

## Remarry 591

### [Chapter 591 Patricia's Hesitance](#)

After their kiss, the two of them calmed down a little bit, almost as though nothing had happened at all. Zac sighed as he knew what was on Patricia's mind.

"Do you think finding Anika would be of any use?" It was not that he didn't trust Patricia's judgment. He just knew Anika too well.

For Patricia to cooperate with Anika, it would mean that she would have to leave Zac.

Patricia noticed the look in Zac's eyes and lowered her gaze. She had her lips pursed, unsure of what to say at this point.

The last thing Patricia wanted right now was to get in the middle of the competition between Zac and Kareem. She didn't much about it anyway.

Patricia opened her lips momentarily as if to say something, but pursed them again almost immediately. Her heart was heavy with despair.

"You don't need to say anything. I know what to do. You don't need to go see Anika again," Zac said. His tone was serious and his expression, ruthless.

Patricia didn't dare to say another word after this. Zac was evidently very angry and he was not going to let her go so easily.

But only she was aware of the extent of the hesitance she felt.

She was extremely depressed. After they went back home, Zac had things to deal with and so he left. Patricia sat at home alone, pondering over things in her mind.

She was aware of what Anika wanted from her. But the situation with Zac was what really got her down. She sighed deeply, at a complete loss what to do.

There was actually nothing she could do to alter the current situation and she was definitely going to be able to do anything by herself.

She just really wanted to help Zac.

While Patricia mulled over the situation, Zac went to see Anika. This time, however, he warned Anika rather than negotiate with her. He warned her not to badger Patricia anymore.

Anika chuckled at this. "Zac, when have you seen me badger Patricia?" she asked with a bright smile.

Zac bit his lower lip as he stared at her.

"She came here of her own free will. I didn't force her." Anika looked at Zac from the sofa, her chin raised in amusement.

Zac was annoyed and his face showed it. He didn't know what more he could say now.

He knew how distressed Patricia was and he feared that she would fall into Anika's trap in her vulnerable state of mind.

Anika was still smiling, in an extremely charming manner at that. "What's wrong, Zac? Isn't there anything else you want to say to me?" Her smile was complacent now.

Zac sneered and continued to glare at her, not bothering to respond.

"I have nothing to say to you."

He looked at her coldly.

"Anika, don't create any more trouble for Patricia, or I will be forced to teach you a lesson." He turned around and left the moment he finished speaking.

Anika was not shaken by this and continued to smile triumphantly as she watched Zac walk away.

"You'll teach me a lesson? I'd really like to see that happen!" Anika said confidently.

Without hesitation, she dialed Sullivan's number. Sullivan agreed to whatever Anika told him readily and he felt happy about it.

After having spent an entire day pondering over the issue, Patricia began work as soon as she was back at the company. All of a sudden, however, she received a call from Sullivan. Her spirits were immediately dampened and she pursed her lips.

A call from Sullivan was definitely not a good thing. He was bound to have some ulterior motive.

Nevertheless, she needed to have a conversation with him.

It was about the Sampson family after all. Even though she knew he probably wouldn't listen to her, she had to try talking to him.

"What is it?" She maintained a tone of indifference as she looked him over, trying to glean anything she could from his face.

She assumed that he was sent by Anika.

Zac bit his lower lip as he stared at her.

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Sullivan frowned at her tone. He was displeased and bit his lower lip gently in annoyance. "Petrie, how can you be so flippant? How can you talk to me in this way?"

"We have nothing to do with each other, remember? Don't try to use your identity to dominate me." She stared at him coldly as she said this.

This enraged Sullivan. "You..." He couldn't find the words to express his fury.

"Don't waste time. If there's something you need to say to me, just say it," Petrie said as she raised her chin ever so slightly and continued to stare at him.

Sullivan was now chewing harder on his lower lip, trying to contain his anger. He had hoped to be able to make a deal with Petrie, but he was clearly mistaken. But he had a job to get done today, and he didn't want to argue with Petrie.

"I just wanted to tell you something." Sullivan persisted arrogantly, maintaining an air of dominance.

Petrie understood his expressions well.

"Anika sent you here, didn't she?" The corners of Petrie's mouth curled up just a bit as she glared at Sullivan.

He instinctively raised his eyebrows for just a second, but then continued to look calm and relaxed.

"It's good that you're here. You are also well aware that Zac is incapable of backing down. It would be best for you to comply with Anika's request, or you stand to lose everything in the end." He looked at Petrie disapprovingly, worried that she was not smart enough to take his advice.

The contempt he felt for her was obvious, but Petrie was adamant about sticking to her principles.

Besides, agreeing to Anika's request was not going to make things better in any way.

"Is that so? Well, you can go back and tell Anika that I don't agree," Petrie said, enunciating each word

fiercely.

Jack had told her that it was because of Sullivan and Anika putting their minds together that Zac had suffered such a blow.

Sullivan frowned at her tone. He was displeased and bit his lower lip gently in annoyance. "Patricia, how can you be so flippant? How can you talk to me in this way?"

"We have nothing to do with each other, remember? Don't try to use your identity to dominate me." She stared at him coldly as she said this.

This enraged Sullivan. "You..." He couldn't find the words to express his fury.

"Don't waste time. If there's something you need to say to me, just say it," Patricia said as she raised her chin ever so slightly and continued to stare at him.

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"I just wanted to tell you something," Sullivan persisted arrogantly, maintaining an air of dominance.

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"Anika sent you here, didn't she?" The corners of Patricia's mouth curled up just a bit as she glared at Sullivan.

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"It's good that you're aware. You are also well aware that Zac is incapable of backing down. It would be best for you to comply with Anika's request, or you stand to lose everything in the end." He looked at Patricia disapprovingly, worried that she was not smart enough to take his advice.

The contempt he felt for her was obvious, but Patricia was adamant about sticking to her principles.

Besides, agreeing to Anika's request was not going to make things better in any way.

"Is that so? Well, you can go back and tell Anika that I don't agree," Patricia said, enunciating each word fiercely.

#### [Chapter 592 Make Trouble](#)

Patricia's point of view was very obvious. What Sullivan thought, on the other hand, had absolutely nothing to do with her.

Patricia couldn't help but scoff when she saw that Sullivan was ready to erupt in rage, and a slight grin emerged at the corners of her lips.

"I've already said what I want to say. It's up to you how you tell Anika what you want to say." Patricia rose to her feet and attempted to go as soon as she finished speaking, but Sullivan caught her wrist and pulled her back.

The moment Patricia turned around, she found Sullivan had a livid face.

Patricia seemed to be cool and collected as she saw the emotion in his eyes. She didn't treat him as her father.

"Patricia," Sullivan yelled, his face contorted with rage. He couldn't help but tighten his grasp on Patricia.

When Patricia realized what had happened, she scowled and looked Sullivan in the eye with displeasure. "Sullivan, what I just said was crystal clear. I'm sure you heard me." Following her statements, Patricia promptly shrugged her shoulders, ignoring Sullivan's advances, and went out the door.

When Sullivan caught a glimpse of Patricia's back, a glint of viciousness flashed over his gaze. He bit his lower lip fiercely as if he wanted to get revenge on her for something.

"You are such a disrespectful daughter, Patricia," Sullivan cursed. At this moment, Anika phoned him.

"Hello, Miss Curtis," Sullivan greeted in a charming voice as if Anika was his savior.

As soon as Anika heard Sullivan's voice, she smiled and inquired softly, "How are you doing?"

"Well..." When Sullivan was about to answer, he got apprehensive and didn't know what to say.

After realizing this, Anika laughed and added coldly, "I can tell you didn't make it by the sound of your voice." Anika maintained her composure, as though the outcome was in line with her expectations.

It wasn't that Anika didn't believe in Sullivan's abilities; rather, she was familiar with Patricia's personality. Even more crucial, how could Patricia possibly part ways with such a wonderful guy as Zac?

"I...uhm..." Sullivan was going to clarify something, but Anika interjected, "There's really no need to say anything else. Patricia is clearly not going to end her relationship with Zac."

Anika hung up the phone as soon as she had done speaking with him.

Sullivan's heart, on the other hand, was filled with misery. He was now just a single step away from attaining his objective. As long as Patricia could agree to Anika's request, he would have an opportunity to reclaim control of the Sampson family's business.

"No, I can't let such a wonderful chance pass me by." Sullivan made up his mind and followed Patricia without a second thought.

When Patricia returned to the firm, she discovered that Sullivan was tailing her. She couldn't stop herself from puckering her lips. Naylor emerged out of nowhere just as she was going to ask Sullivan to leave the room. "Mr. Sampson, what are you doing here today?" he asked with a grin as he approached Sullivan.

Naylor's face had a soft smile, but there was a flicker of incomprehensible emotion in his eyes as well. He sounded as though he was interrogating Sullivan at the time.

Sullivan glanced into Naylor's eyes and offered a nice grin before returning to his regular expression.

"It's nothing, really. I simply haven't seen Patricia in a long time and would want to pay her a visit." The expression on his face changed to one of kindness and parenthood.

However, it was well known that Sullivan and Patricia had a history of animosity against one another. Everyone was well aware that Sullivan had never treated Patricia as his own child.

Patricia couldn't help but feel sick when she heard this statement. The irony in Sullivan's statements was palpable. It seemed as if he had never given any thought to what he had done to her previously.

Patricia rose up and bit her lower lip, attempting to drive Sullivan away with the notion after pondering about it. However, as she looked into Naylor's eyes, she had a doubtful look on her face. Then, she took a few steps back and sat down to watch the scene from her seat.

In case her eyes weren't deceiving her, it seemed that Naylor preferred to deal with Sullivan on his own.

Patricia remained silent in this instance and just sat quietly to the side.

"Naylor." Given Naylor's unwillingness to let him go, Sullivan's expression became depressed, and a tinge of dread appeared in his heart. He hoped he could get rid of Naylor and go right to Patricia, but that seemed impossible at the moment.

"What exactly did you just say, Mr. Sampson? Do you have a strong attachment to Patricia? Is it possible that I misheard something?" Naylor asked with a cynical grin.

When Sullivan heard this, he couldn't help but scowl, and his cheeks became flushed in an unusual way. He simply happened to come up with an excuse on the spot. However, he did not anticipate that Naylor would make things difficult for him.

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If this had happened in the past, no one would have treated him this way. Sullivan's heart was tinged with resentment, but he kept it under control.

This made him particularly keen to reclaim the Sempson family's business and reclaim his prior identity.

Naylor was certain that Sullivan was up to no good, despite the fact that he didn't know what was on his mind at the time.

"With all due respect, Mr. Sempson, if you wish to visit Petricie, you should first get her permission," Naylor said in a serious voice. Then, he turned back and looked at Petricie with raised eyebrows.

Petricie recognized the meaning of Naylor's look and coughed. Her voice was neither too high nor too low; it was just loud enough for everyone to hear her well. "Boss, I'm not familiar with this individual."

Once Petricie finished speaking, she set down as swiftly as possible and returned her attention to her job, as if nothing had occurred.

Upon hearing this, Sullivan became enraged. The way he looked at Petricie was intense, and he managed to crack a grin on his face. "Don't get me wrong. Actually—"

"Mr. Sempson, you are under no need to say anything further. Everything that transpired between you and Petricie is well known. You are not required to put up a show here. Petricie is now one of my employees. I don't want you to cause her any problems while she's working. If you don't want to go, I'll have to ask the security guards to send you away," Naylor said as he glanced down at Sullivan and motioned for him to depart as quickly as possible.

When Sullivan realized what was happening, he frowned in frustration. His fury was evident in his gaze at Petricie and his sideways glance at Naylor before turning around and fleeing in a rage.

Petricie released a sigh of relief as she realized that Sullivan had departed. She glanced up at Naylor with a slight grin, her eyes full of appreciation.

Naylor, on the other hand, just shrugged his shoulders and walked away without saying anything.

At that moment, Petricie's face lit up with a tiny grin. If Naylor wasn't around, she would be in trouble. It was possible that Sullivan might do something daring.

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If this had happened in the past, no one would have treated him this way. Sullivan's heart was tinged with resentment, but he kept it under control.

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"With all due respect, Mr. Sampson, if you wish to visit Patricia, you should first get her permission," Naylor said in a serious voice. Then, he turned back and looked Patricia with raised eyebrows.

Patricia recognized the meaning of Naylor's look and coughed. Her voice was neither too high nor too low; it was just loud enough for everyone to hear her well. "Boss, I'm not familiar with this individual."

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Upon hearing this, Sullivan became enraged. The way he looked at Patricia was intense, and he managed to crack a grin on his face. "Don't get me wrong. Actually—"

"Mr. Sampson, you are under no need to say anything further. Everything that transpired between you and Patricia is well known. You are not required to put up a show here. Patricia is now one of my employees. I don't want you to cause her any problems while she's working. If you don't want to go, I'll have to ask the security guards to send you away," Naylor said as he glanced down at Sullivan and motioned for him to depart as quickly as possible.

When Sullivan realized what was happening, he frowned in frustration. His fury was evident in his gaze at Patricia and his sideways glance at Naylor before turning around and fleeing in a rage.

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Naylor, on the other hand, just shrugged his shoulders and walked away without saying anything.

At that moment, Patricia's face lit up with a tiny grin. If Naylor wasn't around, she would be in trouble. It was possible that Sullivan might do something daring.

### [Chapter 593 I Won't Let You Go](#)

After returning to the apartment, Patricia was taken aback when she noticed the look on Zac's face. Her heart skipped a beat, and she had the distinct impression that the atmosphere in the room had abruptly become gloomy.

She had no idea what had happened to Zac. He faked a calm demeanor yet seemed to be quite angry for no apparent cause.



"Zac!" Calling out to him, Patricia approached Zac in a cautious manner and stood in front of him. She cast her bright eyes all over his face, searching for any indication of what he was thinking or feeling in there.

She was unable to locate anything, which was a disappointment. The only thing she saw was the seriousness of his expression. His eyes seemed to be filled with a murderous desire as if he wished to exact revenge on her.

"Zac... You..." After pausing for a considerable amount of time, Patricia found that she was unable to utter a single syllable. She couldn't help but clear her throat and stare at Zac. She was unable to prevent herself from retreating a few paces.

Even though Patricia had no idea what was going on, she could tell by the look in Zac's eyes that he must be quite upset about something. She was clueless about the source of his rage against her.

As soon as Patricia saw Zac get up, she retreated a few steps. She gave him an attentive glance before murmuring, "I'm sorry. Please, don't make any rash decisions, Zac. Let's speak about it in a civilized manner."

Exactly what was it that she did that got him so worked up? Patricia had high hopes that Zac would be able to fill her in on the details. As long as he didn't become furious about it, everything would be fine.

As soon as Zac got closer, Patricia immediately took a step back. It seemed as if her heart was going to leap out of her throat at any moment because of how fast it was beating.

"Zac, try not to act on impulse." Patricia was unable to hold back her sobs that she almost choked. Terrified, she could not get away from Zac since she was trapped with her back against the wall.

She caught a glimpse of the menacing expression that Zac wore out of the corner of her eye. She dared not look him in the eye.

"What made you furious?" she asked in a hushed tone. Then, she chewed her bottom lip nervously.

Actually, Patricia was at a loss for words just at this very moment. She just had the impression that the Zac in front of her was such an awful person.

Zac let out a long and forceful exhalation before looking at Patricia intently with eyes that were firmly set as if he wanted to say something. His seductively thin lips opened and closed, and he was unable to utter a sound.

Patricia was rendered speechless for a few seconds when she saw the sight in Zac's eyes. She took a breath in and felt a lingering terror in her chest. At that moment, she was completely at a loss for words.

"Uhm... Are you upset?" Patricia pursed her lips and glanced up at Zac with a skeptical and somewhat terrified expression.

"Patricia," Zac finally said. The look of despair that had been on his face remained. He grabbed Patricia and held her in such a way that it seemed as if he wanted to merge with her.

At that moment, Patricia experienced astonishment. She anticipated that Zac would get irate, but she didn't anticipate something else.

Patricia was at a loss for words when things suddenly developed in this manner. Nevertheless, Zac's hug was so comforting for Patricia that she was able to lose herself in it for a while.

"What's the matter, Zac? What came to pass?" Patricia had the impression that something must have transpired at this time since Zac was acting in an agitated manner.

When Zac heard this, he couldn't help but let out a heavy sigh. He clutched Patricia tenaciously in both of his arms as if she were the most priceless jewel in the whole universe. "Nothing at all. Please let me know if there is anything else I can help you with. My feelings for you have remained the same. You must trust me."

When she heard this, Patricia was taken aback. She stared at Zac with skeptical eyes that were expanded, and her gaze was filled with perplexity. Her lips, which were rosy and full, shook ever so slightly, and her pulse was racing with anxiety.

"Why are you acting like this?" Patricia bit her bottom lip as she looked nervously at Zac.

On the other hand, it seemed as if Zac did not hear her. Not a single word left his lips. He did nothing more than squeeze Patricia's hand as if this were exactly what he wanted to be doing at this very second.

Patricia's level of anxiety increased significantly as a direct result of Zac's failure to respond to her question. But at this point, she had the impression that she was unable to gain anything from him.

Feeling helpless, Patricia let out a little sigh. She clung to Zac closely in an effort to provide him with a modicum of warmth.

Zac gradually started to pull away from their embrace after holding her for a long while. His eyes, which were set quite deeply, radiated solemnity and severity. He gave Patricia his whole attention while promising, "Patricia, trust me. I will never break up with you. You must trust me."

The tone of Zac's speech was marked by extreme anxiety and perhaps a hint of terror. It seemed as if he was going to pass out as soon as she gave him a negative response.

Patricia drew a big breath and her sparkling eyes filled with seriousness. She stared Zac in the eye

without blinking and said, "I believe you."

She had no idea why Zac was acting so fearful for no apparent reason. But despite the circumstances, she never wavered in her faith in Zac.

"Patricia." Zac's expression began to relax. He quickly reverted to his regular expression of composure, which included a soft grin on his lips.

Patricia exhaled a sigh of relief. She crouched down to his level, smiled adoringly, and planted a gentle kiss on his lips.

"Zac, regardless of the circumstances, I will believe you." Patricia spoke with solemnity, expressing the sincere hope that Zac would grasp the meaning of her words.

Zac gave a resolutely affirmative nod of his head. His alluringly thin lips parted slightly in an attempt to say something. In the end, he suppressed all of the words by closing his eyes and swallowing them.

His eyes flashed an expression that was difficult to describe. Since he didn't want to lose Patricia, he gripped her hard in both of his arms and refused to let go. "Patricia, I am grateful to you for having such comprehension." After making this statement, he became quite serious, as if he were contemplating something.

However, Patricia was unaware of all of this information. She did nothing more than snuggle further into Zac's embrace while putting on a lovely grin. She gripped Zac firmly with her hands, hoping that he might feel the warmth that she was giving out.

A phone call brought the two back to the present moment after they had just finished giving each other a tight embrace. Zac pulled out his phone and flashed a sarcastic grin as he saw a familiar number shown on the screen. It seemed that he was expecting the call.

After that, he stepped out on the balcony to answer the phone. Patricia had no idea what Zac and the other person were discussing on the phone, but she could tell by the expression on his face that things were not going well.

Patricia frowned and felt a bit apprehensive. At the moment, she was completely at a loss for words. She believed that something significant must have taken place. Her gut was telling her that something was amiss.

During this moment, Zac was listening to Anika on the phone while forcing a sour grimace on his face. Anika proved to be a very challenging adversary.

"Anika, what in the world are you looking for?" Zac questioned in a chilly manner. He gripped the phone tenaciously and wanted to fling it across the room in a fit of pique.

[Chapter 594 In Trouble](#)

"What do I want? You know it, don't you?" Anika spoke in a blunt manner, oozing with superiority.

When Zac heard this, he couldn't help but give a condescending snort. "Anika, don't you think what you said is nonsense?"

"Is that so? Nonsense?" Anika responded in a domineering tone.

Zac couldn't help but nibble at the corner of his bottom lip. He was experiencing feelings of depression and was at a loss for words.

Zac was aware that what Anika wanted. He would not have shown such an expression if it weren't for such a reason.

Anika was situated in a favorable position, and she had every right to talk in such a manner given the circumstances.

Since she was unable to gain a response from Zac, Anika sneered. "Zac, you know the present situation quite well." Suddenly, Anika burst into laughter.

"Anika..." Zac couldn't help but utter a chilling mumble. It was not the right time to discuss it at this moment. If Anika was serious about challenging him to a game of hardball, then things would be different. The repercussions of such would be beyond anyone's imagination.

When Anika heard him, she laughed and added, "Zac, try not to be quite so anxious. You have a better idea than I do of what to do or say."

After she had completed her sentence, Anika hung up the phone without making any more comments.

There was no question that Zac understood what it was that she meant.

Anika was assuring Zac that she had full faith in her ability to win the fight against him.

When Zac considered all of this, he couldn't help but feel enraged. He was speechless and his eyes were filled with the purpose of murder. He didn't know what to do.

The way things were right now was complicated.

Patricia was in the dark about what was taking place. She had been sneakily watching Zac's behavior and facial expressions the whole time. She couldn't help but wonder who he was on the phone with.

Actually, Patricia's main concern at that time was that Zac could be talking to Anika. If that turned out to be the case, she dreaded the possibility that Zac might hand himself up to Anika in order to save the Sampson Bay project.

Patricia didn't waste any time and went straight up to Zac as soon as he entered the room. Despite not saying anything, she was quite worried and kept thinking about things to say to him.

Zac understood what Patricia was trying to say as soon as he saw the look on her face. He didn't have any intention of keeping anything from her, and he told her, "Anika called me. Don't be concerned."

When Patricia heard this, she was taken aback. She sent an accusatory glance in Zac's direction. Her pink lips opened, but she was unable to utter a sound for a considerable amount of time. She was at a loss for words at this particular juncture.

"You..." When Patricia looked at Zac, she couldn't help but feel suspicious and bit her lower lip.

"Don't worry, Patricia. I am not going to let her trick me. I am aware of what I should be doing," Zack said in a confident tone. With a touch on her shoulder and a resolute look in his eyes, he assured Patricia.

Patricia was filled with a great deal of uncertainty, but after seeing the look on Zac's face, she forced all of those feelings down.

"I have faith in you." In that instant, Patricia broke out in a charming grin. Even though she claimed to have faith in Zac, she couldn't shake the feeling that something was off.

Both Zac and Jack did all in their power to find a solution to the issue so that the situation might be salvaged.

"I have no idea what you are considering at this very moment, Zac. I can assure you, though, that I do not believe that we have a chance against her," Jack project in a sincere voice. It was the first instance in a long time that he revealed a serious expression.

When he heard this, Zac couldn't help but wear a grimace as his eyes sparkled with a trace of melancholy.

"I am aware of what it is you are considering. In all honesty, the present predicament is..." Out of depression, Zac trailed off.

Actually, the nature of the existing circumstance was quite evident. Even if Zac had remained silent, Jack would have been able to understand what was going on.

"But you shouldn't feel quite so defeated. There is going to be a solution, and the outcome could turn out differently," Jack told Zac in a cheery tone and gave him a shoulder pat. Although he seemed to be smiling, there was a trace of an inexplicable feeling in the way that he was looking at Zac.

When he heard this, Zac couldn't help but wear a grimace and let out a heavy sigh.

Zac was aware that Jack was only attempting to console him in his time of need. However, it seemed at this point that things were not as straightforward as he had first imagined.

Anika was not a morally upstanding person. Definitely, she wouldn't pass up such a wonderful chance, and she would most certainly keep on attacking them.

"We are all aware of the sort of person Anika is," Zac said with an intense expression of sadness.

When Jack heard this, he couldn't help but pull his lips together and let out a heavy sigh. He moved closer to Zac with a thoughtful expression on his face.

"Try not to give up quite so easily. We need to stick to our strategy and put in a lot of effort."

Zac was of the opinion that Jack's words were correct. Even if he was at a loss how to approach the circumstance, he should nevertheless give it his all and put in a lot of effort.

After that, Zac and Jack started brainstorming a solution for their predicament.

Meanwhile, Roger was also experiencing the same trouble. He was in such a state of upheaval that he couldn't think straight.

"What the heck? Unbelievable." Kareem slammed his fists down furiously on the table, and in an instant, the kind grin that had been on his face vanished. A furious expression painted his face.

At this very instant, Kareem was made aware of what had taken place. He had the persistent belief that he could have some degree of influence on the bigger picture, but he was unprepared for the way things really played out.

As Kareem reflected on this, his expression became tense and angry. He seemed to be on the verge of losing his cool and was nabbing his bottom lip fiercely.

Kareem had no idea that events would turn out in such away.

He was aware that Anika was not a morally upstanding citizen. However, he had never considered the possibility that she might work with Sullivan, despite the fact that the two of them had been in communication with one another.

Both Anika and Sullivan were birds of the same feather. He was caught off guard by the fact that the two of them were conspiring with each other.

Now, Kareem was now in a precarious situation, just like Zac and Jack. At this point, Anika and Sullivan might be considered to be the winners.

"Anika Curtis!" Kareem roared while clenching and grinding his teeth. All he wanted was to teach those

two a lesson.

The crisp voice of Anika could be heard coming from behind Kareem just as he was ready to lose his cool. She strutted up to the entrance, a haughty grin plastered on her face.

"What's the matter? When you shouted my name just now, I became worried that something has gone wrong," Anika said in a casual manner, but anybody could hear the superiority in her words despite her demeanor.

Kareem quickly turned around and glanced at Anika after hearing her speak. He let out a long breath, and his usually calm eyes flashed with rage.

#### [Chapter 595 The Last Attempt](#)

"Why are you here?" Kareem asked in a callous voice. He was taken aback by the sight of Anika at that moment. The rage that was clearly visible on his face couldn't be hidden for a second.

Anika was cool and collected despite the frustrated expression that was on Kareem's face when she saw him. She strolled in with a cheerful grin on her face and a carefree attitude.

"What's the matter? It feels like you don't want me here," Anika said while showing an amused expression and a very relaxed demeanor.

After hearing this, Kareem scowled and put on an angry expression. He focused his gaze on Anika while silently yearning for her to go as quickly as possible.

However, Anika did not take him seriously under any circumstances. She maintained the smug grin on her face.

"You really are getting worked up. Whoever it was that made you feel that way is beyond me."

Anika gave Kareem a nonchalant expression and didn't take him seriously at all. Actually, she only said it in order to tease Kareem. Naturally, she was aware of the reasons for his rage.

"Anika, you don't have to act in front of me," Kareem growled in an irate voice as he continued to look at Anika with his furious eyes.

Upon hearing this, Anika broke into an inexplicable grin. She went to the wine cupboard and grabbed a bottle of red wine rather than responding to Kareem's question.

"Kareem, how about we celebrate?" Anika opened the bottle of red wine with a cheery grin on her face. Then she retrieved two wine glasses, poured wine into each of them, and gave Kareem one of the glasses to drink.

Kareem did not mean to take the glass, and he kept staring at Anika with kind eyes that held a profound

loathing for her. He had a desire to give Anika a good beating.

When Anika saw the emotions in Kareem's eyes, she did not feel the slightest bit startled. Because Kareem didn't partake in it, she was free to savor the wine on her own.

A menacing grin flashed across Kareem's face. He seemed to be thinking about something else and was staring at Anika in an intense manner.

After gulping the wine, Anika revealed a sliver of a grin. She placed the two goblets on the table and softly whispered, "Please, try not to be so anxious. Things are not quite as terrible as you make them out to be. In any case, shouldn't we be happy to hear that Zac has sustained such severe losses?"

"We should be happy?" Kareem scowled as if interrogating her.

How could such a thing make them happy? Despite Zac's losses, Kareem's finances also suffered. As a result, Kareem had nothing to be happy about.

He was taken aback by Anika's treachery. This was something that he did not anticipate at all. This issue was not as straightforward as he had first believed.

He had never had any trouble keeping Anika under control, but now it was she who had taken the initiative. It was a great example of irony!

"Shouldn't we be happy?" An enigmatic grin came on Anika's face as she stared at Kareem with an amused expression.

She had an understanding of what Kareem was getting at, but she chose not to reveal it.

In any case, she did not come here to argue with Zac but rather to talk to him about something.

"You..."

Kareem pointed his trembling finger at Anika. His normally mild-mannered expression erupted into a furious rage, and his complexion went crimson all over.

When she heard this, Anika gave a sly little smirk. She smiled sweetly, deftly pushed his finger away, and then eloquently said, "I am aware that you are upset right now, but I really hope that you are able to view the situation for what it is. You are not successful."

In connection with this, Anika couldn't help but laugh uproariously, as if a victor were staring at a defeated foe. The look in her eyes conveyed nothing but disdain.

Anika placed emphasis on the last sentence on purpose. She gave off the impression of being extremely solemn, but in reality, she was mocking the situation with her comments.



After hearing this, Kareem became enraged. His features were flushed with hatred. It seemed like he was on the verge of losing his cool.

Nonetheless, Anika paid no attention to the grimace on his face and continued, "I apologize for any offense I may have caused, Kareem. Take a look at how things stand right now. Isn't it in this manner? You should just admit defeat and take the consequences because you lost." Anika's face broke out in a mocking grin.

"Anika, you are such a cold-hearted person!"

Instead of saying something, Anika just smiled. Because she had already stated what needed to be said, there was no longer any use in continuing to dispute with Kareem. In any case, she had no use for Kareem anymore.

Anika gave Kareem the cold shoulder as she walked away from the room while maintaining superior air.

The moment Anika was no longer in the room, Kareem threw items to the floor in a fit of rage. The hatred that was written all over his face didn't go away at all. On the contrary, things became much worse. He really hoped that he could turn back time and teach Anika a lesson.

"Anika, are you really under the impression that I will give up? I'll have my revenge soon," Kareem mumbled while clenching and grinding his teeth.

At this precise moment, Kareem came to the conclusion that in order to salvage the situation, he needed to put up his maximum effort.

Not only did Kareem believe this to be the case, but both Zac and Jack shared his viewpoint. They were going to make one more attempt to cut the deficit as much as possible at this point.

"Have you made arrangements for the other matters?" Zac asked Jack.

Jack smiled warmly at Zac, gave him a thumbs-up sign with his hand, and seemed to be in a great mood overall. "Don't be concerned. This rather little issue is really simple to resolve," he said with self-assurance.

After hearing this, Zac gave a little nod of agreement and let out a sigh of relief. He was of the opinion that entrusting Jack to handle the situation was the best course of action.

"Then you should continue with your task. I'm going to keep working on it."

After what seemed like an eternity, he received a call from Nicholas. "Boss, there is news, but I'm not sure if it's good news for us."

The meaning of what Nicholas said was unclear. Zac was thrown for a loop after hearing what he had to say. It was impossible for him to refrain from frowning, and he said, "Just tell me the news. I don't like riddles."

After hearing what Nicholas had to say, Zac had an unwarranted feeling of unease. He was quite interested in learning what had taken place.

Nicholas swallowed a lump in his throat. When he was about to say something, a familiar voice said from the other end of the line, "Zac, there's something we have to talk about."

There was no mistaking that it was Kareem's voice.

Kareem had been driven to the brink of insanity as a direct result of Anika's provocations. He was obsessed with getting his own back on Anika in whatever way he could. Therefore, he reasoned that it would be prudent to work with Zac at this time.

When Zac first heard Kareem's voice, his eyes widened in response. It was clear in his eyes that he was taken aback, and for a little while he was at a loss for words.

Why had Kareem suddenly contacted him?

Kareem was calm and peaceful despite his inability to gain a response from Zac. It was as if Kareem had anticipated that Zac would have no response to his question. After clearing his throat, he said, "You need to be aware of the present situation."

#### [Chapter 596 Cooperation](#)

Zac was pretty much aware of their current state at this point.

Anika had the advantage this time, and she had already grabbed the opportunity to take control of the whole situation.

"What are you trying to say?" Zac asked with a raise of his eyebrow, the suspicion clear in his eyes. There was a possibility that Kareem must have an ulterior motive up his sleeve for calling at this time of day.

"I propose an alliance between us," Kareem said, going straight to the point. His tone was completely serious.

The situation was now not something Kareem could handle by himself, and neither could Zac and Jack. Since they were incapable of making a solution by themselves, proposing an alliance was the wisest option. Perhaps, by working together, they would be able to reach their desired results.

This was what Kareem had been pondering about for a while, so in the end, he decided to come to Zac

for help.

Zac listened to his explanation with a frown, his expression remaining doubtful. Zac did understand what he meant. However, he had no idea whether or not Kareem was setting up a trap.

But Zac also knew very well that it was difficult for him and Jack to deal with Anika by themselves.

When there was no response from Zac, Kareem's features contorted into anger. "Zac, do you really want to keep being like this?" he snapped.

If Zac refused to work together with him, they wouldn't be able to win this fight.

However, if the two of them cooperated, then the result might be different.

"Zac, if you don't agree with me, then there's nothing else I can say," Kareem said quietly, almost helplessly.

Kareem did know that Zac was suspicious of him, mainly because he called Zac at this crucial time. However, the current situation didn't allow Kareem to think about it more. If he hesitated, he would lose the opportunity to resolve the problem at hand.

Zac was torn. He didn't know what to do. He felt helpless and conflicted about what his decision should be.

Were things really not as simple as he had imagined? If that was the case, perhaps everything would've been different.

"I..." Zac began hesitantly, not knowing how to answer Kareem. He was still confused.

Jack, who was standing aside, seemed to know precisely what was weighing on Zac's mind. "Are you sure you're not going to agree?" he asked softly.

He had heard the conversation between Zac and Kareem just now. Kareem's proposition surprised Jack, but he knew that Zac couldn't afford to ponder over the matter for too long.

"Do you think we can trust him?" Jack asked suspiciously. It wasn't that he didn't completely believe in Kareem, but they had to be well-prepared in this kind of situation.

Zac frowned, considering Jack's words carefully.

Things had taken a turn for the worse now. But if they chose to work together, perhaps they would have a chance to turn the tables.

These thoughts were in Jack's head, but he didn't say them aloud. Instead, he stared at Zac intently, as

though trying to convey the message through his eyes.

When Zac locked gazes with Jack, it was as if he immediately understood what Jack wanted to say.

Kareem was still waiting for Zac's reply. For Jack, it was a risk he was willing to take, but Zac didn't know if he could trust Kareem's words or not.

There was a moment of silence before Jack spoke up.

"Zac, just think it over a little. No matter what happens, I'll support you until the end," Jack said firmly. He would still support Zac matter what kind of choice he'd make.

A serious expression came over Zac's face, and he gave a heavy nod in response. It seemed that he had now made his decision.

"All right. Let's work together this once," Zac said resolutely. Since they were forced into a corner now, it was better to cooperate in this kind of situation. Maybe that way, they would have a better chance of fighting back.

Kareem breathed a sigh of relief. "I'm glad you've made this decision," he said, chuckling softly. Afterwards, he hung up.

"Since this has been settled, let's continue our work," Jack said, laughing. Since Zac had made up his mind, there was no need for him to say anything more. They would just have to work hard to solve the problem together.

After that, Nicholas led Kareem to where Zac and Jack would hold their meeting. The three of them began to engage in a serious discussion about the situation.

After discovering the alliance between Zac and Kareem, Sullivan got nervous and immediately reported it to Anika. However, when Anika heard the news, she looked calm and relaxed, not seeming to take it seriously.

In her mind, even if Zac and Kareem worked together, they wouldn't be able to beat her.

Anika was very confident about this, especially because she had the whole situation under control. Even if the two were to struggle, it would only be useless.

"Miss Curtis, I don't think it's wise just to stand by and do nothing," Sullivan said anxiously. Even though Anika took control of the situation now, she couldn't let her guard down yet. This problem needed to be solved well.

If something went wrong, it would become difficult to handle from that point.

Anika, however, just gave a faint smile, not taking Sullivan seriously. "You don't need to tell me about this. I am already aware of the current situation," she said confidently, completely assured that nobody would stand a chance against her.

Sullivan frowned, not knowing what to say. He looked at Anika worriedly.

Even though Anika had the upper hand in this situation, it was still better to prevent the worst from happening. If she continued to be so arrogant, it would be too late to remedy things if something went wrong.

Anika just smiled at the concerned expression on Sullivan's face. "Don't worry, Mr. Sampson. I know what I'm doing. Nothing will happen," she said confidently.

Sullivan fell silent, staring at her helplessly. It was useless to say anything now. Anika had already made up her mind.

Sullivan shook his head and walked out of the room, failing to notice the grim look that came over Anika's face the next second. She was very aware of the dangers this would cause, and she also understood the necessity for precautions.

But since Zac had decided to work with Kareem, Anika thought she should play along and give them a false sense of hope.

#### [Chapter 597 Patricia's Worries](#)

The corners of Anika's lips tilted up in an arrogant smile. She took a sip of red wine, eager to find out what Zac and Kareem would come up with. She wanted to see how they would fight their way out of this situation.

Then, she pulled out her phone and dialed a number. With a smile, she said softly, "I'm looking forward to seeing what you got for me."

The voice on the other end of the line was very hoarse. Obviously, it had been modified so that no one would know who it belonged to.

"No problem. I'll take care of everything." The man sounded confident as if this was just a trivial matter, easy to solve.

After learning the news about Zac and Kareem's cooperation, Patricia was in shock. She urged Nicholas to take her to see Zac immediately.

When she saw the two men sitting together as they discussed, she couldn't help but bite her bottom lip nervously. She studied Kareem suspiciously before meeting Zac's gaze.

Zac frowned at the sight of her. A trace of displeasure flashed across his face as he glanced sharply at

Nicholas.

Frightened, Nicholas immediately hid behind Patricia and tried to explain in a shaky voice, "Boss, Patricia..."

"I asked Nicholas to bring me over," Patricia cut him off, raising her chin to defend him.

Zac's frown deepened as his eyes flashed with anger. He was quite displeased with Patricia's attitude. He thought she had gone too far.

Seeing how concerned Zac seemed, Patricia became more understanding. As she put a sweet smile on her lips, she coaxed him softly, "Don't be angry. I worry about you too, you know?" She then lowered her head, looking rather pitiful.

Although Patricia knew what was going on, she couldn't help but worry about Zac. She wouldn't feel at ease unless she saw him in person.

As Zac saw Patricia's expression, he didn't have the heart to scold her. Moreover, he was more concerned with the way Kareem looked at her. Out of the corner of his eye, Zac glanced at him with a frown.

"Well, since you're here, forget it. Nicholas, take Patricia to the lounge," Zac said, glaring at the assistant.

Nicholas promptly understood what he meant. Without saying a word, he led Patricia to the lounge.

As soon as they left, Zac suddenly became colder and fiercer. Casting a sharp look at Kareem, he cleared his throat and said in a low voice, "Let's get back to business." In Zac's eyes, there was a clear warning.

Knowing full well what it meant, Kareem looked away. As much as he missed Patricia, they had a more pressing matter to solve now.

Jack smiled at the scene as if he was watching a good show.

The next moment, they got down to business and started to discuss the topic seriously.

From the lounge, Patricia could vaguely hear their conversation. She couldn't help but look at Nicholas from time to time as she tried to get some information out of him.

"Tell me, is Zac really going to cooperate with Kareem?" Patricia seemed unsure. All of a sudden, the situation got so out of hand that she didn't know what to think.

Nicholas nodded, pursing his lips. Then he said in a low voice, "Given the current circumstances, he has no other choice but to cooperate with Kareem."

In fact, the situation was far more complicated than Patricia thought. If cooperating with Kareem was the only way to fix the problem, Nicholas thought it was reasonable for Zac to do so.

Patricia also understood that desperate times called for desperate measures. However, as she recalled what Kareem had done in the past, she couldn't help but suspect his intentions.

"But..." Patricia started to say until Nicholas interrupted her.

"Don't worry. Boss knows what he's doing. He won't act recklessly," Nicholas told her in a confident tone. He fully believed in Zac's discernment, as well as he understood Patricia's concerns.

Upon hearing this, Patricia nodded in silence. However, she couldn't shake off her suspicion. She found Kareem's sudden change of attitude very strange.

Nicholas couldn't understand what was weighing on Patricia's mind. Clearing his throat, he said, "You have nothing to worry about, Patricia. Boss can handle this."

Looking at Nicholas, Patricia nodded again. At this time, she could only choose to believe in Zac.

She had no idea how long the meeting had lasted. The men hadn't stopped talking until Patricia's stomach started to growl. She was already desperate to go out and buy some food.

Once she walked to the door and saw Zac and the others on their feet, a gentle smile appeared on her face as she asked, "Is the meeting over? Are you hungry? We could go out and eat something."

Her suggestion whetted Zac's appetite. Therefore, the five of them went to a nearby restaurant.

Only when everyone was seated did they feel a strange atmosphere around them.

Jack and Nicholas felt like outsiders, sitting aside as they watched Zac, Patricia, and Kareem.

The three thought they were being discreet, but everyone noticed the awkwardness among them.

As Patricia gave all her attention to Zac, she didn't pay much attention to Kareem. However, the latter couldn't seem to take his eyes off of her.

Noticing the look on Kareem's face, Zac clenched his fist and felt a strong urge to punch him. But given the current situation, he had to hold himself back and suppress his anger.

Jack and Nicholas feigned a smile. They really didn't know what to say.

They realized it was better not to make a sound or say anything while Zac was so angry. They didn't want to risk putting their foot in their mouth and worsening the situation.

After the waiter served the dishes, everyone started to eat. Both Zac and Kareem picked up a piece of pork chop for Patricia and said at the same time, "Patricia, try this pork chop."

Immediately, the atmosphere grew heavier. Stunned, Patricia didn't know what to say.

If the wrong words came out of her mouth, Zac and Kareem could come into conflict.

At this thought, Patricia's heart sank as she smiled helplessly at the two men.

#### [Chapter 598 Unable To Defea](#)

Zac and Kareem stared each other down, as though they were the greatest enemies trying to win a competition only they knew about.

"Kareem..." Zac called out in a guttural way, his hate obvious in his voice. Only a stupid person wouldn't consider that as a warning.

However, Kareem's mouth lifted upward slightly in mockery. He wasn't about to take Zac's warning seriously. "Zac, this is about my freedom. It has absolutely nothing to do with you. So, don't be paranoid."

'What? Freedom? What does he mean by it has nothing to do with me?' His face hardening, Zac couldn't help but sneer as he understood the implication of Kareem's words.

"Kareem, you're wrong somewhere. You know that, right? Patricia is my woman," Zac said slowly, putting emphasis on the word "my" for more effect. He put his long arm around Patricia's waist and pulled her closer to him to make his point clear.

Kareem frowned, hating what his eyes were seeing. Slowly losing his patience, he whispered threateningly, "Zac, you..."

"I what?" Zac interrupted. "Don't act like you don't know I'm stating the honest fact!" He raised his chin as though he was daring Kareem to do something.

Eyes full of anger, Kareem stood silent, not wanting to explode with all the hatred he had bottled up in him.

Patricia pursed her lips and coughed, trying to distract them from what she thought was a stupid confrontation. "Can we please eat now? I'm starving!" Not waiting for anyone's reaction, she picked up a piece of pork chop, and was about to put it her mouth, but stopped after seeing the warning glance Zac threw her way.

She didn't understand why he was stopping her from eating until she looked down and noticed that she had accidentally picked up the pork chop Kareem had given her. She quietly dropped that piece, picked up another one and savored it as much as she could.



Her happy facade didn't last for long though. If she was being truthful, she wasn't happy while eating her pork chop.

It wasn't necessarily because she refused Kareem's act of kindness, but because she couldn't even have the good and peaceful meal she wanted to have.

Tired of the unnerving situation, Patricia stood up unhappily and said in a low voice, "You two better stop messing around this minute!" She shot daggers with her eyes at both men, wishing it could actually hurt them and bring them back to their senses.

Just as she made up her mind to eat someplace else, another unpleasant surprise had to make her mood even sourer than it already was. The door opened to reveal none other than Anika standing there with a playful smile.

"Since when do all of you dine together? Oh right! Maybe you are discussing something important, right?" Anika chuckled, amused by the expression on everyone's face.

As expected, no one was happy to see Anika. To them, she was nothing but bad news.

Anika knew this, and could even feel their hostility though they didn't utter any word. Yet, she smiled, struggling not to let it show that their attitude affected her.

"Well, well, well! Looks like not even a single soul wants to see me here." Anika sashayed into the room like she owned it, and ignored the cold shoulder they were giving her.

Patricia hated seeing Anika more than everyone present. The anger she felt prevented her from holding her tongue. She glared fiercely at Anika and said, "You are not welcome here, Anika! It's either you choose to leave now by yourself, or stay and learn a good lesson I've been itching to give you." Eyes looking straight at Anika, Patricia didn't bother sugar-coating her words.

Patricia wouldn't lie or pretend to be happy after seeing Anika. She wished that Anika would go out the door just the way she came in and never try standing in front of them again.

Anika smiled, purposely shot Patricia a provoking glance before taking an empty seat. "It looks like you guys need me to give you some fun and energy! What type of atmosphere is this?"

The atmosphere became tense.

Jack and Nicholas looked straight at Anika without uttering a single word. They couldn't describe whatever it was that they felt in their hearts.

Zac and Kareem were so angry that anything at all could make them snap and lose their temper. How they wished they could throw Anika out of here without any care in the world.

Once again, and without any sign of respect, Patricia raised her chin arrogantly and said in scarily low voice, "Anika, you are not welcome here. Get out!"

Taking Patricia for a little fool, Anika looked at everyone with that playful smile on her face and said, "I had heard a stupid rumor about you all cooperating together. But now that I've seen it for myself, I'm not bothered because this is useless, and you won't stand a chance against me." Satisfied with her short speech and the effect she knew it was going to have, Anika stood up to leave the room without adding any other thing.

Zac and Kareem just couldn't hold their anger in anymore as they watched her back retreating in confidence. Eyes shooting daggers at her back, both men threatened, "Let's just wait and see!"

Both Zac and Kareem looked happy and smug after they finally said something.

At this very moment, they felt very confident, though they had no idea where the confidence was coming from. All they knew was that they didn't want to lose to Anika.

Anika stopped in her tracks as she heard them. She turned back to them with a smile of her own. She nodded, and in a tone that said how little they meant, she asked, "Really? Stepping up, I see! Well then, let's wait and see!" Without sparing anyone else another glance, she turned around and went on her way.

After she was gone, the room became silent and heavy. It was as though everyone was occupied with their own thoughts.

Patricia gulped, not knowing how to handle the unnerving silence. She looked up at Zac and whispered, "Zac..."

"Hey, don't worry. I'm fine," Zac said in a reassuring tone, knowing exactly what she was about to ask. He held her close to him and gently stroked her hair.

She knew better than to believe him, but she nodded slightly and forced a faint smile and decided to give Zac her full trust. She believed that he would solve the problem in no time.

Seeing the look of total trust in Patricia's eyes, something broke in Kareem's heart and he quickly looked away. He bit his lower lip, wondering for how long he could take their display of affection. He shook himself back to reality and forgot about his feelings and jealousy. He needed to be in a right state of mind if he wanted to bring this issue to an end.

Jack and Nicholas stood at the side for a long time, looking at each other and thinking of the same thing. To them, this wasn't the time for Zac and Kareem to argue or be at logger heads. Instead, they had to stay united and walk through this.

When they were done eating, Nicholas sent Patricia back home, while the others returned to the company to put a strategy in place.

Of course, Patricia was worried. But she knew that there was nothing she could do to help now. If she stayed safe and alone, then at least, Zac wouldn't worry about her and would focus on the task at hand.

However, the last thing she had expected after staying all alone in the apartment, was bad news from Nicholas.

"Nicholas, I don't understand! Can you say that again?" Patricia stared straight at Nicholas with her beautiful eyes widened in shock. This couldn't be possible!

"I..." Nicholas stammered, gathering his thoughts and thinking of how to do what he was about to do. He was finding it very difficult to put his message into words and say it out loud for her to hear.

Oblivious to his inner struggle, Patricia stared at Nicholas' lips, waiting for his next words.

"Boss didn't make it." Nicholas was already helpless and angry about it, but saying it out loud made him even more depressed.

#### [Chapter 599 I'm Sorry](#)

"What?" Patricia uttered in surprise, not knowing what else to say.

She didn't expect that things would turn out like this. She kept staring at Nicholas in astonishment, unable to process the situation clearly in her head at the moment.

Nicholas sighed helplessly. "Boss is very disheartened right now," he said as he sent Patricia a worried look.

It was evident by the look on his face that Nicholas was really worried about Zac.

"Where's Zac now?" Patricia asked, her tone serious. Although she knew that Zac wanted to be alone, she thought that she should be by his side nevertheless.

With what Zac was going through right now, she really wanted to give him a warm, reassuring embrace. She needed to be by his side even during his low moments.

Nicholas seemed hesitant at this, and he deliberately avoided making eye contact with her. "Patricia... I..."

Patricia looked at Nicholas in the eye and understood. Zac must've warned Nicholas not to say anything to her.

Patricia sighed and stared at Nicholas with intensity in her gaze.

"Well? Are you going to tell me or not?" She wasn't planning on compromising with Nicholas on this one. If he refused to tell her, then she would find a way to make him say it.

Nicholas hesitated even more, feeling conflicted about what he should do. The situation was making him feel complicated.

"It's not that I don't want to take you there, but..."

Nicholas' voice trailed off in uncertainty, and he couldn't finish his sentence for a while.

Patricia already knew that Zac ordered Nicholas not to tell her anything.

"Nicholas, you have to take me to him no matter what!" Patricia demanded, looking straight into Nicholas' eyes to show just how serious she was. If he refused to take her to Zac, then she would have no choice but to force him.

Nicholas inevitably got the message.

He heaved a long sigh before giving a dejected nod. "All right. I'll take you there," he said resignedly.

Patricia let out a breath of relief. She'd been worried that Nicholas still wouldn't agree to tell her even if she forced him to.

She walked over to Nicholas without a word and hinted at him to hurry up and take her to Zac quickly.

Nicholas took her to Oakleaf Villa and immediately left right after. He seemed worried that Zac would see him and scold him for disobeying his order.

Patricia walked into the room silently, the smell of alcohol instantly permeating her senses. She spotted a lot of empty wine bottles on the floor, indicating that Zac had been drinking heavily. She lifted her gaze and spotted Zac lying on the sofa, causing her to pause in her tracks. At that moment, her throat closed up, and she couldn't help but burst into tears at the sight.

She quickly walked over to him.

"Zac..." Patricia called out softly. She stared at Zac's face in despair, feeling her heart twisting in pain and sadness.

She felt upset and so sorry at the same time. She had never felt this way before when she saw Zac drunk in the past. But now, they were together, and it was disheartening for her to see him like this.

Zac seemed to respond to the sound of her voice as he slowly opened his eyes. When his blurry vision adjusted and he could see her face, he forced a smile on his lips.

"Oh, Patricia. It's really you. I thought I was dreaming..." Zac drawled, his voice sounding low and rough from sleep. He seemed to want to say something more, but he hesitated, thought better of it, and then kept quiet instead.

Patricia looked at him uncertainly, biting her lower lip in concern.

"Zac, please stop drinking," she said quietly. Seeing the number of bottles on the floor, it wasn't hard to tell just how much Zac had drunk.

"I didn't drink much," Zac said with a smile.

The worry in Patricia's heart increased even more. Looking at Zac like this, she was at a loss for words.

"Zac, let's go home."

"Go home? Isn't this my home?" Zac mumbled incoherently. He was totally drunk right now.

Patricia let out a sigh, a bitter smile forming on her face. She didn't know what to do.

Zac was lying heavily on the sofa, drunk. Patricia didn't even have the strength to move him.

Instead, she cleaned up all the empty bottles on the floor. Afterwards, she took a wet towel and gently pressed it against Zac's forehead, a forlorn expression on her face.

"Zac, you don't have to do this to yourself. I told you, I don't care about the Sampson Bay project or even the Sampson family's business. All I've ever wanted is for you to be okay," Patricia said calmly with a serious note to her voice, her gaze firm with sincerity.

"You're such a fool, Zac," she murmured, a bitter smile forming on her lips.

She knew that Zac just wanted to help her get the Sampson Bay and the company back.

She was moved by his determination, but seeing him like this now didn't make her feel happy at all.

Patricia tenderly wiped his face for him and was about to get up. However, Zac suddenly grabbed her by the wrist, stopping her movement. Surprised, she turned to look back at him.

Zac's eyes were open, and he was looking straight at her. There was an unreadable expression on his face.

"Zac?" Patricia said softly.

His eyes seemed to be conveying a silent message, but she couldn't read it clearly. Perhaps Zac wanted

to tell her something, or maybe he wanted her to tell him something.

After a while, Zac nodded slightly. However, she didn't know if it was because he understood something from her gaze, or because he was still disoriented from his inebriated state.

Patricia frowned a little and was about to say something when Zac suddenly spoke before she could.

"I'm sorry, Patricia," Zac said solemnly, a sorrowful expression coming over his face. He didn't know what else to say to her. He forced a smile, but it didn't reach his eyes.

Patricia looked at him sharply.

"Why are you apologizing to me?" she asked angrily.

"I..." Zac looked at her in surprise, not knowing what to say. He didn't understand why she was suddenly so angry.

#### [Chapter 600 Not Your Fault](#)

Patricia squatted down and looked at Zac, her clear eyes roiling with anger.

Zac was taken aback at the vehemence he saw in her eyes. He frowned and looked at her in confusion.

"Zac, you don't have to say sorry. It's not your fault. You don't need to apologize to me, okay?" Patricia said calmly, meaning every word she said. She could understand Zac's every word and intention.

Even if Zac hadn't intervened, she had no idea who would end up getting ownership of the Sampson family's business and Sampson Bay. She wasn't that surprised that Anika had gotten her hands on them.

It was what it was. There was no need to be sad about it.

"I know what you're thinking, but I can tell you that I am not angry with you and I don't hate you," Patricia said slowly but clearly as she looked at Zac.

Zac was shocked at these words and didn't know what to say. His lips opened and closed, not a word coming out of them.

Patricia's heart melted at the expression on Zac's face. Her own expression softened and she squatted to get close to him.

"Don't blame yourself. I'm not angry at you and I don't blame you. I know you tried your best," she said before bending down and kissing him on the forehead.

The kiss was affectionate and gentle, like a refreshing spring breeze.

Patricia then looked up at Zac, a gentle smile on her lips.

Her smile was beautiful, like jasmines blooming before him.

Zac's eyes lit up at the sight. He raised a hand to gently touch Patricia's face.

"Okay. You're right. I will be fine," he said with a smile.

Patricia's smile brightened at these words. Zac couldn't look away from the brilliance.

She stayed back to take care of him and as a result, Zac felt a lot better.

Patricia took a day's leave to cheer Zac up.

And Zac asked Nicholas to take over his work while he stayed in the apartment. He was watching TV, but his mind was not in it. All he could think of was what he should do next.

When Patricia returned to the apartment, she saw the expression on Zac's face and frowned. She glared at Zac and said, "I told you, you should go out for a walk instead of being cooped up in here alone!"

She was afraid that Zac would start overthinking if he was left alone in the apartment.

Zac turned around at the sound of her voice and smiled brightly as he saw her.

"Why did you get off work so early today?"

"I asked for leave to be with you," she said, walking up to him and settling down beside him, taking his hand in hers.

They were close, but Patricia wanted to get even closer to him.

Zac smiled at this but said nothing. He knew that Patricia was worried about him.

"I'm fine. Don't worry about me," he said calmly, but his happiness was obvious. He liked how Patricia was treating him right now.

He asked her not to worry, but how could she not? She had been heartbroken the previous day to see Zac like that.

"But..."

Before she could say anything, Zac interrupted her.

"No buts. I'm really fine. Don't worry," he said and affectionately kissed her on the forehead.

She nodded but she was still worried about him. She knew he wasn't fine.

He seemed to have gotten over it but she knew that he was still bothered.

At the look in Zac's eyes, Patricia sighed and decided to take him out for a walk in order to help him feel better.

"I want to go out for dinner today," she said moving closer to him and blinking at him innocently.

How could Zac refuse her?

"Okay, what do you want to eat?"

Patricia became excited at the mention of food. She rattled off a list of delicious food that she wanted, a smile growing on her face.

Her happiness invoked a gentle smile on Zac's lips.

He was willing to do anything to make Patricia happy.

Once Patricia had freshened up and changed her clothes, they went out. She was happy as they walked, and she knew that she would be happy as long as she was with Zac.

Zac was also, obviously, happy to see how overjoyed Patricia was.

They munched on several different snacks as they walked the streets, their stomachs filling up as they went.

They settled down on a bench by the roadside, looked at each other, and promptly burst into laughter.

"Zac, you are a foodie too!" Patricia said gleefully. This was the first time that she had seen Zac eat so much food.

Zac nodded, grinning. "Probably because I have a girlfriend who's a foodie," he said.

She pouted at this and said, "What do you mean? You don't like me anymore?"

"Of course, I do!" Zac pretended to look horrified and shook his head.

Patricia understood what he was trying to say from the look on his face. She raised her chin and smiled.

"I know you'd dare not dislike me!" she said, smiling proudly.



