Remarry 381

Chapter 381 Her Stubbornness Left Zac Very Helpless

"Patricia, what should I do about you?" Zac said in a rather helpless voice, looking down at her with his deep-set eyes.

Seeing Patricia sleeping so peacefully, Zac was feeling downcast, appearing at a loss what to do next.

Zac knew Patricia very well. He knew she was a very stubborn woman, who would not easily change her mind about anything, otherwise, he would have tried this a long time ago.

Zac had experienced her pig-headedness firsthand. There was nothing he could do to change her mind.

"Did you know how much your words hurt me?" Zac said in a hushed voice next to her ear.

There was boundless sorrow in his words, but when he thought back to how he saw her crying over him in her car, he felt a little better.

It wasn't that she felt nothing for him, but it was her stubborn willfulness that stopped her from getting closer to him.

He really had no idea how he should handle this.

"I hope this is just a small bump on the road and we can get through this." Smiling gently down at her, Zac made his way next to her and kissed her on the forehead.

Feeling his familiar scent all around her, Patricia snuggled up closer to Zac, eager to feel his warmth.

Patricia woke up the next day and right away she touched her nose. A moment of vertigo overcame her and she couldn't stop herself from sneezing.

Apparently, she had caught a cold because of the sea breeze exposure the other day.

But when her thoughts moved over to last night, she somehow had the feeling that someone had been by her side the entire night, talking in her ear. And this person must be someone very familiar to her.

She frowned while thinking about who this person might be.

"Am I just imagining things? Or was Zac here last night?"

she muttered to herself, a flash of despondency shooting across her clear eyes. Memories of last night appeared in her mind's eye. She couldn't help but feel slightly startled.

Involuntarily, she lifted her hand, touched her chest, and felt a stabbing pain where her heart was.

Thinking that because she had ended things with Zac that she might now never get the chance to see him again, she felt a pang in her chest.

But this was her choice.

After taking several deep breaths, she tried her best to snuff out the pain in her heart and her usual cold expression returned to her face. As her eyes swept around the empty room, she hurried to get up, wash up, and headed to work.

Patricia arrived at the company earlier than her usual time. She right away got started on the work leftover from yesterday after she ate her breakfast.

Seeing her put so much effort into job, the manager couldn't find any fault in her work.

At noon, Patricia had food delivered to her office and had lunch there.

She was the only person in the large office. It suddenly dawned on her that this was her life back when she was in Veyron Corp.

Thinking about all the things that had happened recently, there was a faint smile on her face.

Perhaps her life had become too chaotic, and the quiet these past few days was a welcoming respite.

Life seemed to resume back to its normal pace. Without Zac, Kareem, and Jack as distractions, it was now more peaceful.

Thinking about this, though Patricia's face was calm, she still could not help but feel melancholy wash over as her heart continued to ache.

She knew why her heart hurt. She held her slender hand to her chest.

She kept shaking her head and sighing exasperatedly. After her lunch break was over, she got back to work. By the time the workday was over, she had finished all her work assigned by the manager.

She was too lazy to cook, so she decided she would dine out today. However, she didn't expect to see Jack on the way to the restaurant. His look was very calm and composed when he saw that it was her.

"Wow, you got off work really late. How about we get dinner together?" Jack said in a calm voice and turned to look at Patricia with slightly sad eyes.

Seeing the look he was giving her, Patricia could only bite down on her lower lip, wanting to turn him down but something just stopped her.

"Can't we have a meal together now? Are you really going to reject my invitation?" Jack said playfully as if he didn't really care either way.

All of a sudden, Patricia shook her head back and forth while giving Jack a look. She said in a gentle voice, "No, I'm fine with that. I have no idea where to eat anyway."

After some time had passed, the two of them walked into a restaurant together and ordered a couple of dishes.

He was acting like nothing was wrong and seeing the look on Jack's face, Patricia could only chuckle, a faint smile playing on her lips.

"Jack, does this mean..."

"Don't ask me if I'm already over you. I don't want to answer this question now," Jack cut in immediately. It seemed like he already knew what she was about to ask.

Hearing him say this, Patricia bowed her head down while smiling bitterly. She blushed, feeling too embarrassed to look at Jack.

Seeing her reaction, Jack couldn't help but laugh and say in a gentle voice, "I was just kidding around with you."

Patricia felt startled. She turned to look at Jack in a rush, and her dark and beautiful eyes held confusion in them. Her voice came out in a near-whisper as she said, "Jack, what do you mean?"

"You looked so anxious just now. I just wanted to tease you," Jack said playfully. Although his expression brightened when he laughed out loud, Patricia could still feel the sadness emanating from his smile.

It appeared that Jack knew what was going on in her head. With a faint smile, he stretched out his hand to touch her forehead.

"There's no need to blame yourself. I have thought over your words that day. Even though I'm not yet over you, I will stop pursuing you and give up," Jack said in a rather casual manner as if the topic they were discussing was of no importance to him.

"I know now that you don't love me. You have always treated me like a good friend. I forced you to be in a relationship with me and we both suffered in the end. So I really think that it's a good idea that we go our separate ways now."

Hearing what he said, Patricia nodded her head slightly. Although Jack appeared a little bitter about things, she believed that it would only be a matter of time before he got over her.

"Thank you for that, Jack." Feeling very grateful in her heart, she didn't know what else to say to express

her gratitude.

"There is no need to thank me. How have you been these past few days?" Jack turned to look at her and asked her this.

Patricia had no clue what Jack meant. She blinked at him in confusion and was about to say something when out of the corner of her eyes, she saw a familiar figure. She was too stunned to say a word.

Taking note of her long stare, Jack turned to look in the direction of her gaze. After seeing what it was, his lips curled up into a smile.

Chapter 382 Fooling Herself

"What's wrong? Why are you upset?" Jack asked in a light voice as he looked at Patricia.

The two of them saw Zac and Anika appearing together in the restaurant, looking every bit like a couple. Anyone who had seen them would have thought the same.

"What are you talking about?" Patricia deflected with a forced smile, coming to her senses at Jack's question.

But Jack knew better. He looked at the sweet curve of her lips set against the dimness in her eyes and instantly saw through the facade.

"Patricia, you can keep lying to yourself, but it's not going to change anything." There was a sharp edge in his voice as Jack spoke. The woman in front of her was nothing the Patricia he knew.

Patricia had always been able to think with a clear head. She could always get to the heart of the matter with things that concerned others, but it was as if she was lost when it came to her own self.

"Jack, I don't understand what you're saying. I'm not lying to myself. There's no reason for it," Patricia insisted, her smile growing even as her eyes turned more hesitant, as if she was speaking to herself as much as Jack.

Jack let out a resigned breath, knowing that it was futile to pursue the matter further. Patricia's answer seemed to mean even more for herself, like a barricade she was stubbornly pushing against the unwanted weight of truth. If she refused to move, no amount of pushing would make her budge. "We both know that you know exactly what I'm talking about. If you have feelings for Zac, you should at least try," Jack said solemnly.

If things were different and Zac didn't love her back, Jack would have let her continue with her false front. There would have been no point in letting her linger over feelings that had no future. But that was not the case. He knew that Patricia and Zac loved each other.

Now, it was only a matter of their honest feelings getting across the gap of their hesitations. Jack had no

doubts that if only Patricia took a step forward, Zac would make up for the rest.

She had been hurt in the past, but deceiving herself would only add to her wounds.

"Jack, you're misunderstanding things. I don't like Zac," Patricia said in an overly bright voice, intent on denying Jack's words.

As she was speaking, Zac and Anika passed by them. The chance nearness let Zac hear Patricia's words, and disappointment washed over him. His face darkened for a second before reverting to its usual aloofness.

Anika had to hold back a chuckle when she overheard Patricia. The next moment, she walked over to her with a delighted smile, as if she was seeing a friend.

"Miss Sampson, what a coincidence! Is this your boyfriend? You two look perfect together," Anika said, knowing that her words would rub salt over Zac's wounds.

Patricia gave her a polite smile and answered, "No, we're not together. Jack is my friend."

Jack seemed not to mind her answer, his face not changing as he looked at Patricia, then at Zac, and finally Anika.

It was clear that the woman wanted Zac for herself, and she had come over to him and Patricia with intentions other than giving polite greetings.

The strange thing was that Zac made no move to talk at all, and Jack couldn't understand why. Shouldn't he at least say something?

"Is that so? But the two of you look really close! Maybe you won't be just friends for much longer." Knowing that she finished what she had come for, Anika walked back to Zac. "It was nice to see you with your friend, Miss Sampson. You two have a good night."

Patricia kept a polite smile fixed on her face, but it faltered the moment her eyes landed on Zac.

Jack, as always, did not miss the fall in her expression. He looked at her and raised his eyebrows meaningfully. "Still not lying to yourself? You know who you're up against."

Patricia nodded, acknowledging Jack's words. As another thought occurred to her, she swallowed and looked at him with steady eyes. "I told Zac I won't be with him."

"Patricia, are you really going to keep this all up when you know that it doesn't have to be this way? I've seen the look in your eyes when they came in together. I can't keep watching you do this to yourself. Why won't you just admit it?" Jack said, his voice laced with frustration. He didn't understand why Patricia insisted on pulling away from Zac when it was the very opposite that she wanted.

"Enough, Jack. Zac and I are finished. Whatever happened between us belongs to the past, and I don't want to keep letting myself be entangled with him anymore," Patricia answered, wanting to drop the matter. There was truth in Jack's words, but it was also the truth when she said she didn't want anything to do with Zac anymore.

Jack sighed in defeat upon hearing what she said. There was nothing more he could do. Only Patricia could make decisions for herself.

Still, this knowledge did nothing to keep his discontent at bay. Zac and Patricia clearly had feelings for each other, so why couldn't they just be together? If only Patricia could give her own happiness a shot, she wouldn't be sitting here with bleak, sorrowful eyes.

Dinner passed quietly, with Jack and Patricia mulling over their own thoughts.

When they finished, he offered to send her home, but Patricia refused.

She needed some time alone. She hadn't taken the bus in a long time now, and she missed the feeling of being among others, the quiet company of strangers thwarting loneliness without intrusion.

Back then, she used to ride the bus every day when she was working for Zac and she had to clean his Oakleaf villa.

Those had been more peaceful times. But now...

Memories kept flooding back as she took in the familiar scenery, and there was no way for her to escape.

Her eyes grew dim and unseeing as recollection took hold of her.

Patricia reached her stop and got off, walking alone in the quiet alley. Not many people took this route and the path was usually deserted, but tonight, the road seemed lonelier than usual.

The sound of footsteps behind her halted her thoughts, her gloom morphing into alarm. She paused for a moment, then quickened her pace.

She had a sense of foreboding that whoever this person was had come for her.

The stranger behind started to walk briskly as well. Patricia was seized with dread, her heart beating wildly in her chest.

She broke off into a run, her hand closing in on the small knife she always carried with her.

There was a turn ahead. Just as she thought she could lose him there, she felt a heavy pressure on her

shoulders. The next thing she knew, a pair of strong hands were pulling her backwards.

A scream tore from Patricia. "Don't touch me! I will call the police!" Her voice trembled as she spoke. If not for the knife in her hand grounding her, she would have fallen from the shaking of her legs.

The next moment, a burst of laughter came from the back. Shocked, she faced the stalker with confusion written all over her face.

Patricia barely had time to react when the man spoke.

"It's me. Don't be afraid. I won't hurt you, so there's no need for the police," Zac said between chuckles.

Her fear melted into rage as she pushed him. With a glare, Patricia said angrily, "You think this is funny?"

Chapter 383 Feeling Los

"No." Seeing the angry look on Patricia's face, Zac stared straight at her with his deep-set eyes and shook his head slightly.

Seeing him like this, Patricia was enraged. She glared at him and spat, "Then why did you keep chasing after me?"

"That's because you kept on running. I called your name but you didn't hear me." Seeing Patricia so angry, Zac was depressed.

Patricia could see that Zac regretted all this. She glanced at him angrily before reluctantly accepting his explanation.

But it was already late, and Zac showed up for no reason at all, which made her very confused why he was here.

"So why did you come here to see me?" It appeared that she was annoyed with Zac.

However, Zac thought that she was acting very cute and didn't mind her at all.

Taking out a phone from his pocket, Zac handed it over to Patricia.

"You left your phone behind at the restaurant. Jack found it, but he had no time to give it back to you, so he asked me to help him out," Zac said in a casual voice.

Seeing this, Patricia subconsciously reached for her pocket and found that her phone was indeed missing. Her face became flustered and she took the phone, embarrassed.

"Thanks for this, Zac." As soon as she said that, she bowed down her head, not knowing what else to say to him.

After how things turned out yesterday, she didn't have it in her to face Zac.

Hearing her say this, Zac said with a smile, "It's getting late. You should head home." As he was saying this, he stared at her with his deep-set eyes as if he was searching for something on her face.

Patricia lifted her head just a little. As soon as her eyes met his, she turned her head to look away.

"Thanks again." After having said that, she turned on her heels and left him standing there.

But after Patricia took a few steps, something made her look back at him. Zac had just walked out of the alley without a second glance back.

Seeing him act so coldly towards her, Patricia frowned and bit down on her lower lip. A touch of sadness washed over her.

The next instant, Patricia hurried to turn away and quickened her pace back towards her apartment. With sad eyes, she forced herself not to look at Zac.

It was not until Patricia was further away that Zac finally slowly stopped his footsteps and turned around. He stared straight at her back, took out a cigarette, lit it with a match, put it in his mouth, and smoked thoughtfully.

"Is this really something you want, Patricia?" Zac's voice was filled with confusion, and there was a dash of sadness in his eyes. He looked at Patricia's back until he couldn't see it anymore.

Zac sighed heavily. He peered up at the night sky, but no stars could be seen.

The darkness was what Zac was feeling right now. Not only was he feeling lost, but he also didn't know what to do next. He had tried everything that he could possibly think of, but the outcome was still the same.

Zac knew what type of woman Patricia was. Jack was deliberately giving them a chance to be alone together. But Patricia appeared to be still avoiding him.

A hint of bitterness showed up on his face. Zac could only sigh unhappily. "It seems that it will take her a long time to admit her feelings for me." A touch of depression shot through his features.

When she came back to her apartment, Patricia checked her phone. For a moment there, she felt a little lost.

As she was looking at Zac's back just now, she would be lying if she said she didn't feel heartbroken.

Now, there was something holding her back. She knew where she stood in Zac's heart now and that she

didn't deserve his love at all.

Moreover, Anika had appeared in his life. Anika and Zac were a couple before, so it was a given that Anika knew him better than she ever could.

Patricia didn't think she had a chance with him. To add to that, she didn't know how to act around Zac, which posed a bigger problem now.

"Stop thinking about it. It's done and over with. Zac and I are no longer," Patricia muttered to herself word by word as if she was trying to convince herself of something.

Putting her phone on her bedside, she covered herself with the quilt and fell straight to sleep, putting all these thoughts to the back of her mind.

Even if she wanted to avoid Zac at all costs, there were still people who were working behind the scenes to get them together. Naylor was one of these people.

"Boss, please have someone else deliver it." This was the first time that Patricia had begged Naylor for something.

In the past several times before, she would see it as fulfilling a part of her job description, but today, she was feeling less inspired to keep telling herself this. She felt emotionally unstable today and had an inexplicable fear that something unexpected might happen.

"Why?" Naylor gave her an expectant look, wanting to know the reason why she was turning him down.

"Because..." Patricia could only bite down on her lower lip. Feeling slightly embarrassed, she turned her face away to hide her expression. There was no way she could explain.

She wanted to cut all ties with Zac, but she couldn't say it out.

"Since you don't have any special reason, go ahead and deliver this to Mr. Reynolds." Naylor pushed her with a smug smile on his face.

Patricia knew the meaning behind his smile, but she didn't want to create a scene in front of her boss right then.

She had no other choice but to suck it up and hope that nothing bad would happen.

As soon as she entered Reynolds Group, she drew a deep breath and headed straight to Zac's office. "Just deliver this to him. You don't have to say anything else," she muttered to herself.

After some time had passed, the secretary called out her name and said that she could go inside. Patricia thanked her with a polite smile on her face. But when she entered Zac's office, she was met with the

sight of Zac and Anika embracing. Her smile was momentarily frozen on her face.

However, after one second, Patricia's expression returned to its usual coldness and she said in a light voice, "I'm sorry. I must have come at a bad time." As soon as she said this, she turned around, wanting to leave as soon as possible.

"Wait. Anika, stop this. I said that we are impossible," Zac said as he roughly pushed Anika away.

"What for? You are single now, and I am single as well. Besides, when we broke things off before, it was just because you wanted to return back here. Now that I'm here, why shouldn't we get together?" Anika said this in a straightforward manner as if she and Zac were the only people in the room.

Chapter 384 Rejection

When Patricia saw Anika's eyes, she bit her lower lip and stepped aside quietly. Then, she lowered her head and remained like that for a while. It was quite obvious that she was depressed.

'Why didn't Zac let me leave? Does he really want me to see him with another woman?' she thought.

"How many times have I told you, Anika? This is impossible! We cannot be together. Can't you get this through your head?" Zac asked rudely.

To him, Patricia was more important than Anika. Patricia rarely came to see him but now when she did, she had to see this. Zac was angry.

"Zac, I don't want you to give me an answer now. Think this over and I'll wait for you as long as you want me to," Anika said as she looked at Zac. She wanted to be with him at any cost. She knew that he would say yes to her proposal.

Anika put her hands around Zac's neck and kissed him on the cheek. Then, she loosened her grip to look at him and raised her eyebrows naughtily.

"Zac, I will wait for your answer," Anika said and then walked away confidently. When she passed Patricia, she smiled at her wickedly. To her, Patricia was now a competitor in this game where she had to win over Zac.

Patricia didn't care but she couldn't pretend that she didn't see what was going on just now.

"Patricia..." Zac called out to Patricia helplessly and walked towards her quickly. He wanted to make her feel better and explain everything but, didn't know where to start.

"Mr. Reynolds, please have a look at this document," Patricia said and forced herself to smile at Zac. She wanted to keep their conversation related to business only.

When Zac heard that, he pursed his lips and frowned. He looked at Patricia and she saw how helpless he

was. He wanted to say something but couldn't find the right words.

Zac stood quietly as he knew that it was useless to give any explanation to Patricia. She didn't want to listen to him.

Zac frowned and stood there, looking at the document.

Zac wasn't in the mood to work, but Patricia came all the way just for this so he had no choice.

Out of the corner of her eye, Patricia glanced at Zac and bit her lower lip. She seemed unhappy.

Patricia suddenly remembered what Jack had told her.

"You must not give up if you really like Zac."

Was she giving up? She didn't know, but she always felt that there was something that couldn't be crossed between her and Zac, so she didn't know what to do about things between the two of them.

Suddenly Patricia felt that there was some kind of force pulling her towards Zac

Zac finished reading the document and with a faint smile, he handed the document back to Patricia. "Patricia, I want to talk to you."

He had already made up his mind that he must come clear, or he would feel uneasy for the rest of his life.

"I don't think there is anything to talk about," Patricia said without looking at Zac. She turned around and took a few steps towards the door when he grabbed her by her arm.

"It is not what you think. I don't even like Anika."

Patricia smiled faintly and took a few deep breaths. Then she stopped smiling and turned around to look at Zac. She looked him in the eye and said, "This has nothing to do with me." As soon as Patricia finished speaking, she shook off Zac's grip and walked back a few steps.

When Zac heard that, he was shocked and Patricia saw how hurt he was.

Zac was really upset when he heard what Patricia said.

Out of the corner of her eye, Patricia saw the look on Zac's face. She bit her lower lip and turned around without saying anything.

When Zac saw Patricia walking away, he shook his head. He wanted to catch up to her and hug her but there was nothing that he could do now.

"Why? Why did you have to refuse me, Patricia?" Zac asked sadly as he looked up at the ceiling.

Patricia left Zac's office and rushed towards the elevator. There were a few people waiting at the elevator so she waited with them. The elevator took Patricia to the hall where she ran into Anika.

As soon as Anika saw her, she walked towards Patricia and stopped in front of her.

Patricia frowned and smiled politely, "Miss Curtis, you are in my way."

However, Anika didn't care about what Patricia said. Instead, she looked down at Patricia and smiled brightly before warning her, "Miss Sampson, you are a clever woman. You know what I want."

When Patricia heard that, she was taken aback for a few minutes. Then, she understood what Anika meant. It was quite obvious that Anika was warning her to stay away from Zac.

"I think you misunderstood, Miss Curtis. I have nothing to do with Mr. Reynolds," Patricia said softly. She wanted to show Anika that Zac was now a stranger to her.

It was hard for Anika to believe that Zac was not important to Patricia. She stared at Patricia with her sharp eyes and said softly, "You think I don't know what's happening? I just don't want to expose you." Anika looked at Patricia scornfully as if Patricia didn't deserve to be in the same room as her.

When Patricia saw the look on Anika's face, she sneered and glanced in her direction coldly. "Miss Curtis, don't you think you are self-obsessed?" She felt disgusted while talking to Anika.

Anika, on the other hand, seemed calm and composed. She smiled faintly at Patricia and said, "You are such an arrogant woman! No wonder Zac, Kareem and Jack are all obsessed with you. You are really something, aren't you?"

As soon as Patricia heard that, she smirked and looked away. Ignoring Anika, Patricia stepped aside and walked quickly towards the exit.

Anika became even calmer as she saw Patricia walking away. She stared at her sharply and said, "Patricia, do you really think you stand a chance against me?" She smiled evilly.

Patricia left the Reynolds Group and returned to the company, but she couldn't stop thinking about all the things that Anika had said earlier.

Patricia was upset and didn't know what to do.

No matter what Patricia did, she couldn't get the thought of Anika and Zac out of her mind.

As soon as Patricia returned to the company, she handed the document to Naylor absentmindedly.

When Naylor saw the expression on Patricia's face, he ask curiously, "What's wrong? Did you have an argument again?"

Chapter 385 Make Things Clear

"No, we didn't." Patricia answered helplessly. She couldn't understand why Naylor was so fixated on her and Zac.

All they had was a long-gone history that did not belong in the present.

"I want to make one thing clear. Zac and I have nothing to do with each other." Her eyes turned sharp, as if in warning.

Seeing her glare at him only made Naylor amused. He cleared his throat, and his expression changed into something more serious. "I can see that you're angry, but don't worry too much. Fighting is natural between couples. It comes with the differences people always have."

He gave her a meaningful look that made Patricia's temper boil dangerously close to bursting. She leveled Naylor with cold eyes and said, "I don't know what your relationship is with Zac, but leave me out of it. There is nothing between him and me."

Naylor smiled at Patricia, as if he was unconvinced with her words. His gaze turned inquisitive as he asked, "If that's true, then why are you so angry? It's because of him, isn't it?"

"No." Patricia denied sharply, but Naylor's question caught her off guard.

He caught the lost look in her eyes in an instant and shrugged. "Well, it's your business. I am not in the position to say anything about your personal affairs, but there's just one thing I want to remind you of. The past is gone, so you should hold on to the things you have now closely if you don't want to lose them."

For a moment, Patricia was dumbfounded at his words. She looked at Naylor with wide eyes, her lips opening and closing wordlessly. She wanted to say something back, but no defense came to her.

"That's all I wanted to say." With that, Naylor waved his hand, dismissing Patricia from his office.

She turned around and left. There was nothing she could say, even if she wanted to. Naylor's words rang in her head, stirring her thoughts into confusion.

What did he mean by that?

Even as she kept hearing his voice, Patricia wasn't sure if she wanted to find out.

Her manager threw a sharp glance at her the moment she returned to her department. From the look on his face, Patricia knew that she was in for another bout of his bullying. Her hunch was proven right—the next moment, a pile of papers was haphazardly dropped at her desk. She smiled in resignation. There was much work to be done.

By the time she had sorted out the last file, it was already closing hours. She handed the documents to her manager, then packed up and left.

The last thing she expected was to meet Anika on the way. She looked like she had been waiting for Patricia.

Anika's pace quickened the moment her eyes caught sight of Patricia. "Miss Sampson, would you mind having dinner with me?"

A faint, tired smile appeared on Patricia's lips. There was only one reason why Anika would ask for her time. The woman was not after a friendly meal.

"Miss Curtis—" But before she could finish, Anika cut her off.

"Are you going to refuse me? You don't have to look so troubled. It's just a harmless dinner, Miss Sampson." Anika gave her a bright smile, but Patricia recognized the meaning behind her words.

She was being baited into accepting the invitation. Patricia knew this, but she felt her irritation rise in challenge.

This woman was obviously making a mockery out of her.

With a cold smile, Patricia answered, "Miss Curtis, I don't see any reason for us to have dinner together. I already know what you want to talk about, so let me just save both of us the trouble. I don't want anything to do with Zac."

At her words, Anika's smile twisted into a glower, and she hissed, "You really think I'd buy that? I'm not stupid, Miss Sampson. Your words and actions contradict each other. If that was really the case, then why were you at Zac's office?" She looked straight at Patricia and waited for her to talk, as if she owed Anika an explanation.

Patricia breathed out a helpless sigh. She didn't know what to say to Anika. It had all been Naylor's doing—she didn't even want to be there at all. But she was his subordinate, and her hands were tied.

"I was there because I needed to be, not because I wanted to. That's all I can say. Whether you believe it or not isn't my problem." Her eyes were aloof as Patricia looked at Anika, not having the slightest interest to prolong this unpleasant encounter.

She got the message loud and clear—Anika was telling her to stay away from Zac.

Not that she needed to. Patricia had intended to do so since the beginning, with or without her presence. Now, all she wanted was for Anika to do the same with her and leave her alone.

"Miss Curtis, I will say this again. There is nothing between us. I am not interested in him. Honestly, you're better off spending your time with Zac. It's wasted on me." Patricia spoke with finality, not bothering to hide her indifference.

Her words seemed to have pacified the other woman. Anika visibly relaxed, her figure losing its stiffness as she smiled at Patricia, this time with genuine satisfaction.

"That's right. I like Zac, and I think we can both agree that I'm the better woman for him. You're a smart woman, Miss Sampson. I'm sure you understand. It will be best for everyone if you don't come near him anymore."

With a derisive huff, Patricia smiled wryly at Anika. "If you want him that bad, then he's the one you should keep an eye on instead of hounding me." With those words, Patricia walked straight past her, not sparing another glance to the other woman.

She had nothing more to say. There was no reason for her to linger. It had been a long day, and being around Anika only soured her mood.

As images of Anika and Zac crossed Patricia's mind, she couldn't stave off the bitterness that rose in her chest. She wanted to laugh at herself, having no idea where to place these feelings.

Before Patricia could leave, Anika stopped her again. It seemed that she still wouldn't let Patricia go.

"Miss Curtis, I have already said everything I needed to. Please leave me alone." Patricia sighed. This drawn-out conversation was pointless and tedious. She just wanted to be left in peace.

"Miss Sampson, I think it's better to make things clear once and for all," Anika said calmly.

"What else is there left to clarify?" Patricia asked, growing furious at her insistence. "It's not my problem if you can't understand when I've already made myself crystal-clear."

"You know what I want to hear from you," Anika said sharply, her eyes narrowing at Patricia.

Chapter 386 Keep Away From Me

Hearing this, Patricia was very angry. She didn't understand why Anika was doing this. She thought she had already made herself clear that she wouldn't stand in her and Zac's way. Why was she still bothering her?

From the very first moment she met Anika, Patricia knew very well what sort of person she was. If she wanted something, she would never give up until she finally got it.

Frowning helplessly, Patricia said, "Let's sit down and have a chat." As soon as she said this, she pursed her lips tightly.

Seeing that Patricia was agreeing to have a talk with her, Anika lifted her eyebrows at her and led her to a restaurant nearby.

"You must be hungry. You can order something and we can talk while eating," Anika said in a casual voice as if they were old friends.

However, Patricia discovered that she did not like Anika at all. She felt that Anika was such a hypocritical person.

"No, thank you. Miss Curtis, just get straight to the point." While saying this in a helpless tone, Patricia gave Anika a cold look.

Since she said this, Anika right away quit her dilly-dallying. She grabbed a check from her bag and said in a serious voice, "This is for you."

Seeing her holding out the check in her hands, Patricia turned to give Anika another cold look. "Miss Curtis, I don't know what you mean." In fact, Patricia had an inkling that Anika was doing this to drive her away with money.

"This doesn't mean anything. It is my hope that you stay away from us. Only once you leave us alone will Zac and I finally get the chance to be together." After she said that, Anika smiled brightly, a smile full of smugness.

There was a frown on Patricia's face. She stared at Anika with displeasure in her eyes.

"Miss Curtis, I thought I already told you that I have nothing to do with Zac." With a sneer on her face, Patricia stared straight at Anika sharply, her eyes devoid of emotions.

Then, Patricia got up and turned around, wanting to leave. She had better things to do than sit here and argue with Anika. She had made herself clear to Anika, but if the other party didn't buy it, it had nothing to do with her.

Seeing the look Patricia was giving her, Anika smiled. Out of the corner of her eye, she could see a figure sitting in the Porsche not too far away.

Today felt like a success. Now, it was highly unlikely that Zac and Patricia would ever get back together.

No matter how great Zac's affection for Patricia was, she had said all those hurtful things. No matter how much he liked her in the first place, those words should hurt his pride and he should have given up by now.

Thinking about this, Anika couldn't help but feel smug about herself and subconsciously looked in Zac's direction.

At this very moment, Zac stared with a blank expression at Patricia's retreating figure. Did Patricia really hate him that much?

"Why? Why?" With his eyebrows knitted, Zac gave Patricia a sad look, wishing with all his heart he could rush up to her and hold her tightly in his arms.

However, Zac was feeling lost and had no idea what to do next. His heart was weighed down by confusion and depression.

"Patricia, tell me, what should I do next?" Zac's face was filled with confusion, and he really didn't know how to go about things. Patricia denied whatever feelings she had for him again and again. This really discouraged him.

Before Zac could recover, Anika walked to him, got inside the car quickly, and said, "Zac, you just saw it. Patricia doesn't love you. Everything you've done so far is in vain."

"Shut your mouth!" Zac gripped the steering wheel tightly with both hands and clenched his thin lips.

Zac was already in bad spirits. Now that Anika was here, he could not help but feel even unhappier.

Seeing the cold expression in Zac's eyes, Anika could only bit down on her lower lip. This was the first time any man had treated her so rudely.

As a rich lady, Anika was always treated with the utmost respect from everyone. No one had treated her with such disregard and disrespect before.

Zac no longer seemed to hold her in his esteem. He pretty much scolded her over some ordinary woman.

"Zac, you know my feelings for you. Why are you acting like this towards me now?" Anika turned to give Zac an angry look.

Anika could hardly stand it anymore. As a very successful woman, she had stooped so low as to confess her love to him multiple times.

However, Zac didn't seem to appreciate anything she did at all, which embarrassed her a great deal.

Zac glanced over at Anika but did not say a word.

How could Zac miss Anika's blatant shows of affection? It was just that they were over and he no longer

liked her anymore.

Seeing that she wasn't getting an answer from Zac, Anika became furious. She glared her eyes at him and said, "Zac, you know that I like you. Am I no better than that Patricia? Why do you keep turning me down?"

Her dignity made her unable to accept things as they were.

A frown appeared on Zac's face. He looked very depressed. He coughed and said, "Anika, I don't have any feelings for you. We are never going to work out."

"What about you and Patricia? She doesn't have feelings for you either, but you still believe that it's somehow all going to work out, don't you?" Anika sneered.

Anika finally could see things clearly. Initially, she thought that it was Patricia who had been bothering Zac all along, but now, it was apparently the opposite.

Zac still loved Patricia and was always finding ways to get back with her, but she wanted none of this.

Thinking about this, Anika's heart was overflowing with anger. She always thought Patricia was inferior to her. That was why when Zac kept shutting her out of his life, she did not know what was going on.

Hearing Anika's words, Zac could only frown. He felt too embarrassed to face her.

Anika was not wrong. He knew this, but for some reason, he just couldn't let go of Patricia.

He wanted her so bad. Therefore, no matter what the outcome, he was always longing for something more.

But now it appeared that Patricia didn't want him anymore.

Chapter 387 Desperation and Defiance

"What? Can't talk back now? I'm right, aren't I? You're still not over Patricia," Anika said, her voice thick with resentment. She fixed her eyes on Zac, her lower lip stinging from her bite. She hadn't meant for him to see her like that, but she couldn't help it.

"It has nothing to do with you." Zac's cold voice reached her slowly, word by word. He returned Anika's stare, his eyes deep and impenetrable.

His words burned her, pricking painfully at her chest. Anika could no longer hold back her fury as she seethed, "Are you going to keep going after her? Why can't you just let her go?" There was a tremor in her voice as she spoke, her question barely containing the weight of her anger.

Zac offered her no answer and looked away.

As he turned away, Anika felt as if she was doused in ice. Her teeth pressed down painfully at her already abused lip, the skin throbbing from the bite. Just as she opened her mouth to say something, Zac finally spoke up.

"Anika, you won't understand even if I explain it to you. Hell, even I am confused. All I know for sure is that Patricia is the one I want." A deep sadness resonated in his words, like a man resigned to his fate.

A gasp escaped Anika at Zac's admission. Dumbfounded, she stared at him with eyes wide with hurt. There was nothing more she could say.

She let her pain hide under her anger and glared at him. Without another word, she climbed down the car and strode away.

A thousand thoughts raced in her head as piercing emotions roiled into a storm inside her. In the midst of her anger, she made a bitter promise. Even if Zac would never choose her, she wouldn't just stand back and watch Patricia have him herself.

She knew she was a selfish woman, but she didn't feel like apologizing for it.

Zac watched Anika walk away and couldn't help but sigh. He shook his head, his thoughts once again returning to Patricia. He wanted her, but she didn't feel the same.

Hearing what she had just said made his chest feel heavier.

Patricia returned to her apartment with only her own loneliness for company. She was dead tired from Anika's hounding, and thinking about her and Zac just made her feel worse.

She didn't have the strength to stave off unwanted images from coming to her.

Zac and Anika hugging, and them being together...

It would be a long night for her, with all these thoughts refusing to leave her alone.

Just as she surrendered to the pull of melancholy, a gentle voice came and interrupted her.

"Patricia..." Kareem was standing at the door, looking at her with sad eyes.

Patricia couldn't stop a sigh from escaping. It was one thing after another today. She knew why Kareem was here.

"Kareem, haven't I already made it clear the other day?" She looked at him with a tired expression, her eyes silently pleading for him to leave her alone.

Patricia had already drawn a clear line. She thought that Kareem had finally accepted her decision, but it seemed that she had been wrong.

"No. Those words should have been for Zac and not me." Kareem walked up to her and reached out, grabbing her wrist.

Patricia looked at his sorrowful eyes and shook her head.

What else could she say to make him understand?

She had tried everything she could, but there was no use reasoning with a man who refused to listen.

"Enough, Kareem. You're just wasting your time. This will only make things harder for the both of us." Her eyes turned cold, having already exhausted all her patience and sympathy.

She had nothing more to say, and she didn't know what else to do to get through to him.

"No! Why can't we be together? All I'm asking for is a chance, Patricia. I'll show you that I'm better than Zac. I can make you happy." Kareem clung to her desperately, refusing to let her go.

He was afraid. There was nothing worse than the thought of her pushing him away for good.

"We will never be together, Kareem. No matter what you say or do, that won't change," Patricia said in a cold voice.

She knew better than anyone else that Kareem would never be able to make her happy. Not when there was nothing in her heart for him.

"Stop this now. There is nothing I can give you," she said, trying to pull away.

But Kareem only shook his head, his eyes turning red. He looked straight at Patricia with a desperate expression. "You're wrong. Just give me a chance, and you'll see."

"No, Kareem. There is no point. We're not good for each other," Patricia answered, staring back at Kareem with resolution.

His anguished expression pained her, but she couldn't let herself waver. She had to stand her ground and make things clear.

Kareem kept shaking his head in protest. He would never accept it. His grip on her momentarily loosened, and he took a few steps backward.

"Patricia, why do you keep refusing me? Just one chance. Can't you just give me that?" His body

trembled as he pleaded. Kareem looked at Patricia's impassive face and felt his heart break in his chest.

Patricia kept her face cold and unfeeling as she returned his gaze.

It told Kareem everything he needed to know.

"Kareem, that's enough. It's over. You—"

"It's not over. I love you, and I can't let you go." The words came heavily from his lips, as if he was making an oath.

Patricia sighed and shook her head again. Her mouth opened and closed, but no words came. She wanted to say something, but Kareem was determined to try and keep convincing her.

"I've already made up my mind. No matter what you think of me, I won't stop." With those words, he let go of Patricia and turned around, leaving her to watch him go.

She breathed out a long, heavy sigh, confusion clouding her eyes.

Chapter 388 Running Away From Him

Over the weekend, Patricia walked on the streets alone. She was planning to pay Giselle a visit, but she gave up on the idea after she thought about how beat Giselle had seemed recently. So she wandered the streets with no particular destination in mind.

But Patricia was obviously a little distracted. She hardly noticed her surroundings at all.

As she was passing by a fashion shop, a familiar voice sounded out from behind her.

Patricia turned around and saw Jack waving at her in an excited manner. The two of them had gone back to being good friends just like that.

"What's the matter? You look a little down. Did something happen?" Seeing the look on her face, Jack couldn't help but ask.

Patricia shook her head and forced herself to smile, not bothering to give him an answer.

Seeing her act in this way, Jack knew that she didn't want to say anything and gave up pestering her.

Jack could tell that she was a little upset. "Do you want to hang out right now? I'm not doing anything anyway."

Hearing him say this, Patricia nodded her head slightly. She thought maybe Jack could distract her from thinking about the things that had happened recently.

Jack began to regale her with some interesting stories and things that had happened between him and Sonia.

"It's obvious that Sonia likes you a lot. She is a good woman." Smiling, Patricia felt really happy for Jack.

She was glad that Jack had finally found someone he liked.

Jack waved his hand with frustration and said, "She's so silly. You really have no idea."

Hearing him say this, Patricia laughed out loud. If Sonia heard him, this might cause them to fight.

"Did you just call me silly?" A displeased voice sounded out clearly. Sonia quickly made her way up to Jack, looking very angry.

"I didn't say anything," Jack teased.

Sonia glared her eyes at Jack and stamped her feet furiously. "Jack, you're such a jerk." Having said that, Sonia stormed off.

There was a frown on Patricia's face. She pushed Jack to follow her. "Jack, you should go after her. Go and say you're sorry."

"No, why should I do that?" Jack said in a casual manner but the look in his eyes said that he was already thinking about this.

Jack looked in Sonia's direction, a trace of worry clear in his eyes.

Seeing the look on Jack's face, Patricia asked, "Jack, are you sure you don't want to run after her? She might get mad and find someone else."

"She wouldn't dare. She's the one who wants to be with me. How could she go and find someone else?" Jack said in a proud voice, but a trace of worry was visible on his face.

Patricia nodded her head slightly. Then, something occurred to her. She patted Jack on his shoulder and said, "Well, if you really hurt her, she might think about leaving you."

"Is that why you're hesitant to get back together with Zac?" Jack asked, looking very serious.

All of a sudden, the atmosphere between them changed. Feeling at a loss, Patricia blinked her eyes rapidly and looked away.

"Jack, I thought we were done with this topic. Weren't we talking about you just now?" As she said this, there was an awkward smile on Patricia's face.

"Your problem is also no small matter," Jack said in a serious voice, looking straight into Patricia's eyes.

Before she could get a word out, Jack went on to say, "Stop lying to me, Patricia. I know what's on your mind. Even though I don't know what your exact thoughts are regarding your relationship with Zac, I really think you should grab this opportunity. If you really have feelings for him, you should be together with him instead of running away each time he tries to get close to you."

Patricia was a little startled and she gave Jack a blank look. Her pink lips opened and closed wordlessly, not knowing what to say. She had no idea how to respond.

Seeing the look on her face, Jack knew that he had hit a nerve. He patted her on the shoulder and said in a soft voice, "Patricia, I'm saying this as your friend, I really don't want you to regret missing out on this love opportunity someday."

As soon as he said that, Jack turned to look at Patricia with a serious expression on his face.

Seeing the expression in Jack's eyes, Patricia had no idea what to tell him for a moment there. She could only sigh helplessly in the end.

"Jack, it's not so simple," Patricia said in an indifferent manner as a helpless look could be seen in her eyes.

Seeing that look in her eyes, Jack smiled helplessly and had no idea what to say next.

Patricia smiled bitterly and said in a light voice, "Jack, that's enough. I don't want to talk about it anymore."

Seeing her react in this way, Jack could only shrug his shoulders. It was a hope of his that Patricia would face what it was that was in her heart.

He didn't want to see her regretting her life decisions one day when it would be too late to do anything about it.

"Are you hungry? Let's get something to eat," Jack said in a casual voice. He took Patricia's hand into his and they both walked off.

But they had no idea that a pair of sad eyes had been watching them this entire time.

When he saw Patricia and Jack act so intimately, Zac could not help but feel very angry. But besides being angry, he was also feeling very depressed.

He knew now that he was nothing to Patricia and that he had no right to separate the two lovebirds.

Besides, Zac was afraid of turning Patricia against him.

Patricia finally stopped hating him, and that was the best thing to have ever happened to him. He didn't want to ruin things by making her think he was trying to sabotage her and Jack's relationship.

Now that Zac knew Patricia was trying to distance herself from him, he really did not know what to do. He felt very confused.

"Patricia..." Zac called out her name in a light voice and stared with sad eyes in the direction in which Patricia and Jack had left. With his cold face looking very depressed, he pursed his lips tightly, at a loss what to do next.

Chapter 389 Giselle's Call

Patricia felt some weight leave her shoulders after spending an entire day shopping with Jack. It was able to take her mind off of things. But this relief was short-lived. She returned to her apartment alone, and it was as if all her worries greeted her at the doorway.

She lugged her body inside and sank down the sofa, blank eyes staring at the ceiling.

Whether the sense of loss that gripped her was from Jack's piercing words or from Zac, she could no longer tell.

There was an overwhelming rush of noise and silence inside the space.

And she had no idea how to deal with all of it.

The ringing of her phone wrenched her from the grip of her own thoughts. A familiar voice came from the other side, like a blanket that kept her worries at bay.

"Mom..." Her voice cracked as she spoke. Since Giselle had gone back to the Lowell family, Patricia had been reluctant to call, afraid of disturbing her.

Giselle's voice was soft even as it was laced with concern. "Honey, what's wrong? What happened?"

"Nothing," Patricia lied, a bitter smile forming on her lips. "I'm just so glad to hear from you."

From the other side, Giselle's eyes softened with fondness. "You silly girl. I thought you were busy and I didn't want to bother you, so I didn't call these days."

Patricia nodded, her smile turning sincere. There was an inexplicable calmness that enveloped her at the sound of Giselle's voice.

But Giselle had already sensed that something was wrong. There was no mistaking the sadness in Patricia's voice when she answered. "What happened? You know you can tell me anything, honey."

"It's nothing, Mom. I'm okay. Don't worry about me. Honestly, I'm more curious about you and Richard," Patricia said playfully, steering the conversation elsewhere.

But of course, Giselle saw through the cheerful facade. Giselle knew Patricia was deliberately changing the topic.

"Patricia, don't lie to me. You're my daughter. Do you really think you can keep things from me?" Giselle's voice was soft and patient, letting Patricia know that she would wait for her to answer.

At her words, Patricia's lips trembled, desperately fighting off her tears. She was found out, and there was nothing she could say to hide the truth.

Giselle heard her quiet sniffles and continued, "Did something bad happen?"

"Not really," Patricia replied, trying to keep her voice light. Calmness pervaded the humdrum routines of her daily life. Zac was the only dissonance in her otherwise uneventful days.

"Stop it. I already told you I know everything about you. You can tell me what's wrong," Giselle said in a helpless tone.

A frown appeared on Patricia's face as she listened to her mother. She opened and closed her lips wordlessly, not knowing what to say. Just as she had managed to string her thoughts into something coherent, Giselle's voice came from the other side again.

"Patricia, when Jack talked to me about trying to pursue you, I let him. I was thinking of your happiness, and he wanted to try giving you that. But things rarely work out so simply. Jack told me. He said the two of you weren't right for each other, and you hadn't let go of Zac yet." A sigh followed Giselle's words, as if regret had belatedly come after saying all of these.

"Mom, no. It's not like that. Nothing is going on with me and Zac,"

Patricia hurriedly explained. She didn't want anyone to misunderstand. Especially not her own mother.

However, Giselle was a wise woman, reading between Patricia's frantic lines.

A chuckle escaped her and she shook her head, saying, "You don't have to be so defensive. Why are you in such a rush to explain?" There was a brief pause before she asked, "You're afraid, aren't you?"

As her mother, Giselle knew Patricia like that back of her hand.

Zac was the only one who could ever perturb her daughter this much.

"I..." Patricia stammered, at a loss what to say next. Her heart sank, and once again, she found herself unable to speak.

Giselle chuckled and said gently, "Patricia, you already know the answer, don't you? Why are you running away?"

Confusion clouded Patricia's eyes at her mother's words.

She understood what her mother had said, and she knew the truth about her own feelings even as she tried to deny them. Nothing worked outright. There was too little time, and she had been too hurt. Even now, she felt the ghosts of her wounds linger, and she didn't know if she could gather the flimsy remains of her courage only for it to break her again in the end.

Silence passed before Patricia spoke. "Mom, I know what you mean, and you're right. But it's just like you said. Things rarely work out the way we think they would, and right now, everything is just so complicated. But you don't have to worry about me. I can handle myself. But as for Zac and me, I'll just leave it up to fate."

She said the words slowly and carefully, as if she was also listening to herself.

A faint smile appeared on Giselle's face at her daughter's answer. "Alright. I know you can take care of yourself, and whatever you choose to do, I will always support you. But I hope you can really think about it, honey. All I want is your happiness, and you are the only one who can make the decision for yourself."

The next moments passed with mother and daughter talking about nothing and everything, until Patricia hung up. Left to her silence, Giselle's words echoed in her mind.

Her mother was right, but Patricia didn't know what choice would be right for her.

She stared at the ceiling for a long time, wanting to face her thoughts and flee from them at the same time. Finally, tired of the chase, she went back to her room and surrendered to pull of sleep.

That morning, she woke up later than usual. She jumped out of bed and washed up hurriedly, then put on clothes for work. There wasn't enough time, and she would have to skip breakfast if she wanted to get to the office on time. As she rushed out of her apartment, a familiar figure stood downstairs.

Kareem's face lit up at the sight of Patricia. He looked as if he had been waiting for her for a long time.

Patricia's heart sank. She didn't know what to say to him.

"Good morning," Kareem greeted, giving her a charming smile. "Off to work? I'll drive you there."

Patricia couldn't return his warm smile and shook her head. She walked past Kareem without another word.

They had been in the same situation so many times before, but he refused to accept her decision.

Patricia had already exhausted all of her patience. If he wouldn't listen, then she would just have to ignore him, no matter how harsh it was.

However, Kareem saw her coldness as a challenge.

"I know you are testing me, Patricia. I'll never give up," Kareem said in a determined voice.

Patricia felt a prickle of irritation at his bullheadedness. She halted and turned around, looking straight at Kareem with sharp eyes. "I am not testing you, Kareem. I'm not interested. I've already made that clear before. Why won't you listen?"

Chapter 390 A Stubborn Man

"No, I know where you're coming from. But I believe in us. I believe we can be together." Appearing very nervous, Kareem gave Patricia an excited look. Out of eagerness, he grabbed her wrist.

Patricia started to frown helplessly and every inch of her face was filled with depression. She sighed and looked straight into Kareem's eyes.

"Kareem, why are you doing all this? We are never meant to be together," Patricia said helplessly. She did not know what else to say to Kareem.

She had said all that she had to say, but Kareem still seemed unfazed by her words. Why was he being so stubborn?

Kareem looked at her with a look full of nervousness and depression. He didn't know what to say for a moment there. He had no idea what to do next.

He had spent the whole night telling himself words of motivation, trying to cheer himself up, but now...

Patricia didn't know what else to say to him. What she wanted the most out of this was for him to give up on her and stop bothering her.

"No, it's not like that. I know we have a future together. I have thought about this the entire night. I know we can work out. You just don't realize it yet. But it's alright. I am here to help you understand." Still looking excited, Kareem gripped her wrist even tighter.

Seeing the look he was giving her, Patricia's heart sank in her chest. She let out a helpless sigh and snapped, "Kareem, you don't need to do this. Even if we might work out, I don't want to give us a try. And that's because I don't have feelings for you and never will. If that's the case, why are you still wasting your time on me?"

As soon as Patricia said this, she shook his hand off and walked away from him without saying another word.

Regardless of how sad Kareem was, she could care less. This was what had to be done.

In front of Kareem, Patricia knew she had to put her foot down. If she showed any signs of bending, things would only turn out even more complicated in the end.

Staring at Patricia's receding back, Kareem's gentle eyes became empty and dark.

"Patricia, why are you treating me like this? Didn't you ever love me?"

"You have no idea? She never loved you once." A soft voice could be heard from out of nowhere.

Looking at where the voice was coming from, Kareem caught sight of Lyndsy standing not too far from him, looking a little tired. Even though her clothes were cheap, she still appeared arrogant. She cocked her eyebrows slightly at Kareem.

"It's you!" Kareem frowned and instantly became watchful. He looked straight in her direction. He hadn't gotten his revenge for what happened last time yet. Now seeing her like this, of course, he couldn't help but feel very angry.

Seeing the expression on Kareem's face, Lyndsy reacted by keeping calm and relaxed. With a smile playing on her lips, she said in a gentle voice, "Mr. Reynolds, don't be nervous. I'm not here to cause you any trouble. I'm just merely here to help you."

"Help me? I have yet to thank you for your HELP last time," Kareem said in a cold voice, his face filled with anger.

The events of last time were still fresh in his mind. If it weren't because of her, Patricia still wouldn't be ignoring him since then.

Seeing the look on Kareem's face, Lyndsy sneered. She knew very well that he had been too deep in thought to see what was there in front of him all along.

Even without Lyndsy's interference, Patricia still would never be with Kareem. She had never liked him in the first place. And why would she?

This was very clear to Lyndsy. But it wasn't to Kareem. He had been so preoccupied with his own thoughts that he was blind to it all.

But because of this, Lyndsy believed that Kareem was her one shot at getting her revenge.

She remembered very clearly what Patricia had done to her and Yolanda. The hatred in her heart was too strong and she was determined to make Patricia pay.

"You don't have to be nervous, Mr. Reynolds. I'm really here to help you out," Lyndsy said in a sweet voice.

Hearing her say this, Kareem sneered. He didn't believe her words at all. He looked straight into her eyes with a face full of hatred and whispered, "Miss Sampson, then thank you. I appreciate it, but no."

As soon as he said this, he turned on his heels and left.

A faint smile popped up on Lyndsy's face. She coughed and said eagerly, "Don't you want to be with her, Mr. Reynolds?"

Kareem was slightly startled and stopped in his tracks. He did not know what to say next.

Noticing that he was listening to her, Lyndsy continued, "You must really want to be with her, but Patricia doesn't seem to have any—"

"You know very little. So shut your mouth," Kareem said unpleasantly. He turned around and glared his eyes at Lyndsy out of anger.

Seeing him appear so angry in front of her, Lyndsy smiled smugly. "You think I don't know about it? I can see it all very clearly... I think you can see it too. If you want me to help you, I'll be happy to give you a hand."

Kareem frowned while turning to give her a look. There was a hint of hesitation in his eyes as if he was thinking things over.

"It's alright, Mr. Reynolds. I'll give you some more time to think about it." As soon as she said this, Lyndsy turned around and left without saying another word.

Staring at her back, Kareem was once more preoccupied with his own thoughts. He was trying to think of ways to get Patricia in bed. He knew that this was the only way he could own her.

A smug expression appeared on his face.

"She will be mine this time. She will belong to me and no one will be able to take her away from me ever." He became excited about what was to come. He wished Patricia could be his right away.

Patricia reached the company. She looked unwell with her face very gloomy. She shook her head helplessly.

"Kareem, you are such a stubborn man. What should I do to get it into that head of yours that things are impossible between us?" Patricia muttered with a very troubled look plastered all over her face.

Before she could find a solution to her problem, the manager showed up in front of her again, looking very fierce this time.