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Raegan nodded slightly and began to sit up, but Erick quickly offered his support. "Take it easy," he said softly.

Raegan looked up, puzzled by Erick's carefulness. She wasn't that delicate. "What's wrong, Erick?" she asked, massaging her aching temples.

Erick looked hesitant and then met her gaze.

The concern in his expression made Raegan's heart skip, and she asked anxiously, "Erick, what's going on?"

"I need to tell you something, and you might want to brace yourself,"

Erick said as he handed her a medical report, taking a deep breath.

"You're pregnant."

Raegan was shocked. Pregnant... She scanned the report, which suggested she was expecting twins. 's

Raegan recognized each word, but they took on a whole new meaning.

She was pregnant! And with twins!

Due to a condition making conception difficult for her, Raegan had always thought expecting again unlikely. Yet, the report suggested she had conceived before Mitchel's disappearance. Back then, Mitchel had confessed he had replaced the contraceptives with vitamin C since contraceptives were harmful to her condition. Should she get pregnant despite the odds, they collectively decided to bring it to the world.

But given her condition, she brushed it off and decided to let nature take its course.

And now, the news of expecting twins overwhelmed Raegan. She read the report repeatedly, struggling to grasp the reality and unable to pinpoint her feelings.

Noticing her lack of excitement, Erick asked, "Raegan, what's on your mind?"

Erick had sensed some tension between Raegan and Mitchel. Raegan's fainting yesterday likely stemmed from pregnancy-related weaknesses and possibly Mitchel's words.

If it weren't for Mitchel's mother still lying in ICU, Erick would not have held back this long from settling scores with Mitchel. As a son himself, Erick understood how Mitchel felt and chose to swallow his anger for a bit.

Raegan paused for a few moments, her hands sweating. "Erick, I need some time to think."

"Okay, whatever you decide, I'm here for you," Erick reassured her.

Being siblings, Raegan and Erick understood each other well enough without needing to say much. Raegan couldn't quite express what she was feeling. It was a mix of sadness and a glimmer of hope. She was pregnant. What would Mitchel think if he found out?

But then, Raegan remembered his dismissive words. "We? What relationship do we have?"

"Discussing love after divorce seems absurd."

"If there was love, wouldn't we still be together?"

Raegan was left speechless. Her heart felt like it was being pulled harshly, which snapped her out of her daze.

Chapter 1722

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Raegan gripped the fabric of Erick's shirt and whispered, "Erick, please keep this between us until I've made a decision."

Erick nodded. "Alright, I'll take care of it."

With the check-up confirming she was fine, Raegan decided to go home, mainly concerned about Janey.

Once back home, Raegan saw a woman with short hair and square glasses chatting with Janey.

Not recognizing the woman, Raegan asked Annis, "Who is this?"

Annis replied, "She's the new psychologist. The previous one was on a trip, thus the recommendation of this lady. Mr. Erick Foster has checked her credentials and approved. She's good to go."

Janey appeared comfortable, unaffected by the abduction.

After observing the psychologist's session and finding nothing amiss, Raegan felt reassured. This new psychologist's methods were more dynamic and suited Janey better.

After their session, the psychologist expressed an interest in meeting Janey's mother.

Annis then guided the psychologist to the living room.

The psychologist extended her hand to Raegan and introduced herself, "Hello, I'm Miss Carpenter."

"Pleased to meet you, Miss Carpenter," Raegan responded.

Miss Carpenter handed Raegan a handwritten report and said, "Here's an evaluation I've completed for Janey. Please take a look."

Raegan reviewed it carefully.

Miss Carpenter continued, "From the sessions, you can deduce that Janey is much more resilient than you might think. The main issue is that she feels quite isolated. If you think about having more children, now might be a good time to consider it. Janey would really benefit from having a sibling."

After Miss Carpenter departed, Raegan went to Janey's bedroom to check on her. On the bedside

table, there lay a drawing Janey had made.

The picture showed Janey, her parents, and a small fluffy figure, all building a snowman together.

Below, Janey had written "little brother."

Raegan felt a rush of emotion, her nose tingling and twitching uncontrollably. It seemed like Janey always picked up on any changes in her first.

Raegan tucked Janey in, left the room, and walked to the balcony.

Gazing at the neon lights of Ardlens from the hillside, the city had a special allure at night.

Raegan reflected on her recent interaction with Mitchel. She knew him well. Could he really be as cold as his words implied?

Now, with a calmer mind, Raegan wondered what could drive Mitchel, who had prioritized her life over his, to make such a decision and be this cold to her.

After knowing him for years, Raegan understood that Mitchel's decisions were serious and not easily changed.

But Raegan wasn't prepared to quit yet, and she wasn't going to do it without a fight.

Chapter 1723

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She caressed her relatively flat belly, which carried the future of two more lives. For Janey and the unborn twins, she knew she couldn't just give up.

Raegan resolved to seek Mitchel out for another talk.

Raegan visited the hospital twice to see Luciana, but was stopped each time. Only Mitchel was permitted to enter Luciana's ward.

Feeling concerned, Raegan asked Erick to inquire about Luciana's condition, which he reported as comatose, stable, but critical, with a still possible recovery.

Over the following days, Raegan worked hard to clean up the mess in her studio caused by Alexis. For some reason, possibly due to the rumors of Mitchel's return, the clients, who had been difficult before, suddenly became cooperative.

Some even dropped their demands for triple compensation, agreeing to keep waiting without further conditions. Those who had already received triple compensation even returned the money.

Confused about the situation, Raegan opted to meet with a client she vaguely knew to get some clarity. They decided to grab lunch together at a restaurant in the shopping mall.

Raegan was close by and arrived early. As she ascended the stairs, she passed a maternity store, and the beautiful Little clothes in the window caught her eye.

Before she could look closer, two figures emerged from the store.

Mitchel was smartly dressed in a tailored suit, looking distinguished with a tall, upright posture. The woman beside him wore sunglasses, was noticeably pregnant, and carried two light shopping bags from the maternity store.

Clinging to Mitchel, Katie had a beaming smile that exuded a radiant maternal glow.

Raegan blinked as she watched them approaching her, feeling like she was in a surreal moment. It felt like her feet were stuck to the floor and she couldn't move.

At the sight of Raegan, Katie hesitated, then removed her sunglasses and said, "Mitchel, it's Raegan."

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Katie resumed her usual facade of gracious casualness, offering Raegan a friendly smile.

However, to Raegan, that smile appeared boastful and arrogant. A kind of show-off that only the two of them would understand.

Katie casually said, "What a coincidence. Are you out shopping as well?"

It took Raegan a moment to gather her voice. "Quite the coincidence."

While talking, Raegan couldn't take her eyes off Mitchel's sharply defined features. She searched for any sign of the man she knew but was shocked to find him colder and more distant than ever.

Noticing Raegan's unbroken stare at Mitchel, Katie seemed slightly irritated and was about to speak up, but Mitchel interrupted her.

“Let’s go,” Mitchel said.

Katie quickly smoothed her expression and followed Mitchel obediently, arm in arm.

Mitchel began to walk out, but Raegan remained still, not stepping aside to let them pass. She wanted to ask why. Even if there were issues between them, it shouldn’t have allowed Katie to intervene.

Why was Katie, really? Katie was the one who wanted her life but ended up accidentally hurting him.

Chapter 1724

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Though there wasn’t direct proof, it was clear Lauren’s actions were instigated by Katie. And the kidnapping of Janey, Luciana’s injury.

Weren’t they Katie’s doing?

Even Raegan could connect the dots and deduce it. Wouldn’t Mitchel, a man of his intelligence, also figure it out? Or was he aware and simply letting it happen?

Mitchel noticed Raegan wasn’t budging even after a while, so he just bypassed her. His distant behavior made it seem like something contagious was in the air around where Raegan was standing. He seemed eager to widen the distance between him and Raegan.

Mitchel and Katie gradually walked away. Yet, Raegan could still hear Katie’s voice. “Mitchel, they say the seafood stew here is amazing. I really want to give it a try...”

Raegan’s mind was in turmoil, her thoughts a chaotic whirl.

Repeatedly, she reminded herself that Mitchel had his reasons, and she shouldn’t overthink it before the fight had even started.

“Miss Foster,” a woman called out, pulling Raegan back to the present.

It was the client Raegan was meant to meet, who had just happened to run into her right here.

Raegan forced a smile, though it was strained. “Ms. Craig.”

The woman, the head of the media department, was direct and easy for Raegan to talk to.

Noticing Raegan’s ashen complexion, Ms. Craig expressed her concern, “You’re not moving. Are you feeling unwell?”

Raegan hesitated. Even a stranger could tell she looked unwell.

Surely, Mitchel would have noticed. It was hard to believe he hadn’t.

Mitchel was usually so observant. He must have noticed how distressed she looked just now. His decision to disregard it must have been because he didn’t want to express his concern.

Ms. Craig offered, “Maybe we should postpone our meeting? Would you like to visit a hospital first?”

Snapping out of her daze, Raegan smiled weakly. “No, I’m okay. Let’s continue.”

“What should we have for lunch?”

“Seafood stew,” Raegan replied.

They arrived at a popular restaurant, which still had a line. It wasn’t yet the busiest time, so the crowd was manageable.

When they reached the front, the waitress asked what they would like.

Raegan replied, "Seafood stew." She had been eager to try the seafood stew Katie claimed was delicious.

The waitress apologized, "I'm sorry, but we've run out of the seafood stew for today."

Ms. Craig, always enthusiastic and thoughtful, noticed Raegan's disappointment and tried to uplift her spirits. She gestured toward a large pot being delivered to another table. "Do you think those two can finish that entire pot on their own? Maybe we could ask them to share? We'll pay full price."

Chapter 1725

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Ms. Craig would not have made such a suggestion if the dish had not just been served, untouched. Raegan looked over and to her surprise, it was Mitchel and Katie.

She was stunned that he would dine with Katie.

As their eyes met, Katie glanced back. She didn't need to say anything. Her presence next to Mitchel felt like a declaration of triumph.

Raegan felt her heart sink gradually. Only last night, she was whispering self-encouragements to keep fighting. Yet now, not even a full day later, her grip on hope was slipping.

Raegan stopped Ms. Craig with a shake of her head. "Let's not bother them. We can come back another time."

Ms. Craig realized it was somewhat awkward to ask others to share their meal, so she dropped the idea.

They ordered some other dishes instead and began chatting.

Suddenly, a waitress arrived at Raegan's table with a steaming pot of seafood stew and smiled.

"Ladies, this is from the lady over there. Please enjoy. It was portioned out before being served, so it's perfectly hygienic."

Ms. Craig, taken aback, said, "Would you thank the lady for us?"

The waitress nodded and moved away.

Unable to see Katie's face, Ms. Craig turned around and smiled in gratitude.

"People are kind these days, yet we shouldn't accept food from others so freely," Ms. Craig said, nudging the stew aside without wanting to seem dismissive.

Raegan gave the stew a try, spooning a taste into her mouth. The flavors burst, usually a sign of exquisite cooking, but all Raegan tasted was a bitterness. It didn't taste good, not good at all.

Raegan glanced up to see Katie's beaming face, which only added to her irritation.

Ms. Craig mused, "The Dixon Group didn't need to say much, did they? Their actions are broadcasting their position loud and clear."

Confused, Raegan queried, "What did you mean?"

Ms. Craig, munching on some lettuce, responded casually, "I did some digging. Turns out, any company linked with the Dixon Group is hitting snags. Our private investigations reveal it's much like the issues 'Crescent' had at the start."

Raegan leaned in and asked softly, "Could you elaborate?"

Ms. Craig replied, "Actually, the postponed delivery of products from Crescent was no biggie for companies like us because our intent wasn't to make things difficult for Crescent in the first place. We were looking for solutions. Now, it seems the companies that were toughest on Crescent at the start are the ones that are stuck. They're completely immobilized and unable to do a thing."

In a hushed tone, Ms. Craig confided, "The word is the Dixon Group's making amends for Crescent. That's why you're seeing this shift."

Raegan felt a jumble of thoughts and abruptly rose. "Excuse me, I need to make a call."

"Of course," Ms. Craig acknowledged.

Raegan found a secluded spot upstairs to dial Matteo.

## Chapter 1726

"Miss Foster, what's going on?" Matteo usually addressed Raegan more casually, but this formal address hinted at another's influence.

Setting aside her sense of disappointment, Raegan said, "Matteo, I wanted to express my gratitude for the way you handled the repercussions of the recent theft incident in my studio."

Matteo responded quickly, "Miss Foster, I didn't do anything. Are you sure there's not some misunderstanding?"

Raegan pretended to be astonished. "Isn't it you behind it? My brother mentioned it's a Dixon-led move, which calmed my clients down. If it's not you, then who else could it be..." She trailed off, implying a name left unsaid.

Matteo's voice betrayed his anxiety. "It was me, all me. Miss Foster, please, let's keep this between us. I'd be in deep trouble if Mr. Dixon learned of this."

Matteo was adamant about keeping Mitchel's name clear of the issue, fearing any association. After all, Mitchel had instructed so.

Raegan pursed her lips and said, "I understand, Matteo. You know me. Your secret's safe."

Matteo chuckled nervously and replied, "Thank goodness."

After ending the call, Raegan felt one thing was unmistakably clear.

The shift in demeanor in her clients had something to do with the Dixon Group. Her studio hadn't entangled itself financially or legally with the Dixon Group.

There was no other plausible explanation for the Dixon Group's involvement except if Mitchel was behind it. Did he really expect her to believe it was Matteo who had helped her out? As Mitchel's longstanding aide, Matteo could take care of small matters privately, but openly using the Dixon Group's resources for her was not within protocol.

Such an oversight wouldn't be expected from Matteo, nor was it something Raegan would take at face value. The cause of the incident was nearly clear.

As Raegan collected herself, she turned to find Mitchel silently observing her from behind. This unexpected sight made her jump.

Mitchel smirked and asked, "Thinking of jumping down from here?"

Raegan turned her head and noticed the balcony railing was under repair. She had been so absorbed in her phone call that she had missed the warning signs and had wandered into a perilous spot. A single misstep could have sent her plummeting from the mall's sixth floor.

Yet, Mitchel dropped that comment and strolled off as if her safety meant nothing to him.

Raegan refused to accept that notion. "Mitchel." She quickened her pace to catch up with him.

When Mitchel didn't stop, Raegan extended her hand to stop him.

Sensing her movement, Mitchel dodged just in time, causing Raegan nearly lost her balance. She managed to clutch onto a nearby pillar.

Raegan withdrew her hand and, facing his detached look, forced a small smile. "Did you just show concern for me?"

Pointing at the compromised railing, she asked, "Were you worried I might fall?"

Mitchel shot Raegan a derisive look. Before he could part his lips to speak, Raegan placed her hand over his mouth. "Don't speak," she insisted firmly. "I know you still care about me.

With a blank stare, Mitchel asked, "Did you wash your hands?"

Raegan almost lost her cool at his words.

Chapter 1727

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Repulsed, Mitchel made his way to a sink, cupping water to rinse his face.

Raegan trailed after him, calling out, "I'm not giving up. I'll be here waiting until you're ready to talk to me."

Mitchel remained silent.

Raegan's spirits rose as she made her way out. The confusion lingered, but so did the undeniable sense that their love remained unblemished.

Their history was rich and filled with joy, partings, losses, and reunions, mirroring the full spectrum of life. Countless were the moments when Mitchel had put everything on the line for her, even at the risk of his own life.

The depth of their connection, Raegan was convinced, wasn't something that could be simply switched off. Reacting impulsively to his seemingly indifference and abandoning him would be the real act of unkindness. Thus, her willingness to stand and fight for their love was ironclad.

No matter what lay ahead, Raegan was determined to honor their former love and hold onto a life without regrets; that, to her, was paramount.

Descending the stairs, Raegan unsurprisingly encountered Katie, who had been on the lookout for her.

Katie had not known a moment's peace since Mitchel's reappearance.

She had watched Raegan get up and leave, and soon after, Mitchel had excused himself under the pretense of visiting the restroom. The nagging anxiety tempted her to follow them at once, yet she hesitated to take that step.

Since his return, Mitchel had softened toward her, offering promises.

Though it should have been welcome news, a shadow of unease crept in, worried that this perfect illusion would soon fracture.

After a torturous five minutes, Katie's patience snapped, and she ascended to find them. Witnessing Raegan's descent ignited her fury to new heights. Surely, this woman must have lured Mitchel away!

“Raegan.” Katie approached with feigned serenity, closing the distance between them. “Mitchel and I are back together. It’s about time you showed some self-respect and let go of him.”  
“Back together?” Raegan laid bare the truth. “Had you ever truly been together?”

“I...” Words failed Katie amidst her seething. “Isn’t it clear?”  
Katie implied that their joint appearances should leave no doubt they were a couple. Yet, Raegan countered with a chill, “It’s not evident to me. You know, standing next to you, Mitchel seems more like he’s performing an act of charity.”  
To ensure no misunderstanding, Raegan spelled it out. “As if he’s aiding a pregnant woman across the street.”  
“What? What are you implying?” Katie, livid to the point of losing her words, contemplated confronting Mitchel. She decided not to squander her breath on Raegan and hissed a warning, “Watch it. Don’t even think about chasing after him!”  
Raegan stood firm. “Katie, ever wondered why you’re so uneasy?”  
The certainty in Raegan’s gaze gave Katie a moment of unease.  
Before Katie could retort, Raegan replied, “It’s because what you’re holding on to isn’t really yours.”  
“You! Ridiculous!” Katie seethed, convinced that her offer of the seafood stew had somehow tipped the scales in her favor. Still, Raegan’s presence was enough to make her see red, her irritation escaping in a sharp exhale.

Chapter 1728

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“You’re well aware if I’m spouting nonsense or not! Do you actually believe your misdeeds are hidden?” Raegan’s smile was thin. “Just remember, payback isn’t absent. It’s just not time yet.”  
Still shaking with rage as Raegan moved past her with poise, Katie’s temper flared. Her frustration boiling over, she grabbed a nearby potted plant and hoisted it overhead. But as Katie was poised to hurl it at Raegan, someone seized her wrist firmly.  
“Release me!” Accustomed to throwing tantrums at Ardlens with no repercussions, Katie mistook the interference as another person she could intimidate.  
She snapped, “Do you have any idea who I am? Trying to stop me..”  
Her threat cut off mid-sentence as her gaze fell on the limited edition diamond watch clasping her wrist.  
“Mitchel... In a fluster, Katie stammered, “I was just... The plant looked off. I was just about to fix it.”  
Mitchel remained silent, his grip on her wrist unyielding. The pressure from his fingers



increased until a soft crack echoed.

"Ah!" Katie's cry of pain filled the air.

The potted plant tumbled from Katie's grip, crashing onto her foot with a resounding thud.

Instantly, a sharp pain surged up Katie's leg, causing her to break into a sweat and nearly scream in torment.

Yet, Mitchel's icy stare silenced Katie mid-cry. She even pressed her lips together to stifle any sounds that might draw unwanted attention.

With his attire a stark black, Mitchel loomed above her, his expression impassive and imposing.

Overcome with fear, Katie shivered, her words faltering. "Mitch... Mitchel... It was an accident.."

Mitchel descended the steps with an unhurried grace, his fingers delicately holding her hand aloft.

"Katie, you have such soft hands."

His tone was gentle, but his eyes conveyed a stern warning. He was capable of snapping her wrist without effort.

Teeth clacking in terror, Katie hurriedly said, "Mitchel, I was trying to help you."

With a slight lift of his eyebrows, Mitchel kept his silence.

Gathering courage, Katie asserted, "You're planning to distance yourself from that woman, aren't you? I could double your efforts, couldn't I?"

Mitchel's lips twitched into a subtle smile. "Is that stew you sent her part of your strategy to assist me?"

Katie pressed her lips together, her face the picture of distress.

"Yes, Mitchel, she's beyond shameless. I'm the only one who can really help you..."

She was cut off by the soft sound of his laughter. "Katie, you had a choice and you chose. It's on you."

Close enough to see her own anxious face mirrored in Mitchel's eyes, Katie took in his increasingly frosty demeanor.

## Chapter 1729

"It appears I might have to pick someone more compliant," Mitchel said.

"No!" Katie's plea was desperate. "Please, Mitchel, I'll do anything you say. I'll be completely compliant."

"Then remember not to provoke her," Mitchel directed, eyes briefly dropping to Katie's rounded stomach with an unnerving intensity.

"Follow my instructions and the Dixon family will ensure the welfare of your unborn child."

"I understand, Mitchel. I promise I won't do it again." Katie resolved to stop aggravating Mitchel, fearing his further wrath.

Why was Katie so intent on having the Dixon family recognize her child? It was because she had bragged about it for so long. She could not stand the thought of humiliating herself. Regardless of the child's true parentage, if it were accepted into the Dixon family, her efforts would not have been wasted.

In Katie's view, Mitchel's use of her was a partnership from which both benefited.

Why was Katie still unharmed after orchestrating so much? It was because she managed

everything meticulously, leaving no traces behind, including the incidents involving instigating Lauren as well as drugging and harming Luciana. What did it matter if others were suspicious of her? Who had proof that she was responsible?

Even if Luciana regained consciousness now, Katie was sure no evidence could tie her to the event. As long as there was no proof, she remained innocent. No one could bring her to justice.

After Mitchel departed, Katie nonchalantly dusted off her hands and resumed her haughty stance. Yet, as she walked, a sharp pain in her toes nearly made her shout in pain.

In the following two days, Raegan had nearly wrapped up her work.

With Mitchel's return, previously challenging situations were now easily handled.

Soon, Raegan caught wind of Luciana's having woken up. Though Luciana could not yet speak, regaining consciousness was a significant hurdle cleared.

Raegan wished to visit Luciana, but Mitchel had forbidden anyone from doing so.

Raegan chose not to make a fuss over this. Mitchel must have had his reasons for the restriction.

However, since their encounter at the restaurant, Raegan had heard nothing from Mitchel, leading her to believe it was time to act.

Now that Mitchel had made it clear he wanted to keep his distance, he was unlikely to reach out first. Raegan, however, did not wish to remain passive. After all, happiness had to be secured through effort.

Raegan was delighted to receive an invitation to a banquet where Mitchel was scheduled to attend as well.

Raegan intentionally selected a dress featuring lotus leaf accents, with the high-waisted design concealing her true waistline. In truth, her concerns were not needed as she was only in the early stages of pregnancy, and her belly remained flat and unnoticeable.

En route to the destination, Raegan checked the news several times, having developed a keen interest in entertainment news lately.

Although Katie had been associating with Mitchel, the only new detail was that Katie had coerced Luciana into declaring the child she was carrying belonged to the Dixon family.

Raegan was convinced that Mitchel would not develop feelings for Katie. It seemed unlikely for Mitchel to suddenly fall for Katie after a tragedy when there was no love before.

Yet, if Mitchel claimed he had fallen for Katie, for whatever reason, Raegan would have to accept it and move on. She was expecting again and would soon be the mother of another two children. She could not afford to be perceived as the other woman, even if it was all pretense.

As the evening lights flickered dimly outside the window, Raegan clenched her fists, resolved to show Mitchel that she could not only share beautiful moments with him but also endure hardships by his side.

Chapter 1730

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Upon arriving at the venue, Raegan scanned the room but did not spot Mitchel. However, she did recognize several executives from familiar companies.

Raegan held a drink in her hand and each time she toasted, she explained that she could not drink alcohol for health reasons.

Fortunately, these people knew she was a leader, not a salesperson, and they respected her wishes. As time passed, Raegan's feet began to ache. She resisted the urge to sit, continually glancing toward the entrance, hoping to catch a glimpse of Mitchel arriving. But as the night wore on, Mitchel never appeared.

Raegan overheard from conversations that Mitchel had sent a representative instead. This representative was a high-ranking executive from the Dixon Group, sent by Matteo.

When Raegan spotted Matteo, she called out to him and quickly walked over. She got straight to the point and asked, "Matteo, where is Mitchel?"

Caught off guard by her directness, Matteo did not answer immediately.

He simply stated, "He's at the company."

"So, he is available?"

Matteo scratched his head. "Not exactly available. There's a lot to handle at the company."

"He didn't come because he knew I would be here, right?" Raegan pressed.

Matteo's eyes darted for a moment, trying to maintain his professional tone as he replied, "How could that be..."

But Raegan was far from naive. So, Mitchel avoided the event because he knew she would be there? He had gone to great lengths just to avoid her?

Raegan's heart sank, but she contained her discomfort and did not make things difficult for Matteo. "You can go about your business."

Matteo left quickly, clearly relieved.

Too disheartened to stay at the banquet any longer, Raegan returned to her car. Both her heart and feet were sore, and she felt overwhelmed. The more she thought about it, the more determined she became to confront Mitchel today, no matter the consequences. Even if it was overwhelming, she desired the truth.

With that determination, Raegan took action. Before leaving, she instructed her driver to hand her a glass of wine, which she then poured over herself. She also applied some rouge to her cheeks. She crafted the appearance of a disheveled, slightly intoxicated woman.

Upon reaching the Dixon Group Building, Raegan dismissed her driver.

The driver sought confirmation. "Miss, are you sure you don't want me to wait for you?"

"No, I'll get a ride later," Raegan confidently responded and walked into the underground passage, carrying the late-night snacks.

After entering the password, she noticed the exclusive elevator's code remained unchanged.

As the elevator ascended slowly, Raegan felt a surge of nerves, but there was no turning back now. She had to follow through since she had come this far.

The Dixon Group Building was deserted, except for the light still shining in the president's office. Raegan stood outside the door, pondering how to greet them without seeming awkward or distant. She bolstered her courage, then pushed open the door and exclaimed loudly, "Surprise!"

