N Destiny 2081

Chapter 2081

As Elliot led Willow into their home, she was instantly wrapped in a hug by Anastasia who had promptly dashed over across the living room. Anastasia had been terrified and there was not a calm moment in her life ever since the instant she heard Willow had gone missing. Now that Willow was finally standing before her, whole and healthy, she finally stopped worrying.

"I'm fine, Mom! I'm alright." Willow hugged Anastasia back, feeling guilty about her reckless actions that led to giving her parents a scare.

"Jared and Ellen even called to ask after you. Remember to call them back later so that they'll stop worrying," Anastasia said. All these years, they had kept Willow well-protected out of fear of what might happen to her.

Willow hummed in assent before cheerfully skipping further into the living room. Elliot wrapped an arm around Anastasia and kissed her on the top of her head. "Alright now. She's finally home safe and sound. You don't have to worry anymore."

"That's true. Oh, | nearly had to be hospitalized because of my heart," she exclaimed, looking up at him. Distressed by that piece of news, he reassuringly said, "As long as | live, our family will be fine."

Anastasia snuggled into his embrace. "Okay." Willow returned to her room and called Jared to tell him she was safe. "Tell me. What exactly happened?" Jared worriedly asked.

"My savior's name is Jasper Wyatt. He works for an international organization, | encountered some trouble during the dinner and accidentally interrupted his mission, causing him to lose his target. Because of that, his enemies tried to kill him. While protecting me, he was shot in the chest. His mission target then decided to target me. | was intercepted during the journey." At that thought, she could not resist continuing, "Did you know, Jared? Those criminals were so very smart. They could actually hack into self- driving cars and make them crash into us. It felt so much like a scene from the movies."

Jared chuckled. "It sounds like you were not scared at all." "I'm not lying," she protested. She could not help but think that she was like an unlucky female lead character waiting to be saved by the male lead, Jasper.

"Okay. Well, stay away from dangerous people in the future," Jared reminded. They were all very worried for her. "I know, Jared. How is Ellen? When will my little nephew be born?"

"Soon. Probably in a few days. Mom and Dad are all packed up and ready to come back." "I'll have to head back as well then. | have to be there for the birth of my nephew. I'm going to prepare a great present for him," she happily said.

Three days later, the Presgraves flew back in their private jet to welcome the birth of the third generation in their family. The day after their flight, Willow was recovering from jet lag when she suddenly felt breathless in the middle of her sleep. It felt like something was weighing down on her chest, pressing down on it. Of course, it was not a ghost or anything supernatural. She was merely having a nightmare.

In her dream, she cried out in a plea for help, "Help me, Jasper!" The moment she called out the name, she felt a powerful energy wrap around her, saving her. Jasper had appeared in her dream. He reached out to pull her over. Surprised yet overjoyed, she reached back and allowed him to pull her closer. She then felt strong arms wrapping her in a warm and grounding embrace.

All her fear vanished into thin air. It was then that she opened her eyes. Wide awake, she looked around to find that she was only wrapped in a blanket. Jasper was nowhere to be seen.

It had all been a dream. Still, the dream she had that afternoon felt so very real that she thought it had actually happened. It felt like he had been in the room with her.

Her heart sank with oe alia Snuggled in her blanket, she o

her eyes as if she wastryi fg 3 orce her Wa ek to that dream. In the days since her rescue, this was the first time she had dreamed of him.

However, no matter how hard and long she closed her eyes, she just could not fall back 9slepp. ke bhiy thing she fat Was a sense of helplessness as the strength seeped away from her body. She slowly found her mind turning drowsy.

Ellen safely gave birth to an adorable baby weighing 15 pounds in the hospital on the third. day. Willow melted at the sight of her nephew when she visited them at the hospital. While Jared and Anastasia went to take care of Willow's sister-in-law, she followed the nurse to watch the baby get bathed and dressed.

Ethan and Josephine had also concluded their cruise trip and arrived at a charming, romantic town for their vacation. Their love for each other remained as strong as when they first met. Even though they had lost that particular memory, Josephine couldn't resist her attraction to Ethan.

They stayed at a hotel by the sea and enjoyed a carefree and liberating time together. From indulging themselves late at night to embracing each other first thing in the morning, bike rides, and boating, they spent a beautiful time: together, loving each other without constraints.

Today, they decided to ride to an estate that was the birthplace of wine. Ethan's family had investments there, and the place also had a horse stable. Ethan wanted to let Josephine have fun there for the day.

While Ethan drove the car, Josephine sat in the passenger seat and took photos. There was a scent of freedom and recklessness in the air. Three bodyguard cars followed closely behind them. Since Ethan's incident, the Quarles started spending more money on strengthening security.

The owner of the vineyard warmly welcomed their arrival. After tasting the wine, Ethan and Josephine went horseback riding together. It was Josephine's first time riding, and Ethan stayed by her side, willingly becoming her loyal companion in this equestrian adventure.

They stayed at the vineyard tonight. Under the starry night sky, they held hands and embraced each other as they lay on the fragrant grass, whispering words of love. After this trip, they would return to the Quarles Residence, as the preparations for the wedding would be underway.

A month later, they received an invitation to the Presgraves to celebrate their newborn's first month back in the country. Since Josephine. was also homesick, Ethan took her back first. The Quarles would later hold the wedding both in the country and abroad.

In a mysterious conference room, a projector displayed the image of a Glimmerdalian tycoon. entangled in an underground organization's black market arms deal. He had become the target of an international espionage agency.

"He will go to Zoravia next. That's where he will meet the seller. We must capture this person in Zoravia and expose the seller to completely cut off this illegal trade route and prevent such incidents from happening again," a man of Eastern appearance with a serious expression stated.

"To avoid alerting him, we will send an Asian team. Except for Jasper, who's better off not participating since he is still recovering from an injury-" "I'll go." A low and firm voice sounded from under the dim light.

"No, your wound hasn't fully healed. It festered last time because you didn't treat it promptly. Focus on recuperating now. Don't involve yourself in this case."

"Exactly! Boss, please leave this case to us! We promise to successfully complete it." Someone in the shadows threw down a resolute statement. "This is a case I've been involved in. | must participate."

"Jasper." The middle-aged man speaking sounded quite annoyed. Since his nephew joined the agency, there hadn't been a single time he obediently followed orders. As Jasper's superior, this was embarrassing for him.

"Boss, is there a reason you must go?" a curious voice asked. "No! It's just work," the man replied before getting up and leaving. "Has anyone noticed that something's off with Boss this time after he came back?"

"| did! You know what? | caught him daydreaming yesterday) Can Poul! believe te? Ou Boss? Daydreaming?"

"What if he was thinking about work?" "Impossible! That look in his eyes didn't seem like h was more like he was thinking about a woman." "No way! Does our boss have a crush on someone?"

"Ahem!" A light cough from the head of the table interrupted the conversation. As the on, a a motivated men. and women were revealed in the conference room. At that moment, a gaze with a hint of admiration looked in the direction of the entrance.

Chapter 2083

Back in the country. Willow had a visitor today; it was her senior who had come to see her. Willow insisted that she join her for her nephew's one-month birthday celebration before she left.

"Willow, | feel so blessed! You've taken care of everything throughout my stay here," her senior exclaimed while standing by the floor-to-ceiling windows in the presidential suite.

"No need to worry about details like that with me, Mae. You took great care of me as well when | first started in this line of work! Now it's my turn to be the gracious host," Willow replied. She had discussed it with her father, and she could stay at the hotel to spend a few days with her friend before the baby's banquet, which was still a week away.

"Mae, there's a fantastic Celonese restaurant downstairs. Let me take you there for some delicious food." "Okay, let's go!" Mae Yang agreed. She was a local, but she was curious about everything in her home country as she had grown up abroad..

Willow and Mae then arrived at the restaurant. When they were happily discussing something interesting, Willow's gaze suddenly wandered to a private room from which several people emerged one after another. The first group. consisted of a middle-aged man flanked by two tall and elegant women. Being completely oblivious to the other customers of the restaurant, they were unconcerned even when they drew the attention of everyone in the place.

Willow was also one of those people who furrowed her brows. Just as she was about to avert her gaze and pay no mind to the man, she unexpectedly caught sight of a couple walking out hand in hand from behind.

The spoon in Willow's hand slipped, falling right into her coffee cup and splashing a few drops of scalding liquid. And yet, she didn't even react. Her eyes widened as she stared at the couple who had just emerged, her gaze fixating on the man.

She knew the man. It was Jasper. She had bumped into the man she thought she would never see again in her life just half a month later at a hotel in her home country. The only difference today was that he was holding hands with a striking woman as they walked toward the restaurant's exit like a couple.

"Willow?" Mae looked at Willow in confusion as she attempted to wipe the spilled coffee off her hand with a tissue. "What are you looking at?" Without waiting for Mae to wipe the coffee away, Willow suddenly stood up in a hurry. "Mae, | need to step out for a moment. Wait for me here."

As soon as she said that, she rushed toward the entrance of the building without her purse. She noticed that the elevator doors were about to close after glancing around. "Wait!" she shouted.

Someone kindly pressed the elevator button for her, and the doors opened again. It was then that the man standing in the corner was revealed. At that moment, he was smoothing out the hair of his companion beside him. However, when his gaze fell upon the woman rushing toward them, his hand came to an abrupt stop. Even his face froze as a hint of confusion flickered in his eyes.

Willow managed to squeeze herself into the elevator cabin. She chose to stand in a direction opposite Jasper and leaned against the wall so that she could look directly at him.

Jasper glanced at her briefly before he looked. at the woman beside him. His companion also stole a glance at Willow. She keenly noticed that the beautiful woman had been fixated on the man by her side.

It was not the look of someone who has spotted an attractive guy; instead, it resembled the expression one would have when they saw someone they had feelings for. It was a mixture of surprise, disappointment, and a ton of other emotions.

Who is she? Why did she come after us? "Excuse us," one of the beautiful women whom the other man was hugging called out in a melodious voice when they reached a certain floor.

Willow stepped aside upon hearing that. However, after the three individuals left, Ja HerGrabbed his

adios han and exited as well, leaving Willow feeling flustered and at a loss as she stood in the elevator by herself.

"It really is him," Willow murmured to herself. She had ee neare

g seeiva things! tit the man was undoubtedly Jasper Wyatt.

He has a beautiful woman with him, and they are: They a room!

Chapter 2084

Willow couldn't believe the absurdity of the situation as they met again. It seems that he has a girlfriend. Sh*t! Why didn't he tell me? Willow sighed. Despite feeling moisture in her eyes, she held back her tears and pressed the button to return to the floor of the buffet restaurant.

At the same time, Aimee Hawkins, who had just entered a luxurious presidential suite, turned around to face the man beside her. "Jasper, do you know the lady who got into the elevator earlier?"

"| don't," Jasper immediately replied while he moved toward the couch and picked up his phone to start working. Aimee was still somewhat skeptical when she sat across from him and continued, "But | feel like she knows you." "She got the wrong guy, then," he answered. without looking up..

"Is that so? She's very beautiful. She feels like a refined lady from a rich family. She is not Miss Presgrave, whom you saved the other time, is she?" Aimee managed to become a member of the special force because of her sharp. instincts.

He remained silent, but she still wanted to get the most accurate answer. In the end, she smiled and commented, "I'm sure | can find out her identity if | look into the hotel's guestlist."

"That's enough. This is our mission. It has nothing to do with any unrelated person.. Regardless of who she is, it's none of my concern, Jasper warned sternly, lifting his head.

His reaction only hurt Aimee even more. So, she is the lady from the Presgrave Family! What a coincidence for us to meet her on our very first day here.

Now that Aimee had seen for herself how beautiful Willow was, she finally understood why Jasper couldn't forget Willow even after the mission had ended. Any man would be captivated by such a delicate and charming beauty.

"| should be the one telling you that, Jasper. We're here for work. Even if you come across Miss Presgrave, you mustn't jeopardize our plan or have any private contact with her," Aimee reminded him. Because I'll get jealous if you do.

Even though she hadn't won Jasper's affection, Aimee hoped that he wouldn't let any other. woman have his heart either. She understood the man well. Once he fell for someone, that person would become someone he would. never forget.

When Willow returned to the restaurant, Mae noticed the immediate change in her. Willow, who was as bubbly as could be just moments ago, now appeared to be a sorrowful maiden. "What happened, Willow?" Mae asked with concern. Willow shook her head. "Nothing. | just saw someone | know."

"Is it someone you like?" Mae couldn't help but ask upon hearing that. Willow had never told anyone that she had feelings for Jasper, but now, in response to Mae's question, she found herself nodding involuntarily. "Yes! He saved my life."

"It's okay. It's considered fate as long as you two have crossed paths. You will meet again," Mae comforted her. Willow smiled at Mae. 'Thank you for consoling me. | feel much better now."

She thought to herself that Jasper must not be here for her. He was probably on a mission. And as a special agent, he could assume any. role while carrying out his tasks. Was that woman from earlier his partner? Were they pretending to be a couple? Willow felt a sense of relief at the thought.

She truly hoped she could encounter him once more in the hotel and have a conversation with him. At the very least, it was good enough if she could know he had recovered from his injuries.

After returning to her room, Willow found herself zoning out while replaying the Jasper She was overjoyed to see him, but she also knew she couldn't disturb him while he was on a mission.

This conflicting desire to see him yet not daring to do so was truly tormenting her. Th Willow debided t coke roonieen o Jasper's. She proceeded to call the front desk, but they wouldn't disclose Jasper's room number. However, that didn't pose a problem for Willow.

The reason for that was that this was a hotel owned by the Manson Group, which also meant that this was the hotel that

such, She called his number directly. After a series of requests, Aimee managed to find out which room Jasper was staying In. Even though he had booked the room under a different name, the surveillance footage revealed his hotel room.

Chapter 2085

Nigel couldn't resist his niece's pleading, so he made an exception this one time and agreed to her request. After all, he knew her niece wouldn't do anything reckless.

That was how Willow ended up booking the room next to Jasper's. As she carried her belongings downstairs, she deliberately. glanced at the door beside her as she wondered if he was on the other side of the door.

A faint smile crept onto Willow's lips at the thought. Now that she was only a door away from him, there was nothing else she could ask for.

Little did Willow know that Jasper had already set up several hidden cameras in the corridor. At this moment, he was monitoring the movements in the corridor and naturally caught sight of her entering the room next to his.

He also noticed Willow's slightly smug expression, which clearly indicated that she had come for him. Jasper's eyes narrowed for a few seconds, seemingly with a hint of resignation. "Did you catch anything in the corridor?" Aimee walked over and asked.

"No," he replied. Dressed in a tight-fitting black outfit, Aimee couldn't help but sit down beside him. "Jasper, we have plenty of time. Let's enjoy life. together!"

As she spoke, her hand naturally moved to rest on his shoulder in an enticing manner. Jasper's gaze turned extremely cold as he glanced at her hand. However, his tone was even more chilling when he growled, "Move."

Aimee, feeling a bit annoyed, sat back opposite him. "What am | lacking, Jasper? That little lady has captured your attention today, but | don't think I'm any worse than her. Pray tell, do you prefer younger women?"

Jasper was 27, and so was Aimee. She exuded the mature charm that a woman her age should possess, and she thought that Jasper would be attracted to that. "It's work hours. We shouldn't discuss personal matters, Jasper replied with his eyebrows pulled together into a frown..

"Stop pretending. If it's about not discussing personal matters, why were you hesitant to be intimate with me in front of Miss Presgrave just now? You were clearly not in work mode." Aimee saw right through him.

Jasper remained silent upon hearing that. Just then, he caught sight of Willow leaving in the surveillance video. She had changed into a beautiful outfit and was heading toward the leisure area on the same floor. Although there was a cafe there, their target was also present -a dangerous arms dealer who had a fondness for women and enjoyed harassing any female who caught his eye..

And yet, Willow was now approaching that place. Given how beautiful she was, it could spell trouble if the arms dealer took notice of her. Jasper closed the surveillance video and turned to Aimee. "I need to go out for a while." "I'll come with."

"That's not necessary," he replied and closed his laptop before getting up and stepping out the door. Willow found it boring to stay alone in her room. Besides, she longed for a chance encounter with Jasper here. If she stayed in her room, she knew she would surely miss the opportunity. Each floor of the hotel had a leisure area where one could enjoy coffee and the scenery.

She decided to try her luck there. What if Jasper is there?! she thought excitedly. Little did she know that Jasper wasn't there, but the man had her every move under surveillance.

If Willow were to discover that she was being monitored by Jasper, she would surely feel embarrassed, After all, whowoyld wahitcve under sbmidorie else's watchful eye, especially when it was the gaze of a man she felt drawn to? What if she made a fool of herself only to have him witness it all?

As Willow entered the cafe, she scanned her surroundings with a tinge of disappointment. It seemed that Jasper. However: this far, she decided to order a cup of coffee and find a seat on her own. Meanwhile, the arms dealer, Bucky Wells, was having coffee with his two henchmen when he noticed the gorgeous beauty sitting at the opposite table.

She was unbelievably stunning, with her long hair cascading down. As a gentle breeze her it revealed a face that exuded both melancholy and icy allure. Her complexion was flawless and as delicate as a petal.

Chapter 2086

And there she was, exuding an immaculate aura and an inherent elegance that captivated even Bucky, momentarily rendering him spellbound. His two subordinates turned around to glance at Willow. When they saw through their boss' thoughts, they asked, "Mr. Wells, do you like that chick?"

"F*ck yeah. She's exactly my type," he replied, his eyes looking like that of a hunter's. "Mr. Wells, as long as you like her, | guarantee she'll be your prey tonight!"

"Good. | want her tonight." Bucky was a wealthy businessman. With his money, he could make his subordinates do anything for him. Since the boss had chosen his target, the two henchmen were determined to deliver the boss' prey to his room.

And so, someone secretly snapped pictures of Willow with their phone. After taking a few front-facing shots, they exchanged a knowing glance. They were determined to get her at any cost tonight.

At that very moment, Jasper appeared at the entrance of the restaurant. Dressed impeccably in a tailored suit, he possessed a good physique-slim when clothed but fit when naked.

Willow was lost in her thoughts when she suddenly heard a familiar male voice ordering. Surprised, she turned her head, and her heart promptly skipped a beat. Heavens! She had actually bumped into Jasper, who had also arrived. Willow quickly composed herself, hoping to create a fortuitous encounter.

However, just as she was about to wave Jasper over to join her, she realized that he had completely ignored her. Instead, he elegantly sipped his coffee and paid her no attention. The contrast between Willow's expectations and reality hit her hard. Did he really not see me, or is he choosing not to see me?

At that moment, Willow's phone chimed as she had received a message. Even though she was not in the mood to check the message, she still glanced at it and saw the words, 'I can't meet you right now.'

Aglimmer of joy sparkled in Willow's beautiful eyes as she looked across at the man opposite her, holding the very phone that he had sent her the message with. 'How did you get my phone number? Willow asked him.

'| have my ways, the man wrote back. She paused for a moment, almost forgetting that Jasper was an international secret agent with the ability to disable an entire surveillance system. 'So, are you working right now? Is that woman who was with you earlier your colleague or your girlfriend? Willow started chatting with him on the phone.

'Colleague,' he replied. The corners of Willow's mouth curled up. It looks like I'm right! How could an insensitive guy like him possibly have a girlfriend? Ha! She felt delighted and, with her chin resting on her hand, she stared at the man.

As she continued to gaze, a message notification interrupted her. She couldn't help but glance at the message. 'Stop staring at me." A blush crept up on Willow's cheeks. Does he think I'm infatuated with him?

'Is ita crime to look at you? Indeed, she felt a bit indignant. This man never held back on embarrassing her. 'No more looking, he commanded. Because his target was still present, Jasper couldn't stay here for too long, nor could he let the target know that he knew Willow.

'Leave the cafe quickly and return to your room. Don't come out unless necessary, he warned. Upon reading this warning, Willow retorted, 'Can we stay in touch anytime?'

Even if they couldn't meet, they could still chat through messages. 'Yes.' He gave a short answer. fanchi at this m eat was Yoh rT to leave as sboh'as possible. A smile appeared on the corners of Willow's lips when she saw the message. Soon, Jasper urged her, 'Hurry up and go back to your room!

It was only then that Willow got up and left, unaware that her departure was being eee e ed b wore whose es were fixe n her like thade of predators. Jasper didn't notice that as he had his back turned to them, but after Willow left, he pretended to answer a phone call and left as well.

Back in her room, Willow couldn't help but lie on the bed with a happy

finally stay in touch with him.

Chapter 2087

Aimee was sitting in front of her computer when Jasper returned to the room. She looked up at the man who had just come in and asked, "Where did you go?" "Nowhere important, Jasper replied as he made his way to his room.

She couldn't help but follow him. "Jasper, we are partners. You can't keep anything from me, or we won't be able to work together." "Aimee, just focus on your own tasks." Jasper then closed the door behind him.

Aimee couldn't stop her chest from rising and falling from anger for a moment. She had been selected as an international agent and was an exceptional young woman. However, she couldn't ignore her feelings for Jasper. She had tried repeatedly to restrain herself, and yet, she couldn't help but pay attention to him.

Her heart wouldn't calm down whenever they were together. It wasn't as chaotic when Jasper was fully focused on his work before, but ever since she heard that he had been acting absent-minded after his return to the team, her heart had become restless.

It was because Willow had entered his heart. Jasper having someone he was interested in was making Aimee feel as if something had set her sights on had been stolen from her.

It felt like sh*t. But she also knew that Willow was not just an ordinary woman. After all, Willow Presgrave did come from a formidable family. As such, Aimee hoped that Willow wouldn't set her heart on Jasper. With her family and background, she could find someone better.

Meanwhile, in the adjacent room, Willow held onto her phone without putting it down. She was trying her best to stop herself from sending a message to Jasper.

However, she was having a tough time holding it in. She had typed out several messages, but she ended up being too timid to send any of them lest she disturbed his work.

Forget it! I'll just find something else to do! How about going shopping with Mae? Since she gave me a purse last time, I'll accompany her to choose some gifts! Willow then made plans with Mae, who gladly accepted. The two of them quickly agreed to meet at the entrance of the lobby.

Aman was leaning against the wall, engrossed in a game, when Willow walked out and stood by the elevator. As soon as he saw Willow, he quickly closed the game interface and sent a message to his partner. The target is out. I'll follow her, and you come later.

When Willow entered the elevator, the man hurriedly approached her and apologized. "Oh, excuse me. I'm heading down as well." Willow flashed him an unguarded smile and continued to message Mae. "I'm coming down. My bodyguards' car is at the entrance."

Willow and Mae only got into the car and left after they met up in the lobby. Behind them, a black SUV followed closely. Although they noticed Willow had a bodyguard with her, they took the risk of kidnapping this beautiful woman as a tribute in order to please their boss. As individuals who were involved in international high-stakes matters, they were not afraid of any consequences.

Meanwhile, Jasper was in his room on his computer when a sudden whimsical thought prompted him to open a document. He clicked on today's surveillance footage and fast- forwarded to the part where Willow left her room. He watched as she walked out, lingered for a few seconds in front of his door, and stared at the door before she headed toward the cafe.

Jasper's gaze remained fixed on Willow even after she went into the cafe. He observed her standing at the service counter, ordering coffee, and choosing a seat. Even without any filters, she exuded a timeless elegance that captivated him. Her every move reflected the demeanor of a refined lady.

At that moment, Jasper noticed a pair of eyes in the footage, staring at Willow as a predator would. Jasper's sharp e brows- Was his target, Bucky. Bucky stared at Willow intensely, his gaze akin to that of a wolf, while conversing with his henchmen. His expression revealed a touch of obscenity.

Jasper quickly turned up the volume and put on his earphones is stento Bucky ape hig hesichnteh: e oveltleard Bucky saying, "Good. 1 want her tonight."

Quickly, Jasper increased the playback speed. and looked closely through the footaga\Aerxpected he sawon F Bucky's henchmen waiting for Willow at the elevator entrance.

Chapter 2088

Jasper felt nervous because Willow left the hotel fifteen minutes ago, and Bucky's men had already begun following her. Without hesitation, he closed his laptop and immediately grabbed his gear before leaving.

Meanwhile, Aimee was in the hall when she saw Jasper and quickly asked, "Jasper, where are you going?" "I'm heading out to follow Bucky's men. Once he finished saying that, he was already out the door.

Jasper had already inserted a tracker inside the phone belonging to one of Bucky's men, so he quickly tracked that person's current location. At that point, a black SUV sped out of the underground parking lot. Seeing that the target was currently ina shopping mall, he guessed Willow must also be there.

In the meantime, Willow was shopping with Mae. The two were having a great time, choosing clothes and bags for each other. They had bodyguards following them all the time, but not far away, two fierce-looking men were plotting to kidnap Willow. "Willow, you're giving me too much. Let's find somewhere to have a tea break!"

"Sure!" Willow knew there was a nice cafe on the third floor. When the two entered the elevator, their bodyguards followed them, but one of Bucky's men also entered the elevator. That man was responsible for following Willow, while the other took another path because she had seen him before.

Just as the group entered the cafe, someone entered the first-floor elevator in the lobby. He was wearing a gray sweatshirt with a hood and had a tall, muscular figure. His cap covered his forehead and eyes, revealing only his defined nose, sensual lips, and a perfect-looking jawline. His phone flashed a signal, indicating the target was less than twenty meters away.

Jasper had arrived. He looked in the direction of the signal and saw one of Bucky's men standing by a pillar, seeming to be waiting for someone. Then, Jasper looked in the direction. the man was looking in and noticed a cafe. When he arrived at the cafe, a waitress enthusiastically welcomed him. "Sir, how may | "I'm looking for someone," he replied.

The waitress looked up at the customer, and her eyes instantly widened. God! He's so handsome. 'Okay. Please come in." She dared not stop the man.

Jasper swept his gaze across the room and immediately noticed the young woman by the window. Willow and Mae were currently chatting while enjoying their food, and the former had no idea that danger was nearby.

However, Bucky's men had thought of an intricate but nasty plan, which was to find a power supply and install a time bomb there. The bomb was not very powerful, but it could cause everyone in the shopping mall to panic and run away. That way, they could easily kidnap Willow during the chaos.

When the five-minute countdown was finally up, a room on the left side of the third floor suddenly exploded, shocking everyone in the shopping mall. That was followed by every electronic device malfunctioning. The scene was utter chaos.

Willow and Mae held each other's hand while sprinting toward the cafe's entrance. At this moment, groups of people instantly crowded the already densely populated third floor. The bodyguards waiting for Willow outside the entrance were pushed to the side by the crowd. "Miss Presgrave? Miss Presgrave!"

"Malcolm..." Willow saw her bodyguard but could not do anything because the crowd was pushing her forward. At that moment, Mae, who was holding on to her, was also pushed forward. "Willow!"

"Mae!" When Willow was about to chase after Mae, she was suddenly pushed to the ground. At that m moment, a fin arm grabbed' waist. The man took off his coat and tightly covered her entire figure. Then, while everyone was moving in the direction of the elevators and stairs, Willow was brought into a secluded hallway.

"Who are you? Let go of me!" Willow was shocked and frantic because the coat on her head rendered her to see a strong her waist, forcefully leading her away, and just as she was frantically pulling on the clothing on her head, she heard a deep male voice.

Chapter 2089

"It's me." Hearing that voice made Willow stop struggling, and she willingly followed him. When she felt a wall behind her back, she quickly removed the clothing on her head and stared at her savior in

disbelief. "It's you?" The surprised woman looked at the man before.her, wondering why he was there. "Why are you...

She happily asked, but halfway through her question, Jasper covered her lips with his palm, stopping her from speaking. That was because he sensed someone approaching them. Since they were in a corner, she could feel him moving closer and leaning against her, rendering her no choice but gulp.

At this point, both were closely leaning against each other, and she even felt a little breathless from the pressure on her chest. However, she obediently complied and stayed quiet. She knew there was danger wherever this man was, and the explosion from earlier was no simple matter. What's going on?

Meanwhile, Jasper narrowed his eyes and waited for the frantic footsteps to disappear before looking at the woman in his arms. When he did, he noticed her blushing cheeks and the faint shyness in her sparkling eyes.

Suddenly, Willow's phone rang, startling her. She quickly took it out and saw it was Mae calling her. Before she could answer the call, the man took it away and switched it to silent mode.

"Follow me." Once he said that, he grabbed her hand and led her to the back of the cafe. There were usually service elevators at those places.

Willow followed him, taking twists and turns while making their way to the hallway behind the kitchen. Despite her situation, she was happy because that man always appeared whenever she was in danger. How could a woman like her not fall for him? This was simply a scene that would only appear in her dreams!

In the meantime, Jasper accurately analyzed their route with just a look and quickly brought her toward the service elevator. At that moment, many were waiting for the elevator as well. Though the shopping mall had lost power, the elevators had a backup power supply, so they were still working.

When he saw the crowd, he decided against taking the elevator with Willow. He led her away, and she willingly followed. While walking along the mall's hallway, she noticed she had never been to these places. Still, she was not in the mood to look around because her eyes were focused on the man before her.

However, the two men planning on kidnapping Willow were chasing after them. They had stuck a tracking device on her backpack when they passed by her long before. However, they did not expect the young woman to flee so quickly among the chaotic crowd.

Jasper and Willow arrived at the entrance to the stairs, and while he was leading her down, he frowned upon hearing footsteps from above them. Since he had quite an accurate sixth sense, he had a hunch that someone was following them. Are Bucky's men still on our trail?

Suddenly remembering that those men were not ordinary, he believed they would find a way to keep their target in sight no matter what. Then, he immediately pulled Willow closer. With his strength, he tugged her straight into his embrace. Following that, she felt a large hand moving from her neck to her clothes. Her eyes. widened slightly as the man examined her hair and even her hands.

Nonetheless, Willow did not make a sound and allowed him to check her body. Soon, the man. took her bag and scrutinized it, ultimately finding a tracking device stuck under it. It was as small as a grain of rice, so it was easily undetectable. Jasper quickly took the device off and opened the second-floor door before tossing it through. Afterward, he continued to lead her downstairs.

In the meantime, the woman stayed quiet as she followed him to an exit at the back of the prilding where she sawia crowd, along with police officers and firefighters who arrived at the scene right after the explosion.

She followed the man until he opened a car door and pushed Ker

inside Getting in too.

Chapter 2090

"What's going on?" asked Willow curiously. Turning to face her, Jasper looked at her and replied, "Willow, don't return to the hotel and go. home to your parents. You've been targeted by a bad guy." Dumbfounded, she blinked her eyes, asking, "Who's targeting me?"

"The explosion at the mall was staged to cause chaos so they could kidnap you. Those kidnappers are hired by a rich businessman who has taken a fancy to you, so it's no longer safe for you to stay at the hotel." He warned her, hoping she would protect herself.

Gulping, Willow did not expect she would get involved in such an unwarranted situation. "So, you rushed here to save me?" she asked. Jasper nodded. "I found the time to come here, but | still have to complete my mission and can't protect you."

Feeling a warm feeling enveloping her, she said, "You're protecting me now!" "This is the only time | will. | don't have the time and effort to protect an outsider." His gaze turned cold.

His words were like a bucket of cold water poured onto Willow's warm heart. She pursed her lips. "I'm sorry that | caused you so much trouble." When he started the car, she asked, "Are you going to send me home?"

Jasper remained quiet, but the car headed for the city center and finally arrived at the entrance of Presgrave Group. Then, he ordered, "Get out."

Hearing that, she felt hurt and turned to face him. "If saving me makes things so difficult for you, don't come to my rescue again. | don't want to take up your time."

Once she finished, she got out of the car but took a wrong step and tripped. While sitting on the step, she looked at a particular someone. However, she did not notice that when she fell, the man had instinctively reached out his hand to help her but was too far away, so he could only watch as she plunged to the floor.

"You should leave! Goodbye, Jasper." Willow was somewhat furious and added, "No, let's not meet each other ever again." Listening to her childish retort, he snorted. "Stay with your parents, and don't wander around then." With that, the man sped away and soon disappeared into the crowd of cars.

It was then that Willow's eyes reddened as she felt wronged. Although he had saved her, he did it unwillingly! Taking out her phone, she saw Mae, her bodyguards, and her parents had called her dozens of times, so she phoned her father first. "Willy, where are you? Are you hurt?"

"Dad, I'm fine. I'm currently in our company's lobby! I'm about to head upstairs to look for Jared."
"That's great." Elliot felt relieved. He had just received a call from Malcolm, the bodyguard, mentioning the incident at the shopping mall and that he had lost Willow in the crowd.

"| need to call my friend. Let's talk later, Dad." After she said that, she hung up and called Mae, who soon answered her call. Mae was still looking for Willow outside the mall!

"Mae, you should return to the hotel first! I'm currently with Jared. Let's keep in touch." "Sure! Take care of yourself." After their phone call ended, Willow limped up the stairs and headed toward the lobby.

Meanwhile, Elliot had already taken the elevator downstairs to get her. When he saw she had injured her leg, he felt heartbroken and supported her. "How did you get into this. state?"

"It's a long story." She smiled helplessly. The pain in her leq-was fine, but the stuffihddstin her heart would not disappear anytime soon. Back at the hotel.

Jasper turned on his laptop to see if Bucky's men had returned and eventually discovered they had. Inside the video, t MC) mérO a8) speinedristtated, undoubtedly because they had failed their mission and could not deliver what was asked of them. However, he let out a slight sigh. If he had not discovered Willow was followed, she might have already been kidnapped by then.