



### 323: The Confession That Drained His Energy, Breaking Her Down

"Caitlin! Watch out..."

Sebastian noticed the sudden movement and shouted, pulling Caitlin into a run.

"Boom..."

An explosion erupted behind them. Sebastian quickly threw himself over Caitlin, shielding her with his body.

Flames and shockwaves mixed with the smoke, sending a searing heat wave through the air and scattering debris.

When the smoke finally began to clear and the flames diminished, Caitlin slowly opened her eyes.

"Sebastian..."

Hiding in the safety of his arms, Caitlin called out to him, but there was no response.

Caitlin crawled out from under him and found Sebastian unconscious.

She gently propped him up and slapped his face. "Sebastian, wake up... please wake up..."

She called out again and again, but no sign of him stirring. Caitlin was on the brink of panic.

"Sebastian, don't scare me... please wake up..."

Tears flooded her eyes as she held him tightly in her arms. If it hadn't been for him saving her, he wouldn't have been hit by the explosion's



force. He wouldn't have ended up like this.

"Sebastian, you can't leave me, do you hear me?"

His heart was still beating, and he was breathing, but he was unconscious. Caitlin continued to call his name, and finally, he slowly opened his eyes.

"Sebastian..."

As she saw him stir, more tears spilled from her eyes, dripping onto his face.

"Caitlin..."

Sebastian's hand reached up to touch her tear-streaked face. "If I die... what will you do?"

Caitlin tightly grasped his hand, shaking her head through her tears. "Sebastian, you're not going to die. I won't let you die... you can't die without my permission..."

Her words were fierce, but her heart was breaking.

"I don't want to leave you... Caitlin... I still haven't told you... I love you..."

His gaze was soft but intense, as if unwilling to leave her, as if the weight of his feelings was too much to bear.

His confession, weak yet full of sincerity, shattered Caitlin's defenses.

The pain in her heart was unbearable, suffocating her, making it feel like her chest was caving in, and her throat was blocked with emotion.

"I want to... hear you say it too... that you love me..."



Sebastian held her hand tightly, waiting for her words with bated breath.

Caitlin's tears flowed even more freely, but she couldn't speak.

Sebastian suddenly groaned in pain, a look of agony crossing his face. "You don't love me... if I die... forget it..."

He released her hand, tilting his head away as if he had given up.

Caitlin was horrified. "No! Sebastian! I love you... listen to me! I've always loved you... When I drowned at the resort as a child, it was you who saved me. From that moment, you've lived in my heart..."

As Caitlin spoke, Sebastian seemed to snap out of his pain, his face lighting up with sudden realization.

"Caitlin, is what you're saying true?"

He couldn't believe it. She was the little girl he had saved when he was thirteen? She had loved him since then? She had always loved him?

The sudden turn of events stunned Caitlin. As soon as she realized what had happened, she was so angry that she slapped him. "You jerk! You were just messing with me all along..."

Sebastian sat up, catching her hand in his, and placed it against his chest.

"Caitlin, I'm sorry. If I didn't do it this way, how could I know how much I mean to you? Hearing you say all that, do you know how happy I am? I'm so happy! I love you, Caitlin..."

They gazed at each other in silence for a moment, before Sebastian pulled her into an embrace, kissing her deeply.

After this dangerous, chaotic night, they had finally confessed their



feelings to each other, and their hearts were now inseparable.

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The sound of the explosion sent shockwaves through the guests on board. The guests on the top floor were in a panic as soon as they heard the noise.

SY Capital Partners' staff quickly took charge, calming people down, and Zeke, hearing the explosion, hurriedly made his way to the source of the sound.

As he reached the doorway to the hall, he saw Sebastian and Caitlin locked in a passionate kiss.

This sight pierced Zeke's heart.

It felt as though his heart had been sliced in two, and something inside him shattered. It was like watching his most cherished work of art being tainted, making him feel deeply unsettled.

"Caitlin!"

Zeke called out as he walked in.

Caitlin and Sebastian both heard him. Caitlin instinctively pushed Sebastian away, turning her head to see Zeke standing there.

"Zeke!"

Sebastian glanced at Zeke briefly, saying nothing, but his mind was full of frustration. Couldn't he see that he and Caitlin were sharing an intimate moment?

"Are you two alright?"



Zeke's gaze swept over them, then to the scene around them. He saw the devastation caused by the explosion, everything charred and destroyed.

"We're fine."

Caitlin and Sebastian helped each other to their feet just as Felix, Benjamin, and Nolan arrived at the scene.

"Mr. Vanderbilt! Caitlin, are you okay?" Felix rushed in.

"Sebastian, Caitlin, are you alright?" Nolan asked, concerned.

Everyone looked at the destroyed room and the disheveled appearance of the two.

"Felix, there's someone inside, one of Black Hawk's accomplices! He set off the explosion!" Sebastian quickly explained.

Felix immediately rushed inside to investigate.

"Caitlin, let me give you my jacket."

Seeing Caitlin's dress ruined, Zeke took off his coat and tried to drape it over her.

"No, I have a jacket!"

Sebastian looked over at Benjamin, took his own jacket from him, and gently draped it over Caitlin.

His woman, of course, he would care for her himself. There was no need for anyone else to do so!

After making sure Caitlin was covered, Sebastian turned to Zeke with a questioning tone.

"Zeke, everything that happened tonight, you bear an undeniable responsibility.

"The cruise you arranged didn't have basic security measures in place, allowing the assassin and his accomplices to infiltrate and nearly kill Caitlin and me. How are you going to take responsibility for this?"

Zeke nodded in acknowledgment. "I'm sorry. I admit that my oversight led to this disaster. I will make sure to investigate thoroughly!"

"Hmph!" Sebastian snorted. He still couldn't trust Zeke, especially after learning that he was the leader of the Shadow Moon Pavilion. Everything about this situation now seemed suspicious.

Caitlin felt the same. The trust she had once placed in her senior brother was now replaced by a need for caution.

Zeke continued, "Mr. Vanderbilt, for now, please take Caitlin upstairs to the cabin and get cleaned up. I'll have clothes prepared for you. As for everything else, I'll handle it."

"I hope you can handle this properly. People are already saying Caitlin killed someone, and I don't want anyone to say anything that could harm her reputation!"

Sebastian warned as he took Caitlin with him. As they were leaving, Caitlin looked back at Zeke.

"When you've dealt with everything, I need to speak with you alone."

Commented [Ma1]: