According to our plan, I'm supposed to lure them away while you rescue Deanna. I have a feeling that she's in a room that is heavily guarded. I'm sure you can find a way to escape."

Santiago did not reply immediately. Instead, he asked Raeleigh, "Do you know what will happen to you if you get caught, and we aren't able to save you?"

Raeleigh pursed her lips. She knew that she had nothing. She wasn't from a notable family and she did not have a backer. If Flynt caught her, then he would not treat her as well as he would to Deanna. Perhaps, she would be treated inhumanely. But she did not want to owe Deanna anything. There was no point waiting here. They could not inform anyone.

But then again, if they did not take any action right then, then they would have come here in vain.

Raeleigh thought for a moment before she said, "I will be fine. I will wait for you to come and save me."

After that, Raeleigh quietly slipped out the corner. She did not give Santiago the chance to think. She stuck close to the wall as she walked. Even if she did not know how to fight, she did not want to do anything either. Not long after, she was discovered by those people. She hurriedly pressed the elevator button and went inside it as soon as it arrived.

When Santiago saw those people chasing after Raeleigh, he quickly changed his hiding place and hid in a corner. Those people decided to split into two groups with one group using the stairway.

Raeleigh almost succeeded.

After the group of people left, Santiago made his way towards the wards. In one of the wards lay Flynt, who was sleeping. There were two people inside protecting Flynt.

There were also two people inside the other room. Deanna was tied up as she lay on the bed.

Santiago knocked on the door from the outside. The people inside got up to open it. There was no one guarding the door.

It was a lady who answered the door.

Santiago, who was on one side, swiftly pulled the lady over and raised his hand to hit her on the neck. She immediately passed out.

Santiago lay the lady on the ground and made his way into the room. When he opened the door, the person inside had already got up. He was stunned when he saw Santiago. Just as he was about to call for help, Santiago raised his hand to strangle him and knocked him out with a punch.

At that time, Santiago gestured for Deanna to keep quiet. She was not a fool and did as she was told.

Deanna looked pale and her eyes were red and swollen. She looked a little different.

Santiago immediately removed the restraints and reached out for some binds. He carried Deanna on his back and quickly left the ward. First, he made sure that Deanna was steady on his back before he took the binds and went to the door of Flynt's ward to tie the door.

The people inside heard the noise and immediately made a beeline for the door. They were a little surprised to find that they could not open the door.

They immediately knew that something was wrong. At that time, Flynt slowly stirred awake and realized what was going on.

Santiago turned around and walked towards the elevator. He pressed an elevator button and went straight down to the first floor.

Deanna looked at Santiago as she sniffed. Then, she asked, "Why did you come to save me? Where's my brother?"

Santiago squinted at Deanna and asked, "What's wrong with me coming here? Am I not humane?"

Deanna was extremely upset. She sniffled on Santiago's neck. Santiago nTristany wanted to drop her.

"Can you stop sniffling on my neck?" Santiago did not like others wiping their snot on him.

Deanna sobbed. "Jepherson doesn't want me anymore and Zorion doesn't seem to care about me. Both of them prefer Raeleigh over me."

Santiago snorted and said, "Stop crying. I'm going to leave you if you don't stop crying."

Deanna did not answer. However, she could not control her tears from falling.

Chapter 975

The elevator soon arrived at the first floor. Santiago leaned against one side of the elevator and looked up at Deanna.

When the elevator door opened, there were about five people waiting for them.

Immediately, two people rushed into the elevator. Santiago gripped Deanna's thighs with both hands and proceeded to kick the closest person to him. Then, he turned around and kicked the other person.

One fell to the ground and the other one dodged his kick.

Deanna was sniffling. She cried even harder and somehow still managed to utter, "My brother will not let you guys go. My brother is Zorion Atkinson!"

Santiago was so frustrated when he heard her words. But then again, he was impressed that she could still utter those words at that time.

Santiago soon emerged from the elevator and began fighting with the rest of the people. While he was fighting, a group of people brought Raeleigh out.

"Stop fighting, or else I'm going to kill your friend here," one guy said. He was a member of the Cole family. It was just that he wasn't that well-known.

Santiago felt that this guy seemed a little familiar.

There was a knife on Raeleigh's neck and it was the guy from the Cole family who was holding the knife to her neck.

Deanna froze as she stared at Raeleigh. She was frightened down to the soles of her shoes.

Raeleigh was injured. One of her arms was bleeding, but she did not look like she was in pain. She just looked pale.

Raeleigh did not say a word as she stared at Santiago and Deanna.

Santiago's face suddenly darkened. He bellowed, "What did you do to her?"

The other party laughed and said, "This is a good trade, eh? Deanna Atkinson in exchange for Santiago Harvey, plus this woman. From what I hear, both Jepherson and Zorion fancy her."

Santiago stared at those people with dagger eyes. He steadied Deanna on his back and sneered. "What? Do you think we care about her?"

"I dare you to kill her."

As Santiago spoke, Raeleigh kept her eyes on him and saw his mouth twitched. Only then did she relax a little.

"Santiago, don't think that we don't know what you are thinking. If you put Deanna down now, then we'll allow you to leave. We'll also let this woman go. Otherwise, we are going to kill her."

"Fine, let her die. I'm tired of her anyway," Santiago said and walked towards the door with Deanna on his back.

The man from the Cole Family did not dare to ask someone to chase after Santiago, but he sliced the knife through Raeleigh's skin.

Raeleigh did not scream as she watched Santiago walk out the door. No one dared to stop him.

After Santiago left, the man tossed the knife aside and gave Raeleigh a hard push. She stumbled to the ground.

The man looked down at Raeleigh and said, "I gave Santiago a choice but he chose Deanna. Don't blame us. Pick her up and bring her to Flynt."

Someone immediately walked to Raeleigh after hearing the order. He did not care whether she was injured or not, he just went over and dragged her to see Flynt.

After they exited the hospital, Deanna turned around and stared at the building while sniffling. She then turned to look at Santiago and asked, "What is Raeleigh doing here?"

Santiago did not reply and ran as fast as he could while carrying Deanna on his back.

Santiago carried her from the hospital to his car. When he finally got to his car, he immediately opened the door and put her in. He then made a call to Zorion while getting in the car.

"I've found Deanna. Where are you?" Just as Santiago asked, the Atkinson family's car arrived at the entrance of the hospital. Zorion and the others got out of the car.

Santiago turned to look at them and shoved his phone into his pocket. He opened the door and said, "Get out of the car."

Deanna raised her head to look at Santiago and asked, "Why are you being so rude to me?"

Deanna cried as she spoke.

"I am being kind. This matter has nothing to do with Raeleigh, yet she is now in danger because of you. The only reason I managed to save you is because of her. I thought you would be worried about her and would be cracking your head, trying to come up with a way to rescue her. You are not a fool. You should know that I am not capable of saving you by myself, yet you pretend to know nothing."

Deanna stared blankly at Santiago. "I ... "

By then, Zorion was already standing in front of Santiago's car. Santiago looked at him and said, "I did not expect that you would not do anything."

Zorion did not answer. He bent over and carried his sister out of the car. Then, he turned around and walked back to his car with Deanna in his arms. Deanna was crying as wrapped her arms around her brother. Zorion suddenly said, "I was held up by someone. That was why it took me a while to get here."

Santiago laughed and asked, "What about now? We've managed to save Deanna. What about Raeleigh?"

"I doubt Flynt would hurt her. Deanna is a little traumatised right now. I have to watch over her." Zorion gritted his teeth. He seemed a little different than usual.

"I know. It's fine, you can go." Santiago did not tell Zorion about Raeleigh's injury. There was no point telling him. Deanna would always be his priority.

Other people's lives probably did not matter.

Santiago closed his car door and walked towards the hospital. Scarlette and Hadrian immediately ran over to him.

"Get lost, all of you!" Santiago scolded as soon as Scarlette and Hadrian approached him. After that, he immediately ran into the hospital.

Zorion sat in the car as he held Deanna tightly, trying his best to stroke her back and calm her down.

Deanna slowly raised her head. She looked extremely pitiful as she asked, "Zorion, what should we do?"

"Let's go back. You need to get some rest," Zorion said as he held Deanna tightly. In the end, they decided to leave.

The cars left, one after another. Scarlette was furious. She clenched her fist and said, "They are heartless. Raeleigh is being held in the hospital and yet they chose to leave."

Hadrian watched as Santiago entered the hospital. Then, he said to Scarlette, "I think you should call Mr. Jepherson."

Scarlette immediately made a call to Jepherson.

Stuart answered the phone and informed her that they were already on their way.

"We've just gotten off the plane. Where are you guys now?" Stuart felt that something bad was going to happen since Jepherson did not want to answer the phone.

"We're at the Cole family's hospital. Deanna has been rescued but Raeleigh is being held inside right now. Mr. Santiago told us not to follow him. He's currently in the hospital." Stuart looked over at Jepherson and saw that his expression was as cold as ice. He did not say a word the entire time.

Stuart hurriedly said, "Just listen to Mr. Santiago."

Everyone knew about Santiago's temper. He would not do anything if he wasn't confident.

Scarlette hung up and then looked inside the hospital.

Her mind was in a mess. She wondered, how was Raeleigh doing?

The door of the ward was pushed open and Raeleigh was shoved inside. She was injured and could not stand firm. So, she stumbled to the ground.

When she raised her head, Flynt was sitting up on the bed. When he saw Raeleigh, he frowned as he adjusted the quilt and said, "It's such a pity to see a woman injured like this. What can I say? What's so good about being with Jepherson?"

There were only a few people in the room. Flynt glanced at the person opposite him and said, "Bring her a chair."

Someone immediately brought a chair for Raeleigh after hearing Flynt's order. Raeleigh did her best to remain on her feet, opting not to sit. She just stared at Flynt without saying anything.

Chapter 976

"I don't mean anything else. Since your friends abandoned you here, I think it's best for you to cooperate with us. It'll be good for both parties."

Flynt lowered his head and said, "There are so many ways I can deal with you, yet I don't want to hurt you. I still have some patience."

Raeleigh said nothing. She looked as if she was about to pass out as blood kept dripping from her arm. She could not focus on what Flynt was saying.

She swayed a little, but she did not say anything.

"You are very beautiful. If you wish for it, I can give you whatever you want, including becoming part of the Cole family," Flynt said, and he could not help but to frown. His initial plan was for her to cooperate with him. He did not have any other intentions, but why did he suddenly say those words?

He wondered whether the Cole family would accept her?

Raeleigh still did not say anything. Flynt lifted his quilt and got out of bed. He walked over to Raeleigh's side and pulled her to him. He ripped open her sleeves to check on her wound. However, he was a little surprised when he saw it and said, "I didn't think your wound would be this bad."

Raeleigh wanted to pull her hand back, but Flynt did not let go.

"Someone, call the doctor." Flynt frowned and looked at the surrounding people. The people around him immediately went to get the doctor. After they left, Flynt turned to look at another person and said, "Get a basin of water and bring over a towel." Someone immediately went into the bathroom to fetch a basin of warm water, along with a towel.

The person placed the basin on the table and Flynt quickly used the towel to wipe the blood off Raeleigh's body. Raeleigh was feeling a little dizzy and was about to fall over at any time. When Flynt saw this, he hurried over to catch her before she fell onto the ground.

"Mr. Flynt."

Someone shouted. There was dirt all over Raeleigh at the moment.

Flynt was a man who was obsessed with cleanliness.

Flynt raised his hand and did not say anything. His men immediately took a step back.

Flynt bent down and picked Raeleigh up. Just as he was about to place her on his bed, the door of the ward was pushed open.

Flynt looked up and saw Santiago standing at the door.

No one dared to approach Santiago but there were a lot of people standing guard at the door, in case he did anything stupid.

"You..."

When the group of people inside the room saw Santiago, they immediately went up to attack him. However, Flynt suddenly shouted, "Stop!"

His men retreated one after another, not daring to get close to Santiago. They all lowered their heads.

Santiago looked at Raeleigh as he entered the ward. He did not say anything as he reached out and gathered her in his arms.

"I'll settle the score with you later," Santiago said as he reached out to gather Raeleigh in his arms. Flynt said, "I applaud you. You are very capable. I'll let her go today. Consider this as my gift to you, but remember, you owe me a favor. You'll have to return it sooner or later."

"A favor? You're kidding, aren't you? I'm not going to remember it. I came here today to save her, regardless. You're going to have to let her go. You have a lot of people here, and I'm easily outnumbered. If you are not happy with it, then you can ask your men to stop me from leaving. But isn't it a little ridiculous for you to say that I owe you a favor?"

After saying that, Santiago turned around and walked out of the room. No one dared to stop him.

Flynt turned his hand over and held on tightly to it.

His eyes were fixed on Raeleigh, who was unconscious.

A few minutes later, Santiago emerged from the elevator. As soon as he walked out of the door, he was met with Jepherson.

Santiago immediately walked over to his brother. Then, he said solemnly, "I'm sorry, I failed to protect her."

As he spoke, he handed Raeleigh over to Jepherson. Jepherson held Raeleigh in his arms and made his way back to his car. After getting in the car, he did not say a word, he just held her tightly in his arms. At that time, blood was still flowing from her arm. Even the driver was so scared that his face turned pale. He immediately stepped on the accelerator and exceeded every speed limit to get to the nearest hospital.

Santiago followed from behind. He, too, was speeding like crazy.

Scarlette and Hadrian were in one car. Both of them looked extremely worried.

As soon as they pulled up to the hospital, Jepherson quickly carried Raeleigh out of the car. There were already people waiting for them at the entrance of the emergency room. When they saw Jepherson and Santiago, they immediately came over to greet them.

"Mr. Jepherson, Mr. Santiago."

Jepherson did not say anything as he entered the hospital, gradually picking up his pace. The people behind him also followed suit.

They walked through a VIP passageway. Furthermore, it was very late, and most of the patients were already asleep.

"Mr. Jepherson, why don't you put her on the gurney first? We need to take her to the operating theater," the doctor said, coming over. Jepherson did not follow the doctor's orders. He looked at the front and strode forward, not saying a word.

The doctor and the chief of the hospital did not dare to say anything when they saw Jepherson's expression. They could only follow him.

After entering the operating theater, Jepherson placed Raeleigh on the operating table and stood to one side.

"You can start now."

The doctor immediately put on a straight face and started issuing orders, focusing on what he could do to stabilize Raeleigh.

At that time, no one dared to say a word. They did not want anything to happen to Raeleigh.

Soon, Raeleigh's surgery commenced. Jepherson was seething inwardly as he stood in the corner of the operating theater. However, the corner was dimly lit and made him looked like a trapped beast as his eyes kept looking around.

Stuart hurried into the operating theater. He walked over to Jepherson and whispered, "Do you need me to get the plastic surgeon?"

"Yes, ask them to come now."

"They are already waiting outside. I'll let them in." Stuart went out in a hurry. Soon, several plastic surgeons came in and helped with the surgery.

Raeleigh's operation took more than four hours and that was also how long Jepherson stood in the operating room.

After the surgery, Jepherson picked Raeleigh up and personally carried her into the ward.

"You can all leave," Jepherson immediately ordered everyone to leave after placing Raeleigh on the bed. Scarlette hesitated before finally leaving the room.

After everyone left, Jepherson helped Raeleigh change out of her dirty clothes and wiped her body clean. The dirty clothes were then thrown away. He also took a shower and changed into a new set of clothes before taking a seat by her bedside.

He sat there for an entire day.

Raeleigh woke up the next morning. She felt as if she was a robot with a cast on her arms and on her neck. She could not move at all.

When Jepherson felt movements on the bed, he slowly opened his eyes. When he saw that Raeleigh was awake, he quickly stood up.

"Hey, you're awake."

While talking, Jepherson lowered his head and kissed Raeleigh on her lips. Raeleigh was caught off guard, with her mouth agape. Then, Jepherson immediately deepened the kiss.

Raeleigh felt that Jepherson wasn't really kissing her. Instead, he was trying to kill her. For a moment, she felt as if she was out of breath.

Thankfully, she could still move her other hand. She hurriedly reached out to nudge him, indicating that she could not hold on any longer. Otherwise, she would have died of suffocation right there and then.

By the time Jepherson finally pulled away, Raeleigh was very close to being suffocated to death. Her entire face was flushed.

That time, Raeleigh did not avoid him. Instead, she looked straight at him.

Jepherson sat down and reached out for her hand. Then, he said, "Thank you!"

Raeleigh did not respond at all. She had no idea why Jepherson was thanking her.

Chapter 977

"Someone, please call the doctor," Jepherson ordered. He was still holding Raeleigh's hand. She wanted to pull her hand back, but she couldn't.

Soon, the group of doctors entered the ward and immediately greeted Jepherson, "Mr. Jepherson."

"Can you please give Raeleigh a thorough examination to check whether she's alright?"

"Yes, Mr. Jepherson."

One of the doctors quickly examined Raeleigh. Once he was done, he immediately backed away.

"Mr. Jepherson, everything checks out alright. You can rest assured."

Jepherson felt as if a heavy weight had been lifted from his mind when he heard that Raeleigh was fine. He heaved a sigh of relief.

Jepherson was silent for a moment before finally answering the doctor. "Thank you for everything. You guys can leave now. I'll call you if there's anything."

"Alright then."

The doctors left, one after another. Jepherson glanced at Scarlette, who looked very worried, and said, "Can you please go and get us some breakfast?"

"Right away," Scarlette said and went out. She was glad that Raeleigh was fine. In fact, she was excited. She was so excited that she nTristany tripped over after exiting the door.

Santiago, who was sitting along the corridor, raised his eyes. "You don't have to be so excited just because she's awake."

Scarlette did not say anything. She just stared at him.

Santiago stood up and made his way towards the elevator as he mumbled about how dirty his clothes were and how bad he smelled.

Scarlette followed Santiago into the elevator. Then, he suddenly said, "I'll be back later to eat."

Scarlette still did not say anything, but she knew what he meant. It meant that she had to buy him breakfast as well.

As soon as Santiago exited the hospital, he got into his car and left. Scarlette then looked down at her clothes and realized that it was dirty. She did not know whether she should throw it away or attempt to wash it.

After Scarlette left the room, Raeleigh looked over at Jepherson. When she saw his dark eyes, they felt quiet and gentle.

At the thought of her and Santiago's visit to the Harvey family, Raeleigh sighed and looked up at the ceiling. After a long time, she said, "Your grandmother doesn't like me."

"So what? Her opinion doesn't matter. Just as long as I like you."

"That is not enough." Raeleigh wanted to shake her head, but she couldn't due to the neck brace.

"There was a wound on your neck, but don't worry, I've already asked the plastic surgeon to stitch it up nicely. It won't leave a scar. You'll just have to lay down and not move."

Raeleigh roughly knew it, and that was why she did not ask anything.

But Raeleigh opened her mouth and closed it again.

Both she and Deanna were captured by Flynt. However, Deanna escaped unharmed while she was wounded. She tried to escape, but her hand was injured by a knife. Thankfully, at that time, she was wearing a coat. Or else, her arm would have been cut off.

It was not that Raeleigh was jealous, she knew everyone's fate was different. Some people were very privileged. They were loved and cared for, while some others weren't. The latter were like weeds, left to fend for themselves.

Regardless, they were weeds. It'd be a joke if they could survive through winter as they might not even survive through autumn.

Raeleigh was a little frightened as she thought about it. She did not move and her hands were cold.

Jepherson sighed softly and said, "Why are your hands always cold?"

Raeleigh turned slowly to look at Jepherson and said, "I heard people say that if a person was not loved, then their hands would always be cold. I'm not sure whether it's true."

"It's not true." Jepherson lowered his head and kissed Raeleigh's hand. Raeleigh silently looked at him with her empty eyes.

"This is all my fault. I should have made things clear with Deanna. If I did, then she wouldn't have vented her anger on you."

"No, this is my fault. Not yours, not anyone else." Raeleigh turned and looked towards the window. Then, she continued. "Deanna is innocent, but she would not forgive me now that I've hurt her."

"I'm sure she will."

•••

It was quiet in the ward. Raeleigh pretended to fall asleep. Jepherson then stood up while letting go of her hand and made his way into the bathroom. When he entered, Raeleigh opened her eyes slowly and looked at the bathroom. She stared at it for a long time before turning around and looking at the windows.

Deanna had been badly affected by this matter. By the time she was discharged from the hospital, it was hard to say whether Deanna would still be mad at her.

If she had known this earlier, then she would have given up the idea of studying in Elkton University. Then, they would have been able to avoid this matter from happening.

Raeleigh closed her eyes again. When Jepherson emerged from the bathroom, Scarlette so happened to have come back. She knocked on the door and brought the food in.

Jepherson rolled up his sleeves and walked to the door to accept the food. Then, he waved a dismissive hand at Scarlette, indicating for her to leave.

Jepherson brought the food over and helped Raeleigh sit up on the bed.

Raeleigh leaned on one side and asked, "When will I be able to remove the cast?"

Jepherson looked at the cast and said, "In two days."

"That's not too bad."

"Not too bad?" Jepherson raised his eyebrows and fixed his eyes on Raeleigh's swollen face. When he saw her face, he instantly frowned and a hint of killing intent flashed across his eyes.

"I doubt I'll be able to last longer than two days. But then again, I'm surprised that I only have to wear it for two days. I thought I would have to wear it for two weeks." Raeleigh smiled. She was amused.

Jepherson leaned over to kiss her. Then, he said, "Don't say that."

Raeleigh raised her eyes and looked at Jepherson. She puckered her lips and did not know what to say. She had been in love with him since the day she met him. There was never a peaceful day. She had intended to live a quiet life, but was always met with misfortunes. The hospital had become a place where she frequently visited.

Raeleigh did not say anything, but Jepherson was unsatisfied. He lowered her head and bit her lip. Just as he was about to say something, someone pushed the door open and walked in.

"Come on, guys. It's way too Tristany to be doing that. Can you please be more considerate about my feelings?" Santiago said as he walked into the room. He pulled a chair and sat opposite of Raeleigh. He took out his cell phone to take a close-up photo for her and saved it as his wallpaper.

Raeleigh looked at Santiago and asked, "Please don't take my picture."

"It's too late, I've already taken it. I even used it as my wallpaper," Santiago said and showed Raeleigh his phone. Before she could see it clearly, he kept his phone away.

While they were talking, Jepherson was busy sorting out their breakfast. Once he was done, he handed Santiago his breakfast.

The brothers did not say anything, but Raeleigh could tell that they were not the kind of brothers who appreciated each other.

Santiago took his breakfast and began to eat. Raeleigh's hand was in a plaster cast. Therefore, she could not eat by herself. Jepherson was responsible for feeding her.

"Why don't you eat first? I'll eat later," Raeleigh said as she looked at Jepherson. She was afraid that the food would get cold.

Jepherson did not say anything. He placed the food by Raeleigh's mouth and waited for her to open her mouth. She felt a little embarrassed. She glanced at Santiago, who was staring at her from the opposite side. She could not even bring herself to open her mouth.

Why was he watching her eat?

Raeleigh reluctantly opened her mouth and allowed Jepherson to feed her. After that, Jepherson took a bite of the food before feeding Raeleigh again.

Raeleigh and Jepherson basically shared their breakfast.

After eating for a while, Santiago began to talk. By then, he was nTristany done with his breakfast.

"Zorion called me and asked me about her," Santiago said after he took a sip of his coffee.

Jepherson did not say anything and continued to eat. Raeleigh, too, did not say anything but kept on alternating looks from Jepherson to Santiago.

Chapter 978

After Santiago finished his breakfast, he drank some water before heading into the bathroom. Once he came out, he looked at Raeleigh and asked, "Is there anything you need me to do? If not, then I'll leave."

Santiago spoke as he walked towards the door. Raeleigh quickly said, "Can you please bring me my laptop?"

Santiago turned around and said, "Alright, no problem."

After saying that, Santiago cast a glance at Jepherson and left.

Scarlette decided to hitch a ride with Santiago back to the university. Throughout the entire journey, she kept her head down and remained silent.

Santiago saw Zorion standing at the university entrance just as he pulled into a parking lot.

Zorion purposely came to the university to find Santiago.

Santiago got out of the car and made his way into the university. He greeted Zorion when he saw him. "Hey, what are you doing here?"

"Where is Raeleigh? How is she?"

"She's dead. You can extend your condolences," Santiago said as he walked past Zorion. Zorion froze for a moment before turning around and following Santiago. He said, "Please don't joke with me. I want to see her, where is she?"

Santiago stopped and turned to look at Zorion. "If you have the will, then go and find her yourself. Why are you asking me? Would you believe me if I said that I have no idea where she is?"

"Nope."

"If you don't believe me, then why are you asking me?" Santiago was amused. He turned around and continued walking towards the university.

Scarlette did not dare to utter a single word the whole time. She quickly followed Santiago as they made their way towards the dormitory.

As soon as Scarlette entered the room, she immediately noticed that Deanna's belongings were gone. With that, she instantly knew that Deanna knew what was going on and that she would no longer be living here.

Scarlette did not know what else to say as reality slowly sunk in.

It was too pathetic for two women to turn against each other just because of a man.

Scarlette found Raeleigh's laptop and handed it to Santiago. After that, Santiago immediately turned to leave. Scarlette briefly tidied up the room before picking up her laptop and catching up to Santiago.

When the two arrived at the door, Zorion was no longer there. However, Scarlette still looked around to see if he was nearby.

When Scarlette did not see him, she immediately got into the car with Santiago. Once they got into the car, Santiago's lips curled into a smile. He started the car and decided to take another route to the hospital.

"Santiago, did you take the wrong turn?" Scarlette asked.

Santiago did not reply, but he drove at breakneck speed. It was as if he was racing.

Scarlette felt as if she was going to throw up. She hurriedly grabbed hold of the car door handle.

Soon, she saw a convoy of the Atkinson family's cars through the rearview mirror. She instantly understood what was going on.

"Santiago, what should we do?"

"Sit tight." After saying that, Santiago slammed on the accelerator. Scarlette could even hear the sound of the tires screeching against the tarmac.

Scarlette had always felt safe in cars, but not that time.

Santiago got out of the car as soon as he pulled into the hospital parking lot. The convoy of the Atkinson family's cars were nowhere to be seen.

Santiago immediately made his way into the hospital while Scarlette was kneeling on the ground, vomiting out all the contents in her stomach. After vomiting for about ten minutes, she slowly stumbled onto her feet. She felt as if the sky was spinning and could not bring herself to walk steadily.

After a long time, she finally made her way into the hospital. Fortunately, Hadrian was there. She had to rely on him to get to Raeleigh's room. As soon as she arrived at Raeleigh's ward, she immediately collapsed onto the bed.

Raeleigh frowned and asked, "Scarlette, are you alright?"

"Am I alright?" Scarlette did not dare to say anything else. She just lay on the bed and shook her head.

Santiago, who was standing at one side, said, "She's probably having severe motion sickness."

Raeleigh asked curiously, "Scarlette, do you feel nauseous?"

Scarlette nodded her head. Raeleigh did not know what to say since she had never seen her get motion sickness before.

"Here, as requested. What are you planning to do with one hand?" Santiago said as he handed Raeleigh her laptop. She looked at him before accepting her laptop and turning it on. She went onto the university's website before she began looking through their study materials and drawings.

Santiago then walked towards Jepherson. The brothers were about the same height.

"I'm sure our father will get involved in this matter. I can't go on your behalf to visit the Atkinson family. Grandma has already called me and asked me where you are." "I'll go over to the Atkinson family residence later," Jepherson said as he took a quick glance at Raeleigh. He continued. "You have to stay here."

"I know."

The two brothers were talking as if they were the only ones in the room. After that, Jepherson made his way over to the bed and kissed Raeleigh.

Raeleigh raised her head slowly. She did not say anything but just looked at Jepherson with her serene eyes. Jepherson smiled, got up, and left.

Santiago lay down on the other bed in the room and said, "I want to have steak for lunch, medium well. Oh, I also want some cod fish too."

Santiago spoke as he closed his eyes. He looked as if he was about to fall asleep. Scarlette replied, "I'll arrange it later."

To Scarlette, if Deanna was a person that was hard to deal with, then Santiago was two times harder. It was frightening.

Raeleigh was amused. She looked up at the two people on the bed and could not help but to laugh.

When Jepherson emerged from the hospital, he suddenly received a call from Paige. However, he did not answer the phone. Instead, he let Stuart do so.

"Madam Paige," Stuart answered respectfully.

Paige was at home, pacing back and forth. She made call after call.

"Stuart, where is Jepherson? Are you guys back in the country yet?" Paige was very impatient. Although everyone already knew that Deanna had been found, Stuart could still hear the seriousness in Paige's voice.

Stuart said hurriedly, "We've just gotten off the plane. We're rushing over to the Atkinson family residence to visit Miss Deanna."

"Is that so? Where's Jepherson? Ask him to come to the phone." Paige insisted on hearing Jepherson's voice.

"Mr. Jepherson is taking a break. He's exhausted. I'll tell him first thing when he wakes up that you called."

Paige felt that since Jepherson was getting some rest, then it would be fine for him to call her back later.

"Alright, then. Don't forget to tell him," Paige said. Stuart immediately replied, "Yes, Madam Paige. I will let him know."

"Okay, then. Send my regards to Deanna."

"Yes, Madam Paige."

Paige hung up the phone and Stuart immediately returned the phone to Jepherson.

Jepherson did not take the phone away. He just said, "Call our people and tell them that we are suspicious of the Cole family. Ask them to conduct an investigation on them."

Stuart was stunned for a moment and asked hesitantly, "Aren't you going to tell Mr. Calvin about this?"

Jepherson immediately said, "He's not in the country. What's the point of telling him?"

Stuart choked and did not dare to say anything.

Jepherson said, "Go on, make the call."

Only then did Stuart make the call. He was a little worried as he placed the phone call. Although Flynt had done something wrong and angered Jepherson, the Cole family was still one of the most powerful families in Capital City. If they really made a move, then it would affect the entire city. At that time, it would cause a huge commotion.

Both Mr. Calvin and Madam Belle were not in the country. So was Mr. Hudson.

What were they going to do if something really happened?

"Stop the car," Jepherson suddenly said, causing Stuart's heart to skip a beat. He was so frightened that he gulped.

Chapter 979

The driver immediately pulled over by the roadside.

"Get out!" Jepherson immediately ordered Stuart as soon as the car stopped.

Stuart did not say a word. He opened the door and got out of the car.

As soon as he closed the door, the driver drove the car away.

Stuart then got into one of the cars behind and immediately made a call.

Since Jepherson had made up his mind, then Stuart felt that it would be better for him to keep his mouth shut lest it caused trouble.

When they arrived at the Atkinson family villa, Stuart immediately got out of the car and made his way to Jepherson's car to help him open the door.

Jepherson swiftly got out of the car.

As soon as he got out of the car, he straightened his gRhys coat and walked towards the entrance of the Atkinson family villa.

"Mr. Jepherson." The people who were standing at the entrance of the Atkinson family villa, greeted him as soon as he approached.

Jepherson never smiled whenever he came by, but his expression was never cold either. However, it was different that day. His expression was cold.

Lennox was trembling with fear when he saw Jepherson's expression.

Jepherson walked past the gates and made his way to the courtyard. Stuart, who was behind him, hurried to follow.

Jepherson did not look like he was here for a visit. Instead, he seemed to be here to denounce Deanna. Stuart hoped that there would not be any trouble.

There were few people who had greeted Jepherson as they made their way into the villa, but he did not acknowledge them.

After entering the villa, Jepherson took a quick look around. Zorion was standing in the room as he looked outside. Upon seeing him, he turned around, took a few steps towards Jepherson and asked, "What are you doing here?"

"Am I not welcomed?" Jepherson was very hostile that day. He was vastly different from his usual self.

Zorion was stunned all of a sudden.

"What are you here to talk about?" Zorion asked, his expression was cold.

"What else?"

"You know Deanna, sometimes ... "

"I'm not talking about Deanna. This matter has nothing to do with her."

Jepherson turned around and went upstairs. When he reached Deanna's room, he raised his hand and knocked on the door.

Deanna's voice came from inside the room. "Who is it?"

Jepherson did not want to talk, so he turned to look at Stuart. Stuart said hurriedly, "Miss Deanna, Mr. Jepherson is here to see you."

When Deanna heard that Jepherson was here to see her, she immediately got up from the bed and ran to open the door.

As soon as she saw Jepherson, she threw herself into his arms.

Jepherson did not reciprocate, but he did not push her away either.

Stuart stood on one side and lowered his head. He turned around and saw Zorion walking up the stairs.

"This is all my fault. Raeleigh was hurt because of me, but I like you. What should I do?" Deanna cried and she wrapped her arms around Jepherson.

Jepherson had yet to lift his arm to embrace her.

Stuart instantly knew that that time, Jepherson was furious.

Jepherson had always doted on Deanna, but that time, his lack of reaction clearly meant that she was about to lose him.

"Jepherson, I really like you," Deanna said as she hugged him tightly.

Jepherson remained silent until Zorion approached them. He lifted his hand and pushed Deanna's hand away.

"Deanna, calm down," Zorion said as he held his sister in his arms. Deanna anxiously said, "Zorion, please tell Jepherson. Tell him that I did not mean for anyone to get hurt. It's just that I really like him. I was angry when I found out, but I did not mean for Raeleigh to get hurt. I honestly didn't."

Jepherson looked at Zorion, and then at Deanna, who was anxiously stamping her feet. He did not say a word.

Zorion held Deanna in his arms and comforted her. "Please don't cry."

How could Deanna not cry? Once she started crying, there was no way for her to stop.

She looked at Jepherson with puppy eyes.

"I don't want to talk much about this matter. Deanna and I were both wrong. However, you cannot hurt Deanna like this. She's blaming herself for what's happened. She hasn't eaten anything." As Deanna's elder brother, even though Zorion knew that he shouldn't say these things, he just could not help himself.

Jepherson looked at Zorion and said, "I'm not blaming Deanna. She is young and immature. This is all my fault. I should have made things clear with Deanna. So, now, I am here to tell Deanna that I have always regarded her as my sister, just like how she is to you."

"In the future, I will treat her as my sister. That's all. I don't want to see Raeleigh get hurt because of my negligence."

"Regarding my relationship with Raeleigh, I just want to make it clear that I was the one who took the initiative to pursue her."

"When we got together, Deanna and Raeleigh were not friends yet. Everything was just a misunderstanding. Raeleigh did not betRhys Deanna."

"I initially did not want to make my relationship with Raeleigh public because I did not want her to get hurt. However, the fact that I didn't was why she was hurt. I am extremely upset because of it."

"Deanna is fortunate to have a brother like you, but Raeleigh does not have anyone."

After saying that, Jepherson looked at Deanna, who was still crying, and said, "Deanna, do you still remember when you were a child, you and Santiago got into a fight over a toy car? In the end, I took the toy car and gave it to you instead of Santiago?"

It took a long time before Deanna remembered. She nodded and said, "Santiago wasn't happy at all. He wanted to hit me but you told him it was not the right thing to do."

"Yes, that's what I said. If Santiago wasn't willing to give the toy car to you back, then I would have hit him. I would have protected you anyway," Jepherson said. Deanna pursed her lips and said, "You're so kind to me then. Why have you changed?" "Actually, I have never changed. It's just that you thought that I liked you. In fact, I've always regarded you as my sister and I will always protect you no matter what."

"However, this time, I feel hurt. It hurts right here." Jepherson raised his hand and placed it on his chest. "Here, my heart hurts. It's as if someone stabbed me in the chest."

"The kind of pain that leaves me breathless. The pain was excruciating."

"Raeleigh is an orphan. She only had her grandmother to take care of her. Ever since she was young, she made sure to study hard. Her life was very challenging. She has a heart made of stone. No matter how much others try to get close to her, she just would not let them in."

"It took me a long time to convince her to let me in finally. This love is very challenging."

"When I knew that she was hurt because she took the risk to save you, I was extremely upset."

"This is not her fault. She should not bear it. A mistake is a mistake. You cannot brush it off just because you are Rhys Atkinson's daughter or that you're Zorion Atkinson's sister."

"Flynt treated you well when he locked you up. He neither hit nor scolded you. At the very worst, he would probably say something that you did not like. You also ate and slept well."

"You were not in any sort of danger. Everyone knows this."

"Even if you ran away, Flynt would find a way to catch you, but at least he wouldn't hurt you."

"However, he treated Raeleigh differently. He punched and kicked her. He basically did not treat her like a human. He cut her arm and nTristany sliced her throat open."

"The reason Flynt did not hurt you was because you are Rhys's daughter."

"He treated Raeleigh badly because she's not from a notable family."

"Raeleigh knew all of this yet she still risked her life to try and save you and what did you do? You did not even express your gratitude and followed Santiago out of the hospital."

"When Santiago told me that the two of you left without attempting to save Raeleigh, at that point, I knew...."

"I knew that this relationship cannot be fixed."

Jepherson turned around and went downstairs. Stuart was scared silly. However, when he came back to his senses, he quickly chased after Jepherson.

Deanna cried her heart out. Zorion held his sister tightly and did not move at all. He stood stiffly upstairs like a rock.

Chapter 980

Jepherson immediately got into the car after coming out of the Atkinson family villa. Stuart had learnt his lesson from the previous car ride. He immediately kept his mouth shut as soon as he got into the car.

The driver drove the car and asked, "Mr. Jepherson, where are we going next?"

"Let's head over to the Cole Family."

"The Cole family?"

Stuart was surprised. Jepherson raised his eyebrows and looked at him. Stuart immediately cowered in fear. He did not dare to say anything more.

It did not take long before they arrived at the Cole family villa.

Jepherson got out of the car and waited at the door. Stuart immediately walked to the door and rang the doorbell.

There were a few people standing at the entrance, but they did not say anything.

To put it bluntly, the Cole family villa was not a place for anyone to visit as they wished. The only people who were allowed into the villa were of high status. As for the others, they could ignore them.

Stuart rang the doorbell, and Lennox of the Cole Family quickly came to the door. When Lennox saw Jepherson standing outside, he was stunned for a moment before greeting him.

"Mr. Jepherson."

"I'm here to see Brooklyn Cole. Can you please inform him?" Jepherson smiled. When Lennox saw his unfathomable smile, the hairs on the back of his neck stood up.

"Mr. Jepherson, please wait a moment. I'll go and inform Old Master Brooklyn."

"Alright, thank you."

Jepherson was very polite. He was so polite that Lennox found it a little strange.

He turned and went to look for Brooklyn. Not long after, Lennox came back out and invited Jepherson in.

Jepherson entered through the door and went to meet Brooklyn.

Brooklyn was lying inside his room. When he saw Jepherson, he immediately tried to get up. However, Jepherson quickly rushed over to him and said, "Old Master Brooklyn, please watch yourself. You don't have to get up."

In fact, Brooklyn was just putting on a show. Of course, he did not really want to get out of bed.

"Have a seat," Brooklyn said politely. Lennox immediately brought a chair for Jepherson.

The last time Jepherson came, he did not sit down. However, that time, Brooklyn watched as he waited for him to sit down.

Jepherson sat down and asked, "How have you been lately?"

"I'm good. I'm lucky if I don't fall sick. That's the only thing I hope for."

"Is that so?" Jepherson frowned. It seemed that he had something important to say.

Brooklyn looked at him for a while and asked, "Jepherson, is there anything you want to tell me?"

"Yes, it's just that I don't know whether I should say it," Jepherson said with a smile. His eyes were filled with anticipation.

Brooklyn looked at him and thought for a while, "I wonder what is it about. Are you sure I'll be able to help?"

"This matter ... "

"Go ahead."

"I'll cut to the chase. A few days ago, I met a person from the Cook family and took a liking to her."

"Cook family?" Brooklyn frowned. He roughly knew where this conversation was heading.

"You're talking about..."

"The apple of your eye, Cynthia."

Cynthia was Flynt's second oldest sister and she had a great relationship with him. This was also known by the public. Cynthia was two years older than Flynt. That year, she would be turning 21.

If there was someone in the Cole family who should get married, it was Flynt's older sisters.

However, Flynt had a strong opinion since he was a child. In the past, Brooklyn had said that he wanted to find husbands for Flynt's two older sisters. However, Flynt disagreed with this matter.

No one knew what Flynt had said to Brooklyn, but this matter was eventually put to rest.

Now that Jepherson had come to the villa on his own accord and brought up this matter, it caught Brooklyn off guard.

What was going on?

"Old Master Brooklyn, I wonder if you'd be interested in forming a marriage alliance with the Harvey family?" Jepherson asked politely.

Brooklyn raised his hand, gesturing for everyone to leave the room.

Right then, he did not know what Jepherson's motive was.

"Cynthia is very lucky that you've taken a liking to her. It's just that I'm getting old and I can't decide on this matter. I think it's best if you'd ask Cynthia." Brooklyn came up with an excuse.

Jepherson rose to his feet. "If you don't agree, then there's no need for me to stay any longer. I'll be heading back first."

Brooklyn was stunned. He came and left quickly. What did he mean by doing this?

After saying that, Jepherson turned around and left. Lennox glanced at Brooklyn before chasing after Jepherson.

Jepherson walked out of the door and immediately got into the car. He pretended as if nothing had happened and instructed the driver to head back to Harvey Manor.

The Cole family's Lennox stood at the door and watched Jepherson leave. After watching him leave, he immediately went back into the villa.

Brooklyn was already sitting up when he entered. He was waiting for Lennox to return.

"What's going on?" Brooklyn immediately asked when he saw Lennox. Lennox shook his head and said, "Something seems a little off, don't you think? Did Mr. Flynt offend Mr. Jepherson? I have a feeling he came here to warn us."

After hearing Lennox's words, Brooklyn thought for a moment and waved his hand as he said, "Get Elina to come over. I have something to ask her."

Lennox immediately left in search of Elina. After a short while, Elina entered the room and walked over to Brooklyn. She stopped and asked, "You were asking for me?"

"Tell me, has Cynthia been out recently?" Brooklyn asked. He sounded very serious, so Elina did not dare to lie.

"No, she's been by my side all this while. Why are you suddenly asking about her?" Elina thought that she had taught her daughter well. She was not the kind of person who let her daughter wander around.

Brooklyn said, "I don't know why, but Jepherson dropped by earlier. He asked if we were interested in forming a marriage alliance with the Harvey family. In fact, he specifically mentioned Cynthia."

"Can you recall whether we've offended him in any way?"

"Old Master Brooklyn, it's impossible. Cynthia has always been by my side, she's never left the house."

"Then, what's going on? Why did he come here? He looked like he came here to denounce us."

Elina stopped talking. She genuinely had no idea what was going on.

Suddenly, Elina said, "Did Flynt offend him? Did he come here to warn us?"

Brooklyn thought for a while before he said to Lennox, "Can you please call Mr. Flynt and ask him to come back. Tell him that I have something to ask him."

Under Brooklyn's orders, Lennox hurried over to carry out this order.

Soon after, Flynt came out of the hospital and hurried back to the Cole family villa.

At that time, Jepherson also arrived at home. He got out of the car and went straight to the Ink Garden.

"Old Madam Paige, Mr. Jepherson is back." Paige was waiting for Jepherson to return her call. She remembered that Stuart said that they were on their way to visit Deanna when she called him.

The servant rushed into the room and told Paige. Paige looked at the door and found it strange that he was back so soon.

"Mr. Jepherson."

The servants greeted Jepherson when they saw him.

Jepherson did not say anything. He looked a little moody.

Paige said impatiently, "Why are you putting on a long face?"

"Sorry, my bad." Jepherson entered the door and sat down. He still pulled a long face. Paige wanted to ask him but she could not bring herself to do so. However, she would feel uneasy if she didn't.

She stared at Jepherson's cold face, not knowing what to do.