N Destiny 2131

Chapter 2131

He was hyper aware of her chest resting on his arm. Jasper carefully turned to his side to sleep. Willow had her head resting against his arm, and she was sleeping like a child. Jasper could still see her clearly, and a smile curled his lips. It was his first time seeing a girl sleeping so soundly. He was almost envious of her sleep quality.

Silence slowly took over as the team members fell asleep as well. Jasper quietly tucked Willow in and made sure the blanket clung to her and kept her warm. After that, he came out of the tent. The bodyguards were also patrolling as well, and they gave him a look of approval.

They too used to be in the military, so they knew Jasper was a reliable man, and a powerful one at that too. "I'll check the perimeter, Jasper muttered. A bodyguard handed him a coat. "Take this."

Jasper took it, draped the coat over himself, and went patrolling. Now, the bodyguards could finally rest.

Willow slept soundly, the blanket keeping Jasper's warmth alive for her. When she woke up, the sun was already shining brightly, so brightly that she opened her eyes. She then looked around and noticed the lack of a certain. man called Jasper. Willow touched her lips. Wonder if | drooled.

She came out and saw Jasper by the beach. Johanna came up to Willow with some water to wash her face and a bit of warm water for her to drink. "Had a good night's sleep?" Johanna asked.

"That | did." Willow smiled. Her skin glistened under the sun, her eyes brimming with life. Obviously, she had a good night's sleep.

Everyone had their breakfast, and it was only seven in the morning. Winston made some arrangements, and the team started exploring the island to see if they could find anything pertaining to the ancient ship. Archeology was a delicate art. They could rely on modern equipment for their expeditions, but they still needed human touch for their work.

Jasper and Willow were a team, and everyone else had bodyguards with them while they searched the mountains. Johanna was taking care of Willow as best as she could. At this point, she was more like a

nanny. The bodyguard made sure Willow was fed and not thirsty. Whenever she sweated, Johanna would wipe it away. She also made sure the sun wasn't burning Willow.

Jasper saw everything. Boy, her family really takes care of her. They might support her endeavor, but they're taking all the steps. necessary to keep her safe.

Everyone climbed up a hill. Should Willow falter, Jasper would hold her hand or just pick her up and go through the hurdle. Thanks to him, Willow reached the top of the hill easily.

"Oh, there's a cave. Let's check it out," said Winston as he happily went ahead. Willow followed as well. Archeology done in this manner would mean a considerable time and energy investment, but if they could find an artifact, it would well be worth it.

Winston stopped in front of the cave. He noticed a big freshwater pond lying underneath the cave, and there were a lot of little caverns around it. "The pond is about sixteen feet deep, but the boulders around the pond seem ancient. This is a rare find. If someone had found it before us, they would have left some evidence."

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"Let's check it out." "Gather the team members. We need to investigate the

Chapter 2132

"| found something. Look at this. It doesn't seem like anything modern." A member noticed some copper items around the pond.

Winston went over and picked it up. "Looks like something between the tenth and thirteenth century. Our guess is right on the money. The trade ships did pass this area and left a mark."

That raised everyone's morale. This finding alone was monumental for them, and they had more vigor to search the place now. The discovery came quickly, but it was welcome. A while later, another member fished out some shards from the pond as well. This proved one thing: the fleet must've stopped at these islands, and the sailors must've stayed near the pond.

The team worked until dusk before they went back to their camp. Jasper took Willow back up, of course. All the other ladies had to climb the ropes and get their hands burned a little, but Willow didn't have to.

Everyone came back to the camp and talked about their discovery with vigor. A big tent with glow-in-the-dark stars stuck to the roof was set up so everyone could take a break and get into a discussion there. They even brought out some alcohol to celebrate, though everyone. only had a little to help them sleep. Willow saw that her favorite red wine was available, so she asked for a glass.

"To a smooth expedition. Cheers. Winston stood up and raised his glass, then everyone did the same and drank their concoction. Willow took a sip and looked at Jasper, who had taken a seat on the chair outside.

She asked him to join them, but he didn't. Everyone was relaxed, but it was all the more reason for Jasper to be on guard. He was in charge of everyone's safety, and he was a more cautious person, to begin with.

From time to time, Jasper would look at Willow, who was having fun with the team, and tenderness would appear in his eyes. Every smile, every gesture, and every glance she threw his way was enough to comfort his lonely heart.

Willow didn't watch how much she was drinking, and she downed two glasses of wine. After that, she approached Jasper and handed him a bottle of water. "Why didn't you join us for a drink?"

"| don't like to drink." Jasper took the bottle, opened it up, and finished half of the water. Willow sat beside him and requested the bottle. He handed it over, and she drank from the same place Jasper did, not caring that his lips had touched the bottle. Jasper looked at her, his eyes glinting, and at hint of delight flared in his heart.

"What a happy day. We discovered clues faster than we thought we would. It means we must be really close to the thing we're trying to find, said Willow happily.

"Congrats." Jasper was happy for her. Willow's eyes were filled with excitement and a misty look, no doubt elicited by the alcohol. She rested her chin on her hand and looked at Jasper. "I'm so happy | get to see the moon, the stars, and the sea with you. What an honor."

She didn't say she liked him outright, but her sentiments were proof enough that she really liked his company. Jasper looked at her in silence.

"This is going to be a great memory for us," said Willow. The guys at the grill came to her with a plate of grilled meat and greens. She never had this kind of food at home, for her father would not allow it. Her eyes twinkled. "Smells nice." She picked up a kebab and handed it to Jasper. "Dig in."

Jasper took it and munched on it as they gazed. at the moon. Willow

picked up a pork be Yate Weld

gulped REYNE SI b Ope thought they Were a bit too greasy. She never

liked the fattier slices of meat, but she didn't want to waste food, so she asked, "| don't like fatty slices of meat. Do you want them?"

She could have tossed the skewer away, but she didn't. Jasper looked at her and took the F608) then it. Willow thought it was sweet and she smiled at him. "You don't seem to mind that it's half-eaten by me."

Chapter 2133

Jasper looked at him. "Wasting food is bad." Willow chuckled. 'So, you'll eat any leftovers?"

Jasper answered, "Only yours." Willow felt a little accomplished seeing that he wasn't averse to eating her leftovers. She picked up a vegetable skewer and bit down on it. | love this feeling.

While everyone was taking a break, Yosemite feigned exhaustion. 'Man, my back hurts. I'm exhausted. | have to lie down." "Get some rest, Yosemite," a lady said.

Yosemite pretended to be drunk and wobbled as he got up. Another team member held him, but he waved them down and shuffled toward his tent. The moment he got into his tent, the dazed look in his

eyes disappeared. The spy whipped out his laptop and plugged in a portable Wi-Fi device, then he logged into his account and saw a few messages for him.

He sent the correspondent some photos of the copper item shards. They were online too, and they texted, 'Looks like something between the tenth and thirteenth century. Guess you found the right place."

'Our guess is that the fleet probably had a short stay here, but we're not sure if this is where the shipwreck is, Yosemite said. He wasn't even keeping any secrets. 'Is that so? But with this discovery, you'll be finding more clues soon. I'll be sending my men over. Keep us updated at all times.

'I-I don't think that's a good idea. Yosemite was shocked. He thought he would just have to give them updates, but now they wanted to send a team over?

'This pertains to the search for an artifact. If anything goes wrong, we might come home without a single shard of the item. Moreover, you're out on the open sea. It belongs to no nation. If we get there first, we have the right to take everything for ourselves.

"You won't hurt us, will you?' Yosemite quickly asked. 'We won't hurt you, of course, but if any of your team members try to stop us, well, | make no guarantees, said the correspondent. It was at thinly veiled threat.

Yosemite shivered. He knew this guy was an antique smuggler, but he didn't know he had the mafia backing him up. Scared, he quickly shut his laptop, his mind plunged into chaos. After all, he was still one of the nation's archeologists. All he wanted was to make some quick cash, but now he had a feeling her just got involved with someone he should never cross.

He smacked the back of his head, regretting his actions, but it was too late. He had told them their location. Regret wouldn't stop them from trying to take the artifact for themselves.

No one in the team had realized that their tracks were leaked, not even Willow. A while later, everyone was starting to get sleepy, including Willow who yawned. Her eyelids were starting to droop, and she leaned on Jasper. "I'm going into the tent. Don't stay out too late. | can't sleep without you by my side."

Jasper was amused. She's getting dependent on me. "Sure, I'll be there in a minute." But it feels good to be needed. Fifteen minutes later, Jasper went back to the ship and took a shower, then he came back and unzipped the tent's entrance. He was met with a fast-asleep Willow. He let out an annoyed sigh. Thought you couldn't sleep without me.

Still, with the bodyguards standing sentry, he could have a good night's sleep. Jasper snuggled into his spot and rested his head on his arm. Feeling his presence, Willow rolled over, and Jasper pulled her into his embrace so she could rest her head on his arm.

In no time, Willow was holding him

like a pillow once

Chapter 2134

At this moment, Willow's leg directly pressed against Jasper's crotch. As he drew a deep breath, his lingering drowsiness was dispelled by her unexpected actions. Yet, with each sigh that escaped his lips, he held onto the hope that, in due time, she might retract her leg from his body. His intuition proved correct. As she lay there, she sensed an uneasy presence brushing against her calf, prompting her to roll onto her side.

With a deep exhale of relief, he felt a soothing comfort wash over him. Then, he drew her into a tender embrace, their bodies fitting together like a perfectly arched bow. Unexpectedly, she turned her head again, ending up face-to-face with him.

Their faces hovered mere inches apart, and a delicate exhale from Willow grazed Jasper's jawline as her cheek gently met his profile. Hence, he closed his eyes and felt helpless at this moment. However, she thought that this position was uncomfortable, so she turned her back to him, and her bottom ended up directly against his sensitive area, snugly fitting on it.

His once placid breath now quickened as if caught in a race against time. Does she know how to sleep? She changed her sleeping position five times in just a few minutes.

It wasn't entirely Willow's fault, for she was used to sleeping on a top-of-the-line mattress worth hundreds of thousands. Now, she had to sleep on a hard mat, so how could she be comfortable? Naturally, she kept searching for a comfortable sleeping position.

Feeling helpless, Jasper decided to sleep on the boat instead. As he was about to get up, a slender arm wrapped around his neck, making him lean down. A warm and alluring face drew near in that fleeting moment, and her ruby lips teasingly grazed the corner of his lips. As this gentle caress graced him, an electrifying wave of sensation surged through his entire being, enveloping him in a tingling euphoria.

With their breaths so close, she felt a tickle at her nose, so she softly nuzzled against his face. In this tender moment, she exuded the enchanting allure of a coquettish cat, rendering him utterly defenseless.

At this instant, Jasper's remarkable endurance and self-control saved him from surrendering to: the tempting urge to kiss Willow. Then, with a gentle whisper, he implored, "Willow, sleep properly."

In that instant, her eyes fluttered open, and her surprise was evident in the hazy glint that met the sight of the handsome face hovering nearby. She blinked and quickly withdrew her arm around his neck, instinctively creating a bit of space between them..

Under the soft glow of the dim moonlight, their eyes met, and at that moment, her cheeks flushed with a mix of emotions. She couldn't help but wonder, What did | just do to him? "Get some sleep. I'll go out for some fresh air," Jasper whispered before leaving.

Yet, the thought of letting him go was inconceivable. The mere idea of being awake at this hour without him by her side filled Willow with genuine fear. Thus, she summoned her courage and gently pressed her hands against his chest, firmly pinning him down.

Amidst the darkness, he found himself helplessly overpowered by her, his back firmly pinned to the mat. The dim lighting couldn't hide the unmistakable surprise that flickered in his eyes. Only in that fleeting moment, after a subtle blink, she fully grasped the unintended consequences of her actions upon him.

Feeling awkward, Willow.didn't know whether to get up or continue to press Jasper down. Her exquisitely beautiful, tiny face hovered just at breath away from his, and her eyes glimmered, revealing a smile she couldn't conceal. Suddenly, her long hair cascaded provocatively on his chest, caressing his skin with the grace of a feather, evoking a delightful flutter in his heart. Amidst a throaty whisper, he entreated, "Go to sleep."

In a soft, mumbled voice, she confessed, "! can't." Her plea

Chapter 2135

On a whim, Willow touched Jasper's forehead, detecting a subtle warmth that piqued her concern. Leaning closer, she inquired with at hint of worry, "You're so warm. Are you sick?" Sick? It's all because of you. "No, it's just too stuffy here, he murmured, trying not to blame anyone or anything.

Then, she extended her hand again to cautiously gauge his forehead's temperature. Right. He's not running a fever. He's just sweating. "You should go outside for some fresh air, she suggested, not wanting him to feel uncomfortable.

Willow's words had an instant effect, propelling Jasper to his feet, and he walked out. With his departure came a gust of cold air, but undeterred, she swiftly claimed his vacated place, basking in the lingering warmth he had left behind.

When he stepped outside, a sudden gust of icy wind embraced him. Suddenly, his keen eyes caught sight of a boat emerging from the misty sea, steadily drawing closer to the island. In ant instant, he darted back to the equipment. storage, grabbed the binoculars, and eagerly. trained them on the approaching vessel. Sure enough, it was heading straight for the same: island he now stood upon..

His face creased with concern, and he hurriedly approached Winston's tent, saying, "There's a boat approaching. Wake everyone up." There's urgency in his voice.

Then, Winston cast off his drowsiness and sprang to his feet. As anticipated, he spotted the flickering of distant boat lights and wasted no time rousing his fellow team members. At the sound of the commotion, Willow emerged from her tent, too, curious to know what was going on. A female team member informed her, "There's a strange boat approaching. The captain wants us all to wake up."

Willow was startled upon hearing this, and questions whirled in her mind. Why would there be a boat coming here? Could it be a pirate ship?

"What kind of boat is it? Is it a pirate ship?" a female team member asked nervously. "Don't worry. My bodyguards will ensure everyone's safety," Willow reassured with at gentle smile. After saying this, she approached Jasper, who reached out and pulled her protectively behind him..

"Stand behind me," he whispered in a gentle. hush. No matter the circumstance, he vowed to shield her above all else. Instantly, she felt loved, and she obediently stood behind him. Her eyes alighted upon the binoculars he held, and she couldn't resist extending her hand to grab it. While peeking out from her shelter behind him, she brought the binoculars to her eyes to observe the approaching boat. As her gaze swept across the deck, a mysterious figure caught her attention, standing tall and waving in their direction. Intrigued, she hastily brought the binoculars to her eyes, and her beautiful orbs widened with astonishment. "Tommy?"

Jasper's attention shifted to her, his eyes searching for answers as he inquired, "Do you know him?" A tranquil exhale of relief escaped Willow's lips as she responded, "He's the persistent suitor who never gives up."

As her words reached Winston's ears, relief washed over him. "Are you sure you know the person on the boat? We have nothing to fear as long as they harbor no ill intentions toward us."

"| know him, but | don't know how he found his way here." Jasper's eyes narrowed as he fixated on the boat. Is this man the pursuer that goes after Willow?

After a mere 20 minutes, the boat finally docked, and a man emerged from the deck, overflowing with excitement. It was Tommy Donovan, the affluent heir who had ardently pursued Willow for a relentless three years, undeterred by her steadfast refusals.

"Willow, it's really you! | thought my information was wrong. Haha. | finally found you," he exclaimed happily as he approached. With warm enthusiasm, he turned to greet the rest of the team members. "Hello, everyone. I'm Willow's friend, so you don't need to be afraid."

As he approached her, a mere three feet. separating them, a sudden presence loomed tall, infereosinig \ eee wétti nds. An urge to gently push the obstructing figure aside arose within him. "Hey, move out of the way. I'm saying hello to my friend."

However, as Tommy confidently anticipated the person would yield with a slight push, he was. taken aback when the Ue ona

U surged, and he looked up to confront the obstruction. To his astonishment, he was momentarily dumbfounded. Why is there such a handsome man beside Willow? His appearance threatens mine; his physique is better, and his aura is stronger.

"Who are you? Who is this guy, Willow?" he inquired, senate rough. his

Chapter 2136

"Tommy, what are you doing here in the middle of the night?" Willow's irritation was palpable, for her team members had been roused from their slumber, the tranquility shattered by the man's unexpected presence.

At her words, Tommy immediately looked somewhat aggrieved. "I came because | was worried about you. Look, | brought a boatload of supplies for you. I've got whatever you need. | even brought a chef and bodyguards to protect you."

She gazed at him in stunned silence, her words caught in her throat. "I don't need them, thank you. Now please leave and don't interfere with my work."

"| came all this way. How can you just ask me to leave so easily? | promise not to affect your work. Just treat me as an invisible person or even air." Then, he walked past Jasper and looked at Willow pleadingly. "Willow, please don't chase me away. You have no idea how hard it was for me to catch up to you."

As she pondered the situation, she realized that chasing him away would only be futile and a wasted effort. Ultimately, she reluctantly allowed him to stay because he brought the essential supplies they desperately needed. "Alright, since you're here, you can stay," she conceded. What's more, he arrived with a contingent of formidable bodyguards. Should we encounter any pirate ships, their presence alone would be enough to strike fear into those pirates.

At this moment, Jasper looked at Willow with an indescribable gaze while Tommy was overjoyed. "I knew you wouldn't chase me away." She then turned to Winston and said, "Gather everyone and ask them to return to rest. There's no need to panic."

"Alright. | was worried about sending someone for supplies, but now that your friend has brought them, we can rest assured." After saying this, he gathered everyone and asked them to return to sleep while leaving a few on guard around the perimeter.

"Willow, where will you sleep?" As Tommy laid eyes upon the inviting tents, a surge of hope washed over him, envisioning a warm welcome and a space reserved just for him. "It's too late tonight, Tommy. You and your people can sleep on the boat," she said.

"It's okay. I'm not tired. I'll stay here and keep watch for you." His heart fluttered with such intense excitement that sleep eluded him. The anticipation of the impending journey, where he could finally be by her side day and night, consumed his every thought. It will surely be romantic, and we can leave many beautiful memories.

With a few strides, Willow distanced herself from the crowd, and like a shadow, Jasper trailed behind. Unexpectedly, he gently clasped her wrist, wordlessly guiding her to a serene boulder at the edge.

Dazed for a moment, she eventually acquiesced and trailed behind him. In hushed tones, he urged her, "Chase him away. We don't need any extra people here."

"He's my friend, and it's too late tonight. I'll persuade him to leave in the morning," she replied, her eyes lifting to meet him. After hearing Willow's reply, Jasper sighed inexplicably as he uttered, "Okay. They must leave tomorrow morning."

In a moment of revelation, her eyes sparkled with intrigue, and she leaned in closer, whispering, "Are you jealous?"

In an instant, a faint blush danced across his handsome features, revealing a fleeting moment of embarrassment. He quickly averted his gaze, mustering a soft-spoken reply, "No."

Her eyes widened with surprise as she blinked, and then she couldn't resist asking again, "Really?" This time, a deafening silence followed, broken) only by the sudden appearance of Tommy. Curious, he turned to Willow and asked, "What are you two talking about?" With a serene smile, she uttered, "Nothing." Then, curiosity sparkled in her eyes as she inquired, "How did you manage to locate me?"

"Through my network of information, of course. Anyway, that's not important. The important thing is that | finally found you," Tommy said with a contented grin, glancing at Jasper with a hint of disapproval. "Who is he?"

"He's the chief consultant of our archaeological team," she introduced. As Tommy gazed at Jasper, an instinctual senge ofkivalry Surged within hie) primal force that seemed inherently masculine. He couldn't help but perceive Jasper as a formidable threat, exerting an invisible yet palpable pressure upon him.

Actually, Tommy was also good-looking, and he came from a wealthy family with assets worth, billions. Yet, amidstxnisdglémor, his heaittts désire for Willow remained an open secret within their social circle. From the instant his gaze met hers, a bold declaration of affection escaped his lips, heedless of the occasion or onlookers.

She couldn't shake him off since they had been classmates from high

school to college. he

unwavering. pursuit, opting for peaceful coexistence and embracing him as a steadfast friend.

"Willow, let's-Tommy was about to approach Willow, eager to share the captivating tales of his journey in catching up with her.

Chapter 2137

As Tommy attempted to approach Willow, a mysterious figure swiftly interposed, emanating an icy warning. "Stay away from her."

"Hey! Who do you think you are? It's none of your business, consultant." Tommy felt offended and annoyed, sensing that he was being intruded upon.

"Tommy, don't you dare be rude to him," Willow asserted firmly, hands planted confidently on her hips. Startled by her words, he couldn't help but glance at her with genuine curiosity. "What's your relationship with him?"

"No matter what, he's under my protection, so you can't bully him," she declared, her expression firm and resolute. Tommy's heart stung slightly at Willow's words. With a tender tone, he asked, "Willow, do you have feelings for him?"

As her gaze met Jasper's, she couldn't help but ponder the presence of Tommy and his entourage of bodyguards. Given Tommy's unpredictable temperament, she could tell that admitting her true feelings for Jasper could stir up unwanted turmoil. "If you want to stay, stay. Don't pry into my affairs," she asserted firmly.

As the weight of Tommy's emotions settled. upon him, he couldn't help but feel a tinge of dejection. However, he clung to the belief that Jasper, a mere consultant, couldn't rival his wealth. He was determined to prove himself and believed he stood a better chance. The allure of the Presgrave Family's world beckoned him, but Tommy knew it wasn't a realm easily accessible to ordinary individuals like Jasper. If he dared to pursue Willow, he'd risk more than rejection. Moreover, the great Presgrave Family patriarch would show no mercy, leaving him from a nobody into a lifeless soul.

"You should go to bed, Willow. Girls shouldn't stay up late; it's bad for your skin," he advised, looking out for her well-being.

As the clock struck past 4.00AM, exhaustion washed over her like a gentle tide. Then, her weary eyes met Jasper's, and she couldn't help. but inquire, "Are you going to sleep?"

"I'm not tired," Jasper replied. "Alright then. I'll go get some rest," Willow stated and turned toward the inviting embrace of the tents.

As she drifted into the distance, Jasper contemplated his departure, but before he could make his move, Tommy's hand shot out, halting him in his tracks. 'I don't care who you are, but | had feelings for Willow first. Don't you dare compete with me," Tommy warned sternly, even threatening him with his gaze. However, Jasper's words cut through the air like ice. "She is her own person, beholden to none but herself."

"What? Are you daring to challenge me? Let's put your capabilities to the test, Tommy exclaimed, a glimmer of confidence in his eyes. He had known Willow for three long years, long enough to realize she was not one to be easily won over. Yet, he remained undeterred, buoyed by his family's considerable wealth, which may not rival the Presgrave Family's fortune, but undoubtedly surpassed that of 99.99% of the country.

Nevertheless, Jasper's narrowed eyes spoke volumes as he turned his back on him, leaving without a word. Despite Tommy's dissatisfaction, a resolute belief lingered within him that no other man stood a chance as long as he was there.

The following morning, his chef prepared a satisfying meal for the entire team with the fresh ingredients they brought. With each delectable bite, satisfaction spread across their faces.

As Willow joined the team, a fellow female member leaned in and whispered softly, "Miss Presgrave, | noticed Mr. Wyatt skipped breakfast and went over there."

"Why isn't he eating?" "I'm not sure, but he doesn't seem in a good mood. Do you want to check on him?" The female team member unintentionally noticed Jasper's bad mood.

After hearing this, Willow scooped up a delicious breakfast plate and took some extra food. She then held two forks and headed toward him. Meanwhile, Tommy went back to catch some more sleep.

When Willow gazed upon the shoreline, she spotted Jasper perched atop a rugged roc draped in a gray enhanced a Aura, evoking a sense of dignity akin to a noble sword. 'Jasper, why are you here alone? Have some breakfast." She approached him with the breakfast plate.

With a subtle pivot, his eyes briefly met hers, lingering before white she held. e averted his gaze and gently uttered, "I'm not hungry,"

Willow sensed an underlying distaste for the breakfast prepared by Tommy's chef, suspecting it was more about than Determined to change his mind, she coaxed, "Don't be like this. Fill your stomach first. Let's eat together." While saying this, she playfully picked up a slice of luncheon meat and offered it to him. 'Open your mouth. Ah-"

As his eyes caught sight of it, an involuntary chuckle escaped him. "Do you think I'm a child?"

Chapter 2138

"| won't coax you then. Will you eat?" Willow asked as she blinked her big eyes. Then, she handed the plate to Jasper. 'Or maybe you can feed me."

Before he could take it, she continued, "Let's both not eat. If you don't eat, | won't either. Let's starve." This left him speechless. He eventually reached. out and took the plate from her, offering the piece of meat to her mouth. "Here."

At his actions, she couldn't help but smile. He can't bear to let me starve with him. She opened her mouth and took a bite, then nodded. "Not bad. Now you eat." He then fed himself while she looked at him with a smile. Then, she took over the plate, ready to feed him.

"Ah, open up." She really enjoyed breaking down his cold exterior and making him obedient. At this moment, he had no choice but to cooperate with her. They quickly finished the food, and both were satisfied.

After Tommy came down from the boat, he didn't see Willow. "Have you seen Willow?" he asked the person beside him. "I think she's over there with Mr. Wyatt."

At that, he immediately came out from behind the rock and saw the two standing side by side, laughing and talking. Without hesitation, he walked in their direction. The moment he was there, he greeted Willow enthusiastically. "Willow, have you had breakfast?"

"Yes. Thanks for asking,' she replied. Meanwhile, he noticed keenly that they had used only one plate, which meant they shared the food. This made him feel somewhat uncomfortable. "Willow, for the time we'll be here, if you need anything, just ask me. | can help you with anything."

"With me here, she doesn't need your help." Jasper stood up and refused on Willow's behalf. Tommy couldn't help but feel annoyed by his reply. "You're just a consultant. Who are you to interfere in my affairs?"

"Tommy, be polite to him," Willow said after standing up. 'Willow, I..."

"Also, you can leave with your people. We are here for an archaeological expedition. We don't welcome any visitors," she told him. As she observed the disrespect from Tommy toward Jasper, she felt

infuriated. Tommy became anxious upon hearing that. "I'm not leaving, Willow. | came here to help you."

"We don't need outsiders here," Jasper said coldly. "What gives you the right to make me leave?" "I have absolute authority on this team. If you obstruct our work, | have the right to chase you away, Jasper replied coldly.

"You... Willow, | brought food and supplies. Please let me stay here for the sake of the supplies. | heard from your captain that you are in urgent need of supplies." Tommy pleaded with his hands clasped together. "Please, Willow."

After some contemplation, Willow glanced at Jasper. When she saw Jasper shake his head, she remained determined, saying, "Carry all the supplies with you. I'll have my father send the supplies over. It's not a problem."

"Willow... Tommy panicked, and at the same. time, he gave Jasper a fierce look. He is such a meddlesome guy. Besides, why is Willow listening to him? Does she honestly have feelings for him?

"Willow, how about this? | feel seasick on the boat, and I've vomited several times along the way. Can you let me rest here for just two days? I'll leave all the supplies here. After two days, I'll go." He was not one to back down easily. | must assert myself.

At his words, she pondered again. It would take a week for Dad to se

the supplies

Chapter 2139

What the team needed the most was resources. Tommy asked Winston to say some good words for him. Going along with Tommy's request, he told her, "We need some helpers now, Willy. Why don't we let Mr. Tommy stay? He seems like a good man!"

However, Willow refused since she knew Jasper disliked Tommy. "We have all the help we need, Winston. We'll get him to leave after he has a well-rest. You know as well that this is a secret mission. Having too many people on the team will be a disadvantage."

"Alright." Winston nodded. "But we need the supplement." In the afternoon, as Jasper patrolled the surroundings nearby, he saw Tommy and three bodyguards following him. At that moment, hel smiled and ignored them as he walked deeper into the street. After some time, Tommy was tired from all the walking and pointed at Jasper. "Hey! Stop right there, Jasper!"

Jasper stopped walking and turned around, crossing his arms together as he looked at them. "What do you guys want?" Tommy snorted coldly and said, "I advise you to stay out of this, Jasper. | have my eyes on.

Willow. | won't allow you to take her away from me. How dare a lowlife like you dare to steal my woman?" Jasper squinted his eyes and stared at Tommy "You are not worthy of my opponent. He huffed coldly.

Tommy's expression changed at his words. "How dare you say such words to me?!" He looked at his bodyguards and said, "Guys, teach him a lesson. | want him to kneel in front of me."

However, the bodyguards looked at each other and didn't move. After all, they knew Jasper was not someone weak! Yet, they couldn't do anything since Tommy had ordered them to do so. Thus, they could only brace themselves and charge toward Jasper.

The first bodyguard stepped forward and swung a punch at Jasper. In that split second, Jasper narrowed his eyes and dodged the punch. Then, he landed an uppercut on the bodyguard's chin. The pain caused the bodyguard to stagger backward as he held his chin, feeling his jaw dislocated.

The second bodyguard attempted to knock Jasper off his feet but failed when Jasper suddenly propped himself on the bodyguard's shoulder, kicking the bodyguard's back and stepping on him. When the other two bodyguards saw it, they immediately rushed to help their companion. Besides them, Tommy's eyes were filled with rage as he stared at his bodyguards. It was as if the punches they threw at Jasper represented him taking Jasper out himself. "Punch him! Hurry up and punch himi Tommy shouted.

However, he soon learned that instead of his bodyguards teaching Jasper a lesson, it was the other way around! When Jasper knocked down all three bodyguards, Tommy realized he had offended someone he shouldn't. As he saw Jasper glaring at him while clenching his knuckles, Tommy thought he had seen the devil himself.

"Mr. Wyatt, L-Let's calm down and talk nicely." Tommy cowered in fear as he saw how strong Jasper was. However, Jasper didn't want to let Tommy off the hook. He charged forward and punched Tommy, causing the latter to fall. Tommy had. never thought he would be beaten by someone else since he had always been treated with care.

"Ah!" He yelped in pain. Jasper stepped on his chest and looked down on him, "Get out of here."

"Why? Willow didn't kick me out." "Don't call her that!" Jasper was frustrated. "What should | call her then?" Tommy's face scrunched up in pain.

"Miss Presgrave." Jasper corrected him as he put more force o his {got. "Ah! It 8}

Chapter 2140

"I'm not leaving." Tommy didn't want to leave since he had a rare opportunity to be here. He wanted to spend more time with Willow. Hearing his words, Jasper stepped on him. harder, and he screamed in pain. "Ahh! Help me!"

When the bodyguards heard Tommy's cries for help, they forced themselves to save him, even though they were in pain too. However, as soon as they came near Jasper, the latter knocked the wind out of them again. In the meantime, Tommy crawled away like a dog. He is crazy! He is the devil himself! This is too outrageous! "Help... Help me..."

Before he was able to escape, he heard Jasper's cold voice from behind. "Where do you think you are going?" As he spoke, he grabbed Tommy's collar and dragged him toward the cliff. Then, he pushed Tommy off the cliff. In that split second, just as Tommy was about to fall to his death, Jasper grabbed his wrist, causing Tommy to dangle mid-air, which scared the latter to death.

"Ahhh! Please let me live. | don't want to die!" Tommy could feel death creeping up on him. The feeling of hanging in mid-air was too frightening. "Don't let go. Please. I'm begging you. I'll leave. I'll leave right away. Please pull me up."

Jasper knew how to make a persons life a living hell. "Are you leaving or not?" he asked again with a crisp voice. "Yes. I'll immediately pack my stuff and leave. Please don't let go." Tommy's voice trembled as he was terrified.

"Please don't kill him." The bodyguards begged as they saw the scene. After some time, Jasper pulled Tommy upwards. Immediately, Tommy lay on the ground and panted heavily, seemingly as if he had just gotten a second life. "Who exactly are you?" asked Tommy.

"Im a consultant, Jasper replied faintly. He wiped his hand in disgust and left. As soon as Jasper was gone, Tommy scolded his bodyguards. "You guys are useless! Why didn't you guys beat him up?" "He is not an ordinary person, Mr. Tommy. He is an expert."

"Yes, Mr. Tommy. Let's not anger him anymore." Anger flashed across Tommy's face as he couldn't understand why Willow had such a powerful person beside her.

On the other hand, after Willow was done with a meeting, she was confused when she couldn't find Jasper. Where could he have gone? As she asked the others, she saw him walk out of the bushes. Then, she immediately stepped up and asked, "Where have you been?" "Patrolling," replied Jasper.

"Can you tell me next time? | was worried when | couldn't find you." Willow reminded. "Okay." Jasper nodded, feeling guilty. About ten minutes later, someone saw Tommy and his bodyguards return while being black and blue.

"What happened to you, Mr. Tommy? Did you encounter an ambush?" Winston immediately came up to Tommy. He was worried that there were more dangers on this island.

Willow rushed over and was shocked when she saw them. "Who did you guys meet?" Jasper walked behind Willow and gave them at warning glare.

"We accidentally fell from a hill." Tommy didn't dare to tell the truth. Rather, he felt that falling to his wounds would be a better explanation.

"Fall? Did the four of you fall together?" Willow looked at them disbelievingly. She couldn' Ligure put how they ule eavetlurt themselves sb-ceVverely when they just had a fall. "Willow, | have to go now. | suddenly remembered | had some places to be. We'll meet again when you return."

"| thought you had seasick, Mr. Tommy." Winston expressed his concern. "No. I'm fine (owCAs) a8) TempimySsoke, Fre could sense a pair of cold eyes staring at him. Then, he immediately said to his bodyguards, 'Let's go!"

He couldn't believe he was the one getting beaten me