

Mr. Edwards' Unraveled Life Chapter 421

Chapter 421

Norah had known her pants were wet for a while. So were everyone else's. She didn't think much of it.

When you go out to collect herbs, a little discomfort is part of the deal. It wasn't a big deal to her.

"I'll change when I get back," she said casually.

Kevin, however, was focused on her legs. "Cold seeps into the body. If you don't keep your legs warm, you could develop rheumatism later."

"It's just for a little while," Norah replied politely. "I'll change as soon as I'm back."

Kevin didn't respond. Instead, he knelt down and began rolling up her pant legs.

Norah stiffened as she noticed all eyes on them. Her back tensed, and she instinctively pulled away. "What are you doing? I'm fine."

Without a word, Kevin took off his knee pads and secured them around her legs.

The onlookers' curiosity only grew deeper.

Arlene gasped and covered her mouth like she had just uncovered some shocking revelation. Their relationship definitely wasn't ordinary!

Her excitement was palpable—like watching a romantic drama unfold in real life.

Kevin tightened the straps and said flatly, "These are waterproof and insulated. They'll keep you warm."

Norah frowned. "Why me? The others don't have them. That's not fair. You're the captain. You should know better."

She moved to take them off, but Kevin grabbed her wrist. “I can’t take care of everyone. And no one will mind.”

Norah looked at him, unsure why his gaze made her feel uneasy.

“It’s fine,” Arlene chimed in. “The aunts all say your skin is delicate and needs extra care. We’re used to it, but you’re not. And besides, Captain Edwards is just looking out for you. Let him. How can he protect us if he’s worried about you?”

Arlene shot Norah a knowing look, clearly convinced there was more going on between them.

“Don’t turn down Captain Edwards’ kindness!” the older women encouraged, their eyes glimmering as they exchanged glances.

To them, this was as good as a love story coming to life—a perfect match unfolding before their eyes.

Kevin’s concern for Norah was obvious, and no one missed the unspoken emotions between them.

“Let’s head down the mountain,” one of the older women finally announced, leading the group.

Kevin stood up, his face instantly returning to its usual serious demeanor, as if nothing had happened. “Escort them down safely.”

“Understood, Captain Edwards.”

The soldiers followed orders, but some couldn’t help but smirk. It wasn’t every day they saw their cold, unyielding captain act so considerate.

As they walked, Arlene took the bamboo shoots from Norah and placed them in her basket. Then she grabbed Norah’s hand, her eyes shining with curiosity. “I didn’t see this coming! Captain Edwards treats you differently. Spill it—what’s going on between you two?”

Norah sighed. “Nothing. You’re reading too much into it.”

“No way!” Arlene grinned. “I may be young, but I’m not blind. He’s totally into you! If you two end up together, that’d be amazing. Captain Edwards is so strong and capable, and you’re beautiful and smart. I’m jealous! That moment when he caught you—it was straight out of a romance novel. The hero swoops in just in time...”

She sighed dreamily, completely lost in her own fantasy.

Norah, however, had a different view. Most of her interactions with Kevin had been anything but romantic.

Seeing Arlene so thrilled, she couldn't resist teasing her. "I thought you liked Bai Mo? Why are you suddenly shipping me with someone else?"

Arlene immediately waved her hands. "Oh, don't get mad! I was just messing with you. Besides, Teacher Bai Mo and Captain Edwards are totally different!"

She studied Norah's face before bursting into laughter. "Teacher Bai Mo is gentle and kind to everyone, but Captain Edwards? He only treats you like this."

"That's not true. He's good to everyone."

Arlene tilted her head, considering. "Okay, maybe, but Captain Edwards always looks cold and distant. Except when he's with you. Teacher Bai Mo is warm to everyone, which is why we all adore him."

As Arlene rambled on about Bai Mo, Kevin, who had been walking behind them, caught parts of their conversation.

He heard the name "Bai Mo."

There was no one by that name in the village.

Judging by their expressions, this Bai Mo was well-liked. That alone was enough to get Kevin's attention.

His thoughts were interrupted when he noticed someone was missing. His expression darkened. "Where's Levi?"

Frank glanced around. "Oh, he left early with Chana and a few others."

Kevin frowned. "For what?"

"No clue. He was acting secretive and wouldn't say."

Kevin's expression remained unreadable. "Chana took her child with her?"

“Yeah. It seemed inconvenient, but she insisted.”

Suddenly, a voice called out from the mountain. “Captain Edwards!”

The open landscape carried the sound far.

Kevin stopped and turned. Levi and a few others were making their way down, carrying Chana.

She didn’t look good.

Kevin’s sharp gaze settled on them. “Frank, go check on them.”

“On it.”

Norah also turned toward the commotion. She saw Frank heading toward a small group descending the mountain.

Kevin stood still, waiting.

Arlene squinted. “Who’s coming down?”

“Not sure,” Norah replied.

Arlene repositioned herself for a better look. “I see them! They’re helping a woman down. She’s holding a child and looks weak. What was she doing up there? Isn’t she just making things harder for everyone?”

“A woman?” Norah considered. “Maybe she’s someone they rescued.”

“Maybe.”

After a few moments, Levi finally reached them.

“Captain Edwards, Chana’s injured.”

Chana looked pale, limping, her clothes drenched. Her face was streaked with dirt, and it was clear she had taken a nasty fall.

Levi carried a basket strapped to his back, filled with fresh tea leaves. Another man held Chana’s child.

Kevin took one look at them and scoffed. “What were you doing on the mountain at this hour?”

Levi hesitated, but before he could respond, Chana spoke up, her voice laced with guilt. “I’m sorry. I wanted to pick fresh tea leaves for you all, but I slipped and fell. I didn’t mean to cause trouble.”

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Not only was Chana covered in dust, but her child was too. Tears shimmered in her eyes, evidence that she had recently cried.

Kevin, however, paid no attention to Chana. His cold gaze remained locked on Levi.

Levi lowered his head, guilt weighing heavily on him. He had agreed to the plan, after all. “Captain Edwards, I know I was wrong.”

“You’re all in for it tonight,” Kevin said bluntly.

“Yes, sir!”

With that, the group continued moving forward.

Chana’s injured leg slowed her down, forcing the soldiers to carry her.

Arlene observed and whispered to Norah, “I’ve never seen this woman before, and she’s got a child with her. She must be the one they rescued.”

“Seems like it,” Norah replied. “There are plenty of refugees along the way.”

Arlene frowned. “Yeah, but why let her travel with us if she’s just going to slow everyone down?”

“Don’t be so quick to judge,” Norah said, noting Arlene’s bluntness.

From her place on the soldier’s back, Chana looked toward Kevin, biting her lip before urging the soldier to keep up.

“Captain Edwards,” she called.

Kevin didn’t turn around. “What is it?”

Chana hesitated, then spoke eagerly. “I came looking for you last night, but they said you were resting, so I didn’t want to disturb you. That’s when I talked to Brother Levi about picking tea. I’m very skilled at selecting the best leaves—you can tell by sight which ones will be the most fragrant and sweet. I didn’t gather much, but it should be enough for you. If you brew it with morning dew, the aroma is even richer, with a natural sweetness...”

She was clearly trying to impress him, hoping to earn his favor.

Kevin cut her off. "Don't waste your energy. Just focus on your child."

"I have time," Chana insisted. "I want to do my part."

Her persistence was obvious.

Levi, listening, suddenly realized he'd backed the wrong person. Chana's intentions weren't as simple as they seemed.

"That won't be necessary," Kevin said flatly.

Without another word, he quickened his pace, moving to walk beside Norah.

Levi, watching Kevin's movements, suddenly had a revelation. This was the woman from last night.

Though he hadn't seen Norah's face before, Kevin's attentiveness to her—and the fact that he had given her his knee pads—made their relationship clear.

Levi's apprehension vanished, replaced with amusement.

Arlene, meanwhile, scoffed. "So that's what she was doing up the mountain? Trying to win over Captain Edwards? Looking for a stepfather for her kid?"

Norah blinked, surprised. "Wait, you knew there was a woman with a child in the group?"

She turned, just as Kevin reached her side.

She glanced at him.

It was obvious—Kevin had no interest in Chana.

Levi followed them closely, curious. He hadn't expected to get such an inside look at their interactions. But as he finally saw Norah's face, shock hit him hard.

"Madam..." He barely got the word out before Kevin shot him a warning look. Quickly, he corrected himself. "Ms. White!"

Norah acknowledged him calmly. "Yes, it's me."

"What are you doing here?" Levi's shock melted into excitement. "I thought I was dreaming! But now that I see you, I feel so much better. This is amazing!"

He playfully punched Frank. "Why didn't you tell me?"

Frank clutched his side. "Shouldn't you have figured it out by now? Did I really need to spell it out?"

Levi realized he'd been oblivious.

Seeing Norah in person confirmed what he had suspected. If he had doubted before, that doubt was gone now.

"Of course, I knew!" Levi said. "I just hadn't had the chance to see her. By the way, what about Karina? Isn't she with you?"

At the mention of Karina, Norah's face darkened. "We got separated. I don't know where she is. I need to find her."

Levi hesitated for a moment, then reassured her, "We'll track her down. She's resourceful—she'll be okay."

But Norah wasn't sure. She didn't know if Karina was dead or alive, if she had escaped or been caught.

One way or another, she had to find a way into Pharaoh's territory.

Behind them, Chana noticed how comfortably Norah and Kevin spoke. Kevin's demeanor toward Norah was different—warmer, more familiar. And Norah, with her fair complexion and refined features, stood out.

Chana instantly realized—this was the woman Levi had mentioned yesterday.

Before, she had been the only woman among them.

Now, Norah's presence changed everything.

A sense of panic crept in.

Desperate for attention, Chana glanced at her child.

A sudden wail pierced the air.

The child's cry turned every head.

"What's wrong?" Chana gasped. "Let me down—I need to see my baby!"

The soldier immediately set her down. Limping, she rushed over and cradled the child in her arms, trying to soothe him.

But the crying didn't stop.

“Chana, why is he crying?” Levi asked. “Did he get hurt when you fell?”

“I don’t know.” Chana’s eyes turned red as she looked at Kevin. “Captain Edwards, can you hold him? I can’t get him to stop. He always listens to you.”

Norah’s expression shifted. She turned to look at Chana, then at the child in her arms.

From the way Chana spoke, it was clear she relied heavily on Kevin.

Norah could understand why. A woman who had lost everything in war would naturally cling to the only protector she had left.

But something about this felt... off.

“I’m on duty,” Kevin said coolly. “You’re his mother. If you can’t calm him down, who else can?”

Arlene folded her arms. “Exactly. Captain Edwards is a soldier, not a babysitter. You’re asking too much.”

“That’s not what I meant,” Chana insisted. “It’s just... Captain Edwards always makes him happy. He likes him the most!”

“I’ll take him.” One of the older women stepped forward. “I raised all my grandkids—I know how to calm a baby. Let’s not trouble Captain Edwards.”

She set down her basket and gently scooped up the child.

Chana hadn’t expected this. She thought Kevin would react the way he had when they first met, when he had comforted her child.

Maybe fate had led her here.

She had lost her husband. Perhaps she was meant to find someone else.

But now there was competition.

Feeling unsettled, Chana forced a smile and turned to Norah. “I don’t think we’ve met before, but judging by your looks, you must be from the same place as Captain Edwards.”

“Hmm.” Norah responded politely.

Chana’s smile widened. “I’m Chana. Captain Edwards probably hasn’t mentioned me. I was rescued along the way, so I’ve been traveling with his team ever since. I was just a poor, helpless woman with nowhere else to go.”