

## Remarry 441

### [Chapter 441 Tina's Anger](#)

Upon hearing that, Kareem frowned. He wanted to speak, but he couldn't find the right words to say. Clearly, he knew what Patricia meant.

She obviously wanted him to leave.

"Patricia, I..." Kareem swallowed, uncertain of what to say next. Helplessness and despair overcame his heart.

Although he knew that Patricia didn't have any feelings for him, he still hoped that he could at least give her a warm hug or pat her shoulder. Sadly, she refused him blatantly.

"Look, I know what you're trying to say, Kareem. Thank you, but I'm sorry that I can't accept it." Patricia lowered her head, wearing a faint smile. Disappointment swept across her face, and she had no idea what to tell him after that.

Patricia had no choice but to refuse his kindness. Right now, she wasn't in the mood to speak to Kareem. Moreover, because of her current situation, she was eager to be alone and have a little bit of peace.

"I understand what you're saying, Patricia, but I want to be with you," Kareem replied in a gentle voice. Every word he uttered came from the bottom of his heart. He was well aware of how much he loved her, and it would be impossible for him to move on right away.

Upon hearing his statement, Patricia let out a sigh. She thought this over, and she knew that she really didn't feel the same way for him.

"All I'm asking for is a chance to take care of you, Patricia." Kareem tried to be as sincere as possible, but behind him, he had his fists clenched and he was biting his lower lip.

Even though he knew that Patricia would refuse him again, he still had to give it a show. He wanted her to understand how he felt. No matter how long it might take and no matter how many times he had to say it, he would never give up so easily.

It was because he really wanted to win her heart. Aside from power and the Reynolds Group, this was the first time that he longed for something so strongly.

Patricia was stunned by his declaration of love. She wanted to speak, but couldn't find the right words to say. Right now, she felt helpless and disheartened.

After a moment of contemplation, she took a deep breath and regained her composure. She put on a smile and said, "Perhaps you won't believe me when I say this, but you need to know that I won't fall in love with you, Kareem. No matter what you do, you can't make me love you back."

She really meant it this time. The way she presented herself while she was talking showed that she had no intention of hiding anything from Kareem.

Even though she was overcome with grief because of what happened earlier, she still had a clear understanding of her thoughts and feelings. If it were possible, she hoped that he would just be reasonable and stop wasting his own time.

"Patricia." Kareem called out her name; this time, he sounded desperate. He even felt like he wanted to rush over in a fit of anger. As he clenched his fists and stared at Patricia, he felt like he failed to express his feelings.

Each time Patricia rejected him, a little part of Kareem's heart would die. But after every rejection, he would recover right away. There was no way he could give up so easily.

Sometimes, Kareem couldn't understand how and why he was this persistent. But that didn't matter right now. All he wanted at the moment was to give her a hug.

"I know that you don't love me and that you think we're not meant to be, but please believe me when I say that I can make you happy. You have to believe me, Patricia!" Kareem sounded more confident this time.

Even though there was a door between them, Patricia could feel his passion, and how strongly Kareem felt for her. Every time she rejected him, it didn't seem to discourage him. It somehow just made him love her even more.

Patricia had no idea why Kareem had such a strong willpower. And in the face of his persistence, she was at a loss what to do.

At this moment, Patricia fell silent. She didn't know how to answer him.

As a matter of fact, they both knew the answer and there was no need to repeat it again.

Suddenly, a bitter smile appeared on Kareem's lips. At a glance, one would be able to tell how defeated he felt right now. He must know that Patricia really couldn't love him back. And just like usual, she rejected him.

The excitement in his eyes disappeared within a second. And his gentle, happy face completely lost its glow and became an image of sorrow.

As Patricia watched Kareem lower his head, she pursed her lips and felt confused. For some reason, she felt uncertain if it was right of her to turn him down so blatantly.

But whether it was right or wrong, Patricia knew that it would be impossible for her to be with Kareem.

In the long run, making things clear now was the best option. Besides, Patricia didn't want Kareem to get into any more unnecessary trouble.

A few moments later, Kareem raised his head and wore a bitter smile. "I understand. Have a good rest, Patricia."

With that, Kareem turned around without hesitation. But just as he was about to take a step forward, he decided to take one more look at Patricia. After letting out a sigh and glancing at the darkness of the night, he slowly dragged his feet away. Each step away he took felt heavier and heavier.

As Patricia watched him walk away, she couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief. With a bitter smile, she muttered, "Thank you, Kareem, but I really can't accept your love."

Meanwhile, Tina happened to be standing at a corridor nearby, glaring at Kareem's receding figure. She heard every word that came out of his mouth just now, and it infuriated her. She shot a furious glance at Patricia's ward with a heart full of anger.

"Kareem, you brat, it seems that you've been bewitched by Patricia. How dare you visit that bitch?" Tina was so angry that she wanted to keep Patricia away from Kareem, so that they might never meet again.

When she thought of how sad Kareem looked just now, Tina blew a gasket. She stomped her feet, biting her lower lip as she glared at Patricia's ward once more.

"Patricia, you stupid bitch! I'm going to teach you a lesson. Otherwise, you'll never learn how to behave yourself!"

Right after she said that, Tina marched towards Patricia's room and pushed it open without a second thought. Even though it was dark inside, she could still see where Patricia was.

"Patricia, you bitch, you really don't want to give up, do you? Now that you can't be with Zac, you're hitting on Kareem? I never seen anyone as slutty as you are!" The way Tina spoke was laden with sarcasm. She wanted to trample Patricia's self-esteem underfoot.

#### [Chapter 442 Stop Pestering Him](#)

Patricia felt stunned just as she heard the voice. She couldn't help taking a closer look at the person in front of her with a face full of confusion. From the voice, she could tell that it was Tina. Just then, Patricia turned on the light. The blinding radiance from the light permeated their pupils causing their eyes to flutter.

However, Tina adjusted to the situation and quickly opened her eyes. As for Patricia, she had been in the dark for a very long time so it took her some time to adapt to the brightness.

Seeing Patricia's dazed look, Tina couldn't hold back her urge. She reached out and gave her a slap across the face.

A clapping sound reverberated the entire room in an instant.

Patricia felt a sharp pain on her cheek, causing her to feel shocked. It wasn't until that moment she realized what had happened.

Patricia quickly reacted by raising her hand to cover her face. With her eyes wide open, she looked straight at Tina. Frowning with displeasure, she murmured, "Mrs. Reynolds, you..."

"What? A slap in the face is just a light punishment for what you have done, Patricia!" Tina spoke with a slightly raised chin, giving her a condescending look. "Do you have a problem with that? You are still trying to pester Kareem. I haven't settled scores with you yet. You should count yourself lucky that I just gave you a slap in the face."

Just as Tina finished speaking, her anger soared into the sky and she felt like throwing Patricia out of the room. She couldn't wait to teach Patricia a lesson she would never forget.

Patricia was stunned after hearing Tina's words. If Tina was bent on finding fault with her, at least she could have come up with a better reason. Patricia had never pestered Kareem. Instead, it was Kareem who kept following her like a fly. No matter how many times Patricia refused, Kareem still didn't give up, which made her very helpless.

"Mrs. Reynolds, please watch your words. If you talk nonsense again, I can sue you." With her brows knitted tightly, the usual coldness returned to Patricia's face. She stared straight at Tina without fear. Since Tina was being so unreasonable, there was no need for Patricia to keep being polite.

Hearing Patricia's words, Tina couldn't help sneering. She stared at Patricia with disdain and asked, "Sue me? Is that all you got? Well, if you have the ability, you can go ahead. Without Zac's support, do you really think you can sue me?"

Tina was very clear about Patricia's situation. If it weren't for Zac's support, with her current identity, Patricia would be nothing but an ordinary person. Tina couldn't believe that Patricia dared to be so presumptuous in front of her.

Hearing Tina's words, Patricia sneered and her eyes flashed with a cold light. Without fear, she looked into Tina's eyes and said, "Really? Do you think the whole world is under your control, Mrs. Reynolds?" Just as she spoke, she maintained a fierce look. The chilling light in her eyes flickered as she stared at Tina.

Patricia was not stupid. Even with Zac's status, she could still find a way to damage his reputation, let alone Tina's.

No matter how capable and influential Tina was, she couldn't bear the pressure of public opinion.

"You..." Tina couldn't control her anger. She glared at Patricia, wishing she could go forward and tear her to pieces.

How could she not understand the meaning in Patricia's words? It was an obvious threat. In the face of such threat, Tina could not help but take a step back.

It wasn't that Tina was timid, but because her behavior would inevitably affect the reputation of the Reynolds family. If she tarnished the reputation of the Reynolds family, she would be held accountable for it. Tina was very clear about this. Besides, she was unwilling to end up like Yolanda and her daughter. She didn't dare to take the risk.

"Am I right, Mrs. Reynolds?" Patricia said with a gentle smile on her face as she stared at Tina.

Tina felt more infuriated. She glared at Patricia with anger in her eyes. She couldn't wait to teach Patricia a lesson.

"You sharp-tongued bitch. Do you think I can't do anything to you?" Tina yelled out in anger and raised her hand to slap Patricia.

Seeing this, Patricia tried raising her arm to resist, but her arm had just recovered and was not as fast as Tina's. Patricia instinctively closed her eyes as the slap was about to land on her face.

She was expecting the impact on her face but nothing happened unexpectedly. Just then, she heard a loud voice.

"Tina, get out! If you dare to hurt my daughter, I will teach you a lesson!" Giselle gave Tina a stern warning and grabbed her arm while also shooting her a fierce glare.

Hearing the familiar voice, Patricia felt a little stunned. She then opened her eyes while thinking it was an illusion. She couldn't believe that her mom really came.

"Mom, why are you here?" Patricia asked with a surprised look etched on her face. She thought it was an illusion but was shocked to see the vivid figure of her mother.

Tina was also shocked by Giselle's sudden appearance. She took a deep breath and muttered, "Giselle!"

"Get out!" shouted Giselle. She yanked off Tina's hand, pushing her away from Patricia's bed.

Giselle clearly saw what had happened just now. When Tina was about to hit Patricia, she couldn't bear the sight, so she rushed up and held her hand. Because of what happened last time, her maternal instincts kicked in. To protect Patricia, she knew she had to act strong.

Tina took a few steps back before regaining her composure. Seeing the anger on Giselle's face, she knew it would be unwise to continue with her actions.

Tina was a smart woman. Since Giselle was here, it meant that Richard must be nearby. She was heavily outnumbered and things would definitely turn bad for her if she remained here.

Anyway, there was still plenty of time. Tina knew she could always get Patricia in the future.

"Patricia, you'd better know your place and watch your behavior. Stop pestering Kareem's life." As soon as she said those words, Tina gave Patricia a look full of disdain. She didn't take Giselle's presence seriously at all. She then strode away without saying a word.

Seeing her finally leave, Giselle ignored her and looked straight at Patricia. She stared at Patricia worriedly and couldn't help examining her body to see if she was hurt.

Giselle didn't know if Tina had harmed Patricia. And if she dared to hurt Patricia, she wouldn't let her go scot-free.

Seeing the worried look on her mother's face, Patricia smiled, shook her head, and said softly, "Mom, don't worry. I'm fine." Just as she spoke, Patricia hurriedly looked sideways to hide the swollen part of her face.

#### [Chapter 443 I Was Worried About You](#)

No matter how hard Patricia tried to hide her swollen face, Giselle still noticed the redness of Patricia's face. Overcome with sadness, Giselle's eyes welled up with tears.

"I'm sorry that you had to suffer like that, my dear," she murmured, feeling dispirited. Then, she touched Patricia's hand to offer some sort of comfort.

Even though Patricia didn't want her mother to worry about her, Giselle still found out. She had to remove her hand from her face and let Giselle have a good look at her face. Truthfully, Patricia didn't think of this as a big deal. Her face felt a little painful, but she would recover soon.

Because of how visible the palm print was on Patricia's cheek, Giselle felt so angry that she had to bite her lip. Her heart was filled with rage, and she was eager to give Tina a piece of her mind.

As a mother, it was natural for Giselle to feel sorry for her daughter and be angry at the person who hurt her daughter.

Giselle's tears streamed down her face and fell onto Patricia's palm.

Meanwhile, Patricia pursed her lips and lowered her head, uncertain of what to say. She didn't know what she must do to comfort Giselle.

Patricia figured that changing the topic would keep Giselle's mind off her wounded face.

"Oh, by the way, Mom. It's so late. What are you doing here? Where's Uncle Richard?" Right after she said that, Patricia glanced at the door in search of Richard.

Wherever Giselle went, that man would always follow. Patricia thought that Richard would be here, but it seemed that her mother came alone this time.

"Mom, you came here alone? Did you have a fight with him?" Patricia looked worried. She felt agitated of the thought that something bad had happened to her mother.

Upon hearing this, Giselle shook her head, stroked Patricia's hair, and said, "Of course, not. Why would you think that? Richard and I get along just fine together. I was just really worried about you. That's why I asked the chauffeur to drive me here."

"Why would you be worried about me?" Patricia asked as she looked at Giselle with doubt and confusion. She was in a stable condition now, and there was no more need to worry about her.

Upon seeing the look on her face, Giselle pursed her lips and shook her head. She cupped Patricia's cheek and said, "Patricia, why do you feel the need to pretend around me? The entire city knows about Zac's relationship with Anika."

Patricia was stunned to hear Giselle say that. She wanted to say something, but she couldn't find the right words to say.

She had thought that Giselle came over tonight because she was worried about her health. But to her surprise, Giselle actually came here because of Zac's alleged marriage to Anika.

When Giselle saw the look in Patricia's eyes, she felt heartbroken. She clutched her chest, and her face was laden with sadness.

'Why does Patricia have to suffer so much? She's the one who's supposed to be with Zac. Why did this have to happen?'

Ever since Giselle heard the news, she had been baffled. She didn't want to believe it, but it was impossible to ignore.

Giselle was so worried about her daughter. She wondered if Patricia would do something stupid after hearing the news.

Although Patricia had always been a sensible young lady, Giselle knew that she was also eager to love and be loved. Otherwise, Patricia wouldn't have been secretly in love with Zac for years upon years, and she wouldn't have endured all that suffering.

It took a while, but Patricia managed to regain her composure. She put on a bright smile and said, "What are you so worried about, Mom? It's a good thing that Zac and Anika are getting married. They're meant for each other. If you ask me, they're a perfect match!"

Giselle was surprised to hear her daughter say that. She refused to believe that those words just came out of Patricia's mouth.

"Are you seriously okay, Patricia?" With worry in her eyes, Giselle made eye contact with Patricia, worried that her daughter might overthink or do something stupid.

Upon seeing how concerned her mother was for her, Patricia patted Giselle's shoulder. "I really am okay, Mom. There's no need to make a fuss about it. In fact, I feel great right now." After that, she forced a smile that made it seem like she was giving Zac and Anika her blessing.

But Giselle could tell that Patricia was faking that smile. It was apparent that Patricia still cared about Zac and was just trying to act tough.

"Oh, Patricia, my poor girl. Stop trying to put on an act. I was worried that you might be taking things too hard, so I came here to check on you. But..." Giselle stopped midsentence to sob. She hugged Patricia as tears streamed down her cheeks.

The more Patricia tried to act tough, the more distressed Giselle felt. 'Why can't my daughter be with the man she loved?' she wondered.

In the past, Giselle believed that Zac and Patricia would eventually fall in love, if they were given enough time to spend together.

But Giselle now realized how wrong she was. Zac wasn't as good a man as she thought he was, and Patricia just used him in the past.

However, Giselle knew that Zac was changing little by little. At the same time, his attitude towards Patricia had also changed. When she saw how Zac looked at Patricia, she knew that he had fallen in love with her.

Giselle had thought that things would go smoothly, but she was mistaken yet again.

Perhaps an outsider like her would never understand Zac and Patricia's relationship.

No matter what, Giselle still hoped that Patricia could be fine and not get hurt again.

A bitter smile appeared on Patricia's lips, but it soon disappeared. She patted Giselle's back and said, "Mom, I'm okay. I really am. Don't worry about it." She kept on comforting Giselle, hoping that her mother could feel at peace.



However, her mother's words only made her worry. Patricia knew what Giselle meant, and she still loved Zac with all her heart.

But she was no longer the innocent girl she was in the past. No longer was she love-struck enough to sacrifice her happiness for Zac. She couldn't do that anymore.

Patricia was certain of this. She figured it was time to put an end to their relationship.

Each time his name would get mentioned, she would feel hurt. At the same time, she felt baffled and she didn't know what to say or do.

"You still love him, don't you, Patricia?" Giselle wiped away her tears, staring at Patricia and waiting for an answer.

Patricia smiled and shook her head. She tried to act tough, but she was clearly dejected. "That doesn't matter anymore." Having said that, she stared into Giselle's eyes with renewed determination.

Ever since she decided to go abroad, she resolved that she would cut all ties with Zac.

#### [Chapter 444 News Of Going Abroad](#)

Giselle and Patricia had spent long hours talking about Zac last night. It was the first time for mother and daughter to have a conversation as intimate as that one.

Patricia had always felt dwarfed by the immensity of her feelings for Zac, and just when she had plucked up her courage to finally leave, he started to try desperately winning her back. Once again, she found herself wanting to come closer. But as she took small steps towards him, the distance between them stretched for what seemed to be never-ending miles.

Perhaps she had been mistaken in thinking that there was a possibility. They were running around in circles and stayed in the same place.

The first light of dawn touched Patricia's skin, her heavy eyelids flickering slowly. In the first hours of morning, when the air was still cool, a rueful smile curved on her lips.

Last night, after Giselle had left, she sat alone with the noise of her own thoughts. Sleep eluded Patricia; her mind too preoccupied with the weight of her worries.

It was not until dawn that exhaustion gave her mercy, and she was finally able to drift off for a few hours.

When she woke up, there was a bowl of congee waiting for her. The delicious aroma gently filled the room, and her heart was wrapped with a familiar warmth.

"Where is he?" Patricia murmured to herself. She looked around, her eyes searching for Nicholas' figure.

He must have not wanted to disturb her sleep and left without waking her.

Even as Patricia ate the congee, her appetite did not budge. Other times, she would have found comfort in it, but now she could barely taste her favorite congee.

Her heart sank as thoughts from last night began running around in her head again. A trace of bitterness pierced her chest, her eyes growing dull.

The first thing Nicholas saw when he came back was the lost look on Patricia's face. For a moment, he stilled, anxious and dejected. He didn't know what to say to her.

"Patricia..." Nicholas called out hesitantly. There was no trace of his usual cheerful self as he looked at her.

Patricia slowly raised her head. There was a tired expression on her face, but it vanished the next second—the change too quick for Nicholas to notice.

"There you are, Nicholas," Patricia said with a smile. "Nicholas, I'm not with Zac anymore. He's going to marry someone else in the future."

The words were out before she could stop them. Patricia retreated back into silence, at a loss what to say next.

She used to dislike it whenever Nicholas took her as Zac's girlfriend. It was a name that had grown on her later on, but things had changed again, and Patricia had to learn how to disentangle herself with it.

"No, you're the only woman in his heart. I know that there are many problems between the two of you, but they're not impossible to solve. You two..." Nicholas' voice trailed off, his mouth closing as he fumbled for his next words.

He would have gladly helped in whatever way he could if Patricia would just choose to face her feelings for Zac. She wouldn't even need to ask for Nicholas' assistance. He would have offered it himself.

But Nicholas knew her well. Even if he begged her to do it, Patricia wouldn't still insist on doing things her way.

"Nicholas, there are some things you don't know," Patricia said with a tired sigh. She looked at Nicholas with a faint smile.

She was fortunate to have a friend like him. He cared about her deeply and had always gone out of his way to make sure she was taken care of. Nicholas had always wanted nothing but happiness for her, hoping that she and Zac would still end up together.

But the world was not so simple. Patricia didn't have the courage to risk her heart again, even when she

had to wage war against her feelings for Zac.

Nicholas couldn't help shaking his head at her answer. He sighed helplessly and said, "You're right. I'm an outsider. I'm overstepping my bounds, talking like I know everything that's going on between you two." His voice was heavy with defeat.

Patricia understood what Nicholas meant. But it was futile to keep trying. It didn't matter how much she loved Zac.

"Patricia, is there anything else I can do for you?"

"No, thank you. I will be discharged from the hospital soon. There isn't much to do. Besides, I've already gotten more than enough rest the past couple of days. I'll be okay." Patricia spoke calmly, giving Nicholas a soft smile.

But her gentle refusal stung. It was as if Patricia was trying to draw a line between her and Nicholas, like she wanted to keep him out of her concerns.

Nicholas' face crumbled at the thought. He looked at Patricia with sad eyes and whispered, "Are you trying to keep me away?"

The question stunned her. Patricia turned her gaze away from Nicholas and explained, "What do you mean? You're thinking too much. I'm just saying that I can take care of myself. I don't want to keep bothering you."

Nicholas looked like he wanted to say something more, but he bit back his words at the last moment. With a sigh, he conceded. "Right. Take care of yourself, Patricia. I'll be going ahead." With that, he turned around and left, his steps heavy as he walked out.

Patricia watched him go, and let out a long sigh. A pang of guilt crept into her heart. She knew she must have hurt Nicholas' feelings, but making half-hearted decisions would be worse in the long run. Now it was time to cut things off with Zac for good.

As if a burden had been placed on her shoulders, Patricia lowered her head and heaved a breath. It was easier said than done, especially when she had no idea where to start.

As Patricia sank into her own thoughts, a playful voice pulled her back to the present.

"Patricia, don't be so cruel. It would break his heart if you refuse him so coldly." Naylor stood at the door, holding a fruit basket in his hand. He had a strange expression as he looked at her.

A frown immediately settled on Patricia's forehead at the way Naylor was looking at her. She watched him carefully, searching his face for clues.

Naylor gave her a knowing smile and walked towards her. "Don't look at me like that. I'm not that horrible. I'm actually here with good news."

"Good news?" Patricia's frown deepened in confusion. Somehow, she had a bad feeling about this.

"Yes, very good news," Naylor answered with a laugh, placing the basket on the table. "The company has made a decision. Congratulations, you will be going abroad in five days."

Patricia was speechless at what Nicholas had just said. Her mind went blank, and for a moment, she just stared at Naylor with a befuddled expression.

"What's wrong? Are you that surprised?" There was a hint of confusion in Naylor's eyes, but he kept himself composed.

Patricia pulled herself together and nodded, giving Naylor a polite smile. "Okay."

Her face was placid and emotionless, as if she had not just received big news. It was strange, but Patricia was neither happy nor excited at the prospect of traveling.

Seeing her expression, Naylor laughed and remarked, "It's like you're not even interested in going."

#### [Chapter 445 Depression](#)

"No." Patricia shook her head slightly and returned to her usual calm look. She looked over at Naylor indifferently. "It's not like that at all. I'm thinking that I'll be back on my feet in five days."

Naylor simply shrugged his shoulders. Then it appeared something had occurred to him as he said in a doubtful voice, "By the way, how are you and Zac doing? Is there any progress between you guys?" As soon as his words left his mouth, he giggled.

Patricia appeared unfazed by his giddiness and didn't take his words seriously at all. She smiled and said in a polite voice, "Are you joking right now? Isn't Mr. Reynolds about to marry Miss Curtis?"

"Is that really so? I don't believe that at all," Naylor said in a casual voice, staring straight at Patricia, trying to find some clue on her face.

Naylor knew that something was going on between Zac and Patricia. His secret investigation revealed that there was indeed something more to their relationship.

Zac was so in love with Patricia, which caused Naylor to become very curious and made him want to know just what kind of woman Patricia was.

Since he knew Patricia for a long time, Naylor was very familiar with who Patricia was as a person. He believed her to be a good match for Zac. Zac was always very caring toward Patricia, which originally made Naylor very curious about their relationship. He couldn't help but want to play matchmaker.

But right now, it seemed that with or without Naylor's help, the two still faced a lot of problems. One of these problems was Anika. Naylor had no idea if this was an entirely good or bad thing.

Good or bad, whatever it might be, this all depended on what Zac and Patricia thought in the end.

"Believe it or not, I have already told you my thoughts," Patricia said in an indifferent voice. She no longer wanted to discuss this matter with Naylor.

Naylor knew what was going on. Since Patricia didn't want to talk about this matter anymore, it would be unwise to keep asking about it.

However, Naylor was still curious about what direction their relationship was developing in.

Right now, they weren't making any progress. Naylor was feeling anxious and depressed over this bit of news.

"That makes sense. It's normal if you don't want to talk about it. After all, this is not a good thing. You must feel sad over it," Naylor said in a casual voice as if he could care less about it.

Naylor got up and walked away. When he made his way up to the door, he suddenly recalled something and stopped in his tracks. He turned around and smiled in Patricia's direction.

"By the way, I actually almost forgot to mention one thing. Your application for going abroad needs to be revised. You can hand it to me later." With a wave of his hand, Naylor left.

After Naylor was out the door, Patricia inexplicably released a sigh of relief. A hint of helplessness shot through her features and she could only purse her lips tightly.

"Even the CEO is involved in our matters," Patricia said helplessly. Thinking back to how Zac looked earlier, she started to frown. She wondered if she had gone too far this time.

But after thinking things over, she thought that it could only be a good thing for her and Zac.

So now Zac could focus on living a good life with Anika and cultivate their relationship even more.

But when Patricia imagined Zac's happy life with Anika, she felt a pang emerge in her heart. She lifted her hand to touch her chest unconsciously and suddenly felt that she had no idea what to do next.

Right now, Zac was downing drink after drink at Oakleaf Villa instead of working at the company. This was the first time he had done such a thing.

Zac lay on the sofa and stared at the ceiling with empty eyes as if he could see straight through the ceiling. He appeared to be looking for something as if waiting for something miraculous to happen.

Littered underneath the sofa were dozens of empty bottles of wine, which were so numerous, they already covered the entire area around the sofa. The bottles all seemed to point to Zac's overwhelming bitterness.

What Patricia said echoed over and over again in Zac's mind. Her sad voice and blatant refusals made his heart break into two and he felt that all his efforts were in vain.

"Drowning my sorrows with wine isn't doing me any good. It's only making me more depressed!" Zac muttered to himself. He turned to look at the door in a daze as if he was waiting for a familiar figure to appear at this time.

But out of his daze, he seemed to have forgotten who that familiar figure was.

He racked his brain. Who was it again?

Zac released a slight sigh. A trace of depression seized him. How could he forget? In fact, it was very clear in his mind who it was he was waiting for.

But it was meaningless now to wait like this. Did he really want to continue waiting like this? Zac was feeling at a loss what to do. He couldn't face the prospect of losing her, but at the same time, he had no idea what to do next.

"What should I do? Tell me!" Lifting the glass to his lips, Zac had a bitter smile on his face. However, there was no answer in the cold wine glass.

Zac knew he wouldn't receive any response. However, he couldn't help asking himself repeatedly as if he wanted to find the answer in his heart.

After some more time, the door opened gently. Zac narrowed his eyes at the door and gave the person standing at the door a suspicious look.

It was not until Zac's eyes adjusted to the light that he was able to regain his senses. He smiled at Nicholas and said, "Nicholas, come in and drink with me."

Nicholas pursed his lips tightly, appearing very depressed. A trace of helplessness penetrated his heart, and he didn't know how to approach the matter.

He made his way up to Zac, helped him up in a sitting position, and said, "Boss, I think you've had enough. You can stop drinking now. You're already drunk."

"No, you are wrong. I only drank a little. Nicholas, have a seat and drink with me." Zac gave Nicholas a leisurely smile and didn't feel anything was wrong at all.

Nicholas frowned and sighed rather helplessly. "Boss, you haven't been to the company. Do you really think it's a good thing to drink here alone?"

He knew Zac was devastated over what had happened, but according to Nicholas, Zac seemed to have changed into a different person overnight.

Perhaps Zac was really overwhelmed by sadness at this time so that he even forgot to work. Feeling immersed in sadness, he was turning to wine to drown out his sorrows.

"Nicholas, you really don't understand me," Zac murmured. He lifted his glass to his lips and downed it in one gulp before Nicholas had the chance to speak.

Nicholas shook his head and muttered, "Is it really true? Boss, I really have no idea what happened between you and Patricia. But you are really hurting yourself by doing this right now."

#### [Chapter 446 Be Brave](#)

After the words left his mouth, Nicholas' face looked very depressed and his heart was heavy with sadness. In fact, he knew all along what was going on between Patricia and Zac.

Zac and Patricia kept on hurting each other. Even though they were in love, they still somehow managed to hurt one another continuously.

Nicholas really couldn't wrap his mind around what they could be thinking right now. He didn't know why Zac and Patricia could do such a thing to each other.

Zac was slightly startled by his words. He stared at Nicholas confusedly as if he had just received some astonishing news.

"Nicholas, repeat what you said. I don't think I heard you clearly," Zac demanded, his voice filled with panic and confusion.

Nicholas shook his head. He coughed and said in a very serious voice, "Since you two are in love, why don't you do more to fight for your relationship? Why do you have to continue to hurt each other in this way?" He frowned while looking straight at Zac.

Originally, Zac had thought that Nicholas knew very little about their relationship and that he was an onlooker just giving his opinion.

Zac and Patricia were blind to the fact that though they both loved each other, none of them were brave enough to fight for their relationship. That was why they kept going around in circles, unable to resolve their differences.

"Nicholas, it's not that I'm not brave enough to fight for us. But it's just that Patricia doesn't have it in her to accept me." Looking very bitter and crestfallen, Zac had no idea what to say for a moment there,

and his heart felt very heavy with depression.

In the past, Zac didn't think like this. But last night, he came to the realization that Patricia lacked the courage to accept him.

Nicholas frowned and appeared a little unhappy. He let out a helpless sigh and shook his head. "Is that really so? Boss, you should know better than I what is going on." He stared into Zac's eyes with his sharp ones as if he was searching for something deep inside Zac's heart.

Nicholas' intense gaze was making Zac feel uneasy. He could only purse his lips tightly. He averted his eyes from Nicholas unconsciously and released a long sigh.

"As you know, I'm also afraid." While sighing, Zac's brooding eyes noticeably darkened. He appeared to be mulling it over in his head and became confused.

Zac was very indecisive about what to do next. In fact, the reason he didn't want to fight for their relationship wasn't because he didn't want to be together with Patricia. But every time he told Patricia his feelings for her, she turned him down.

Facing her blatant refusals had become tiring after a while and Zac became very depressed. He had no clue what to do at all. He even came to the conclusion that he should distance himself from Patricia so that he could take care of her from behind the scenes.

It was not until at that point that Zac realized he wasn't brave enough to face her at all. Kareem tried to get together with Patricia again and again. Even though he was rejected by her time and time again, he was still courageous enough to chase after her and didn't back down at all.

And what about him? After Patricia refused him, Zac could only feel disheartened over matters. He no longer had the initiative to win her over anymore. He just wanted to hear her response. If she could return his love, Zac would definitely be very happy.

However, these were all illusions in Zac's head that never actually happened. But he could not help but look forward to this future moment.

However, it turned out that Zac was avoiding the issue altogether. He never actually took the initiative to win Patricia over wholeheartedly. He did not stop to consider Patricia and her feelings.

"Nicholas, I know now that you're right. I'm really not brave enough so our relationship has gone nowhere." Zac could only sigh, his face very downcast, and he had no idea what to say next.

Nicholas smiled at his words and breathed out a sigh of relief. A flash of joy shot through his face. As long as Zac knew this, this was a good sign. Now he needed to overcome the obstacles and work hard to advance forward.



"Boss, as long as you know about it now, things will never be too late," Nicholas said in a kind voice and continued to encourage Zac, hoping that he could tackle this matter bravely.

Zac nodded his head slightly and let out a sigh. He had no idea what to say right then. He pursed his lips tightly and appeared very down.

"Even though I know what the problem is, I have no clue how to go about things now," Zac whispered. He touched his forehead with his slender fingers, temporarily at a loss what to do next. He looked over at Nicholas with confused eyes.

It was not that Zac wanted to avoid the problem. It was just that he was feeling helpless and did not know how to handle things.

When it came to matters that had to do with Patricia, Zac always ended up feeling so powerless.

Nicholas sighed. He stared straight at Zac and said in a gentle voice, "Boss, you have to make up your own mind over this matter. You, yourself, know what's best." He gave Zac an encouraging smile.

Nicholas had just told Zac his opinion. Next, it was up to Zac to take action.

Zac should decide what his next plan of action would be. As an onlooker, Nicholas could only look on. He had no right to interfere in his matters.

Zac nodded his head in acknowledgement. He seemed to understand what Nicholas was trying to convey to him. He looked over at Nicholas with a smile playing on his lips.

"Nicholas, thank you so much for the reminder." Zac was feeling very grateful. Even though he looked a mess right now, his words were very sincere and true.

Seeing Zac's disheveled state, Nicholas returned to his mischievous demeanor. He shrugged his shoulders and said, "If you want to see Patricia right now, you should wash up and clean yourself up some more, because..." He paused right then and cocked his eyebrows at Zac.

Zac got Nicholas' message loud and clear. Zac knew what was going on. He must look very unkempt right now, which was why Nicholas mentioned this.

Zac nodded his head and said with a smile, "Okay, I need to wash myself up, or else it'll be too embarrassing to have anyone see me like this." A hint of a smile was on his face as Zac got up and made his way towards the bathroom. On the way there, he kicked the wine bottles beside the sofa out of his way unconsciously.

Nicholas smiled warmly. Apparently, Zac was feeling better already. Nicholas released a sigh of relief and believed that this could only be a good thing.

Even though he had no idea what would happen to Zac and Patricia in the future, this just so happened to be a good start. He hoped that the two could clear up any misunderstandings between them and just learn to be together.

#### [Chapter 447 Have You Thought It Over](#)

Patricia was sitting on the bed alone, while Kareem was standing at the door in a daze. He pursed his lips and didn't know if it was better for him to go in.

Kareem was already conscious of the fact that, Tina came last night with the aim of causing trouble. There was nothing he could do to his mother. And now, he felt so embarrassed that he didn't know how to face Patricia.

He already felt guilty for what had happened in the past, and now with what happened last night, he felt ashamed. Kareem stood at the door, waiting for Patricia to say something.

Kareem stood there biting his lip, without saying a word. He was depressed and gloomy, and didn't know what to do to remedy the situation.

"Patricia, will you forgive me?" Kareem murmured to himself and lowered his head.

Without looking in the direction of the door, Patricia just sighed helplessly. She was indeed very sad, and she too was confused on what to do.

Patricia knew what Kareem meant by that question. But really, she no longer cared. Why he stood outside concerned him alone, and she wanted nothing to do with him anymore.

Patricia clearly heard what Tina had said last night and she wasn't close to forgetting it. She didn't want to get into trouble with Tina again because of this.

Patricia really didn't want to have anything to do with Tina. Every time she faced her, she felt helpless and depressed.

Out of the corner of her eye, Patricia stole a glance at Kareem. With a slight sigh, she said indifferently, "Kareem, go back please. I don't want your mother to make things difficult for me again."

Hearing this, Kareem was a little stunned. His eyes suddenly looked surprised and even confused. He didn't know what to do now.

Lost, he clenched his fists and bit his lower lip. He looked straight at Patricia and said in a low voice, "Patricia, I'm really sorry for what happened last night. My mother..."

"Kareem, there is no need to explain. It is perfectly understandable why your mother would want to keep me away from you," Patricia said, interrupting Kareem with a gentle smile.

Kareem found it difficult to reign his anger in. His state of confusion pushed him to look at Patricia with sadness. His lips moved, but not a single word came out.

After a while, when he still couldn't say anything, he just cast his eyes down and lowered his head. He was so ashamed of himself that he couldn't face Patricia anymore.

"I'm sorry, Patricia. I didn't know my mother would do something like that. I totally didn't expect it. But please, don't take it to heart if she said something harsh."

Patricia just nodded slightly. Then she looked at the door and when she saw the look in Kareem's eyes, she sighed in defeat. Anyway, this issue had nothing to do with Kareem. It wasn't fair to vent her anger on him.

But as she thought about it, what happened last night could be a good thing. Now, Kareem would distance himself from her. And in that way, people would stop misunderstanding their relationship.

Patricia and Kareem looked at each other through the window without saying anything. He knew what she meant and understood what she wanted. At this point, he had only one option left, and that was to leave her alone.

When she saw Kareem leave, Patricia breathed a sigh of relief. She was really scared of it causing more misunderstandings if Tina saw them.

"Kareem, you should know that it's impossible for us to be together," Patricia murmured. She knew Kareem couldn't hear her, but she had to voice it out.

As soon as she finished speaking, a familiar voice came and interrupted her train of thought.

"What's wrong? Why do you look so worried?" Jack's playful tone didn't fail to jolt Patricia back to reality. With a fruit basket in his hand, he smiled cheekily at her.

Seeing Jack, Patricia smiled and said gently, "Well, since you're here, please, do come in and make yourself at home." The joy on her face couldn't be hidden. She was just so happy to see Jack, especially at a time like this.

Seeing the look in her eyes, Jack couldn't stop himself from teasing her. "How is it going? I know you missed me! Come on, just tell me how much! We haven't seen each other for a long time. You miss me, huh? I know you do!"

In response, Patricia gave him an angry look. "Jack, don't make fun of me. If Sonia finds out..."

Before Patricia could finish, Sonia poked her head out from behind Jack and smiled sweetly at Patricia.

"Patricia, please, just don't mind what Jack said, okay? He likes making jokes." Sonia glared at Jack

disapprovingly, making him to imagine the consequences if he didn't shut up.

Seeing Sonia's expression, Jack frowned and whispered, "What are you doing here? I thought I told you not to follow me."

"I came over to avoid your mom's nagging," Sonia said in an unhappy tone. She glared at Jack, angry that he was reprimanding her. Then she approached Patricia.

"Patricia, I'm so sorry. We've been so busy recently that we haven't had the time to visit you. Fortunately, we happened to be free today. Since you are doing much better, we're relieved." Sonia wore a sweet smile as she patted the back of Patricia's hand gently, offering her the comfort she thought Patricia needed.

Patricia nodded, raised the corners of her mouth slightly and placed a beautiful smile on her face. She felt even more relieved as she noticed that Jack and Sonia got along so well with each other.

While Patricia was happy, Jack, who was standing aside, wasn't. He felt like the girls were ignoring him. He frowned and pouted unhappily at them. "How can you neglect me so blatantly?"

Both Patricia and Sonia frowned when they heard his outburst. They were surprised and lost for words. What were they to answer to that?

After chatting with Patricia for some time, Sonia left because she had something to deal with. Jack stayed to talk with Patricia.

Jack peeled an apple, gave Patricia one half of it, and then ate the other half. He thought of something and brought it up with Patricia for them to discuss it.

"Have you seen today's news, Patricia?" Jack asked suspiciously. Then he focused on her face, as though he was trying to find something there.

Patricia looked up at him and shook her head slightly. "No, I didn't. What did the news say?"

Hearing this, Jack frowned and got lost for a second, as though he just realized something. He muttered, "Patricia, have you really thought it over? Are you sure about this?"

#### [Chapter 448 Didn't Dare Get Close](#)

Patricia was surprised. She looked at Jack, seeming as though she didn't understand him at all.

But in reality, she knew what he meant, and she was aware of what news he was talking about.

Obviously, it was about Zac and Anika. Patricia had already heard it from many people, and hearing it again was getting tiring. There was no more need to mention it to her.

Upon seeing her reaction, Jack took a bite of his apple and frowned. "What's the matter? Are you still going to put on an act in front of me? Patricia, you and I have known each other for years. You may be able to trick Zac, but you won't get the better of me." Right after he said that, he stared at her, looking for an answer on her face.

Jack was not exaggerating when he said that. He actually knew more about Patricia than Zac ever did.

But that didn't matter now. Now that Jack had fallen in love with someone else, he and Patricia were just friends. He just hoped she could find her own happiness, and he wished that she and Zac could finally make some progress on their relationship.

Sometimes, whenever he saw how complicated their relationship was, he would be infuriated. It made him wish that he could just throw Patricia to Zac and let him take care of her forever. Then, all of their problems would be solved.

But Jack knew that this was impossible. He was well aware of what kind of person Patricia was. If he were to do something like that, she would certainly be furious at him.

"What's wrong? Why aren't you saying anything?" Since Patricia wasn't answering, Jack put on a cheeky smile.

Upon hearing this, Patricia let out a sigh, pursed her lips, and looked into his eyes.

"You already know that, right? Why do you have to ask me?" Patricia asked, sounding forlorn.

"Because I want to hear the answer from you," Jack said, casting her a stern gaze.

Patricia was confused. She couldn't understand what he meant by that.

"Let me ask you again. What are you going to do about this situation you and Zac are in?" Jack asked, maintaining eye contact. He seemed very serious, as he was looking for a reaction from Patricia.

All of a sudden, Patricia burst into laughter. In a calm voice, she said, "Nothing. I think this is good news, isn't it? Aren't Zac and Anika a good match?" She forced a bright smile.

Jack didn't seem happy to hear her answer. He snorted with disdain. "What are you saying, Patricia? How could you be so indifferent after hearing something of that gravity? If I were Zac, I would be really pissed at you!" At this point, he had no idea what to say to this woman.

If he were being honest, Zac would probably feel sad if he heard Patricia say that.

Her words dispirited Jack. He even thought that he should lecture her, just so she could understand the current situation.

Otherwise, Jeck would be very frustrated with her.

Upon seeing his reaction, Petricie frowned and let out a sigh. "Why are you looking at me like that? I'm only telling the truth!"

"No. You're definitely not right. This isn't a good thing at all. You even said that Zec and Anika were a good match. What on earth are you thinking, Petricie?" Anger overcame Jeck. He was clearly infuriated by her remarks.

At this point, Petricie was pissed at him, too. She pursed her lips and countered, "Why are you so upset, Jeck? I'm merely telling the truth. You can deny it as much as you want, but you shouldn't lose your temper at me like that."

After hearing her defend herself, Jeck finally blew a gasket.

Petricie was trying to conceal her true emotions from him. Zec had no feelings for Anika. This was all clearly that desperate woman's trick!

"That is definitely not the truth. Can't you see that Zec is in love with you? If you don't feel the same way towards him, then why are you so depressed, huh?" With eyes wide open, Jeck glared at Petricie with a gloomy expression.

Petricie faked a smile and pretended to be calm. After clearing her throat, she answered, "Jeck, how do you even know what I'm thinking right now?"

Now, Jeck wasn't sure how to talk to her anymore. Sadness swept across his face, and he was about to lose all of his patience for her.

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Now, Jack wasn't sure how to talk to her anymore. Sadness swept across his face, and he was about to lose all of his patience for her.

"Patricia, you..." At this point, Jack was too angry to even form a sentence. He could only stare at her, hoping that he could figure out whatever it was she was thinking.

When she saw his reaction, Patricia let out a helpless sigh. "Jack, this isn't as simple as you think. There's an unimaginable gap between Zac and me. We don't trust each other enough, and we can't even communicate calmly."

"Bullshit! That's utter nonsense, Patricia? When did you two even communicate properly, huh? And when have you ever taken a step forward?" Jack fired back.

Truthfully, Jack had a vague idea of what Patricia had in mind. As a matter of fact, Zac was too chicken to take a step forward as well.

Upon hearing his response, Patricia was stunned. Her pupils dilated as she looked at Jack with a blank stare. Her lips became stiff; unable to utter a word.

Patricia couldn't refute Jack's rebuttal. If she were being honest, he was right. She would always tell people that there was a giant gap between her and Zac, but she knew that she was just too scared to take a step forward and get closer to him.

What had happened in the past three years had been imprinted in her mind. Patricia couldn't describe it in words, and she had no idea how to cleanse it from her memory.

This was very clear to Patricia, and that was the reason she couldn't urge herself to get close to Zac. Now, she began to feel disheartened and sad.

Patricia let out another sigh. Her face was laden with sadness. "No. You have no clue about what's happening, Jack. Honestly, I'm also scared. That's why I can't bring myself to get closer to Zac. I used to love him so much, but I ended up getting hurt badly. Do you think after everything I went through, I would still have the courage to do that?" A bitter smile appeared on her lips as she shook her head.

Jack was surprised to hear her say that. He had not expected that she would say something like that.

#### [Chapter 449 I've Made Up My Mind](#)

Patricia pursed her lips in despair, her hands clenching into fists. She was filled with a sense of helplessness and didn't know what to do.

"Do you think I can still get close to Zac now? Even though I do want to fight for our relationship, I can't help but want to take a step back because of how difficult it is," Patricia said solemnly, tilting her head to look up at the ceiling with a conflicted gaze.

No matter how much she mulled over it in her head, Patricia still had no idea how to deal with the current problem. The gap between her and Zac had grown so big, she didn't know how she could possibly bridge it.

At her words, Jack pursed his lips in silence, unable to think of anything to say. In the beginning, he tried to persuade Patricia, but things weren't as simple as he thought they would be. He hadn't been considerate enough of Patricia and her feelings.

There was truth in Patricia's words. Her three years of marriage did hurt her a lot, and the painful experience remained in her memories until now. Because of it, she felt helpless and didn't know what to do.

However, Patricia still loved Zac. It was only Zac who could help her get through this obstacle.

Jack let out a long sigh. "I see. Seeing as you still love Zac, I think you should fight for your relationship the best you can. That way, you won't leave any kind of regret for yourself."

Patricia looked at him with a little surprise, and then gave a small smile. "Thank you, Jack," she said gently.

"No need to thank me. I just think that it's a pity that you two can't make it." Jack raised his shoulders in a helpless shrug, shaking his head as he did so. He didn't really understand Zac and Patricia's relationship.



He knew very well, however, that he was an outsider and that he didn't have the right to meddle. It was their own problem which they needed to talk about themselves.

At Jack's words, Patricia lowered her head in deep thought, unable to think of a response. As she turned over his words in her head, the gloom in her heart increased.

Jack was right. She and Zac had been avoiding each other and their relationship was back to square one. At this point, was it safe to say that they were not meant for each other, after all?

Jack watched the conflicted look on Patricia's face and couldn't help but let out a bitter, humorless chuckle.

Things were indeed not that simple, after all. If Zac and Patricia weren't going to try hard to make this work out for both of them, then their relationship was as good as over.

"Well, I've already told you about my thoughts. Just think about what you should do next and make sure that you won't regret your decision in the future." Jack then changed the topic, beginning a conversation about him and Sonie.

As Patricia listened to the interesting things that happened between the two, she couldn't help but laugh, especially with the way Jack was telling the stories. A sweet smile began spreading across her face, but at the same time, there was a trace of envy in her eyes.

In all honesty, Patricia really envied the way Jack and Sonie got along with each other. Their relationship was nothing like her and Zac's. Inside her heart, she wished that she and Zac could be like them too, but she knew that it was simply a futile hope.

Patricia knew exactly what kind of relationship she and Zac had which was why she knew it was impossible.

Patricia and Jack continued chatting with each other happily, and they didn't notice a pair of sharp eyes watching them at the door, listening to every word they said.

On the other side, Zac stood there with his lips pursed and his gaze harboring a deep confusion.

When he heard what Patricia said, he was stunned, not knowing what to do.

"So that's what's been troubling Patricia..." Zac murmured, eyes hardening in deep thought.

After pondering over it for almost an hour, Zac finally made up his mind to go and talk to Patricia. Unfortunately, Jack was still in the room. Otherwise Zac would've just gone inside already to confront the issue and make it clear.

But Zac really wanted to thank Jack. If it weren't for his and Patricia's conversation, Zac wouldn't have known what she was really thinking. Now that he knew what the problem was, he knew what he should do next.

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Meanwhile, back in the room, Patricia was sitting there, staring up at the ceiling with a blank gaze. With

a sigh, she grew more and more aware that she still had no idea what to do.

It was obvious that three years of marriage life in the past made Patricia feel insecure and unsure, but what really scared her was Zac's love for her. As he thought of this, Zac sighed slightly, a forlorn expression coming over his face. Now it seemed that things weren't that easy to solve.

"I'm so sorry, Patricia. If it weren't for me, you..." Zac murmured, his voice trailing off at the end. If it weren't for him, Patricia wouldn't have been afraid of marriage.

As he thought of this, determination began to flicker in his eyes. He stared at Patricia and Jack, swallowing the nervous lump that rose to his throat. Since he already made his decision, he knew that he should make a move as soon as possible.

Without a word, Zac pushed the door open. He stood there in the doorway with his back straight, raising his eyebrows at Jack before his eyes came to rest upon Patricia with a firm gaze.

Zac's sudden appearance made both Patricia and Jack stop their conversation, turning to look at him with surprise on their faces. When Jack noticed Zac's expression, he let out a chuckle and shrugged his shoulders. "All right, I'm leaving now. You two have a good talk, okay?" Jack then stood up and began to leave the room, leaving Patricia no chance to speak.

As he passed Zac, Jack coughed slightly and whispered, "Come on. Go and get her."

Zac sent Jack a determined look at that moment, feeling grateful for him at the same time. Zac was pretty much indebted to him, anyway; if it weren't for Jack, Zac wouldn't have been able to know what was on Patricia's mind.

When the door closed behind Jack, only Zac and Patricia were left in the room. They looked at each other unsurely, not knowing what to say.

The seconds began ticking by, the silence creating a cloud of tension in the atmosphere. The two of them continued to stare at each other awkwardly, trying to think of how they could break the ice.

Finally, after a few minutes, Zac sighed.

### [Chapter 450 Let Me Tell You](#)

Patricia pursed her lips and continued to stare at Zac, her eyes eerily bright. Her heart was pounding against her chest. In an instant, panic rose in her heart and she was confused as to what to do.

She touched her chest with her slender hand, trying to calm herself down.

Seeing the expression on Patricia's face, Zac understood she was nervous. Truth be told, he was as nervous as she was, but did a better job at hiding it.

"Patricia..." Zac's voice was low. He looked at her, trying to find something on her face that would explain her emotions.

Patricia swallowed the bile that rose in her throat. She looked at Zac, a trace of expectation on her face.

"What's wrong?" Her voice was indifferent when Patricia spoke. A sort of unease gnawed at her heart. She was looking forward to what Zac was going to say, but at the same time, she was afraid.

Zac bit his lip when he heard the indifference in her voice. A hint of sadness flashed through his heart. The next moment, he took a deep breath and tried to calm himself down. He couldn't let her indifference affect him.

Zac had come here with the sole intention of pouring his heart out.

"Patricia, I have to tell you that no matter what, I will always be by your side. I am aware we have a lot of problems and I can't say for sure how long it will be before we overcome them. But I don't intend to ever give up on you."

Zac slowly walked up to Patricia, encased her wrist with his warm palm, bent over and kissed her on the forehead.

"I hope you can feel my sincerity and determination through this kiss. I will always be waiting for you." As soon as Zac finished speaking, he smiled gently at Patricia. His deep-set eyes were full of tenderness and Patricia's heart melted in an instant.

Staring blankly at Zac's eyes, Patricia opened her pink lips but no words came out. She was completely taken by Zac. Her mind went blank and her brain could no longer decide what to do.

Zac looked so affectionate. She wondered if he was indeed speaking the truth.

There were still some doubts in her heart. But his confession brought a weird sort of unrestrained joy to her.

Patricia found herself in a dilemma. She didn't know if she should accept Zac or continue to maintain her indifference.

Since she was taking long to reply, Zac became more worried. But he reminded himself that she hadn't rejected him outright. 'This is a good sign,' he thought.

As time went by, Patricia became more confused. She was still dwelling over his question. That was to say, she still loved Zac and couldn't bring herself to turn him down.

"Patricia, you don't have to answer me," Zac said, stroking her hair. "I wasn't joking when I said I am willing to wait as long as it takes."

Zac had made up his mind. No matter what Petricie thought or how she responded to him, he wasn't going to let her go.

Therefore, he was in no hurry for an answer.

Petricie was quite shocked to hear this. She frowned and looked a little helpless. With a sigh, she stammered, "Zac, I..."

She found it hard to go on as she couldn't find the right words.

Noticing the confused look on her face, Zac took a step closer to her. He opened his arms and hugged her tightly. He hoped this would give her an idea as to how much he loved her.

"Petricie, I know you are very confused now and have no idea how to react. But believe me, what I said is true. You have to believe me. I have nothing to do with Anike. I will prove it to you. Please have faith in me."

His sincere words moved Petricie. She really didn't know what to say. She couldn't think of a way to tell him how he was making her feel.

Zac looked so affectionate. She wondered if he was indeed speaking the truth.

There were still some doubts in her heart. But his confession brought a weird sort of unrestrained joy to her.

Patricia found herself in a dilemma. She didn't know if she should accept Zac or continue to maintain her indifference.

Since she was taking long to reply, Zac became more worried. But he reminded himself that she hadn't rejected him outright. 'This is a good sign,' he thought.

As time went by, Patricia became more confused. She was still dwelling over his question. That was to say, she still loved Zac and couldn't bring herself to turn him down.

"Patricia, you don't have to answer me," Zac said, stroking her hair. "I wasn't joking when I said I am willing to wait as long as it takes."

Zac had made up his mind. No matter what Patricia thought or how she responded to him, he wasn't going to let her go.

Therefore, he was in no hurry for an answer.

Patricia was quite shocked to hear this. She frowned and looked a little helpless. With a sigh, she

stammered, "Zac, I..."

She found it hard to go on as she couldn't find the right words.

Noticing the confused looking on her face, Zac took a step closer to her. He opened his arms and hugged her tightly. He hoped this would give her an idea as to how much he loved her.

"Patricia, I know you are very confused now and have no idea how to react. But believe me, what I said is true. You have to believe me. I have nothing to do with Anika. I will prove it to you. Please have faith in me."

His sincere words moved Patricia. She really didn't know what to say. She couldn't think of a way to tell him how he was making her feel.

"I..." As soon as Patricia wanted to say something, she was once again interrupted by Zac.

"Patricia, you don't have to say anything. I know. I know everything, but please trust me, I will make it up to you." Zac hugged Patricia tightly as if he was afraid that she would disappear if he let her go.

Feeling the heat from his body, Patricia was silent for a moment. It was getting increasingly hard to speak.

She could sense his determination. And as they stood hugging, she felt warmth in her heart. All of a sudden, it dawned on her she had missed him a lot.

"Patricia, even if you can't forgive me now, please allow me to stay by your side. Is that okay?" With his chin against her neck, Zac begged her for a chance to prove himself.

Patricia, who was under his spell, had difficulty restraining herself. Instead of refusing him, she found herself nodding her head. "Okay," she uttered.

At that moment, Patricia knew that she had given birth to hope in his heart. But for some reason, she saw no reason to rectify that. Instead, she felt very happy and at peace.

Was she looking forward to how Zac would prove himself? Or was she looking forward to restarting their relationship?

Patricia herself had no idea what she wanted, but she knew that there was a glimmer of hope in her heart. Her mind, that had been a mess a while ago, became clear now.

When Patricia said okay, Zac was too stunned to react. Slowly, his sexy thin lips moved, but he couldn't say a word. He swallowed and looked at her in utter disbelief.

It was not until he saw the light in Patricia's eyes that he realized his ears hadn't played tricks on him.

With a smile, he bent over and planted a kiss on her forehead.