

## **Pursuing 741**

### **Chapter 741**

Right after Sophie returned to the mansion, she received a call from Butterfly.

"I found Nicholas' whereabouts. Do you have a plan?" Butterfly asked. Nicholas will unquestionably pay a heavy price for his transgression.

"Send the coordinates to me," ordered Sophie.

In response, Butterfly frowned. In the past, I wouldn't have thought twice about letting her go alone. However, her leg is still recovering, and Nicholas is a mighty opponent. It won't be a wise decision if she charges head-first into his lair.

"If you have a plan, you can share it with me, Sophie. We can do this together."

I may not be as capable as her, but if we tackle this problem together, we can look out for each other.

Shaking her head, Sophie denied, "You leave this matter to me, Butterfly. This is between him and me." There's no way I'll forgive him after he came here to orchestrate that accident. Regardless of the price I have to pay, I will take him down.

Her attitude ticked off Butterfly. "Have you forgotten our relationship, Sophie? If not for you back then, I would've been dead. So please, don't say such a thing to me. No matter what plan you have in mind, you can tell me about it. I'll cooperate." It hasn't been easy for her to find someone she loves and who treats her well. I don't want her happy life to be jeopardized. After all, happiness is hard to come by, and I sincerely hope she'll be happy forever.

"Fine! Send the coordinates to me first. If I have any plan, I'll let you know."

"Okay." While Butterfly was still worried, she was always obedient to Sophie, so she sent the coordinates.

"It's getting late. You should rest early, too." Upon ending her sentence, Sophie hung up the call.

Moments later, she received Nicholas' location.

After Tristan finished showering, he saw her spacing out in front of the floor-to-ceiling window. He strolled toward her and hugged her from behind. "What are you thinking about? Why aren't you asleep yet? You must be tired after so many things happened today. It may be difficult, but try emptying your mind and go to sleep. I promise Nicholas won't have a chance to hurt our family again."

Sophie responded with an absentminded hum.

Sweeping her into his arms, he strode into the room, put her on the bed, and tucked her in. "I know what you're worrying about, Sophie. I swear that something like the accident won't occur again. You can relax." After all, I'm going to take care of him. The only thing she needs to do now is focus on becoming my bride.

"Let's kill Nicholas, Tristan!" she exclaimed. If his existence is a threat to us, we should just murder him! Otherwise, he'll keep threatening our lives.

Her abrupt, straightforward statement shocked Tristan.

Still, he nodded. I agree. Since Nicholas refuses to let us go, there's no need for us to hold back. I'm

sick of playing games with him, anyway. "I'll come up with a plan. Your leg is still recovering, so I'll handle this. You'll trust me, right?" It's better if I plan the murder because it'll be challenging to slay someone like Nicholas.

"We'll do it together," stated Sophie firmly. We've never done something like this together before.

Instead of rejecting her request, Tristan said, "Sure. Now, let's sleep!" I know she'll argue with me if I disagree.

“Okay.”

After a while, Sophie's voice rang in the room again. “I can't sleep.” I'm not feeling drowsy at all.

Thus, Tristan removed his shoes, lay on the bed, and pulled her into his embrace. “I'll sleep with you!”

“Mhm!”

With his company, she was able to enter her slumber quickly.

When he saw how soundly she was sleeping, he released a sigh of relief and kissed her forehead. For so many years, she was used to taking care of everything by herself. That's why I think she wants to solve this problem by herself, too. However, she has me now, so there's no way I'll let her do this alone. Nicholas is our common enemy, and I'll never forgive him. He was fortunate when he survived last time, but he's not getting lucky twice. In any case, hugging her feels so good. I should return to my room right now, but I don't want to. F\*ck it. I'm just going to stay here for this night and keep her company.

The next morning, Tristan asked the housekeepers to prepare breakfast before heading to the hospital with Sophie.

When they arrived, they saw Sarah was also inside William's room.

Sarah was touched when her father used his body to protect her, but she was also afraid that he had suffered grave injuries as a result. Therefore, she was grateful that he was mostly fine. If not, she would've felt guilty for the rest of her life.

When Sophie brought the breakfast to William, he wanted to leave the bed to consume it. In response, Sarah stopped him. “You're old, Dad. While your injury isn't severe, you must stay in bed! Otherwise, you'll be in great pain if you accidentally tear your wound.”

William was speechless for a moment before he refuted, "I'm still plenty young, Sarah! I can leave the bed. Can you siblings stop exaggerating my condition?" He took offense to her remark that he was old because he still wanted to stay by their sides for a few more years.

Without delay, Sarah grabbed the bowl of soup in Sophie's hands and sat on the bed. "Come, Dad. I'll feed you." This is a rare opportunity, so I have to put on a good performance.

While William didn't want to speak anymore, he was glad his daughter was filial, so he played along.

As Sarah fed him one scoop at a time, he enjoyed himself, even though it seemed like he wasn't.

Sophie watched the scene unfold from the side. Sarah sure does have a great relationship with her father!

After he finished his meal, Sarah ate hers and informed, "There'll be a checkup later, Dad. Once it's

done, you can return home." I know he doesn't like to stay in the hospital. I doubt there's anyone in the world who prefers living in the hospital over the comfort of their home.

William disputed, "These are just minor injuries. I really don't need a checkup."

"You were in a car accident, Dad! These are most definitely not minor injuries. You need a checkup!" She frowned at him.

"Fine, fine. Just eat your breakfast. I'll do the examination."

## Chapter 742

Sophie only eased up after she accompanied William to his checkup and read the result report. I would've felt guilty if Old Mr. Lombard was gravely hurt. After all, it was because of me that Nicholas set up the accident.

Upon detecting her sigh of relief, William grinned. "There's no need for you to feel guilty, my dear. After all, death comes for us all. If I had passed on due to the accident instead, you still shouldn't blame yourself." In the past, I didn't like her and refused to accept her. But now, I do. In the future, she'll be part of the Lombard family, so I have to protect her, too.

She lowered her head. "I'm sorry, Old Mr. Lombard. It's my fault for not—"

"What did I just say? This has nothing to do with you. You shouldn't let it dominate your attention. Besides, Sarah and I are fine, are we not?"

"Yeah."

Patting her shoulder, he advised, "Since you and Tristan have decided to stay together, the two of you need to discuss everything you encounter in the future with each other and live a good life."

"Thanks, Old Mr. Lombard!"

"Tristan loves you. My only request is that you don't hurt him." He merely hoped his children would be happy.

After leaving the ward with Sarah, Sophie let slip a sigh of relief.

"All right, you should go and do what you need to with Tristan. I'll take care of Dad here," encouraged Sarah. I know both of them are busy. Since everything's fine now, they should attend to their matters. After all, Christmas is right around the corner, so I've no doubt there'll be plenty of matters in Tanner Group and Lombard Group that require their attention.

"Thanks for the help, Sarah." Sophie smiled.

"He's my father, so it's only natural for me to take care of him. You know, my dad used his body to protect me at a critical moment during the accident! I was very touched by the lengths he would go to save me."

I'm honestly surprised by what Old Mr. Lombard was willing to do to save her. It's only logical that she felt moved by his act. "Old Mr. Lombard is such a good father!" remarked Sophie. Even though he used to oppose my relationship with Tristan, I believe it's only because he thinks I can't help Tristan.

"Yeah. That's why I'll take good care of him." Sarah smiled. My dad really is a fantastic father. After Mom left, he never searched for another partner. So, it was always just us siblings and him. With his status, he could've had any woman he wanted. Even though he had three children, there were still plenty of people who wanted to stay by his side because he was just that excellent. However, no matter how distinguished the person who wanted to court him was, he never glanced at them, not even once. Dad really is a loyal man. If not, he wouldn't have done that.

After chatting with Sarah for a while, Sophie went to Tristan, who was waiting at the entrance.

Upon noticing her much more relaxed expression, he knew his father's words had taken effect. Then he stretched his hand out toward her.

When she saw that, she promptly held his hand. "Being able to meet you is the greatest blessing of my life, Tristan."

"Am I really that good? If I am, you better hold on to me tight and don't let go. Otherwise, I may be snatched away by another woman," Tristan joked.

"If someone tries to do that, I'll consider them enemies and never forgive them!"

"Sounds good!"

Recently, she had been acting much more affectionately with him, which delighted him.

After Tristan arrived at the medical association with Sophie, he put a scarf around her neck.

"I know you all have been busy lately, but please don't forget to take care of yourself, okay? Remember to eat lunch during noon." There were many matters in Lombard Group he needed to handle. Hence, he couldn't share a meal with her later.

"I know. You should remember to do the same later, regardless of how busy you get."

"I will. All right, you should leave now," he said before he opened the door for her.

Then, she stepped out of the vehicle and hugged him lovingly.

"What should I do? I don't feel like going to Lombard Group anymore. How about I stay here to keep you company?"

Shaking her head, she let him go. "I just wanted to hug you for a while. Anyway, you should go now. Be careful on the road."

It wasn't until Sophie ambled into the building that Tristan returned to his car and drove to Lombard Group, where Felix, Sean, and Charles had been waiting.

"How did Old Mr. Lombard's checkup go?" Sean asked.

"It went well. He only suffered minor injuries. Even still, Nicholas is unforgivable," spat Tristan.

Without delay, Sean nodded. "If we don't eliminate him, he won't stop. He went too far this time."

At the side, Felix said, "Tell us what to do. We'll obey your orders."

"I already know his location, so how about we just go straight to where he is and kill him? It'll save us a lot of trouble," proposed Charles. This is our territory, so we have the advantage.

"I also think we should skip the planning and just murder him. He's not a good person anyway, so I have no qualms about taking his life." Felix didn't want the plan to be convoluted because it merely involved killing a single individual, even if that person was Nicholas.

Sighing, Sean retorted, "Do you two think Nicholas is an idiot? If he had the gall to come, he definitely has some tricks up his sleeve." Sometimes, these two speak without thinking, and it makes me feel quite speechless. Nicholas doesn't have anything precious to him. If we rattle him too much, he may take everyone down with him, which will be terrible because our families are here.

"I suppose you're right. This is Jipsdale, our families' home. Even though I've hired plenty of bodyguards to protect them, we still need to be careful. We must succeed in taking him down in one go. Otherwise, if he survives, he'll seek revenge, and our families will be in peril," Tristan reminded. All four of us care deeply about our families, so we can't take the risk.

Charles and Sean nodded.

In response, Felix agreed, "Okay. In this case, I suppose we'll have to plan our moves carefully." I'm not afraid for myself, but I'm concerned about Ysabelle's safety. We still haven't gotten married yet!

Meanwhile, Nicholas stood outside the medical association in a black coat, looking like a twisted male protagonist from a comic book.

Pulling out his phone, he called Sophie.

Chapter 743

"Sophie, it's me!" Nicholas said the moment Sophie picked up. "Please come back to me. Otherwise, I don't know what I might do!"

He did not want to hurt her, but he was unable to control his actions.

It was because he loved her too much that he couldn't help but want to possess her.

Sophie remained indifferent upon hearing Nicholas' words. He should not be wasting his love on her as she was not interested in him at all and would never reciprocate his feelings.

"Nicholas, I will kill you!" Sophie said coldly.



“Sure. I'm willing to die by your hands, so let's meet! I want to see you no matter what.”

Nothing else mattered to Nicholas as long as he had Sophie by his side.

“Ha!” Sophie sneered, wondering if there was really a need for the man to go to such an extent for his unrequited love.

“Sophie, you're not me. You wouldn't know how much I love you.”

“Nicholas, you're not me either. You wouldn't know how much I detest you. One thing I can tell you for sure is that I'm very happy now, and I don't want anyone to disrupt my blissful life.”

Even if he liked her, it didn't mean that she had to return his feelings.

After all, she had never given him the wrong idea or led him on.

Sophie simply could not understand why Nicholas was so fixated on her when he could literally get any other women he wanted.

Is it really worth it to sacrifice his pride and end up with nothing?

“So, are you coming? Or are you hiding from me because you're scared to meet me alone?” Nicholas was getting increasingly obsessed as he stood in the howling wind.

“Reverse psychology doesn't work on me.” Sophie wanted to kill Nicholas, but she was well aware that she wouldn't be his match in her current state.

Besides, as she loved Tristan, there was no way she would take such a risk.

“Sophie, you've changed. You've become such a different person after you got together with Tristan.”

If it was before, she would have confronted me without hesitation, but she's not even willing to meet me now.

“Whether or not I've changed, or whether it's for the better or for the worse is none of your business.” Sophie hung up after saying that as she found it pointless to continue the conversation with Nicholas.

Nicholas smashed his phone on the ground. He was giving off a chilling aura that kept everyone at arm's length.

Passersby instinctively shifted to the side to avoid crossing paths with the man.

Nicholas remained rooted to the spot and lit another cigarette. He had been smoking so much that there were numerous cigarette butts scattered by his feet.

Noticing that Sophie seemed rather disoriented after ending the call, Arius stopped what he was doing at once and asked, “What's wrong? Was it Nicholas?”

Only Nicholas would have such an effect on her.

“Yeah. He's outside right now and wants to meet me.” There was nothing Sophie could hide from Arius.

“That guy is really too much! You've never provoked him. Why does he keep bothering you?”

Arius had the urge to murder Nicholas there and then.

“Why don't I go down and get rid of him?” Even though he was a doctor, it wouldn't be the first time he had killed someone. As such, it was not a big deal to him.

Sophie let out a chuckle and said, "Just leave it to Tristan and me to handle. That's not the way a doctor should get his hands stained with blood."

Arius shrugged nonchalantly as he replied, "You know I don't care about such things. I'm willing to do anything to protect you."

In the midst of their conversation, Georgina entered the room with two lunchboxes.

"Sophie, I brought this from home. I cooked extra for lunch, so I packed some for the two of you as well. Homecooked food is healthier than outside food." Although Georgina seemed to be speaking to Sophie, her gaze was fixed on Arius the entire time.

"Thanks." Sophie accepted the lunchbox graciously.

It's not polite for me to reject it since she has already brought it all the way here. I have to be appreciative of her kindness!

Unaware of Georgina's feelings toward him, Arius took over the lunchbox and said cluelessly, "Georgina, you're really multi-talented. Not only are you an outstanding doctor, but you're also an amazing home cook as well. Whoever marries you is a lucky man indeed!"

"Really?" A blush spread across Georgina's cheeks. She was in love with Arius. Even though she was aware of the distance between them, she could not help but want to be close to him.

Ignoring the other two, Sophie sat at one side and opened her lunchbox.

The food looked both delicious and nutritious. It was obvious that Georgina had put a lot of effort into preparing the meal.

"Dig in then! If you guys don't mind, I can do this more often. I love cooking anyway."

“Georgina, your work at the medical association is tiring enough. You should get some rest when you're back at home.”

Sophie did not want Georgina to waste her energy on packing lunch for them as Arius would not be easily moved by that.

Besides, love was not transactional and had to arise naturally from within the depths of one's heart.

“Yup, I will. Don't worry, Sophie. I won't let it affect my work at the medical association,” Georgina clarified at once.

“That wasn't what I meant. I just don't want you to tire yourself out.” Sophie did not know how to get her point across properly.

Georgina nodded and replied, “All right then! I shall get back to work.”

Georgina knew what Sophie was driving at, but she could not do anything about her feelings.

“What's the matter?” Arius asked while eating after noticing Sophie's expression.

Taking a pause, he continued, “Seriously though, I didn't expect Georgina to be able to cook so well.”

“Arius, having a face like yours should be a crime!” It was undeniable that the man was indeed extremely handsome.

Arius lifted his fingers to touch his face and said narcissistically, “Why? Are you jealous of me too?”

“Jealous my foot! Can't you tell that Georgina is interested in you? If you don't have feelings for her, you shouldn't be saying those things.” Giving a woman false hopes could destroy her.

Feeling speechless, Arius replied, "All right. Got it!"

Georgina was no doubt a good woman, but Arius was simply not attracted to her. Sometimes, he could not help but worry that he would remain single forever.

There was no lack of women around him, but he did not seem to be interested in any of them.

When Sophie was halfway through her meal, Tristan called.

"I have sent some men to protect you for the next few days. You don't have to pay any attention to them. Just treat them as invisible."

Tristan had made that decision after some careful thought.

Naturally, Sophie knew what he was referring to. In actual fact, she was certain that those people from the Sable family would not dare to hurt her. Moreover, she was more than capable of protecting herself.

However, in order to give Tristan peace of mind, she accepted his arrangement.

"Oh, by the way, Nicholas called me just now. He asked to meet me," Sophie shared, not intending to hide anything from Tristan.

## Chapter 744

"Don't mind him. No matter what he says, don't pay him any attention!" Tristan said. He did not want Sophie to meet Nicholas on her own.

He wouldn't mind if Nicholas were an ordinary man. However, the latter was literally a psycho who thought in extremes.

Tristan didn't know what would happen if Sophie actually met that man.

“Yeah, I know. So I didn't say yes,” Sophie voiced. Since she had decided to be with Tristan, it was only right that she told him about these things.

“All right. Remember to take a break in the lounge after you eat,” Tristan reminded.

“Okay. I'm hanging up then. You should also get some rest.”

After hanging up, Sophie headed to Barney's office. As Barney had things to deal with in Anglandur, he had to go back there.

However, it was risky for him to return. Once he was there, there would be many things out of his control.

Many people in Anglandur did not understand why Barney left in the first place, and the government was also unhappy about his decision.

That was why his trip this time was dangerous.

When Sophie reached the door, she heard Arius' voice coming from inside. “Dr. Smith, I'll go with you. No matter what comes our way, I'll face them with you.”

The decision to return to Chanaea was made by them collectively, so Arius would never let Barney handle the consequences on his own.

“No need. I'll return on my own. They won't dare to do anything to me,” Barney said. After all, he was a well-respected figure in Anglandur.

Arius shook his head.

“Dr. Smith, have you forgotten how they locked you up last time? They are willing to do anything for the sake of benefits.”

Arius was exasperated. He knew that not everyone cared about morals and ethics.

There were some people that were just outright shameless.

Barney heaved a sigh.

“But I have to go back. I know it will be difficult to come again once I go there, but I have no choice. Arius, if I fail to return, make sure to keep an eye on things here.”

As Sophie was totally inexperienced, Barney couldn't help but worry.

Just then, Sophie knocked on the door and walked in.

“Don't worry, Dr. Smith. I'll go with you this time. No matter what you'll have to face, I'll be by your side.”

Sophie was now a member of the Chanaean Medical Association. Naturally, she couldn't let Barney face the danger on his own.

Shaking his head, Barney insisted, “No, none of you should go. I can go by myself.”

There needed to be closure for some things. Otherwise, those people would never let him off and keep on pestering him.

Barney disliked being disturbed.

“I'll go with you,” Sophie repeated firmly.

She could only feel at ease if she went with Barney personally. There was a huge possibility that he wouldn't be able to come back after his trip this time if he went alone.

"Sophie!"

Barney knew that Sophie was a strong-minded woman, but he didn't want her to do this.

"How about this, Dr. Smith? Both Sophie and I will go with you. Let's be together no matter what happens," Arius suggested.

They could not possibly back down at this time. Since they couldn't run away, they might as well brave the storm together.

"Fine."

Left with no choice, Barney could only agree. Indeed, nothing could pose a challenge as long as the three of them were together.

"When do we leave?" Sophie asked since she had to let Tristan know.

"There's a flight tomorrow morning," Barney replied with a sigh. Nevertheless, he seemed more relaxed now that Arius and Sophie were accompanying him.

"All right, I got it."

The other members of the Chanaean Medical Association were also aware that Barney was going to visit Anglandur, and they were all worried.

However, none of them could help. The only thing they could do was to do their own jobs properly and not cause any trouble for the trio.



When Georgina found out that Arius was also going, she was dejected.

She somehow had an idea of what was going on and knew that they might not be able to come back again.

As Sophie and Arius walked out of Barney's office, they noticed Georgina waiting outside. It seemed like she wanted to say something.

"I'll go ahead first." Knowing that Georgina was here for Arius, Sophie did not stay any longer and headed to the laboratory.

Arius could sense something wrong with Georgina. "What's wrong? Don't worry. Nothing will happen to us," he reassured gently.

All of a sudden, Georgina stepped forward and hugged him.

"Arius, I like you. Regardless of how you feel about me, I still like you. So please take care, okay?"

Even if she couldn't be Arius' girlfriend, she wanted him to be safe and sound.

It was Arius' first time being embraced by a girl. Her body felt soft, and her fragrance filled his nose.

At that moment, Arius felt that it would be nice to date someone.

His voice softened as he told her, "Yeah, don't worry. I'll be careful."

"All right."

When Georgina realized what she had done, she moved back with a blush painting her face. With her red-rimmed eyes, she looked pitiful.

Arius couldn't resist chuckling.

"All right. You should get back to work. Don't worry about this. We know what to do."

Besides, there was Tristan.

As long as Sophie was involved, Tristan would never sit back and do nothing. Arius had no doubts about Tristan's capabilities. The latter even managed to bring a general election candidate from Anglandur.

"Arius, I really like you," Georgina emphasized.

She began to feel a bit greedy. In truth, she hoped that Arius could reciprocate her feelings. It was tormenting to have a one-sided love for someone.

"Yeah, I know."

Although Arius felt that it would be nice to date someone, he didn't know if that girl would be Georgina. Hence, he wasn't sure how to answer her.

Hearing his words, Georgina was disappointed.

I thought he'd give me a chance since he's moved, but I guess he still doesn't like me.

Arius patted her shoulder and coaxed, "You should go back first. Stop overthinking and focus on work. Let's talk again when I'm back."

Their visit to Anglandur this time was quite risky, so he didn't have the energy to contemplate things like dating right now.

“Okay.”

Upon entering the laboratory, Arius saw that Sophie was already doing an experiment. He couldn't help but marvel at how composed she was.

It seemed like she was never affected by anything. They were heading to Anglandur the next day, yet here she was, conducting an experiment so calmly.

“Sophie, I suddenly feel like it'd be nice to date someone.”

“What are you talking about? Are you going to act like a scoundrel now?” Sophie looked at him disapprovingly. She continued, “Georgina is a nice girl. If you don't plan on marrying her, then don't mess with her. Do you understand?”

#### Chapter 745

“Tsk. Sophie, do you honestly see me as such a person? Is it really necessary?” If he were to succumb to love, it would be for an eternity.

“That's good.” After hearing a satisfactory response, Sophie did not speak further.

She began concentrating on the experiment, no longer paying heed to him.

Seeing how focused she was, Arius left Sophie alone and went to work on his own experiments.

That evening, Tristan came to pick her up and discovered she was leaving for Anglandur tomorrow.

Unfortunately, Lombard Group had an important meeting tomorrow, so Tristan could not accompany her.

However, now that Nicholas had his eyes on her, Tristan was even more worried about letting her go to Anglandur alone.

"Can't you go a little later? If you can push back the schedule, I will be able to go with you," Tristan said.

The meeting tomorrow was really important, and Felix and the others couldn't go on his behalf. Hence, Tristan had to attend it himself.

"You don't have to come with me. I can handle it myself. Don't worry!" replied Sophie.

She was merely acting in an abundance of caution. Even if Nicholas did show up, she would be able to

handle the situation.

"No, I don't want to take any risks right now! Even if there is only a one percent chance of it happening, I will not allow it."

The last incident had traumatized him.

Sophie hooked her arms around his neck and kissed him. "Didn't I tell you? That kind of thing will not happen again."

Tristan was thinking about how to come up with a perfect plan. "Tell Barney we'll leave in the afternoon, and we can go on our plane."

Tristan had a private plane, and if it was only a bit later, there shouldn't be any problems with Anglandur.

"Tristan! If we're together, I'll only be a burden to you, and I don't want to see that happen! Do you get it?" replied Sophie.

They were two independent and separate people. No matter how close they were, they still needed to manage their own affairs.

Tristan leaned over and kissed her on the forehead.

“You're not a burden! I just don't want to take any risks. I don't want to lose you.”

“You won't lose me. The last time was just an accident! Even if Nicholas appears before me, I will find my way out of there.”

The only reason things had turned out the way they did last time was because she was seriously injured.

Regardless, Tristan didn't want to compromise.

He was adamant about going with her.

Sophie planted a soft kiss on his Adam's apple, a gesture that always made Tristan tremble with desire. She loved his Adam's apple, finding it particularly sexy and irresistible.

Tristan had noticed it as well. Many times, Sophie would irresistibly kiss him on the same spot over and over again.

Embracing her tightly, he kissed her passionately for a long time before finally releasing her.

“I'll send a few more of my men to follow you. Do not refuse my offer. Only then will I be able to put my mind at ease,” Tristan said, his anxious tone belaying his deep concern for her safety.

That was already his biggest concession.

Sophie nodded in agreement. “Okay, fine. That works for me.”

After all, she had been followed everywhere for the past few days.

“You're a very stubborn girl. I really have no idea what to do with you,” Tristan teased, his voice tinged with amusement. Sophie had always been an opinionated woman.

Her lips curved into a playful smile. “It's only because you're obsessed with me!” she retorted, knowing full well that his unwavering love was the reason behind his unprincipled concessions.

“Yes, I'm obsessed with you, and I cannot lose you,” Tristan replied. Never in his mind did he expect to love someone so deeply.

Tristan and Sophie were completely immersed in their love, and their intense passion for each other drove them closer together.

Meanwhile, Nicholas was drinking his whiskey alone in a hotel room.

Recently, he had stopped drinking wine and switched to whiskey exclusively.

Only whiskey could alleviate the pain in his heart.

Richard sighed as he observed his boss' state.

Men trapped by love were truly pitiful creatures.

Men like Nicholas, who wielded supreme power and privilege, had already reached the pinnacle that others could only dream of from birth.

Yet, there was one woman in this world who remained forever out of his grasp. It was Sophie.

It was precisely because he couldn't have her that he couldn't forget her; such was the nature of men.

If they possessed something, they might not cherish it. However, they would spend a lifetime longing for it if they couldn't have it.

Men were really cheap.

"Boss, we need to go back now," Richard urged. There was a problem in Anglandur, and they needed to return immediately.

"Very well. Let's go," replied Nicholas.

It was mandatory for him to return to Anglandur.

"Boss, you don't have to be like this. I found out that Ms. Tanner will also be in Anglandur today. We'll have a distinct advantage with her there, won't we?" Richard said.

In Jipsdale, they had to be cautious, but in Anglandur, they held all the power.

They could do whatever they wanted without fear or repercussions.

"Is that so?" Nicholas asked, his spirits lifted at the news.

"That's great!" he exclaimed with a delighted laugh. Once he was in Anglandur, he could get closer to Sophie.

Meanwhile, Ysabelle and Sarah came to the airport to send Sophie off.

"Sophie, why don't I go with you? I don't have anything on my plate recently," Ysabelle offered, knowing full well the danger posed by Nicholas.

Sophie shook her head. "It's not necessary. I have some matters to attend to, and it's not convenient to bring you along. You should stay here and enjoy your time with Felix!"

"We've been together for such a long time. We don't have to be glued to each other every day!" Ysabelle protested, her voice filled with petulance.

It was true that Felix and she had been very sweet recently, but Sophie was also very important!

"It's better that the two of you are glued to each other! That's the only way to show you're happy with each other. Sarah, it's almost time, so we're boarding soon. You two should go back now."

At that moment, Butterfly arrived, her face hidden behind a pair of large sunglasses and a black backpack slung over her shoulders.

"Sophie, wait for me! I'm on the same flight as you," she called out in a cheerful voice.

Sophie was instantly rendered speechless.

Oh, Butterfly...

"I'm coming with you!" declared Butterfly. It was best to have someone else around, just in case.

"Thanks," replied Sophie. It was good that Butterfly would be with her. After all, no one knew what

would happen in Anglandur. Butterfly was skilled in combat, and her hacking abilities were second only to Sophie's. With her assistance, they could ensure that everything went smoothly.

"Tsk. Is there any need for thanks between us?" Butterfly asked, her arm draped casually over Sophie's shoulder. Butterfly would do anything for Sophie.

Sarah and Ysabelle were relieved that Butterfly was tagging along.



After Sophie and her group passed through security, Ysabelle and Sarah left.

“Aunt Sarah, I think I should go to the training camp for a bit too. That way, I can become stronger! I'm too weak now!” Ysabelle declared, her voice filled with determination. She was tired of always needing others to protect her.

## Chapter 746

“Do you want the truth?” Sarah asked as she drove.

“Yeah, tell me the truth,” Ysabelle replied.

“Do you remember how your grandfather asked you to learn self-defense, and you gave up?” Sarah probed. Is she under the impression that the training camp is open to anyone?

Ysabelle conceded defeat. All she wanted was to help the people around her; she did not want to see them tire themselves.

“Well, you have good intentions. Don't worry. They are all quite capable, so they won't require your protection. Just be with Felix, and everyone will be relieved!” Sarah assured.

Disappointed by her reply, Ysabelle uttered, “Okay.” She would not have been in this predicament if she had persisted in the past.

The meeting that Tristan was attending at Lombard Group was very important.

All the high-level executives were also present. As he listened to the proposals, Tristan's face became increasingly displeased. Even the general manager sitting next to him dared not breathe heavily.

“All right, it seems that everyone is not well-prepared today. Continuing this meeting would be a waste of time. I will give you all one more day. If your proposal is still mediocre, I'll have to hire new people!” Tristan said sternly. There were many talented people in this day and age. They could not blame him for being ruthless if they continued with their poor attitudes.

No one dared to object, and they all quietly left the room.

“You, stay!” Tristan instructed the general manager to remain.

The man started sweating profusely, trying to find the right words to say. He had truly done his best!  
“Mr. Tristan, I...”

“I think Lombard Group will need a new general manager if there is no improvement in standards for the next proposal,” Tristan warned.

The general manager could only stay silent.

“Okay, you can go now. I will only give you two days!” After Tristan spoke, he threw his pen onto the conference table.

Feeling fearful, the general manager dared not say anything and left quietly.

If Tristan had known their proposal would be of such poor standards, he would have accompanied Sophie to Anglandur.

What a disappointment! Sophie and the others should be arriving soon, right?

Right as he thought of that, his phone rang.

“We've landed. Has your meeting ended?” Sophie asked cheerily.

“Yeah. Take care of yourself!” It was pointless to say anything more. Tristan could only hope that she would take care of herself.

"Don't worry, I will." After hanging up the phone, Sophie discovered that everyone had disembarked from the plane. Hence, she quickly walked out to catch up with the rest.

"Damn, it's so cold!" Arius complained.

"Yeah, it's really cold!" Butterfly zipped up her jacket and carried her black handbag.

Ever since Barney got off the plane, his expression had been solemn. There were too many things he had to deal with on this trip.

Upon noticing Barney's glum demeanor, Sophie walked over and said, "Dr. Smith, didn't I tell you there's no need to worry?"

Barney pretended to relax and assured her, "I know. Well, it's getting late. Let's go to Arius' hotel first!" Despite having their own dwellings, it had been a long time since they visited and tidied their houses. Hence, they chose to stay at a hotel instead.

"Come on, let's go!"

The four of them had not brought anyone else on this trip. However, there were several people following them not far away.

After leaving the airport, the bodyguards arranged by Tristan spotted them and began following them. There were more than twenty bodyguards.

"Did Mr. Tristan arrange this?" Butterfly noticed the guards as soon as she left the airport. Given that she had been with Sophie for a long time, she was naturally more observant than ordinary people.

"Yeah!"

"To be honest, men like Tristan are really rare in this world!" Butterfly could not help but exclaim.

Although Tristan could not come with them, he had arranged for many bodyguards to follow them. Even if anything did occur, it would be easier to address with their assistance.

“Yeah.” Sophie's expression softened when she heard the man's name.

She had no objections to his arrangements. Although she had her own influence here, the feeling of arranging things herself and having someone else do it for her was different.

Arius snorted. “Is he really that good? If he is, he should have come with us.”

Now that Tristan isn't here, it's an excellent time to slander him. Otherwise, when will I get another opportunity?

Butterfly was speechless. In fact, she was disgusted by Arius' petty behavior. “Professor Gullifer, do you dare say these things in front of Mr. Tristan? If you don't, keep quiet!”

When Barney saw how expertly they had arranged everything, his anxiety decreased slightly. He chuckled and said, “Let's go!”

The group soon arrived at the hotel. Meanwhile, when Remus Black from the International Medical Association learned that Barney had returned, his expression turned sullen.

After Barney's departure, Remus had been promoted from deputy to head of the International Medical Association.

“Where are they now? Let's invite him out for dinner tonight!” Remus suggested. Since he had gone to Chanaea, why did he come back? Does he still want to compete with me for this position?

“Mr. Black, I'll make the arrangements. You can rest assured that even if Dr. Smith returns now, the International Medical Association no longer has a place for him! The leaders will definitely not let a traitor off so easily.”

Barney's return was part of a strategy devised by the higher-ups. Unfortunately, he and the others might not make it back to Chanaea alive.

Upon hearing his assistant's words, a sinister smile appeared on Remus' lips.

"Well, of course. Mr. Hunt never shows any mercy to traitors!" Remus heaved a sigh of relief.

Barney was a thorn in his side. As long as the former existed, his life would never be peaceful.

Hence, Remus was the one who most wanted Barney dead.

"Anyway, please make the arrangements. No matter what, he is still my teacher. It's only natural for me to invite him to dinner!" Remus said with his usual coldness.

"Okay, Mr. Black." The assistant immediately went to make arrangements.

As soon as Barney and the others arrived at the hotel, they received a call from Remus' assistant. Since he had previously mentored the Jetroinian man, Barney did not have his guard up and readily agreed to the request. "Dr. Smith, who was that?" Sophie had been by his side and naturally heard his phone call.

"It was Remus. He wants to treat us to dinner tonight. I agreed since it's just a meal," Barney replied.

"Remus?" Sophie wondered what the man was up to. She then urged, "Dr. Smith, I think we should play it safe. It's advisable not to attend the dinner if it's not important."

"Nothing will happen. Remus isn't a bad person." Barney still trusted in the man.

## Chapter 747

Knowing Barney was going out to eat with someone, Sophie naturally couldn't let him go alone. Hence, she decided to accompany him.

The restaurant that Remus invited them to was very famous in Anglandur. He was already waiting for them when they arrived.

He and his assistant had been standing outside the restaurant in the cold for a long time, deliberately putting on an act.

When Remus saw Barney and Sophie, he immediately rushed over to open the car door for Barney.

“Dr. Smith, you're finally here. I thought I would never see you again in this life!” Remus put on a pained and distressed look.

Arius rolled his eyes. What is he babbling about? What does he mean by not seeing us again in this life? We just went to Chanaea. Why would he not be able to see us anymore?

Meanwhile, Barney didn't bother with deciphering Remus' words.

“It's cold outside. Let's go in and talk.” Barney's accomplishments in medicine were unparalleled, but he was an honest and righteous person. Hence, he was not a match for Remus.

“Okay, Dr. Smith. This way, please!”

Remus instantly led the way.

Sophie and Arius followed behind Barney. The many bodyguards in charge of looking out for Sophie had to remain outside as they couldn't enter the restaurant.

Although their mission was to protect Sophie, they felt that she should be safe in a famous restaurant in Anglandur.

“Boss, are we really not going in to take a look?” Although it was a restaurant, it was still possible for something to happen inside.

"There's no need. They won't be in any danger for now," the leader of the bodyguards responded. This was also why he allowed Sophie and the others to go in by themselves.

Otherwise, he would have followed them in already.

"I see!"

The young bodyguard who asked the question fell silent. He's right. We were all personally chosen by Mr. Tristan. Hence, we will never let anything happen to Ms. Tanner. We will definitely not disappoint Mr. Tristan.

Meanwhile, Barney and the others entered the private room. Barney took the main seat while Remus and Sophie sat to his left and right respectively. Arius then sat beside Sophie.

"Arius, there's been a bit of a misunderstanding between us. This time, I genuinely want to apologize to you guys. You should know that in a position like mine, many things are beyond my control. I didn't want to take over Dr. Smith's position, but I had no choice when it was the higher-ups' orders. Dr.

Smith, you can understand this, right?"

Barney waved his hand.

"Remus, you don't have to explain. Since I decided to leave, I knew that someone would have to take my place. I have no thoughts on this matter, and you don't need to feel burdened," he said.

"Dr. Smith, I knew you were a magnanimous person and wouldn't hold it against me. I really wanted to go to Chanaea with you, but as you know, my family and friends are all here. Since my family chose to stay here, I couldn't do anything about it," Remus went on.

Barney laughed and replied, "It's okay, Remus. No matter what decision you made, I don't blame you."

Upon hearing Barney's words, Remus finally felt relieved and turned to look at Sophie.

“This is...”

He recognized Arius, but he had never seen this gorgeous woman before.

“She's Sophie Tanner, Arius' girlfriend.”

Barney didn't want Remus to know Sophie's identity. The more people who knew about Sophie, the more dangerous it would be for her.

Anglandurns were known to be ruthless, and Barney didn't want to take any risks.

“Arius, you're so lucky. Ms. Tanner is really pretty. I have never seen someone this beautiful,” Remus stated.

Arius scoffed coldly.

He could care less about being polite with Remus. However, he understood Barney's intentions.

Sophie also had no objections to it since she knew Barney was trying to protect her.

However, she didn't eat much the entire meal.

It was difficult eating in the company of people she didn't like.

Also, she didn't talk much. Rather, she listened quietly to the conversation as if she didn't really understand what they were talking about.



Remus kept emphasizing how he wished Barney would come back to the medical association.

He also mentioned the recent happenings in International Medical Association.

However, it was impossible for Barney to return at that point. "Remus, don't say such things anymore. I feel at ease with you taking over International Medical Association."

Since he was all about contributing to the study of medicine, it didn't matter which organization he was doing it in.

"Dr. Smith, are you really not coming back? With your achievements, you could easily enjoy a comfortable life in Anglandur. It will be tiring to start all over in Chanaea."

"One will have to pursue something in one's life to feel fulfilled. I have devoted my life to the study of medicine. No matter how hard it is, it's worth it to me. I'm satisfied with that."

After sending Barney and the others off, Remus returned to the restaurant. His assistant poured him a glass of wine.

"Mr. Black, I told you you could relax. They will never return to the medical association. Moreover, even if they wanted to, there will no longer be a place for them in International Medical Association." They were the ones who wanted to leave and take others with them back then. Hence, they wouldn't be able to return anymore.

Remus took a sip of wine. He was extremely satisfied with the current situation.

"Sophie doesn't look that simple, and she doesn't seem to be Arius' girlfriend either. Go and investigate her for me." Remus suspected Sophie's background was more complicated than what Barney was letting on.

"Okay, I understand. I'll send someone to investigate."

Meanwhile, Barney and the others finally returned to the hotel. After being on a long flight and drinking, Barney was exhausted. He quickly retreated to his room to rest.

Arius went to Sophie's room and noticed she hadn't brought much luggage. He shook his head. She's really something. We are going to be here for at least three days. How can she not bring anything?

"If you need anything, I can buy it for you now." Arius had stayed here for many years, so he was quite

familiar with the area.

Sophie shook her head.

"There's no need for that. Tristan has already sent someone to bring over everything that I need. You don't have to worry about me."

Arius was rendered speechless.

Fine! How could I forget? She has an almighty and capable boyfriend that can settle everything for her.

"By the way, Remus probably won't believe that you're my girlfriend." Arius knew that Remus was cunning and not easy to fool.

"It doesn't matter whether he believes it," Sophie replied. We don't have to bother with what Remus thinks.

"He will soon find out your identity." The International Medical Association network was extensive, so it was impossible to hide most things from the medical association.

Chapter 748

"So?" She wasn't afraid.

“Anglandur's always been interested in talents like you. They'll definitely come looking for you and try to make you stay. If you refuse, they might not let you leave so easily.” Anglandurns could come up with every excuse imaginable.

“Ha.”

Sophie scoffed. If she wanted to leave, no one could ever get in her way.

“I understand. It's getting late, so you should go back and get some rest. Whatever it is, we can talk about it tomorrow.”

It wasn't wise to cross her.

“Okay. Don't stay up too late or spend too much time on the phone. The radiation's not good for you,” Arius reminded, aware that Tristan would surely call her.

“Got it.”

Expectedly, Tristan's phone call came the moment Arius left. Judging from how the former's hair was still wet, he must have just gotten out of the shower.

“Why didn't you dry your hair? You'll catch a cold easily,” Sophie couldn't help but nag.

The heater kept his room warm, but he could still get sick easily.

“It's fine.”

Tristan put his phone aside and began drying his hair with a towel.

“Have you had dinner?”

“Yup.”

Sophie watched the man who had just taken his shower wipe his hair with the towel. He really is gorgeous.

Tristan had nothing but a robe on, and the sash appeared to have been tied around his waist with minimal effort. Despite the simplicity, she couldn't take her eyes off him.

It didn't take long for the man's short hair to stop dripping beads of water.

“What's wrong? What are you thinking about?” Seeing her remain silent, Tristan tossed his towel aside.

“Nothing. I just can't believe such a handsome man like you exists.” The woman's lips curved.

“Don't try to charm me, Sophie. You're so far away from me right now. If you keep this up, I might not be able to resist going over to you.”

Sophie's smile widened.

“Okay, then. Come on over!”

“Hmph. You know it'd be dawn by the time I get there, missy.”

This young lady is becoming increasingly puckish.

“By the way, you'll be heading over to the International Medical Association tomorrow, right? Remember, call me right away if anything happens,” the man added.

He wasn't completely powerless when it came to dealing with Anglandur.

He could easily bring them back home if he wanted.

“Okay. I will.”

“All right. I know you're tired. Go take your shower.” Despite not wanting to hang up, he knew she needed rest.

“Okay.”

“Don't end the video call. I'll wait for you here.”

“Got it!”

Sophie positioned her phone in a way that captured her movements before grabbing her clothes and heading into the bathroom.

Tristan would then glance at his screen from time to time while sorting out his mail.

It was a quick shower, and Sophie re-emerged less than twenty minutes later in a set of pajamas with a towel wrapped around her hair.

Tristan gulped subconsciously when he saw her. Then, he couldn't help but smile upon realizing what he had done.

Why was a man in his thirties like him getting all flustered like a teenager in love?

“It's late. You should get ready for bed.” Sophie still had to dry her hair and figured he wouldn't be able to hear her speak while she used the blow dryer anyway.

"It's fine. I still have some things to take care of. Don't mind me."

"Okay."

With that, the woman went to dry her hair.

When she was done, she opened up her laptop and hacked into the International Medical Association's system to view the building's floor plan.

As they would be heading there tomorrow, she had to memorize the floor plan so they could escape in case anything were to happen.

"All right, it's getting pretty late, so get some rest," Tristan urged, prompting Sophie to carry her phone to bed.

"Don't miss me too much. I'll be back in two days," she remarked while still holding onto her phone.

"Okay. Have a good rest. Good night."

Tristan ended the call reluctantly.

If only she were by his side now.

Unfortunately, she wasn't. All he could do was hope she would sleep well and deal with whatever might happen tomorrow.

Right after hanging up, Sophie realized that someone had snuck into her room. She remained seated on her bed and didn't budge.

"Come on out," she demanded.

Upon hearing her voice, Nicholas walked out of a corner with a huge smile on his face.

He was truly elated to finally get to see her after so long.

On the other hand, Sophie was clearly unamused to see someone who wasn't supposed to be here there in her room.

“Do you feel glad to see me, Sophie?”

The woman scoffed.

“You tell me. How do you think I'd feel about seeing you? Haven't you been clear on this all along?”

Nicholas plopped himself onto the couch.

“Don't say that. You can just treat me as an old friend dropping by for a chat. There's no need for you to have your guard up like that. I've never wanted to hurt you. I love you!”

Sophie was speechless.

Love? I don't want a sick love like this.

“Are you done, Nicholas? If you are, then get out of here now!” She had never cared about this man—not in the slightest.

“No, Sophie. They all say I'm sick, but I don't think that's true. I just love you too much, that's all! You know that, right? I know I'll be fine as long as you're with me!” Nicholas replied in despair. “You won't hate me, will you? I love you so much!”

"If you're sick, go see a doctor instead of bothering me!" Sophie only had a robe on, so she wouldn't be able to engage in combat very well.

Nicholas stood up and began walking toward her.

"I don't need a doctor. Even if I do, you're the only one I want, Sophie. Or you could keep me company whenever I visit the doctor! I might stop bothering you if I get better, you know?"

Wouldn't this be an irresistible offer?

The woman glared at him.

She never liked being threatened.

"You've fallen in love with the wrong person, Nicholas. I told you, I don't care whether you're dead or alive. In fact, I'd be more than happy to kill you!"

With that, she whipped a gun out from underneath her pillow and aimed it directly at the man's forehead.

It had been a while since she last used this gun, but it felt the same as always in her hands.

A bitter smile formed on Nicholas' face.

"Do you really not care about me at all? Why are you so cruel to just me? Are you that heartless, Sophie? Can't you feel the love I have for you?"

He began to lose control of his emotions.

Chapter 749



Nicholas was devastated. Where did I go wrong? Why won't she accept my feelings?

Sophie placed her finger on the trigger. Aware that she would shoot him without mercy, the man could only leave right away.

Despite being quick on his feet, Sophie fired at him—but he was wearing a bulletproof vest beneath his clothes.

He had come prepared knowing that she might kill him without a second thought.

Moreover, he moved so swiftly that he remained uninjured. “One day, you'll come to me willingly. I promise you this, Sophie.”

Not wanting to remain in such a situation, Nicholas had no choice but to leave.

The hypnotist has everything prepared. All I need right now is a chance, and when the time is right, she'll be mine.

Sophie chose not to go after him.

She had come to Anglandur with the main goal of protecting Barney. If she were to leave now, someone might act in her absence.

Thus, the woman kept her silver gun away and lay down. It was time for bed.

Immediately upon returning to the Sable family's headquarters, Nicholas began to wreck every object

he came across.

No one in the house dared say a word.

Richard was just as terrified. Nicholas was truly ill and had no control over his own behavior at this point.

The latter finally calmed down after a long while.

Only then did Richard walk up to him.

“You really don't have to be like this, Boss. Everything has been prepared. All that's left is the right opportunity.”

When the time came, Sophie would naturally return to his side.

It didn't matter if she was unwilling.

“Get someone to clean this place up,” Nicholas ordered. Thanks to his bulletproof vest, he only felt a little sore at the spot where Sophie had shot him.

Yet, his heart was in grave pain.

How could he not be affected when the person he loved treated him this way?

Alex immediately instructed for the place to be cleaned up.

“You haven't had dinner yet, Boss. I'll get someone to bring you your food.”

Nicholas shook his head.

“There's no need. I'm not hungry.”

No one else understood his obsession with Sophie, but he just couldn't let her go.

Barney and Arius were done preparing by the time Sophie woke up the next day, so the three of them had breakfast together.

Butterfly was ready too.

"You may not be able to enter the medical association, Ms. Sekelsky. I'm afraid you might have to stay at the hotel for the next two days." Barney knew what Butterfly had come here for, and he was extremely grateful for that.

Unfortunately, not everyone could enter the medical association.

Unfazed, Butterfly cast Sophie a glance.

Would it really be okay if I didn't follow them?

The International Medical Association is the perfect setting to make a move on them. Will they be fine without me?

Sophie nodded in response.

"You don't have to come. If anything really happens, call Tristan right away."

Butterfly nodded. She could only respect Sophie's wishes.

"I understand. In that case, I'll wait for you guys outside and come save you the moment anything happens."

Naturally, she was most worried about Sophie.

After all, she had come here just to protect the latter.

Barney had a glass of milk and nothing else for breakfast. In truth, he had no guarantee as to what might happen today.

On the other hand, Sophie and Arius didn't appear bothered at all, and they ate as usual.

After breakfast, they hopped into the car before Arius drove them to the International Medical Association's headquarters.

Many people had gathered there by the time they arrived, including Anglandur's person-in-charge, Keegan Hunt.

Barney went to shake his hand upon seeing him, but the latter remained hostile.

None of these people here dared treat Barney like this while he was part of the medical association.

Clearly, things were no longer the same anymore.

"We have nothing to say about you wanting to leave, Barney. Anglandur has never lacked talent. The problem, however, is that you've been with the association for so many years and had control over many core matters. You'll have to account for this today," Keegan announced.

"Mr. Hunt, I've contributed so much to the association for as long as I've stayed. Is that not the case? And now that I want to leave, what more could you want from me?" Barney retaliated.

Aren't we all contributing to the medical field with the goal of serving humanity?

He didn't understand why these people were being so petty.

Keegan scoffed. "Barney, you should know that I called you back here to give you one last chance. I'm willing to put all this in the past if you return."

He could never accept anyone's betrayal.

Barney shook his head.

"You obviously know my decision. There's no way I can come back," he insisted.

Remus was especially agitated after hearing what Keegan had to say.

I've been managing the association well ever since I was put in charge, yet this guy still wants Barney

to come back? Well, what about me? What do they take me for? This is just too much!

Keegan frowned.

"Barney, I'll have you know that I never forgive traitors. To me, only a dead person can keep a secret." In other words, if Barney wanted to leave, he'd have to die first.

Barney clenched his fists.

"Mr. Hunt, I came here with the sole purpose of addressing this matter in a proper way," he stated furiously, baffled by the tyranny he was now facing.

"The only proper way is my way. Doing whatever you please isn't going to solve anything, and since it hasn't hit you yet, you can stay here in Anglandur and think about it! Take him away, men!" Keegan declared.

He didn't make Barney come here just to let him leave so easily.

With one quick glance from Keegan, a few men rushed over and tried to take Barney and his mentees away.

In their minds, it didn't take a lot of effort to restrain three people.

You've spent so much time at the International Medical Association, Dr. Smith. Do you still not get it? There are some things we just don't have a say in. Whatever the higher-ups ask for, we do. That will never change.

"Sorry, Dr. Smith. You have no choice but to come with us now." Given the way Keegan treated Barney, it was only natural that the former's subordinates behaved the same way toward the latter.

There was no reason for them to remain courteous with a traitor.

## Chapter 750

"What are you trying to do? Are you trying to take my mentor away? How dare you do that?" Arius cried out, leaping to his feet.

What kind of joke is this?

Keegan Hunt had forced him to return by threatening Barney's mother, but now, he even wanted to lock Barney up.

There was no way they were going to let that happen now that they were there.

"Barney, your mother is old now, isn't she?" Keegan questioned.

Barney was only back because Keegan had taken his mother. Hence, they were certain that Barney would not dare to pull any reckless moves.

"If it weren't for your many contributions to the medical association, I wouldn't have given you so many chances," Keegan uttered with a sneer.

Death was the only thing that awaited traitors.

He had given Barney many chances and choices. All that was left was for Barney to make the right choice.

Sophie barked out a laugh.

"Don't worry, Dr. Smith. I've asked my men to rescue your mother," she reassured. She had not been sitting around ever since she arrived in the country.

Moreover, she had connections in Anglandur too.

Otherwise, she could have possibly wasted her time all these years.

Rescuing someone was a piece of cake for her.

When Keegan heard her words, he narrowed his eyes.

"Are you Sophie Tanner, the girl who dealt with the virus?" Keegan questioned, his eyes bright.

He had heard about the medical prodigy in Chanaea, but he never thought that she would be such a pretty young woman.

However, Sophie continued to look at him as if he was nothing but a lowly ant.

Sure enough, she was completely disinterested in someone like Keegan.

Things would have been fine if everyone just went their own ways. That would be the choices they made, anyway.

Yet, Keegan just had to force Barney back with petty methods like these.

“Young lady, I know you're a capable one. What about this? Join our International Medical Association. No matter what you want, we'll agree to it,” Keegan told her, extremely interested in recruiting geniuses

into the organization.

By recruiting various kinds of prodigies, Anglandur would be able to emerge as a superpower.

That was his wish—for Anglandur to dominate the world.

Hence, he felt that everything he did would be forgivable.

“I'm sorry, but I'm not interested in your International Medical Association at all,” Sophie replied before taking out a piece of gum and popping it into her mouth.

Those who knew her would know that she only chewed gum when she was in a bad mood.

Therefore, her action was a clear indicator of how her patience had reached its limit.

Keegan chuckled.

“Ms. Tanner, I am sincerely offering you the chance to join us. As long as you join us, we can give you a limitless budget. That is something Chanaea can never do.” Anglandur's a rich country, and those who do research will always need funds, right?



Barney was hoping to keep Sophie a secret from others, but evidently, those people had already done their research on her.

Sophie scoffed.

“Sorry, but I'm rich too.” Furthermore, Chanaea was putting more of its focus on research nowadays.

In other words, budget was not an issue for her.

“Mr. Hunt, there's no need for us to waste our breaths on them. They've chosen the path of a traitor, and it's impossible for them to make a different choice.” Remus did not want to give those people any chances to return to the organization. If they did return, his position in International Medical Association would no longer be as important.

That was something he would never let happen.

Barney glanced at him.

“Dr. Smith, I've always been grateful for your guidance, but I simply cannot understand why you've chosen to be a traitor,” Remus uttered.

Arius sneered. Look at this. Remus can't hold himself back anymore. He's terrified of us coming back!

“Remus, what are you talking about? What do you mean by a traitor? There aren't borders for medicine. As long as a person can do their research well and contribute to humankind, then all is good. How could you say that I'm a traitor, then?”

How many things have I done for Anglandur? How can they turn their backs just like this?

“There aren't borders to medicine, but the researchers of medicine have nationalities,” Keegan said. “I want you to work for Anglandur.”

Keegan was never one for noble aims.

Thus, he did not care if others live or die.

“Dr. Smith, you don't need to say that much to them. These people aren't humans; they're animals!” Arius curtly uttered.

He was long sick of their behavior.

It was a little better in the past, but now that Barney was leaving, they had given up on pretending to be civil.

It was disgusting.

“Arius, I'm going to give you one last chance. If you're willing to come back, we'll dismiss everything that happened before,” Keegan repeated.

“Sorry, but I'll never come back.” Even if Barney died that day, he was not going to stay.

Those people were revolting to him.

Keegan's expression was as dark as thunder.

“What in the world are you thinking about? Are the terms I've given to you not good enough? No matter what you need, I'll support you, but you're leaving?” How can they do this? They're betraying my trust!

“Mr. Hunt, let's just lock them up,” Remus suggested. He did not want Barney and the others to go back

on their words.

“Take these three away! No one's allowed to come close to them without my permission,” Keegan instructed. He still wanted to keep those three prodigies.

Although he still did not understand Sophie that well, someone who could resolve the genetic virus was the talented individual they were looking for.

“Dr. Smith, please come with us,” Keegan's subordinate said.

Not wanting to waste any more of her breath, Sophie pulled out a gun and snatched Keegan over to her. Then, she pressed the muzzle against Keegan's head.

Everything happened in the blink of an eye, and no one could react in time.

“Mr. Hunt!”

Once Keegan's subordinates realized what was going on, they drastically paled. They could not believe that the pretty young lady would be so swift with her actions.

In fact, they could barely reel in from the shock.

“Why are you still spewing nonsense? Can you be quick?” Sophie hated wishy-washy people.

It was not a great feeling to have a gun pointed at one's head. Arius took out his gun as well.

All they needed to do was leave the place. Sophie had already made arrangements for people to pick them up.

“Mr. Hunt, didn't I warn you about this? I told you not to cross her because she's definitely not someone you can afford to cross,” Arius mockingly told him.