Chapter 620 The Second Patrol

A menacing man entered the room at that moment.

Unbeknownst to Julie, her room was rigged with hidden cameras, making any escape attempt futile.

This man was none other than Rennes, who hurried over as soon as he heard that Julie was awake.

When he laid eyes on Julie's frail form, a flicker of obsession crossed his gaze.

Unknown to all, Rennes, the feared leader of the Black Spider with absolute control over the delta region, had abstained from relationships with women for over a decade.

The reason? He could never forget his first love.

This was Rennes's well-guarded secret, one he had never shared. Even if he had, nobody would believe that such a violent man harbored such tender emotions.

The first time he saw Julie at Cannon's place, he thought he saw the woman he had fallen in love with for the first time.

In the days that followed, Rennes found himself increasingly attached to Julie.

"How do you feel? Better?" His voice carried an unusual note of concern.

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Julie looked at this strange man who approached her with such care. She mustered a feeble, unconvincing grin. His demeanor seemed kind, but it only nauseated her.

Noticing her lack of response, Rennes seemed momentarily taken aback. "Don't worry. I'm Rennes Duncan. I mean you no harm. How did you get injured?"

Facing Rennes' probing, Julie didn't engage, and she maintained her resolute resistance.

She was no fool. She sensed that this man might be her only shot at fending off her enemies until rescue arrived.

As she gazed out the window, she thought of Liam, whom she missed desperately. She was certain that Liam would come to save her.

09:12





+90 Points at most

In the delta region, three days later.

The resource team ventured once more into the rare-earth mine.

Aaron, the team leader, began his usual briefing, "Fiona, Javen, you two are on west-side patrol today. I'll cover the east side alone. Keep your spirits high and eyes open!"

Fiona's expression shifted as she responded icily, "May I make a suggestion, Mr. Montgomery?"

Aaron's brow furrowed. "What is it?"

Gesturing toward Liam, Fiona declared, "I'd rather not be paired with him. I'd like to join your group instead. If that's not possible, I'm willing to patrol alone."

While she was speaking, Fiona's gaze remained locked on Liam, filled with disgust.

Annoyed, Aaron retorted, "That's out of the question! Both you and Javen lack experience. Stick to the original plan. That's an order!"

Feeling somewhat defeated, Fiona had no alternative but to comply, maintaining her distance from Liam the entire time.

She wasn't concerned about her safety. Her past encounters indicated the Black Spider wouldn't strike repeatedly.

Liam, meanwhile, stayed alert, scanning their surroundings.

Unlike Fiona, he sensed that members of the Black Spider were planning something for today.

Liam thought that if he were in their shoes, he'd kill Fiona first, followed by an attack on Yusuf, all the while framing him.

The more he pondered, the more convinced Liam became that an attack was imminent against both Fiona and Yusuf.

Yet, their plans were bound to crumble.

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In the hospital, Mehdi stood guard over Yusuf, while Liam was alongside Fiona. All that remained was to unveil Aaron's true identity.





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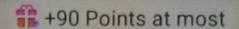
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Chapter 621 The Second Attack

Nightfall arrived once more.

Clouds, heavy and ominous, swallowed the sky, casting the pathway in impenetrable darkness.

Yet this darkness was no impediment to Liam. Patrolling the western route that evening, he was well-prepared for an ambush from the Black Spider.

His mental map of the surroundings remained clear.

Bang!

The quiet of the night was shattered by a gunshot!

Immediately after, a hailstorm of bullets aimed at Fiona erupted.

Liam's reflexes kicked in. He sharply accelerated, veered toward Fiona, and yanked her out of harm's way.

Both tumbled to the ground. Confused, Fiona was about to question Liam when she noticed several armed figures rushing toward them from the shadows.

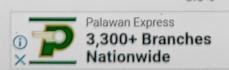
"Stay hidden!" Liam barked.

With a surge of strength, he hurled Fiona into a nearby shelter and turned to counterattack.

Under the dim moonlight, Liam's form darted among the trees like a phantom, agile and evasive.

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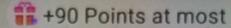
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Gunfire continued to echo, but the bullets seemed to shy away from Liam, not even grazing him.

He did more than just dodge. His own pistol returned fire.

Within seconds, two attackers were down, sowing panic among the remaining assailants. They hadn't anticipated encountering someone so formidable.

In disarray, the attackers sought to flee. As before, they deployed smoke bombs to hinder Liam's pursuit.

The darkness of the night, coupled with the thick smoke, facilitated their retreat. This time, Liam felt no urge to follow. The events of the previous time had taught him a lesson he would never forget.

The events unfolded so quickly that Fiona only snapped to attention after the men had vanished into the night.

Regaining her senses, she was washed over by a wave of humiliation. Without a second thought, she pulled her gun from its holster and pursued them, her shouts filling the air as if expelling her pent-up anxieties and frustrations.

Suddenly, Liam pulled her back with a firm grip.

"Don't go after them. It's pitch black out there. Watch out for traps!"

Fiona's eyes met Liam's, filled with a swirl of conflicting emotions. The irony of being rescued by the one man she had distrusted gnawed at her pride.

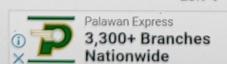
"I've misjudged you before. Thank you for saving me."

Quick to divert the conversation before Liam could dwell on the subject, she interjected, "Those jerks are a menace. I'll catch them sooner or later and give them a taste of their own medicine!"

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Gazing at Fiona, Liam suppressed a chuckle.





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+90 Points at most

He hadn't anticipated that this seemingly icy and distant woman would possess such genuine emotions.

He had to admit, she was a master of disguise. Until this moment, Liam hadn't grasped that her detachment was merely her shield.

Scanning their surroundings, Liam asked, "Fiona, doesn't something seem off to you?"

Caught off guard, Fiona questioned, "Off? What do you mean?"

Liam's brow furrowed. "Haven't you noticed? Every time they attacked, they pinpointed our locations with uncanny accuracy!"

A light bulb went off in Fiona's head.

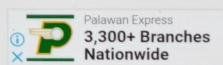
That was exactly the revelation Liam had been aiming for. He had deliberately voiced his suspicion to alert Fiona. If Aaron were indeed a traitor, then Fiona would be the final trigger in exposing his true colors.



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