

Remarry 711

[Chapter 711 Lyndsy's Reques](#)

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There were guards stationed near the pavilion, which was not far away. There ought to be no risk.

At this time, Patricia was used to being cautious about her safety and not causing Zac any difficulty.

After some consideration, she consented to Lyndsy's request and nodded.

As soon as they got to the pavilion, Patricia said, "Is there something wrong? Tell me." She sounded icy as if she didn't want to spend much time with Lyndsy.

After hearing her remarks, Lyndsy could not help but smirk. She stated in a low tone, "I had no idea things would end up this way."

Patricia frowned and stared at her with uncertainty upon hearing this. She could not get her meaning.

Lyndsy gazed at Patricia with an odd grin on her face at this moment. Patricia could tell by the expression on her face that she wanted to kill her.

Patricia grimaced and was at a loss for words.

Honestly, she had no idea what Lyndsy expected from her, but the latter seemed to have changed drastically. She could not help but get anxious.

"What the heck do you want, Lyndsy?" Patricia asked and she was on guard.

Upon seeing Patricia's reaction, Lyndsy could not help but smirk. She regarded Patricia with a fierce expression on her face.

Patricia grimaced after seeing the expression in her eyes and got a horrible feeling.

"What is it? Are you frightened of me?" Lyndsy asked in a chilly manner. She smiled, but Patricia knew it was insincere.

"Lyndsy..." Patricia warned her by calling her name.

They were on her turf, and she would not allow Lyndsy to harm her here. If Lyndsy was really dumb enough to assault her here, she would not allow her to go.

The look on Patricia's face sent a caution to Lyndsy.

With a grin, she said, "Don't be so anxious. I won't harm you in any way."
Patricia frowned and stared at the pavilion with confused eyes after hearing this.

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"Just speak it if you have anything to say. Do not beat around the bush." Patricia recovered her calm and glared angrily at Lyndsy in an attempt to warn her.

Seeing the look on her face, Lyndsy comprehended her meaning. She smiled and said softly, "Don't worry. I want to reconcile with you."

'Reconcile with me?' It must be humorous. Patricia was fully aware of Lyndsy's personality. How could she possibly wish to make amends with her? Lyndsy always wished Patricia could vanish from this world so that she could have Zac as her own.

"I don't believe there's a need for reconciliation," Patricia said in an annoyed tone.

How could they resurface in front of everyone as a loving family when everyone was aware of what had transpired between them?

However, she could not consider herself to be enemies with Lyndsy either. They were total strangers who knew each other.

"I have the same opinion." With a small grin, Lyndsy seemed to be joking with Patricia just now.

Patricia's anger caused her to gaze at Lyndsy.

"In this scenario, it is unnecessary for us to continue talking." As soon as she completed her speech, Patricia turned around and prepared to go. She was done with Lyndsy's teasing.

However, Lyndsy had no intention of letting her go. She obstructed Patricia's path and said, "Why are you leaving so quickly?"

As she talked, she lifted her chin slightly and seemed really smug.

Patricia scowled at seeing the look on her face and took a long breath in an attempt to calm herself. She wanted to avoid falling into Lyndsy's trap. "There is nothing to discuss, Lyndsy. I don't want to waste time."

"I do not consider this a waste of time," Lyndsy tossed her hair and said with a bewitching grin. "I had no desire to come to you. But I believe you are also aware that you are the only one who can assist me at this time." Arrogance was apparent in her tone.

Patricia was alarmed by the look on her face, notwithstanding her assertion.

When Patricia heard this, she could not help but smirk. Lyndsy requested a favor, but she seemed to be a debt collector.

If someone else overheard Lyndsy's words, he would certainly turn around and disregard her. But not Patricia. She wanted to determine just what Lyndsy desired from her.

"So?" Patricia recovered her calm and waited for her response.

"So, I hope you can tell Zac to get me a job," Lyndsy replied with her eyebrows raised.

Patricia now understood what Lyndsy wanted.

It was evident that Lyndsy had not changed at all; she still believed she was a noble woman.

Patricia exhaled and shook her head. "I can't help you with this. You are responsible for your own career." She had nothing else to say.

After all, Patricia was aware of Lyndsy's character and knew that the latter would never change.

She only wished Lyndsy might learn from her errors and mature.

However, Lyndsy never thought so. According to her, Patricia was the reason why she had lost everything. Without Patricia, she would never have ended up like this/

Because of Patricia, Zac purchased the Sampson family's company and caused them to go bankrupt, bringing Lyndsy to this point.

In Lyndsy's eyes, she was not inferior to Patricia in any way, but Zac preferred Patricia.

Lyndsy could not possibly live with it. Moreover, she had endured several complaints in the workplace. The animosity ultimately led her to believe that Patricia was to blame for everything.

Patricia was unaware of what Lyndsy was thinking. She knew that Lyndsy had not yet accepted the truth that she was no longer a noble lady.

"I have spoken all I needed to say. You will have to make a living yourself. If you still refuse to accept reality, you will be..." Patricia paused. She had nothing else to say.

[Chapter 712 Sneak Attack](#)

When Lyndsy looked into Patricia's eyes, she could not help but smirk. She glared at Patricia with hostility and said, "Patricia, stop putting on a show! Do you honestly believe that I have no idea what is on your mind?"

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on your mind?"

Patricia grimaced and felt irritated upon hearing this.

Even to the present, Lyndsy remained the same. She had absolutely no intention of repentance. Was this all that she would ever be?

In all honesty, Lyndsy was not someone that Patricia liked. She had thought that after all that had taken place, Lyndsy would mature a little bit. However, she was mistaken. Lyndsy didn't seem to have changed in the slightest.

"In this case, there is no need for us to continue talking," Patricia said in an indifferent tone. It seemed that it was impossible for Lyndsy to mature.

As soon as she finished speaking, Patricia turned back, unwilling to spend any more time with Lyndsy.

Lyndsy abruptly grasped Patricia's neck from behind and whispered to her in a threatening tone, "You think you can leave in this condition? No. I have a task here." There was a frosty grin on her face.

When Patricia heard this, she grimaced. When she was ready to speak, Lyndsy pulled out a knife and pressed it against her throat.

Patricia pursed her lips and was at a loss for words as she felt the chill on her neck. She felt anxious and frightened.

It seemed that Lyndsy would not depart until she obtained the purpose of her visit. Furthermore, her remarks suggested something.

"Did Anika pay you to do this?" Patricia inquired with bewilderment. She believed her guess was likely accurate, but she could not be certain.

Lyndsy could not help but smirk upon hearing this as if she had just heard a great joke.

"Pay me? Do you believe that's the only option? I want to do this for her," Lyndsy said in a quiet voice while clenching her teeth.

Lyndsy was telling the truth. She believed that only Anika could help her get what she desired.

Since her family went bankrupt, Lyndsy yearned for money, and Anika convinced her with a few words. She had promised Anika that she would assist her in eliminating Patricia.

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"Anike has granted my request. It is my time to repay her," Lyndsy said.

Petricie pursed her lips and groaned hopelessly upon hearing this. She believed Lyndsy was too dumb to realize she had become Anike's puppet.

"Lyndsy, do not be so foolish. Anike is only exploiting you." Petricie attempted to persuade her, thinking that Lyndsy would comprehend the situation.

However, Lyndsy had no appreciation for it. She believed that Anike was the only one who could assist her.

"Exploiting me? I am willing for her to utilize me. At least she granted my request." Lyndsy moved the knife closer to Petricie's neck with a smug look.

Petricie scowled and swallowed unconsciously. She could not do or say anything to annoy Lyndsy at this moment.

"What the heck do you want, Lyndsy?" Petricie asked. She seemed composed on the surface, but she was really terrified.

None of Zec's men, who were guarding the house at the time, came to her rescue. Petricie suddenly found herself alone with Lyndsy. She assumed that something must have occurred for Lyndsy to be so crazy as to hold the knife to her neck.

Seeing the look on Petricie's face, Lyndsy could not help but smirk and whisper, "Petricie, no one will come to your rescue." Her statements seemed to indicate something.

"What do you mean?" Petricie scowled and regarded her with confusion. She was unaware of what Lyndsy meant.

"What do I mean? I know you understand what I mean." Lyndsy smiled coldly and whispered in her ear, "Zec's guys aren't here. No one can help you now."

Petricie seemed unruffled upon hearing this. She seemed to have anticipated it.

Zec's men would not have departed if nothing had occurred. But what precisely happened?

Upon seeing Petricie's look, Lyndsy smiled wryly. She muttered, "Have you discovered anything emiss? For example, Giselle..."

Upon hearing Giselle's name, Patricia was startled and terrified.

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What just did she say? Her mom? What happened to her mother?

Patricia felt instant terror and was furious at the same moment. She said with furrowed brows, "What are you implying? What happened to my mom?"

"Are you not aware? Anika has instructed someone to add something to Giselle's meal. But do not fret. It won't threaten her life. She will be hospitalized for a limited time only," Lyndsy said in a casual tone. However, Patricia was more terrified than ever after hearing that.

In order to harm Patricia, Anika even went far as hurt her mother.

Patricia felt dejected and anxious and was at a loss for words. Her eyes were filled with rage. Hatred was the only thing she felt for Anika.

She didn't care what Anika did to her, but she would never let her harm the people she cared about.

"Anika!" Patricia muttered indignantly, desiring to rip Anika to shreds.

Seeing her look, Lyndsy could not help but smirk.

"Why do you look like that? Have you lost your temper? I like it when you are irritable," Lyndsy whispered in Patricia's ear with a cruel smirk. "There's something that will make you even furious."

Patricia felt a shiver down her spine upon hearing this. Was there anything that was even worse?

"You..."

Before she could utter a word, she felt the blade approaching her flesh. If Lyndsy exerted a little more force, her neck would bleed.

Patricia closed her lips. She couldn't act on instinct. If anything were to happen to her, Zac wouldn't be able to bear it.

Moreover, she did not know how Giselle was now doing.

Patricia took a deep breath and calmed herself after a period of contemplation, attempting to subdue the wrath in her chest.

In Lyndsy's eyes, Patricia was just pretending to be calm. With a cruel smirk on her face, she murmured

with scorn, "Patricia, continue to pretend. Later, you won't be so composed." As soon as she completed her sentence, Lyndsy could not help but laugh hysterically.

[Chapter 713 Irrational Zac](#)

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If Patricia said something wrong that angered Lyndsy even more, the latter would probably end up killing her.

Patricia thought for a while and decided to stay silent to see what Lyndsy would do.

After a while, a black car stopped at the back gate to the garden. Lyndsy pulled Patricia out and pushed her into the car, climbing in after her.

Lyndsy promptly blindfolded Patricia as soon as the door closed. Patricia couldn't remember the route even if she wanted to.

"I didn't expect you to be so calm," Lyndsy said sardonically, a mocking smile on her lips.

Patricia didn't answer her. She looked calm and relaxed because she knew that she needed to be calm. Panicking wouldn't help her.

Even though she told herself this, she was still worried as she felt helpless, given her current situation.

Lyndsy worked for Anika, and Patricia was half sure that she was taking her to Anika.

Did Nicholas know that she was caught?

She didn't even want to think of what would happen if Zac learnt the news.

The sudden thought brought Patricia to worry about Zac. She didn't know what he would do if he learned of her kidnapping.

Would he lose his temper or lose his mind and want to get even with Anika?

Patricia didn't know it then, but her guess was right. When Nicholas reported the news of Patricia's disappearance to Zac, his face paled, as if someone had sucked his soul from his body.

Nicholas noticed Zac's expression and said, his voice low, "Boss, please calm down. Patricia..."

Before Nicholas could say anything else, Zac stood up quickly, determination written large on his face.

"I have to find Patricia myself," he said. Zac looked anxious, as if his heart was about to jump out of his chest at the worry he felt for Patricia's safety.

Nicholas immediately stepped forward to stop him. He swallowed as he said seriously, "Boss, you have to calm down. This is going to be a crucial period. You, of all people, should know that Anika has a lot of tricks up her sleeve."

Although he didn't know where exactly Patricia was, he suspected that she was probably under Anika's control.

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His intuition told him that Patricia must be under Anika's control right now. He must negotiate with Anika and save Patricia.

Zac realized that and so did Nicholas. But Nicholas also knew that given the situation, Zac was not allowed to do such a thing.

It wouldn't be easy for them to turn this in their favor. If Zac were to really negotiate with Anika at this time, all of their previous efforts would be wasted.

No, he couldn't let this happen.

"Boss, I'm sorry for what I am going to do to you, but I hope you will understand me," Nicholas murmured from behind Zac.

Before Zac could react, Nicholas raised his hand and struck a blow to the back of Zac's neck.

Normally, Zac would have been hyper-aware and dodged the blow or even lunge in attack of his own.

But since all of his attention was focused on Patricia, he didn't notice Nicholas moving on him. Before he knew it, Nicholas had hit him and he had passed out.

Nicholas watched Zac's unconscious form for a long minute. Just as he made to speak, Kereem's gentle voice reached his ears.

"You did e good job, Nicholes."

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If Zec couldn't celm down, it could only spell trouble for them.

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"You did a good job, Nicholas."

Nicholas' head snapped up and a helpless smile took its place on his lips as he looked towards the door. "I had no other choice," he muttered.

"That's what we needed to do now. If you let Zac mess around, our plan would fail, and Patricia and his future would be ruined," Kareem said sardonically, but he was telling the truth.

Zac and Anika's relationship was still protected by the law and if Zac were to do anything inappropriate, Anika might sue him and reap the benefits from it.

Nicholas didn't know if Zac had thought of this, but Kareem seemed to have.

What was more, Anika had been targeting Patricia of late. It was obvious that she knew that Patricia was Zac's Achilles' heel. He would be beyond anxious if something were to happen to Patricia.

If Zac couldn't calm down, it could only spell trouble for them.

"How can I calm down when Patricia is in danger?" Zac roared, grabbing Nicholas' arm and shaking him.

"You're right." Nicholas sighed, lowering his head, not knowing what else to say. All he knew was that he didn't want Zac to act recklessly.

And Kareem was apparently with him.

But Zac was someone who looked stoic and emotionless but hid his feelings well. And once he became determined about something, no one could stop him.

Just like his love for Patricia. If something happened to her, Zac would probably tear Anika into pieces.

"That's all we can do about it." Kareem sighed helplessly.

Nicholas nodded, silently agreeing with him. They looked at Zac and sighed at the same time.

All they hoped for was for Zac and Patricia to be together, but they knew that the road that led to that happily-ever-after would be difficult.

Kareem frowned at the thought of Anika's tactics. He said, "We don't know how Patricia is now. I hope she is fine."

"I've sent people to look for her. Someone saw a black car parking in the Lowell family's backyard. Also, someone saw Lyndsy going to see Patricia," Nicholas said, his tone depressed.

A bulb seemed to go off in Kareem's head at this. He looked at Nicholas and said, "Did Lyndsy really go to see Patricia?"

"Yes, our men saw her," Nicholas said calmly.

Kareem couldn't help but smile at this. He looked very happy, as if he had come up with a great idea.

"Mr. Reynolds?" Nicholas frowned, eyeing Kareem with suspicion and confusion. He seemed to see something in Kareem's eyes.

Kareem raised his eyebrows at Nicholas and said, "I have an idea. I can find Patricia."

Nicholas became excited at this. His eyes widened as he looked at Kareem. "Really? How confident are you?"

Kareem smiled but didn't say anything. He couldn't, because it was hard for him to figure that out. Their top priority at the moment was to find Patricia.

Nicholas' worry half-disappeared at the look on Kareem's face. He wordlessly handed over the task of ensuring Patricia's safety to Kareem, hoping that Kareem would find Patricia as soon as possible.

Nicholas had another worry on his mind. What should he do when Zac woke up? Given Zac's character, he would be furious and then, nobody would be able to stop him from looking for Anika.

[Chapter 714 I Won't Let You Succeed](#)

Patricia had no idea where she was now. Her eyes were blindfolded, so she could only rely on her ears to help her identify her surroundings.

After sending her out of the car, Lyndsy left without saying a word.

After that, Patricia was made to walk for a long time, making it difficult for her to keep track of the path she was taking.

"Is anyone here? Please, if anyone's here, help me!" Patricia shouted out loud. But the harsh shrill of her voice only made the room seem quieter. The only other sound Patricia could hear was from the wind blowing in. Even the sound of footsteps just now had faded away completely.

All of a sudden, a deafening silence enveloped the surroundings.

In the absence of noise, Patricia felt like she could clearly hear her racing heartbeat. Fear overtook her as she struggled to anticipate any oncoming danger.

In the end, realizing that panicking now was useless, Patricia took a deep breath and tried to calm herself down.

If Anika wanted to hurt her, she would have done it right away. But she didn't.

Why did Anika leave her alone in this place?

Did Anika want to keep her hostage to blackmail Zac?

Thinking of this, Patricia swallowed nervously. If that was indeed Anika's plan, then she would easily achieve her goal.

It had been a long time since Patricia went missing. With Nicholas' ability, he should have been able to find her by now. The fact that he hadn't could only mean that Anika had hidden her in a place that was difficult to discover.

"Anika, what do you want?" Patricia murmured softly, her heart weighed down with worry.

She didn't know how Zac was doing now. He hadn't contacted her for three days, and only asked Nicholas to bring her a message. But now...

When Patricia thought of that, a touch of melancholy flashed through her heart.

She wondered what Zac was doing now. Would he try to get even with Anika for this? The mere thought of Zac losing his calm over this matter drove Patricia to depression. She was about to heave a sigh when the door was opened.

Without thinking, Patricia shot to her feet, as if preparing to defend herself against a predator.

She didn't know who was coming. At first, all she could hear was light footsteps, but as they approached closer, the sound of high-heeled shoes clicking against the floor grew distinct.

Patricia had no idea where she was now. Her eyes were blindfolded, so she could only rely on her ears to help her identify her surroundings.

It was at that moment that Patricia knew that the person approaching her was none other than Anika.

"Patricia, what do you think of the treatment?" Anika's voice came, filled with complacency.

A faint smile colored Patricia's lips, and she raised her chin slightly, not taking Anika seriously at all.

"So this is how you entertain your guests," Patricia sneered. Even though she didn't know what was going on in Anika's mind, she still remained cold and confident.

Seeing the expression on Patricia's face, Anika was furious. She glared at Patricia and pinched the latter's chin with her slender fingers.

"My, my, you are so eloquent," Anika spat with an icy laugh.

Patricia's face turned red with anger, but she refused to lose her cool first. Instead, she replied coolly, "I'm flattered, but I could say the same for you."

The two women had a similar personality after all, so Anika didn't have the right to ridicule Patricia.

Hearing Patricia's words, Anika sniggered and shoved her away.

With her eyes covered, Patricia didn't anticipate the push at all, causing her to lose her balance and fall to the floor face-first. Dust flew into her nose and mouth.

With a few coughs, Patricia quickly spat out what was in her mouth. She couldn't help biting her lower lip in distress.

It was only then that Patricia realized how much trouble she was in. Now that she was kidnapped by Anika, she had no right to speak at all, let alone provoke Anika like she had just done. This time, Anika had only shoved her to the floor, but who knew what she would do next?

Thinking of that, Patricia kept her lips pursed. She tried to dust herself off as much as she could, lifting her shoulder to clean her face. Then, she took a deep breath and sat quietly on the floor.

Seeing how calm Patricia looked, Anika slowly squatted down and patted her on the cheek. She asked in a meaningful voice, "How do you feel? Does the dust taste good?"

Patricia just looked ahead with a faint smile on her face, as if she hadn't heard Anika's words at all.

Anika's nostrils flared up in anger. She patted Patricia on the cheek again, but this time with more force. Her beautiful face was twisted with malice.

"Patricia, do you think I won't punish you if you refuse to answer me?" As soon as Anika finished her words, she unexpectedly grabbed Patricia's hair and yanked it.

In an instant, Patricia felt as if her scalp would be torn off. The sharp pain made tears spring to her eyes, but she bit her lower lip tightly and held them back.

"Anika, don't go too far," she roared, clenching her jaw.

Hearing this, Anika began laughing wildly, as if she had heard a big joke. "I'm going too far? I'm only just getting started. Do you want me to ramp up the punishment?" Anika whispered in Patricia's ear.

Anika's breath was warm, but it made Patricia shiver with fear.

Her body began trembling uncontrollably. All of a sudden, Patricia understood one thing clearly—Anika was capable of even killing her now, if she wanted to.

With one wrong word, Patricia could put herself in irrevocable danger.

In order to protect herself, Patricia kept silent, but Anika didn't give her that privilege. She looked at Patricia fiercely and said in a low voice, "Patricia, do you want to know what my plan is?"

For a moment, Patricia was stunned. Regardless of the situation, her ears pricked up with curiosity.

"Actually, it's very simple. As long as I have you in my hands, Zac will never hurt me," Anika whispered slowly, as if she was implying something.

Patricia froze like a deer caught in headlights, and her heart plummeted to her stomach.

What Anika said was right. Zac would never do anything to her as long as she had Patricia in her hands.

From what Patricia had seen so far, she guessed that Zac would try negotiating with Anika.

Thinking of that, she couldn't help but lower her head in dejection. It all seemed to be her fault.

There was no doubt that Anika had gotten a trump card which she could make use of to torture Zac.

"Anika, you're the most despicable person I've met. I won't let you succeed!" Patricia raised her head and growled, with pure hatred written all over face.

[Chapter 715 Get Some Clues From Lyndsy](#)

The words said by Patricia were brimming with resolve. She wouldn't let Anika use her as a weapon against Zac.

Patricia had already made up her mind that she would not, under any circumstances, let Anika put Zac in danger, even if it meant going to extraordinary lengths.

Anika seemed unperturbed and at ease upon seeing that. She couldn't help but snicker and murmured, "What's the matter? Do you still think that threatening me will work? You have no choice but to acknowledge the fact that, at this point, you are no different from a piece of meat being placed on a chopping board. No one can stop me from doing what I want to you." As soon as Anika had done speaking, she reached out and patted Patricia on the cheek while maintaining a relaxed expression.

After hearing this, Patricia clenched her teeth and faced Anika's direction. Even though her eyes were covered, she would still be able to determine where Anika was.

"Despite everything, I'm not going to give you a chance." Patricia seemed quite adamant about every word that she spoke. It didn't seem like she was kidding at all.

At this point, Patricia's mind was made up. If Anika were to do anything to her, she would certainly retaliate. Patricia wouldn't show mercy to her.

Anika couldn't help but let out a giggle. Her enchanting grin betrayed a dark undercurrent of malice and enmity toward Patricia.

"Do you honestly believe that you stand a chance? Let me tell you, Patricia. You need to simply relax and wait for me to tell you the good news." Anika gave Patricia a gentle pat on the cheek while smiling at her.

Before Patricia could speak, Anika stood up, shoved Patricia onto the couch, turned around, and departed without a word. Then, she faced her men and commanded, "During this time, you are responsible for Patricia's well-being. You must prepare the dishes in accordance with her specifications."

As soon as she completed her speech, Anika smiled thoughtfully and walked away in high heels.

Patricia could not be more enraged upon hearing this. She fiercely bit her lower lip, and her heart was filled with rage.

Patricia understood Anika's meaning precisely. Anika kept her as a pet while waiting for the right moment to attack Zac.

Patricia was concerned when she thought of Zac. She had no idea what was happening with Zac at the moment. Would he create a scene?

Zac did not cause a stir. Instead, he regarded Nicholas with ruthlessness. He was furious, but he couldn't do anything.

The words said by Patricia were brimming with resolve. She wouldn't let Anika use her as a weapon against Zac.

Zac understood Nicholas knocked him out for his own good and for the company's benefit.

When Zac awoke and saw he was still in his office, he was furious and intended to kick Nicholas out.

Fortunately, he was able to think properly when he attacked, allowing Nicholas to escape the horrific assault.

Then, sitting alone on the chair, Zac started to reflect.

Zac understood it was Anika's plot, but he couldn't resist falling into her trap since he didn't want

Patricia to be wounded by Anika.

Now, though, it seemed that he must abandon this thought, and Patricia would inevitably get hurt in Anika's hands.

Zac swore he would make Anika endure the torture twice as much.

A flicker of malice crossed Zac's ice-cold features. Then, with thin lips pursed, he thought of how to deal with Anika.

Nicholas was a bit concerned as he saw Zac's darker face from a distance. He feared that Zac might do something unexpected.

Since he had worked under Zac for so long, Nicholas had a strong understanding of his character. Whenever Zac had such a look, it meant he was enraged and someone would be in big trouble.

"Boss..." Nicholas murmured in a shaky voice. Despite knowing that opening his mouth would make Zac unhappy, he was forced to bite the bullet.

"Nicholas, you need not worry. Now I'm quite relaxed," Zac said casually.

Nicholas couldn't help but swallow upon hearing this. Even if Zac claimed this, he didn't believe it.

In Nicholas' eyes, Zac did not seem relaxed at all. Would Zac still have such a scary expression if he were calm?

"Boss, don't lie to me. I understand your thoughts." Nicholas pursed his lips in frustration. Although his words were unpleasant to hear, they were accurate.

When he heard this, Zac could not help but frown. He carefully regarded Nicholas, cleared his throat, and murmured, "What are you implying? Do you want me to deal with Anika immediately?"

Nicholas continued shaking his head to express his disapproval. If this were the case, then they would fall into Anika's trap.

Nicholas was now quite concerned about Zac.

"There's no need for you guys to fight. Now, Zac is really calm, but he has no idea what to do." At the door, Kareem regarded Zac and Nicholas with furrowed eyebrows.

Zac pursed his lips and asked Kareem, "Don't you think you showed up at the wrong time?"

"It does not matter. What matters is that we must locate Patricia immediately," Kareem said in a casual voice.

Hearing this, Zac and Nicholas got concerned immediately. They gazed intently at Kareem with a hint of anticipation, hoping to hear something from him.

They dispatched people to search for Patricia, but there was no trace of her. Because of this, Zac got so furious and unreasonable.

If he knew where Patricia was and was certain she was safe, Zac would feel less concerned. However, he didn't know where Patricia was at this moment.

Because of this, Zac was really nervous and concerned.

Upon seeing this, Kareem lifted his eyebrows and smiled. "I have my own way. You just need to wait for my news." After finishing his sentence, Kareem lifted his eyebrows and grinned. Then, he abruptly turned around and went, leaving no time for Zac to respond.

"Are you trusting Kareem to find her?" Zac looked at Nicholas with suspicion.

Nicholas just shrugged. He didn't know whether what Kareem claimed was real, but based on the confident expression on Kareem's face, he believed he would be able to handle the situation.

This was also what Zac believed. It was evident from Kareem's expression that he was confident and that Patricia could be located.

At this moment, Kareem entered a rather renowned bar. Under the neon light, several young women strolled back and forth.

Some girls on stage did their best to contort their bodies to capture the attention of the guys.

Kareem ignored them. What caught his attention was Lyndsy, who was drinking with an attractive guy.

Lyndsy was a beautiful girl. As long as she dressed well, she would be appealing and gorgeous. Her curling, purplish-red hair added a great deal of allure, and her every motion and grin gave a hint of maturity.

"Let's share a drink together. I'm in a terrific mood today. It's my treat," Lyndsy said.

The two men and three ladies in the box were ecstatic upon hearing this. They all lifted their glasses and said that they would not return until they were intoxicated, and someone even complimented her.

These were the words that Lyndsy enjoyed hearing. She could not resist patting her chest and said in a generous voice, "Okay, you may now begin working for me. I pledge not to treat you poorly." Lyndsy placed her arm over the woman's shoulder and was really pleased by what she had just said.

Chapter 716 Lyndsy's Resentment

When the woman heard this comment, she looked at Kareem, who was sitting not far away from them, and smiled. "Lyndsy, you're so breathtakingly beautiful. There is no man who can resist your charm. Some men must be blind to be this obsessed with Patricia."

The woman's words brought up Lyndsy's resentment.

Lyndsy bit her lower lip and glared at the woman. If she could eat people alive, she would have.

"That's right. They are so blind that they don't realize that I'm a good girl! They all like women like Patricia." Lyndsy was pissed. She rolled her eyes in annoyance.

She harbored this hatred in her heart. Every time this idea crossed her mind, she would be furious.

Her beauty was on a par with Patricia's. Compared to her temperament, Patricia was as cold as an iceberg. So why did these men seem to be charmed with her too much? Lyndsy thought that she was so much better!

But those men were all blind. Zac, Kareem, and Jack—all of them had nothing but Patricia on their mind! They couldn't see the good in Lyndsy at all.

The thought of this made Lyndsy angrily stomp her feet. Of course, she was bitter. She raised her glass and downed it in one go.

"Patricia is such a bitch; a whore! She seduces men in a secret way! These men act like they're immune to her feminine wiles, but they still fall for it!" Lyndsy was visibly enraged. She crossed her arms in defiance when suddenly, she thought of something. She grinned viciously. "Things are different now, though. This bitch will disappear soon."

When the woman heard this, she was taken aback. Still, she was curious and she asked suspiciously, "You sound very confident with yourself. Do you have a plan in mind? You should tell us more."

She looked genuinely curious as she looked at Lyndsy with admiration.

Lyndsy was very satisfied with the woman's expression. She lifted her head arrogantly and glanced at her.

"I met a good person who gave me a hand. Not only did they help me bring down Patricia, but they also gave me a large sum of money to overcome the crisis." Lyndsy seemed to be very grateful when she said all this.

"That person seems very kind. Who is it?"

"It's a secret. I can't tell you."

"Then can you tell us how that person helped you deal with Patricia?"

"Well..." Lyndsy paused and seemed to realize the key point of the topic. She looked at the woman suspiciously.

The woman was neither surprised nor flustered. She simply smiled gently and looked at Lyndsy with curiosity and admiration. "Don't look at me like that, okay? I want to know what will happen to Patricia. Think about it—she is a married woman. How could she possibly hook up with so many men? Her behavior is a disgrace for all women around, don't you think? I honestly abhor such bitches!" When the woman heard this comment, she looked at Kareem, who was sitting not far away from them, and smiled. "Lyndsy, you're so breathtakingly beautiful. There is no man who can resist your charm. Some men must be blind to be this obsessed with Patricia."

The woman scowled as if she and Lyndsy were bound by a common hatred for the enemy.

Seeing the expression on the woman's face, Lyndsy nodded satisfactorily, and all her suspicions went away. She took a sip of beer and continued, "Fine. Since you insist, let me tell you. This is what I plan to do..."

Then, Lyndsy whispered something in the woman's ear with such a malicious grin on her face.

When the woman heard everything, she cried out in surprise. She looked away and glanced at Kareem secretly as if trying to tell him something.

Kareem noticed the gaze. He took a sip of his cocktail and smiled. Then, he asked the waiter to come over and said a few words to him.

When Lyndsy got drunk and left, it was already in the wee hours. The woman assisted her out of the bar.

"I'm not drunk! Get off me!" Lyndsy didn't even look at the women trying to help her. She aggressively pushed her away as she swayed a few steps.

Just when Lyndsy was about to fall, she accidentally bumped into a person. She looked up and arrogantly glared at the person she collided with. Her temper was as hot as ever.

"Watch where you're going asshole!" she cursed.

"Me? You're the one who bumped into me!" Kareem, the person who she bumped into, replied.

"Oh yeah, says who?! When I say you're the one who bumped into me, then you're the one who bumped into me, got it? I am Lyndsy Sampson!" Lyndsy argued unreasonably.

Kareem sneered. He looked down at Lyndsy and shook his head disappointedly.

Lyndsy was such a waste of a good face. After all, she was indeed breathtakingly beautiful. Her beauty was different from Patricia's.

Unfortunately, her attitude was vile. She was petulant, stubborn, and indiscriminate. Even though she was beautiful, no man could possibly love her since she had such a personality.

And even if someone made the mistake of falling in love with her, they would eventually get tired because of her vile demeanor. If she wanted to marry someone rich, she should start acting more agreeable.

When Kareem didn't respond to her, Lyndsy thought he was intimidated so she pushed it further. "What's wrong? Cat got your tongue? Now that you know who I am, you better apologize to me right now!"

Kareem could almost laugh at her self-important and arrogant behavior. He couldn't believe that she would have the audacity to be this uppity even when being at fault.

"Lyndsy Sampson? Is that supposed to intimidate me? Sampson family is bankrupt!" Kareem's voice was modulated, low enough to sound like a threat, but loud enough for Lyndsy to clearly hear despite her inebriated state.

"What the fuck are you talking about, bastard? Sampson family is still as affluent as ever! How can we possibly go bankrupt?" Lyndsy was triggered. She grabbed his arm, and with an angry glare, she said, "Come with me, bastard! I'll take you to the police station!"

Kareem broke free from her grip with one hand and grabbed Lyndsy.

"You should know the truth, Lyndsy. You're no longer rich. Acting all arrogant like this will no longer work for you."

"What the fuck are you talking about? Sampson family is as rich as ever! I have a good life and you have no idea!" Lyndsy sobered up from Kareem's accusations. When she clearly saw his face, she was taken aback. She turned around and quickly ran away.

"Running away is not going to do anything for you," Kareem warned. Lyndsy was just about to say something, but several men suddenly approached her and stopped her.

She turned around and saw Kareem standing behind her with a suspiciously gentle smile.

"See? I told you. It's pointless running away. Just get in the car with me." Kareem looked at her pointedly.

Hearing this, Lyndsy frowned and looked scared. She took a step back and asked, "What do you want,

Kareem?"

"Don't worry. I'm not interested in you. I just want to know where Patricia is."

Lyndsy scoffed when she heard Patricia's name. "If you want to know where she is, then you have to wait until your next life!"

Then, she tried to break free from the men's grip and rush out of the crowd. Unfortunately, she was immediately caught by Kareem's subordinates.

"I beg to differ, Lyndsy. I don't want to wait until my next life. You will tell me now," Kareem said slowly, his tone threatening and dangerous. There was a hint of mischief in his eyes.

Needless to say, Lyndsy understood what he meant.

[Chapter 717 The Search For Patricia](#)

"Did you really think that I would tell you? Don't even dream of it, Kareem!" Lyndsy said angrily as she fixed Kareem with a sharp look.

The moment she saw him, she instantly knew what his purpose was. She would not let him succeed in finding Patricia.

She was planning on leaving Patricia alone in that damned place to suffer in order to vent out her hatred.

Kareem frowned, feeling a little disappointed. He must seem too harmless which was why Lyndsy refused to cooperate with him.

"Don't you know that you're breaking the law by doing this, Lyndsy?" Kareem told her in a serious tone.

Lyndsy rolled her eyes with a scoff. "You think you can scare me with that? If it was against the law, then why would Anika still do that? Do you think that I don't know what goes on inside of your head?" she said in a mocking tone, a cold smile curving her lips.

Kareem stared at her, looking calm and composed. "Do you really think so?" he asked quietly.

Lyndsy felt a slight twinge of guilt at the look in Kareem's eyes.

Although she said that, she knew that she was very different from Anika.

Anika was skilled at covering up the matter and making herself seem like an innocent bystander.

However, it was impossible for Lyndsy to do the same thing. She didn't have that kind of skill or influence. In short, if Anika grew dissatisfied with her, she could very well sell Lyndsy out without warning.

Kareem smiled knowingly as if he knew what was going through Lyndsy's mind. "Oh, I forgot to tell you one thing. Anika isn't a good person. If she wants to sell you out, she is quite capable of doing so. If you don't believe me, then let me show you something."

Kareem made a gesture towards the man in black who was standing next to Lyndsy. At his subtle command, the man took something out of his pocket and showed it to her.

Lyndsy's face instantly turned pale. She snapped her head back towards Kareem with a look of pure disbelief. "Is this true? You're not lying to me, are you?"

Her demeanor suddenly changed. Now, her voice was trembling in fear, and by the look of panic in her eyes, she looked like she didn't know what to do.

Kareem gave her a mysterious smile. "If you don't believe me, you can ask Anika yourself." He then made another gesture towards his subordinate, implying for him to let Lyndsy go.

Although Lyndsy was now freed, she was still frozen in place, her body shaking in fear. Seeing those videos made a mess in her head.

In the videos, Anika looked so crazy, she was like a beast who escaped from hell, especially with that ruthless look on her face.

Lyndsy suddenly remembered what Anika had told her before. If Lyndsy dared betray her, Anika promised her a great suffering that she would never forget, that she would let Lyndsy feel every bit of pain she deserved for the betrayal.

Back then, Lyndsy had carelessly agreed to those terms without hesitation, saying that she would never even think of betraying Anika.

Anika looked terrifying at that time, but Lyndsy didn't take the warning too seriously. She never expected that she would be severely punished if she accidentally did something wrong.

"Are these real?" Lyndsy asked with wide eyes, her face filled with fear. She swallowed heavily, unable to think straight.

Kareem smiled faintly. "It depends on you. If you don't think that Anika is that kind of person, then by all means, continue working with her."

As soon as the words escaped his lips, Kareem turned around and left, leaving Lyndsy no chance to respond.

The fact that Kareem didn't explain more about it scared Lyndsy out of her wits. She chased after him quickly and stood before him, causing him to pause in his tracks. "I can tell you where Patricia is, but on one condition—that you have to ensure my safety in return."

She gripped the hem of Kareem's shirt imploringly.

Kareem nodded. "As long as you tell us the truth, we won't do anything to you," he told her sincerely with no trace of deception in his gaze.

Lyndsy caved in at the honesty in his voice and decided to tell him where Patricia was.

Even though Lyndsy hated Patricia so much, she had to prioritize her own safety first. She couldn't risk her own life just because of Patricia.

It wasn't worth it at all. Lyndsy knew that she had to think twice about letting her emotions take over since her life was at stake right now.

Once Kareem received the location from Lyndsy, he told Zac and Nicholas the information and asked them to look for her instead. He wasn't stupid enough to go to that place himself.

Meanwhile, he would stay with Lyndsy and keep watch over her in case she would play some tricks.

Kareem knew how skilled Lyndsy was. Anika wouldn't have come to her for help otherwise.

After receiving the information from Kareem, Zac and Nicholas were thrilled.

"Is this true? What if Lyndsy is just tricking us?" Zac said, his voice containing a hint of doubt. He feared that he might be falling for a trap that was set up by Anika and Lyndsy. If he acted carelessly right now, he would not only fail to find Patricia, but he would also be kept in the dark once again about her whereabouts.

"I can't guarantee that she told me the truth, which is why I asked you to look for her and verify it. Lyndsy is here with me right now. I'll keep an eye on her and inform you if something strange happens," Kareem said calmly. He was also worried that Lyndsy might have given him false information, but this was the only lead they had for now.

Zac nodded slightly, understanding what Kareem meant. In this current situation, it was better to have some information and clues rather than none at all.

Moreover, it had been two days already. He didn't know how Patricia was doing right now, and it was what Zac was worried about the most.

"All right, we'll be going now," Zac said as he hung up the phone without another word.

Nicholas stepped forward. "Boss, should we move out right now?"

"Yes, but I'll be going alone," Zac said firmly, his eyes flashing in determination.

Nicholas stared at him in surprise. He frowned, searching Zac's face in confusion. "Boss, I don't think this is a good idea. If something happens to you, then..."

"I'll be fine. If you feel so worried, then ask some men to go with me. However, you have to stay here. Someone must be in charge of the overall situation here while I'm gone," Zac ordered.

Nicholas frowned, feeling displeased. The person who needed to be in charge was supposed to be Zac, not him.

Zac didn't have to make a move. He just needed to sit here and wait for the results, but he refused to do so. However, Nicholas could understand why Zac was doing this.

Everyone knew how important Patricia was in Zac's heart. If he couldn't find her in person, he might not be able to sleep until she was found.

Nicholas sighed helplessly, nodding in resignation. He knew that trying to persuade Zac was useless, so he had no choice but to let him go.

[Chapter 718 I'm Here With You](#)

Having obtained Nicholas' permission, Zac gave him a hearty pat on the shoulder and added, "Nicholas, I'll let you take care of this. I'm going to leave right now."

Zac spun around and departed as soon as he finished speaking, giving Nicholas no opportunity to respond.

Nicholas frowned when he saw Zac's back.

The next few days would be difficult for everyone if Patricia was not found soon.

Patricia, on the other hand, was alone on the floor. Despite her best efforts, she couldn't get to sleep. A rush of coldness whipped through her and into her skin. For a long time, her frail body trembled, and she could not drift off to sleep.

She couldn't see anything because her eyes were still veiled. The only sounds she could make out were the soft stomping of feet and the gusting of wind.

It was a chilly night because of the wind. Her body trembled as the wind buffeted it, her lower lip clenched adamantly

Many times she thought of begging for a quilt so she would cover herself up.

But, as soon as she regained her senses, she realized that that was impossible.

Furthermore, Anika's character dictated that she would rather torture her than provide her with a cozy blanket.

Anika assured Patricia before she left yesterday that she would provide her with first-rate food and housing. A few sips of water and some of the most dried-out bread were all she could get, in the end.

In other words, Patricia had made it apparent that Anika would do everything she could to torture her. Due to that nasty woman's treatment, she couldn't imagine a better outcome.

Patricia couldn't help but lean against the sofa to stay warm. Although the sofa was a touch shabby, having a piece of shabby furniture close was soothing. Besides, now was not the time to be picky. This sofa was the only thing that could make her feel warm.

She sat on the couch and her head tucked in between her knees. She was thinking of Zac as she blew her nose from time to time. She had no idea how he was faring.

"I've been here for a day now. Will Zac ever find me?" She couldn't help but bite her lower lip as she spoke to herself. She quickly lost her optimism and became downright dejected.

Zac would have acted sooner rather than later if he had managed to track her down. However, nothing occurred.

It implied that Anika was a cunning con artist. Because she wanted to keep Zac from finding Patricia, she placed her in a secret location.

Patricia's disappointment was rekindled when she thought about it. Zac didn't disappoint her, but the current circumstance was more complicated than she expected.

Patricia had no idea how bad things had gotten between Zac and Anika. However, her intuition told her that things were so bad that Anika lost her position of power. Anika wouldn't have committed such a heinous crime if she hadn't lost her position.

"What are you up to, Zac? Are you concerned about my well-being? Or..."

Patricia's heart sank at the thought of Zac. Her longing for him grew stronger as time passed.

It had been a long time since she last saw Zac. She would be lying if she said she didn't miss him.

She recalled how frightened she was when Zac disappeared for three days without calling. She was so concerned. The thought of what might happen had her heart racing. How could she not miss him in this

situation?

"I miss you so badly. Where are you, Zac? Please help me!" Patricia's voice had a tinge of longing and hope in it.

Anyone could tell by the implication of her words that she really missed Zac, even if her face was obscured.

Someone knocked on the door heavily, and Patricia was startled out of her slumber and woken from her reverie by the loud bang. Her muscles stiffened as she anticipated the worst.

Suddenly, she heard a piercing cry, followed by a growl like that of an animal being killed. She couldn't discern what was going on outside because of the commotion.

Patricia couldn't help but swallow at this point. All of a sudden, she was overcome with a sense of dread.

"Hello? Anyone there? What's going on outside?" The only thing Patricia could do was yell at the door in an effort to find out what was going on, but she got no response.

Screams like those of an animal being slaughtered could be heard again. Someone yelled, "You will not find her!"

Patricia was puzzled when she heard these words, believing they meant or implied something.

Had Zac shown up? Did he come to her aid?

Patricia's face lit up with a pleased expression at the thought. She was at a loss for words. She was giddy with excitement.

Could it be Zac? Was he able to locate her?

"Zac, are you there? Are you outside?" Patricia's voice trembled with eagerness.

No one responded to her, and even the sound of the struggle had faded away.

Patricia's eyes widened slightly in surprise. No words could escape her mouth. She was all ears and paid close attention, suspecting that it might be her delusion.

The absence of any noise outside was audible to her plainly. The screaming and fighting noises that were audible just a moment ago had vanished abruptly. Was it her delusion?

"Hello? Is there anyone out there?" Patricia lowered her voice and gulped. She felt a pang of anxiety in her chest.

She was baffled as to why the noises had suddenly stopped. She was gripped by a panic she had never felt before, and she got a peculiar sensation in her stomach.

"Are there any other people around?" If it were a few days ago, she could expect to hear some impatient responses to her questions.

This time, however, no one responded. Only her query and the wind's reverberations could be heard.

Patricia felt a pang of anxiety. She was at a loss for words. Her pink mouth only opened and closed.

What on earth had happened? Why were there no other people around? She had hoped that someone would be able to answer her.

Patricia could hear her own heartbeat as the room fell silent. The silence was so intense that she could feel her heart pounding in her chest.

Patricia took a few long breaths and bit her lower lip to calm herself down. Because she hadn't heard anyone enter the room, she was confident she would be safe.

An abrupt noise could be heard from the doorway. The door was slammed open with a thud. Patricia unconsciously leaned back and kept her eyes fixed on the source of the noise.

Who was that? What just transpired? Who could respond to her questions?

"Do you work for Anika?" Patricia questioned, her voice trembling as she swallowed.

No one gave her an answer. Patricia was startled by the sound of approaching footsteps. She tried to lean back but couldn't get any farther because she was so near the wall.

"Could you please speak?" Patricia's voice was kind as she spoke. The person's silence and hasty pace made her feel uneasy.

"What do you think I should say?" Patricia heard a familiar voice. She was taken aback. Her mouth was so wide open that she could fit an entire egg in it.

[Chapter 719 I'm Here With You](#)

Was that Zac? Was that really Zac? Was it an illusion?

Patricia was shocked. She swallowed before she asked cautiously, "Is that you, Zac? Am I hearing wrong? Is this an illusion?"

Zac smiled bitterly at this. He squatted down and quickly untied the blindfold from Patricia's eyes.

Her eyebrows bunched, her eyes not used to the light, having been blindfolded for a whole day. She felt

the light dazzle and shimmer as she opened her eyes, squinting. But the pain was so great, she closed her eyes again, feeling them going blind in the intensity of the light.

Zac quickly raised a hand to cover her eyes and said softly, "Keep your eyes closed. You can open them later. It's me. It's really me, not an illusion. I'm really here."

He choked with relief and excitement as he said these words.

Patricia smiled at this. She moved closer to Zac, reaching a hand out to him. She seemed overjoyed, her discomfort forgotten in the face of it.

"I'm very happy that you came. I was so scared, you know? I'm cold and hungry here," Patricia said, her tone aggrieved. Her eyes were still closed as she felt her close proximity with Zac. Her heart was bursting with joy.

She didn't need to be afraid now that Zac was here.

She smiled as she thought this, nestling into Zac's arms, reluctant to part with him.

Zac's eyes darkened at this. He circled her tightly with his arms, wishing to be one with her.

Patricia's words filled Zac's heart with remorse. He wanted to slap himself for all the suffering that she had endured.

Thinking of this, he gave himself a hard slap.

Patricia was startled at the sound. She raised her head, her eyes still closed, trying to gauge where it had come from. She had some idea, though, and she didn't want Zac to do anything of the sort. She wanted to grab his arm to stop him but her closed eyes stopped her.

"Zac, what's the matter with you? Why are you slapping yourself for no reason? I'm fine now, am I not?" Patricia knew why Zac was doing what he did. He would never do it for any other reason.

But now that she was safe and unhurt, she didn't want Zac to carry such a burden or feel sorry for her.

She was fine now. She was just a little cold and hungry.

As she thought this, her stomach grumbled, as if it was telling Zac that she was so hungry, she couldn't stand it anymore.

Zac snickered. He touched her hair and said dotingly, "Are you hungry?"

"I want you to take me to eat something delicious," Patricia demanded, flashing Zac a sweet smile.

"Okay. Tell me what you want to eat. I'll take you to eat anything and everything you want," Zac said, bringing her close to him. He hugged her, burying her in his arms and resting his chin on her head.

"Patricia, do you know how scared I was?" Zac murmured, as if he was speaking to himself. "When I heard that you were missing and I couldn't find you, I went crazy. I didn't know what to do. The only thing I wanted to do was to get even with Anika for having done this to you."

Every word he spoke came from the bottom of his heart.

Patricia nodded at this. She had known that Zac would have reacted that way.

She had been with Zac for a long time, after all.

It was because of this that she had been worried that Zac would do something reckless.

It didn't matter to her if she was injured. She would have felt relieved as long as Zac didn't do anything wrong.

If Anika found anything that she could use to threaten Zac, the whole of Reynolds Group might be in danger. Patricia knew that for a fact.

At any rate, Zac and Anika were still legally married. They were only a married couple by name, but one couldn't deny the legality of their relationship.

If Anika took this as evidence and asked for something against Zac, he might be at a disadvantage even if he wished to fight back.

They had worked so hard for such a long time. Had all of Zac's efforts gone in vain because of her, she would never have forgiven herself. She could not let that happen.

"I know," Patricia said, running a hand over Zac's shoulder. "I know you have me in your heart and I know how much you care about me. But I also know that given the current situation, you can't act rashly. I can't let your efforts go in vain."

The meaning behind her words surprised and moved Zac.

It had never occurred to him that Patricia had considered things more carefully than he had. He tightened his grip around her affectionately. She was so thoughtful, and she loved him so much. He was lucky to have such a good woman love him.

"Patricia, I'm so lucky to have you," Zac said. "I'll be with you all my life. I'll take good care of you for the rest of our life together." He pulled back so that he could look at her, tenderness in his eyes.

Patricia nodded at this, smiling.

She sank into Zac's tenderness again, overjoyed to hear him say the things he was saying.

Zac was not good at expressing himself. He must have thought long and hard before he had spoken those words. And what he had said was his truth.

Due to the fact that she understood Zac very well, Patricia knew what exactly those words meant, coming from him.

"I couldn't agree more," Patricia said, snickering. It was rare for Zac to say something like that. She should take this opportunity to tease him by highlighting her preciousness.

Zac frowned. It was rare for him to bare his soul and say such sentimental words, but Patricia seemed to be unmoved. Instead, she was exhibiting a narcissism that was uncharacteristic of her.

His eyes flashed with displeasure. He muttered unhappily, "Shouldn't you be moved by my words?"

"I'm already moved. I should be narcissistic from now on, given that I'm such a good woman!" Patricia grinned, her eyebrows raised.

Zac met her eyes, glaring angrily at her. But he realized what she was up to and smiled.

"All right, you can be narcissistic for a while," he said indulgently before pulling Patricia back into his arms.

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The minutes flowed without stopping, but neither of the two recognized its constant movement as they held each other. The quiet spell broke with a grumble from Patricia's stomach.

She blushed, embarrassed at the sudden sound. Her lips curved into a small pout before she said softly, "I must really be hungry." As she spoke, Patricia raised her eyebrows at Zac.

He immediately got the message. With a small chuckle, he nodded and said, "Judging from that sound, it would seem so. Come on, I'll take you somewhere with good food."

Patricia instantly perked up at the promise of a delicious meal. She was on her feet the next moment, opening her eyes. Strangely, there was only darkness around her and she couldn't see a thing.

"Zac, did you turn off the light? Why is it so dark?" Her brows furrowed and her fingers clutched at the hem of Zac's shirt.

Patricia almost doubted if she had opened her eyes at all. Blackness engulfed her vision. What made things even more odd was that she could grab Zac precisely even when she couldn't see him.

Zac was dumbfounded for a moment. He stared at Patricia blankly, his mind unable to process the situation in front of him.

"Patricia..." He said her name in disbelief.

At the sound of his voice, Patricia knew instinctively that something was not right. "What's wrong?" she asked Zac, giving him a comforting smile.

Zac put his hand in front of Patricia's face and shook it, but she gave no reaction to his gesture. Her smile remained unchanged, her eyebrows still raised in question.

At that moment, Zac felt a weight sink to his stomach. He took a deep breath, struggling to keep a grip on his senses.

His mind was racing, but he found no words for what was happening right in front of him.

Patricia couldn't see. That much was clear from her lack of response to the movements of his hand just a few seconds ago. Zac felt his chest constrict as his breathing turned heavy. What the hell was happening? He couldn't think of a possible explanation for her spontaneous lack of vision. Just as he wracked his brain for answers, his eyes went to the blindfold in his hand.

Anika. She must have done something with it.

Zac couldn't help but bite his lip. Dread ran cold all over his body as he looked at Patricia. He was a fool. How could he let her suffer like this?

He pulled Patricia into his arms as his heart sank. He didn't know where to begin explaining to her.

Patricia sensed his distress from the tightness of his hold. Zac's entire body was pulled taut even as he held her, as if waiting in defense against something. She grabbed his shirt and raised her head, asking in a low voice, "What is it? Is there something wrong with my eyes?"

At first, she thought she could still see specks of light, but now she was shrouded in total darkness. She had chalked it up as an effect of having been blindfolded for too long, but Zac's actions made her think that it was something much worse.

Her eyes should have adjusted to the light by now.

But she still couldn't make out anything around her. There was only endless darkness.

Patricia felt cold as the realization became increasingly apparent.

She bit her lip to stop it from trembling. Then, she took a deep breath and said what Zac had been dreading to say.

"I'm blind, right? It was Anika. She did something with the blindfold."

Hearing the words from Patricia's lips was much worse than just having them run around in his head. Zac inhaled sharply, anguished at the fact that his silence pushed her to Patricia to say it herself. Her voice was trembling when she spoke. She must have been afraid too, and he just left her to blurt things out on her own.

Zac shook himself back to his senses. It was not the time to wallow in remorse. He needed to figure this out. Turning to Patricia, he nodded and whispered, "Yes, but don't be afraid. I won't let anything happen to you. I'll take care of this, I promise." He embraced her tighter, pulling her closer to his chest like a wordless promise of protection.

Even as his arms wrapped around her in comfort, Zac's insides were churning in distress. He had failed to protect her again. Patricia had already suffered enough, and now she had to go through this.

A sigh escaped him. Zac felt as if his chest was being weighed down by a boulder. If he had just been more careful, this would not have happened.

Patricia read his thoughts perfectly. She frowned, not liking the direction Zac's mind was headed. She cleared her throat, drawing his attention to her. "Stop sighing. I'm fine. As you said, I shouldn't worry, and you shouldn't either. It'll be alright."

She was comforting him even when she was the one in peril. Zac loved her all the more for it, but Patricia was asking for the impossible. No man would be able to stay calm when faced with the knowledge that the woman he loved lost her sight.

Zac thought of everything Patricia had to endure up until now. Silently, he vowed to protect her from anything and anyone who wanted to hurt her.

"Patricia, I swear, I'll find a cure for your eyes. Trust me," Zac declared with determination. It didn't matter what he had to do. He would get Patricia's sight back at whatever cost.

At his earnest resolve, a sweet smile curved on Patricia's lips. She leaned her head on Zac's chest and nodded.

She knew Zac always kept his promises, and she believed him without a doubt.

Carefully, Zac helped Patricia out of the room. Then, after giving instructions to have plenty of delicious food delivered, Zac took Patricia straight to the hospital.

Zac couldn't relax. He watched with worried eyes as the doctor checked Patricia's condition.

When the examination was finished, he immediately pulled the doctor aside. He didn't want Patricia to

hear, in case it was going to be bad news.

"How are her eyes, doctor?" Zac asked, his anxiousness was written all over his face.

"Mr. Reynolds, I just did a preliminary examination. We don't know the specifics yet. But from the initial check-up, the patient's condition may be the result of some drug, or it may have something to do with the nerves in her eyes," the doctor explained in a calm, professional tone.

Zac's hands loosened their grip and dropped to his sides. He hadn't meant to lose his composure. Taking a deep breath, he said, "Money doesn't matter. I'll give you however much you ask for. Just do your best to cure her."

The doctor gave him an awkward smile, not knowing how to respond to his intensity. "I can't promise anything, but I'll do my best," he answered.

After a few more questions, Zac came back to Patricia's side. He didn't want to be away from her for too long. The last thing he wanted was for her to overthink.

"What did the doctor say?" Patricia asked, grabbing Zac's wrist with a slender hand.

Zac opened his mouth to speak, but he couldn't find the words.

He didn't want Patricia to worry. He would do everything in his power to keep her happy and smiling, but her condition was out of his control. Zac hesitated for a few more moments before making up his mind.

"The doctor said that you need a good rest, and that you should cooperate with the treatment." It was a standard response. Zac chose his words carefully, not revealing anything that could trouble Patricia.

She nodded at his answer. A strange feeling came to her at Zac's words, but she pushed it to the back of her mind. Patricia didn't believe that he would lie to her.

"Okay. I'll do as the doctor says." Wanting to dispel the depressing mood, Patricia touched her stomach and smiled. "I'm hungry. Can we eat now?"