

NIGHT OF DESTINY (ANASTASIA TILLMAN)

Chapter 2641

Zacharias was momentarily taken aback. He was well aware that neither of them could bear to part

with the other, nor could they afford to lose the other.

“Now that I’m here, I won’t leave,” Shirley asserted firmly. He had always thought that the power he

wielded was effective at any given time. Alas, he didn’t expect that it would be completely useless

against her.

“Miss Lloyd, how many people have you brought over?” Freddie inquired as he approached the duo.

“There are eight of us, including my father and me. Four are with me, while two are with my father,

Shirley replied succinctly.

“The other side has at least 50 people. What are we going to do now? The disparity in strength is far

too great. Freddie sighed.

“How did this happen? Didn’t you arrange for manpower when you set out?” she asked as her brows

furrowed in confusion.

“We did arrange for a task force. Unfortunately, Mr. Watts was the organizer. So, we only realized that

Mr. Watts was also an enemy once we made it here. This was a trap from the get-go. Anyone who has

set foot on this island is their target, and they’re shooting to kill,” Freddie explained with a vexed look

on his face. The expression he was currently wearing was quite a stark contrast to his usual warm

smile.

Shirley looked up at Zacharias. At this moment, she knew that he was definitely hurt and disappointed.

The one he trusted, one of his inner circle, had betrayed him.

"It's a disgrace. He was even Mr. Flintstone's friend! So, Mr. Zacharias naturally held him in high regard

and placed a great deal of trust in him. Who would have thought something like this could happen?"

Roy huffed angrily.

"There's no point dwelling on it now that we're in this situation. We need to come up with a plan if we

want to get out of here and make them pay, Zacharias said while glancing at Shirley. He couldn't let her

die here, not on his watch.

Shirley's gaze was fixed on him as well. Her eyes conveyed that even if she were to die here, she

would do anything to save him.

The selfless concern they bore for one another was just another reason that neither of them would be

able to let the other go. The mutual sentiment they shared motivated them to get back down to

business even though they were stuck between a rock and a hard place.

Nixon pondered over their options as he said carefully, "It's not that we don't have reinforcements on

the way. The problem is that we're not sure whether they could make it on time." "We have

reinforcements? Are you sure about that? The operation this time was confidential, and Mr. Webb cut

off all possible support routes. We-" "If only you knew just how much Mrs. Lloyd cares for Mr. Lloyd,

then you'd know she'd definitely notice something amiss. Plus, Miss Lloyd is here," Nixon interjected

confidently.

“Are you saying my mother will call for help?” Shirley’s eyes brightened with hope.

“I’m certain that Mrs. Lloyd will do so,” Nixon affirmed, utterly convinced. Indeed, he was correct in his

assumption. Angela had noticed it was past 11.00PM, and neither her husband nor her daughter had

returned. Although she was safe at home, how could she possibly sleep?

She had tried calling them without success. Then, she attempted to call Richard’s associates. Alas, she

couldn’t reach anyone either. Angela, who was accustomed to living with Richard for years, was keenly

attuned to danger. This prompted her to call her husband’s subordinate, who was stationed nearby.

“Jace, find out where Richard is right now. I need to know where he is.” “Of course, Mrs. Lloyd.” The

man wasted no time carrying out her command.

In less than a minute, he reported, “It’s strange. We can’t track Mr. Lloyd’s location at all.” “What do you

mean you can’t track him? Don’t you have the most advanced tracking devices available?” Angela

questioned sharply.

Jace was unable to locate him after several attempts. Eventually, he raised his suspicions and

suggested tentatively, “Mr. Lloyd may be stuck in a location that has somehow jammed all signals.”

Angela quickly started recalling just where her husband and daughter had gone.

Wasn’t it where Zacharias was supposed to deal with those dangerous individuals? Now that she

couldn’t reach them, it was evident they were in danger.

“Jace, quickly dispatch people to Easternia. Immediately! Richard is in danger, and even Mr. Flintstone

is in danger. Hurry!” Angela urged urgently.

Then, her next call was to Ren, and she explained the situation to him. Shortly after, six helicopters

took off, and the special forces were mobilized in the nearest base to Easternia.

On the other hand, Zacharias and the others decided to head to where Nixon and the others had

parked the helicopter after their lengthy discussion in the cave. They intended to leave this place as

soon as possible.

Zacharias wanted to ensure Shirley's departure. Shirley was of the same mind, except she wanted to

ensure his departure from this hazardous island.

Chapter 2642

They had just popped out of the cave when they heard sudden gunshots echoing in the darkness.

"They're here. Move! Quickly!" Roy hissed urgently. Everyone immediately headed south. Zacharias

reached out to take Shirley's hand and intended to lead her away. Alas, she took her bodyguarding job

seriously as she covered his six. "Don't worry about me. I can handle this."

"Miss Lloyd, just go! If you

don't go, how can Mr. Flintstone leave?" Freddie pointed out, knowing just what Zacharias was

thinking.

"He's right," Zacharias spoke up immediately. Shirley could only turn to Nixon, "Mr. Nixon, you and the

others cover our rear. I'll lead him to our rendezvous point." "Go ahead, Miss Lloyd. We'll take care of

these people, Nixon said. She swiftly led Zacharias toward the east under the cover of night. The trees

and rocky paths alongside the sandy beach made for a challenging route.

Alas, Shirley stepped on a rock in her hurry and slipped. Fortunately, Zacharias managed to reach out and grab her waist before she could fall. "Be careful." She nodded and also held onto him. "Let's move quickly." The gunfire from behind was getting closer. Judging from the gunshots, they were being boxed in. Since they only had a few men protecting them, Shirley and Zacharias had no choice but to make a break toward the east. Even though they would end up looking like utter barbarians, they couldn't afford to waste even a single second.

They finally spotted the three helicopters at their rendezvous point under the moonlight. These helicopters were situated in a rather secluded area. So, they hadn't been discovered by the enemy forces yet. Moreover, the enemies couldn't monitor everything happening on the island as they had jammed all signals within the island.

"The helicopters are here. Get on board," Shirley said to the man behind her. "Let's go together." Zacharias reached for her hand and was determined not to leave her behind.

However, she had someone else she couldn't leave behind-Richard. She took Zacharias' hand. "All right. Let's go." Then, she and Zacharias boarded one of the helicopters. She swiftly pulled something from a hidden compartment and fastened it around Zacharias' wrist before securing the other end to the frame of the seat.

"Shirley, what are you doing?" Zacharias panicked as he saw her actions. Shirley swiftly delivered a punch to his neck, causing his eyes to widen in shock before he slumped against his seat, succumbing to unconsciousness.

Everyone else felt a sting in their necks just witnessing her swift and brutal action.

“What are you waiting for? Get him out of here!” Shirley urged as she exited the helicopter while

handing the key to the handcuffs to Freddie. “Free him once you’re safe.”

“What about you, Miss

Lloyd?” “My father is still here. I can’t leave him. Hurry! Go!” Shirley turned and swiftly dashed into the

darkness.

At that moment, everyone understood one thing -Zacharias’ life was the priority, and they had to ensure

his safety at all costs.

The helicopter rose into the night sky before disappearing quickly.

Shirley stood by the shoreline and watched as the helicopter vanished into the distance. She heaved a

sigh of relief as she prayed for his safety above all else.

Suddenly, two mercenaries emerged from the woods, and each of them was carrying a rocket launcher

on their shoulders. They were ready to launch an attack on Zacharias’ helicopter.

Shirley’s pupils contracted sharply as she drew her gun and fired two precise bullets, hitting the targets’

in a textbook headshot.

She lay low in the grass and was prepared to intercept anyone attempting to pursue Zacharias.

At that moment, Richard, who had been undercover among the group, had already dealt with six

individuals. As he took down the seventh, he was spotted by a mercenary who had mistakenly

stumbled upon him while he was doing the deed. The mercenary exclaimed in terror, “There’s a traitor!

Everyone, be on alert! There’s a traitor!” Then, he dashed away in panic. Richard swiftly drew his

dagger before heading in a particular direction-the direction leading to the office of the highest authority.

Inside, an intense discussion was underway. Just moments ago, they received the news of Zacharias'

escape via helicopter. Four men of substantial power were debating the next course of action.

"Who could have breached this place and saved Zacharias? Why haven't they dealt with him yet?"

Chapter 2643

"We've shut down all tracking devices and cut off all the signals. So, we can't contact the outside world

ourselves. Even if someone has made it here, we won't be able to identify them immediately."

"Mr. Webb, how did you allow such a big flaw to occur? We trusted you so much, and what did you do

with our trust? You've made such a fatal mistake! Does your son's life mean nothing to you?"

Zain's face turned panicked instantly as he rushed to explain, "I assure you that my arrangement is

flawless. I gained Zacharias' complete trust in this matter. So, I know for a fact that he doesn't have a

single contingency plan."

"Mr. Webb, none of us will survive this, especially now that your involvement has been exposed as well.

You've got all that leverage against Zacharias, and what have you done with it besides sending us to

our doom?"

"Give me another chance. I'll make a new plan to eliminate Zacharias. I swear I'll get it right this time."

"Do you really think Zacharias will trust you after this?"

Zain collapsed into a chair while sweating profusely. Of course, Zacharias would never trust him again.

Meanwhile, Richard found himself standing outside the door of this office after neutralizing four

bodyguards along the way. Then, he rummaged through the bodies and picked up a security card from

one of the guards before swiping it to gain entry.

The heavy door swung open before revealing the identities of the four men in the meeting directly in

front of him. Richard was holding a gun in his hand and was somewhat astonished; these were people

he knew and had some rapport with.

“R-Richard, what are you doing here?” One of them pointed at him in disbelief.

Richard closed the door, and his gaze was chilly as it swept over the four men. “It seems that the

masterminds behind the assassination attempt on Mr. Flintstone are the lot of you!” Books Chapters Are

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“Richard, it’s a misunderstanding! We were just called here for a meeting-”

“Richard, put the gun down. We’re on the same side...” one of them tried to approach Richard after

speaking.

Richard’s gun immediately aimed at the person’s knee and fired a shot. The loud bang promptly sent

shivers down the spines of the other three men. Richard’s face was cold and merciless, akin to a raging

tiger standing there as he blocked their escape route.

“Richard, calm down! We were forced into this. Please! Help us get out of here!”

“Yeah! We were coerced. We’re friends, aren’t we? Are you saying that you can’t trust me?”

Richard sneered, “My duty is to eliminate scum like you.”

“Richard, let us out immediately. Everyone on this island belongs to us. If you don’t want to die, release us now!”

“If I feared death, I wouldn’t have lived till today.” Richard snorted disdainfully. His reputation was well-

known domestically and internationally. Everyone was well aware of just how he operated.

“Did you save Zacharias? How could you possibly come here? Where did you get the information?”

Zain bombarded Richard with questions, both horrified and curious.

Richard didn’t want to answer that question because the one who had convinced him to come here was

his daughter. Honestly, he was glad he caved and made this trip.

Meanwhile, Shirley doubled back to rendezvous with Nixon after dealing with a few mercenaries.

Gunshots rang out ahead, and the sound prompted her to duck down swiftly. Soon, she witnessed

Nixon in a skirmish with a mercenary while their men were also engaged in combat. Hence, she seized

the opportunity and shot the enemy in the chest. Nixon was injured as he fell to his knees. He

instinctively turned toward the bushes and was surprised to see Shirley. Then, he couldn’t help but ask

in worry, “Miss Lloyd, why did you return? Why didn’t you leave?”

“My father and the others are on this island. I can’t leave,” Shirley replied while helping him up. “Have

you seen my father?”

“No. We’ve had no contact with Mr. Lloyd. There are enemy forces scattered all over the island. Let’s

find a place to hide for now.”

The other four were also injured. The enemy’s firepower was too intense, especially when they were

also severely outnumbered. It was quite a miracle that they had managed to survive. It wouldn't be an

understatement to say that they had placed their own lives on the line in order to survive.

Shirley had already come to realize that not only did the mercenaries outnumber them, but they were

also given highly advanced equipment, including heavy weaponry like rocket launchers.

"There's a rocky reef ahead. We can hide there," Shirley said while supporting them as they hobbled

back in the direction they came from.

Chapter 2644

Their movements were somewhat concealed under the cover of night. As a result, it naturally made it

difficult for the enemy to track them down.

Shirley was concerned for her father. She settled Nixon and the others in a safe place before setting off

to find him. "Mr. Nixon, stay put. I'll lead these enemy forces away."

"What?! Miss Lloyd, please don't take any unnecessary risks. How can we explain it to Mr. Lloyd if

something happens to you?" Nixon yelled after her.

Of course, Shirley feared death. Still, she dreaded losing someone dear more than losing her own life.

Hence, she wasn't about to change her mind to rescue her father. Even if she didn't make it in time,

she could at least confirm if he was alive or dead.

Her heart was filled with anxiety at this moment. She wouldn't stop advancing into the enemy territory

unless she received credible news about her father's condition.

"Let's go together," Nixon said as he clutched his injured shoulder, pushing himself to his feet.

“No. I’ll go. You all stay hidden here,” Shirley replied sternly. She was about to stand up when she

suddenly heard a familiar sound in the sky. She instinctively raised her head and saw fighter jets

breaking through the clouds as they streaked down like meteors, one after another

“Mr. Nixon, look! Our reinforcements are here.” Shirley pointed as she recognized the scene all too

well-those were her father’s men.

“Mrs. Lloyd indeed sought help immediately.” Nixon sighed while appreciating the depth of their marital

bond.

Shirley’s confidence soared. So, she turned to Nixon. “Mr. Nixon, wait for reinforcements to arrive. I’ll

go ahead.”

“Miss Lloyd, please be careful!” Nixon hurriedly cautioned her.

Shirley nodded and darted into the nearby bushes. It was impossible to conceal the fact that jets were

approaching the area. So, not only did she see the fighter jets streaking down, but the enemy forces

also caught sight of them. Fear and apprehension flashed in their eyes, and they started retreating

immediately. Books Chapters Are Daily Updated Join & Stay Updated For All Books Updates...

Shirley followed from a distance while trailing a few of the retreating enemies. She wanted to find out

where they were heading. She hoped her father might be among them.

Finally, she spotted a brightly lit small base where many mercenaries were rushing in. Shirley chose a

different direction and climbed over a wall. Just as she made it from the first floor to the second, she

overheard a conversation between two smokers.

“We’re leaving without getting paid? Did we do this for nothing?”

“You’re still thinking about money at this point? We should prioritize escaping with our lives. Haven’t

you seen who’s coming? That’s the special forces! Anyone who encounters them ends up dead!”

“Zacharias escaped. Can we still get paid?”

“We need to hurry to the docks, grab a boat, and get out fast. If we don’t make it... Forget about the

money; we’ll lose our lives.”

“Okay. I’ll follow your lead.”

The two quickly left the corridor. Shirley then continued upstairs. She had a feeling her father might be

here, and those villains who framed Zacharias were also present.

At this moment, the mercenaries were all scrambling toward the docks. Thus, the building was

relatively deserted.

Richard blocked the doorway, and his gaze was sharp as a knife. He was stopping the four of them.

Nevertheless, each of these four individuals was a cunning old fox as their eyes were flickering with

thoughts of fleeing the scene.

“Richard, if you let us go, we’ll make sure a large sum of money gets deposited into your account. It’ll

be an unimaginable figure.”

*I have no interest in your dirty money.” Richard remained unmoved.

“Richard, we can do it the easy way or the hard way.”

They observed the mercenaries pouring out toward the docks while standing by the floor-to- ceiling

window. They exchanged looks and were unsure of what was happening outside. Why were their men

heading toward the docks?

Nonetheless, they speculated that Zacharias' reinforcements had arrived. If that were the case, they needed to escape this room quickly.

Suddenly, Richard and the four men could hear someone banging on the door. It was accompanied by

a loud commotion. "Come in," one of the old men called out.

The person outside immediately swiped a card to enter. Alas, Richard promptly shot and destroyed the

circuit, turning the entire room into an enclosed space.

The outsiders, who heard the gunshot, realized there was trouble brewing within the room. They were

here to collect their debts, and their employers were inside. So, they had to rescue those old coots for

the sake of their empty wallets.

Chapter 2645

The sounds of pounding and gunshots echoed from outside as the men tried various ways to break

through the door.

Richard's face was grave as he stood guard at the door with a gun in hand.

"Richard, you can't hold them off forever. Those outside are after money, not lives. We're the ones

offering money. They won't give up on us so easily."

"I believe you won't kill us either. If you do, you'll bear the blame."

The loud commotion grew increasingly rowdy as the sturdy steel door began to creak, causing the

adjacent walls to tremble.

"Stay alert, everyone. Our rescuers are here." These individuals were audacious and had long

disregarded the law.

Shirley also heard the sounds of multiple people ramming the door. So, she moved toward the source

of the noise and intended to open a door. Just as she was about to do so, she heard a voice screaming

at the top of their lungs, "Hurry! Open that door! The ministers are trapped inside, and we need to

rescue them if we want to get paid!"

"Is anyone else in there?"

"I don't know. Judging from the gunshot earlier the ministers are being held hostage. So, I'm sure there

are enemies inside."

Shirley speculated that Richard might be the hostage-taker. His objective wasn't just to save Zacharias

but also to expose the identities of those crooks orchestrating Zacharias' attempted murder behind the

scenes. It was his duty.

She clutched her fists tightly and knew she had to rescue her father. Even though reinforcements had

arrived, they couldn't immediately breach the area, and time was of the essence.

She immediately ran upstairs and arrived at the top floor, where she noticed two thugs attempting to

break in through the skylight. They were preparing their tools and were completely unaware of her

presence.

When they went to get their guns, Shirley swiftly dealt with them. She grabbed the window-breaking

tool with one hand and coiled the rope around her hand a few times. Then, she landed gracefully on

the glass panel with a leap before balancing on her tiptoes. Books Chapters Are Daily Updated Join &

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Sure enough, she saw her father pointing his gun at four individuals through the glass. Richard also

caught sight of her. He was surprised and thrilled that she had managed to find him.

He watched as his daughter used an iron spike to carve a circle on the glass. Then, she leaped, and

her foot landed precisely at the center of the circle.

This wasn't ordinary glass. So, one had to be skilled in order to break through the glass. Otherwise,

they would be just wasting their time and effort.

Richard watched approvingly as his daughter executed her plan. The glass finally shattered after

receiving six powerful stomps from her. Shirley protected her face as she rolled and landed on the

ground.

"Shirley, are you okay?" Richard asked her.

Shirley rose to her feet swiftly. "I'm fine, Dad."

"There are six people outside," Shirley reported, then turned her gaze toward the four individuals. Her

eyes bore into them like they were trash. If she could, she would take them out one by one. These

were the people behind the assassination attempt and the very ones she despised.

"Richard, you've indeed raised a great daughter!" teased one of the men.

Shirley instantly pointed her gun at the person. "Say another word, and I'll kill you right now."

"You wouldn't dare to kill me. Your father-"

The person's smug words were interrupted as Shirley shot his shoulder. She sneered, "I'll do what my

dad wouldn't."

Richard looked on approvingly. There was no doubt about it. Shirley was definitely his daughter.

Now, none of the four dared to speak out of turn. Shirley noticed a nearby box. She kicked it open to

find a set of handcuffs inside. She grabbed four and approached the individuals.

“You dare...” one of them started to say.

She grabbed his shoulder, pressed her foot on his back, and pinned him to the ground before promptly cuffing him.

The second person tried to resist and raised a fist to strike her. She simply snorted and landed a punch

on his face, which disoriented him. In the next moment, she kicked him against the wall and handcuffed him as well.

The third person was terrified. So, he didn’t bother struggling. Instead, he meekly extended his hands and allowed Shirley to cuff him.

Chapter 2646

The fourth person knew better than to fight against Shirley. So, he darted toward the window and was

prepared to jump out for survival. Although it was high, he had a premonition that death was imminent.

Alas, how could Shirley possibly allow him to flee?

She tripped him with one foot and swiftly handcuffed him to the nearby furniture. “I won’t give you an easy death.”

Richard looked at his daughter with pride. It seemed that his daughter had been practicing a great deal lately as her execution seemed more efficient.

“You little brat, how dare you treat us like this-”

Shirley sneered, “I’m already being kind by treating you this way. I will hand you over to Zacharias and let him deal with you personally.”

“You-”

The four people were terrified, and their faces turned stark white with fear. Then, Shirley picked up the gun from the ground and said to Richard, "Dad, your subordinates have arrived. They will surround this place soon."

Shirley's words made the handcuffed officials turn as white as a ghost. Their flawless plan ended up becoming proof of their misdeeds.

Bang! Bang! The sound of people trying to force the door open outside continued to echo across the meeting room. Judging from the shaking walls and the falling plaster, it seemed that the mercenaries were about to break in.

Shirley immediately stood next to her father, intending to face the mercenaries, who were about to break in alongside her father.

Finally, the iron door caved in with a loud bang. The two mercenaries who had just broken in couldn't react in time and were promptly dealt with by Richard and Shirley.

Just then, one of them suddenly let go of the gun in his hand, and it slid on the smooth floor. It was

about to fall into the hands of a minister when Richard rolled over quickly. Just as the minister was

about to pick it up, Richard kicked the gun toward his daughter. Shirley crouched down and briskly provided cover for her father.

Soon, there was a spray of bullets coming from the door. So, Shirley reached down to pick up the gun

from the ground. She held a gun in each hand with a confident and heroic posture. Then, she

accurately hit each dodging mercenary on the head.

At this moment, a bomb was suddenly tossed in. Shirley and Richard exchanged a glance, and he

shouted, "Cheri, don't move!" Books Chapters Are Daily Updated Join & Stay Updated For All Books

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After that, he kicked the bomb and sent it flying out of the broken window. It exploded in the air, and

they successfully averted the disaster.

Just then, there was movement at the window. It seemed that the enemy hoped to hit them with

another spray of bullets. Shirley immediately said to her father, "Dad, leave that side to me."

"Be careful, Cheri," Richard said in a deep voice.

As Shirley approached the sight, she saw a mercenary coming toward the window in a parabolic

trajectory. The intense gunfire forced her to roll away in a series of movements. Nonetheless, the

moment the man landed, she pounced out from the base of the wall. Then, she didn't hesitate to kick

his wrist just as he was about to land, causing the AK-47 in his hand to fly out of his grasp. The next

moment, she immediately removed the rifle from his vicinity by kicking it through the shattered window.

The man's face twisted into a sinister scowl as he immediately drew two knives from his waist and

started to attack Shirley.

A dangerous close-quarters combat began. Shirley's body was agile and nimble as she evaded the

attacks smoothly, rendering the brute force of the mercenary useless.

Although he was trained and

thought he could easily handle a female opponent, there was no denying the fact that he had

underestimated her.

When the man saw Shirley being forced to the wall, he chuckled mirthlessly, "Nowhere to hide, huh?"

Shirley smirked. "It's my turn."

As the man raised the two knives to stab her, she used the opening to strike at his most vulnerable

area. She didn't bother holding back the strength she used in her kick. The man screamed in agony as

he swung the knife down. Alas, the girl had disappeared from his line of sight during his inattention.

The next moment, she had somehow stolen one of his knives. He could only look on in shock as his

throat was slit, spending his last moments as a eunuch.

Richard, who had just been sweating in anxiety on the side, breathed a sigh of relief. Although he knew

his daughter was skilled and often sparred with his subordinates, facing such a fierce enemy was an

entirely different matter. So, he felt himself uncoiling from his burst of anxiety after witnessing his

daughter's capabilities first-hand.

Chapter 2647

Indeed, the battlefield proved to be the best place to test his daughter. His training had not been in

vain, and he believed his daughter could protect herself well.

Moreover, the ferociousness she displayed when taking lives resembled himself in his younger days-

swift, ruthless, and without a hint of hesitation.

The several ministers on the side were sweating profusely, as they witnessed the scene playing before

them. They had once considered sending people to kidnap and deal with Shirley to hinder Zacharias.

They truly didn't expect that she would turn out to be such a formidable opponent.

Shirley's performance today exceeded her usual standards. Why? Because there was a fierce

determination in her that was fueled by the thought of these people attempting to harm Zacharias. They

were her enemies, and what they did was unforgivable. Therefore, they would have to pay the price for

their actions.

Meanwhile, the gunfire outside continued relentlessly. When she noticed this, she couldn't help but say

to her father, "Dad, I'll go over from the rooftop."

"Cheri-" Richard wanted to stop her from going alone.

Alas, she had already grabbed the rope she had brought down with her. Then, she swung from the

window and climbed up the rope.

He could only hold his ground to prevent the enemy from breaking in because these four individuals

had to survive this ordeal. He had to ensure that they would be tried in court. If they died, there

wouldn't be a day of peace as the enemies hiding in the shadows would fail to be eradicated.

Shirley arrived at the rooftop, picked up an AK-47 lying on the ground, and shoved the door open

confidently. She was like a fearless Valkyrie straight out of a game.

The number of mercenaries had increased from six to over a dozen. They were all here for the money.

Some had seized the opportunity to flee with their lives. Nonetheless, others were determined to get

the money even at the cost of their lives. They had to rescue the captured ministers.

As soon as Shirley descended the stairs, she encountered a mercenary. Both opened fire almost

simultaneously. A bullet grazed her shoulder, leaving a bloody trail. Her aim struck true as the other

paid with his life.

She glanced at the bloodstain on her shoulder, gritted her teeth, and continued walking. Someone had rushed over after hearing gunshots. So, she slipped into a corner and ambushed them, taking down two individuals instantly. Books Chapters Are Daily Updated Join & Stay Updated For All Books Updates...

At that moment, Shirley heard the sound of the main force arriving downstairs, and she immediately breathed a sigh of relief-the reinforcements had finally arrived.

The mercenaries naturally heard it and soon became restless like ants on a hot pan. They were preparing to escape.

Unfortunately, they had to go up the rooftop if they wanted to flee, and Shirley had already predicted

their decision. So, she quickly made her way to the rooftop, chose an optimal shooting position, and

started sniping the remaining mercenaries. Her actions and perfect aim forced those hired guns into a

desperate situation. On the other hand, the special forces had already arrived at Richard's position

upstairs.

A decisive battle against the enemy was nearing its end.

As the last one was gunned down, the entire building was cleared of potential enemies. Richard

watched his daughter appear before noticing the wound on her shoulder. He rushed toward her.

"Where are you injured? Let me have a look."

"Dad, it's just a graze from a bullet. It's no big deal," Shirley said with a faint smile.

Richard breathed a sigh of relief and gave her a thumbs up. "Your performance today was excellent,

but don't tell your mother."

She instantly beamed brightly, "Don't worry! I won't let Mom know about all this."

"Mr. Lloyd, the helicopter is at the entrance. You should leave first!"

"Cheri, you go on ahead. I think Zacharias is probably losing his mind with worry. I'll stay behind to

escort these people into a jail cell," Richard said as he was concerned about these four individuals. He

wasn't about to let these scum leave his sight.

"Okay, Dad." Shirley nodded. The events of tonight had come to an end, and it was time for her to

check on the unconscious man. Nevertheless, she was hoping that he wouldn't be too mad that she

had knocked him out.

Shirley boarded the helicopter and looked down from the aircraft at the island shrouded in darkness.

The island seemed to emit an aura of death and carried an ominous vibe. Zacharias was brought into

the hospital. The punch from Shirley had knocked him out cold. He only managed to wake up and

regain his bearings as the lights in the emergency room turned on.

The first thing he said upon waking up was, "Cheri!"

He sat up abruptly. When he saw the bewildered doctor beside him, he immediately pushed himself off

the hospital bed, pulled the door open, and went out. When he saw Freddie outside, he demanded

harshly, "Where is she?"

Chapter 2648

"Miss Lloyd is still on the island."

"Get me there. Now." Zacharias anxiously grabbed Freddie's hand. "Arrange a helicopter for me."

“Mr. Flintstone, the situation on the island is unclear, and the situation is not under control. You cannot

return to the island at this time.” Freddie advised firmly.

“Fine. I’ll get there by myself.” After that, Zacharias promptly dashed out of the hospital.

“Mr. Flintstone! Mr. Flintstone...” Freddie immediately chased after him.

Just then, Freddie’s phone started ringing. He whisked it out, looked at the screen, and was pleasantly

surprised. “Mr. Flintstone, Miss Lloyd is calling!”

Zacharias immediately spun on his heel upon hearing Freddie’s words before snatching Freddie’s

phone and answering it eagerly, “Hello, Cheri! Is it you?”

“It’s me! I’m fine. Don’t worry.” Shirley’s voice came through.

Zacharias instantly breathed a sigh of relief. “It’s good as long as you’re okay. Where are you?”

“I’m on the helicopter, heading toward the First Military Hospital.”

“Are you injured?” Zacharias’ heart clenched at the thought.

“It’s just superficial wounds.”

“Okay. I’ll wait for you.” He suppressed his almost frantic emotions while waiting for her to arrive.

“Okay.” She hung up the phone.

Zacharias handed the phone back to Freddie. It was only then that he realized that his neck was still

sore. He rubbed it gently as he recalled Shirley’s actions that had knocked him out cold. He closed his

eyes as a surge of anger rushed through his veins.

His frustration was not because she hit him but because she sent him away. He was upset because

she had gone to such lengths alone and without backup.

An hour later, a helicopter landed on the helipad outside the hospital. Shirley stepped down from the

helicopter, and the man, who had been eagerly waiting for her, rushed toward her.

The wind tousled her hair, causing her to look rather disheveled. Still, her face remained as beautiful as

a rose. Although she looked like a mess, she was as gorgeous as ever. The man opened his arms and

didn't hesitate to embrace her tightly.

"Ouch!" Shirley immediately exclaimed in pain as he had accidentally tugged on her injury while

hugging her.

She hadn't felt any pain from the wound throughout her flight. Yet, her pain receptors started working

overtime the moment she was right before this man.

It seemed that it was true that one tended to display a certain amount of vulnerability only before the

person they trusted and loved. Books Chapters Are Daily Updated Join & Stay Updated For All Books

Updates...

Zacharias immediately released her. Only then did he realize that there was a wet spot on her shoulder.

He tentatively reached out to touch it, and his hand came away from her black sweater stained with

blood.

"My shoulder was grazed by a bullet," Shirley said softly. Zacharias held her hand. "Let's go to the

emergency room."

Shirley removed her sweater and revealed the injured area inside the private emergency room. The

scorching bullet had left her with some burns. As she took a closer look, she learned that the wound

was actually quite deep.

Zacharias' heart instantly ached, and his eyes moistened at the sight. It had to have been several

hours since she got this wound. Yet, she had been fighting with this injury all this while.

A nurse approached Shirley to help her clean the wound. Nonetheless, Zacharias swiftly took the

antiseptic solution from the nurse's hands. Then, he gently poured some onto the wound, causing

Shirley's eyebrows to twitch slightly. She was displaying an extraordinary pain tolerance.

"If it hurts, just say so," Zacharias said in a hoarse voice. He wished he could transfer this wound to

himself.

"I'm not that delicate," said Shirley as she raised her head proudly.

He continued cleaning her wound seriously. She felt a little guilty and murmured, "Does your neck still

hurt?"

"How dare you hit me. You've got quite the nerve. I'll punish you to stay by my side for the rest of your

life, and you're not allowed to leave." Zacharias snorted.

She accepted the punishment willingly. "Okay."

He carefully applied medication and bandaged her wound. Shirley was only wearing a sports bra at the

moment. However, there was only concern and tenderness in his gaze.

He brought a basin of hot water and began to wipe her body clean once he was done dressing her

wound. She sat there, thoroughly enjoying his service.

"My father has those four masterminds under his custody. Don't you dare spare them," Shirley said

solemnly.

Zacharias' eyes revealed intense murderous intent. "I will make them regret living in this world."

Although his tone was harsh and his words were cruel, his actions were still gentle. Shirley couldn't

help but find this man utterly irresistible.

Chapter 2649

The bandaging was finally done, but Shirley's clothes were already stained with blood, so she couldn't

wear them anymore. The man removed the cardigan he was wearing and put it on her. She instantly

warmed up under the thick and warm material, but the man was only wearing a thin, white button-down

underneath.

This night seemed slow and long, and after Shirley returned to the Flintstone Residence with Zacharias

and informed her mother that she was home safely, she rested in his embrace, feeling exhausted.

Forgetting how her hands were stained with blood while killing a person this evening, she drifted off to

sleep peacefully.

On the other hand, Zacharias was sleepless. Propping himself with one arm, he stared at the girl in his

arms with a mix of emotions in his chest-self-blame, heartbrokenness, and a strong feeling of love. She

loved him more than her life.

Lowering his head, he planted a kiss on her forehead. I love you more than my life, too.

When sunlight once again poured over the land the next day, the world seemed so beautiful and

peaceful. Dressed in her night robe, Shirley was at the staircase landing on the second floor when the

delicious smell of breakfast drifted to her nose, and she went downstairs, following the trail of the aroma.

Then, she found Zacharias cooking in the kitchen because the cook wasn't on duty today. After

approaching him, she hugged him around the waist from behind and rested her head on his shoulder.

Zacharias spun around and kissed her on the top of her head. "Why don't you head over to the dining

table first? Breakfast will be ready soon." A smile spread across her face. "It's my honor to have

breakfast made by you." "As long as you like it, I'll prepare breakfast for you all my life," he replied,

turning his head back. However, Shirley shook her head. "It's enough every once in a while. You have

more important matters to attend to." As she was fully aware of the responsibilities and missions he had,

she wouldn't take up his time. Besides loving her, he needed to love his country more.

After breakfast, she received a call from her mother. This afternoon, they were invited to lunch at the

White House, and she would be attending with Zacharias.

"We're going to my granduncle's place for lunch today," she said to Zacharias after hanging up.

Zacharias nodded. "Okay. I didn't even get to meet your father last night. It's great that I can use this

opportunity to meet him now." "We're not going to talk about work when we're there. We'll just enjoy our

lunch together." Sure. We can also discuss our marriage with your family," he added, placing his hands

around her waist. "Are you willing to be Mrs. Flintstone?" Lifting her head, she asked, "Are there any

benefits to being Mrs. Flintstone?" Squinting his eyes, he thought about it and lowered his head, asking,

"I'll love you my whole life. Is that considered a benefit?" She nodded. "Yes, it is!" Avoiding her injured

shoulder, he held her around her waist, leaned in, and took her lips. Naturally, she returned the kiss.

“Ahem!” An out-of-place voice echoed just then, and Freddie showed up with an urgent document in his

hand. “Mr. Zacharias, your signature is required for this urgent document.”

“Looks like you’re giving up on

your bonus this month, Zacharias grumbled.

Chuckling, Shirley whacked him gently. “You’re not allowed to cut his bonus.

He’s just doing his job.

Feeling grateful, Freddie thought, Thankfully, Miss Lloyd is sensible!

At the grand lobby of the White House, Shirley and Zacharias saw that her parents had arrived before

them. Judging from her mother’s face as she spoke to her grandaunt, Shirley knew that her mother had

no idea about anything that happened last night. A tacit agreement had already been established

between her and her father a long time ago; as long as it was anything dangerous, they would hide it

from her mother to avoid making her worried.

“Zach, come and join us for a cup of tea upstairs!” Richard invited.

Given the situation, he didn’t address him according to his status but treated him as his son-in-law. In

response, Zacharias gave him a nod and went upstairs with him after meeting Shirley’s eyes for a

second. While the men were discussing work, Shirley stayed by her mother’s side for a casual

conversation.

“What a perfect match Shirley and Zach are! I think they’re a match made in heaven.” As the First Lady,

Ruka was very friendly.

Chapter 2650

“Looks like I have good judgment, and Shirley is a lucky girl.” Angela approved of Zacharias.

On the other hand, Shirley was a little embarrassed. The entire country had heard about the rumor

between her and Zacharias a long time ago, and today, while scrolling her phone out of boredom in the

car, she found out that the Internet already regarded her as Zacharias’ wife and even gave her the title of

Mrs. Flintstone. Moreover, there was also a video clip of her walking into an evening banquet while

holding Zacharias’ arm. Even when she watched it again, she felt that she and Zacharias looked great

together.

“I was so worried last night that I could barely sleep because I thought that something bad had cropped

up on the island,” Angela said, turning to her daughter. “Your dad said that they only apprehended a few

criminals. Nothing else happened, right?” Shirley nodded. “Yes, he’s right that nothing happened.”

Nonetheless, the injury on her shoulder was still fresh. Feeling a little guilty for lying, she shifted her

shoulder to the side discreetly and tried to maintain a natural appearance, “That’s great. It’s Christmas

tomorrow. Let’s spend it happily by having a meal together and welcoming the new year.” Before lunch,

the three men came downstairs, appearing more at ease since they had finished their discussion. At the

dining table, Zacharias and Shirley sat together, and the former offered drinks to his future parents-in-

law, showing respect to them like they were his elders.

“I think it’s better not to delay Zach and Shirley’s wedding any longer. After this, he will need her to

accompany him to all the functions he'll be attending," Ren said, starting the conversation. As the elder

and president, it made full sense that he took charge of this matter.

"Uncle Ren, why don't you pick a date for them?" suggested Richard.

"Let's hold the wedding two weeks from now. It will be a private wedding without being too lavish. I'm

sorry to Shirley about this," Ren said.

After hearing this, Shirley immediately exclaimed, "No, that's fine. This is exactly what I want. We should

keep it as private as possible." "Shirley, we shouldn't keep it so low-profile either," Zacharias said with a

smile, worried that she would feel neglected.

"Let's ask Josef out for dinner tonight and set the date," Richard suggested.

"We won't be joining tonight. Please go ahead," Ren said with a chuckle, as he had other matters to

attend to.

"Okay, Mr. Lloyd," Zacharias immediately agreed. "I'll prepare the food and drinks at home tonight.

Please come to my place for dinner." Richard nodded. "Great. Both families will meet, then." After lunch,

Zacharias had to leave because of work, and Shirley stayed with her mother until evening to attend the

dinner at the Flintstone Residence. In the evening, the dining table at the Flintstones was covered with

food for a banquet.

Josef was excited to finally live to the day of his son's wedding.

As they often met each other in the political scene, they got along quite well and chatted like family when

they sat together. In the end, they decided to hold a private wedding ceremony in two weeks. The

invitations would be sent out the next day, and the guests were all their internal staff.

Naturally, Richard immediately informed his two best friends, asking them to make time and bring their

families to attend his daughter's wedding.

At night, Shirley's phone rang. It was a call from Willow, who was far away.

"Hello, Willow," she answered, picking up the phone.

"I would have never guessed you'd get married first. Congratulations!" Willow said, sending her

blessings.

"I didn't think it would turn out this way either! When I met you the last time, I didn't even have a

boyfriend yet!" "Fate works in mysterious ways. It catches up to you while you are unaware," Willow said

with a sigh.

Shirley agreed with what she said. When she first met Zacharias, the last thing she imagined was

becoming this man's wife one day. Recalling their first meeting, she would have never dared to imagine

such a thing happening.

"Willow, you have to attend my wedding, okay?" "I most certainly will!" Willow promised.

At night, Shirley swept her long hair to one side as the man gently examined her injury. "Should we

postpone the wedding?" he asked in a heartbroken voice.

"Your injury has yet to heal."