Remarry 651

Chapter 651 Express His Love

At this time, Nicholas was really worried. He promptly pulled out his phone and dialed a number. To track Patricia down, he needed to know where she went after work.

Nicholas called a lot of numbers in fifteen minutes, but he couldn't discover anything.

The only thing he knew was that Patricia went out with Kareem after work. However, he had no idea where they had gone or what they had done.

"Will Kareem take action against Patricia?" Nicholas whispered, with a hint of despair in his heart. To be honest, he was quite concerned at this time as long as he thought about Kareem and Patricia together.

He was well aware of Kareem's feelings for Patricia. If Kareem intended to injure Patricia, Nicholas wouldn't be surprised in the least.

Things would become tricky once Zac found out that such a thing happened. Perhaps something dreadful would occur.

But Nicholas was not in the mood to think about it. To avert such a disaster, he needed to locate Patricia.

Nicholas took a long breath and calmed himself, readying himself to think about how to determine Patricia's whereabouts.

Patricia and Kareem were enjoying a delicious meal at a suburban restaurant at the same time.

Kareem promised Patricia that as soon as she got off work, he would take her out to eat something amazing. The two of them then headed to this restaurant, which was Patricia's favorite in terms of both design and cuisine.

This location piqued Patricia's interest. She lingered for two or three hours as if she hadn't noticed the passage of time. The lovely ambiance completely enveloped her.

Kareem's face lit up with delight as he saw her charming grin. It was the first time he had seen her so pleased after spending so much time with her.

While staring at her. Kareem couldn't help but drink a couple cans of beer. He couldn't take his gaze away from her, praying that she would return his feelings.

However, a bitter grin emerged on his face as he considered this. In fact, he said unequivocally that it was not conceivable.

The bitterness in his heart had not vanished since what occurred last night. He was in a state of despair and anguish.

Patricia saw Kareem's expression from the corner of her eye. "What's the matter, Kareem?" she asked in a low voice, frowning.

He seemed to be in good spirits a while ago, then his demeanor abruptly shifted. Her eyes were wide with bewilderment.

Kareem grinned bitterly as he heard this. He didn't respond and shook his head slightly. Instead, he continued guzzling beer into his lips, as if he wasn't going to stop until he was completely inebriated.

Patricia grimaced and pursed her lips when she saw this. She couldn't figure out what was wrong with Kareem. He seemed to have become a completely different person in the blink of an eye.

Patricia didn't press Kareem for an explanation since she couldn't obtain one. After all, she believed it was his personal matter, and she had no right to inquire.

Patricia and Kareem were both deafeningly quiet. He was in a bad mood.

Actually, Kareem wished Patricia would ask him about it and show more interest in him so that he could sense that he still had a little part in her heart.

But the truth was that it was all a figment of his imagination. He'd never be able to take Zac's place in her heart.

Kareem had never considered taking Zac's place. He only wished for a larger spot in Patricia's heart so that he could continue to work hard to win her heart.

As though he didn't care, Kareem continued to guzzle cans of beer.

Patricia, on the other hand, couldn't take it any longer when she saw Kareem's expression. With a scowl, she urged, "Kareem, don't drink anymore. You've had a lot of beer." She was worried about his wellbeing.

After all, drinking like this was not a smart idea.

Kareem couldn't stop himself from grinning bitterly. He sipped his beer, gripped Patricia's wrist with one hand, and said in a serious voice, "You know what, Patricia? I'm in a lot of pain right now."

Patricia was taken aback when she heard this. She locked her gaze on Kareem, seeing a glimmer of inexplicable emotion in his gaze.

Before Patricia could respond, Kareem continued, "I thought that if I worked harder, you'd come closer

to me. However, I was too naive. It isn't feasible. You only have Zac in your heart. No matter how hard I tried, I couldn't win your heart."

Patricia moaned and pursed her lips when she heard this. She couldn't think of anything to say to console Kareem as she gazed at him.

Patricia believed she had made her point, and there was nothing more to say. Furthermore, she could definitely sense Kareem's adoration in his eyes.

Kareem had never given up and had a profound affection for her.

But Patricia was well aware that appreciation was not the same as love. There was a distinction between the two.

Patricia became more composed in front of Kareem as she pondered the situation. Even if he knelt in tears and pleaded with her, she would not be moved.

She felt it would be harsh and unjust to Kareem if she accepted his love when she didn't love him. Kareem would undoubtedly suffer more major pain in the future. It was preferable to be in agony for a brief period of time rather than a lengthy period of time. Patricia wished for him to achieve happiness on his own terms.

"Why won't you give me a chance, Patricia? I adore you so much. Isn't it obvious that I adore you more than Zac does?" Kareem said in a mournful tone. He clutched Patricia's wrist hard and refused to let go.

Patricia pursed her lips and a slight grin developed at the corners of her mouth as she heard this. "Thank you for loving me so much, Kareem, but I can't accept it." Her tone was stern, devoid of pity or grief.

She understood exactly what she wanted to accomplish and what she needed to do.

Kareem was taken aback for a time when he heard this, and his face grew pale. With his icy, shaking fingers, he snatched Patricia's hand.

His heart would break every time Patricia refused him.

"Patricia, you..." Kareem's voice choked. He locked his gaze on Patricia and felt a sharp agony in his throat, rendering him speechless.

Deep inside, Kareem continued asking himself why. Why couldn't Patricia see his good qualities and give him a chance?

Kareem quietly removed his hand and proceeded to drink alone at that point, without saying anything. He didn't pay attention to Patricia no matter what she said. All he wanted to do was drink more. He could numb his emotions with booze and no longer experience grief if he drank more. "Stop drinking, Kareem. If you keep drinking like this, something bad will happen." Patricia frowned and glanced at Kareem.

If Kareem drank too much, something would be wrong with his physique. He downed beer like it was mineral water. And he had no intention of being restrained in any way. Patricia couldn't shake the feeling that something bad was about to happen.

Chapter 652 Impulsive

When Patricia saw the look on Kareem's face, she pursed her lips and sighed. She decided to be quiet.

She knew what was on his mind, but she knew what she was thinking better.

She couldn't give in and accept him. Or else, Kareem would suffer more.

"Stop drinking, Kareem," Patricia said in a helpless voice. Then, she walked up to Kareem and took the beer from him without saying a word. When she saw the look on his face, she couldn't help biting her lower lip.

Kareem was wrong to hurt himself in this way.

"No, Patricia, I don't think you get it," Kareem said in a sullen voice. There was a hint of indescribable emotion in his eyes.

Patricia couldn't figure out why Kareem kept trying so hard. What did he keep going on about?

Even though Patricia didn't know what they meant, she knew one thing for sure. She couldn't accept Kareem just because she felt sorry for him.

Suddenly, Kareem looked at Patricia. He opened and closed his mouth, but he couldn't say anything.

Actually, Kareem knew everything, including what Patricia was thinking. But he wasn't at peace and didn't want to give up that way.

Why was Zac able to win her heart while he wasn't?

Why? Why?

At that moment, Kareem's eyes got blurry and showed a hint of an emotion that was hard to understand.

Then, he went back to being cold. He gave Patricia a vicious look.

Patricia was shocked all of a sudden. She didn't mean to frown and take a step back, but she couldn't

help it. She was trying to stay away from Kareem.

Out of the blue, Kareem grabbed Patricia's wrist and looked very serious.

His eyes had a strange, hard-to-understand look, which confused Patricia.

Kareem used a lot of force and didn't let her try to fight back. He seemed to want to bring her over to his side.

She didn't know what Kareem's problem was. He grabbed Patricia's wrist and led her to the restaurant's hallway without saying a word.

Patricia wouldn't have known there were rooms for customers to stay for night if not for Kareem.

When she saw the rooms, Patricia felt a little worried, like something bad was about to happen.

Patricia took a deep breath to try to calm down and kept telling herself not to worry. She thought that Kareem was just too drunk to think straight.

At that moment, Patricia tried to get herself to believe that she would be fine. But when Kareem threw her on the couch, she could no longer keep her cool.

Patricia opened her eyes wide in shock as she looked at Kareem with blank eyes.

Actually, Patricia didn't think Kareem would do something so daring. She was completely shocked.

The next second, Patricia got back to herself. She looked at Kareem with anger and told him in a harsh tone, "Kareem, return to your senses."

From the look in her eyes, it was clear that Patricia was very angry this time. She had to keep her cool and talk to Kareem in a calm way because of the situation.

"Kareem, don't say I'm rude if you dare to mess around." In fact, Patricia kept shouting because she wanted Kareem to get sober up immediately so he wouldn't do anything stupid.

If Kareem really did something bad to her, she made it clear that she wouldn't forgive him.

"Kareem, if you ever hurt me, I will never forgive you!" Patricia yelled again, and her clear eyes were filled with anger.

She really didn't think Kareem would do something like that. Patricia thought that Kareem wouldn't hurt her no matter what. But things were different this time. He seemed to mean what he said.

Kareem was shocked and looked at Patricia with a blank expression. Patricia didn't know if it was the

alcohol or if what she said made a difference.

He looked like a block of wood, and his eyes were dull and empty. His eyes didn't shine like they used to. He looked at her with eyes that were all over the place like he had lost his mind.

"Patricia..." Kareem softly said her name. He slowly got his eyes back to normal and stared at her.

At this time, the two were standing in a way that looked very close. They were so close that it seemed like if Kareem took one more step, Patricia would be his girlfriend.

Kareem felt something in his heart that he couldn't explain as he stared at Patricia. His lips slightly parted, and all of a sudden, a spark of hope appeared in his eyes.

All of a sudden, Kareem heard a strange voice that drove him crazy and made him feel sick.

'Right now is the best time. Get going quickly. So long as you do it, Patricia will be yours!'

The voice in his head kept urging him. Then, Kareem went crazy and looked longingly at Patricia.

Kareem had wanted to spend more time with Patricia. He had no way of passing up such a good chance.

He slowly approached Patricia as he kept his eyes on her.

When Patricia saw the look on Kareem's face, she was shocked. She looked at him with wide-open eyes, gulped hard, and yelled, "Don't come over, Kareem!"

Patricia was scared at that moment. She thought he would be able to get sober soon, but things didn't go as she had planned.

Kareem was nothing like he used to be and seemed to have gone crazy.

Even Patricia could tell that his eyes were burning with desire for her body.

But Kareem didn't care and didn't listen to Patricia's warning. He only had one thought, and that was to get her.

When his thin, warm lips touched Patricia's neck, she got scared and shook. She couldn't stop biting the inside of her lower lip, and tears ran down her cheeks.

Patricia suddenly felt disgusted. She had to fight for a while, and her dislike of Kareem grew quickly and dramatically.

"Kareem, go away. If you come over, I will for sure..." Patricia gave a strong warning. However, Kareem kissed her before she could finish her sentence.

It looked like Kareem really enjoyed the kiss and didn't notice how Patricia looked at that time.

At that moment, Patricia's eyes were empty, as if her soul had been taken away in an instant, and she had lost the will to live. She was as still as a piece of wood on the couch.

Her eyes kept welling up with tears, which wet her temples. Some of them touched Kareem's face by accident. This time, he stopped for a moment, stood up, and looked at Patricia in a suspicious way.

Her tears were like dazzling diamonds, piercing Kareem's eyes.

Chapter 653 How Dare You

Kareem's only hope at that point in time was that Patricia would give him a chance to be with her.

But now, even the little hope he had was lost. His intention had never been to make Patricia cry, yet, that was what he had achieved.

"Patricia..." Kareem called in a low voice and trailed off. Then he looked at her, but the look in her eyes made him forget whatever he had to say.

Patricia faced him with tears streaming down her cheeks. She really didn't care about his apology or the guilty expression he had on. In fact, she doubted it was sincere.

Realizing that he really had no way of taking back what he said or gaining her forgiveness, Kareem pursed his lips and sighed dejectedly. Just when he finally mustered enough courage to say something, the door was abruptly opened, bringing in a cold air and presence which made both Patricia and Kareem to shiver involuntarily.

Instinctively, they looked at the door at the same time, just to see Zac standing outside in a rage. He was staring very hard and coldly at Kareem with his deep-set eyes.

"How dare you touch my woman?" Zac said in a scarily cold voice with his eyes fixed on Kareem. The fire in his eyes as he glared at Kareem was so intense that anything at all could make him go berserk.

Then, Zac shifted his gaze to Patricia. His heart broke into a million pieces as he saw her tearstained face. He discarded his pain and focused on his anger. With the way he felt, he was certain that he could lose control at any time.

"Kareem!" Zac grunted, wishing he could tear Kareem into pieces right this moment. Instead, he kept that impulse aside, went to them in quick strides and pushed Kareem away. Then, he held Patricia's slender waist with his strong arms and quickly took a good step away from the man that had dared to make his woman cry.

"Don't be afraid, Patricia. I'm here with you now," Zac said softly as he looked down at her with a tender

look that was totally different from the glares he gave Kareem. He was afraid of frightening her, especially now when she looked like a hurt little girl.

With his hands on her waist, Zac could feel Patricia's whole body literally trembling. He hadn't expected it, but she moved closer to him as if searching for some sort of security only he could provide.

"Don't be afraid. I'm here with you, okay?" Zac repeated to calm her nerves. As he watched her, something heavy weighed on his heart and he couldn't shake it.

Putting his objectives into focus, Zac looked at Kareem ruthlessly, his eyes full of anger. If only he could literally tear him to pieces. Protectively, his slender fingers held Patricia's waist tightly.

If Patricia wasn't crying so much and looking so hurt, Zac wouldn't have hesitated before teaching Kareem a lesson right there.

Slowly, Kareem took his gaze away from the floor and looked first at Zac, then at Patricia. He pursed his thin lips, desperately wanting to say something, but he just didn't know what he could say in this situation.

The look alone in Patricia's eyes was enough to let Kareem know that he had done something wrong and had hurt her deeply.

Even if Kareem wanted to apologize now, it was of no use because it was too late. He had already done great damage to her sensitive heart.

After staring blankly at them for some time, Kareem opened and closed his mouth several times, willing to say something. Unfortunately though, no sound left his lips, making him to look down at the floor again in regret and shame.

Patricia stayed in Zac's arms obediently, unwilling to be separated from him for even a second, especially when Kareem, who had put her in such a state, was still around.

In fact, when Patricia saw Zac, she got excited, and the deep gratitude and relief she felt were indescribable. While he stood at the door, she kept wishing he would come closer to her and make her feel safe and secure. If she was being truthful with herself, she only felt that way with Zac.

He was the only man who had ever given her that sense of security. Admitting this to herself made Patricia realize that she still had feelings for Zac. Her eyes went wide and she bit her lower lip to stop any untoward sound from escaping.

She was beginning to find it hard to conceal those feelings she clearly still had for Zac. Even though she had tried to bury her love for him deeply in her heart, it was still there, showing its face whenever he was near.

Zac chose to forget about Kareem for now because there was nothing he could do in Patricia's presence. He turned, pulled the woman he loved closer to him and hugged her tightly. Then, he glared at Kareem over her shoulders and whispered in Patricia's ear, "Let's go back, okay?" He let Patricia out of his arms and looked at her softly. He nodded to her, then led her out.

When Zac passed by Kareem, he threatened with a ruthless look, "Kareem, don't think this is it. I'm not letting you go. I'll be back for you."

Zac made it clear that he would get even with Kareem no matter what it might cost him.

However, Kareem looked calm and relaxed, not seeming affected in the least. With a bitter smile, he sneered. "Okay! I'll be waiting!"

Zac didn't even need to settle scores with him for him to feel hurt. As it was, he already felt guilty and horrible for what he had done.

Kareem loved Patricia so deeply that he would never do anything to hurt her. But today, he made a mistake, probably the worst he had ever made. Anika's words had bewitched him and made him to hurt Patricia, the only woman he truly loved.

He wouldn't be surprised if Patricia hated him and didn't want to see his face again.

As he stood there, his heart broke as Patricia's tearful face kept appearing in his mind.

Left all alone, Kareem looked at the ceiling sadly and said in a low voice, "Patricia, I'm sorry. I'm so sorry! It's all my fault." He covered his face with his hands and let out a loud groan.

Zac took Patricia to the apartment and poured her a warm bath.

He didn't leave her alone even for a single second. Even while she took her shower, he stood quietly at the door and waited for her to come out of the bathroom safely.

Sometime later, Patricia walked out of the bathroom in loose pajamas, looking positively better. However, her face fell again when she saw Zac standing at the door, waiting for her. She lowered her head and avoided his gaze.

The expression on Patricia's face broke Zac's heart. How he wished he knew what to say to make things better right now.

Zac felt sorry for her and really wanted to say something, but he couldn't afford to say the wrong thing and hurt her even more. He preferred to stay silent and just follow her around. He would stick to her like glue no matter what she did and where she went.

Exasperated with Zac on her tail, Patricia pursed her lips. She could feel that he wasn't okay. His mind

wasn't at ease. And no matter what he tried to show her, the panic in his eyes betrayed his thoughts.

Patricia sighed. She wanted to tell him something, but hesitated. Making up her mind, she turned to look at Zac and called out, "Zac..."

"Patricia, are you hungry? Let me cook noodles for you," Zac quickly said, interrupting Patricia.

He was scared of whatever Patricia had to say. What if she said something that was going to hurt him? He was also scared that she would want to be alone and he didn't want to leave her by herself. He wouldn't bare it if she hurt herself.

Patricia quickly shook her head and put a hand up to stop him from saying anything more. "No, thanks. Zac..."

"Would you like something to drink instead? I can get it for you," Zac added quickly.

Understanding what was going on, they both looked at each other strangely, as if willing the other person to just give in. The cold expression on Patricia's face especially gave Zac more reason to be scared of what she kept wanting to say.

Seeing the concerned expression on Zac's face, Patricia just sighed and said gently, "Zac, I don't want to eat or drink anything. I have something to tell you."

Chapter 654 Please Don't Leave Me

For a brief while, Zac was taken aback when he observed Patricia's expression. He came to a complete halt and said nothing.

He could see from her look that if he continued to speak, she would get upset.

"What are you going to say to me?" At that point, Zac couldn't help but glance away from Patricia. In his heart, there was a tinge of bitterness. Her cruel remarks were the last thing he wanted to hear.

With a touch of incomprehensible emotion in his gaze, Zac bent his head and couldn't stop biting his bottom lip.

Patricia couldn't help but sigh slightly when she saw Zac's look. She gazed at him indifferently, a tinge of melancholy flashing across her eyes.

"I'm alright, Zac. Don't be concerned about me," Patricia said in a cold voice. "We'd better maintain our distance from one other. After all, you and Anika... I don't want Anika to misunderstand us."

Patricia was correct and sensible in her remarks. Those statements, however, not only broke her heart, but also Zac's.

Zac was staring at Patricia in a stupor at the time. His lips were pursed and he didn't know what to say. What more could he say now that Patricia had said that?

With a bitter smile, Zac lowered his head and muttered in a low voice, "Okay, I see." He turned around and headed slowly towards the door as soon as he finished speaking.

But he was nevertheless relieved since Patricia was safe. It was time to return. Otherwise, Anika would cause trouble and Patricia might suffer as a result.

Moreover, it seemed that Norman was telling the truth. Zac was pondering whether or not he should work with him.

While strolling and thinking about these things, Zac's vision grew a bit fuzzy. He was on his way to the door, but it seemed a long way away.

Zac felt his head heavy and his feet light, as his body swung involuntarily left and right. While he was looking for something to support him, darkness enveloped his vision and he lost consciousness.

Patricia was startled by the loud impact and her widened eyes shifted to Zac. At that moment, she thought it was only a ruse.

But as she stepped up to Zac's body and felt him, she felt he had a high temperature, and it was quite severe. His whole body was sweltering. It was no surprise that she sensed something was amiss with Zac's temperature when he hugged her just now.

Shocked, Patricia gazed at Zac, a dismal expression on her face. She then assisted Zac to his feet, grabbed a damp towel, and put it on his forehead before going to buy him some antipyretics.

"Take some medication, Zac. You'll feel much better after that."

When Zac heard Patricia's words, he partially opened his eyelids and gave her a skeptical look. Then, with a wide grin, he whispered, "Patricia..."

It was an excellent opportunity for Zac. He reasoned that since he was unwell, Patricia wouldn't be so harsh as to toss him out.

But that was all wishful thinking on his part.

"Take a few pills. Nicholas will come to get you later," Patricia said indifferently.

When Zac learned of this, the hope in his heart vanished completely. He was taken aback by Patricia's cold attitude, and his heart was heavy with despair.

Patricia gave him the cold shoulder despite his illness as if he were a complete stranger.

In fact, how could Zac not feel enraged in the face of Patricia's apathetic expression? His heart was broken and he was depressed.

"Okay." Zac expressed his dissatisfaction in a mournful tone. He grabbed the glass of water and gulped the pills. His deep-set eyes were filled with disappointment.

Zac was itching to be with her right now. However, at the moment, his heart was heavy with sorrow, and he was unhappy.

When Zac saw that Patricia had turned around and was about to leave, he opened his thin lips and said, "Please don't leave me, Patricia." He spoke in an imploring and worried tone.

Zac grasped the hem of Patricia's dress firmly with his fingers, like an abandoned kid afraid to let go. A begging expression flashed across his face.

Patricia was taken aback when she saw this scene. Her pink lips moved, but she couldn't get a word out. There was a tinge of sadness in her eyes as she didn't know how to face Zac.

The pitiful look on his face made her waver. Zac seemed like a helpless little animal in need of protection.

"Zac..." Patricia's brows drooped. A loud doorbell brought her back to reality just as she was ready to say anything.

Instantly, Patricia regained her composure. She shook off Zac's hand hurriedly and walked to the door.

She grimaced and reverted to her customary coldness when she spotted Anika waiting at the entrance. Patricia, of course, understood why Anika had come here.

"Thank you, Patricia," Anika said in a bright tone while displaying an arrogant expression. A tinge of scorn flashed in her lovely eyes as she stared at Patricia.

Patricia scowled and lifted her chin slightly as she heard this. Her face was grimacing with dissatisfaction. Anika cut her off just as she was going to say anything.

"Zac isn't feeling well. Patricia, thank you for looking after him." Anika said with a sneer. "I've come to get him. Are you fine with that?"

Even though Anika said so, Patricia could tell by the way she looked at her that she didn't care.

What Anika was implying was self-evident. She was taking Zac away, and Patricia had no means of stopping her.

Patricia took a long breath and smiled politely before saying coldly, "Please go ahead. I'm curious as to why you left a patient alone and did not take proper care of him."

Patricia's statement had a disdainful tone to it, which Anika picked up on. The latter was enraged to the point of bursting. She bit her bottom lip and fixed her gaze on Patricia.

"Enough, it's time to go back," Zac said coldly as he abruptly rose up and went up to Anika and Patricia. He then proceeded to go past Anika and towards the door.

He made it plain that Anika's presence here was not welcome. Patricia could be at risk as a result.

Zac had no alternative but to pull his ailing body and leave as soon as possible for Patricia's sake.

Anika didn't say anything else after Zac announced his decision to depart. She turned around without saying anything and smiled at Patricia. Patricia, on the other hand, saw Anika's disdainful expression before she departed.

"Is she challenging me?" Patricia sneered as she glared coldly at Zac's and Anika's backs.

So what if Anika was challenging her? There was nothing between her and Zac.

Chapter 655 Make Things Difficul

Patricia was adamant about not saying or thinking about anything. She simply wanted her life to be peaceful again, and she didn't want to be bothered by Zac and Anika.

Patricia pursed her lips with a deep sigh as if she had some awful bitterness, yet there was a glimmer of bewilderment in her gaze.

In any case, Zac and Anika were married.

After that, Zac and her relationship should be done. Patricia had to move on even if she still missed Zac.

Patricia took a deep breath and closed her eyes. She made up her mind to break up with Zac for good.

Patricia's eyes were bright with resolve at the moment. She made the decision to end her relationship with Zac and move on.

She believed it was definitely for the best, especially after meeting Anika today.

On the other hand, Zac and Anika were in a Mercedes-Benz. The mood in the automobile was dreary and suffocating, and the air was stiff and extremely cold.

Neither Zac nor Anika said anything.

As though they were in a competition, the two of them remained quiet for an hour and whoever spoke first would be the loser.

Finally, Anika couldn't help but speak, particularly when she noticed Zac's contemptuous gaze. She had a strong desire to interrogate him.

"Do you think you've been mistreated, Zac?" Anika scowled with disdain.

Zac scoffed and sent a nasty gaze at Anika when he heard this. He didn't respond and looked forwards instead.

He didn't want to respond to Anika, and he didn't want to explain himself.

Patricia's location must have been known to Anika. It would be a piece of cake for Anika to do anything bad to Patricia.

When Anika saw Zac's chilly expression, her eyes widened and she bit her bottom lip. She inhaled deeply, her face flushed with rage.

Zac was a wise guy, Anika knew. She knew Zac was desperate to protect Patricia despite his terrible condition.

Whether Patricia was aware of it or not had no effect on Anika. Anika was more concerned with Zac's inability to forget Patricia until now, which made her feel ashamed.

"Zac!" Anika clenched her teeth and glared angrily at Zac.

Zac also glared aggressively and dismissively at Anika. He had a coldness in his gaze that she could tell.

"Do you honestly believe I have no idea what you're thinking, Zac? Let me tell you something. You won't be able to be with Patricia. I won't allow you to be with Patricia even if we split up in the future," Anika remarked in a nasty tone. Anger was seething in her eyes.

Even if she couldn't be with him anymore, she would never allow Patricia to have Zac.

Zac wanted to be with Patricia, didn't he? Anika would never allow anything like this to happen.

Rage filled her eyes at the moment as if she were a ferocious lion fighting the person who tried to steal its prey.

Anika had made her point. Zac couldn't blame her for being cruel if he dared to oppose what she said.

When Zac saw Anika's eyes, he understood exactly what she was talking about.

This time, Anika was serious, and she was furious. He would surely cause himself difficulty if he battled Anika at this time, and he would also incriminate Patricia.

Zac would never let anything like that happen. Patricia's safety was his primary concern from the minute he consented to Anika's request.

As a result, Zac made it a point to safeguard Patricia.

Zac took a deep breath after staring at Anika for two minutes. His frigid face glowed with a hint of helplessness. "I see," he remarked indifferently.

Those few words were enough to relay his thoughts. He gave in to Anika once again.

Anika nodded and grinned with delight as she heard this.

Zac finally realized what she was capable of. This time, he was clever enough not to go against her.

"Good. It's great that you've grasped the situation." A smug smirk flashed across Anika's lips as she started the vehicle and stepped on the gas.

Zac's chilly thin lips fluttered with sadness at the sight of the magnificent night landscape. He was extremely clear about the ramifications of battling Anika right now.

He couldn't do things on the spur of the moment. He needed to be fully prepared and then deliver a lethal blow to Anika if he was to overcome her. He couldn't let Anika turn the tables on him.

This concept was strongly ingrained in Zac's mind at the time. He even started thinking about what he should do next.

A weird glimmer flashed in Anika's eyes as she met Zac's gaze, and a grin came on her lips.

Patricia's presence, she made quite clear, was a danger to her.

Even though Zac still had feelings for Patricia, it was okay. As long as Patricia vanished from the earth, the situation would be fully fixed.

Anika had a brilliant idea at that very time. She wanted to teach Patricia a lesson and send her away from Zac's world forever.

Patricia arrived at work with black circles around her eyes after a restless night. Her fatigued was visible on her face despite her beautiful makeup.

The manager couldn't help but grimace when he saw Patricia's expression. In a worried tone, he said, "Patricia, you don't seem to be feeling well. Is it necessary for you to request time off?"

Patricia shook her head and smiled warmly. She accepted the paper from him and arched her brows in his direction. "I'm perfectly well. I have yet to begin my task." She submerged herself in work as soon as she completed her sentence.

The manager didn't say anything further after seeing this. Given Patricia's obstinacy, he reasoned that trying to convince her would be futile. He just reminded her of something and then walked away.

Patricia's smile vanished as soon as the manager departed. Her face reverted to a bitter and weary appearance that could no longer be hidden.

Confused, she sighed repeatedly as she held her chin in her palm and glanced ahead.

She had already decided to end her relationship with Zac.

Last night, though, she was unable to sleep. She saw Zac's begging face whenever she closed her eyes. How could she be unconcerned about him?

Her red lips sighed, and she couldn't help but ask, "How is Zac now?"

As soon as she completed her sentence, a familiar voice came from over Patricia's head. "Patricia..." The voice was filled with regret and remorse.

Chapter 656 Plagiarism

Patricia looked up to find Kareem standing before her, ashamed, not daring to come closer.

She pursed her lips at the expression on Kareem's face, exhaling heavily. She didn't know how to face him.

She didn't want to blame Kareem since he had already realized his mistake. But last night's events were still vivid in her mind. Frightened, she kept her distance from him.

"I know you won't forgive me, but I still want to apologize. I'm sorry. I..." Kareem trailed off. It looked like he had a lot to say but didn't know how to start.

Patricia looked indifferently at Kareem and muttered, "Well, Kareem. Don't say anything else. Let bygones be bygones." Her tone seemed a tad forgiving.

Kareem looked at Patricia, astonished, as if he couldn't believe what he was hearing. He blinked and asked softly, "What? You have forgiven me?"

With a faint smile, Patricia shook her head and explained to him, "I don't know if I can forgive you. But what happened last night is now over. I don't want to talk or think about it again." She once again buried herself in her work, ignoring Kareem.

The meaning of her words was clear. She didn't mean to blame or hate Kareem. But that didn't mean their relationship would be any better.

After all, she was still a little sad. She could remain calm and serious while facing Kareem, but treating him as before was taking it too far. She just couldn't do it.

Kareem's face fell at the look in her eyes. He finally understood what she meant.

Patricia had forgiven him, but she had made it clear that it was impossible for them to return to their previous relationship.

A sad, bitter smile appeared on Kareem's lips. If he had known this would happen, he would not have listened to Anika.

On second thought, he knew it had nothing to do with Anika. It was his fault. Anika had fooled him because he hadn't been strong-willed enough. He couldn't blame anyone.

Kareem now looked up at Patricia sadly. He shook his head and turned around wordlessly to leave when an angry voice rang through the air.

"Patricia, how could you do such a thing?" Patricia's superior looked at her in disbelief and handed a document to her, his eyes flashing angrily.

Kareem turned around to look at them, instantly curious.

Patricia looked up at her superior, frowning in confusion. She waited for him to explain.

"You plagiarized someone else's plan," the superior said angrily, suspicion lacing his tone, as if he could not believe that Patricia would do such a thing. But it looked to be the truth and he had to believe it.

Patricia was shocked. She had no idea what was going on.

She then looked at the document he was holding out to her and was surprised to see that the plan that had been handed in yesterday was exactly the same as their rival company's plan.

Patricia tried to calm herself down by taking a deep breath. The disappointment on her superior's face was too much for her to bear.

"I will deal with this myself," Patricia said firmly.

She had to figure out what was going on. Her plan had always been confidential. But she hadn't expected such a thing to happen.

The seriousness on Patricia's face caused the superior to frown. He was thinking about something, but didn't say anything. He turned around and left without saying a word, in silent acquiescence to Patricia's promise.

Patricia slumped down in her chair, helpless in the face of this new problem. She raised a hand to her forehead, rubbing it to get rid of the melancholy threatening to overtake her.

What on earth was going on? Why had such a thing happened? How had it happened?

Plagiarizing someone else's plan? It was impossible. She had always been in charge of this project. It was impossible for anybody else to know anything about it. Besides, she had gone through a lot of plans to ensure the novelty of her own.

"Patricia, let me help you," Kareem said. He sounded sincere, as if he wanted to do something to atone for what he had done.

Now that Patricia was in trouble, it was the best time for him to take action.

Patricia was taken aback at this. She looked at him suspiciously for a long minute before she understood what he was trying to do. A faint smile appeared on her face.

"Thank you, Kareem. But it's my business. I'll solve it myself."

It was obvious that she didn't want Kareem to get involved in this.

But Kareem had made up his mind to help her.

"No matter what you say, I will help you." After that, Kareem left, without giving Patricia a chance to speak.

She watched Kareem's retreating figure and sighed. It was too late for her to stop him. Judging from his experience, he seemed to be serious.

And even if Patricia wanted to stop him, it would be close to impossible for her to persuade him.

She decided not to think about Kareem anymore. The most important thing for her was to solve this problem. She didn't expect this to have any huge impact on the company. But it was a question of the company's reputation and she ended up getting suspended for a week.

It was obvious that the company still didn't trust her very much. Perhaps it was because of what had happened before, or perhaps it was because this was a big blow this time, the company had no choice but to take this decision.

Patricia was even more determined now and knew what she had to do.

She started her own investigation by looking into the list of people who had had the chance to learn about the plan. It didn't take her long to find the problem.

Even so, it was not as simple as Patricia thought. The real manipulator behind all of this was Anika.

Patricia was shocked to hear this news from her colleagues. She couldn't believe it. Even if Anika was this powerful, she couldn't go so far as to reach the US branch, could she?

But Patricia had underestimated Anika, who was, as was evident now, capable of anything.

"Anika! You are so hateful!" Patricia gritted out, her face red with anger.

She didn't know what method Anika had used to plagiarize the plan. The plan had been completed a couple of days before and everything was the exact same.

Patricia was furious as she thought of this. She couldn't wait to get back at Anika now.

Chapter 657 I Want You To Leave

Soon, Patricia heard an arrogant voice from afar, followed by the sound of high-heeled shoes on the tiled floor getting closer and closer to her.

After a short while, Anika appeared and stood proudly in front of Patricia. She had on a smug and satisfied look. She was obviously proud of her masterpiece.

"Looks like you received my gift. So, tell me. Do you like it?" Anika asked with a provoking smile spread on her lips.

Patricia, on the other hand, wasn't finding it funny. "Anika, what the hell do you want from me?" she shouted, shooting nasty glares at Anika.

'I've left Zac and he is now with Anika. What more does the wicked woman want to leave me alone? Why isn't she satisfied? What is her aim in framing me like that?'

However, Anika looked calm, relaxed and unaffected by Patricia's outburst. She simply raised her eyebrows elegantly, did a small movement with her hair as though she was seducing someone, and said softly, "Actually, I don't want much. If you leave this place, then you'll never have to deal with me again. How about that?"

Surprised by such a request, Patricia's eyes went wide. As far as she could tell, she had already left. Where else did Anika want her to go to?

"Anika, don't go too far just because you think you can. I'm not even close to Zac in any way. What else do you want from me?" Patricia was seething with anger. What the hell was wrong with Anika? Why

would she ask for such a thing?

"Are you so sure about what you're saying? Huh?" Anika almost screamed, finally losing her calm. She glared at Patricia so intensely that she would have surely burned to ashes had it been possible. Anika desperately wished Patricia could completely disappear from the face of the earth.

Truth be told, Patricia was really confused by what was happening. Anyone could easily tell that her relationship with Zac was over.

With that in mind, she didn't really take Anika seriously. Even after seeing the dangerous expression on her face, Patricia just sneered.

Why did she have to worry when she had done absolutely nothing wrong? She had kept a long and safe distance from Zac. Maybe what happened last night with Zac could be misunderstood by any other person, but nothing had happened between them.

"Anika, believe it or not, Zac and I no longer have anything to do with each other. Nothing at all," Patricia said rather clearly for Anika to understand. She let out a deep breath, tired of arguing with Anika and wishing it could finally end.

Anika sneered, then fixed her archenemy with a vicious look. "You know what's really going on between you and Zac. But I didn't come here today to quarrel with you."

'Then what does she want to talk about?' Patricia pursed her lips and looked at Anika. In her eyes, Anika had come to quarrel with her. That much was obvious from the way she approached her, and the way she was talking to her.

Deciding to give her the benefit of doubt, Patricia thought that Anika must want to talk about something since she came looking for her.

"Okay, Anika, I'm listening to you. If there's something on your mind, just go ahead and say it," Patricia said flatly with a slight tilt of her chin.

Anika didn't miss the flash of disdain that swept across her eyes. However, she wasn't shaken or surprised by it. "There's just one thing I have to say actually, and I believe I already made it clear. I want you to leave and never show your face in front of Zac again."

What she said took Patricia off guard. Her eyes went wide in surprise and fear, and her mouth dropped open.

"What? Don't you understand what I'm saying? If you move to a place where Zac will never know or find out about, all of this will stop. I will be relieved and will also stop coming after you." Anika smiled sweetly, but the smug look in her eyes completely contrasted whatever expression she was trying to show. Patricia looked up and met Anika's eyes. Almost immediately, her heart began to beat faster, scared of what she was seeing in the woman's eyes.

If she understood properly, Anika was trying to say that...

Before Patricia could actually make sense of her thoughts, Anika added, "If you are willing to comply with me, I won't make things difficult for you. Now, if you choose the other option, don't blame me for what I will do." As she spoke, she added effect to her words with a vicious and clearly threatening glare. It was as if she was ready to kill Patricia on the spot if she dared to refuse.

Patricia could see murder written all over Anika's face. She only had to say one wrong thing for Anika to lose it and go crazy on her.

With a frown, Patricia looked at Anika suspiciously. Suddenly, she realized something and had to tell Anika about it regardless of the consequences.

In fact, Patricia had no intentions of giving in to Anika's subtle blackmail.

"I'm really sorry, Anika. But I can't do what you're asking of me," Patricia said flatly, then turned around and walked in another direction. She didn't want to stay there and argue with Anika over her decision. It was of no use since nothing was going to make her change her mind.

Arguing with Anika over this would only lead them both to a dead end where they would start arguing again. Knowing how the both of them were, Patricia knew very well that Anika would never reach any favorable agreement with her.

That was why she didn't think it was necessary to talk about it with Anika. It was better if she just left.

Unlike other times, Anika didn't stop Patricia from leaving. She just watched her leave with a meaningful smile on her face. Her eyes gleamed with victory, as if she had won the negotiation and Patricia was still ignorant of that fact.

"Patricia, you can't escape. You think you have the last word, but soon enough, you will come crawling to me to do as I ask," Anika said to herself. She knew that at the end of it all, she was going to come out victorious.

With a triumphant smile, Anika swung her curly hair over her shoulder and took out her phone when Patricia was out of earshot.

"How's it going? Is everything ready and in place?" she asked into the phone.

"Yes. Everything is in place. Once you give the order, it will go as planned," answered the person on the other end of the line, seeming rather proud of himself.

Anika let out an evil laugh and looked in the direction Patricia had just gone. "Very good. In that case, tonight is the night. Patricia should know how powerful I am. When she's tired of fighting, she will have no choice but to kneel down and beg me."

Anika spoke with an edge to her voice. The wicked smile she wore was opposite to the charming face she had.

Patricia returned to her apartment. After meeting with Anika today, she felt really uneasy, as if something bad was going to happen.

She couldn't shake the look she saw in Anika's eyes from her mind. It was horrible! It was as though Anika was promising to get even with her, and it wasn't going to be pretty. She was really scared of what could happen.

"It will be fine. I won't let her make me paranoid. It will be fine," Patricia repeated to herself, trying to comfort and convince herself of this.

However, the more she convinced herself of this, the more frightened she became. She bit her lower lip and grabbed her chest, suddenly finding it a little difficult to breathe.

What was happening to her? Patricia was confused and lost. She didn't understand why she was feeling this way.

She felt a little uncomfortable in her chest. She felt like she had been hit hard by something.

"What's wrong with me?" Patricia gasped. Why was she suddenly feeling this way? She felt fine this morning, but as soon as she returned to her apartment, she was having difficulties breathing.

She didn't know what was going on, but with every second that passed, she felt more uncomfortable and her breath was coming in short in gasps. Her sight blurred, and she felt dizzy.

She felt something hard hit her head. The next second, she was enveloped by darkness, then her body connected with the floor as she fell down.

When she woke up, she found herself locked in a dark room. It was so dark that she couldn't see anything around her.

Chapter 658 Save Patricia

Patricia looked around suspiciously. Fear arose within her and she felt as if something terrible was about to happen to her.

The light suddenly clicked on, the dazzling light causing her to squint uncomfortably. She frowned, trying to make out the figure in front of her, but couldn't see what the person looked like.

"How do you feel, Miss Sampson?" A man's hoarse voice sounded.

Patricia slowly opened her eyes and looked at the man, trying to get her eyes to focus, suspicion roiling within her. This man was Jayson! Why was he here? What was his purpose?

She had a lot of questions, but couldn't say a word. She was shocked and stared at Jayson, her eyes wide open in astonishment.

Jayson looked calm and relaxed, as if he didn't do anything appropriate.

"Don't be nervous. You've just lost your voice for the time being," Jayson explained calmly. He seemed to be satisfied with Patricia's reaction.

Patricia frowned at this and looked up at him in confusion. Why had she lost her voice without reason?

But this was not the right time to think about it. And it was definitely not a good sign that Jayson appeared before her for no reason.

Patricia stared fiercely at Jayson, biting down on her lower lip as she subconsciously moved into a defensive stance.

As she did so, she found her movements restricted and looked around to find herself sitting in a small cage that only accommodated her. If she as much as took one step backwards, she would fall down.

There were all kinds of bugs crawling under the cage. The sight was disgusting. Patricia suddenly felt sick, her body shivering.

It was hard for her to accept her current situation.

"Miss Sampson, you can see what is under the cage. I'd recommend you not to move. I won't be held responsible if you fall down," Jayson said, a cruel smile on his lips.

At the smile, Patricia knew that he must want to see her fall down.

She took a deep breath and tried to calm down. She needed to take stock of the situation in a levelheaded manner.

Patricia sat quietly. The bugs wouldn't hurt her as long as she didn't move.

And now, she had a very serious question to solve, and that was to find out what Jayson wanted.

"What do you want?" Patricia asked angrily, glaring daggers at him.

As Patricia spoke, she looked at Jayson closely, trying to find clues from his behavior.

But only a complacent smile appeared on his lips, as if he had been expecting this.

"I don't have a purpose, actually. Miss Curtis hopes that you can leave as soon as possible," Jayson said meaningfully, as if he was merely carrying out orders.

Patricia pursed her lips at this. She hadn't expected Jayson to collude with Anika.

Besides, judging from his expression, he seemed to be serious this time and determined to complete the task for Anika.

But Patricia had no intention of giving in. She sneered coldly at Jayson and asked, "What if I refuse? Are you going to hurt me?"

"I won't, but..." Jayson trailed off, a wicked smile creeping onto his lips. He threw her a meaningful look.

Patricia frowned at his expression, worry flashing through her heart. Jayson's smile seemed strange to her.

"I will get you to experience a different kind of fear," Jayson said gleefully. He had barely finished talking when the cage suddenly jerked a few times and began to descend slowly. The bugs on the floor began to move, as if in anticipation of their food and trying to get closer to Patricia.

The hair on the back of Patricia's neck prickled at the sight. Not a word escaped her out of fear.

"Jayson..." Patricia was terrified.

She understood that Jayson was going to use this method to frustrate her and force her agree to Anika's demands.

"Don't be nervous, Miss Sampson. If you agree to Miss Curtis' request, I will let you go," Jayson said playfully, looking pleased.

Patricia was filled with despair at this but didn't know how to respond to him.

Her attention was now focused on the bugs on the floor, which continued to approach her.

She screamed, wanting to find a safe place to hide, but this was impossible, given her situation.

Jayson said again, "I think you're clear about the situation you're in. It would be better for you if you obediently agreed to Miss Curtis' request. That way, you will suffer less."

Patricia heard every one of Jayson's words clearly and was very aware of her current situation.

She not only had to face the bugs, but also think of what Jayson was saying.

She was at the end of her tether when the iron door suddenly banged open.

Everyone's head swiveled towards the door, where Kareem was now standing, glaring dangerously at Jayson before looking at Patricia.

He frowned, his heart dropping at the fear and worry he saw on her face. His eyes began to simmer with fury.

How could he not be angry at the sight of Patricia in such great danger?

"Let go of Patricia right now!" Kareem roared furiously. He was very close to getting even with Jayson.

But Jayson ignored him and turned back to stare at Patricia.

Kareem's face darkened at this. He glared at Jayson and said, "How dare you!"

Jayson pretended to only just notice Kareem and smiled, saying softly, "Oh, it's you, Mr. Reynolds." Contempt laced his words, as if he didn't deem Kareem important enough.

Kareem seemed close to erupting with anger. He took a deep breath, trying not to take the bait. It was obvious that Jayson was provoking him.

"Don't be so anxious. I'll deal with you after I finish handling Miss Sampson," Jayson said and turned back to face Patricia.

Chapter 659 Help

Hearing this, Kareem was angry. A ruthless and dangerous look flashed across his face. He looked at Patricia the entire time.

Patricia could practically cry from the immense fear she felt. Bugs slowly climbed on her body. The only thing she could do was cry and scream.

Seeing this horrifying sight made Kareem heartbroken. At that moment, he wanted to be the one suffering the pain, not Patricia.

Kareem was panicking. He wanted to rush in and help her, but Jayson's men already had him surrounded.

Hearing Patricia scream over and over again was agonizing. Kareem wanted to go rage and kill everyone in his path. He didn't give a shit who he hurt, as long as he could stop Patricia's misery.

He broke free from the siege, kicked Jayson away, and ran towards Patricia.

He stepped hard on the bugs under his feet and he wrapped his arms around Patricia's waist. Then, he pulled her as they both tried to make a run for it.

Jayson scowled at their attempt. He bit his lower lip angrily and blocked the door. "Are you trying to be a hero, punk? Not on my watch!" he angrily called.

Jayson was determined to finish the task Anika gave him. He knew full well about her temperament—there would be hell to pay if he failed his mission.

"Don't do anything reckless if you still want to live. You should know what's good for you!" Jayson warned, looking very arrogant. He didn't think that Kareem's strength would be a threat to him.

Kareem smirked at this suggestion. With an icy glare in his eyes, he said in a low voice, "Is that so? Who do you think you are? I'd like to see you try, asshole!" Then, Kareem prepared himself to fight, determined to take his enemy down.

Jayson raised his hand and signaled his subordinates to take action. However, before they could approach, Nicholas had already beaten them to the floor.

When Jayson saw his men lying on the floor, groaning in pain, he got a little scared for his life. But when Anika's order crossed his mind, he figured that this would be an easier path. He couldn't possibly defy her.

Just when he was about to attack, Nicholas quickly kicked him. Jayson fell to the floor in tremendous pain. Unable to move, he was left with no other choice but to watch Kareem escape with Patricia in his arms.

As if on cue, his phone suddenly rang. Jayson fished for the phone in his pocket, hoping it wasn't Anika. Unfortunately, he was wrong.

"Miss Curtis..." Jayson reluctantly answered the phone, a little scared for his life.

"Our plan failed?" Anika asked indifferently as if it didn't bother her one bit.

Jayson swallowed the lump in his throat and replied in panic, "I can explain. I—"

"Explain? You should know that I never listen to any explanation," Anika answered calmly but threateningly. Jayson knew very well what her words meant.

Jayson was too scared to even say another word. His entire body trembled as if he was about to be consumed by a beast.

"Miss Curtis..." Jayson uttered in a low voice, his mouth trembling, afraid that he would say something wrong.

Then, Anika dryly chucked and said, "Don't be nervous. I won't do anything to you...for now. You know me well, Jayson. I have no room for failure." When she dropped these words, her voice was filled with vengeance and threat.

Jayson nodded his head, like a well-behaved child. "Yes. Of course, no room for failure! I won't let you down again." Jayson was a little too enthusiastic to be given another chance. The fear never left him until Anika hung up the phone.

Even then, his hands were still shivering, frightened that Anika might do something terrible to him.

Right now, what he needed to do now was to get back at Patricia and complete the task. Then, he could get the reward and leave. This was what he planned all along.

Once Kareem and Nicholas rescued Patricia, they stopped at a tree in the suburb. They wanted to discuss something.

"Mr. Reynolds, there is no need for you to meddle in Patricia's matter." Nicholas' words were very straightforward, and even a little unpleasant to hear. He seemed very unsympathetic with the way he said it.

However, Kareem didn't seem disturbed by it since Nicholas was working for Zac.

"I'm afraid not," Kareem disagreed in a low voice. He subconsciously lowered his head and looked at Patricia who was sleeping soundly in his arms. His long arms were full of power at the moment, as if he hugged something with great life force, and he was unwilling to let go.

Kareem smiled and said, "More than anything, Patricia is my utmost priority. Anything else could fail." His words sounded very sincere and serious.

Nicholas frowned at this thought. He could tell how much Kareem loved Patricia so much and he knew that he would stop at nothing just to have her.

On the other hand, Nicholas also knew that Zac would be furious if he knew about this and he would immediately rush to Patricia's side.

If this was the case, then it would be harmful to Zac's following plan. He finally got some clues and help, and he couldn't give up so easily.

Nicholas didn't want Zac to live in Anika's shadow. It was a terribly conflicting situation.

"In that case, I hope you don't blame me for what I'm about to do next," Nicholas said in a cruel tone,

staring at Kareem. Since his persuasion failed, he was left with no other choice but to go violent.

Just when Nicholas was about to strike, a cold and serious voice broke his reverie. He was stunned to hear this voice.

"Boss!" Nicholas turned around to look at the person who spoke, only to see that Zac was standing behind him and looking at Reynolds.

Apart from it, Nicholas noticed the angry but evidently desolate look in Zac's eyes. It was both filled with eternal sadness and self-pity. Part of him was probably blaming that he couldn't save Patricia when she was in danger.

All of a sudden, Zac came to his senses. He looked at Nicholas, shook his head, and whispered, "Nicholas, that's enough." Without saying anything else, he turned around and left.

This left Nicholas confused and saddened. He didn't know what to say to Zac.

Of course, he knew what Zac's remarks meant. If Nicholas dared to disobey, he would only come to no good.

Zac was walking away but Nicholas clearly saw the expression in his eyes—he looked like he was about to give up. This was something that Nicholas would never allow to happen.

Chapter 660 Cooperation

Even if Nicholas was convinced otherwise, the facts showed that this was Zac's perspective. Nicholas, on the other hand, was well aware that this was a key juncture for Zac.

Eventually, Nicholas turned around and walked out of the room, feeling dejected.

With his eyes fixed on Zac's and Nicholas' backs, Kareem couldn't help but stoop to peer at Patricia, who was fast asleep. He felt something he couldn't put into words.

"Zac, what do you mean?" Kareem was able to notice Zac's expression just now properly. Zac seemed to be asking him to take care of Patricia. But Kareem didn't dare to believe it.

Kareem frowned after thinking for a while. He didn't want to worry about it more than necessary and instead focused on Patricia.

Kareem then turned around and walked away, holding Patricia in his arms.

Nicholas, on the other hand, kept a close eye on Zac. It seemed like he had something to say, but he held it back. He appeared concerned, but he had no idea what to say to Zac.

To be honest, Nicholas understood what Zac meant, and he also knew how Zac was feeling deep inside.

Patricia was injured, but Zac couldn't be there for her first, of course he would blame himself.

Zac abruptly stopped, turned around, and requested in a quiet voice, "Nicholas, just say whatever it is that you want to say."

Nicholas was taken aback when he saw Zac's expression and didn't know what to say. To avoid eye contact with Zac, he stumbled and hesitated, "Boss... Well..." He was speechless and powerless in the face of the situation. He had second thoughts about saying it out.

On the other hand, Zac disagreed, preferring Nicholas to say exactly what he intended to say.

"Nicholas!" Zac's voice was hushed, and he seemed really serious.

After taking a deep breath and acknowledging this, Nicholas said, "Boss, just now..."

Zac knew what Nicholas was going to say when he heard the tone in his voice. He clenched his fists and said, "Nicholas, it's okay if we don't always do what our hearts desire. There are always ramifications to our actions."

Zac had an idea of what he should do in the face of the upcoming events.

As a result of what had transpired, he had grown in maturity and calmness. He needed to get rid of Anika and reclaim Patricia as quickly as possible.

He kept his gaze down as if he were contemplating something.

Nicholas groaned a little and didn't sure how to respond when he heard this. He was a little gloomy at the moment.

"Let's put this out of our minds for a while. It's time to return." Zac walked away as soon as he was done speaking.

Nicholas' lips were pursed as he contemplated something. The one thing he couldn't quite bring himself to say was, "Boss, are you really going to work with Norman?"

All of Zac's information came from Norman, who was genuinely interested in helping them.

Nicholas, on the other hand, was wary of Norman's sincere demeanor.

Zac was aware of Nicholas' concerns.

On the other hand, Zac was prepared to put his faith in Norman.

He understood Norman's desperation in getting rid of Anika.

"Don't worry, Nicholas. I have a well-laid-out plan," Zac said, with a smile.

Seeing Zac's expression, Nicholas couldn't help but bite his lower lip silently.

He could tell that Zac was ready to work hand in hand with Norman.

When Nicholas expressed his concerns about Patricia, it was clear to Zac that he had a last-minute opportunity to earn her affection.

After returning, Zac ran into Norman and struck up a conversation.

That Zac had made up his mind and agreed to work with Norman made Norman very happy.

"Mr. Reynolds, I look forward to working with you." Norman was beaming with excitement as he spoke.

On the other hand, Zac maintained his cool while he observed Norman. "But I have to make it plain in advance that if you dare to stab me in the back, I won't let you go," he replied with a smug smirk. It was an unequivocal statement of caution.

A wry smile spread across Norman's face as he nodded.

The moment he concluded his statement to Zac, he gazed at him intently to establish that he was sincere.

Zac shook his head in disbelief as he saw the sight in his eyes and didn't know what to say. He was well aware that he was Norman's last-ditch effort to save his life.

So that they could finally get rid of Anika, Zac wanted this to be a mutually beneficial partnership.

They stared into one other's eyes for a lengthy period. He then exhaled slowly and quietly before saying, "Okay. Let's get into the specifics."

Before Zac returned, he had already devised a strategy that required Norman's assistance to be successful.

Zac's plan delighted Norman, and he said, "Wow! A fantastic strategy. Sir, I will gladly comply with anything you want of me." It was an agreement.

When Zac noticed Norman's look, he nodded. Since Norman had made it clear to him that he intended to get rid of Anika, Zac became more confident in their cooperation.

"I'll trust you, then." With a soft shoulder touch, Zac spoke to Norman. In the end, they were all on the

same page. Even though Zac was on high alert for Norman, he could not express it.

Zac realized he needed Norman's aid, but he also wanted to be careful with him, so he approached him cautiously.

Norman's head continued nodding in agreement with the last statement. To avoid Anika growing suspicious, he left a few minutes later.

Nicholas, standing by, glanced at Zac with concern and inquired in a low voice, "Why do you think we should put our faith in Norman? Should I..."

"No," Zac interrupted Nicholas by raising his hand. Afterwards, he swiveled to face Nicholas and remarked, "I need you to focus on something more critical right now. I'll send someone else to watch out for Norman."

Nicholas was perplexed when he heard this. "What is it? Is there anything more crucial than this?"

"I'm worried about Patricia," Zac said seriously.