

## Remarry 391

### [Chapter 391 Zac's Call](#)

A shudder ran through Patricia at the look on her manager's face. Anxiousness twisted her gut as the dreaded thought of being picked on again came to her.

She gave her manager a practiced smile, then opened her mouth to speak. But before she could get a word in, he broke off into a tirade. "Take a look at the financial statement you did. Are you doing this on purpose? You're causing problems for me." The manager glared at Patricia as he berated her.

A frown creased Patricia's forehead at his words. If anything, he was the one who had been on her case since day one.

The way his face was twisted into a grimace told her everything she needed to know. The manager did not like her, and he made sure that she knew.

Patricia took a deep, calming breath and kept her smile professional. "What's wrong with the financial statement? I have no issues with making corrections, but I would appreciate a more amicable tone." She met him with a steady gaze, her eyes devoid of fear.

The events from earlier had already soured her mood, and she did not have the patience to deal with her manager's bullshit. On any other day, she would have let it pass as she had always done in the past, but today was really testing her limits.

At her words, the manager's face flushed red with fury. His eyes widened as he roared, "What's with your attitude? Is that how you talk to a superior?"

"I think my attitude is perfectly fine. As for that financial statement, I went over it twice. I would know if there are problems with it." Patricia looked at her manager coolly, her placid face a stark contrast to his anger.

Since the day she stepped inside this company, he had never bothered to hide his dislike of her. Patricia used to ignore it, even when he was obviously exploiting his position to make things harder for her. She did what was asked without questions or complaints, and she finished the job well.

However, there was a limit to how much she would tolerate, especially on a trying day like this.

"You..." The manager seethed in fury. He glowered at Patricia and threw the document on her desk, the pages fluttering noisily as they landed.

"Know your place. You are my subordinate. That is no way to talk to me. Fix your attitude along with your mess of a job with those papers," he said in a voice dripping with contempt.

Patricia could no longer stop herself from talking back. Her eyes turned cold as she said, "Is that so?"

Then, you could fire me. It's just as said—you are my superior, so you shouldn't have any problems doing that." Her expression hardened into a defiant boldness, and Patricia returned her manager's anger, abandoning the facade of courtesy.

She had always known he wanted her out of this place.

The manager appeared to be taken aback. This was the first time he had ever seen Patricia like this.

"If you want to leave, do that on your own. Don't pin that on me," he spat.

Patricia looked at him with indifferent but knowing eyes. She had always known that the manager was a spineless coward. He wanted her to leave, but with his hands washed clean of any responsibility.

She bit her lip, anger flaring up inside her.

This was the last straw. Working under someone so pathetic would be a waste of her life. Patricia threw the papers to the floor and sat down to write a long-overdue resignation letter.

The thought of leaving this hellish place was something she looked forward to. The only thing that spoiled her satisfaction was the smug smile on her manager's face, but there was no point in fretting over it now. The furious sound of tapping keys echoed across the room until a voice interrupted it.

Everyone turned to look at the source of the sound. Naylor was standing at the door, looking at Patricia and the manager.

"There's no need to go that far," he said, walking up to the two. He raised his eyebrows at the manager, silently telling him to leave.

There were hints of displeasure on the man's face, but he nodded without a word and left.

Patricia eyed Naylor warily. She had a feeling he had come here with his own purpose.

"Don't be so concerned. I'm here with good news." Naylor laughed, seeing the suspicion in Patricia's eyes. He took out a letter from his pocket and handed it to her. "This is an invitation from the US headquarters. It would be a good experience for younger staff to get a better sense of how things work at the company. Think about it, then tell me if you're interested."

With that, he turned around and left, not waiting for Patricia's answer.

She frowned at the envelope on the table, confusion filling her. So much was happening that day, and she could barely keep up.

Go to America? But why her? There were plenty of employees who were more qualified and deserving of this kind of opportunity.

Even as Patricia was gripped with bewilderment, she couldn't help the anticipation that flooded her.

Carefully, she opened the envelope and read its contents.

At this moment, her phone started to ring, tearing her attention away from the invitation. A familiar number flashed on the screen, and Patricia found herself taken aback for what seemed to be the hundredth time that day.

Why was Zac calling her? She had no idea what to make of it.

Patricia stared at the screen for a few moments, contemplating what to do. Then she answered.

"Patricia..." A hesitant voice that was very much unlike Zac came from the other side.

"Get to the point." Patricia answered coolly, pursing her lips. For some reason, hearing him made her nervous.

There was nothing but silence for the next moments. Zac wanted to say something, but he felt as if his throat was closing in over the words.

Picking up on his hesitation, Patricia said first. "If there's nothing, I'll be hanging up. I still have work to do." She spoke with a voice bereft of any warmth, as if she was speaking to a stranger.

The thought of Patricia dropping the call sent Zac in a panic. Before he knew it, he was spitting out the words. "What's going on between you and Jack?" He gave off a long exhale after speaking, catching his own breath.

"Why do you ask? What's it to you?" she answered, her voice cold and distant.

She and Jack were just friends now, but Zac didn't have to know.

"Right. It's none of my business. Sorry, I shouldn't have asked." Zac laughed, the sound filled with self-mockery. Another stretch of silence ensued as his lips opened and closed, wanting to talk but not knowing what to say next.

"Is there anything else?" Patricia asked in the same cold, disinterested tone.

A wry smile curved on Zac's lips, and he answered, "No, there's nothing else." A beep signaled the end of the call.

Disappointment washed over Patricia at his last sentence. Zac had always spoken in riddles that she had never managed to decipher. It was one of the things that caused distance between them until there was nothing else she could do but leave.

The fact that Patricia didn't understand him bothered her. She felt like there was something else he wanted to say. It was a rueful realization when it dawned on her that no matter how much she feigned disinterest towards Zac, her true feelings were the exact opposite. Even now, he was affecting her this much.

### [Chapter 392 She Lied](#)

The fact that Zac suddenly called Patricia and asked her about her relationship with Jack for no apparent reason surprised Patricia. The way he talked was very strange. Patricia felt that Zac had to say something else too but he couldn't form the words. It seemed that Zac had already known something about the truth.

"That's impossible! Jack wouldn't have said anything," Patricia murmured.

Patricia and Jack had broken up but they had decided to keep it a secret for now. She didn't want to go through the trouble of letting Zac and Kareem find out.

But the sudden call from Zac made Patricia a little uneasy.

Patricia kept shaking her head in order to get rid of the uneasiness. She wanted herself to stop thinking about all the consequences and focus on her work.

After making an effort to compose herself, she began working on a few documents in front of her.

Meanwhile, the atmosphere in the office of the CEO of the Reynolds Group was gloomy and somber. Zac's secretary and Nicholas were scared to go inside so they stood by the door and waited for Zac to calm down.

Zac got angry and depressed since he talked to Patricia.

"Nicholas, do you know what happened to our boss? Is it because he saw the document you brought him?" asked the secretary as she looked at Nicholas curiously.

Nicholas shrugged helplessly. "I don't know what happened in there but he just called Miss Sampson."

Despite answering in a playful tone, Nicholas felt sad as he more or less knew what it was about.

When the secretary heard that, she looked at Nicholas in disbelief, frowned unhappily and said in a low voice, "We've been working together for a long time, so don't keep anything from me. Tell me, what really happened?"

"It's not that I don't want to tell you, but..." Nicholas wanted to tell her everything but he didn't know where to start. Just when he looked at the secretary helplessly and was about to say something, Zac

called him inside.

Zac's voice brought them back to their senses. Nicholas swallowed hard when he heard Zac's voice. He and the secretary walked into the room.

"Boss!"

"Mr. Reynolds!"

"Nicholas, come here," Zac ordered Nicholas in coldly. The command sent shivers down his spine.

Seeing the look on Zac's face, the secretary looked at Nicholas helplessly and immediately left the room.

As soon as the secretary left, Nicholas walked up to Zac and looked at the document in his hand curiously. He bit his lower lip and whispered, "Boss, are you upset because of Miss Sampson?"

"Nicholas..." Zac looked straight at Nicholas.

When Nicholas saw the look on Zac's face, his smile faded and he looked at Zac worriedly. Then he swallowed and asked cautiously, "Boss, what's wrong?"

Zac looked at Nicholas for a while and then sighed slightly before he asked, "Are you sure Patricia is not dating Jack now?"

Just a moment ago Zac had called Patricia to confirm whether she was still with Jack or not. Judging from the way she spoke, Zac had confirmed that Patricia and Jack were no longer together.

"It's true, boss! Jack is now engaged to Dora. It is the talk of the town. Didn't you hear?"

Nicholas asked surprisingly. He had heard it earlier and wanted to let Zac know about it.

However, Zac didn't know what was happening around him. He was too caught up with what Patricia had said to him earlier.

When Zac heard the piece of information given by Nicholas, his mind quickly wandered to the day when Jack had given him Patricia's phone. At that time, Zac just thought that it was a good opportunity for him to talk to Patricia.

Now Zac knew why Jack did that. It was because he was helping him.

If that was the case, then were Patricia and Jack pretending that they were still together during this period of time? Or was it because Patricia was still in love with Jack? Or was Jack harassing Patricia?

Zac couldn't get these thoughts out of his mind.

Seeing the expression on Zac's face, Nicholas reminded him, "Boss, I think this is a very good opportunity. You must seize the chance and give her comfort when she's going through so much. Miss Sampson needs someone to comfort her. If you..."

"Nicholas, you don't understand! You don't know what kind of person Patricia is. She is very stubborn. Once she has made up her mind about something, she doesn't change it," Zac said helplessly as he interrupted Nicholas.

Zac wanted to be with Patricia and give her the comfort that she deserved.

However, he couldn't. Zac knew Patricia well. If he went to see her now, she would get angry at him and say more hurtful things.

Suddenly Zac sighed melancholy. He looked helpless and couldn't think of anything at that moment.

Zac's phone rang all of a sudden. Looking at the unknown number on his phone, he frowned and eventually answered.

"Zac, I thought you wouldn't answer the phone," Jack joked from the other side of the phone.

Zac was a little stunned when he heard Jack's voice. His dark eyes popped open.

Before Zac could say anything, Jack continued, "Do you have time now? I want to talk to you."

When Zac heard that, he frowned and couldn't think of anything that Jack would want to talk about.

Perhaps it was Zac's silence that made Jack impatient. He said slowly, "Let me make this clear! If you want to be with Patricia, let's meet in Darnley Restaurant at six o'clock tonight. If you want to lose her forever, then don't come."

Zac noticed how impatient Jack was so he frowned. Just a moment ago, he was quite angry but as soon as he heard Patricia's name, he smiled and quickly agreed.

"Okay, I will be there!"

Hearing this, Jack chuckled and said gently, "That is the Zac I know. Be there on time then!" Jack hung up. Zac, on the other hand, wondered why Jack was so happy.

Zac kept wondering but there was no end to his confusion. He couldn't get his mind around Jack's intention. He was both worried and curious about what Jack wanted to talk to him.

Nicholas was still standing beside Zac. When Nicholas saw Zac's face, he reminded Zac, "Boss, you should be careful! We don't know what Jack wants. I think..." Nicholas was trying to warn Zac as he had

heard their conversation.

"It's okay. I'll be careful. Don't worry about me!" Zac said confidently. Apparently, he was not worried about Jack being a danger to him. Zac knew it was going to be an interesting night.

### [Chapter 393 Jack's Words](#)

"Mr. Reynolds, I'm sorry to keep you waiting," Jack said in a friendly manner as soon as he entered the Darnley Restaurant. He seemed really happy.

When Jack saw Zac waiting for him, he smiled brightly at him.

Zac was a little angry so he looked at Jack coldly and whispered, "Mr. White, you are late! It's been more than half an hour since I've arrived. Do you even know what time is it?"

Thinking about Patricia had made Zac restless. As soon as he finished work, he came straight to the restaurant. He had thought that Jack should show up soon, but he kept Zac waiting for half an hour.

"Don't get angry at me! I was stuck. I didn't mean to keep you waiting," Jack excused in a playful tone.

Seeing the smile on Jack's face, Zac sneered coldly and said slowly, "What is it about Patricia that you want to talk to me about? Tell me!" As soon as Zac finished speaking, he took a sip of wine and looked at Jack sharply.

If Jack's intention was to call Zac here and make a fool out of him, then Zac would definitely teach Jack a lesson.

Seeing the look on Zac's face, Jack understood what he meant. He smiled and said gently, "Don't get angry. We are just here to talk."

Jack ordered a glass of wine for himself and looked at Zac to ask whether he wanted something too. When Zac saw the look on Jack's face, he lost his temper and was about to get up. Jack immediately asked, "Zac, how are things between you and Patricia?"

Hearing this, Zac stopped where he was and looked away from Jack. He coughed and said lightly, "Same old!"

Jack snickered and joked, "It's still the same? Didn't get better? I know what you must be thinking. Patricia is stubborn, but there is always a way around a person. She has loved you for a very long time and you know that too."

Zac knew that Patricia had loved him foolishly and didn't ask for return. But it was all in the past. He wanted it to happen now. Zac knew that Patricia was heartbroken. She had left him, gained her freedom and would never get back with him.

As soon as that thought flashed through Zac's mind, he got depressed. He couldn't think of anything to do and his heart ached.

When Jack saw the expression on Zac's face, he sighed. Then Jack took a sip of his wine and whispered, "You have to dig deeper, see what's underneath the surface." Jack unconsciously raised his eyebrows at Zac.

Zac frowned, looked at Jack with confusion and shook his head.

"That's impossible! You know what kind of person Patricia is. Once she makes up her mind, she listens to no one."

"That's because she is afraid of losing her freedom," Jack said coldly. Then he stared at Zac.

When Zac saw Jack looking at him, he bit his lower lip and sighed helplessly. He didn't know what to say to Jack.

"I know, but..."

"But what? You are afraid, aren't you?" Jack asked seriously. "You are afraid that you will lose Patricia again, aren't you?" As soon as Jack finished speaking, he looked straight at Zac.

Zac got a little sad as soon as Jack said that. He stopped talking and just looked away. He didn't know what to say.

A few minutes passed and no one talked for a while until Zac sighed and said slowly, "You're right! It took me a lot of time and effort to get Patricia to stop hating me. I'm afraid that it might go back to the way it was."

"But then are you okay with how it is right now? Are you satisfied?" Jack asked seriously.

Jack had been through the same situation and he knew exactly what Zac should do.

Zac was shocked by the question so he looked at Jack. Then he opened his mouth to say something only to close it again. He didn't know what to say.

"That's all I have to say today. I don't know what you will do, but I will respect your decision either way. I want you to be prepared for anything that might happen. I think it will be the best if you just confess your love to Patricia as soon as you can," Jack said as he looked up and smiled at Zac. As soon as he finished speaking, he stood up, turned around and left.

Jack said whatever he wanted to say that day. That was the best he could do to help Zac and Patricia get back together.



Jack wanted Zac and Patricia to confess their feelings to each other soon. If they let things the way they were now, they would never get back together.

After Jack left, Zac sat alone in the room and kept thinking about what to do next. He was really confused.

Hearing what Jack said, Zac was also thinking about what he should do.

He wanted to be with Patricia and he didn't want to miss this opportunity at all.

Zac took a sip of his wine and his mind wandered to some wild thoughts.

Patricia, on the other hand, reorganized the report and was done with her work. Patricia had been working nonstop and it was eight o'clock in the evening. She looked around and stretched herself.

"It's finally done! I can go home now," Patricia muttered as she smiled faintly.

Patricia packed her things and went downstairs to the parking lot. As she got near to her car, she spotted a slim figure standing at the gate. At first Patricia was scared, but then her heart skipped a beat. The figure seemed familiar.

Before she could say anything, Zac slowly walked out of the dark. He was just a few meters away from her and Patricia could see how sad he looked. She knew that he had been waiting for a while because of the cigarette butts.

"Why are you..."

"Are you hungry? Get in, we can go and eat something," Zac said gently. Despite looking at Patricia kindly, he couldn't hide the sadness in his eyes.

When Patricia saw the look on Zac's face, she bit her lower lip and took a deep breath. Then she said softly, "No, I'm good! I'll go home and make dinner for myself."

Patricia walked towards her car quickly. As soon as she opened her bag to take out the keys, she found that she had left the keys at her office desk. She turned towards the office again but realized that it must've been locked by now.

Zac walked towards Patricia quickly and grabbed her wrist. He didn't understand why she had refused him, so he dragged her into his car.

"Just get in the car, Patricia!" Zac ordered coldly.

When Patricia heard that, she frowned and struggled to get out. Zac immediately got into the car and drove.

Patricia pursed her lips helplessly and sighed. She said slowly, "Zac, why did you have to do this?"

Patricia didn't want to get involved with Zac at all.

"Because I want to! Because you are worth it!" Zac replied seriously as he looked at Patricia.

Patricia knew that Zac had feelings for her but she kept denying it.

At that moment, Patricia felt something drawing her towards Zac so she looked at him with confusion.

Patricia felt awful as she knew that she was denying her feelings for Zac. She knew Zac had always loved her too.

But she wasn't sure whether Zac really loved her or he was just trying to win against Jack and Kareem.

Afraid to find the answer, Patricia looked at Zac once again with doubt.

Even if Patricia had forgiven Zac for everything that had happened in the past, she still couldn't figure out what was Zac's plan for the future.

Patricia couldn't guess what he was thinking.

Leaning her head against the window, Patricia looked at the night sky. Her vision blurred and she was lost in a maze of her own thoughts. It was as if there was no escape from the world she was in. She felt helpless and anxious.

Zac saw the look in Patricia's eyes and he bit his lower lip. He was nervous and sad.

At that moment, Zac wanted to stop the car and talk to Patricia.

However, Zac suppressed the sorrow in his heart and remained calm. He kept driving without glancing at Patricia at all.

The two of them remained quiet along the way as if they were strangers.

After a few minutes, they arrived at a restaurant. Zac got out of the car and opened the door for Patricia. She looked around and went into the restaurant. Zac took Patricia into a private room. As soon as they entered the room, they saw several dishes on the table.

Patricia noticed that all the dishes on the table were her favorites. She was moved by the fact that Zac still remembered. Suddenly, a thought crossed her mind, so she pursed her lips helplessly and said gently, "We can't finish all these dishes."

"We're not the only ones here," Zac said coldly as he looked at Patricia.

When Patricia saw Zac's eyes, she was shocked. With a look of suspicion in her eyes, she wanted Zac to give her some hints so that she knows what was happening.

What did he mean when he said that? What did Zac want?

Patricia frowned and was about to say something when Zac took her hand and sat down beside her.

Just as she was about to speak, there was a knock on the door. Patricia thought it was the waiter, but suddenly she saw Anika walking into the room. Patricia was shocked to see her in the room. Patricia's head turned towards Zac in hopes of getting an answer out of him.

Anika had the same confusion on her face. She frowned as soon as she saw Patricia beside Zac.

Anika quickly composed herself and with a bright smile on her face, she said gently, "Miss Sampson, what a pleasure to see you here! Zac, you should have told me you invited Miss Sampson too." She pouted her lips.

Patricia knew exactly what Anika was implying.

Obviously, Anika wanted to win against Patricia at any cost, so she implied the fact that Zac had invited her first.

Patricia, on the other hand, was not in the mood to fight Anika at all. She knew since the day they had met, Anika despised her existence and there was nothing that Patricia could do anymore.

Noticing that Patricia ignored her, Anika bit her lower lip and the look on her face showed that she was angry. The more Anika looked at Patricia, the more she disliked her.

Patricia kept looking away.

Anika came and sat next to Zac. Then she glared at Patricia and said in a serious tone, "Zac, next time, tell me in advance, okay?"

Zac glanced at Anika coldly as if she was a stranger to him.

"It's just dinner. Can you stop it?" Zac said frigidly.

When Anika heard that, she was furious. She looked at Zac angrily as she was not expecting Zac to be rude to her in front of Patricia.

Zac knew that Anika was in a bad mood, but he didn't care at all. All he wanted was to be with Patricia.

From the moment Anika had walked in, she had been giving death glares to Patricia. Zac saw how uneasy it made her feel.

Patricia kept looking around. 'How could Anika be so rude to Patricia?' Zac thought angrily.

Anika felt the rudeness in Zac's voice yet kept glaring at Patricia coldly. Zac knew that he would not be able to tolerate any more if Anika didn't drop the act.

Looking at Zac and Anika, Patricia felt grateful as he was helping her.

One thing that Patricia couldn't guess was why he had invited her and Anika to dinner when he knew that Anika despised her so much.

Patricia was lost in thoughts when she saw Kareem walking in. She was shocked and didn't understand what Zac planned.

"Kareem..." Patricia was stunned. She had no idea why Zac invited Kareem.

To her, Kareem was the most bothersome. No matter how many times Patricia had told him to give up on her, he never listened.

When Patricia saw Kareem, she frowned and confusion flashed through her face. She quickly looked away.

When Kareem saw Patricia, Zac and Anika sitting together, he glared at Zac in confusion.

When Zac asked him out to dinner, Kareem didn't want to come, but after contemplating for a while, he felt it was necessary for the two of them to have a face-to-face conversation. It was getting hard for Kareem to let the matters go on like this.

But what Kareem didn't expect was that Zac would invite Patricia and Anika too. He wasn't sure what Zac was trying to do.

#### [Chapter 394 Make Yourself Clear](#)

"Zac, what do you want?" Kareem said in a cold voice. He stood by the door and watched Zac vigilantly with a frown.

He thought he was the only person Zac had invited over for dinner.

But now, he could see that both Patricia and Anika were here. He knew that things couldn't be all that simple. He could tell that something was wrong straight away.

Hearing him say this, Zac was as calm and composed as ever. He stared straight at Kareem and replied,

"It's only a meal. What do you mean by that?"

It was true that Zac had an ulterior motive for gathering them all here today, but he never expected that Kareem would figure out and say it out loud, embarrassing them all at the same time.

"A meal? You must be kidding me, Zac. We were never close. There's no reason for us to sit down and eat dinner together. I know exactly what you are capable of." Kareem sneered. He didn't believe Zac's words at all. He thought that Zac must have something up his sleeve.

He was certain of this when he saw that Patricia and Anika were here too.

Thinking about this, Kareem narrowed his eyes at Zac, looking at him up and down, trying to detect some clue from his face.

However, Zac remained calm and said in a light voice, "Kareem, you don't have to join us if you don't want to. I will never force you to do anything you don't want to do."

There was a frown on Kareem's face and it seemed that he was nearly overwhelmed by pent-up emotion. He stared straight into Zac's eyes and then turned to look at Patricia subconsciously.

Noticing this, Patricia smiled and shook her head. "It's only a meal. It'll be fine."

When she saw Zac and Kareem together like this, she felt very troubled in her heart. A flash of bitterness shot through her eyes.

If the two of them started fighting here, she wouldn't be able to stop them. Besides, she had no idea what Zac had in store for them next.

There was a frown on Kareem's face as a shot of displeasure flashed through his features. He felt that Patricia was siding with Zac. But in actuality, she didn't mean it; she just wanted to find out what Zac wanted.

A smile popped up on Zac's face when he heard Patricia's words. Even though he recovered in time, Anika saw it all.

Seeing the smile he had on his face, Anika bit down on her lower lip out of anger. She was furious! She was finally sure of what was really going on here.

All this time, Anika had thought that Patricia was the one bothering Zac, not that other way around.

She had heard on the grapevine that they didn't love each other at all. It was for this exact reason that they divorced. But from how she saw it right now, this proved to be not the case.

Anyway, Anika was very clear right from the start that no one could take away her man. Zac belonged to

her and only her, and she had always believed this.

Anika believed that Zac missed her as much as she missed him.

Thinking about Patricia's existence made Anika's confident smile freeze on her face, and she looked over at Patricia very unhappily.

Taking note of the look Anika was giving her, Patricia could only smile and ignore it. She turned around and simply focused on all the delicious food on the table. Her stomach rumbled right on time. She was starting to get hungry and couldn't wait to chow down.

Seeing that Patricia was looking at the food, Zac and Kareem said in unison, "Let's go ahead and eat."

As soon as he said this, Kareem sat himself down at the table.

No matter what intentions Zac had today, Kareem knew that he couldn't let Zac and Patricia get together.

Thinking about this, Kareem felt that he needed to stay.

Patricia picked up her fork and knife, and started to stuff food into her mouth. She completely put aside all that was going on at the time and just focused on her meal.

While the two men were busy picking up food for her, they completely forgot about Anika.

Seeing them ignore her like this, Anika was enraged. She glared at Patricia while eating.

Noticing the hostile look emanating off of Anika's face as well as Zac's and Kareem's ingratiating actions, Patricia felt helpless. But she could turn neither of them down.

She could tell from the way Zac and Kareem were looking at each other that they were silently fighting over her. If she said something now, it might trigger an all-out brawl in the next moment.

Patricia was left with no other choice but to accept the food silently.

When she had eaten her fill, Zac and Kareem stuffed the food into their mouths because they didn't want to be left behind.

Seeing that they were wolfing down their food, Anika frowned, feeling very displeased, and turned to give Patricia an unhappy look.

If it wasn't because of her, Zac wouldn't be acting in this way. It seemed that she was a really important person in his life.

To add to that, from the keen expressions on Zac's and Kareem's faces, she could tell that they would be sure to fight over the chance to send Patricia home later. Thinking about this, Anika came up with an idea.

Placing her fork down on the table, Anika forced herself to smile brightly and look at Patricia with a friendly expression.

"Miss Sampson, I'm already full. I was wondering if you could do me the honor of going on a walk with me. Just for digestion purposes," Anika said in a friendly voice.

Both Zac and Kareem looked at Anika unhappily.

Before they had the chance to say something, Patricia stepped forward and said in a soft voice, "Okay, I'd love to join you. Let's go now." As soon as she said this, she got up and made her way to the door.

Anika smiled smugly. She glanced over at Zac and Kareem and said in a gentle voice, "Don't worry about it. She'll be safe with me." After that, she quickly followed Patricia out the door.

Suddenly, there was only Zac and Kareem left in the room. The atmosphere became cold and fraught with tension. The two men put down their knives and forks and wiped their mouths with their napkins.

"Zac, tell me what it is you're after." Kareem looked absolutely furious.

A cold smile showed up on Zac's face. He stared straight into Kareem's eyes and sneered, "It really has nothing to do with you." His features took on a cold look.

At first, Zac wanted to take this chance to get Anika and Kareem out of the picture so that Patricia would know his feelings.

But with what Kareem had said, things weren't going as he originally expected. Plus, he knew Anika very well. She would do everything she could to cause trouble for Patricia.

"It has nothing to do with me? If you don't make yourself clear to me today, I won't let you leave this room."

### [Chapter 395 The Figh](#)

Kareem threatened Zac, and his gentle eyes were now burning with immense rage as he glared at him. Kareem slightly raised his chin and stood in front of the door.

Hearing this, Zac couldn't help sneering. He glanced at Kareem coldly and said in a low voice, "Kareem, do you really think you can win?" A smug smile appeared on his face as he said that.

"I may not be able to win from you in business but when it comes to love, you might never know."

Kareem retorted with arrogance.

Hearing this, Zac couldn't help but burst into a fit of laughter as if he had heard a hilarious joke. He looked down at Kareem with disdain in his eyes.

"Kareem, do you really think Patricia will be fond of you? You'd better stop dreaming." Zac looked at Kareem sternly with a cold face.

He was certain that Patricia had no feelings for Kareem.

She only loved him! Zac was very sure about this.

No matter how hard she tried to hide it, he knew the feelings she had for him.

Kareem couldn't help but sneer as he furiously glared at Zac. He stated in a low tone, "Zac, you seem confident. However, I am sure that you haven't forgotten how you had treated her in the past. She wouldn't ever choose you because of the misery you had brought on her."

A smug smile appeared on Kareem's face as he said that. He knew it was his best shot at winning.

Knowing what Zac had done to her, Kareem was sure Patricia would never love him. Unless she chose to let go of the past, they wouldn't ever have a chance together again.

Hearing this, Zac felt a tug at his heart, and a hint of gloominess flashed across his face. Staring at Kareem, he frowned as he tried to speak, but no words came out of his beautiful lips.

Zac knew that Kareem was right. The anguish he had caused upon Patricia was unforgivable, and it brought him great distress as he wasn't sure if she would ever forgive him for it.

Seeing the expression on Zac's face, Kareem smiled coldly and said in a hushed tone, "Now you know, you don't have a chance at winning. Patricia is mine. She won't choose you." With determination evident in his voice, Kareem turned around and left without saying anything else. However, before leaving, he threw Zac a complacent look.

The proud look on his face pissed Zac to the core. He couldn't help but bite his lower lip as he stared at him leaving. Never did he ever expect Kareem to get at him with ease. He felt devastated at this.

It was clear that Kareem wanted him to shrink back.

However, Zac decided not to waver from his feelings for Patricia. His only focus now was to express his love to her, and everything else was secondary as he knew that she truly loved him back.

At the same time, Patricia and Anika went to a nearby park for a walk. But as soon as they entered the park, Anika went back to her usual self.



"Well, I don't think we have to pretend anymore. You must have something to tell me since you agreed to take this walk with me." Anika arrogantly stared at Patricia and raised her chin slightly.

Seeing the look on Anika's face, Patricia smiled and said, "I have nothing to say to you."

Patricia was telling her the truth. All she wanted was to get away from both Zac and Kareem, and Anika happened to be an easy way out at that time.

"Do you really have nothing to say to me?" Unable to comprehend what Patricia wanted to say, Anika bitterly stared at her with a scowl.

Despite that, Anika felt the need to talk to her so that Patricia could leave Zac alone.

"Since you don't have anything to say to me, I will speak." Anika sternly stated as she eyed Patricia with contempt.

"I believe that you are aware of what I want to talk about, Patricia. Even if you had a past with Zac, you no longer deserve to be with him. It's better if you back off now and forever," Anika said with disdain manifested in her voice.

Patricia faintly smiled at her as her lovely face regained its cold demeanor. She glanced at Anika with a distant look. "I don't understand what you are trying to say. There is nothing between Zac and me now."

"Really?" Anika asked with suspicion. "You think I don't know what's happening between the two of you? No matter what you say, I want you to know that you don't deserve to be with Zac, and this is the reality."

Patricia knew that it was the truth. She didn't consider herself good enough for Zac, which was why she concealed her feelings for him.

"Let me repeat this to you. I have nothing to do with Zac, so instead of causing trouble for me, you should think of a way to make him fall in love with you." Patricia stiffly said as she stared at Anika coldly.

Hearing this, Anika glowered and narrowed her eyes at Patricia and whispered, "Are you really not going to pester Zac?" Anika looked dubious.

As she heard this, a faint smile appeared on Patricia's face. She didn't think it was fruitful to continue this conversation with Anika. It wasn't her concern if she wasn't going to buy it.

"Believe it or not, it's up to you." As soon as she finished speaking, Patricia turned around and left, leaving no chance for Anika to speak.

Anika couldn't help but frown as she looked at Patricia's retreating figure. Even if Patricia said so, she

still didn't believe her. Besides, if Patricia were to let go of Zac, he wouldn't do the same to her.

All this mess of unfinished thoughts depressed her. Anika could tell what was going on between Zac and Patricia from what she had seen today.

"They can't be together! It took me a lot to make up my mind and come back. I will not lose Zac to anyone now," Anika said with a ferocious look.

Upon her return to the apartment, Patricia thought that everything that happened today was over, but little did she know that Zac was anxiously waiting for her there. A weak smile appeared on her face as she felt drained.

"Patricia..." As he saw Patricia, Zac slowly walked up to her and examined her from head to toe to ensure that she had returned safely.

With a faint smile, Patricia said in an indifferent tone, "There is no need to get worried. Anika won't do anything to me."

Patricia knew why he was so worried. She could tell from the look in his eyes that he was concerned about her.

"You don't know her, and you'd better be careful," Zac said in a vigilant tone. He intently stared at her with his deep eyes. He tried to speak, but words seemed stuck in his throat.

#### [Chapter 396 Another Chance](#)

Patricia looked at Zac, taking in his expression. "If you have something to say, just say it," she said in a low voice.

Zac was yet to utter a word, but his eyes spoke volumes. Patricia knew there must have been something he wanted to say.

Zac was momentarily stunned. His lips opened and closed, but no words came out.

Patricia saw the inner turmoil in his eyes, and a knowing smile curved on her lips. "It's alright. If you can't say it now, just come to me when you are ready." She looked at Zac for a brief moment, then strode past him towards the hallway.

Just as Patricia passed him by, she felt a hand grabbing her wrist.

"Patricia, give us a chance. We both know that we have feelings for each other. And I'm not saying just that would be enough for things to work. I know how far the distance between us is. Every day, it haunts me. But if you would be willing to, just say yes, and I swear I'll do everything to cross the gap between us. Please."

Zac's voice trembled as his breath hitched, hanging on to Patricia's next words. His face was full of sincerity as he looked at her with hopeful, pleading eyes.

Even with her back turned from him, Patricia knew that Zac was speaking with all the honesty he could muster. Never in the past had he bared himself open to anyone like he was now. Happiness flooded Patricia's chest, her heart bursting open like a desert oasis.

Zac's trembling words kept ringing in Patricia's ears. He loved her.

Patricia she was no longer the girl she used to be. She had long buried the woman who had thrown everything away in the name of love.

The pain had forced her to see things with clearer eyes. She had promised herself to never let anyone take her heart just to trample with it again. She was her own ally, and she wouldn't forget her own worth.

There was an insurmountable wall between the two of them, and even as her heart yearned to be by his side, her longing was tinged with an even greater fear. Her own feelings had betrayed her, and she couldn't trust herself enough to risk it again.

"Thank you, Zac," Patricia said as she lowered her head. The lightness that blanketed her was slowly slipping away, leaving her heart cold and heavy like a dead weight in her chest.

A part of her ached, knowing that her words would hurt Zac.

But it was no use prolonging the inevitable. In the grand scheme of things, she would be doing both of them a favor by hurting him now, so that the two of them could finally move forward. This step was long overdue, and it was time for them to let go.

"I don't need your gratitude. I just need you to say yes," Zac said, his voice thick with desperation. He took deep breaths, holding on to the last of his failing hopes.

Zac didn't have the courage to turn around and look at Patricia. It had already taken everything in him to speak. If she was looking at him with the same cold and distant eyes just like she used to, he wouldn't know where to go from there. It would break him.

"Zac..." Patricia began, her voice trailing off. She was at a loss for words. Her sadness weighed down on her, growing bigger and heavier at Zac's sincerity.

How Patricia wished she could return to being the naive girl who had looked at the world in a much simpler way. She would have turned around and embraced Zac without hesitation.

But that girl was no longer here, and part of her thought it was for the best.

Their future would be uncertain. What would happen if she agreed? Would they find happiness by each other's side? Was Zac's love just compensation?

The questions chased one another in her head. Patricia wasn't even sure if Zac was just guilty, or if he truly loved her.

But there was no use rehashing things, and she didn't have the courage to ask. All she knew was that she never wanted to go through what she had in the past.

"Patricia, please. Give us a chance. I know that you have a thousand questions; I do too. But if it's what it takes, I will spend the rest of my life answering every single one of them. We can look for our answers together," Zac said, the words pouring out from his heart.

Patricia bit her lip, willing her resolve not to break. Before she could say anything, Zac finally dared to turn around, opening his arms and wrapping them around her.

"Say yes. Let's give each other a try. Please. It was all my fault. I was stupid, and I didn't understand just how much you meant to me until I lost you. I know I don't deserve it, but I swear I will never hurt you again." Zac's arms tightened around her as he pleaded.

Patricia's teeth were digging harshly into her lip, but she barely felt the pain as her mind turned conflicted.

From her back, Zac's warmth was familiar. She didn't realize how much she had been longing for it until now. But things were not so simple. She and Zac...

"Patricia, will you give us another chance?" Zac pleaded again, burying his chin on her shoulder as he clung to her desperately.

Zac would give anything if he could have this. If he could, he would will this moment to never end, when he had her in his arms, and he could feel her heart beating against him.

But his dreams died in reality. Patricia hadn't said another word, and he fought to keep himself from crumbling.

Patricia closed her eyes against the pain that stung her. For a moment, she didn't know what to say, her heart caught between yearning and melancholy.

If only she had the courage to love him again.

"That's enough, Zac. We have been over long ago. Stop making things harder for the both of us," Patricia finally said, even as her chest protested her own words. It was a good thing that her back was turned to Zac. There was nothing she could have done to hide her sorrow from her face.

She felt Zac's arms stiffen as his breath caught. There was a blank pause in his mind as he heard her answer.

Was this really the end? Was there no way that they could ever be together?

His embrace loosened as loss gripped him.

"Is this your answer?" Zac said in a voice that was almost a whisper, as if it took too much from him to even ask. He turned away from Patricia, unable to bear looking at her face.

Patricia turned around and faced him, her eyes glistening with unshed tears.

At this moment, she didn't know what to say. Should she apologize when she was hurting just as much?

Patricia gritted her teeth, fighting back against her tears. She couldn't cry now. Not in front of him.

"Yes," Patricia said, forcing the half-truth from her lips.

The moment it escaped her, her tears fell without stopping.

#### [Chapter 397 I See](#)

Just as Zac was just about to look up at her, Patricia wiped away her tears quickly to prevent him from seeing that she was crying.

She didn't want Zac to see her tears, nor did she want him to find out that she was crying because of him.

When he saw Patricia's eyes, Zac was so disheartened he had no idea what to say next.

He had thought that Patricia would show at least a little sadness over what just happened, or at least show a little love for him. But he saw nothing on her face. It was all in his head.

Zac gave Patricia a blank stare. After one full minute had passed, the sadness on his face eventually turned into indifference. He looked straight into her eyes coldly and said in a hushed voice, "Okay, I see." As soon as he said this, he turned on his heels and left without saying anything.

Seeing Zac's receding back, Patricia burst into tears again. She stood there as if she was frozen under a spell.

At that very moment, how she wished with all her heart that she could call out his name and ask him to take her into his arms.

But she did not do this. She just stared at Zac's back. She did not cry out until his back disappeared out

of sight.

"Zac, no, I..." Patricia could only sob helplessly. She had no idea what to say. She was sad and depressed, and tears continually fell down her cheeks.

She squatted on the ground and burst into tears.

"Zac, it's not what you think at all," Patricia muttered to herself, appearing sad and crestfallen.

Kareem looked at this scene, appearing very confused as if his soul had been suddenly taken out of his body. He had no clue what to do next.

Seeing the hurt expression on Patricia's face, Kareem finally understood just how important Zac was to her.

His hands clenched into fists and a hint of sadness washed over his face. He had no words for this. Seeing Patricia looking so sad, he felt like the fool in this game.

It had been his own wishful thinking all along. Patricia had never loved him. Otherwise, why would she say those hurtful things to him again and again?

All of a sudden, a sneer appeared on his face. If he hadn't come here today, he wouldn't have found out.

Patricia only had Zac in her eyes. It was all true.

"Did you just see that? Was I right?" Lyndsy said in a frosty voice.

Out of the corner of Kareem's eye, he glared daggers at Lyndsy with a face full of gloom. He could only bite down on his lower lip, completely ignoring her all the while.

It was no coincidence that Lyndsy appeared here out of the blue.

"What's the matter? You have nothing to say?" With a faint smile, Lyndsy looked at Kareem coldly and then turned to give a disdainful look at Patricia's back, her eyes flashing with anger.

Her hatred for Patricia only grew by the day, and because of the things that had happened before, she regarded Patricia as her enemy.

Hearing her say this, Kareem gave her a cold look, turned around, and walked away without saying another word.

Before heading out, Kareem couldn't help but glance at Patricia again, biting his lower lip. His face was overflowing with depression and sadness.

A smug smile showed up on Lyndsy's face. She followed behind him and just kept going on and on about what had happened just now.

"Kareem, don't you want to be with her?" Lyndsy asked. Out of the corner of her eye, she had been watching Kareem's face this whole time.

Kareem looked at her with a face devoid of expression, not wanting to discuss this any further.

Lyndsy didn't take his snub to her seriously. She only hoped that she could get what she wanted all along so that Patricia could be punished for what she did to her.

"Yes, I want her. But don't you ever dream about taking advantage of this opportunity to hurt her." Kareem looked at Lyndsy coldly with obvious anger on his face. Of course, he knew what she was up to.

She just wanted to use him to hurt Patricia. He fell into her trap once but never again.

"Lyndsy, I don't want to do this, but if you dare to show up in front of my face again, you will know the consequences," Kareem warned and then left quickly.

Lyndsy could only bite down on her lower lip. Anger shot through her features as she stared fiercely at his back.

She knew it. When Kareem saw Patricia's tears, he must be thinking about new ways on how to get her.

It was obvious that Kareem had always wanted to be with Patricia, but her rejection time and time again made him feel very disheartened.

Suddenly, Lyndsy came up with an idea. She snickered. Staring at Kareem's back, she muttered, "Don't worry about it, Kareem. I will give you what you want. At that time, you will have no other choice but to do what I say." While smiling smugly, she turned on her heels and left.

Patricia lost track of time and did not know how long she had cried for. She walked back to her place step by step with a tired expression.

Sitting down on the sofa and looking up at the ceiling, Patricia's face was overflowing with depression and confusion. Her mind was a mess. At the same time, Zac's face kept flashing through her head.

Patricia felt like a knife had been pierced through her heart. She didn't want to see Zac so sad, but there was nothing she could do about it.

"I'm so sorry, Zac," Patricia said with a sad look.

How she wished she and Zac could be together! But...

What they had in the past was no more. She had thought that they could be happy together because they shared a similar past. She felt that Zac would not only understand her but also cherish and love her at the same time.

But now? There were so many women who were chasing after him and she was just an ordinary person. They were two different people now.

This was not what she wanted in a relationship at all.

Because of this, Patricia thought it would make sense to turn Zac down. But no matter how rational she tried to be, she could do little to suppress the feelings she had for him in her heart.

"It's not that I don't have feelings for you, Zac, but the gap between us is widening. Pretty soon, it will get harder and harder to cross the distance between us," Patricia murmured, feeling very helpless.

#### [Chapter 398 Further Study Abroad](#)

After giving it some thought, Patricia made up her mind and saw this decision as in her and Zac's best interest.

Instead of wasting time on her, Zac should live his life and pave his way to success.

"Zac, you deserve to have a bright future and someone worthy of you." As Patricia spoke, a trace of sadness flashed across her face.

Patricia didn't consider herself to be good enough for Zac. In fact, she thought that he and Anika were perfect for each other and what made it better was that Anika also fancied him.

Anyway, Patricia had already thought about the application form for further study abroad that Naylor had given her earlier that day.

Patricia had concluded that she would go abroad for further studies and see how Giselle was doing lately.

Patricia felt somewhat calm as she thought of this. She couldn't shake off the misery she felt about letting go of Zac, but she knew that there was nothing she could do about it now.

Patricia would hope for Zac and Anika's happiness together.

Patricia felt a pang in her chest as she thought about this. Distress was evident on her face.

"Don't worry. Everything will be alright." Patricia patted her chest as she tried to convince herself.

At that moment, her phone rang, and it was Jack. As she picked up the call, she heard him laugh, which inexplicably saddened her.



"Patricia, how are you doing?" Jack said in a playful tone. It seemed that he was elated.

However, Patricia only felt gloomier as she heard his jolly voice.

"Jack, are you serious? I'm not very high spirited right now, and you seem utterly delighted about it. Are you taking pleasure in my sorrow?" Patricia said in a displeased tone.

Jack was stunned as he was taken by surprise. He swallowed and asked, "What are you saying? You should be contented right now." His tone felt helpless.

Hearing this, Patricia felt confounded as she couldn't understand what he was talking about. However, judging from his words, she could tell that he knew something.

"Jack, is there something that you know about?" Bewildered, Patricia hoped that he would inform her about it.

Jack was embarrassed as he felt at a loss for words. It seemed that he was hiding something from her.

Noticing this, Patricia frowned, and a thought occurred to her. She couldn't help but bite her lower lip as she mumbled, "Did you say something to Zac?"

"Nothing, really." Jack gave off an awkward smile as he thought that she was going to know about it sooner or later.

Patricia felt perplexed, and suddenly she realized what had happened. No wonder Zac, out of the blue, had said those words to her.

Just as Patricia was about to say something, Jack beat her to it and asked, "Did you quarrel?"

"No! Why would we quarrel?" Patricia retorted angrily. However, as she thought about Zac, a hint of sadness flashed across her eyes.

Hearing this, Jack was a bit stunned. He coughed and said in a low voice, "I think I know what happened between the two of you."

"What do you know?" Patricia asked in a helpless tone. She couldn't blame Jack, and maybe it was because the two of them had been good friends with each other.

She didn't know what to say. A hint of bitterness manifested on her face as she whispered, "You know nothing."

"Of course I know. I know what you are thinking. But to be honest, if you really decide to give up, you might never be together again. Are you sure you want to do this?" Jack said remorsefully, hoping that

she would think twice before coming to a conclusion.

Hearing this, Patricia couldn't help but chuckle. A faint smile appeared on her face. "It's the best for both of us." The smile on her face turned sour as she finished speaking.

"As long as you're happy," Jack said, his voice was full of despair. He was well aware of Patricia's nature, and it was expected of her to make such a decision.

Now Zac was the last resort to save their relation. If he also decided to let go, then the two of them would never be able to be together.

If he didn't, there might still be a chance. Even though it would take time and effort, someday Patricia would be moved, and Jack was sure of it.

"By the way, I almost forgot that I had called you to tell you that Sonia and I are engaged. You have to come," Jack said in a cheerful tone.

Patricia was caught off guard as she didn't expect it to be so soon. "Why are you engaged so soon? Did anything happen?"

"No! I believe that we are good together. Don't forget to come to our engagement party. It's the 20th of the next month."

"Next month?" Patricia was stunned as she recalled the time written on the application form. She had to go to the US at the end of this month.

"What's wrong? You can't come?" Jack murmured.

Patricia answered, "I was going to apply for this further study abroad project." She had made up her mind.

Hearing this news, Jack was dumbfounded as he whispered, "Patricia, are you sure? Have you really thought it over?"

"Yes, I have," Patricia replied firmly.

At the same time, Zac returned to Oakleaf Villa, feeling miserable, as if he had lost his soul.

When Nicholas saw the expression on Zac's face, he couldn't help but frown. He swallowed and asked cautiously, "Boss, what's wrong?"

He was aware that Zac had decided to confess his love to Patricia but seeing him like this, he could tell that it didn't go well.

"Nothing," Zac replied indifferently and shook his head without looking at Nicholas.

However, his reply concerned Nicholas even more. He carefully approached Zac and said, "Boss, I know you must be upset now, but..."

### [Chapter 399 Don't Give Up](#)

"But what?" Zac stared at Nicholas with a sneer on his lips. Misery was manifested on his face as if there was no purpose to his life anymore.

Nicholas couldn't help but purse his lips as he saw the wretched look on Zac's face. The expression on his face suddenly turned bitter as he frowned and asked, "But are you willing to give up so easily? Don't you want to be with her anymore?"

"Or what? Patricia has already made up her mind. What else can I do?" A cold smile appeared on Zac's face, and he looked so shattered and dejected.

His eyes had lost their spark. It felt like he was drowning in the depths of darkness with no hope for the light.

Nicholas shook his head as he helplessly let out a sigh and whispered, "Boss, even though I have known Miss Sampson for a short period, I am well aware that she is not the kind to act on impulse. Instead, she is more of a rational than an emotional person." Speaking of this, Nicholas stopped and didn't know what to say anymore.

He had told his boss what he had needed to know, and now it was for Zac to do something about it.

Hearing this, Zac was slightly stunned. He stared at Nicholas in confusion, as if he was looking for something from him.

As Nicholas noticed this, he gulped and said in a quiet voice, "You know what exactly I am talking about. I will not say anything about it now."

As soon as he finished speaking, Nicholas turned around and left, leaving Zac to ponder over it in silence.

The situation called for Zac to be alone with his thoughts. If he could think it through, then things would become less complicated than they were.

Nicholas headed towards the couch and quietly gazed at the ceiling, trying to recall what had happened.

"Did I really neglect something?" Zac murmured to himself, narrowing his eyes as he began to contemplate over it.

At that time, when Patricia had stared at him, her eyes had been void of any emotion. Seeing her expressionless face, he had felt so hopeless that he couldn't think of anything to say to her.

At that moment, he knew that he couldn't be with her anymore and, it shattered him to the core.

Zac hadn't paid attention to Patricia's expression. He had wanted to leave as soon as possible. He had been afraid he might hurt her.

Just as Nicholas had said, Zac hadn't noticed Patricia's expression. She always preferred to keep her emotions bottled up, and if Zac hadn't been a keen observer, he wouldn't have noticed her eyes.

"It seems that I was so immersed in my own emotions that I disregarded Patricia's feelings." All of a sudden, a hint of firmness flashed through his eyes as Zac calmed down.

This time, the realization struck him that he had ignored Patricia's feelings.

"It looks like I still need to do something." Zac's eyes once again lit up, and he finally came to his senses enough to comprehend the situation.

At that moment, Zac made up his mind to ask Patricia about it. He couldn't let it go just like this.

After figuring it out, Zac finally knew what to do.

"I can't back off so easily. I can definitely cross the gap between me and Patricia if it means that we can be together someday," Zac said firmly with determination evident in his voice.

As Nicholas saw Zac's face return to its usual glory and the intentness of his gaze, a faint smile appeared on his face. Finally, he felt that Zac had regained his spirit.

At the same time, Nicholas thought that he couldn't just sit still and do nothing. He knew what kind of person Patricia was, so he decided to help Zac win over her heart.

The next morning, Patricia woke up early and wore minimal makeup. Perhaps it was because of what had happened last night that she couldn't sleep well.

Looking at herself in the mirror, she couldn't help but frown at her exhausted reflection. She tried to force a smile, but instead, she felt a pang in her heart.

Today, Patricia made up her mind to apply for further education abroad. After visiting her mother and telling her about this matter, she would start the preparations.

After quickly picking up her things, Patricia arrived at the company and began working on the application in haste. She then went to Naylor's office.

"So soon? You have one more week to think about it." Naylor was a bit taken back as he stared at Patricia with a skeptical look in his eyes. He couldn't help but feel strange about her application.

A faint smile appeared on Patricia's face as she heard this, and with a determined look, she said, "Since I have decided, there is no need to hesitate."

Bemused, Naylor had an odd expression on his face as he quietly stared at Patricia.

"I didn't expect that you would make such a big decision in such a short time. But it doesn't matter. I'll keep your application here for a week. If you change your mind, feel free to come over any time," Naylor said as he put the application aside.

As Patricia was about to leave, Naylor stopped her.

"Sir, what else can I do for you?" Patricia asked Naylor with a cold look.

"Nothing. I'm just curious. Does Zac know that you want to go abroad?" He stared at her sharply with a peculiar look on his face.

Hearing this, Patricia glanced at Naylor and said in a low voice, "Sir, have you forgotten something? I have nothing to do with Zac, so I don't need to tell him about this."

"Is that so?" Naylor couldn't help but chuckle. There was a strange look in his eyes when he looked at Patricia as if he was plotting something.

Patricia couldn't help but purse her lips as she noticed his strange expression. Helplessly, she sighed and said, "I hope that you won't tell this to Zac." As soon as she finished speaking, she gave Naylor a serious look.

Naylor shrugged his shoulders and said calmly, "Don't worry. I'm not such a gossipy person."

"Thank you." Patricia nodded and turned around to leave.

At the sight of Patricia's retreating figure, a smug smile appeared on Naylor's face.

After she left, Naylor whispered to himself, "Patricia, I still think that I should inform Zac of this matter, or else..." He couldn't help but snicker.

#### [Chapter 400 Be Prepared](#)

"Zac, I have good news for you." It was Naylor on the phone who had put his thoughts into action and called Zac.

However, Zac didn't seem so happy. He hadn't recovered from what happened between him and Patricia yesterday. He couldn't seem to come to his senses just yet.

"What's the matter? Are you still in a bad mood? Then, if I tell you the news I just heard, won't you be

sadder?" Naylor couldn't help but let out a snicker.

Zac frowned. "Just say it. Stop beating around the bush," he said in a cold tone.

He didn't really have the time to run around in circles with Naylor at the moment. His mind was still occupied by his situation with Patricia.

"Zac, I just called to tell you one thing. I found out that Patricia is planning to study abroad. If you want to get back together with her, then you should do it as soon as possible before it's too late." Naylor hung up the phone after saying that.

Stunned, Zac was about to open his mouth to say something when the call ended. Realization began to dawn upon him in the next few seconds.

"Patricia plans to study abroad?" The shock was palpable on Zac's face, and it slowly transitioned into despair that became more evident in his expression.

Having heard what Zac said just now, Nicholas' lips formed into a frown. "Boss... Is that true?" He looked at Zac in disbelief.

If Patricia really decided to go abroad, then what about her relationship with Zac?

"I don't know, but..." Zac pursed his lips, unable to finish the sentence. He lowered his head and looked like he didn't know what to do.

Naylor could not have called him for no reason which meant that he might have been really telling the truth.

"Boss, what's your plan?" He could see in Zac's eyes that it was not a lie at all, and it only made Nicholas even more worried.

If Patricia was really going abroad, then what was going to happen to her and Zac? It hadn't been easy for the two of them to get to this point.

At the direction of his thoughts, Nicholas instantly felt a stab of pity. "Boss, you must think this through. If Miss Sampson does go abroad, it would be difficult for you to bring her back, you know?"

It would be easy for Zac to travel abroad as well given his status and capability, but who knew where Patricia would be by then? If she ever met somebody who struck her fancy there, she might even get married immediately.

Maybe Nicholas was just overthinking things, but it wasn't impossible to happen, either. He had to be very careful about this.

At Nicholas' words, Zac shook his head. The sadness and frustration were evident on his face as he sighed, rubbing his temples with his fingers.

"I don't know. It's plainly obvious that Patricia wants to leave here," Zac said quietly as he lifted his head to look up at the ceiling, his voice taking on a defeated tone.

"Even so, you have to be mentally prepared. I may be an outsider and I may not have the right to say anything about your relationship, but there are certain things in life that need to be fought for. If you don't do anything, you may regret it in the future, and I don't want that to happen to you!"

Nicholas was starting to get a little excited the more he talked. Whenever it came to Zac and Patricia, he couldn't help but cheer for them all the way.

However, even though he was actively encouraging them, it was no use at the moment. After all, it was still up to the two of them. If they weren't willing to move forward, then there was nothing he could do.

Zac considered Nicholas' words and nodded slightly. He knew what Nicholas meant, but now was not the time to say such things.

"You can go out first, Nicholas. I just need to be alone for a while," Zac said quietly, his gaze remaining downcast.

A helpless look came over Nicholas' face, but he knew that he couldn't do or say anything more. With a sigh, he turned around and exited the room, leaving Zac alone in the room.

When the door closed behind Nicholas, Zac let out a breath he hadn't realized he had been holding. He still didn't know what to do. His mind drew a blank, and the only thing he felt at this moment was the deep sadness that he couldn't contain.

"What should I do, Patricia?" Zac murmured, confused.

Of course, he understood her intentions and respected her choice. If Patricia really wanted to leave, then he wasn't going to stop her from doing so.

However, every time Zac thought about Patricia leaving far away, there was this terrible pain in his heart as though he were being stabbed by a thousand knives. It felt so painful and suffocating that he couldn't breathe.

"I don't know what to do. What should I do?" Zac muttered helplessly, lowering his head in deep confusion.

Meanwhile, outside Zac's office, Nicholas stood there, feeling that he had to do something before it was too late.

After leaving the CEO's office, Patricia returned to her own area. Thinking back to the events that transpired beforehand, it seemed that the manager was acting kind of odd today. Instead of making things difficult for her like always, he spoke to her in a kind tone instead.

It made her really confused. However, she could make a rough guess as to why.

If she went ahead with going abroad, then nobody was left in the department that had the capability to threaten the manager's position.

Perhaps that was why the manager tried his best to please Patricia as much as he could. However, Patricia wasn't fooled and maintained a cold attitude despite the manager's outward friendliness.

"Patricia, I am very sorry for what happened a few days ago. This is a token of my apology. Please accept it." With a big smile on his face, the manager handed Patricia a small, simple gift box.

Patricia wanted to scoff. "No, thank you," she said, regarding him with a look of indifference. "I appreciate your kindness, but I don't need this sort of thing." She returned the gift box on the manager's desk as well as yesterday's documents with a polite smile.

"If there is nothing else, I'll be going out to work." As soon as she finished speaking, Patricia turned away. She didn't want to be involved in anything with the manager at all.

Seeing the expression on her face, the manager pursed his lips in obvious displeasure, but dispelled it quickly. Instead, in a flattering tone, he said gently, "Make sure to rest well these days while getting ready to leave. After all, going abroad isn't a trivial matter." A wide, gleeful smile curved his lips afterwards.

Patricia turned her head towards him briefly and instantly knew what was up. It was obvious that the manager thought that she was no longer a threat to his position and was simply pretending to be polite.

Patricia glanced at the manager with disdain and gave a faint smile before turning around to leave.

However, when she went out, she didn't expect to see Nicholas standing at the entrance of the department, looking at her anxiously.