

Wrath 1301

Chapter 1301:

Janice inwardly rolled her eyes. Men and their fragile pride.

Maggie and Sierra shared a knowing glance, both easily seeing through Cayson's awkward posturing.

Despite his usual commanding presence, Cayson was completely rattled before Janice, unable to muster his typical sternness.

With Kenneth and Nellie's situation finally settled, Sierra excitedly suggested a trip to the mall since there was still plenty of time left.

"Janice, it's never too early to start nesting and shopping for baby things," Sierra said, tugging Janice along, her face lit up with excitement. "You're pregnant, so you should leave the heavy-duty shopping to Maggie and me."

"Exactly! I'm practically a shopping expert," Maggie piped up, grinning widely.

Watching their antics, Janice burst out laughing. "You two are way too excited. At this rate, people might think it's you two who are pregnant, not me."

"Janice, I'd love to have a baby, but life's just not cooperating," Sierra pouted, her voice carrying a hint of frustration. "I haven't even been in a relationship yet. Who knows if anyone ever will."

"Don't be ridiculous, Sierra." Janice rolled her eyes playfully and tapped her forehead. "You're adorable and come from a great family—anyone would be lucky to have you."

Maggie quickly jumped in, "Exactly, Sierra. It's not that you're lacking; the right one just hasn't shown up yet."

Sierra's face blossomed into a bright smile once again. "Maggie, you're a superstar now! If you meet some handsome guy, you have to introduce him to me!"

"Forget it," Maggie said, wrinkling her nose and waving her hand dismissively. "Most people in this industry are just chasing fame and money; true love's a rare find. Of course, there are exceptions. Take Stephen, for example—handsome, talented, and real—a true diamond in this business."

"Such a shame Stephen already has a wife." Sierra sighed, a touch of regret lacing her words. "If there were more men like him, I'd definitely find the courage to chase after one."

The three of them kept chatting and laughing as they wandered through the mall.

Since Janice and Maggie were public figures, they kept a low profile, hiding behind sunglasses and masks like most celebrities trying to dodge attention.

Yet even with their disguises, their striking beauty and natural grace caught plenty of admiring eyes.

"Janice, do you feel that?" Sierra said suddenly, frowning with concern. "It feels like someone's tailing us."

"Hmm, don't turn around," Janice answered coolly. She had already picked up on the odd, lingering gaze trailing them.

To avoid tipping off the stalker, she acted oblivious, patiently waiting for them to make a mistake. "Let's head outside and see if they stick with us."

"Got it!"

Maggie had also sensed the strange atmosphere.

Watching Janice and Sierra stay so calm, Maggie swallowed hard and forced herself to act casual.

As they neared the mall entrance, a figure suddenly lunged at them. Janice's face darkened. In one swift move, she turned and shoved the two younger women safely behind her.

Chapter 1302:

In the same motion, she lifted her leg and unleashed a fierce kick.

The man clearly hadn't anticipated Janice's lightning-quick reaction. Her kick slammed squarely into his chest without an ounce of hesitation.

With a pained groan, the man coughed up blood and crumpled to the floor.

Janice's eyes narrowed sharply as her hand instinctively pressed against her belly. She had kicked so hard that a faint ache now pulsed through her abdomen.

"Janice!" Sierra and Maggie cried out together, their faces etched with concern. "Are you alright?"

"I'm fine," Janice replied. She moved forward, her eyes locking onto the man sprawled on the floor. "Who are you? Why were you following us?"

The man slowly raised his head, his eyes meeting Janice's. A chilling, unsettling grin spread across his lips.

Without warning, he swung his arm, releasing a fine mist of powder into the air.

The thick cloud of dust took Janice by surprise, and she unintentionally breathed in a large quantity.

She erupted into a fit of harsh coughing. As soon as she inhaled the powder's scent, her face paled in alarm.

She quickly covered her mouth and nose, but the delay allowed the man to make his move and flee.

The man staggered to his feet and sprinted toward the exit. But before he could make it far, Sloane appeared from the side, delivering a swift kick that sent him crashing to the floor.

Sloane's movements were precise and swift, leaving the man no chance to react. In an instant, she towered over him, her dagger's cold edge pressed against his throat.

The scene caused gasps and screams from the crowd. Most people recoiled in fear, but a few onlookers stayed, drawn by curiosity.

"Sloane, find out who's behind this," Janice commanded, her brow furrowed as her coughing worsened. Her condition made Sierra and Maggie quite anxious.

"Janice, we have to get you to the hospital right now. Your health and the baby are too precious to jeopardize," Sierra insisted.

"I'll get the car," Maggie said, hurrying to bring the vehicle around. Seeing their deep concern, Janice couldn't bring herself to decline. She nodded.

After all, she was feeling quite unwell, especially after inhaling the powder. She couldn't help but worry if it might harm her unborn baby. "Sloane, once you bring him back, do whatever it takes to uncover who's behind this."

"Understood," Sloane replied with a nod, then dragged the man off. Moments later, Maggie drove up with the car. Sierra helped Janice into the vehicle, and together, they rushed to the hospital.

As soon as Aiden heard about the attack on Janice at the mall, he rushed to the hospital without hesitation.

"Aiden, please don't worry so much. The doctor has already checked both me and the baby, and we're fine," Janice comforted him as she saw the worry and guilt on his face. "But if you keep looking like that, I might start feeling worse myself."

Aiden paused for a moment, then forced a smile. "Okay, I'll calm down."

“Luckily, Sierra and Maggie were with me; that man didn’t have a chance to do anything worse. Otherwise, things could have turned out much worse,” Janice said with a sigh.

Chapter 1303:

“He was one of Leonidas’ men,” Sloane said, stepping into the room with her usual calm, unreadable expression.

“Leonidas?” Both Janice’s and Aiden’s faces darkened. They had been searching for Leonidas for so long without success, yet he had made his move first.

“That man just won’t leave us alone,” Aiden said through clenched teeth. “He’s failed so many times, why can’t he just give up?” Now Janice was pregnant and unable to handle even the smallest strain. His frustration boiled into something much darker.

Janice shook her head, offering a bitter smile. “He’s an extremist. For him, his obsession is worth everything, even his life. His actions may seem pointless to us, but to him, they’re his reason for living.”

“A madman lost in his own obsessions,” Aiden murmured. Janice turned to Sloane.

“Did that man give up Leonidas’ location?”

“He did,” Sloane responded.

Janice and Aiden shared a look of disbelief.

“Why would that madman willingly give away his location? What’s he planning?” Janice asked aloud, her voice filled with uncertainty.

“Maybe he wants to end this once and for all,” Aiden said, his voice weighed down with tension.

Janice frowned. Could Leonidas really want a final showdown? Given his twisted nature, it didn't seem plausible.

"Aiden, this could be a trap," she cautioned. "He might be trying to bait you so that—"

"Janice!" Aiden cut her off, taking her hands firmly in his. His gaze was unwavering and determined. "You're pregnant now. You can't handle any stress or danger. Whether it's a trap or something else, I have to end this myself. As long as he's out..."

"There, we'll never find peace." Even with his resolute determination, Janice couldn't quell her unease. Worry weighed heavily on her heart.

"I'll make sure I'm completely ready before I leave," Aiden said, softly stroking her cheek. "This is Efrery, my domain. Do you honestly think I'd let him outsmart me here?"

Watching his confidence, Janice sighed. "Okay, but promise me you'll be careful. Don't underestimate him."

"I promise," Aiden said with a firm nod. He stood and turned to Sloane. "Stay here and look after Janice. Also, have Braylen come over. I don't want anything happening to her."

"Understood," Sloane responded.

Janice gazed at Aiden with concern. "If Braylen stays here, what about you?"

Aiden gave her a reassuring smile. "I'll be fine on my own. Besides, I have other people I can count on, aside from Brayden and Sloane." Aiden's determination remained unshakable, but Janice felt an urge to take action. She picked up her phone and dialed Prescott and Costello.

"Janice, the address you gave me earlier is real," Prescott said, her voice tight with tension. "But could this be a trap? Leonidas has gone through all this trouble just to come back to Efrery and challenge us head-on?"

Chapter 1304:

Given Leonidas' usual methods of lurking in the shadows and striking from a distance, this direct confrontation was puzzling.

"Keep an eye on things for me," Janice instructed. "Make sure the information is correct and current. Also, have Costello come back right away. I'm concerned something might happen to Aiden."

"Understood," Prescott responded. "Costello's already en route. He should be in Efrery by tonight."

Upon hearing this, Janice felt a small weight lift from her shoulders.

With Costello's help, Aiden had a better chance of success.

Meanwhile, Leonidas rested in an abandoned villa.

The tranquil environment, alive with the sweet melodies of birds and the scent of blooming flowers, created a stark contrast to the rising tension in other places.

Leaning back on the sofa, Leonidas poured himself a glass of red wine. Beside him sat an empty glass, as if he were expecting someone to join him.

"Here he comes!"

Leonidas slowly opened his eyes, a subtle smile tugging at the edges of his mouth.

Rising to his feet, he turned to the door, watching as Aiden, clad in black, made his way inside.

Aiden's expression was stern, his presence so intense it seemed to freeze the very air in the room.

“Relax, there’s no need for all this tension,” Leonidas remarked, picking up two wine glasses and filling them with rich red wine. “Join me for a drink.”

Aiden halted, keeping a cautious distance from Leonidas.

“What do you want from me?” he asked, his eyes briefly flicking to the wine glass in Leonidas’ hand. “Join you for a drink? Right now, I only want one thing—to end your life.”

“End my life? What’s the rush?” Leonidas responded, his tone casual, as though Aiden’s threat didn’t faze him in the slightest. “Look at this villa—it’s just me. You’ve already set an unbreakable trap, leaving me no escape.”

Aiden fell silent, sensing something off about Leonidas. Though alone, Leonidas had sensed the trap he had placed around the villa. His elite fighters were unmatched, guaranteeing that Leonidas had no way to break free.

Though Leonidas was clever and unpredictable, this time, the odds seemed stacked against him.

Aiden stepped forward, sitting next to Leonidas, and took the wine glass from his hand.

Leonidas chuckled, settling back again. “I’ve revealed myself because I no longer see the point of hiding.”

Aiden absently fiddled with the wine glass, his eyes icy. “Your words don’t sound like you. A madman like you wouldn’t stop, even if it meant our destruction.”

“Well, you really get me.” Leonidas laughed. “But I’m tired. From childhood, I’ve been at odds with Janice, and she always wins. Now, she’s pregnant.”

Aiden’s rage flared at his words. His hand clenched, shattering the wine glass, and he pressed the jagged shard against Leonidas’ throat. “Are you targeting our child?”

"Aiden, calm down. If I wanted your child harmed, would I be alone here?" Leonidas said, his voice steady.

Chapter 1305:

Aiden's hold tightened with unwavering strength, his eyes shining with lethal resolve. If Leonidas hadn't been acting so strange, Aiden would have slashed the blade across his throat without hesitation. Leonidas ignored the shard in Aiden's hand, taking out another wine glass and filling it. "Drink up. It's not poisoned."

With that, he took a slow sip from his glass.

Aiden furrowed his brow in confusion but slowly pulled the shard away from Leonidas' throat.

"Aiden, to be truthful, I love Janice."

"Ha, how ridiculous," Aiden mocked. "You, of all people, claim to love her? If you think this is a joke, I'll put an end to it now."

"No matter how you reject it, in my heart, this is love." Leonidas' face twisted further, becoming more deranged. "I love her so intensely that I want to shatter her, body and soul. But Janice is extraordinary, beyond anything I could ever defeat. No matter how I plan, she always finds a way to outsmart me. In this pursuit, I've always been trailing behind. But now, with her pregnant, she's no longer just herself. Loving her in this way doesn't seem right."

Aiden couldn't make sense of Leonidas' words. Loving someone while trying to destroy them was something he couldn't fathom.

Now that Janice was pregnant, she was not alone. Leonidas' mindset had changed completely, and he felt he could no longer love anyone.

"You truly are insane," Aiden muttered.

“Yes, I am. That’s why I’m here today, to say goodbye.” Leonidas gazed at Aiden, his madness now replaced by a calm, almost serene smile.

“Send my regards to Janice, and wish her and the baby a peaceful, safe life.” With that, Leonidas seized Aiden’s hand and drew it across his own throat.

Aiden still gripped the glass shard, poised to strike, but he never anticipated that Leonidas would welcome death.

A grotesque sound followed.

The shard cut through Leonidas’ throat, and vibrant red blood sprayed across Aiden’s face.

Aiden stood frozen, the warmth of the blood seeping into him, watching the smile on Leonidas’ lips as the latter crumpled to the floor.

Was he dead?

Could it really be that simple?

Aiden struggled to wrap his mind around it.

He had come ready for a brutal fight, but Leonidas had taken his own life after some ramblings.

Aiden exited the villa, his path flanked by silent, ruthless fighters who had now become redundant.

“Leave two men to deal with the body,” Aiden ordered after a brief pause. “Bury him properly.”

Janice had been on edge since Aiden left, her mind racing with worry that danger might find him, especially considering Leonidas’ erratic behavior.

“Don’t worry, Madam. Mr. Green will return safely—I’m sure of it,” Braylen reassured her.

Sloane stood beside him, silent and detached, casually twirling a dagger, her face impassive, betraying no hint of concern.

Chapter 1306:

Perhaps, in her eyes, Aiden was untouchable. No matter how deranged Leonidas had become, he was no match for Aiden.

“Braylen, you don’t understand Leonidas. Every time we think he’s finished, he finds a way to slip through. Now that he’s revealed himself and led us here, this isn’t as simple as it seems,” Janice said.

Braylen furrowed his brow, confident in Aiden’s resilience, but uncertain how to ease Janice’s worries.

“This is too easy, almost too easy.”

Just then, a familiar voice cut through the air.

Janice turned, her eyes lighting up with relief. “Aiden, you’re back!”

“Yes,” Aiden said with a grin, spreading his arms and twirling around. “Back, and not a scratch on me.”

Janice immediately stood and wrapped Aiden in a tight hug. “I’m so glad you’re safe! I’ve been so worried!”

“I told you I’d return unharmed, and here I am, just as I promised. But now that you’re pregnant, you mustn’t stress so much. It’s not healthy for either you or the baby.”

Aiden soothed Janice, easing her worries.

“Something’s not right!” Janice’s brows furrowed as she gazed at Aiden, confusion clouding her face. “How could Leonidas have gotten so weak? You’re completely unscathed—not a scratch on you.”

Aiden let out an amused laugh. “So, me being completely fine is what throws you off?”

“Aiden, what’s really happening?” Janice’s tone shifted to one of concern. She had caught a faint scent of blood on him earlier, and now, seeing him unscathed, she realized the blood must have been Leonidas’.

“Leonidas ended his own life,” Aiden said.

Janice’s eyes shot wide with disbelief. “He did what?”

“He killed himself,” Aiden repeated, his voice heavy with emotion. “I had braced myself for a confrontation, but Leonidas was alone, waiting. He spoke briefly before ending his own life.”

“What did he say to you?” Janice asked.

Aiden paused, torn between telling her the truth or sparing her the details.

He understood that disclosing Leonidas’ warped declaration of love for Janice, his unsettling and bizarre way of showing affection, would only unsettle her more.

“He mentioned being drained and weary of the endless fight. In the end, he decided to bring it all to a close by ending his own life.” Aiden purposefully left out Leonidas’ disturbing love confession, opting for a more general explanation. “I didn’t expect him to go this far. He realized he couldn’t win against you and didn’t want to keep battling, so he chose to end it all this way.”

Janice’s brow furrowed, struggling to accept the idea. No matter how insane Leonidas had been, it didn’t make sense that he would end his life for such a reason.

“Aiden, are you keeping something from me?” Her eyes narrowed, her tone growing more intense.
“From what I know about Leonidas, this wouldn’t be enough to push him to end it all.”

Aiden paused, caught off guard. He’d hoped to shield Janice from the truth, but she wasn’t one to be fooled. She had already figured out there was more to the story.

Chapter 1307:

“You really do understand him,” Aiden said, letting out a long sigh.

“I’ve clashed with him for years, so I know exactly what he’s like. That alone wouldn’t be enough to break his resolve,” she replied.

With no other option, Aiden finally relayed the full story, sparing no detail.

Janice stayed silent for a long moment after hearing everything, but Leonidas’ twisted confession didn’t surprise her in the least.

“Leonidas’ grasp on love has always been unsettlingly skewed. Where most children would cherish the animals they adored, he would hurt them, as though his affection mutated into violence. The deeper his feelings, the more vicious his actions. When we were kids, he bullied Leah, and that was because he found her adorable.”

Janice sighed heavily. “Now that you’ve clarified things, it makes sense. He loved me, but now that I’m pregnant, I’m no longer just me. To him, it’s as if the innocence of what he once held dear has been tainted. For all these years, his obsessive love for me was the only thing keeping Leonidas alive. But now that I’m no longer ‘pure,’ the very thing that fueled him, he’s lost the will to go on.”

Aiden, hearing Janice’s insight, felt even more certain that Leonidas wasn’t simply insane, but profoundly disturbed.

He existed entirely within his own delusions, viewing the world through a distorted lens, his mentality utterly inhuman.

“Whatever happens, this issue is finally settled. We can finally relax a bit.” Aiden breathed out, tenderly cupping Janice’s face. “Now, just focus on looking after yourself and the baby.”

“Alright,” Janice nodded, but her heart remained weighed down. Leonidas’ death felt too easy, almost unreal, leaving her with a constant, gnawing discomfort.

Yet to keep Aiden from worrying, she willed herself to stay composed. Maybe it was just the typical prenatal anxiety that came with expecting a child.

The days that followed unfolded peacefully.

White Group, White Whale Entertainment, JE Consortium, and all the other businesses under Janice’s leadership continued to flourish.

White Group, especially, saw its market value skyrocket daily, bolstered by three key projects, far surpassing Janice’s original expectations.

Janice’s pregnancy was becoming more noticeable, making it increasingly difficult for her to move around or handle stressful tasks. She chose to stay home, prioritizing her health.

Excitement for the baby filled her heart. Her once assertive and authoritative presence had mellowed, and her face now glowed with a soft, maternal warmth. She appeared more peaceful and inviting than ever.

As Janice was tending to the flowers in the serene backyard at home, a phone call suddenly interrupted her calm. Her expression darkened with concern.

Glenn had been admitted to the hospital.

Janice tightened her grip on the phone, knowing this day would eventually come.

After all, she was the one who had operated on Glenn and knew his condition all too well.

Honestly, it had been pure willpower that had kept him alive this long. But even the strongest determination couldn't stop the inevitable decline of the body.

Janice asked Sloane to take her to the hospital.

When she arrived and saw the frail old man in the hospital bed, a wave of sorrow overwhelmed her, her eyes welling up. "Glenn..."

Chapter 1308:

"Janice, you're here," Glenn said, offering a faint smile as he noticed her. "I've caused you more worry, haven't I?"

Janice shook her head, offering a gentle smile. "Glenn, how are you feeling? Is there any pain?"

"I know my body well. It's already a miracle I've lasted this long." Glenn sighed. "I have no regrets. My only wish now is to see your child born."

"You will," Janice said with certainty, holding his hand tightly. "In three months, the baby will arrive. When that time comes, you must hold them and let them feel the love of the best great-grandfather ever."

To Janice, Glenn was more than a grandfather. He was a figure even closer than her biological one, having raised her since she was an infant.

Glenn had raised her with unshakeable love and care, guiding her through a childhood devoid of warmth. His kindness was a debt she could never repay.

"Glenn, don't worry. I'll reach out to a biotech institute abroad to see if they can offer you an artificial heart."

“No need for that,” Glenn said, shaking his head with a tired smile. “With my body like this, even an artificial heart wouldn’t sustain me for long. Let’s not bother. I promise, I’ll hang on until your child is born.”

With every passing day, Janice’s belly swelled a little more, a clear sign that the baby’s arrival was drawing near.

Aiden had become more mindful of Janice’s every need, pausing his work to remain by her side, offering her unwavering support.

“How are you feeling now, Janice?” Aiden asked softly, kneeling before her, his gaze filled with concern and warmth. “Are you feeling uncomfortable?”

Janice shook her head gently. The weariness of swollen limbs, aching back, and sleepless nights was evident, yet her face still gleamed with the pure joy of impending motherhood. “Maybe the baby feels sorry for me; it hasn’t been kicking much lately.”

Aiden carefully placed his hand on her belly, speaking softly to the baby. “Baby, please be gentle with your mom. Make your arrival as easy as possible. When you’re born, we’ll give you everything you deserve.”

He paused, glancing at Janice, his eyes seeking approval. “I’ve been working on the baby room design. Want to see it?”

“Sure!” Janice responded, her curiosity piqued.

Aiden picked up the tablet and displayed the design plans for Janice to see.

Janice was amazed at how much thought Aiden had put into it. “You’ve really planned this out well. But don’t you think the style leans a bit too girlish?”

“Really?” Aiden looked at the design again, and upon Janice’s suggestion, he saw what she meant—it did feel a bit feminine. “No worries. If our child doesn’t like it, we can always redesign it. We have plenty of space in the house; we can create different styles for a variety of experiences.”

Janice rolled her eyes in playful jest. “Why not go all out and build an amusement park for the baby?”

Just as Janice finished speaking, she caught the hesitant expression on Aiden’s face, his features contorting strangely. “Don’t tell me you actually went through with it?” she blurted out.

Aiden chuckled softly, then confessed, “I’ve actually been planning to expand the orphanage to include an amusement park. That way, our child will have a place to play and plenty of playmates.”

Chapter 1309:

Janice was in awe of how Aiden had not only thought of this but had planned it with such thoroughness.

It hadn’t even crossed her mind, yet Aiden had considered every detail. Not only would the children at the orphanage benefit, but their child would also have a host of playmates—truly a win-win scenario.

Above all, Aiden had no reservations about the orphanage children; in fact, because of Janice’s background, his compassion for orphans ran even deeper.

Giving up such a vast piece of land in the west district for the orphanage was no small gesture, especially when weighed against the tangible rewards it could bring.

“Aiden, you’re so thoughtful, I almost wish I could be your daughter,” Janice teased with a playful smile.

“What are you talking about?” Aiden chuckled, flicking Janice’s forehead gently. “Can’t I treat you like my daughter?”

“How is that even the same?” Janice rolled her eyes, her tone filled with mock disbelief.

“No matter how many children we have, you’ll always be number one in my heart.” Aiden’s gaze was deep, his words wrapped in sincerity, melting Janice’s heart. “By the way, are we still going to Cloudridge Villa this afternoon?”

“Yes.” Janice nodded, her smile warm. “I promised Grandpa and Glenn I’d play chess with them today.”

Aiden frowned, a moment of hesitation in his expression, but Janice sensed his unspoken concern. “I know what’s on your mind. But I believe Glenn and Grandpa will hold on.”

Lately, the health of both elders had taken a noticeable turn for the worse.

Medical specialists had determined their bodies were reaching their limits, yet their resilience had been nothing short of miraculous.

At that moment, the phone rang, slicing through the tense silence. Janice glanced at the caller ID, a sudden pang of unease tightening in her chest.

“Gerda, what’s wrong?”

“Glenn’s had a heart attack. He’s in the hospital.”

Janice’s pupils dilated in shock as she sprang to her feet. “Aiden, take me to the hospital. I need to perform surgery on Glenn.”

“Janice, calm down,” Aiden urged, his voice steady but concerned. “In your condition, you can’t afford to get too emotional; it could trigger early labor. You’re not in any state to perform surgery on Glenn.”

Gerda’s voice came through, trying to...

calm her as well. “Janice, Glenn said you don’t need to come; he’ll manage. And your grandfather...” Before Gerda could finish, Janice’s body went limp, and she collapsed onto the bed. She hadn’t expected both elders to face crises at the same time. Was she truly about to lose two of her loved ones in one go?

“Aiden, take me to the hospital,” Janice commanded, drawing in a steady breath.

Aiden met her determined gaze, finally nodding in agreement. “Alright, but promise me you’ll stay calm and not get too worked up.”

“Alright.” Janice lowered her gaze to her belly, drawing in a deep breath. “For the baby’s sake, I’ll keep my emotions under control.”

Aiden helped Janice downstairs, gave quick instructions to Nina and Alcott, and then they climbed into the car, speeding toward the hospital.

Chapter 1310:

Aiden drove with intense caution, avoiding every bump and sharp turn, his sole focus on ensuring Janice’s comfort.

To ease Janice’s worry, Gerda stayed on the line, offering continuous updates. Glenn’s condition was the most critical, with specialists urgently formulating treatment strategies.

Glenn had once undergone a complex surgery, hailed as a pinnacle of modern medicine, and only Janice—a master of the scalpel—was qualified to perform such an intricate procedure.

Now, Glenn’s condition had worsened beyond expectation, and even if Janice performed the surgery, the outcome remained uncertain.

As for Orson, his condition was a slow decline into organ failure, a natural consequence of aging. Modern medicine could only offer him a little more time.

Janice absorbed the updates, a heavy wave of helplessness crashing over her. She had seen this day coming, but now that it was here, she couldn’t hold back the sadness flooding her heart.

“Aiden, can you drive any faster?”

“I’ll do my best.”

Aiden watched the jammed traffic ahead. It was rush hour, and the roads were a sea of cars, making any kind of speed impossible. Suddenly, Janice’s face drained of color as she gasped. “Aiden, it’s happening—the baby’s coming!”

“What?” Aiden’s eyes widened in shock, his body going tense. He quickly turned, his heart skipping a beat as he noticed the wetness on Janice’s seat—her water had broken.

Everything unfolded in an instant, a whirlwind of chaos that left Aiden gripped by panic and desperation.

Without a second thought, he sprang into action—dialing the police to report that his wife’s water had broken, a clear sign that labor was approaching, and their urgent need to rush to the hospital immediately.

Upon receiving the call, the police dispatched officers to guide them to the hospital, clearing the path ahead to ensure they weren’t delayed. Thanks to the police’s intervention, Aiden managed to get Janice to the hospital just in time, navigating the streets without any obstacles.

As Janice was wheeled into the delivery room, Aiden slumped onto a bench in the hallway, his body shaking uncontrollably under the crushing weight of the moment.

Though he had faced countless life-and-death situations on the battlefield, this level of tension and fear was unlike anything he had ever experienced. For a moment, his mind went utterly blank, unable to grasp a single thought.

Alcott and Nina, having heard the news, rushed to the hospital in a hurry.

“Aiden, how’s everything? Is Janice alright?” Nina asked, her voice tinged with worry.

“On the way here, Janice’s water suddenly broke. We were lucky the police escorted us, or we might’ve been late,” Aiden explained, his voice strained. “But she’s not in the best emotional state. Everything today has been too overwhelming for her.”

He went on to share the news about Glenn and Orson, their health rapidly declining.

Nina’s face darkened as she absorbed the news, the gravity of the situation settling in.

“Maybe this is just part of life,” she said softly, her gaze drifting toward the delivery room as a heavy sigh escaped her lips.