My Beloved Has Risen from Death's Embrace Novel CHAPTER 261

Posted by AdminHR, 1264 Views, Released on May 21, 2024

Chapter 261

Thirsty? I see you still have the energy to flirt with a female

celebrity?"

That was a taunt. Orion wasn't interested in him, but he was into Xanthea.

His water was gone, **and** the spark **of** romance **that** had barely started with Xanthea was snuffed out. Oh, the tragedy!

Xanthea: ... Really?"

Nelson, against his better judgment, **nodded**.

A **loud buzzer** sounded.

"Time's up, **folks**! Everyone, gather up and jog to the west side of the field for the second round of assessments!"

As **you can** see, we're at the outdoor shooting range. Our next assessment? Shooting!"

"Here **are** the rules: each trainee gets three shots. We'll add up the scores from each ro und, and the person with the highest total gets two points, the lowest gets none, and ev eryone else gets one point."

As soon as the rules were announced, Martin couldn't contain his excitement. "Shooting 's my thing! When **I'm not** swimming, **I'm** probably at the shooting range."

"Shooting?" Rachel frowned, "I've never even held a gun. What if I miss completely?"

Martin smirked, "It's rare for girls to be into shooting, but don't worry, there's not much competition."

Olivia tilted her chin up slightly, "I might have you beat. I starred in a shooting—themed TV show and got trained **by** a pro."

Isabella wanted to compete but was hardly familiar with guns, having only shot **a** few times at corporate team—building events.

"If you're not **sure** about shooting, ask one of the instructors. We can show you how," William suggested.

"Really?"

Soon, Isabella Rachel, and even the previously boastful Olivia crowded around Mr. Lock wood, eager for help.

"Mr. Lockwood, could you give us a demo?"

"Mr. Lockwood, it's been a while, I don't quite remember how to aim. Could you demon strate first?"

Xanthea watched the crowd assemble, knowing she'd be too late to get a good spot.

Orion caught her eye. She turned her head away with a barely audible "hmpf," thinking about how flirty and flashy he was!

Orion picked

up a handgun with a mischievous glint **in** his eye. "Stand facing the target, feet shoulder –width apart. Keep your balance on

the balls of your feet and lock your ankles. Look naturally forward, pull your shoulder blades slightly towards your torso, and fire."

He actually demonstrated, even giving personal instructions. It was like a peacock showing off its feathers!

He knew the girls were all there for him, not really for the shooting!

Bang-! As he explained, the simulation bullet hit the center of the target.

"Wow! Mr. Lockwood is so cool!"

"Bullseye!"

Cheers erupted both at the scene and **on the** live chat, but Xanthea couldn't muster a s mile.

"Xanthea."

She was suddenly called out but **didn't** want to **respond**.

"Need **me to** demonstrate **again?** I can give you a one-on-one lesson."

The comments started flying:

[Here he goes again, this guy with his classic catchphrase "Xanthea"!]

[A one-on-one lesson? I bet he just wants an excuse to get handsy with our Xan!

[I bet he just wanted to show off in front of Xanthea. Oranthea is just too shippable!]

Teach her?

Xanthea scoffed:

She picked up the handgun in front of her

loaded the magazine, pulled the trigger, aimed at the target, and fired three consecutive shots

with her right hand-

"Bang, bang, bang!" Her movements were crisp and elegant, a perfect display of skill.

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What was most remarkable was that all three of her shots hit the bullseye, with only one bullet hole.

This meant that all three bullets had traveled through the exact same path.

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The on–site audience and live–stream viewers were all stunned. After a long silence, Jonathan and William finally burst out in

amazement.

"Three bullets through one hole? Is that even possible?"

"Our team's snipers aren't even that accurate..."

"Sharpshooter indeed!" Martin, a

former Olympic champion, looked at her with disbelief and admiration. "Xan, you've reall y kept this

hidden!"

Wow! Xan is so cool! That moment she fired was like she was possessed by Phoenix, it was deadly charming!

[She didn't just hit the target, she hit my heart!]

Amazing! She must have been trained from a young age in all the classic arts, no ordin ary person can compare. I'm so envious!]

I thought Mr.

Lockwood was already cool, but Xan is even cooler! The ship I'm on is truly the perfect, top—tier pair, made in heaven!]

Orion watched her with intense eyes as she held the gun. The elegant arc of her back, straightened with poise, combined with her swift, heroic movements, exuded an unparalleled contrast of charm, causing his pupils to contract.

Xanthea returned the gun, raising an eyebrow slightly in a subtle but cool gesture. Instantly, she gained a large number of adoring fans.

Her uncle had taught her to shoot when she was just six years old, and nobody had surpassed her yet..

Olivia, Isabella, and Rachel were completely dumbfounded, their jaws dropped in amaz ement.

Although they guessed that Xanthea

was born into a noble family and she must have learned these skills, they never imagine d she would be this incredible—three perfect shots, an unbeatable performance!

"Alright, Xanthea has finished her shooting, the next five participants, please step up to the target." William announced.

As Xanthea stepped away from the line, Orion caught her just out of the camera's view.

"Hmm!"

Xanthea remembered how he had been surrounded by admirers earlier, strutting like a peacock, and was still annoyed. She tried to walk away, but sudd enly, he spun her around and pinned her against the shooting bench, his strength immo bilizing her.

"You..."

Caught off guard and blushing, Xanthea tried to **push** him away, but then she heard his pleased chuckle, "Don't worry, the cameras can't

see us."

"But what about everyone here...?"

She glanced towards

the production crew, who seemed suspiciously uninterested in their direction, almost as if they were in on it.

"Orion, let go, I told you to keep your distance!"

"You want **me** to keep my distance, yet you're still seducing me?" Orion whispered husk ily, embracing her tightly from behind, his head buried in her neck as he closed his eyes, breathing **in** her scent, "You looked so sexy shooting...

The glaring sun overhead made the scene even more intense.

Xanthea was flustered by his brazen behavior. "Let go of me now!"

She struggled, but stopped when she heard a low groan from him.

"You, you..."

"I'll let you go after the shooting is over."

They were **hidden** just behind the camera, shielded from view. If the camera were to pan slightly, millions could witness their intimate embrace. Xanthea felt a thrilling rush at the thought of their secret display under the public eye, her heart pounding **wildly**.

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Chapter 263

"Bang!"

"Bang-!"

The sound of gunfire intermittently echoed across the shooting range, as deafening as Xanthea's own pounding heart.

She watched as the other five members of her team holstered their "Orion, Orion, you c an let go now!"

guns,

Car palpable as she repeatedly slapped Orion's hand.

"No way." The man who had been so sure of himself moments ago Xanthea, seethed, st epped on his foot hard. "I don't! Don't even think abou

Orion chuckled helplessly, releasing her as the other five trainees turned

Xanthea shook her head, her face flushed. "I'm not. Not one bit. It's only you

"Alright."

ved. "Xan, don't you want to..."

it,

s just going to ask if you're thirsty?"

always thirsty."

Orion turned and walked towards the edge of the range.

Xanthea frowned in confusion. Was he heading towards the instructors' lounge? They were in the middle of filming—wait a minute!

Did he just imply the shooting was over?!

Her face, already flushed, seemed to boil with embarrassment.

This man full of nonsense was simply too much; he actually did that to her **in** front of so many people... and then told Nelson to calm down. She thinks he is the one who needs to calm down!

"Boss!"

In the lounge, Cedric stood up as Orion entered. "Louise called from overseas, urging a meeting at Rose Manor no later than the day after tomorrow to sign the contract in person."

"Got it."

"And another thing, Jacob mentioned that there's a new lead in Realm of Illusions explosion case involving Ms. Nightshade. He's close to wrapping up the investigation and handing it over to the police. Also, he stumbled upon something unexpected while tracking a

suspect."

Orion looked up. "What did he find?"

"He didn't tell," said Cedric, "He's being all mysterious, said it's significant and that he wants to

compile all the evidence before reporting **to** you personally tomorrow. Sounds like he do esn't want me stealing his credit."

"Have him come over after the show ends tomorrow."

"Will do!"

"Shooting complete, await results!"

Isabella, Olivia, Rachel, and Nelson looked disheartened as they walked off the shooting platform, while Martin approached Xanthea with a grin. "Xan, I scored 27 point s! Not as good as you, but I'm pretty proud of myself!"

Olivia scoffed, "Close only **counts in** horseshoes and stuff. Even though you were just three points behind, you're only second **best**. What's there to brag about?"

Martin looked down, embarrassed. Xanthea rolled her eyes at Olivia. "It should be 'Clos e only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades? You should read more books."

Her jab hit Olivia hard, making her fume, "You.,."

Jonathan began announcing the scores: "Martin–9, **9**, **9**, totaling 27 points. Nelson–3, 3, totaling 8 points. Isabella–2.5, **4**, 3.5, totaling 10 points. Olivia–3, **6**, 3, totaling 12 points. Rachel–**2**, **2**, **3**, totaling 7 **points**. Xanthea–10..."

2,

He paused when he reached Xanthea's score, then confirmed, "A total of 10 points!"

Everyone was puzzled.

Jonathan explained, "According to the jules, since there's only one bullet hole on Xanth ea's target, we can only count it as one round."

A second of silence was followed by roaring laughter, led by Olivia.

"This might be the case of counting your chickens before they hatch?"

"That's what happens when you get too cocky!"

"Looks like Martin's the champ, and Xan, you're down to 1 point like the rest of us."

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"Xan, no hard feelings. Even though I took first place, you're always number one in my heart."

Xanthea was flabbergasted—was this the price of showing off?

"The rules are rigid, but can't we be a bit flexible?"

The director shook his head. In reality TV, it's not about fairness but entertainment. Jud ging by the uproarious

laughter in the comments, it seemed this episode was a success.

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Chapter 264

Xanthea blinked back tears as she stood outside the coach's lounge, feeling utterly alone without Orion around.

Alright, everyone, listen up! We're kicking off the third round of assessments–100–meter dash!"

"Tracks are divided by gender, with the fastest male and female getting 2 points, the slowest scoring none, and 1 point!"

You've

"This final round will determine your chances of picking your instructor teams, so give it all you've got!"

"Boys, get ready!"

yone else receiving

a a nap."

Nelson grumbled, "Competing in a sprint against a former Olympic champion? I might a s well lie down and take

Previously, he had been all in, trying to secure a spot with Xanthea; but now, with his romantic hopes dashed by Mr. **Lockwood**, he **didn't care** who he teamed up w ith.

Seconds later, Martin predictably clinched the race, and it was time for the girls to take the stage.

Xanthea, Isabella, and Olivia were neck and neck in points.

For them, this **sprint** was crucial. Winning could mean securing a spot on Team Orion.

Rachel, although trailing by a point from the shooting round, could still come out on top if she won this race.

As the four girls lined up, the tension was palpable, even through the screen.

[Bets are open! Who's your pick?]

[I'm betting on Xanthea; those long legs give her a natural edge!]

[I'm on Olivia. Sure, Xanthea's got the height, but she's been more of a pampered princess. Olivia's got real track experience from the junior **sports** festival!)

[No takers

for Isabella? Something tells me she's got her eye on Xanthea; it **could** be the establish ed top stars' apprehension towards the rising new ones.]

"Ladies, to your marks!"

"Ready-"

Jonathan blew the whistle, and the girls got into position, the race ready to explode **into** action.

Isabella clenched her fists, determined to **outrun** Xanthea.

Olivia glanced at Xanthea's dominant **stride** and felt a surge of malice.

This was the final assessment; she couldn't let Xanthea win!,

Especially

after she seemed to have charmed Mr. Lockwood. If she also made his team, who knew what would happen **next**?

As they prepared to start, Xanthea looked up and saw Orion stepping out of the lounge, watching the race from the sidelines.

Victory was in sight!

Ori, wait for me!

"Go!"

The start signal **blared**, and the **four** dashed off like arrows from **a** bow."

Olivia sprinted ahead with all her might, her speed waning after 40 meters, but it **didn't** matter. Her real goal was **to block** Xanthea ...

The track was narrow, **and** with the high speed and their flashy athletic **gear**, it was a blur **of** motion. Amid the intense competition, **no** one noticed **Olivia** suddenly stick out her leg, **sending** Xanthea tumbling.

"Aah!!!"

Mid-sprint, Xanthea tripped and fell to her knees, sliding forward due to the momentum, clearly off the track and heading towards the sidelines until she grabbed onto something to stop herself.

The incident happened so fast that the crowd was **still** processing what **they** saw.

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Xanthea, did she just crash into Mr. Lockwood's legs?

She exhaled a sigh of relief.

Thankfully, she hadn't hit the hard track, and the soft grass had cushioned her fall. If not for something to grab onto, she could have been seriously injured.

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She wondered who had tripped her. She would definitely confront her later!

But for now, realizing what—or rather, whose legs—she was holding, she looked up and found herself face—to—face with Orion.

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Posted by AdminHR, 1231 Views, Released on May 22, 2024

Chapter 265

"Ah-"

Realizing where she was, Xanthea's eyes widened in shock, her pupils trembling. She I et out a scream more terrifying than the one when she had tripped earlier.

The live chat for Adventure Blitz: Two Days, One Night instantly filled with the most real –time comments ever.

[LOL, I can't stop laughing, this is hilarious!]

[Is this for real? How could it be such a coincidence? This is too much!]

[I declare this the most epic social fail of 2202!]

[OMG, this is beyond embarrassing, so embarrassing! I'm cringing so hard for Xanthea just watching this!]

[Did anyone see Xanthea open her mouth when she looked up? If so, did she just eat, e at...]

[Ship them! Ship them! Ship fans are freaking out, this is divine ironclad fate pulling the m together with steel cords!]

[Help, how can it be this funny? LOL, Xanthea is both tragic and hilarious, love it!]

[Oh my, this scene is too intense, I kinda want to see them just start making out right there!]

[I didn't want to ship anyone in a reality show, but it's like Cupid is forcing me!]

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The next second, Xanthea scrambled up and ran off, faster than **a** sprinter.

Orion watched her flee, his handsome face twisted with discomfort, his dark eyes unfath omably deep.

Her mouth was hot.

"Isabella and Olivia, both finish at the same time, clocking 16.77 seconds!"

"Rachel, second place, 17.01 seconds!"

Jonathan announced the final trial results, but clearly, no one cared anymore; everyone wanted to see Xanthea's aftermath, even the live cameras followed her as she ran to a large tree.

"Stop filming, please! Leave me with some decency!"

Xanthea, like an ostrich, buried her face in the tree hollow.

Oh no, she couldn't take it anymore!

That scene, kneeling in

front of Orion with her mouth open... it was too much, she might as well die of embarras sment!

"Xan, the fans on the live chat are asking if you, uh, touched it?"

The director was still cueing her, and Xanthea was both angry and embarrassed, "I touc hed..." nothing!

She choked on her own words and took a few seconds to spit them out.

[OMG, is it that thrilling? The size of Mr. Lockwood must be impressive!]

[Spread the word, Xanthea harassed Mr. Lockwood!]

[Spread the word, Xanthea needs to take responsibility for Mr. Lockwood!]

[Spread the word, Xanthea and Mr. Lockwood are getting married next month!]

"Hey? Where are Xanthea and Mr. Lockwood?"

The girls' team finished their race, oblivious to the drama.

Immersed in the shock, Nelson and Martin exchanged a knowing glance. As men, they naturally knew where Mr. Lockwood was right

now.

About ten minutes later, after being painstakingly reassured by the production team that this part would be edited out, Xanthea **finally** managed to **regain** some composure. Bu

t as soon as she returned to the group, she saw Orion approaching from a distance, his presence brooding and his desires apparently unmet.

His piercing eyes **seemed** to want **to** force her kneel again, to help him."

She shivered all over, awkwardly avoiding his gaze.

I'm sorry, it wasn't intentional, it really wasn't!

Now, I announce each contestant's final scores, and those with priority in choosing their Instructor!"

Martin first, Isabella and Olivia tied for second, Xanthea third, Considering that Olivia, Isabella, and Xanthea had mishaps in the first, second, and third assessments respectively, their scores are tied for second place. You four have the right to choose your instructors

09:53

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first, the rest will be assigned."

"What?"

Isabella and Olivia were surprised; despite their hard work, they ended up tied.

Now three of them scored the same, all wanting

Mr. Lockwood, who would undoubtedly choose Xanthea. But who would he choose for the remaining spot?

Martin: "I choose Jonathan!"

"Alright, and the ladies?"

"Mr. Lockwood!"

Isabella and Olivia chorused.

Jonathan turned to Xanthea, who now stuttered, "I also want to pick you..r."

She was meant to pick Orion

without a second thought, but after such an awkward incident, she couldn't even bear to look at him!

"What did you say?"

Before she could finish, a chilling voice from across made her immediately switch, "... y our colleague, Mr. Lockwood."

"Then three contestants want Mr. Lockwood!"

"Now, please, Mr. Lockwood, it's time for you to choose!"

Orion's gaze burned into Xanthea, making her scalp tingle as she looked down.

"Isabella and Olivia."

After he spoke, Isabella and Olivia froze, hardly believing their ears, then burst into cele brations. But before their smiles **could** last a second, he continued, "are great, but the o ne I really want is Xanthea."

Xanthea: No!

The director replied: "But according to the show rules, each instructor must choose two contestants."

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Chapter 266

"Do you mind?" Orion asked, turning to Xanthea. Xanthea was taken aback. "Mind? Of course not, why would I mind anything?"

He posed the question in front of the cameras, as if he were a boyfriend checking with h is girl before meeting another woman, trying to avoid any jealousy. It was all too blatant!

Onion continued, "Then you choose."

It was even more blatant!

Isabella and Olivia, upon hearing this, instantly changed their expressions, especially Olivia.

It took her great effort and careful planning, risking being caught on camera and the aud ience's scorn, to finally eliminate Xanthea in

this assessment.

But **in** the end, not only had her efforts come to naught, but she also found herself in the humiliating position of being chosen by her!

[Ahh I'm totally shipping this! "The one I really want is Xanthea" Mr. Lockwood is so dom inant! Oranthea is just too sweet!]

Its Mr. Lockwood going for a direct hit? Totally love it!)

I just want to lock them up and shoot a thousand episodes of a sweet romance show!]

I've never shipped a couple this much before, they are so genuine! I'm starting to worry i f they'll face real-life obstacles, considering Xanthea is a noble lady!]

[Am I the only one who thinks Mr. Lockwood is more than what he appears? I have no p roof, but he really exudes an aura of nobility!]

[+1 +1 Absolute agreement]

Xanthea looked at Isabella and Olivia.

She disliked both one was an annoying copycat she'd disliked for years, and the other w as a scheming jealous type. Most importantly, they both had designs on Onion. Could she just not choose either of them?

"Well, Mr. Lockwood, she turned to Orion, "who was ahead of me in the first 50 meters of our run?"

Olivia panicked at her question. Why would she ask that? Did she notice something?

"I didn't see."

Xanthea was puzzled. How could he not have seen? He was right there!

"I only had eyes for you.

Xanthea rolled her eyes. Stop talking!

Jonathan chimed in, "Before the 50-meter mark, Olivia was the fastest."

On?

Xanthea's lips curved into a sly smile as she looked at Olivia.

So, it was she who had tripped her. No wonder she looked so upset, having gone through all that trouble without getting to pick Orion.

Olivia, feeling exposed, avoided Xanthea's gaze.

Isabella stood there, feeling like an object being scrutinized and selected, an unbearable ordeal. Just as she was about to raise her **hand** to withdraw, she heard Xanthea say, "I choose Isabella!"

Xanthea chose her?

Wasn't she the one Xanthea always despised and looked down upon? How come......

Xanthes walked up to her with a sweet smile. "Isabella, from now on, we're teammates. Let's look out for each other, okay?"

"Sure, okay?

Isabella was stunned. She called her by her first name? She was still processing this when she heard Xanthea

whisper aside, "Don't overthank it in the land of the bind, the one eyed man is king

So, it was all an act for the cameras!

Isabella's momentary feeling of **grastude** instantly vanished.

How could she have expected Xanthes to Uuly respect her to not despise hert

Xanthea **would** always be **that arrogant** untouchable noble lady, **who** wouldn't spare b er even a glancet

Jonathan redirected his focus. Olivia, Rachel Helson which instructor do you choose

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Not getting her preferred instructor and being

publicly humiliated, Olivia was both furious and embarrassed. Clenching her fists **tightly**, she couldn't even lift her head, "Whatever," she muttered.

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Chapter 267

Five minutes later, the six contestants split into teams, and the director of the show grab bed a megaphone and announced, "Congratulations to all the trainees for eaming the a pproval of our three devil instructors. In the upcoming filming, if you face any challenges or have any requests, feel free to seek help from your instructors!"

As soon as he finished speaking, the guests, who had been roasting under the scorchin g sun for 40 minutes and gone through three rounds of rigorous assessments, were visibly parched and starving.

"Instructor, could we get some water, please?"

The show's director then added, "But that doesn't include asking instructors for food or water, or to help with your tasks!"

"Ah."

Groans filled the air; that was as good as saying nothing at all! No wonder it is Adventur e Blitz: Two Days, One Night–always pushing the guests through absolute hell!

The director then declared, "Now, we're going to play a game called Tag of War"!"

"There are six tags on this table, each bearing a secret number from 1 to 6. If you draw the tag with number 1, your tag is worth 1 point. If someone tears it off, you're out, and the person who eliminates you earns that point. The higher the number, the bigger the target on your back. Let's see who emerges victorious!"

"Doesn't that make the person who draws 6 points an easy target?" Martin spotted the k ey issue. "Like a sitting duck, right? Everyone's going to gang up on them!"

"Exactly, the higher numbers carry higher risks. Sometimes, luck is part of your strength. Now, please start drawing your tags!"

"Can I ask my instructor to draw for me?" Rachel raised her hand. "I'm notoriously unlucky."

The director nodded, "You may seek help from your instructor."

"William, could you help me out here?"

"No problem." William approached the table, hesitated for a moment, then picked the se cond tag which revealed, "3 points!"

"Not bad, thanks, Instructor!"

Rachel was quite pleased with the result. Seeing this, Nelson also asked his instructor to draw for him, ending up with 2 points and a broad grin.

The director observed, "It seems our devil instructors are quite lucky today. Four tags lef t, anyone else wants their instructor's help?" Xanthea glanced at Orion, which Isabella q uickly noticed and immediately raised her hand, "Sir, I'd like Mr. Lockwood to draw for m e!" Xanthea gritted her teeth—didn't she have hands of her own?

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Orion slowly stood, walked to the table, and revealed the tag–5 points.

Isabella's face darkened. Xanthea struggled to hold back her laughter, her shoulders shaking. Served her right for eyeing someone else's fortune!

After turning one tag, Orion didn't step back but moved towards another, "Xanthea."

"Huh?"

"Need my help?"

She hadn't even asked him, and here he was, appearing way too eager. If this keeps happening, the audience will definitely catch on!

Xanthea, anxious to distance herself from him, shook her head without a second though t.

"No, thank you! I respect you a lot, Mr. Lockwood, but it seems your luck isn't the best to day."

She used a formal address and even included the word "respect," instantly setting a cle ar boundary between them.

Orion looked at her, his eyes narrowing dangerously.

Xanthea pretended not to notice and went straight to draw her own tag.

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Chapter 268

"Il take this one."

Orion handed the tag to her, but Xanthea swiftly moved past to grab another one, "No n eed, I'll do it myself, 6, 6, 6 points?!"

Her eyes widened in disbelief at the score she had drawn.

Laughter erupted from the crowd, led by Isabella and Olivia.

"Xanthea, didn't you just say Mr. Lockwood was out of luck? Looks like yours is even wo rse!"

Xanthea frowned, thinking that drawing 6 points was bad enough, but then she saw Orion slowly reveal his tag, 1 point?!

She looked up, shocked, meeting his deep, dark eyes and understood the message the y held.

-"I just wanted to save the best for you."

"Ahhhhhhh."

Instant regret washed over Xanthea; she was almost burst to tears.

[LOL Xan, that's what you get for breaking up the ship! Breaking the ship brings bad luc k, see your karma in action!]

[Am I the only one who thinks Xan was jealous because Mr. Lockwood drew for Isabella, so she insisted on drawing herself?]

[Ahhhh, Mr. Lockwood draws

5 points for another woman, and a 1 for Xanthea. Man, your luck is really saying you're head over heels for her!]

[Xanthea's about to be ganged up on, Mr. Lockwood's gonna be heartbroken, gonna be frantic! Can't wait to see it!]

"Xanthea 6 points, Isabella 5 points, Olivia 4 points, Rachel 3 points, Nelson 2 points, M artin 1 point!"

"Let the games begin!"

As soon as the director called the start, Xanthea, with 6 points tagged on her back, was immediately

surrounded by everyone, like a rabbit caught in the midst of hungry wolves.

"Mr. Lockwood."

William, unaware of Orion's real identity, noticed his special concern for Xanthea and jo ked, "Looks like Xanthea might be the first one out. Aren't you going to help her?"

Orion glanced at the fray, "She won't."

*7"

William looked puzzled. How could she not be the first to be eliminated? She was the main target now, yet Mr. Lockwood sounded so confident?

"Everyone, calm down, it's just a game. We need strategy, not brute force."

Xanthea clutched her tag tight and edged backward, vigilantly.

"Xan, sorry, but I don't want to do this either, yet that's the game!"

"Miss, maybe you should just hand over your tag, save us the trouble. You can't fight us all."

"Just do it, why waste words?"

Olivia had been waiting for a chance to get back at Xanthea and seized the opportunity without hesitation, rushing forward to knock her down and grab her tag!

However, before she could reach her, Xanthea shouted, "Wait, you're targeting the wron g person. The first one you should be going after is Martin!"

"What? You must be joking!"

"Why would anyone bother with Martin? He's only got 1 point!"

Martin chimed in, "Yeah Xan, are you kidding me?"

"Of course not, have you forgotten? There's only one winner in this game. Who do you t hink it will be? Definitely Martin. He's an Olympic swimming champion, his stamina and persistence are beyond any of us. Even if you take me down, and then turn on each oth er, you'll still lose to him in the end. All the points you fought for will just end up making him the victor!"

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As she finished speaking, everyone was stunned for a moment, then slowly turned to lo ok at Martin. It seemed she was right! Martin, seeing everyone's gaze, started to panic, "Don't listen to her! She's just trying to avoid elimination!"

Seizing the moment, Xanthea stirred them up, "So, we need to team up while the group is still large to take him down. That's the only way **we'll** have a fair chance; otherwise, t he result is predetermined."

"Yeah, the lady's right!"

"I agree with Xan. This is a physical game, and Martin is way stronger than us. If he stays till the end, the result is a foregone conclusion!"

Isabella and Olivia, although disliked Xanthea, had to admit she had a point. Besides, they both wanted to win.

In the game, the group that was attacking Xanthea just a moment ago, instantly turned on Martin. Both the audience and live chat erupted with cries of surprise.

Orion watched the scene with a slight smile..

William was shocked. This Xanthea really has some skills. She was young, yet experien ced in using tactics and strategy!

In less than a minute, Martin's name tag was torn off. Nelson didn't even have time to c elebrate before the four girls' eyes turned to him. *A strength contest between girls and boys doesn't seem very fair, does it?"

Nelson: "?! How did I forget to apply that logic? Martin and him were in the same boat!

Soon, only the four girls were left in the name tag ripping battle.

Isabella, Olivia, and Rachel started to circle around Xanthea again.

Isabella: "Xanthea, thank you for the strategy to tear off the boys' tags first. We might ha ve lost this game without it, but this doesn't change your fate of being targeted. Drawing such a high card was your own doing, after all."

Who allowed you to be bom with the best of everything?

"Wait!"

Xanthea raised her hand, but Olivia sharply interrupted her, "Xanthea, what tricks are yo u trying to pull now? It's just the four of us left. Stop with the tactics and faimess talk, no one will believe it!"

"I wasn't going to say that. I just have always wanted to have a one—on—one battle with Isabella to show her she's not as good as me, so that she'd stop bothering me. Too bad we don't have that chance now."

"Who did you say isn't as good as you?"

Isabella flared up at her words, and Xanthea shrugged, "You.",

"You just wait! I'll battle you and show you who's really better!"

Olivia said: "Isabella, she's doing this on purpose, don't fall for her."

"Enough! Today, I'm personally going to rip her tag off! Anyone who touches her will have to deal with me first!"

Isabella, seething with rage, interrupted Olivia. Rachel was frightened by her fury and st epped back. And Olivia, furious but afraid to confront her on live camera, held her tongue.

Xanthea raised her eyebrow.

She knew it. Isabella's biggest weakness was her obsession with comparing herself to Xanthea; a direct hit every time!

Isabella, bristling with anger, charged at Xanthea. As soon as she grabbed Xanthea's s hirt, Xanthea said, "Wait, let's team up to take down Olivia and Rachel first, then we can duel."

"Why should I?" Isabella stared at her in disbelief. "Why should I listen to you?"

My Beloved Has Risen from Death's Embrace Novel CHAPTER 270

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Xanthea leaned in closer to her, a mischievous glint in her eyes. "Because if you **don't** li sten to me, I might tell everyone about your snoring during sleep!"

As she finished her words, Isabella froze, then glared furiously. "What are you talking about? Who snores in their sleep?"

"You know very well whether I'm making this up. Choose wisely—cooperate, or let your perfect image be shattered."

"Xanthea, stop threatening me. Do you really think anyone would believe your nonsense?!"

Isabella gritted her teeth in anger, while Xanthea remained cool. "Whether they believe it is up to them, but whether I say it is up to me. And I will say it when we get back!"

Say it when they get back?

A sudden realization hit Isabella, causing her to panic. "No! You better not spread rumor s when we return, especially not before O..."

She cut herself off, and Xanthea looked at her puzzled, "O what?"

"Never mind. Fine, we'll cooperate. But how do we make sure to eliminate them first?"

"Just follow my lead."

Xanthea whispered a few strategies in her ear. While Olivia and Rachel were wondering what they were discussing, Isabella suddenly held Xanthea tightly, taunting her, "Xanth ea, begging me for mercy? No chance! Olivia, Rachel, come help me! I can't tear her off by myself!"

"I knew it would come to this," said Olivia.

Olivia and Rachel immediately ran over. Just as they reached to tear off Xanthea's name tag, there was a "rip!" sound—

suddenly, Xanthea and Isabella turned around and reached behind behind their backs, t aking Olivia and Rachel completely by surprise. The broadcast announced, "Olivia OUT, Rachel OUT."

"What?"

The two stood there, as if unable to react, staring at Xanthea and Isabella in shock. Afte r a moment, Olivia finally said in disbelief, "You two teamed up to trick me?"

Her voice guivered, and her eyes were filled with extreme anger.

"All's fair in love and war, especially when it's within the rules," Xanthea smirked, casuall y spinning her tag. "Unlike some people, pulling dirty tricks in front of millions of viewers, right?"

"Don't you slander me, who played dirty?"

"Pfff. You treat the audience like fools, let's see if they'll let you get away with it."

Olivia glared at her, wishing she could tear her apart like a tag.

"Xanthea, enough talk. Let's start our duel!"

Isabella said, tossing her tag aside and walking towards Xanthea with a murderous look . Xanthea stepped back, rubbed her wrists, ready for the inevitable showdown.

But she wouldn't lose.

At the sound of the whistle, the two immediately tangled and wrestled with each other. With both burning with a fierce desire to win, this name tag duel became exceptionally i ntense and exciting, eliciting cheers from the crowd and live chat alike.

After half an hour, an exhausted Isabella was finally eliminated with a rip by an equally worn—out Xanthea, who took advantage of her longer reach.

"Isabella OUT. The final victor of the tagtearing battle is Xanthea. Congratulations on defending your tag and earning a reward of f 60 dollars!"

"Isabella OUT, the final winner of Tag of War is Xanthea. Congratulations **to** Xanthea, on defending your name tag and earning 6 points!"

[Ahhh congratulations to my Xan. She's turning the tide!]

[I didn't become a fan just for Xanthea's natural beauty, nor for the sweet moments with her and Oranthea, but now I can't **resist**! I always fall for smart and determined beautie s!]

[Xanthea is so clever, **taking** out the strongest first and then eliminating them one by on e. Totally love it!]

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